

VillageVoice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

March 2022



Calendar

1st Shrove Tuesday *Don't forget your pancakes*
3rd World Book Day *Time for some cake and a book*
7th, 14th, 21st, 28th Knitting Group *Catch up over knitting*
12th Village Market *Plenty of local produce for sale*
18th Red Nose Day/Comic Relief *Funny is power*
19th Eynsham Heritage Day *10am – 4pm*
20th Spring Begins *Happy Ostara*
27th Mother's Day *Treat those mother figures in your lives*
27th Clocks Go Forward *Don't forget!*



Stanton Harcourt and Sutton

Summer Festival 2022

"Royal Stanton's Jubilee"



The Festival committee hope that you now have the following dates firmly fixed on your calendars with Festival week events running from:

Saturday 4th June to Sunday 12th June



And Festival Day will take place on

Saturday 11th June 2022

The committee are very much hoping to recruit some new committee members to help with the organisation of this year's festivities. We are particularly keen to find a new treasurer so if you would like to join our committee or are just happy to lend a hand with preparations in the build up to Festival week and the day itself then please contact Richard Thomson (rich.thom77@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from lots of you!

Festival Week Events

If you or your village organisation would like to hold an event during the week, do get in touch with Mike Parker (tel 884435 / email mikeparker12@gmail.com). Mike will be co-ordinating the event schedule for the week.

An event already planned is a "Party on The Green" to be held from midday on Sunday 5th June to coincide with the national "Big Jubilee Lunch". We are also delighted that the Gascoigne family have offered to open the Manor House Gardens and the Medieval Kitchen for visits on Sunday 12th June. More details of these and other events will follow in due course.

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)

Best wishes **The Festival Committee**



In 1985, Richard Curtis, Jane Tewson and friends came up with the idea of using comedy to raise funds for charity, specifically to help change lives in Africa and the UK. On Christmas Day 1985, "Comic Relief" was launched; live on BBC One from the Safawa Refugee Camp, Sudan.

Don't forget the Eynsham Link

It's marvellous that the village now has a bus service and well done to First and Last for their initiative.

But of course there are many times when people want to travel but the times of the buses don't suit them.

The Eynsham Link is about providing a link between Stanton Harcourt/Sutton and Eynsham for those who want to go to Eynsham - or further afield to Witney and Oxford for instance where on arrival in Eynsham they can transfer to the S1, which is good, high frequency bus service.

The Link is based on a WhatsApp group that connects those driving to and from Eynsham with those who want lifts.

We currently have some 65 members.



If you ever might need a lift or if you often drive to Eynsham please join us. (If we can get the numbers members past 100 then it is unlikely anyone who wants a lift will be unable get one.)

To join please email John Brown at jbrown1uk@yahoo.com

Any queries please email mikeparker12@gmail.com

Mike Parker



The countryside charity
Oxfordshire

Campaign to Protect Rural England

TRUSTEES WANTED

Do you care about your local countryside? Want to make a difference?

CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for new trustees to join our team.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is **31 March 2022** in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier. E: dorian.cpre@gmail.com T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: www.cpreoxon.org.uk



Village Market

Back for 2022! **Saturday 12th March 12pm – 2pm.**

Come along to Stanton Harcourt Village Hall and see the fantastic local produce on offer.

Windrush Walks Week

18th – 24th April

Join the Lower Windrush Valley Project as we celebrate 20 years with a series of walks and activities. Events include: wildlife, farming and geology themed walks, a children's nature trail and pond dipping workshops. The full programme can be viewed here:

www.tinyurl.com/WindrushProgramme

Enquiries: LWVP@oxfordshire.gov.uk or 07557 082575



Parish Council News

**Next Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall
Monday 7th March 7:30pm**



Online participation link: <https://meet.google.com/ifb-ezdy-dci>
PC meetings beyond this normally occur on the first Monday of each month at the same time and location. All villagers welcome to attend in person or online, there is a public questions session in each meeting where questions can be asked, or issues raised.

