

# Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt and Sutton

December 2012/January 2013

## ***'Run to Remember' finishes off an outstanding year***

On Saturday 10 November, Jack Judson finished off his outdoor racing season by running in the Royal British Legion's first 'Run to Remember' event at Lydiard Park near Swindon (see picture opposite). The venue is not far from Royal Wootton Bassett, and Jack was running in memory of his uncle, who served in the Royal Navy and, very sadly, died of a brain tumour at an early age. The aim of the event was to raise funds for veterans of the Armed Forces, as well as for serving men and women and their families. Jack raised £200, so a big thank you to everyone who sponsored him. Jack finished 2nd overall, with a wide age group taking part. He was just finishing as his Mum, Kerstie, was just reaching half way ... as Kerstie reported herself!

Jack has been competing all year, starting back in April, and has been winning events in Oxfordshire and outside the county. In May, he became county champion in his age group, and has been achieving personal bests, as well as setting a club record for 55 metres hurdles at the Oxford City Athletic Club. At the Club's Presentation Night, Jack came away with awards for best track athlete in his age group, and runner-up in best field athlete in his age group. Congratulations to Jack ... and now the outdoor season has finished, there's no rest as the indoor season gets underway!



## ***Pyjamas for charity, and Christmas is coming at the School***

On 16 November, the School organised a very successful Children in Need day. Everyone came in their pyjamas and brought a donation, raising a total of £98.43 for this excellent cause during the day. A delicious lunch was served, including a special Pudsey biscuit. The whole School was involved in raising funds and the School Council suggested a 'sing-off' competition in the afternoon using modern songs with the lyrics changed to tell more about Pudsey. Five groups paid £1 each to be able to perform and two brave solo artists donated 50p each. Pupils and teachers had a very enjoyable time performing the songs they had been rehearsing during the week. There was even a guest appearance by the previously unknown supergroup 'Wrong Direction' – some very enthusiastic teachers. This proved to be hugely popular, but the winning performance was by the pupil group 'Five Spots' – very well done!

Everyone is getting very excited about the festive season! This year's Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage Nativity Play, titled 'Mangermouse', will take place on 13 December at Church and the Carol Service is scheduled for 19 December at 6.30 pm, with school finishing on 20 December. Before that, on 7 December, the new FOSHS chair Darren Whitworth is organising this year's Christmas Fayre (see details elsewhere in this issue) which might even be including an appearance by Father Christmas, as well as a tombola, crafts room, lots of fabulous stalls, and the opportunity to have a professional photograph taken, which can be turned into a great Christmas card. Please do come and support this event!

## **Jumping cows and promising auctions**

Xplosion staged a great show on 22 November called 'The Cow Jumped over the Moon' with, of course accompanying cakes and drinks, and in the process raised £170 for Children in Need. This was closely followed by the Auction of Promises in aid of St Michael's Church and Stanton Harcourt School. Over fifty lots went under the hammer and the whole evening raised a total of over £2200. Thank you to everyone who organised, performed, bid, bought and generally supported both very enjoyable events.

## Stanton Harcourt and Sutton High-Speed Broadband

Over 70 households and businesses have now signed up for ultrafast broadband and lodged £100 cheques with Gigaclear, so we are just over 50% of the way to our target of 140. I understand that a number of additional sign-ups are pending and we hope to soon be approaching the 100 mark. It seems that quite a few households and businesses intend to sign up but have so far not taken the plunge and completed the application form available online at [www.gigaclear.com/communities/stanton-harcourt-sutton/](http://www.gigaclear.com/communities/stanton-harcourt-sutton/) or from the Village Shop. Deposit cheques can be sent to Gigaclear directly or dropped off together with the application form at the Village Shop. If you have not signed up yet but intend to, I would encourage you to sign up as soon as possible so we can get the Stanton Harcourt and Sutton ultrafast broadband project underway. We need to reach the 140 target as quickly as possible so that the detailed installation planning and permissions can commence. The broadband committee have managed to negotiate an extension to the end of November for the half-price subscription offer from Gigaclear for the first three months for the first 150 households and businesses in the Village to sign up. That's worth over £50. If you have any questions, either drop me an email ([nigely8@btinternet.com](mailto:nigely8@btinternet.com)), or contact any members of the Broadband committee (Malcolm Buckingham, Brendon Cross, and Neil Mason). Thanks for your support. There will be another opportunity to find out more and ask questions about the Gigaclear ultrafast broadband project for Stanton Harcourt and Sutton on Saturday 8 December between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon at *The Harcourt Arms*. Come and have a coffee, ask questions and see the equipment that would be installed in your house if you sign up for the Gigaclear service. *Nigel Elliott*

## Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

Jo (Shop), Hitesh (Post Office) and staff would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Village Shop

Sat 22 Dec – 8.00 am – 1.00 pm – normal opening hours  
Sun 23 Dec – 8.00 am – 1.00 pm – normal opening hours  
Mon 24 Dec – **Christmas Eve** – 8.00 am – 12.00 noon  
Tues 25 Dec – **Christmas Day** – CLOSED  
Wed 26 Dec – **Boxing Day** – CLOSED  
Thurs 27 Dec – 8.00 am – 6.00 pm  
Fri 28 Dec – 8.00 am – 6.00 pm  
Sat 29 Dec – 8.00 am – 1.00 pm – normal opening hours  
Sun 30 Dec – 8.00 am – 1.00 pm – normal opening hours  
Mon 31 Dec – **New Year's Eve** – 8.00 am – 12.00 noon  
Tues 1 Jan – **New Year's Day** – CLOSED  
Wed 2 Jan – 7.00 am – 6.00 pm – back to normal

### Post Office

Tues 25 Dec – **Christmas Day** – CLOSED  
Thurs 27 Dec – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm – normal opening hours  
Sat 29 Dec – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm – normal opening hours  
Tues 1 Jan – **New Year's Day** – CLOSED  
Thurs 3 Jan – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm – normal opening hours  
Sat 5 Jan – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm – normal opening hours

## And don't forget ... please support the Village Shop and Post Office!

We need to support the Village Shop and Post Office as if we don't, we may risk them closing. Winter is particularly tough because local caravan parks are shut or quiet, and there are fewer people through the Village. Please use the Shop and Post Office, or we might lose them for good.

## Royal British Legion

The Poppy Concert held on Saturday 27 October was well attended and enjoyed by all. The Salvation Army Band and the Brize Singers provided the music and the Rev Sarah Sharp led a short service, after which the bar was opened and proved to be a great success, as did the raffle. Thank you to all who bought tickets for this worthwhile cause and we hope to see you all again next year. In total, this year's Poppy Appeal raised £1,458.48. Thank you very much.

The AGM was held on 18 November, and the Hon Mrs A Gascoigne was elected Life President, J Faulkner as Vice President, J Holland as Chairman, E Bannister as Secretary, and L Perry as Treasurer. The members thanked Jack Judson for his fundraising.

The Royal British Legion attended a service in Church with the School, a talk to Standlake Cubs, and a service at Cokethorpe School. There was general good attendance in Church on 11 November for the Remembrance Service.

## FOSHS Christmas Fayre and Indoor Market

Friday 7 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!

*Everyone welcome!*

## Ladies' 3-course Christmas Meal

Saturday 8 December at *The Harcourt Arms*

Contact Kerstie Judson on 01865 731310 for further details

## Think of Summer and Save the Date! Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Festival Saturday 22 June 2013

The theme will be:

### Heroes and Villains

So start thinking about ...

Your costume? Your garden? Your Scarecrow?  
Good weather? Watch *Village Voice* for more details  
*Open Gardens commence on 15 June*

Want to get involved? We need help with website management, and designing and laying out the program.  
Contact: Jo Wilby on 01865 731690 or 07881 900920  
or at [jowilby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jowilby@hotmail.co.uk)

## The Small Breakfast!

Saturday 12 January 2013 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

## St Michael's Church 200 Club

### November draw

1st 119 J Hill	3rd 166 S Webster
2nd 152 C Spire	4th 233 L Chaplin

### December draw

1st 238 J Thornton-K	3rd 229 F Fox
2nd 252 P Strange	4th 217 J Holland

## Events at Cogges Manor Farm

**Ice Music Concert – Sunday 2 December** at 7.00 pm with Norwegian percussionist, Terje Isungset – all his instruments are carved out of glacial ice for a unique sound.

