



# VillageVoice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

February 2022



## Calendar

**2<sup>nd</sup> Café at the Chapel** *pop in for a cuppa and a chat*  
**7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Knitting Group** *Knit, chat and coffee*

## New Year, Same Newsletter

We hope you all had a lovely time over the festive period and enjoyed all the wonderful activities the village had to offer throughout December.

After a nice break, the Village Voice team are back and keen to continue distributing information about local news and events to you.

If you have anything you'd like included in an issue of Village Voice, please email the team at [village-voice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:village-voice@hotmail.co.uk).



We've kept it simple: the **deadline date is 20<sup>th</sup> of every month.**

We'd love to hear from you; whether to help you get the word out to everyone about an event taking place, or because you've have some amusing tales, creative ideas or just some interesting content you'd like us to include.

## Floody Hell!

### CPRE Oxfordshire Flooding and Pollution Report

A survey of Oxfordshire's Town & Parish Councils, 2021 findings show that at least 17% of towns & parishes in Oxfordshire experience flooding problems and at least 20% of towns & parishes experience issues with sewage/sewerage infrastructure.

CPRE Oxfordshire wants to see:

- Thames Water setting out clear measures to address the issues raised in this report, including targets and investment commitments.
- Local MPs supporting the Sewage (Inland Waters) Bill and the Environment Bill to ensure water companies are legally bound to stop discharging raw sewage into the ocean and rivers.
- Oxfordshire Plan 2050 to ensure all new developments demonstrate that their associated infrastructure will either maintain or improve water quality, not add to the risk of flooding, and be in place before the site is occupied.
- The River Thames to achieve Bathing Water designation.

CPRE Oxfordshire has produced an interactive map highlighting where the issues are, view the map and download the report from our website: [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

Did your Town or Parish Council respond? If not, you can let us know what flooding and/or sewage issues your neighbourhood is facing. Contact [campaign@cpreoxon.org.uk](mailto:campaign@cpreoxon.org.uk)

Thank you to everyone who decorated a window for Advent; they were fantastic and brightened up the dark evenings along with the brilliant Christmas lights everywhere!

We hope you will join in again this year.



## Wool-d you like to join us?



Fancy challenging yourself to learn a new skill, or learn tips from the masters? Why not pop along to the Stanton Harcourt Knitting Group?

They meet every Monday morning from 10.30-12.30 in the Methodist Chapel.

If you start now, you might finish making a jumper just in time for Christmas 2022!

## Volunteers Needed Urgently

As you know the Harcourt Arms Stores has recently closed because it was not viable. Now the shop at the Village Hall needs volunteer helpers at the following days and times:

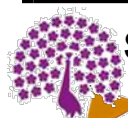
**Monday 8:00 to 10:00am**

**Wednesday 8:00 to 10:00am**

**Friday 8:00 to 10:00am**

If you can't manage to help every day or every week - that is fine, Hitesh can build a rota to keep the facility open. So the more volunteers the better.

Interested? Call in and have a chat with Hitesh



## Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2022

Happy New Year to everyone from the Festival Committee.

### Jubilations - Festival is back!

After a two-year gap due to Covid restrictions, the Festival committee are once again busy planning our village Festival Week and Festival Day for 2022. Hooray!

To complement the national celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, our Festival theme this year will be:

### A Royal Stanton Jubilee Jamboree!

And to overlap with some national celebrations, our Festival Week events will be held from

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June**



Our village Festival Day will take place on

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

As usual we are looking for village organisations or residents to host events during the week leading up to Festival Day including some that will embrace our "Jubilee" theme! Hosting a Festival Week event is a great opportunity to raise money for your local organisation or favourite charity. If you would like to hold an event, do please get in touch with Mike Parker (tel 884435 / email [mikeparker12@gmail.com](mailto:mikeparker12@gmail.com)). Mike will be co-ordinating the event schedule for the week and will ensure that all details are included in the Festival programme.

On Festival Day, we hope to have a right royal village celebration with activities and attractions for you all to enjoy. 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](mailto:lucylowe1974@gmail.com)

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](mailto:gill@gillmason.com))

We are really keen for **new committee members** to come forward to help with the organisation of this year's festivities. If you would like to join our fun team then please contact Richard Thomson [rich.thom77@gmail.com](mailto:rich.thom77@gmail.com). We very much look forward to hearing from lots of you!