New Housing Developments are not all bad news!

A Developer Community Contribution (S106) agreement is an agreement between a developer and a local planning authority about measures that the developer must take to reduce their impact on the community. The agreement aims to moderate the impact on the Community by obtaining concessions and contributions from the developer.

The content of the agreement was negotiated during the consultation period of the initial planning application. The parties to the Stanton Harcourt agreement are the landowners, West Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council and the planning officer. The agreement transfers to the developer when they purchase the site for development.

These agreements are only associated with larger developments. Both the development of the Old Airfield (66 homes) and Butts Piece (40 homes) are covered by such agreements.

The agreement associated with the Old Airfield Site include the following when the development is complete:

1. 26 of the 66 plots to be developed as 'affordable housing dwellings', Cottsway Housing Association were party to this part of the agreement.
2. Public space around the site along with foot paths was to be set aside, these areas will be maintained by the development
3. A children's play park within the Public Space area to be installed and maintained by the development
4. An education contribution of approximately £368,000 towards the expansion of Stanton Harcourt Primary school
5. A Public Footpath contribution improving the path from the site to the top of Steady's Lane.
6. The Guard Room will be transferred to the Parish Council along with the associated car park and garden, for use as a community facility. The Parish Council will also receive £5,000 towards the set-up costs. This facility will be available for hire on an hourly basis. The hire fees will be used by the Parish Council to cover the running costs associated with this facility.
7. A Play & Recreation contribution of approximately £41,000 to a fund held by WODC on our behalf - for the enhancement and maintenance of existing play and recreation facilities in and around Stanton Harcourt
8. A Sport & Recreation contribution of approximately £114,000 to a fund held by WODC on our behalf - towards the provision/improvement and maintenance of community sports and recreation facilities within Stanton Harcourt and surrounding area
9. And some smaller provisions e.g., litterbins picnic benches etc.

The agreement associated with the Butts Piece Site include the following when the development is complete:

1. 16 of the 40 plots to be developed as 'affordable housing'.
2. Primary School contribution of approximately £241,000
3. A Play & Recreation contribution of approximately £79,000 to a fund held by WODC on our behalf - for the enhancement and maintenance of existing play and recreation facilities in and around Stanton Harcourt
4. A Public Art contribution of approximately £6,500
5. Public open space and footpaths

WODC have created a process that enables the Parish Council to apply for a release of all or part of these Recreation Funds (£155,000 Airfield development & £79,000 Butts Piece Development), where we can demonstrate the value and the community benefit of each application. The Parish Council has already requested and received £31,000 towards the Village Hall Solar Energy Project. The Village Hall is all electric and to ensure the hiring fees for our community remain as low as possible and

the facility remain sustainable it was important to reduce the cost of electricity used.

If you have any suggestions of any provisions, improvement and maintenance of community sports, leisure and recreation facilities within Stanton Harcourt you would like to see this money used for please contact Clerk@SHPC.co.uk with your ideas and their potential benefits and we will start to generate a priority list of possibilities.

Speedwatch

Speedwatch is changing. Thank you to all of you who volunteered and undertook Speedwatch patrols under the old scheme, they have been useful for the Police and we have had a speed trap on B4449. Things have changed though for Speedwatch. The old scheme has been replaced with a new scheme that has more teeth. Registered keepers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are contacted – initially by letter but repeat offenders will get a visit from Police and potentially prosecution. This new scheme is more labour intensive than the old one and will require all volunteers to undertake online training before we can start up again. The main difference for volunteers is that speed information is now logged directly rather than by the Police. To do this, a coordinator would be needed.

At the moment we don't have a Speedwatch scheme in place. I'm once again asking if anyone would be interested in coming together to create a Speedwatch group for the village. If so, please contact me at Rachel@shpc.co.uk

Parish Councillors

Tony Pentland was co-opted onto the Parish Council in February. Tony and his wife live on the Airfield Development; he has just retired and brings a wealth of experience to the team.

