

Village Voice

www.village-voice.info

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt and Sutton

December & January 2013

Welcome to the December & January issue of Village Voice, this month we are back to business as usual! Thank you to everyone who has provided support and encouragement.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and will be back after a seasonal rest for February!

Royal British Legion News

The Royal British Legion had a very successful Poppy Concert on the 19th October. Lee Owens arranged for the Abbey Sax Band to come which played very well.

The Sutton Singers were very good in their first public performance, thank you to all who attended.

The school children went to church on the 6th November for a short Remembrance Service taken by Jane Watts. Afterwards, in school, the older children talked about the war with Mr Charles Davis & Mr John Holland, which was very interesting.

The Standard was invited to Cokethorpe School on Monday 11th November to take part in the school service in the quadrangle outside with about 640 pupils.

The Poppy Appeal raised £1407.58, thank you to everyone who contributed.

Ultra-Fast Broadband coming soon to Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

Gigaclear are currently completing the final network design for Stanton Harcourt & Sutton. They will publish the cable map online during the next few weeks. This will show where the cables will run in relationship to your property. Construction will commence in the middle of December.

Gigaclear have now completed the important Thames crossing which can be viewed on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WOWrB3bym4>.

The next step is to visit every property to agree where to install the underground fibre connection point. This is a small pot identical to your water meter or stop-cock pot that will be installed underground, just inside your property boundary. A Gigaclear representative will visit you, over a ten week period starting in December, to agree the location for this pot. All properties will receive a connection point as they will only be in the area installing once, to minimise cost and disruption to both villages.

Any questions/concerns? please feel free to contact Gigaclear directly via their website www.gigaclear.com or any member of the Broadband Committee (Nigel Elliott, Brendon Cross, Malcolm Buckingham, Neil Mason).

Quiz: brashly icy mod (3, 1957)

Police Local Have Your Say (HYS) Dates

The Neighbourhood Police Team will be nearby on:
11th December 3-4pm Stanton Harcourt (Pub/shop)
12th December 1-2pm Northmoor Lunch Club

Carols Around The Christmas Tree

The Village Green

Saturday 7th December
5pm

A collection will be taken for local charities

With Mulled Wine, Mince Pies
and Christmas Cookies

FOSHS Christmas Fayre & Indoor Market

Friday 6 December at 6.00–8.00 pm

Stanton Harcourt Primary School
Christmas Market • Santa's Grotto • Tombola • Cakes
Just4Kids 'Buy a gift' room • Mince Pies • Mulled Wine
Christmas Decoration Making and more!

Raffle prizes include: £100 cargo voucher; £50
Eynsham Hall Voucher to be used in the Gun Room,
Meal for two at The Blue Boar Witney, Annual Pass to
Farmer Gows, Tickets for The Cotswold Wildlife Park,
Cafe Nero Coffee Pass and many more!

Village Market 7th December 12-2pm

Village Hall Christmas Market is on Sat 7th Dec, 12-2pm. Lots of local crafts, homemade goodies, stocking fillers, gifts and cards as well as chutneys, home baked cakes and treats! Pop along for lunch or just coffee and a mince pie. All welcome. Free admission.

Loss of Village Gold

As many of you will know Darren & Laura Whitworth and their family are leaving the village at the end of November for the adventure of pastures new. Darren had many hats in the village: a friendly face in the shop, a listening ear behind the bar and a successful chairman of FOSHS. We'd like to thank Darren for all he has contributed to the village; his enthusiasm for village activities will be missed!

Good luck to Darren, Laura and family with the move and life in a new village. We'll miss you, visit when you can, and let's hope your new neighbors know how lucky they are!

Whodunnit – the mystery of the daring doo!
Villagers are politely reminded (again) that it is a legal requirement for dog walkers to clear up any doo that's done on village roads and paths. *Putting it in a bag and throwing it in the hedge simply adds littering to the wrap sheet and preserves it for future generations – nice! Please don't doo this...*

Carols by Candlelight & Gift Service

Saturday 14th December 5pm

St Michael's Church, Stanton Harcourt

Traditional Carol Service

Please bring unwrapped gifts suitable for toddlers to teenagers. These will be distributed by the Salvation Army to less fortunate children

Featuring Xplosion Youth Group and Children from Stanton Harcourt School

St Michael's 200 Club - December draw

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1st 139 J Taylor | 3rd 106 B Marslin |
| 2nd 233 L Chaplin | 4th 152 G Mason |

Quiz: over minor (2, 1961)

School News

During the month of November, the children at the Stanton Harcourt Primary School had a fabulous time raising plenty of money for Children in Need. Everyone made an effort to come to school dressed in spotty clothes and/or bright colours, there was the traditional talent show after the school lunch and the children were encouraged to vote for their favourite act with pennies, while everyone happily tucked into Pudsey biscuits. The Open Afternoon on the 21st of November was very well attended, the children were enthusiastically showing off their work on various topics. The Foundation Stage pupils were showing their artwork connected to the spectacular celebration of "Diwali", the Hindu festival of lights, this also involved showing beautiful Rangoli patterns (these are traditionally drawn on the floor near an entrance to welcome visitors) done with chalk, lots of artwork was displayed in their class as well as colourful Indian saris, music and dances. The children also used some special "writers" tool belts which they use for role play and an ICT link to record voices.

