

Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

October 2023

Calendar – October 2023

Monday 2nd, 7.30pm – Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall

Wednesday 4th, 10.00am – Café at the Chapel

Friday 6th, 7.30pm Open Mic. Night, Village Hall

Saturday 7th, 8.00am – Men's Breakfast, Harcourt Arms (see entry for details)

Saturday 14th, 12pm – Village Market

Tuesday 24th, 11am – Alan Hambridge's Funeral at the village church

Every Thursday – Lunch Club (see entry for contact details)

Every Tuesday (term time) – 7pm Sutton Singers (see entry for contact details)

At the time of printing, we are sad to announce the death of Alan Hambridge after a long illness. Our thoughts are with Michelle and the rest of Alan's family.

Alan's funeral will be on Tuesday 24th October at 11am, at the village church.

STANTON HARCOURT & SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers help to make our village the thriving community it is today. We have many fantastic volunteers, but more are always needed. We have volunteers that produce this newsletter, organise groups used by villagers such the walking group, book clubs, organise the festival, local history society and the Royal British Legion and many more, or support amenities such as our primary school, church, village shop and village hall or simply offer to do the shopping for a neighbour in need.

Villages need volunteers... Could you find a few spare hours each week or month to get more involved?

Vacancy on the Parish Council

Stanton Harcourt with Sutton Parish Council are looking for an additional Parish Councillor to join the team. If you are interested contact one of your local councillors or The Parish Clerk. In May 2024,

the full Council is up for election. The PC is made up of 6 Councillors. It has been many years since there has been an election, it would be great to see enough people step forward for an election to happen in May. Any of the current Councillors would be happy to speak to you about their role on the PC and what skills a Councillor needs to bring - other than common sense, very little.

Buses

First and Last Mile – a community bus service which links Stanton Harcourt to Standlake, Eynsham and Hanborough – is looking for volunteer drivers. If anyone can help it would be brilliant. May I remind everyone that this bus service is offering the £2-fare cap even though they are not reimbursed for the shortfall in income in the same way that the big bus companies like Stagecoach are.

New bus service to London.

Oxford Tube will be providing a service direct to London on weekdays starting on October 23rd, with pick up in Witney and Eynsham.

To London

Witney Market Sq.	05:45	06:15	06:55	08:25
Eynsham Evenlode	05:58	06:32	07:12	08:42
London Marble Arch	08:05	09:00	09:40	10:54

From London

London Marble Arch	17:06	17:53	18:46
Eynsham Evenlode	19:12	19:45	20:32
Witney Market Sq.	19:27	20:00	20:45

Have your say on WODC plans!

West Oxfordshire District Council has opened a consultation into the plans for the development of the district up until 2041. It is your chance to have your say about How you would like to see the Village and surrounding area developed over the next 18 years.

This new consultation, 'Your Place, Your Plan', launched on 30 August and will be open for two months. Residents are being encouraged to share their thoughts on three different topics: the draft objectives of the local plan; the future pattern of development for the district (by reviewing scenarios) and how local land could be used in the future.

The District Council is hopeful that residents will review the new materials and respond again in this current consultation, viewing their input as key. The consultation will be hosted on the District Council's online platform, although the PC have placed some paper copies in the Village Shop for those who have no internet access and would prefer to share their opinions by post.

Botley Road to remain closed to through traffic until October 2024 due to delays to Oxford Station redevelopment.

Network Rail has informed Oxfordshire County Council that it will no longer be able to reopen Oxford's Botley Road at the end of October 2023, as previously planned. Due to complications experienced during its £161 million redevelopment of Oxford Station, Network Rail has requested that Botley Road remain closed to through traffic until the project is completed in October 2024.

The original plan was to reopen the road at the end of October when utility diversion work was due to be completed, and then close it again to through traffic from March - October 2024 for highway work and the replacement of Botley railway bridge.

However, Network Rail has not been able to keep to this schedule due to problems caused by the discovery of an inverted brick arch under the surface, which stretches beneath the railway bridge.