**Christmas Weekend – Sat 8 and Sun 9 December.** Food and Craft market, music, mulled cider and mince pies in the house, and Christmas activities. On Sunday, the house will again be open for mulled cider and mince pies, Father Christmas will be paying us a visit, and then at 3.00 pm we host the first Cogges pantomime – 'Peter Pan'. Tickets for the concert and the panto plus full details are available on our website [www.cogges.org.uk](http://www.cogges.org.uk)

Normal opening hours will resume on 23 March 2013.

### **BikeSafe Fundraising Barn Dance with 'Mouse and Trousers'**

**Saturday 2 February at 7.00 pm  
in Eynsham Village Hall**

Tickets £10 including supper, available from Saturday 5 January. BikeSafe is campaigning for a Community Path alongside the B4044 between Eynsham and Botley. Contact Phil Loder at [phil\\_loder@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phil_loder@hotmail.co.uk) or on 883016 for more details about BikeSafe and the barn dance.

## Interested in Playing Bridge?

We play bridge on the 2nd and last Fridays of each month at 7.00–10.00 pm in Standlake Sports Hall (just into Rack End after the Broad Bridges junction). Excellent parking and access. *If you would like to come along, please call beforehand: 01865 300509 or 300443 or email [valecale@appleinter.net](mailto:valecale@appleinter.net)*



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01993 835 101**

**The Northmoor Players present**

**Beauty and the Beast – The Panto**

**Northmoor Village Hall on 6–9 February 2013**

Tickets are on sale from *The Red Lion*, Northmoor

## Parish Council Updates

**Pam Bartrip:** We're sad to announce that Pam Bartrip has resigned from the Parish Council. The Parish Council would like to express their thanks to Pam for all her work and contribution. If you might be interested in joining the Parish Council, please feel free to talk to one of the current Councillors in the first instance.

**The Fox planning application:** On 19 November, West Oxfordshire District Council Lowlands Planning Committee heard the application (12/1480) to convert the *The Fox* public house into a private residence and overwhelmingly rejected the application. It was thought that there was insufficient evidence at this time to prove that the business was unviable to warrant the loss of such an important Community facility. In addition, concern was expressed that the Village might be left publess as *The Harcourt Arms* itself has been on the market for some time. Your Parish Council was represented and spoke against the application as it felt it offered local employment and a unifying Village meeting place. It was also mentioned that if the present business is not sustainable, consideration should be given to alternative commercial uses. Your further views would be appreciated to a Parish Councillor or to [trudigasser@rocketmail.com](mailto:trudigasser@rocketmail.com) to show how much you would feel the loss of this local facility.

**Sheehans/Controlled Reclamation:** A new planning application has been received from Sheehans/Controlled Reclamation entitled 'For a New Infrastructure', a successor to the planning permission granted on appeal on 23 March 2011; details are available on the Oxfordshire County Council website: <http://myeplanning.oxfordshire.gov.uk> under reference MW.0184/12. Comments to [nick.fagan@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:nick.fagan@oxfordshire.gov.uk) by 7 December.

**Cricket Club application:** The Parish Council has been asked to consult on a full new Premises Licence Application for Stanton Harcourt Cricket Club (11.00 am to midnight, 7 days a week); please seek clarification from or comment to Debra Courtenay-Crane (WODC 01993 861636-[Debra.CourtenayCrane@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Debra.CourtenayCrane@westoxon.gov.uk)). Your Parish Council has concerns.

**Draft Local Plan October 2012:** Consultation is open until Wednesday 19 December 2012 on the Plan, which will guide development in the area over the next 17 years. You can view and comment on the Draft Plan at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/draftlocalplan](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/draftlocalplan) or at the Town Centre Shop in Witney. If you submit comments, please copy Trudi Gasser so she can compile a dossier of comments for the Parish Council's information.

**Bulb planting:** Many thanks to those who helped to plant bulbs earlier this month; they will have the satisfaction of knowing that the Village in the spring owed much to their community spirit.

**Bike rack:** The Parish Council has acquired a rack to allow residents and school children to park their bicycles before catching their buses. Please let us know where you think it should be positioned.

