



Village Voice

LOCKDOWN EDITION

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

June-ish 2020

Calendar

nth Everything's cancelled for the near future! ☹️



Dear Stanton Harcourt and Sutton. I am Lucy Taylor our queen who was very excited to pass the crown onto my good friend Ellie Douglas but unfortunately like everything else it has been postponed. I'm sure like me you're missing normal village life from litter picks, to village markets, the festival week, panto and most importantly bell ringing and going to the pub afterwards. Still during these unusual times we've got to remember why we're doing this and that is to save thousands of lives and that this will all end and we'll go back to normal. But I'd like to take this time to thank all the key workers who are still working like normal and extra time to keep this country moving. I'd also like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the village voice editor apprentice and I hope I can do such a good job as Joe.



Kingfisher Quest

Send us your Kingfisher sightings! 1st June – 31st August 2020

The Lower Windrush Valley Project are coordinating a Kingfisher survey to:

- increase our understanding of Kingfisher numbers in Lower Windrush Valley and identify any Kingfisher 'hotspots'
- promote an interest in local wildlife and water environments
- identify locations for potential Kingfisher habitat enhancements

please email any sightings to

LWVP@oxfordshire.gov.uk . please include the date of your sighting and the location (preferably a grid reference, but a description is fine too). An instruction leaflet is available to view and download on our website:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/lowerwindrushvalleyproject

A Thank you from the Stranges

We, the family, were utterly overwhelmed by the kindness, support and generosity this village has shown to us all over the past 3 weeks.

Peter would have been very embarrassed but deeply moved by the numbers of people who turned out to wish him farewell in their own special way on Thursday afternoon.

The village community was always so important to Peter, and although he sometimes fantasised about moving to the Yorkshire Dales, he could never bring himself to do so because he never believed he would be able to find so many lovely people all in one place.

We are eternally grateful to Mike Parker who lead a beautiful service in Peter's beloved garden. Mike was a good friend to Peter and gave him the most wonderful send off.

Our new Rector for the Lower Windrush Benefice

'Revd Jo Hurst is our new Rector and will be licensed on Sunday 7th June. She comes to us from Cumbria with her three children and is looking forward to becoming part of the community. She enjoys good company, conversation, mugs of tea and the occasional slice of cake! Jo is an amateur gardener and is looking forward to tackling the Rectory garden! She is passionate about people knowing they are deeply loved by God and inspired by that, making a positive difference in their community. She will be getting to know the local villages, so do give her a wave and say hello when you see her out and about.'

St Michael's Church 200 Club March & April draw

March			April		
1 st	220 Mrs G Pugh	25	1 st	218 Mr J Holland	25
2 nd	208 Mrs M Powell	12	2 nd	141 Mrs Field	12
3 rd	178 Mrs C Rayle	8	3 rd	169 Mrs G Ravell	8
4 th	135 Mr P Henton	5	4 th	145 N Rickard	5

Weather Report – It's all over the place!

IS THIS A PAPER COPY? HELP YOURSELF! ➡➡➡

We've left printed copies stapled to things in the village, so you can pick one up to keep or pass on to anyone who doesn't have this new-fangled internet thing. It should just tear off, if the notice board comes with it you can help us make some more notice boards perhaps.....

Breaking News >>>

We're now allowed 'Bubbles?' - stocks in fairy liquid have gone through the roof ...



While the Festival is postponed to 2021, various Excellent parties are considering some replacement events compatible with social distancing or home participation Check Villagers Other Voice on The Facebook for the latest news.

Your new village corporals

Your new apprentice editor and your previous editor have now become corporals. Myself (Lucy Taylor) and Ellie Douglas are both air cadets at our local sqn (where we do cadets) in Witney. Amazingly we both became corporals (which means we are now a part of the leadership at cadets). At cadets we do aviation studies, flying, gliding, adventure training, first aid, shooting and many more including DofE which is how we both came to be helping with the village voice. One of the main things that we also do is volunteer in the local community from summer fates to bag packs. We learn many new skills and how to act as a good member of society. During the lockdown we have still been doing cadets via Microsoft teams. We would highly recommend cadets to anyone who likes adventure and aviation. When we can get back to cadets our sqn will happily be taking new cadets. We are also looking for more voluntary staff members who are an essential part to our learning and without them we could not do what we do. For more information please Visit <https://witneyaircadets.co.uk>



Litter Pick – we're looking at how we can manage a village litter pick with suitable controls, watch out for more news soon.

