

VillageVoice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

April 2022



Calendar

1st, 29th Baby & Toddler Group *Socialise your offspring*
2nd Men's Breakfast Club *Start your Saturday right*
2nd Village Market & Cafe *Pop by for cake & a cuppa*
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Knitting Group *Knitting with coffee*
5th Lower Windrush Historical Society *'Then & now'*
6th April Cafe at the Chapel *Pop by for a natter and nibbles*
15th Good Friday *You've almost made it through Lent!*
15th Deadline for Festival Attendant Entries!!!!
16th Easter Fun Morning *Fun, games & Easter egg hunt!*
17th Easter Day *Roll away that stone & live another day*
18th Easter Monday *Have you got any hot cross buns left?*
23rd St George's Day *Seen any dragons lately?*



Easter Fun Morning

for 5-11 year olds.

Saturday April 16th 10am-12 noon

At St Michael's Church, Stanton Harcourt.

£5 per child

Lots of fun activities ending with an Easter Egg hunt!

Limited places so please book.

Contact Jane Watts Jane.saddleback@talktalk.net

How To Make Friends & Influence Toddlers...



Stanton Harcourt Baby & Toddler Group meet every other Friday 9.15am-10.45am (excl. school holidays) at the Village Hall. The group is parent run and we're looking forward to meeting new families and carers in and around our village.

We're trying to get the numbers up so we can keep our wonderful little group going. Please bring friends along to our friendly group for a relaxed play and chat with a cuppa plus a snack for the children.

£2.50 per family

The group runs alternate weeks with Standlake so feel free to check them out too. For more details email shbabyandtoddlergroup@gmail.com

Visit our Facebook page: 'Stanton Harcourt Baby and Toddler Group'
Upcoming dates are 1st April, 29th April & 13th May 2022.

Men's Breakfast Club

Having started over 15 years ago, the boys are getting back together after temporarily disbanding due to the pandemic.

The Harcourt Arms are helping to facilitate the monthly gatherings by providing a delicious meal to kick off your Saturday morning.

If you're planning on coming along, please give John Holland a ring on 01865 881906 so they can ensure everyone is catered for. Don't forget, it's an 8am start: plenty of time to have your scan and make it up to Birmingham for the footie!

Men's Breakfast Club
1st Saturday of every month
8am at The Harcourt Arms
£12.00

Full English Breakfast

Contact John Holland OX 881906 for more details



Pysanky (the tradition of painting eggs at Easter) originates in Ukraine. The beautiful painted eggs were created to bless every part of life as talismans of prosperity, fertility, healing and protection, long life and bounty

Plant a Tree for the Jubilee

To coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a nationwide scheme to *plant a tree for the Jubilee* is in full swing. Celebrate Earth Day (22nd April) by helping to support our woodlands. Visit The Woodland Trust (<https://bit.ly/365SKyy>) for more information.

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2022

"Royal Stanton's Jubilee"

Festival week events: Saturday 4th - Sunday 12th June

Festival Day: Saturday 11th June 2022

The "Big Jubilee Lunch" – Sunday 5th June on The Green

To coincide with the National celebrations, you are invited to a "Party on The Green" from midday on Sunday 5th June. We will provide tables, chairs, decorations and music for the party so you will only need to bring your own street party food and drink. We will be running a "Jubilee Bake Off" competition on the day – more details to follow - and we hope the baked entries will be available for everyone to share during the afternoon.

Festival Week Events

Mike Parker (tel 884435 / email mikeparker12@gmail.com) is coordinating the event schedule for Festival week so if you or your village organisation would like to hold an event during the week, do get in touch with him.

Festival Day Stalls

If you would like to have a stall on the school field on Festival Day then please contact Lucy on 07775 604466 or email lucylowe1974@gmail.com

Festival Royals – Attendant required!

Our reigning Festival Queen, Lucy Taylor was crowned on Festival Day back in 2019! Ellie Douglas, our attendant in 2019 has recently moved away from the village and sadly is unable to ascend to the throne this year. We all wish Ellie well. Lucy Taylor has kindly agreed to continue in the role of Festival Queen for 2022. This makes Lucy our longest reigning Queen which is rather appropriate for this Jubilee year where we are celebrating the "other" Queen's long period on the throne!

