

# Village Voice

Stanton Harcourt & Sutton Newsletter

JULY 2026



NEWS  
LOCAL UPDATES

WHAT'S ON  
JULY EVENTS

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# STANTON HARCOURT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS & UPDATES

I am sat writing this on the eve of Festival week, the absolute highlight of the year in our wonderful Parish. By the time you are reading this there will be another years' worth of fantastic memories to reflect on. However, as we head towards the summer there is still the beer festival to look forward to. Onto this month's parish council meeting it was a fairly quiet one this month.

## THANK YOU TO GEOFF WEBSTER FOR HIS SERVICE

We have to announce that Geoff Webster has decided to stand down as a parish councillor. We are sorry to see him go as he was an active and engaged member of the council. We would like to thank him whole heartedly for his contributions over the years.

We now have a vacancy for a councillor, if you would be interested in joining the parish council, you can find details on the parish council website or via [clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov](mailto:clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov)



## S106 ARTS FUND

Dan Barton of Standing with Giants., came by to present his proposal for two installations of their famous silhouettes in the village. One at the old airfield and three on the green to reflect the villages past. He discussed the option of tailoring them to represent real people from the villages past and it was planned to widen the discussion to look for support from the RBL and Historical society to identify suitable subjects. Whilst the parish council cannot award the grant, we will provide our support and the ground to put them on.

If you haven't had the opportunity of visiting one of their installations I would highly recommend it, check their website for more information [www.standingwithgiants.co.uk](http://www.standingwithgiants.co.uk)

## SPEEDWATCH

We are now getting monthly updates from the speed watch group with the data from the VAS signs. Here are some numbers from the last month.

### Sutton Sign – Near university cottages on the B4449

Vehicles entering Sutton 52,000 and of them over 58% we are exceeding 20mph then leaving Sutton 66,000 with over 94% exceeding the same limit. We are now getting a clear picture of the +110,000 passing through Sutton most of them are speeding.

### Stanton Harcourt sign – near the cemetery and old airfield.

We have a different picture here, of the 20,000 vehicles that passed the sign 78% at 20 mph or less. This suggests that this sign is slowing the traffic entering the village. However, of the 25,000 vehicles that left the village 96% we speeding as they left. We also heard some shocking numbers for the highest speeds on this camera of 80-90 mph, although these were in very low numbers it was still a sobering though. We were also surprised to see that the number of cars entering Stanton was as high as 40% of those through Sutton. We often assume that its closer to 10% of the traffic through Sutton.

The speed watch group continue to work with OCC on the proposed traffic calming measures, more information can be found on the village social media and the leaflet drops. The parish council continue to support the activity.



# STANTON HARCOURT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS & UPDATES

## POTHoles & POTHOLE CHAMPION

Keith has as ever continued to carry on reporting potholes across the parish, if you see him out with his can of paint, please give him a friendly wave! We can have another pothole champion in the village who will get the appropriate super user log in for fix my street, so if you fancy helping, get in touch and who knows with two people we might be able to keep up.



## VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

We are sourcing new dog mess signs for the kids play park behind the village hall, but we would like to remind villagers that dogs shouldn't be allowed into the villages play areas.

## TREES AND HEDGES

The trees and hedges that are trimmed by the parish council are being scheduled for September after nesting season. This is the subject of ongoing discussions; around the parish there are a large number of trees and hedges that have got out of control and are encroaching on roads and paths. As we approach the end of the birds nesting season and we can start to trim them back again, we would encourage everyone to trim back any overhanging plants. The parish council will be writing to anyone who is blocking rights of way.

## DEFIBRILLATOR

The defibrillator has arrived for Sutton, this will be mounted on the methodist church, more information will be shared when this has been installed.

## FESTIVAL COMMITTEE THANK YOU

As Parish Council Chair, I would like to pass on my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Festival Committee and all those who ran events during Festival Week. Once again, the villages of Sutton and Stanton Harcourt benefitted from the tireless work and commitment of volunteers who give up their time and energies to make this year's festival such as an incredible success. I can't wait for next year's Festival...

Thank you

Cllr Sandra Cosier  
Parish Chair

# MONTHLY REPORT FROM WEST OXFORD DISTRICT

## FROM COUNCILLORS STEVE AND SANDRA COSIER

### SUPPORTING BIODIVERSITY

At a recent Overview and Scrutiny Committee West Oxfordshire District Council Steve supported the Council's Biodiversity Duty Report which set out a clear and positive direction for biodiversity recovery, centred on strengthening existing habitats and linking them into a coherent ecological network. Across the district, the report highlights ongoing challenges such as habitat fragmentation, declining species abundance and the limited extent of high-quality semi-natural habitats.

