

Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt and Sutton

April 2013

Books and baked beans at the School

Despite the very chilly weather this spring, the School has been busy organising various events during March. There have been parents' evenings, and the School also held an open afternoon on 27 March when all the work which the children have been producing since January was shown. This followed a concert in the morning when the pupils demonstrated their musical skills.

World book day took place on 7 March and, as previously, the children and staff were asked to come dressed as a fictional hero or villain from a book (see right for Key Stage 2). This year's most popular characters seem to have been Hermione or Winnie the Witch for girls and good old Harry Potter for the boys. Conor from Class 2 had made a particular effort creating his Harry Potter outfit, wearing a cloak, glasses and matching tie, and sporting a magnificent lightning scar on his forehead.

Comic Relief was once again a success with the children raising around £100. They took part in games, for example having to put their hands into buckets containing 'strange' materials such as baked beans and straw, thereby gaining house points as well as raising money for this popular charity.

The School has also set up a 'break bar' near the kitchen area which offers healthy snacks mid-morning. This seems to work well and has proved popular with all pupils.

Finally, FOSHS have also been active, holding a fundraising jumble sale in the Village Hall. Thank you to everyone who supported this. At the time of writing, the FOSHS team were busy organising an Easter Treasure Hunt for Easter Sunday. Fingers crossed it doesn't snow again ...



Village Voice

As announced in last month's issue, Linda and I will be finishing producing *Village Voice* with the combined July/August issue. If you would like to take the reins, please give us a call on 01865 883016 or drop us an email to village-voice@hotmail.co.uk to discuss it.

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Festival 2013

Village Open Events start on Saturday 15 June and run through until Sunday 23 June

Pimm's and Ponchos ~ Wine and Wellies

No matter what the weather ~ we carry on whatever

We're British ~ so bring it on ...

What's your favourite? Do you want to host an event?

Cracking Cream Teas ~ BBQ Bash in the Backyard

Teddy Bears' Picnics ~ Pirates' Treasure Hunts

Best of British ~ Brollies and Booze

The Big Breakfast ~ Cooper Black ~ Bangers 'n' Mash

Blooming Marvellous Flowers ~ Ring my Bells

Or simply... a Quiet Nescafé Gold moment!

For more info, email: jowilby@hotmail.co.uk or mpowell97@btinternet.com, and find scarecrow and attendant forms in this issue

Beaumont House Planning Application

An outline planning application has been submitted to build 10 new dwellings on land at Beaumont House, Sutton (13/0245/P/OP). The site has been on the market for a considerable time. Its unsightly appearance and WODC's failure to take enforcement action against various unauthorised uses of the site has resulted in serious and widespread concern locally as to what might happen to the site in the future.



In response to those concerns, Sutton resident Steve Ward has secured a contract to purchase the land, subject to being able to secure outline planning permission for the submitted scheme. The application is a one-off opportunity to secure a beneficial use on the site; to facilitate its comprehensive clean-up; to enhance the character and appearance of this part of the Conservation Area; and to support existing local services and facilities by bringing new families into the Village. At its meeting on 4 March, a majority of the Parish Council voted to support the application. Steve Ward has also secured support from the 42 local residents who live closest to the site.

If you support this application, it is important that you do so in writing by sending your comments to the Case Officer: Phil Shaw, West Oxfordshire District Council, Elmfield, New Yatt Road, Witney, OX28 1PB or by email to phil.shaw@westoxon.gov.uk. The application is due to be determined at the April committee meeting and whilst the official deadline of 25 March for comments has passed, any letters that WODC receives before the application date have to be taken into consideration. For more information, contact Steve Sensecall at Kemp & Kemp LLP: ssensecall@kempandkemp.co.uk. Steve Sensecall

The Village Markets are back!

Next Village Market – Sat 6 April

12 noon – 2.00 pm in the Village Hall

Lovely selection of fresh local produce, meat, jams and chutneys, home-baked cakes, homemade jewellery and crafts, and more. Come along and see what our stall holders have to sell this month and enjoy a mug of fresh coffee or homemade soup and a roll and a chat! Free entry.