We are looking for a Festival Attendant to join Lucy on the Royal Float and become Festival King/Queen in 2023. If you are in school year 7 or above and would like to be our Festival Attendant, email your details to gill@gillmason.com before 6pm on Friday 15th April. We will draw a winning name from a "hat" of those who are interested and will reveal their identity in May's edition of Village Voice. (Youngsters – please ask your parent or carer to email on your behalf. Grown-ups – please make sure that any young person you are nominating is happy to take on this role!)

Our Festival Prince and Princess will also be chosen in a draw that will be made at Stanton Harcourt School in the next few weeks.

Best wishes **The Festival Committee**

Parish Council News

Next Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall

Monday 4th April 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 are 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 Community Notice Boards

We are currently in the process of obtaining 3 new community notice boards for your use. One will be placed on the side of the Guard Room on the Airfield site, the second by the side of the Village Hall in central Stanton Harcourt and the third towards the bottom of Sutton Lane.

These boards are in addition to the Parish Council Official boards sited by the Village Hall and by Stanton Harcourt Green on which are posted official information pertaining to the Parish Council. These new community notice boards are provided for information about what's going on near you, including news about events and activities as well as more static information such as maps and bus timetables relating to the local area.

Opportunity For Younger People To Have Their Say

For the fourth year running, VOXY (Voice of Oxfordshire's Youth) and the Children's Trust Board would like feedback from all children and young people in Oxfordshire, aged 8 - 18 and up to 25 with additional needs, about how supported they feel by the services they use.

This questionnaire will take 5 - 10 minutes to complete, and needs to be submitted by Sunday 24 April 2022. Visit: letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/be-supported-2022 to have your say.

The findings of this report will influence the approach of the Children's Trust Board for the final year of the current Plan (until 2023). Feedback will help clarify what further action is needed in relation to the 'Be Supported' Area of Focus for the Children's Trust Board.

Annual Parish Meeting

Following on from the huge success of last year's event, we are planning another showcase of what our Village has to offer along with the Annual Parish Meeting. This event will take place on 21st May, 2-5pm, at the Village Hall. The main room will have stall holders with the community activity groups that are on our doorstep, and the Parish Meeting taking place in the Holland Room.

Places for this event are limited and will be on a first come first served basis. If you would like a table please contact Rachel with your group name and if you will want a small or large table. We will try to accommodate all requests. Please can we have your requests through no later than 30th April. Rachel can be contacted via email on rachel@shpc.co.uk

"The Guard Room"

The transfer of this facility from Hayfield Homes to your Parish Council is still in progress. As soon as we have more news we will update you.

Current Parish Council Priorities:

1. Transfer and start up of "The Guard Room"
2. Support the Village Hall Committee with their Solar Energy Project
3. Speed Reduction Project (20mph, Speedwatch etc)
4. Village Hall Car Park Refurbish
5. Reroofing our historical stocks
6. Host Annual Meeting of the Parish Event
7. Identifying best use for available community S106 funds
8. Review of all planning application that impact our community
9. Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the village maintenance service (grass cutting, hedge cutting, bin emptying, bench maintenance etc)

Parish Councillors

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

Please address all official communications to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA, clerk@shpc.co.uk / Tel: 01865 686498

Handy Hints for Horticulturalists

Tips to get your garden in tip top shape for spring

- ✳ Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors
- ✳ Increase water intake for house plants
- ✳ Feed shrubs and roses
- ✳ Continue planting seeds indoors for your summer garden
- ✳ Prune shrubs and pinch out sweet peas

CAFE AT THE CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 10.00 - 12.00

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE

SELECTION OF TEAS

TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT BUTTERED TOAST.

EASTER 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!



More than 20 million packs of hot cross buns are bought for Easter in the UK. We're not surprised: they are top tier Easter treats!

200 Club

Results of the most recent 200 Club draws

December 2021	January 2022
256 R Davidson £25	264 A Boer £25
161 Mr Mullard £12	218 J. Holland £12
217 J. Holland £8	263 Mrs Raoberts £8
229 P. Frost £5	179 H. Wood £5
February 2022	March 2022
110 Roger Morris £25	115 Lucy Ives £25
245 Emma Hare £12	241 S Poole £12
173 Mrs JM Harrison £8	279 S Jenkins £8
214 P Fissendon £5	119 Mrs J. Hill £5

Lower Windrush Historical Society

Tuesday 5th April 7.30pm, Standlake Village Hall

The Lower Windrush Historical Society will be hearing and seeing more 'then and now' photos of Oxford in *Further Tales of Heir* on 5th April, 7.30pm, Standlake Village Hall.