We support the development of Nature Recovery Networks, which rely on connecting existing habitats so species can move, adapt and recover. This approach is to deliver wider landscape-scale benefits. Overall, the report demonstrates that biodiversity recovery is best delivered by protecting, enhancing and connecting existing natural assets. This approach is already proven through successful local and national projects and provides a practical, scalable route to improving environmental outcomes across the district while also benefiting communities.

### IMPROVING MOBILE CONNECTIVITY ACROSS SASH

Residents across our villages will know only too well the frustrations of poor mobile phone coverage – from dropped calls to patchy data and, in some cases, no service at all. We have been working closely with officers at West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to better understand the extent of the poor mobile phone coverage and how it can be improved. The work focused on three key areas such as the lower Windrush and Thames-side villages including Aston, Standlake and Stanton Harcourt. Across all these areas, the findings are consistent: coverage remains highly variable, and in some places extremely poor.

We all know that Mobile connectivity is no longer a luxury – it is essential infrastructure. Reliable coverage underpins public safety, local businesses and tourism and home working and education. Using this evidence, we are engaging directly with mobile operators to press for investment in the worst-affected areas, identifying priority locations for new or improved infrastructure, particularly where there are clear gaps and supporting wider programmes such as shared rural network initiatives and planning discussions on mast locations

We know how frustrating this issue can be, and we want to assure residents that this is a priority we are actively pursuing. If you are experiencing particularly poor coverage, please do continue to let us know – your reports help build the case for action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. If you would like to discuss anything in our report or any other District Council issues, please contact us.

Sandra and Steve  
West Oxford District Councillors

[Sandra.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Sandra.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

[Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)



# YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

**COUNCILLOR SANDRA COSIER**  
CHAIR



[sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR KEITH HICKSON**  
VICE- CHAIR



[keith@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:keith@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR ROBIN MORLEY**



[robin@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:robin@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR JAMES COLEMAN**



[jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR JOE DEANE**



[joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR VACANCY**



All official Parish Council communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk:

**Trudi Gasser**, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA.

[clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

## WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

**COUNCILLOR SANDRA COSIER**



[sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

**COUNCILLOR STEVE COSIER**



[steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY  
COUNCILLOR**



**COUNCILLOR DAN LEVY**

[dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Mobile: 07852 748362

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**



**CHARLIE MAYNARD MP**

[charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk)

# VILLAGE SUPPORT

## CHURCH TIMES

### St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt, Lower Windrush Benefice



Church service information

<https://lowerwindrushbenefice.org/services/>

**July 5th Sunday** 8:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

**July 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday** 10:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

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

### Sutton Chapel

Sun 12th July, 3pm – Rev. Sue Jacobs

<https://www.westoxfordshiremethodists.org.uk/churches/sutton.html>



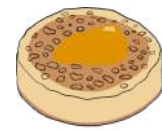
### St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

For information about services at St Peter's please visit

[www.stpeterseysham.org.uk/](http://www.stpeterseysham.org.uk/)



## CAFE AT THE CHAPEL



**Every first Wednesday of the month**

**10:00am - 12:00pm**

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!

## 200 CLUB

### June Draw

**1st Prize £25 No 155 Charlie Roberts**  
**2nd £12 177 P Salway**  
**3rd £8 105 P Burden**  
**4th £5 113 D Kemp**

### July Draw

**1st Prize £25 No 297 P. Hall**  
**2nd £12 208 M Powell**  
**3rd £8 186 The Fox**  
**4th £5 143 H. Chaplin**

# VILLAGE SUPPORT

## STANTON HARCOURT VILLAGE HALL

Come along to our friendly Village Market and Cafe on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July from 12 -2pm** and discover a wonderful selection of locally grown produce, homemade preserves, artisan crafts, handmade jewellery, unique gifts, and an exciting variety of stalls. Whether you're searching for something special or simply enjoying a leisurely stroll, you'll find plenty to tempt and inspire.

While you're here, relax in the Village Café and treat yourself to a freshly made bacon roll, a hearty bowl of homemade soup served with a roll, or a cafetière of freshly brewed coffee. And don't miss our delicious range of homemade cakes, all served in a welcoming atmosphere that's perfect for catching up with friends and neighbours.