Your Parish Councillors are here to help: please do not hesitate to get in contact if you would like to raise an issue with the PC, for general issues please raise with the Clerk in the first instance:

Matthew Judson (Chair) - matthew@shpc.co.uk

Gill Sellars (Deputy Chair) - gill@shpc.co.uk

Rachel Arnold - rachel@shpc.co.uk

Keith Hickson - keith@shpc.co.uk

Joe Deane - joe@shpc.co.uk

Tony Pentland - tony@shpc.co.uk

www.pc.stantonharcourt.online 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 / Tel: 01865 686498



Since starting in 1988 24 official singles have been released in aid of Comic Relief, with proceeds going directly to the charity.

Handy Hints for Horticulturalists

- * Plant summer flowering bulbs & snowdrops for next year
- * Plant onions, shallots and early potatoes
- * Carry on dealing with those pesky weeds
- * Lift and divide clumps of perennials
- * Prune bush and climbing roses



Lexical Derivatives

What's up word nerds? We don't know about you, but we adore etymology. "What's etymology?" we hear you mumble: it's the history of a word or phrase shown by tracing its development and roots – like a treasure hunt, but with history and words: perfection.

20th March is Ostara; a wiccan festival celebrating the spring equinox/beginning of spring. It's not a coincidence that this sounds similar to the Christian festival Easter.

The word Ostara comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eostre or Éastre, who represented spring and new beginnings (sound familiar?) Eostre is related to Eos, the Greek goddess of dawn.

The words Ostara, Eostre and Éastre are all cognates (lexical siblings), meaning they all stem from the same origin: several Proto-Indo-European root words meaning *dawn* or *to shine/glow*.

In Anglo-Saxon England, the month of April was known as Eostremonath. 200 years later, after Charlemagne converted the Saxons to Christianity, he gave Germanic names to the Latin months of the year, which included Ostarmanoth where the feast of Ostern (Easter) was celebrated.

Eventually the common terminology and celebration became known as Easter and was incorporated to the Paschal calendar for the Christian resurrection holiday.

Touring Thespians Visiting Village

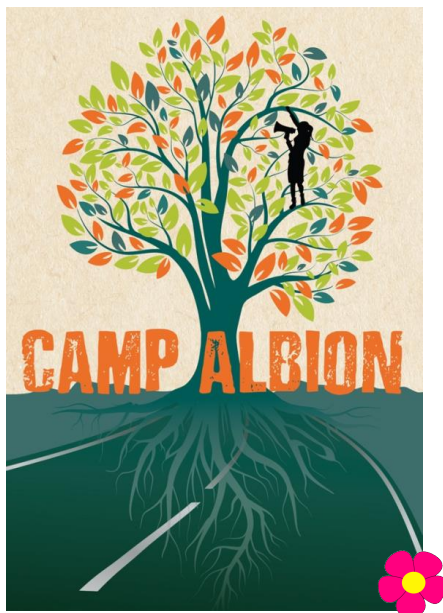
Save the date - Friday 24th June 2022

The Watermill Theatre are returning to the garden of Stanton Harcourt Village Hall for another outdoor summer performance of Camp Albion. Tickets will be available from the end of May.

Camp Albion - Newbury, 1996. Nine miles of ancient woodland under threat, and the local community bitterly divided over the proposed route of the new bypass. When Cassie returns home for the university holidays, she meets Dylan, a beguiling road protester who draws her into a world of rickety treehouses, lentil stew, druidic rituals and stoic resistance. But her mother has other ideas, and as battle lines are drawn, Cassie must face the personal cost of activism.

In a time before smartphones, Twitter, Greta Thunberg and Extinction Rebellion, the 'Third Battle of Newbury' was one of the definitive environmental campaigns of the 1990s. A new play with music, Camp Albion explores the heroism, humour and heated debate of this extraordinary moment in the town's history.

More details to follow.