Incorrect battery disposal resulting in fire risk.

More than 700 waste-related fires are responded to each year by the emergency services due to the unsafe disposal of batteries, many of which are hidden inside electrical equipment and put in general waste.

Should lithium batteries end up in the refuse or in the body of the recycling truck there's a very real risk of the battery being punctured by the compacting equipment with the potential to ignite or explode in the back of the lorry, causing damage, disrupting waste collections and ultimately putting lives at risk.

The good news is that batteries and small appliances can still be recycled at the kerb just as long as they're separated out from the main recycling. Due to their small size, vapes should be placed inside an envelope or ideally an old plastic bag and left on the lid on top of the blue-lidded recycling bin ready for collection. Household batteries should be recycled in the same manner. Electricals and batteries are stored separately on the recycling vehicle so are not compacted, massively reducing the risk of fire.

Residents can recycle their small electrical and electronic items using the Council's kerbside service by placing them in their black box. Alternatively, they can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (Dix Pit) or any retailer that sells batteries and electricals and who has a duty to offer a take back service for these types of goods.

Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are:

Lysette Nicholls

- Mobile: 07766 251125
- Email: lysette.nicholls@westoxon.gov.uk

Charlie Maynard

- Mobile: 07487 708681
- Email: Charlie.maynard@westoxon.gov.uk

Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is:

Dan Levy

- Mobile: 07852 748362
- Email: dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Your Member of Parliament is:

Robert Courts

- Phone: 0207 219 5638
- Email: Robert.courts.mp@parliament.uk

Your Parish Councillors are:

Matthew Judson, Chairman,

matthew@shpc.co.uk

Rachel Arnold, Vice Chairman, rachel@shpc.co.uk

Keith Hickson, keith@shpc.co.uk

Joe Deane, joe@shpc.co.uk

Gill Sellars, gill@shpc.co.uk

Vacancy

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

POPPY APPEAL 2023

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for 2023 will launch on the 26th October will finish on the 12th November. Last year our villages raised just over £2000! Thank you for your kind donations.

There will be a house to house collection during these dates and poppies will be available from the shop and The Harcourt Arms. For further details or if you have some spare time to volunteer as a collector contact Alan 07703439088 or ajdyer961@gmail.com.

Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion

Annual Act of Remembrance

Sunday 12th November is the annual Act of Remembrance at St Michael's Church. We will gather in the churchyard at 10.45-10.50, with a two minute silence at 11.00, followed by a church service. There will

be a further short Act of Remembrance afterwards at the old airfield War Memorial. The whole community is invited to attend any part of these ceremonies, followed by refreshments at the Old Guardroom. We will be joined by the Harley-Davidson riders from the Black Mountains and Thames Valley chapters.

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion branch will be holding their AGM at the Old Guardroom on Thursday 30th November at 19.30 and we welcome anyone from our community to join us. You do not have to have served in the armed forces or be a member of the Royal British Legion to attend.

Church News

Lower Windrush Benefice – St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt

*****Evening Prayer most Mondays and Thursdays at 4pm*****

September 1st – Harvest Festival

08:30 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) followed by breakfast

Sunday 8th

10:00 Benefice Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm we have a short service of Compline via Zoom. Thursday mornings we have Early Bird Prayer at 7:30am via Zoom. All Zoom codes can be found on www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

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/

SUTTON CHAPEL

Service – Sunday 8th October, at 3.00pm. Led by Rev Fred Ireland, with communion.

have been running for 19 years now and our members look forward to Thursdays to get out of the house to enjoy a good lunch and meet up with many other local people. We have several excellent cooks but would always welcome anyone else interested in providing a wholesome lunch or pudding. If you think you or someone you know would benefit from joining us, please contact Anna Cross 881363 or Michael Druce 300480.

Sutton Singers.