Speed watch

We are proposing to restart Speedwatch in Stanton Harcourt & Sutton within the next few weeks. Speedwatch is a Thames Valley Police initiative which involves monitoring vehicle speeds within our 30 mph areas. Monitoring is carried out by local volunteers using a Speed Indicating Device at the roadside. Details of speeding vehicles are logged and passed to the police who will send warning letters to registered vehicle owners. Persistent speeding may result in a police visit. However, Speedwatch is not part of a legal enforcement process and cannot lead to the imposition of fines or any other sanction. If anyone would like to participate in Speedwatch as a local roadside volunteer please contact Graham Dixon-Brown (deansfarmhouse@gmail.com) or Peter Bartrip (pwjbartrip@gmail.com) for further details.

Dog Mess

Dog Owners who fail to pick up their pets' poo are a major source of complaints around our village it is anti-social and illegal. Please do remember under The Dog Fouling Act of 2016 you can face a fine of up to £80 if you fail to clean up your dog's mess and are caught. That fine can rise to £1000 if you refuse to pay and the case is escalated to the courts. This Act places the responsibility on "the person in charge of the dog" at the time of the misdemeanour. So, if the dog you are walking isn't yours, you are still liable for the fine if you don't clear up after them. If your dog poos on the pavement, on the footpath, on the grass, on the road under a hedge, in a field or anywhere outside of your garden pick up the poo and put it in one of the bins provided or take home with you.

PLEASE PICK IT UP

Cycling on the Leys Footpath

While this is tolerated, the numbers have risen a lot during lockdown (which is no bad thing). However, please remember you are on a footpath so please use your common sense and follow the 'protocols' - i.e. pedestrians have right of way, bikes go round people rather than coming up behind, dingy bells, and expecting walkers to get out of their way!

Competition Time!

Want something to do during lockdown. We've got just the right thing for you. As a village we thought it would be fun to do a competition as to who can grow/make the best sunflower or rainbow. To enter please upload a photo of your creation to Villagers Other Voice on Facebook with the hashtag #overtherainbow (so we can search for them and see all of them!)



The editors Queen Lucy and Joe will judge the best so far each time we make a new village voice and include in the next issue. Good luck!!!!

Scarecrows!

By the Power of Tuck! Scarecrows are back. While we can't party together yet, but our scarecrows can. Why not build a scarecrow and hopefully we can put them all together on the village green on what would have been festival day (20th June). There's not much notice but scarecrows aren't supposed to be the height of finesse and even if you're late it can keep the pigeons off your brassicas or from pooping on the car!



As one of the contacts with PC we haven't had a lot of calls for help (quite lonely for me!) this is because everybody is helping each other out and looking after one another! Keep up the good work!

Walks during lockdown

During lockdown I'm sure at times you will be bored and want something to do. Why not go on a socially distanced walk down on the Thames path. I'd like to congratulate the Thames Path National Trail Partnership as they have been awarded the

Queens Award for Voluntary Service 2020. So why not go on one of the worlds highest quality free walking trails of 200 km in length. More information can be found at www.nationaltrail.co.uk.

Parish Council News

Parish Council Meetings will take place on 'Zoom' as required but inline with normal on the first Monday of the month. For details see the PC Website and notice boards.

ROLE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council is an elected body in the first tier of local government. Elections take place every 4 years (this year, of course, the elections have been postponed for a year due to the Pandemic). Where there are not enough candidates to warrant an election, the Parish Council members can coopt new members by agreement.

Parish Councils play a vital part in representing the interests of the communities they serve and improving the quality of life and the local environment. The Parish Council employs the Parish Clerk, who works for and with the Council to advise it and action its decisions.

ROLE OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

The main role of a Parish Councillor is to listen to, and understand, the views and needs of different groups in the community (such as young and older people). As a Councillor, there is a responsibility to be well-informed, and offer help to those in need as well as look after the village assets and give the Local Planning Authority the benefit of their views on applications. It is important that all areas of the village are represented by the Parish Council, thereby ensuring full participation of local residents.

YOU

Please help your Parish Council to improve the service delivered and make Stanton Harcourt and Sutton a better place to live.

You can contribute positively to your village by:

- Communicating with Parish Councilors your views and concerns as well as suggestions and criticisms.
- Becoming actively involved in Council meetings during the time set aside for public discussion. The meeting take place on the first Monday in every month (with the exception of August) at 7:30pm. In current circumstances, these meetings take place on-line using 'ZOOM'. Details are displayed on the Stanton Harcourt Parish Council websites, and the notices, which are posted on the Parish Council boards sited at the Village Hall, Steadys Lane and on the Green.
- Your Councilor will be pleased to hear from you and look forward to discussing pertinent matters to improve facilities and opportunities in the village in the near future.

We are here to help: please do not hesitate to get in contact see details below:

Charles Mathew, 01865 882205

Jose Eaton, 01865 880464

Gill Sellars, 01865 731238 or 07778 924964 or gill.sellars@gmail.com or 3 Beaumont Green

Mathew Judson, 01865 731310 or 07977 502209 or matthew.judson@talk21.com

Graham Dixon-Brown, 01865 882065 or deansfarmhouse@gmail.com

Trudi Gasser, 01865 686498 or email (below)

Joe Deane, 07812204277, or joe_deane@hotmail.com or 24 The Green (knock loudly and stand well back!)