Free to members or £5 for non members on the door.

Forge your Future

The pandemic affected employment for millions of people, and we've seen huge changes in our work culture as a result. For many it has been difficult to find new employment or move from an existing role to something they're passionate about. *Reed* has a host of resources to help you learn new skills, brush up your CV or refine your interviewing skills. www.reed.co.uk/courses/

Village Market & Cafe

Saturday 2nd April 12-2pm, Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

Stuck with ideas for your Saturday morning? Why not pop by the Village Hall for the monthly market and cafe. Here you'll find a great array of local produce/crafts for sale, along with the well stocked cafe. Come by to peruse the stalls and stop by the cafe for a cup of coffee and a bacon roll or home-made soup (or why not both?!).

It's a great way to chat to other villagers, meet your neighbours and make friends! *2022 Market dates for your diary:*

- 2nd April* (a week earlier than usual) - 14th May
- No market in June due to Queen's Jubilee/Village Festival
- July 9th - August 13th - September 10th
- October 8th - November 12th - December 10th



Page 3 Bird: White-throated rock thrush

This month we're introducing you to Lando. An adrenaline junkie with a penchant for fast cars, Lando is usually found in Indomalayan and Palearctic realms making cup-shaped nests in forested, rocky areas and shrubland. Comfortable with high

altitudes, Lando is currently learning to snowboard at the Songhua Lake Ski Resort in China, where he occasionally indulges in his favourite meal of dumplings and moon cake. Once the snow melts, you'll find Lando seeking out the location of his favourite Formula 1 team, which he, conveniently, proudly supports with his colourful chestnut-orange, cobalt-blue and black feathers.

White-throated rock thrush are fairly common birds, and often kept as pets or consumed in some countries (shhh don't tell Lando). Although their population is unknown, they are classed as a stable species.

Lando enjoys a good warble, and likes to find an exposed perch to treat his neighbours to his "melancholy, flute-like, drawn-out rising whistles". Something he might be performing more often this season after watching the F1 on catch-up...

Poetry Corner

A lot has changed since our last issue: this world can be a scary and confusing place. Sometimes we feel like solutions are impossible; sometimes it's hard for us to put into words how we feel. Over the last few weeks we've seen how powerful words can be and it reminded us how poetry can so often bridge that gap between emotion and what we struggle to vocalise.

Poetry helps make sense of things; to reflect; to understand and to take a second look. Poetry is powerful: words are powerful. Let us use our words for magic, not mayhem.

The Peace of Wild Things

*When despair grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feed
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting for their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*



Wendell Berry (1934 -)



The most expensive Easter egg in the world is worth £5 million. The Mirage Egg, created by Manfred Wild, has thousands of diamonds in the shell and an 18-carat, handcrafted gold globe in the centre.

Sutton Singers

Sutton Singers continue to meet on Tuesdays during term time at 7pm. Would you like to sing? Join in the joy and fun of singing together?

Get in touch with Jan Tomlinson:

Phone: 01865 881709 or Email: janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com

Sutton Singers has recently performed at Chipping Norton Music Festival in the Adult Choirs section brilliantly guided by our fabulous and popular Musical Director Lizzie Soden to a Highly Commended grade. It was a joyful, positive experience, enjoyed by all. The photos show some of us outside Chipping Norton Town Hall after the performance and uplifting adjudication feeling very happy with our singing the other is just after our performance. We sang: Travel These Ways (Karine Polwart); One Moment, One People (Becky Owen); The Rose (Amanda McBroom); Breaking Up Is Hard To Do (Neil Sedaka).

Come and join us to share in the fun!



Eynsham



SWAP SHOP
we're back!



Saturday 23rd April

10am – 11am
Sports Pavilion,
Oxford Road
(Parking available)

Good quality and reusable items: **Bring** between 9.15 and 10.30 am.

And /or **Take**, everything's **FREE!**

(voluntary donation towards expenses – e.g. 50p)

TOYS

BOOKS

BRIC-A-BRAC

CLOTHES

Small electricals for PAT testing ✓

Tools ✓

X Large items* X

X DIY materials* X



*Sorry, we cannot take these – bring an advert for the notice board

Eynsham Area Waste Watchers
(part of Green TEA).
Phone Eleanor for more details
01865 881095



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.