**Christmas Tree:** The Christmas Tree will be erected on 8 Dec at 10.00 am opposite Leena Cottage; all welcome!

**Spotted any necessary road repairs?** Please contact Local Highways Representative (Witney locality), Highways and Transport, Oxfordshire County Council, PO Box 842, Oxford OX1 9LL; tel: 0845 310 11 11; email: [highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk). Also, please copy Charles Mathew at [Charles.mathew@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Charles.mathew@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**Next Parish Council Meeting  
Monday 3 December at 7.30 pm  
All welcome!**



## Village Market – Sat 1 December

More information from: [jo@marketing-sense.co.uk](mailto:jo@marketing-sense.co.uk)

### The Harcourt Arms

#### 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 from 12.00 to 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: [ahales@btinternet.com](mailto:ahales@btinternet.com) and [calleyone@hotmail.com](mailto:calleyone@hotmail.com)

### St Michael's Church

Rev Sarah Sharp

☎ 01865 880249

✉ [s550sharp@btinternet.com](mailto:s550sharp@btinternet.com)

Please look out for the Christmas Service sheet which will be through your door any day now.

#### December

2	9.30 am	Parish Communion and Sunday School
9	10.30 am	Benefice Communion
	8.00 pm	Late 8ers Christmas Bash
15	5.30 pm	<b>Traditional Carol Service and gifts for The Salvation Army with candlelight</b>
16	10.30 am	All Age Worship
23	10.30 am	Benefice Communion
24	10.00 pm	<b>First Communion of Christmas at Standlake</b>
25	10.30 am	<b>Christmas Day – All Age Worship</b>
30	10.30 am	Benefice Communion at Standlake

**Gifts for the Carol Service:** Over the past few years Northmoor, Stanton Harcourt and Yelford churches have collected toys and gifts for The Salvation Army to distribute at Christmas. Without our support, The Salvation Army would have to buy over 100 gifts. Please could I ask you to remember teenagers as well as children and babies? Gifts should be brought unwrapped to the 5.30 pm Carol Service from where they will be taken into Oxford for Social Workers to pick particular gifts for the children in their care.

**Midnight Mass:** Midnight Mass was a Victorian institution. Many churches today, including St Margaret's Westminster, no longer have a service over midnight but earlier in the evening, which is theologically perfectly correct. The decision to move our service from 11.30 pm to 10.00 pm was not my initiative but came from the many regular churchgoers involved in setting up and clearing away the service, who then wish to attend the morning family service with their families. Unlike the Rector, these people are volunteers and generally retired, and it is their voices that I am hearing most loudly at present. If you would like to see the service returned to 11.30 pm, and are willing to support this move, I would be pleased to hear from you directly. Sarah Sharp

**Recipe Books:** There are still some recipe books for sale. They make a fantastic last-minute Christmas present. £4 each or 3 for £10. Available from Sarah Sharp.

#### January

6	9.30 am	Parish Communion and Sunday School
13	10.30 am	Benefice Communion
20	10.30 am	All Age Worship with baptisms
	8.00 pm	Late 8ers
27	8.00 am	Holy Communion

### Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill

☎ 01865 880200

#### December

2	10.00 am	Mr K Mumford
9	10.00 am	Mr I Prince
16	10.00 am	Mrs M Broadberry
23	10.00 am	<b>Carol Service</b> , Rev R Donoghue
24	4.00 pm	<b>Carols and Cakes</b>
30		Service at High Street Methodist Church, Witney

#### January

6	10.00 am	Mrs S Bristow
13	10.00 am	Rev R Donoghue <b>Covenant Service</b> , incl Holy Comm
20	10.00 am	Mr Eddie Fowler
27	10.00 am	Rev Ian Duffy

**Weds 5 Dec and 2 Jan:** Coffee morning, 10.00–11.30 am.

### The Catholic Church of St Peter

Fr Martin Flatman

☎ 07719 646790

✉ [frmartinflatman@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk)

**Christmas Eve Masses** ~ 6.00 pm and 11.30 pm

**Christmas Day Mass** ~ 10.00 am

## And finally ...

### Merry Christmas and thanks!

Finishing the year with a combined December and January issue of *Village Voice*, it's time again to say thank you to everyone who has contributed to *Village Voice* in 2012. Thank you to the team of stalwart VV deliverers, to everyone who has sent in content, to John and Neil at Oxford City Council who handle the printing, and to the Parish Council who fund it. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and VV will be through your door again in February.

## 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](mailto: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 February issue: Monday 14 January 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](mailto:village-voice@hotmail.co.uk)

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