Page 3 Bird: Sparrowhawk



Meet Jack Sparrowhawk – our friendly neighbourhood bird of prey. Jack enjoys reading adventure books next to a cosy fire, with his favourite tippie: a flaming rum punch. Jack can usually be found in woodlands and likes the open countryside to spread his wings (don't we all?!); he also enjoys visiting some of the gardens in the village and is particularly partial to a good scone.

You'll find Jack and other members of his family dotted over most of the UK, in cities as well as rural areas.

Sparrowhawks play a vital part in our local ecosystems and generally the birds they hunt are numerous and conspicuous, or are sick, old, weak or injured.

The numbers of sparrowhawks are currently relatively stable, but they have suffered in the past from trophy hunting in the 1840s, until birds of prey were legally protected in 1961. The use of pesticides in the 1960s & 1970s also threatened Jack's ancestors; thankfully the ban on such chemicals is finally beginning to have positive effects, although there are still traces of the chemicals in some of the sparrowhawk population today.

When Jack isn't busy searching for lost treasure or dreaming of a life on the high seas, he's in charge of hunting to provide food for his partner, Jacqueline, and their chicks. Admittedly, Jack does tend to get carried away with his imagination, so Jacqueline often has to do the job instead!

Sparrowhawks are able to fly at up to 50kph; making them a top predator, but travelling at such high speeds can often result in collisions, especially when they are focused on their task. Jack likes to pretend his eye patch is the result of some daring deeds, but in reality he accidentally hit a cow when hunting last May.



Around 72% of the population of the UK took part in Red Nose Day 1993.

Village Shop & Post Office - Village Hall

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

POST OFFICE

Waste Not Want Job?

Are you looking for a new challenge? One where you can make a difference to our local environment and help secure a better future?

The Windrush Recovery Project is looking for a Project Officer who will work for the Cotswolds Rivers Trust alongside Thames Water and WASP. This is new territory that Thames Water and WASP are exploring with the CRT to deliver an end to untreated sewage and to bring improved effluent to our river with WASP and other groups and individuals working on identifying, stopping or reducing other pollution sources - and giving the river a boost along the way.

For more information: <https://bit.ly/36v69Ai>

Eynsham Heritage Day

Saturday 19th March 10am - 4pm

A day of fascinating activities and talks about our local history...

- * Eynsham Abbey Walking Tours
 - * Eynsham Archaeology Walking Tours
 - * Exhibition & Family Activities at the Bartholomew Rooms
 - * Drop in at St Leonard's Church to ask an expert about its history
 - * The Pottery and Old Forge will be open
- Look out for some pop-up exhibitions in the Library and Eynsham Library in the days leading up to the Heritage Day.

More details can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3l5csbL>

Trains on the horizon?

Witney Rail project, February 2022 update

Witney Oxford Transport Group is a cross-party, voluntary organisation which is seeking to develop fast, reliable, sustainable transport solutions along the A40 corridor. Our primary focus is on restoring the rail link between Oxford, Eynsham, Witney and Carterton. This rail line would revolutionise travel in West Oxfordshire, with Oxford reachable from Carterton in 22 minutes, from Witney in 16 and from Eynsham in just 9.

Economically, it would encourage highly skilled employers to locate here, delivering high paying jobs. Environmentally, it would materially reduce West Oxfordshire's greenhouse gas emissions, roughly a third of which are generated from road transport. Socially, well, I don't need to tell anyone reading this of the frustrations and unreliability of the A40.

Our near-term goal has been to get the feasibility study done, so we all have hard data to review. To achieve this, we proposed a route; won support for the study from many parties including RAF Brize Norton, Oxford University, GWR, Carterton and Witney Town Councils and Eynsham Parish Council; and commissioned two projects. The outcomes of these projects gave the County Council sufficient comfort to fund the feasibility study. We hope the results of the feasibility study will be available by the summer.

For further information on the project, please see www.witneyoxfordtransport.org.uk and the Google Earth presentation which is accessible via the homepage.