Sutton Singers continue to meet on Tuesdays during term time at 7pm. Would you like to sing? Come and join in the joy and fun of singing together? No auditions needed. We welcome new members, have parties sometimes and our Musical Director – Lizzie Soden – is a joy to work with, fun, encouraging and says everyone can sing!

Get in touch with Jan

Tomlinson on

Phone: 01865 881709 or

email: janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com



A date for your diary – Our Open Mic. Night is on Friday 6th October 7.30–9.30 at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall. Don't miss out. Contact Jan as above if you want to perform. If you want to come and listen – just be there on the night. £5 pp. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Looking forward to seeing you there.

CHARITY FILM NIGHT



SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2023

Eynsham Village Hall
Back Lane, Eynsham OX29 4QW

At 7.30pm Doors open 7.00pm

Supper, Bar & Raffle

Tickets £15 includes 2 course meal (veggie option available)

Tickets available from Evenlode DIY or Roy Wilkinson 01865 883917

Please book before Wednesday 25th.

ALL PROCEEDS TO LOCAL & ROTARY CHARITIES

Combe Mill 'In Steam'

15th October

Woodcraft + Autumn Market

This will be a great event with all woodworking tools as used back in the day. Invited are Wood carving, Elizabethan historic bowl tuning, Pole Lathe turning, Spoon carving, Green woodworking and Shavehorse Demonstration. Also to accompany the event will be an Autumn Market.



CAFE AT THE CHAPEL



WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER

10.00 – 12.00

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE / SELECTION OF TEAS
TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT
BUTTERED TOAST.

BOOKS AND GIFTS SALE TABLE TO BROWSE
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!

THURSDAY LUNCH CLUB

We meet every Thursday at Northmoor Village Hall between 12 noon and 2 pm and welcome residents from Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor and Standlake. We

Combe Mill, a late 19th Century Restored Water Mill on Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, all Machinery running 'In Steam' and volunteers will be on hand with lots of interesting information. Tea room will be open, BBQ, Gift Shop and Tombola. Also in attendance will be our regular Mini Market Stall holders plenty to see. Dog on Leads most welcome. Adults £9.00, seniors £7.50 // Accompanied children FREE open 10.30am to 5.00pm. (Combe Mill cannot be responsible for attractions that do not appear.)

Village Shop & Post Office

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

Monthly Men's Break

The Men's Breakfast meet ups are held at The Harcourt Arms on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 am to approx. 09:15 for a breakfast & general social chat. Price of a Full English, with tea/ coffee & toast currently £12 per head, other breakfasts available off the menu. Open invitation to all, but anyone who would like to come along please let Rob Brown know by text or telephone on 07957 664117 or email rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com so he can give the Arms numbers by the Thursday beforehand.

Coming to Stanton Harcourt Village Hall from the Watermill Theatre, Newbury
MACBETH by William Shakespeare
Friday 10th Nov, 7.30pm (bar from 7pm)

Passion and greed collide in a bold and thrilling new interpretation of **Macbeth**. A tempting prophesy and insatiable ambition consume the Macbeths, who stop at nothing in their pursuit of power. As tensions mount, they are plunged into a world of darkness and deceit to secure their dominance and ensure their survival. Shakespeare's classic tragedy is given the Watermill Ensemble treatment in this new fast-paced seventy-five minute production, featuring an



electrifying rock score performed by an ensemble cast of three actor-musicians.

Tickets £15 adults, £5 youth, available from Lucy Heath 07711 704475 or Jan Tomlinson 07720 844973

The Lower Windrush History Club are holding their new season of talks, which is a varied collection of speakers and topics over 7 evenings. The Club will be coming to Stanton Harcourt on 5th December, which is a change to their usual venue in Standlake. New members are very welcome and subs are £25/person for the complete season. Non-members can attend individual talks for £5/person. If you'd like to join as a member, just go along to the first meeting with payment, or drop an email to lwhscommittee@gmail.com

3rd October 2023 – Standlake Village Hall 7.30pm
 Gillian Kane – The Mitford Sisters

7th November 2023 – Standlake Village Hall 7.30pm
 Simon Randall – The English Civil War in the Cotswolds

5th December 2023 – Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt 7.30pm
 Antonia Keaney - Blenheim: Christmas Past and Present.