Class 3 enjoyed putting on a couple of theatrical performances which were very well received, there were also lots of activities involving the nature detectives, whilst Class 2 produced a lot of work around their topic of Chocolate, perfect with Christmas just around the corner! This also included maths games based on surveys undertaken with parents and looking at chocolate under the microscope, how tempting! Some parents kindly used the visitors book to write down how much they enjoyed being part of the Open Afternoon.

There are many events to look forward to in the festive season; the FOSHS Fayre takes place on the 6th December and the traditional service by candle light will be on the 14th December, followed by a concert performed by the school orchestra on the 16th December. Class 2 and 3 will enjoy their carol Service at church on the 18th December and the Quantum Theatre will be visiting the school on the 19th with a performance of the "Snow Queen".

The school has also recorded "Jingle Bell Rock", the traditional catchy Christmas tune to be broadcast on

Radio Oxford at some point over the next few weeks, keep listening!"

St Michael's Annual Christmas Raffle

Draw on the 10th December, don't forget to get tickets!

Parish Council Updates

Next PC Meeting:

The Next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 2nd December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

New Councillor

The PC are extremely pleased to confirm that Dan Barton has joined the Parish Council.

Village Voice

The Parish Council are pleased to be funding Village Voice this issue and going forward. In partnership with the Editor the printing costs have been halved through the use of the Village Voice 'Laser' printer.

Bike Rack

A bike rack has now been installed and is ready for use beside the Village Hall car park.

Ditches

It's that time of year when attention must be given to Ditches in the village, as the risk of flooding is high. Could all landowners please check ditches and clear any debris which has built up to ensure water can flow freely.

It is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure ditches are kept clear. Should the ditch not be cleared, West Oxfordshire District Council can clear the ditch, but the landowner will be charged for any work which is undertaken.

Planning

The planning application at Mistletoe Cottage was adjourned until December to allow a Lowland Planning Committee visit to the site.

Daffodil Planting

The Parish Council would like to express their thanks to all those who kindly helped with the bulb planting.

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>



Dragons & Dormice



Xplosion Youth Group raised £100 for Children In Need at their performance of 'From Dragons to Dormice'. This has been added to the money they raised during the Summer and a grand total of £300 has been donated to Children in need! Thank you to all who came and donated. We hope you all had fun and enjoyed the vast quantity of cakes and biscuits - we certainly did!



Small Breakfast

18th January 9.00–11.00am



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



Quiz: brownish chin dale (5, 1976)

Jem & Joe's Christmas Quiz

Sat 14th Dec at the Harcourt Arms

The usual informal Saturday night quiz starting at around 10pm or as soon as everyone's ready and hydrated. With the added involvement of Joe, double trouble! The main difference will be the collection of Wallets & Watches (money) to raise funds for the Air Ambulance.

Page 3 Bird

Mary is a Robin! She hates the commercialisation of Christmas and is simply looking forward to snuggling up with Mr Robin and a big worm for Christmas dinner!



Did you know? Robins are Britain's favourite bird, Mr and Mrs Robin's look exactly the same but young robins look quite different, not red at all, but spotted and golden brown. Despite their cute appearance robins are aggressively territorial and quick to drive away intruders. They also like to sing all year round, including at night next to electric lights!

Witney Music Society Concerts

Friday 13 December:

Duo Karadys with Louise Vale present "Schubertiade" with music for viola, piano and violin.

Friday 10 January:

Lucy Roberts with James Sherlock present Songs and Arias on a theme of youth and longing. (including works by Purcell, Handel, Schumann, Brahms and Quilter)

Both concerts are to be held at Wood Green School, Witney at 7.30pm.

Further details from 01993 702296 or see the website www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk

Quiz: hydrostatics monkish wet (5, 1984)

Christmas Events at Cogges

www.cogges.org.uk

Fayre and Market 2013, stalls, choirs and Father Christmas

Come and join us on Sunday 8th December from 10.30am to 4pm Meet Father Christmas and get a present! 12-2pm (£3 includes gift)

Enjoy the carol singing throughout the day and join us in the traditional kitchen for mulled wine and mince pies. Cogges Red and Green theme - make and wear a festive garland on the day! £1

Carols By Candlelight, 7.30pm Friday, Dec 13

Traditional carol singing with a folk ensemble featuring squeeze box, fiddle, whistle and Bodhran, festive readings and poems.

£5 adult / £3 child includes mulled cider or juice; donations welcome on the night.

Tickets available online and from St Mary's Church.

Cogges Pantomime 2013 - Pinocchio 12noon & 2pm Sunday, December 15, 2013

Please book in advance, Adults £9.50, Children £8 Ticket price includes entry to the grounds on the day from 11am to 4pm.

Lower Windrush Valley Project Winter Talks

Thursday December 5th 7.30pm at Ducklington Village Hall 'Why Birds are so Different' a talk by Dr Graham Lento (www.gml-art.co.uk)

Rushy Common Nature Reserve bird hide open day. Sunday 15th December 10.00-4.00

Booking essential so please contact the project office to book a free place: lwvp@oxfordshire.gov.uk; Tel: 01865 815426.