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. trudigasser@rocketmail.com

Page three bird

This month's bird is a kingfisher. I'm sure we've all seen a kingfisher from time to time as they feed on aquatic insects such as dragonfly larvae and water beetles and small fish ranging from 1 inch to 5 inches long, such as sticklebacks, minnows, small roach and trout. About 60% of food items are fish.

Most of the 114 species live in the tropical regions of Africa, Asia, and Oceania. But we are lucky enough to see some come about from time to time so enjoy them and they're not allowed out a lot more because they can't fit a mask over their beak.



A Thank you to the school

Unfortunately, the school is having to say goodbye to the amazing head teacher Mrs Crouch but she is being succeeded by Mr Denham. As a village I'm sure we'd all like to welcome him to the Village. We would also like to say thank you to the school for making it possible for the children to go back to school so quickly and safely also for keeping the parents ware about what will happen and when.



Sutton Singers

It is with huge regret that Sutton Singers have not been able to meet during the Corona Virus Crisis as with many other organisations.

We would have loved to share with you our summer concert for Festival Week, but that was not to be. Lizzie our amazing Musical Director has been keeping our singing muscles alive with amazing videos of her singing, some just beautiful and some very funny. She is an amazing talent and we are lucky to have her. Look out for her on Jack FM on June 19th she's featuring!

We will be singing again as soon as it is safe to do so. So watch out for a concert from us as soon as safely possible.

If you are interested in joining get in touch on janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com or 01865 881709 Keep singing, it helps you to keep your lungs working well and your spirits up!! Best wishes to all.

Surviving Lockdown

Last time we included a list of useful local contacts and deliverers, we've included village shops again and in whatever space we have left we'll include more. But checkout the last issue for more and we'll look at a way to have definitive list somehow.

Village Shop & Post Office Opening Times at the 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



THE HARCOURT ARMS & The Harcourt Stores

The stores are open daily 8am – 5pm & until 8pm Wednesday – Saturday for takeaway evenings & brunch on weekend mornings

New takeout menu available from Wednesday to Sunday, changing weekly! Full menu on our website or you can collect a copy from The Stores!

Call to book on 01865416516

With both everyday essentials, general provisions and plenty of special items as always. Delivery locally can be arranged to those vulnerable or isolating

www.theharcourtarms.com

Milk & More are now taking new customers* in our area, they deliver up to 3 times a week and can supply, milk, bread, bog roll and all sorts of other things!

www.milkandmore.co.uk

**at least it was when I signed up so have milk for tea if you fancy a chat! ed.*

Who you gonna call?

More helplines – more help!

- CALM(campaign against living miserably, for men aged 15-35):0800 58 58 58
- NSPCC:0808 800 5000
- *More help lines and information are available on NHS website.*

It's okay not to be okay :)

Do you know any helplines or services that would be good to include? Let us know and we will!

We also thought it would be good to have a printable list of helplines and local services, so we'll have a go at that, again let us know anything you think should be included!

Also, would you like village voice delivered direct to your email, with any other top priority news?

We're working on a proper (albeit the free option) mail list system (*Mail Chimp!) if you'd like to be included send us an email with your permission to include to the VV email at the bottom and we will add you (as it's a swanky system you'll be able to unsubscribe anytime!) *No Chimps were harmed in the making of this mail list.*

The Catholic Church of St Peter Abbey Street, Eynsham.

St Peters is now open for Private Prayer

Fr Mark Lagorio ☎ 01865 881613

✉ stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com

Website: www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill ☎ 01865 880200

St Michael's Church

St Michael's is now open during the day until 6pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays for anyone who wants a quiet place to pray or meditate. Please use the hand sanitiser provided and obey all notices.

If you have any queries regarding a funeral, marriage or baptism at St Michael's, please contact Alison Shaw initially; 01865 300 615 ali46pshaw@yahoo.co.uk

For all other queries please contact:

Gill Salway salwaypg@btinternet.com

Jane Watts jane.saddleback@talktalk.net

www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

SCAMWATCH – Trust No One?

*There are a large number of B***ards out there calling on the telephone or sending emails or knocking on your door. Always assume it is a scam! Hang up, report the email as phishing, take a leaflet and politely close the door.*

If concerned call your bank etc to check but note some Scams tie up the phone line to trick you into thinking there's a problem, so always call someone you know to check the lines clear (and its nice to check on people!)

For official advice on the 'Green Deal' visit:

www.gov.uk/green-deal-energy-saving-measures

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

AS ALWAYS – Thank you to this month's contributors, reviewers, & deliverers

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