Charlie Maynard, Chair, Witney Oxford Transport Group

Volunteers Wanted

Hitesh needs volunteers to run the Village Hall shop/newsagents on the days when there is no post office service.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday

8am to 10am volunteers needed

You don't need to be available every day or every week, but if you can spare a few hours to be on the rota with other volunteers please contact Hitesh at the shop

I meant what I said and I said what I meant...

To mark World Book Day on 3rd March, and to coincide with his birthday on 2nd March, we have an extract from renowned children's author Dr Seuss.

Although Dr Seuss is known for his whimsical children's books, his work contains valuable messages and life lessons that are just as relevant to the older and wiser among us as they are to our younger generations.

Why not celebrate World Book Day 2022 by picking up a new book, perhaps try something new? Escape the world for a bit....

"You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book" Dr Seuss



If you don't fancy picking up a book, try watching Wes Tank reading The Lorax in his unique style <https://bit.ly/3l7rgGP> Enjoy!

Oh The Places You'll Go!

You have brains in your head.

You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself

Any direction you choose.

You're on your own. And

you know what you know.

And YOU are the one who'll

decide where to go.

You'll get mixed up,

of course, as you already know.

You'll get mixed up with

many strange birds as you go.

So be sure when you step.

Step with care and great

tact and remember that

Life's A Great Balancing Act.

And will you succeed?

Yes! You will, indeed!

(98 and $\frac{3}{4}$ percent guaranteed.)

KID, YOU'LL MOVE

MOUNTAINS!



Dr Seuss (1904 – 1991)

Eggs-actly what mum ordered

Shakshuka

Try serving this delicious breakfast alternative with warmed pitta and a glass or two of mimosa as a treat for hardworking mum's on Mother's Day (27th March, in case you'd forgotten!)

Ingredients (serves 2)

1 tbsp olive oil

2 red onions, chopped

1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped

1 garlic clove, sliced

small bunch coriander stalks and leaves chopped separately

2 cans cherry tomatoes

1 tsp caster sugar

4 eggs



Method

1. Heat the oil in a frying pan that has a lid, then soften the onions, chilli, garlic and coriander stalks for 5 mins until soft. Stir in the tomatoes and sugar, then bubble for 8-10 mins until thick.

2. Using the back of a large spoon, make 4 dips in the sauce, then crack an egg into each one. Put a lid on the pan, then cook over a low heat for 6-8 mins, until the eggs are done to your liking. Scatter with the coriander leaves and serve with crusty bread.

Church News

LOWER WINDRUSH BENEFICE SERVICES

Every WEDNESDAY evening at 8.30pm: Compline Night Prayer online via Zoom.

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



St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

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

Comic Relief has raised over £1 billion since starting in 1985. The money donated to Comic Relief has helped fund over 17,000 projects in the United Kingdom alone. Worldwide the funding has gone towards fighting issues like malaria, AIDS/HIV, poverty, starvation and even domestic violence.



International Women's Day

Above is the 1st Stanton Harcourt Company of the Girls' Life Brigade, formed in 1939. The girls pictured are with the Sports and Competition trophies, which they won in Oxford 1945.

Stanton Harcourt has a history of strong, influential women who have played a key role in the community for centuries. Although Stanton Harcourt has a positive outlook on the role women have to play in society, there are still so many places around the world, and in the UK, today that don't.

International Women's Day, 8th March annually, has its beginnings in the 1908 New York City march, which demanded shorter hours, better pay and the right to vote for women. It is a day to commemorate the cultural, political, and socioeconomic achievements of women. It is also a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.

This year's theme is #BreakTheBias: Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take action for equality. For more information about making a positive change visit: <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

STEMulate your mind

Science Oxford are back in full swing and have loads of events taking place throughout March, with family days, creative computing club, and nature labs. Check out their website for fun ideas for all ages, and help young minds see how amazing the possibilities are when it comes to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

<https://scienceoxford.com/events/>



Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month village-voice@hotmail.co.uk

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