Best wishes **The Festival Committee**



*1<sup>st</sup> February is Chinese New Year, which marks the start of the New Year according to the traditional Chinese lunar calendar. 2022 is the year of the Tiger*

# Parish Council News



## Next Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 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.*

### Solar Energy

The Parish Council has secured funding to enable solar energy to be installed at the Village Hall, this funding came from a West Oxfordshire District fund which holds contributions for the community from local property developers. This funding will not impact your Council Tax bill but once installed it will help to reduce the Hall's running costs. The Village Hall Committee, a charitable group, is a small group of willing volunteers who are responsible for the management and maintenance of this facility for the benefit of us all. Thank you to all the volunteers who help by raising funds, managing and maintaining these facilities for our benefit.

### Fly Tipping

A fixed penalty notice has been issued to fly-tippers following members of the public witnessing and reporting the crime and an investigation by West Oxfordshire District Council officers. Residents who witness fly-tipping are encouraged to report what they see to the council. To aid investigations, please don't disturb the rubbish and inform the authorities.

### Small Changes Can Make A Huge Difference

One positive impact we can all have on climate change is by buying less, recycling where possible and discard waste as a last resort. West Oxfordshire District Council offers the following waste services:

#### Food Waste

Collected weekly. Simply line your silver kitchen caddy with compostable bags or newspaper. Use your caddy for all food waste (e.g., raw and cooked food, meat, fish, dairy produce, stale pet food, tea bags, veg peelings, plate scrapings). Once your kitchen caddy is full, transfer the contents to your black outdoor caddy.

#### Mixed Recycling

Collected fortnightly. Use your black bin with the blue lid to recycle: paper, grey card, brown corrugated cardboard, shredded paper, cartons (such as Tetra Pak), plastic bottles, plastic tubs, pots and trays, clean foil, empty aerosols, metal drinks cans, food tins and sweet/biscuit tins. No plastic bags in the bins please for example waste bin liners.

#### Glass

Collected fortnightly with mixed recycling. Use your black recycling box to recycle your glass bottles and jars to keep them separate from your other recyclables. Metal lids should go in the black bin with the blue lid.

#### Small Electricals

Collected fortnightly with mixed recycling. Anything which has a plug, batteries or requires charging can be recycled in your black box - just so long as it's small enough to fit inside. Do not mix your glass with your electricals. Either use a separate black box or only put out electricals on weeks when you have no glass to recycle.

#### Refuse (Non-recyclable)

Refuse must be presented inside your council-issue grey wheeled bin. You cannot put out your own sacks for collection. Refuse left either beside or on top of the bin will not be collected. Refuse bins are emptied each fortnight. Waste can be loose or bagged inside the bin

#### Household Batteries

Collected Fortnightly with mixed recycling. Please put your batteries inside an old envelope and leave this on top of your recycling bin. They accept AAA, AA, C, D, 9v, button, mobile and laptop batteries but not car batteries.



### Textiles and Shoes

Collected fortnightly with mixed recycling. Textiles and shoes must be bagged. Please use an old carrier bag or similar and tie the bag handles to keep items clean and dry. Using a clear carrier bag is not compulsory but helps the crews identify items which can't be accepted. Do not include wet textiles, heavily soiled fabric (oily rags etc), pillows, duvets, cushions, rugs and carpets

### Further information is available

Full recycling leaflet available online: <https://bit.ly/3rCkm5p>

### Recycling Alternatives

Please don't forget there are many charity shops and warehouses in our area that you can take good quality clothes, books and household goods, when they sell these preloved items it helps to fund the charity. Those of you with a 'Facebook' account will know a lot of local recycling is achieved on our two local sites 'Villagers Other Voice' and 'Stanton and Sutton Neighbourhood group' ensuring the benefits stay local- thank you to the administrators that run these Facebook sites for our benefit.