New stalls are welcome - there's no charge for a stall, we provide a table and chairs. Please contact [jo@marketing-sense.co.uk](mailto:jo@marketing-sense.co.uk) to find out more.



## VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

Please support our Village Shop and Post Office, located at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall!



The Village Shop is open **daily** for newspapers, milk, essential groceries and cards.

**From 8:00am to 10:00am (10:30am on Tuesday & Saturday)**

The Post Office is Open **Tuesday & Saturday**

From 8:00am to 10:30am

## STANTON HARCOURT & SUTTON LITTER PICK

Thanks to everyone who came along and supported the litter pick on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June. It was another successful event, helping to keep our village looking its best.

A special thank you also goes to the Village Hall Committee for providing the much-needed refreshments afterwards. Your support was greatly appreciated by all involved.



# VILLAGE BUS SERVICES

These are the timetables for the bus services from Stanton Harcourt and Standlake run by First and Last Mile. Any questions please call 07584 927050.

**FIRST LAST MILE**

**FLM ROUTE 401**  
STANTON HARCOURT - LONGWORTH - WANTAGE  
MONDAYS ONLY (from 13th April 2023)  
[www.firststandlastmile.org.uk](http://www.firststandlastmile.org.uk)

Email: [info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com](mailto:info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com) Tel 07584 927 050

Stop	Outbound	Inbound
STANTON HARCOURT, FLEXNEYS	09:05	Request Only
BRIGHTHAMPTON, LANCOTT LANE	09:11	Request Only
STANDLAKE, WOODLANDS	09:15	Request Only
LONGWORTH, BOWBANK CLOSE	09:25	Request Only
KINGSTON BAGPUIZE, SCHOOL LANE	09:32	12:58
SOUTHMOOR, BEGGARS LANE	09:37	12:55
PUSEY	09:42	Request Only
BUCKLAND, MEMORIAL HALL	09:47	Request Only
GAINFIELD	09:52	Request Only
CHARNEY BASSETT, ORCHARD CLOSE	09:56	12:46
WEST HANNEY, BUS SHELTER	10:05	12:38
DENCHWORTH, BROOK LANE	10:10	12:33
GROVE, MILLBROOK SQUARE	10:14	12:26
WANTAGE, MARKET SQUARE	10:25	12:15
SAINSBURYS	10:30	12:10

**FARES - PAY BY CARD OR CASH**

ADULT SINGLE	£3
CHILD SINGLE	£2
12-TRIP TICKET	£25

**MYBUS TICKETS ACCEPTED ON ALL SERVICES**

MYBUS ADULT DAY	£5.50
MYBUS YOUNG PERSONS DAY	£3.50

CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES ACCEPTED ON ALL SERVICES

**FIRST LAST MILE**

**FLM ROUTE 402 & 409**  
STANTON HARCOURT - LONGWORTH - FARINGDON  
FARINGDON - CLANFIELD - WITNEY  
THURSDAYS ONLY  
[www.firststandlastmile.org.uk](http://www.firststandlastmile.org.uk)

Email: [info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com](mailto:info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com) Tel 07584 927 050

**FLM ROUTE 402 STANTON HARCOURT - LONGWORTH - FARINGDON**

Stop	Outbound	Inbound
STANTON HARCOURT, FLEXNEYS	09:10	13:34
BRIGHTHAMPTON, LANCOTT LANE	09:16	13:30
STANDLAKE, WOODLANDS	09:20	13:25
LONGWORTH, BOWBANK CLOSE	09:30	13:15
HINTON WALDRIST, BUS SHELTER	09:37	13:08
BUCKLAND, VILLAGE HALL	09:47	12:58
FARINGDON, RETAIL PARK	09:59	12:46
FARINGDON, MARKET PLACE	10:03	12:42

Outbound passengers wishing to continue on the 409 service may remain on this bus.  
Inbound passengers wishing to continue on the 402 service may remain on this bus.