Further dates: 4 May, 1 June, 6 July and 7 Sept

For more information or to book a stall,
please email jo@marketing-sense.co.uk

Have you lost your pants?



The Village held its annual litter pick on 9–10 March. A big thank you from the Parish Council to all of those individuals and families who turned out in the cold weather to keep our beautiful village clean and tidy. It was very disappointing, however, that as in previous years the turnout was so low: just 6–8 people on each day. Farmoor had 18 people on their recent litter pick. If more people came and helped, we could complete the job in a couple of hours, rather than the two mornings that the dedicated volunteers devote to the work. We collected over 35 bags of rubbish. As previously, discarded wine bottles and underpants figured prominently, as well as Guinness cans, fast food bags and several tyres.

Thank you for access

Carole and John Burden would like to thank David Bury, on behalf of all users of the concrete road to the sewage treatment works. Following the closing off of this road, David has kindly opened up a route to the side of the gate so that dog walkers, pedestrians and those with mobility scooters can continue to use it.

Fancy joining a Village Choir?

The date of commencement is to be confirmed, but there might be a taster session or two during the summer term and if enough people attend, we would start in for the autumn term 2013. No audition needed – it would just be fun singing – musicals, pop songs, and other well-known songs. Adults welcome, and under 18s only if accompanied by an adult. Any performance would be decided by the group. Contact Jan Tomlinson on 881709 or at jpag@dixpit.fsnet.co.uk to express an interest.

Thank you from Rita Stockill

Sincere thanks from Rita Stockill and her family for all the cards, donations and messages of sympathy received in their recent sad loss, and to all those who attended the funeral. Our thanks too for all the help given at the Chapel.

Would you like to visit the Manor House Gardens?

*Saturday 20 April
from 2.00 to 5.00 pm*

This is a rare opportunity to walk around the grounds of Stanton Harcourt Manor House and visit the famous kitchen and chapel. The Harcourt Chapel at the Church will also be open for viewing, and a cream tea will be served to ticket holders in Church.

Numbers have to be limited and for security reasons names and addresses must be registered with Sarah Sharp when booking – please contact her at s55osharp@btinternet.com or on 01865 880249. Entry is between 2.00 and 3.00 pm through the gate by the Church, but visitors are welcome to stay longer. No dogs please.

Donations for the Church of £20 per adult suggested, but a minimum of £10 a head is acceptable, payable on booking. Cheques to 'St Michael's PCC Stanton Harcourt'.

All proceeds will go to the Church

Annual meeting planner

Please check the details and ensure you attend the correct meeting – there was some confusion last year

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. 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 jpag@dixpit.fsnet.co.uk

Stanton Harcourt Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thursday 18 April at 7.30 pm at the School

Parish Council AGM

Monday 13 May at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Guest speakers are:

Thames Valley Police

Karen Jupp, Head Teacher from the School

Ian Clarke, Highways Department

Stanton Harcourt Village Hall AGM

Thursday 16 May at 8.00 pm at the Village Hall

It will be followed by a committee meeting.

It is important that organisations that use the Village Hall are represented.

Everyone else is welcome to attend.

Parish Council Updates

New Parish Council member: Welcome to Angie Readings who has agreed to be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Festival insurance: The Parish Council are arranging to provide the third-party insurance required for the gala, including it in their annual specification.

Tar Road travellers site: News is awaited about a new planning application.

Vandalism: This continues to be a problem in the Village; there have been several incidents of wanton damage, some of them recorded on CCTV. The salt bin near the School has been upended again.

Beaumont House planning application: March's Parish Council meeting included an introduction to and discussion about an outline planning application at Beaumont House, Sutton, for a residential estate of ten houses (see opposite page). To view the original application (number 13/0245/P/OP), view people's comments and the Parish Council's response, and to make your own comments, go to the WODC website: <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning/>.

Duck End Lane gate: At the same meeting, an objection was raised to the erection of a gate at Duck End Lane beside Akers by its new owner and David Bury. See opposite that this has been resolved.

Picnic tables: Two new picnic tables will be installed after Easter on the Leys.