We 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](mailto:matthew@shpc.co.uk)

**Gill Sellars** (Deputy Chair) - [gill@shpc.co.uk](mailto:gill@shpc.co.uk)

**Rachel Arnold** - [rachel@shpc.co.uk](mailto:rachel@shpc.co.uk)

**Keith Hickson** - [keith@shpc.co.uk](mailto:keith@shpc.co.uk)

**Joe Deane** - [joe@shpc.co.uk](mailto:joe@shpc.co.uk)



### [www.pc.stantonharcourt.online](http://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](mailto:clerk@shpc.co.uk) / Tel: 01865 686498

## Remembrance & Poppy Appeal



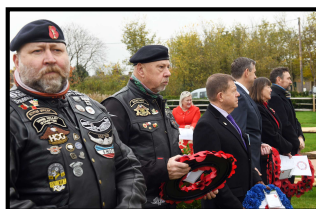
I'm pleased to announce, the final total for the 2021 Appeal in Stanton Harcourt and Sutton **£3520.95**

Many thanks to all who generously donated.

Alan Dyer – Poppy Appeal Organiser

There was a fantastic turn out to all Acts of Remembrance in the Village in November 2021. It was a poignant morning of reflection of those who were, and those who continue to be, victims of war.

Photos below show the Act of Remembrance at Hayfield Green. Thanks to Jacqui Graves for the photos



*Chinese New Year is also known as The Spring Festival: originally a ceremonial day to pray to gods for a good planting and harvest season.*

## Handy Hints for Horticulturalists

### Get your garden ready to wake up for spring

- \* Chit first-early potato tubers
- \* Check old seed packets are worth keeping by sowing a few seeds on damp kitchen paper, to see if they germinate
- \* Prepare veg beds for sowing by weeding thoroughly, then cover with a thick layer of garden compost
- \* Sow sweet peas in deep pots and keep them frost-free in a greenhouse or on a sunny windowsill





## 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

## St Michael's Raffle Prize Draw

Grateful thanks to everyone who supported St Michael's Christmas Raffle.

**We raised a much needed £690**

The winners were:

T & M Boorer  
Davis Family  
Shona Dewe  
Jennie

Buckingham Family  
Ms Wardle  
Gillian Webb  
Amanda Exley



## Carer Wanted

We are looking for a carer for our disabled, sweet natured, 11 year old daughter who is a wheelchair user (mainly some afternoons during the week, occasionally weekend, flexible).

If you are interested please contact Ania Ready  
07854 254 434 or email: [ania.ready@gmail.com](mailto:ania.ready@gmail.com)



## Page 3 Bird: Albatross



Meet Albert Ross. He enjoys listening to Fleetwood Mac and watching Formula 1 at the weekends. He's a talented artist, who aspires to have his own TV show in the future.

Generally found in the Southern Ocean and the North Pacific,

albatrosses are among the largest of flying birds, with the great albatross having the longest wingspans of any extant (living) birds, reaching up to 3.7m / 12ft (the height of an African elephant or six golden retrievers on top of each other!)

Pair bonds between males and females form over several years and last for the life of the pair. Albert is looking for his Aretha, which he hopes to do soon because numbers of 21 out of the 22 species of Albatross are declining and listed as being vulnerable or endangered.

A maritime superstition says that the albatross held the souls of lost sailors, which meant they held the sea birds in high respect, and to kill one would bring bad luck to the crew and the ship.

It sounds like it's time for us to respect them again. After all, we all need a little R S P B E C T.

## Eynsham Heritage Day

**Saturday 19th March 10.am till 4.pm**

There's an awful lot of history in or area, but most of ours is in the Museum Store in Standlake. That's why a group of us in Eynsham, led by the Curator of Archaeology for Oxfordshire have planned a day when a lot more of our common history will be made visible. This will include an exhibition in the Bartholomew Room in the Square which will concentrate on the Eynsham Abbey Dig 30 years ago, but from Stanton Harcourt you will be interested in the display of the axe head and mammoth tooth from our area. These will be shown in the window of Evenlode DIY Shop from the 11<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March.



On the day there will be tours of the Eynsham Abbey Site and of Eynsham Village as well as an I-Spy Family Quiz. A permanent Eynsham Museum in the Bartholomew Room will be set up soon after the Heritage Day.

## Charity Begins at Home

Did you know that there are two local charities that are here to help the residents of our villages?

### STANTON HARCOURT RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

The above charity emerged in its present form in 1972 when it came under of the Charity Commission. It was however, born out of five long-standing individual charities, the earliest of which dates from 1810. The object of the Charity shall be to relieve, either generally or individually, persons resident in the Parish of Stanton Harcourt who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress. The charity is still administered to this purpose by the existing Committee.