**FLM ROUTE 409 FARINGDON - CLANFIELD - WITNEY**

Stop	Outbound	Inbound
FARINGDON, MARKET PLACE	10:05	12:40
CLANFIELD, BUS SHELTER	10:13	12:32
BAMPTON, BRIDGE STREET	10:17	12:28
LEW, HOLY TRINITY CHURCH	10:21	12:24
CURBRIDGE, LORD KITCHENER	10:24	12:21
WITNEY, MARKET SQUARE	10:30	12:15
SAINSBURYS	10:35	12:10



**FLM ROUTE 471**  
NORTHMOOR - STANTON HARCOURT - WITNEY  
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS  
[www.firststandlastmile.org.uk](http://www.firststandlastmile.org.uk)



Email: [info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com](mailto:info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com)

Tel 07584 927 050

Stop	Outbound	Inbound
NORTHMOOR, PARK FARM CLOSE	09:20	Request Only
NORTHMOOR, RED LION	09:22	Request Only
BABLOCK HYTHE, FERRYMAN	09:25	Request Only
BLACKDITCH	09:31	Request Only
STANTON HARCOURT, FLEXNEYS	09:32	12:36
SUTTON VILLAGE	09:35	Request Only
SOUTH LEIGH, LYMBROOK CLOSE	09:43	12:25
WITNEY, MARKET SQUARE	10:05	12:05
SAINSBURYS	10:08	12:02
LIDL	10:15	11:55

All Routes and Fares - <https://www.firststandlastmile.org.uk/>

West Oxfordshire  
Community Transport

**418**

**Eynsham • Standlake**

via Sutton, Stanton Harcourt, Bablockhythe & Nort

Monday to Friday except public holidays

Eynsham, Church opposite	0930	1125	1325	1545	1705	1820
Sutton, Turn	0935	1130	1330	1550	1710	1825
Stanton Harcourt, Flexneys Paddock	0938	1133	1333	1553	1715	1828
Stanton Harcourt, Blackditch	0939	1134	1334	1554	1716	1829
Bablockhythe, The Ferryman	0946	1141	1341	1601		1836
Northmoor, The Red Lion	0950	1145	1345	1605		1840
Standlake, Church Mill Close	0955	1150	1350	1610		1845
Standlake, Church Mill Close	0955	1155	1355	1615		
Brightampton, Lancott Lane	1000	1200	1400	1620		
Standlake, Woodlands	1005	1205	1405	1625		
Northmoor, The Red Lion	1007	1207	1407	1627		
Bablockhythe, The Ferryman	1008	1208	1408	1628		
Stanton Harcourt, Blackditch	1014	1214	1414	1634	1716	
Stanton Harcourt, Flexneys Paddock	1015	1215	1415	1635		
Sutton, Turn	1018	1218	1418	1638	1722	
Eynsham, Church outside	1023	1223	1423	1643	1727	

Brigt

No service on Saturday, Sunday or public holidays

This service is operated by West Oxfordshire Community Transport LTD.  
For more information, please visit [woct.org.uk](http://www.woct.org.uk) or call 01993 630124.

West Oxfordshire Community Transport is registered in England and Wales as a charitable Community Benefit Society No. 7458 under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014.  
Correct as 18/09/2025. E3CE. Special timetables may operate over Easter and the Christmas period.



**FIRST LAST MILE**

**FLM ROUTE 618**  
Standlake - Eynsham - Witney  
SATURDAYS ONLY (from 2nd May 2025)  
[www.firststandlastmile.org.uk](http://www.firststandlastmile.org.uk)

Email: [info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com](mailto:info.firststandlastmile@gmail.com) Tel 07584 927 050

Outbound	Run1	Run2
CHURCH MILL CLOSE	09:10	11:31
BRIGHTHAMPTON, LANCOTT LANE	09:16	11:36
STANDLAKE, WOODLANDS	09:20	11:40
NORTHMOOR, RED LION	09:30	11:45
BABLOCK HYTHE, FERRYMAN	09:37	11:49
BLACKDITCH	09:42	11:56
STANTON HARCOURT, FLEXNEYS	09:47	11:57
SUTTON	09:52	12:00
EYNSHAM, CHURCH	09:56	12:05
EYNSHAM, BARTHOLOMEW LEISURE CENTRE	10:01	12:09
WITNEY, MARKET SQUARE	10:07	

Inbound	Run1	Run2
WITNEY, MARKET SQUARE		13:25
EYNSHAM, BARTHOLOMEW LEISURE CENTRE	11:11	13:41
EYNSHAM, CHURCH	11:15	13:45
SUTTON	11:20	13:50
STANTON HARCOURT, FLEXNEYS	11:23	13:53
BLACKDITCH	11:24	13:54
CHURCH MILL CLOSE	11:31	14:01
BRIGHTHAMPTON, LANCOTT LANE	11:36	14:06
STANDLAKE, WOODLANDS	11:40	14:10
NORTHMOOR, RED LION	11:45	14:15
BABLOCK HYTHE, FERRYMAN	11:49	14:19

**FARES - PAY BY CARD OR CASH. ALSO MYBUS & CONCESSIONARY PASSES ACCEPTED**

ADULT SINGLE	£3
CHILD SINGLE	£2
12-TRIP TICKET	£25
MYBUS DAY TICKETS	ADULT £6.50 YOUNG PERSONS £3.50

# WHAT'S ON IN STANTON HARCOURT AND SUTTON

## STANTON HARCOURT BEER FESTIVAL

The Stanton Harcourts 4th Beer Festival is on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

It's an amazing day for all and it's not just for Beer lovers. We will have an amazing selection of local ales but there will also be Ciders, Pilsner, Wine, Pimms, Prosecco and lots of soft drinks.