Next Parish Council Meeting

*Monday 8 April at 7.30 pm
in the Village Hall*

All welcome!

FOSHS presents

BIG SPRING QUIZ

with supper and bar

Saturday 27 April at 8.00 pm

Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

Teams of 4, £7.50 per person

includes entry and supper

Contact Darren on 880312 to register your team

Prizes and raffle

Friends of Stanton Harcourt School – Charity No 1061604

Cooper Black

Kicking off the Festival!

Saturday 16 June in the Village Hall

Back by popular demand!

Live music to kick-start Festival Week!

Tickets £12/head on the night, £10 if purchased in advance. Includes hot supper.

Royal British Legion

Visit to the National Arboretum

We are thinking of a trip to the National Arboretum in Staffs on Saturday 27 July. Anyone interested, please contact John Holland at 10 The Green or on 881906.

Daff Day Thanks

Nolly and Charles Mathew would like to say a big thank you to all those who visited Parsonage House on Palm Sunday for the non show of daffodils and the partaking of tea and cake in such freezing conditions – and who contributed over £330 towards the running costs of St Michael's Church. Thank you also to those who so cheerfully manned the fort.

St Michael's Church 200 Club

March draw

1st 299 Mr Dixon-Brown 3rd 160 J Boer
2nd 133 M Hall 4th 285 T Church

Eynsham Arts Group

Meetings of the Eynsham Arts Group are held at 7.30 pm on the last Wednesday of each month in the Bartholomew Rooms, The Square, Eynsham. For details of this year's programme and membership call 01865 722989.

The Harcourt Arms

Regular menu offers:

Tuesday Night ~ Pizza night ~ £8.95 pp

Wednesday Lunch Offer ~ senior lunch £7.50 for 2 courses or 3 for £10.00

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: ahailles@btinternet.com
and calleyone@hotmail.com

St Michael's Church

Rev Sarah Sharp

☎ 01865 880249 ✉ s550sharp@btinternet.com

April

| | | |
|----|----------|---|
| 7 | 9.30 am | Parish Communion and Sunday School |
| 14 | 10.30 am | Benefice Communion in Northmoor with a speaker from Christian Aid |
| 21 | 10.30 am | All Age Worship |
| | 8.00 pm | Late 8ers – <i>Scene it Harry Potter</i> in Sutton Chapel |
| 28 | 8.00 am | Holy Communion |

Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Thursday 18 April at 7.30 pm at the School

Fridays 19 and 26 April: Emmaus – The Way of Faith

The theme for this new course is 'Living images' and it aims to enable us to reflect upon what it means to be fully human, exploring grace, celebration, creativity and being in community with others. Sessions are relaxed and friendly, with plenty of time to exchange thoughts and ideas over refreshments. Come to as many, or as few, as you wish! **The 4 meetings will be on Fridays, April 19, 26 and May 10, 17 in St Giles' Church, Standlake at 7.30–9.00 pm.** Please contact Carol Collinge on 01865 300849 if you have any questions, or would like to come but need a lift. Everyone is very welcome.

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill

☎ 01865 880200

April

| | | |
|----|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 7 | 10.00 am | Rev B Woods |
| 14 | 10.00 am | Local arrangement |
| 21 | 10.00 am | Rev R Donoghue, incl Holy Communion |
| 28 | 10.00 am | Mr O Carney |

Weds 3 April: 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.stpeterseysham.org.uk

And finally ...

Change your clocks and check your smoke alarms

Easter Day is a tough one for the clocks to 'spring forward', but why not take the opportunity to ensure you have working smoke alarms and get in the habit of testing them **every** week?

Having a working smoke alarm is the best way to get the early warning you need to ensure you and your loved ones can escape safely in the event of a fire. Do you have elderly friends, neighbours and relatives? Why not test theirs too? For more information on Smoke Alarms, Making an Escape Plan, and carrying out a Home Fire Risk Check please go to www.365alive.co.uk or call the free Community Safety Helpline: 08000 325999.

Parish Council information

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 May issue: Monday 15 April 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

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 Editors or the Parish Council. Inclusion of an advertisement does not indicate endorsement of the product, service or event being advertised.