### STANTON HARCOURT EDUCATIONAL CHARITY

The above charity was amended to its present form in 1985 from the School Charity of Dr William Gibbons, regulated by the Charity Commissioners in 1889 consisting of eight separate small charities. Today the trustees have adapted the charity to the needs of the children of the village, and to the Stanton Harcourt Church of England Primary School in particular. The committee are always interested in hearing from anyone who requires specific help, providing it falls within the scope of the charities rules.

For either charity feel free to contact us for a chat either on your own behalf, or on behalf of someone you know who needs a little short-term help. Please contact Gill Gray in the first instance on 01865 880130, or email: [Gillian.gray@talktalk.net](mailto:Gillian.gray@talktalk.net).

**We are currently looking for new recruits for the combined committee, so if anyone would like to apply please ring or email Gill Gray.**

## CAFE AT THE CHAPEL



**WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 10.00 - 12.00**

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE

SELECTION OF TEAS

TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT BUTTERED TOAST.

CRAFT AND GIFT TABLE TO BROWSE

A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO ARRANGE TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS FOR A CHAT AND CATCH UP OVER COFFEE WITHOUT HAVING TO DRIVE OUT OF THE VILLAGE OR JUST DROP IN FOR A CHAT AND SOME FRIENDLY COMPANY



WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!



*200 million mainland Chinese travel long distances for these holidays, there are an estimated 3.5 billion journeys in China. Tens of millions travel in other countries too, making CNY the largest annual human migration in the world, known as the Spring Festival Travel Rush.*

## Bee Mine

We can't forget Valentine's Day on 14<sup>th</sup> February; or, perhaps more importantly, Galentine's Day on 13<sup>th</sup> February. Let the ones you care about know with this Valentine bee craft. Have fun!

### Supplies

- Cardstock - Yellow, Black, Red and White
- Black marker or sharpie
- Scissors
- Gluestick
- Photo

1. Draw a large heart on white cardstock for the wings.  
Draw a large circle on yellow cardstock for the bee body.  
Draw strips on black cardstock for the bee stripes and antenna.  
Draw small & medium hearts on red cardstock.

2. Glue the large black paper strips to the yellow body. You can trim around the edges to fit the strips to size after gluing.



3. Glue 2 small hearts to the small antenna black paper strips.  
Then glue these to the back of the photo.  
Glue the photo to the top of the body.

4. Glue the heart wings to the back of the bee. Write "BEE MINE" on the large red heart and glue to the body

## Update from Standing with Giants

Standing with Giants has had an incredible year, an emotional rollercoaster with some real highs and some real lows. After 3 months of incredibly hard work, we launched our NHS tribute in Oxford South Parks. The reaction from people who came was really humbling, however sadly in Oxford and again at our next venue in Coventry we were victims of several vandal and anti-vax attacks leaving 24 of our NHS figures trashed. Currently the display is in storage whilst we carry on a conversation with the Tate Gallery for an exhibit in 2024. NHS Charities Together are currently looking into us being hosted by Yorkshire sculpture park. Last year we had over 500 soldiers and 400 poppy wreaths on display at Hampton Court Palace, The Rothschilds Waddesdon Manor, The Falkland Islands and Bullingdon Prison. The prison is now helping us paint and assemble the soldier silhouettes. Sadly, due to collection restrictions on each site we were not able to raise as much money as we did last year for the Poppy Appeal and NHS Charities Together. The Royal British Legion keeps telling us how we are inspiring the next generation of poppy collectors. I very much hope this is the case.

Many press outlets have picked up the story, incredibly our images at Hampton Court Palace were used for the two-minute silence on Phillip and Holly's This Morning TV show. The same images were shown at the Festival of Remembrance on the screens during the BBC televised event. Janette and I were there as guests and it was a very moving experience.