Introduction to Print Making Workshop

Friday Oct 27th from 2-4.30pm at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall. Just a few places left. No previous experience needed and a chance to try out 3 different techniques. £15 a place including most materials plus £5 for tea, coffee and cake. Led by Gill Salway who is a very experienced print maker and giving her time for free. We are trying to raise money for the Chapel. Should be fun and places limited to 15.

A message from our neighbour Mr John Holland who has recently had to give up driving. John would like everyone to know that if anyone would like to pop into 10 The Green, Stanton Harcourt for a cuppa and chat please do so. He would still like to keep in touch with as many of his friends as he can.

And finally, if anyone is interested in joining a small group of seniors that meet up and play badminton on Tuesday mornings between 10am-11.30am at the Village Hall please contact Tony Baker on 082576.

Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month
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 Editor. Inclusion of an advertisement does not indicate endorsement of the product, service or event being advertised.



Great news for Standing with Giants

Standing with Giants formed as a community project after a remembrance gathering, that took place here, in Stanton Harcourt, on our Village Green. Encouraged by the passion of the people at that gathering to remember those who gave us our freedom, our small community group has achieved amazing things. We've displayed at Blenheim Palace, Hampton Court Palace, Lord Rothschild's Waddesdon Manor, Fort Nelson, International Bomber Command, and even the Falkland Islands.

From the beginning, Dan Barton, who founded the project, was keen to create a giant installation to take to Normandy to honour those who died on D-Day on the beaches, paving the way for the liberation of Europe. After 18 months of Zoom meetings with Nicholas Witchell, BBC Royal correspondent, and a trip to Normandy to meet with Nicholas and Lord Dannatt, the proposal to install 1500 figures between the beach and the British Normandy Memorial from April 2024 through to September 2024 was voted on by the memorial's trustees. We are pleased to announce that the vote was a unanimous yes, and we will be traveling with 1500 figures to Normandy in April 2024 to set up a huge installation representing the 1476 British servicemen who died on the beaches that day and to honour and remember all those who have made sacrifices for our freedom.

We envisage the whole installation will travel to Normandy in April 2024 on three articulated lorries. We are having conversations with various motorbike groups who wish to escort these lorries to Portsmouth from Oxfordshire. The Hog Group of French riders will then join us on the French side.

We are allowing 15 days with 20-30 volunteers to set up the installation. By the time the installation is complete, we will have painted 25 miles of steel and alloy. We will have used 10 miles of guy lines, hammered in 6,000 large steel pegs, and tied 12,000 knots. The whole installation will weigh 25 to 30 tonnes. The installation will be called "For You Tomorrow: The People's Tribute."

The team has been working for 3 years+ to make components so others can help paint and assemble the figures. Last weekend, we were humbled to meet Normandy veterans who were delighted to hear our plans. They may visit to help paint silhouettes.

We're currently building a workshop so people can help paint and assemble 'The People's Tribute'. In two weeks, we will be displaying 200 of these figures at the National Trust's Stowe House, Buckinghamshire, where we will launch "The Normandy Initiative." We still have painting, assembling, and packing of the 200 Stowe figures to do. There's an incredible amount of work to do, from electrics in the workshop to fitting roller doors and laying concrete slabs & fitting a large modern industrial wood burner. There's admin, research, fundraising, press releases, logistics, and marshalling. We really need some help.

Amongst our volunteer help, we have enjoyed working with 5 Duke of Edinburgh students from Bartholomew and our local Scout and Sea Scout groups. We look forward to welcoming individuals or local groups who would like to get involved. We're on the outskirts of Stanton Harcourt near the recycling centre. If you'd like to be part of this initiative, please contact Janette & Dan Barton. info@standingwithgiants.co.uk