Chris, Amanda & Bow Welcome you to:

The Harcourt Arms



Christmas

The Christmas menu is available for bookings

New Year

The arms will be celebrating New Year with Bar and Disco by King Midas free entry open to all from 7pm till 2014

Food is available serving at 8pm at £20/head, booking required.

This months guest is Greene King IPA (India Pale Ale)

Weekend menu specials...ask at the bar for details!

Regular menu offers:

Tuesday Night

Suet Pudding & a free drink ~ £10:50 pp

Wednesday Lunch Offer

senior lunch £7.50 for 2 courses or 3 for £10.00

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

Quiz: waistline dome net (3, 1988)

TALENT WANTED:

SHAPE and St Michael's Church are joining forces in March to fundraise. We are planning an evening of music, magic and merriment!

Do you have a hidden talent: musical or otherwise? To find out more please contact Clare Rich or Jane Watts

Have you heard of Trax?

Trax motor project is a local organisation that provides support and training to young people, primarily based around motor vehicle mechanics. If you're a young person with time on your hands and interested in training up to be a mechanic or slightly less young and would like to volunteer, check out: www.trax.org.uk

Bus Services

West Oxfordshire District Council's Cabinet has agreed to send a 'strong and clear' response to Oxfordshire County Council that the District Council considers that the bus services currently operating represent the absolute minimum required in a rural district. We'll find out next year if there are any effects on our local bus service.

St Michael's Church

In 'Inter-Regnum'

While there is no resident Rector please contact Pat Burden for help or advice on service arrangements:

☎ 01865 880652

December

1st 9.30am Parish Communion with Sunday School.

8th 10:30am Benefice Communion

14th 5:30pm **Traditional carol service & gifts for The Salvation Army by candlelight**

15th 10:30am All Age Worship

22nd 10:30am Benefice Communion

24th 11:30pm **Christmas Eve Midnight Mass**

25th 10:30am **Christmas Day All Age Worship**

29th 10:30am Benefice Communion (**Standlake**)

January

5th 9.30am Epiphany, Communion & Sunday School
It is hoped a new vicar will be chosen in January (God willing) although it will be at least 3 months before they take post.

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill ☎ 01865 880200

December

1st 10.00 am Rev R Donoghue Family Service inc Holy Communion

8th 10.00 am Mr Eddie Fowler

15th 10.00 am Mr Kenneth Mumford

22th 10.00 am Local Arrangement

Christmas Special: Coffee & Cakes, 24th December 4pm

Wed 4th December & 1st 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.

January

5th 10.00 am Mrs Dawn Haley Family Service

12th 10.00 am Rev R Donoghue Covant Service

19th 10.00 am Mrs Stella Bristow

26th 10.00 am Mr Martin Bucknell

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

December Weekend Services

Sunday Mass 10.00am with a Children's Liturgy

Saturday Mass 7.30pm;

Special Mass of the Season

Christmas Eve:

- Carols and Mass especially suitable for families at 6pm
- Midnight Mass 11:30pm

Christmas Day Morning Mass 10am

New Years Day Mass at 10am

December & January's Village Calendar

December

2nd December 7:30pm Parish Council

4th 10-11:30 am Coffee & Cakes at the Chapel

6th 6-8pm FOSHS Christmas Fayre

7th 12-2pm Village Market

7th December 5pm Carols around the Christmas Tree

11th December 3-4pm Police HYS Stanton

12th December 1-2pm Police HYS Northmoor

14th 5pm Carols by Candlelight at St Michael's

14th 10pm (ish) Jem and Joe's Christmas quiz at the Arms in aid of the Air Ambulance

24th 4pm Coffee & Cakes at the Chapel

24th 11:30 Midnight Mass at St Michael's

25th Wednesday – Christmas Day (all day)

31st Tuesday New Years Eve (all night)

January

1st 10-11:30 am Coffee Morning at the Chapel

18th January 9-11 Small Breakfast at St Michael's

20th Deadline for February Village Voice Contributions

Quiz: wax cite fin (4, 2000)

Stanton Harcourt Action for Play & Enjoyment

Make sure you fill in the surveys and we'll update you next time!



A note from the editor

It's Christmas yay! And the editor gets a break, I even have a few days off after Christmas so if you'd like to discuss village voice matters, new ideas for the new year or fancy doing a regular article why not let me know. Merry Christmas!



Seasonal Fun Quiz!

This month's quiz is Anagrams! Above between articles are 6 anagrams that if rearranged spell out past Christmas number 1 songs. To help you I've put the number of words and year in brackets e.g. attorney day ash (3, 1994)

is "Stay Another Day", a classic from my youth!

**Deadline for February's issue is 20th January
village-voice@hotmail.co.uk**

If you don't have / don't like email then why not drop it off at the pub old-school style on paper

AS ALWAYS – Thank you to this month's contributors, reviewers & deliverers and your continued support

Published on behalf of Stanton Harcourt Parish Council

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