Work has already started to send additional figures to the Falkland Islands for the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Falkland Islands. Thank you to all our volunteers, this project wouldn't be possible without you! Remember it all started here in Stanton Harcourt on our village green with our 100th Remembrance Anniversary display. We are continuously looking for funds to help run this project and if anyone has any ideas we'd love to hear from you. [www.standingwithgiants.co.uk](http://www.standingwithgiants.co.uk)

## The Keats Death of the Universe

In 2015 the UN declared 11<sup>th</sup> February as International Day of Women & Girls in Science, which recognises the critical role women and girls play in science and technology and aims to bridge the gender gap in representation of women in STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Maths) fields; providing support and educational opportunities that many females struggle to find even to this day.



Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell is an astrophysicist from Northern Ireland who, as a postgraduate student, discovered the first radio pulsars in 1967. Others cited as authors on the original paper went on to receive a Nobel Prize, but as a postgraduate student, Dame Jocelyn was not included.

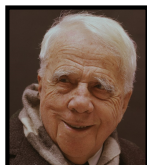
In 2018 Jocelyn Bell Burnell was awarded the Special Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics. She donated the £2.3m prize money to help women, ethnic minority, and refugee students to study physics.

Jocelyn helped author and edit the book Dark Matter: Poems of Space. Although Burnell is not a poet herself, she identifies a number of poets that relate to her scientific field of study. She also points out that many well known poets, such as Robert Frost or Thomas Hardy were amateur astronomers.

An extract from Robert Frost's poem Desert Places is found in the anthology...

*They cannot scare me with their empty spaces  
Between stars - on stars where no human race is.  
I have it in me so much nearer home  
To scare myself with my own desert places.*

**Robert Frost**



*Certain foods are eaten during the Chinese New Year period purely for their symbolic meaning. Dumplings represent wealth; the more dumplings you can eat, the more money you will make in the New Year - anyone up for a food challenge?*

**Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month  
[village-voice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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.*



## Chinese-style braised beef one-pot

4<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February sees Beijing hosting the 2022 Winter Olympics. Why not get some friends together to watch the Olympians this February.

*We've found a tasty Chinese-style dinner, perfect for cold winter evenings whilst you watch those chilly looking activities take place from the comfort of your, hopefully, much cosier homes.*

### Ingredients (serves 6)

3-4 tbsp olive oil                      6 garlic cloves, thinly sliced  
good thumb-size piece fresh root ginger, peeled and shredded  
1 bunch spring onions, sliced    1 red chilli, deseeded and thinly sliced  
1 ½kg braising beef, cut into large pieces  
2 tbsp plain flour, well seasoned  
1 tsp Chinese five-spice powder                      2 star anise (optional)  
2 tsp light muscovado sugar  
3 tbsp Chinese cooking wine / dry sherry                      500ml beef stock  
3 tbsp dark soy sauce, plus more to serve  
steamed bok choy and steamed basmati rice, to serve

### Method

1. Heat 2 tbsp of the oil in a large, shallow casserole. Fry the garlic, ginger, onions and chilli for 3 mins. Tip onto a plate. Toss the beef in the flour, add 1 tbsp more oil to the pan, then brown the meat in batches, adding the final tbsp oil if you need to.
2. Add the five-spice and star anise to the pan, tip in the gingery mix, then fry for 1 min until the spices are fragrant. Add the sugar & beef and stir until combined. Keep the heat high, then splash in the wine/sherry, scraping up any meaty bits. Heat oven to 150C/fan 130C/gas 2.
3. Pour in the soy and stock (it won't cover the meat completely), bring to a simmer, then tightly cover, transfer to the oven and cook for 1½-2 hrs, stirring the meat halfway through. Season with more soy. Can be chilled and frozen for up to 1 month.
4. Serve with steamed bok choy and basmati rice



## 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](http://www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org)

### SUTTON METHODIST CHAPEL

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

3.00pm informal service - all are very welcome.

Service led by Rev. Charles Harris.



### St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

For information about services at St Peter's please visit [www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/](http://www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/)

## BBC Cues Your Views for News

The BBC Young Reporter Competition 2022 has launched. This is an opportunity for 11-18 year olds to share a story about what matters to them and which they think the BBC should be reporting.

The theme this year is *Me and My World*.

This is a nationwide competition and the winners will get to work with teams like Newsround, BBC Breakfast or The One Show to produce their story for TV, radio, online or on social media with the help of BBC journalists, producers and programme-makers. Find out more about this exciting opportunity here: <https://bbc.in/3fSyKRq>