Something Citrus This Way Comes

Lemon Posset with Shortbread

It's National Shakespeare Day on 23rd April (also St George's Day in case you're wondering). We've scoured Shakespeare's works for Elizabethan inspiration for April's recipe and we think you'll enjoy this light dessert: the perfect accompaniment to your Easter feast.

Posset is mentioned four times in Shakespeare's works. Perhaps you can take inspiration from this invitation from Page in the Merry Wives of Windsor... "Yet be cheerful knight: thou shalt eat a posset to-night at my house..." Act V Scene 5

Ingredients: (serves 6, with extra biscuits for a rainy day)

600 ml double cream
140 g caster sugar
2 large lemons, juice and grated zest
1 large lemon, pared zest only
150g plain flour, plus extra for dusting
100g butter, chilled and cubed
50g caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling



The Posset:

1. Put the double cream in a large pan with the sugar. Bring slowly to the boil and simmer for 3 minutes. Take it off the heat, add the lemon juice and zest and whisk well.
2. Pour into 6 ramekins and refrigerate for 2-3 hours. Sprinkle with the pared lemon zest before serving with shortbread.

The Shortbread:

1. Heat the oven 170C/150C fan/gas 3. Put the flour, butter and sugar into a mixing bowl. Use your hands to combine the ingredients until the mixture looks like breadcrumbs, then squeeze until it comes together as a dough.
2. On a lightly floured surface, use a rolling pin to roll out the dough to ½ cm thick. Cut the dough into fingers and place on a lined baking tray. Use a fork to create imprints, then sprinkle with the remaining caster sugar.
3. Chill the dough in the fridge for 20 mins, then bake for 15-20 mins until golden brown. Remove the shortbread fingers from the oven and leave to cool on the tray for 10 mins.



Lower Windrush Choral Society Chamber Choir

Music Director: Terry McNamara



Choral Evensong followed by a short 'Concert Spiritual'

Saturday 2nd April 2022
5.00 pm

St Mary's Church
Bampton OX18 2LY

Wine and soft drinks available in the interval
Tickets not required: donations welcomed

www.lowerwindrush.org
Registered Charity No: 1152661

Church News

Lower Windrush Benefice

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

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Sunday 10th April - 3pm

Service with Communion, lead by Rev. Charles Harris

All very welcome

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

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



On 1st April 2007 the largest ever Easter egg hunt took place: 9,753 children participated and had to find a total of 501,000 eggs!

Etymological Chronicles

It's World Heritage Day on 18th April, so for this month's word lore ramblings we're exploring the origin of the village's appellation. The earliest record of the village name is in 1086, in the Domesday Book, where it is called Stanton or Stone Town – "farmstead by the stones".

The stone part of the village's name is almost definitely from the standing stones nearby: The Devil's Quoits. These stones were once part of a Neolithic henge which, in the early Bronze Age, became a religious centre of importance. Over time the significance and importance of the stones changed, and until relatively recently there was hardly any trace of them at all. The Devil's Quoits were restored between 2002 and 2008.

How did the stones get here? There are rumours that the Devil hurled the stones from Wytham Hill, or maybe Beacon Hill during a game of quoits. What do you think...?

So, why isn't the village just called Stanton?

In 1066 the village belonged to Aethelnod of Kent, a pro-Harold figure during the Battle of Hastings. The lands were confiscated from him following William the Conqueror's success and given to William's half-brother, Bishop Odo of Bayeux.

In the late 12th Century, Queen Adeliza gifted the manor of Stanton to a relative, and that relative's daughter married Robert de Harcourt (Sheriff of Leicester and Warwickshire), and the manor in Stanton was part of her dowry.

We could go into more detail about the origins of the Harcourt family, but that would take us back to Rollo the Viking in 876...

Around 1268-1281 the village became known as Stanton Harecurt. The name gradually evolved into Stauntone Harecurt (1285) then Stawnton Harcourt (1519), and eventually became Stanton Harcourt. Members of the Harcourt family still live at the manor today, although quite a lot has changed since the 12th Century!



If you don't know much about the beautiful place we live in we encourage you to pop your investigative hats on and explore the fascinating stories the village has to tell. Take your pick of era – you're bound to be treated to a host of historical happenings.

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