There will be amazing food all day and great live music. Just like a mini Festival.

All ages welcome and good doggies.

**TICKETS - £11.55**

[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/STANTON-HARCOURT-BEER-FESTIVAL-TICKETS-1980250752307](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stanton-harcourt-beer-festival-tickets-1980250752307)



## MONTHLY PUB QUIZ

The monthly pub quiz in the Harcourt Arms, is on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 7:30pm**

The entrance fee is only £3 (Please bring exact cash) and there are cash prizes. Maximum of 6 in a team. Come along and have fun! Tables need to be booked in advance as demand is high.

Visit the Arms or call **(01865 416516)** to do so but please only book if you are sure you can participate. A curry is available each quiz night as is the regular menu. The quiz starts at 7.30pm; come earlier to eat.

## MONTHLY MEN'S BREAKFAST



The popular Men's Breakfast continues on the first Saturday of every month at the Harcourt Arms, Stanton Harcourt.

The group meets from 8am–9.30am for a relaxed morning of good food and conversation at the Harcourt Arms. There's always room for new faces – whether you're retired, new to the area, or simply fancy a friendly monthly catch-up.

The next breakfast takes place on Saturday 4 July at 8am.

To book, contact Rob Brown at [rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com](mailto:rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com) or text 07957 664117 by the Thursday beforehand, or contact the Harcourt Arms directly.



## SUTTON SINGERS

Sutton Singers would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to our Summer Festival concert. We had a fabulous time singing songs All about Our Living Planet and other songs. Including The Siren Song, created by local composer Chris Loder. It was a joy to sing something created by a villager. If you missed us there is another chance to watch us sing at **The Beer Festival on the 25th July at 12.30**. There will be many other performers later on. Don't miss the beer or the music!

Sutton Singers 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!

If you just love singing but are not so keen on performance we are the choir for you! As a Community Choir we welcome everyone and you never know - you may end up being inspired to perform?

Get in touch with Jan Tomlinson on  
Phone: **01865 881709** or  
email: [janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com](mailto:janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com)



## WEST OXFORDSHIRE WINDS

**CLASSICAL TO CINEMA**  
(and Everything in Between)  
FRIDAY, 10th JULY • 7 PM

Conducted by Wendy Marks

FEATURING FOUR GREAT LOCAL WIND BANDS  
**ST LEONARD'S CHURCH, EYNHAM**  
Tickets on the door £7.50 (Under 18s Free)

## LADIES WALKING GROUP

We are a group of ladies who get together at 9.30am on a Monday Morning to walk! Mostly for about 2 hours locally. Sometimes stopping for coffee at the end.

Occasionally we also go further afield travelling to nearby walking routes within a 15-30 minute drive. There is no pressure to attend every week - sometimes there is just a couple of us and another day it will be 10. We walk at a pace that works for those attending.



For more information contact Jan Tomlinson  
**01865 881709 / janviv28@gmail.com**



STANTON HARCOURT BEER FESTIVAL PRESENTS

**UNPLUGGED  
OPEN MIC  
NIGHTS**

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH  
STANTON HARCOURT  
OXFORDSHIRE  
£2 ENTRY PER PERSON  
(PROCEEDS GO TO THE CHURCH)

BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS

MUSICIANS, SINGERS, POETS,  
COMEDIANS' SPECTATORS  
ALL UNPLUGGED - LET THE  
ACOUSTICS OF THE CHURCH  
DO THE WORK

7:30-9:30PM  
APRIL 24TH  
MAY 29TH  
JUNE 26TH  
JULY 31ST  
AUGUST 28TH  
SEPTEMBER 25TH

## STANTON HARCOURT AND SUTTON SUMMER FESTIVAL 2026



As another wonderful Summer Festival comes to a close, a sincere thanks from everyone in the village goes out to everyone who helped make it such a memorable occasion.

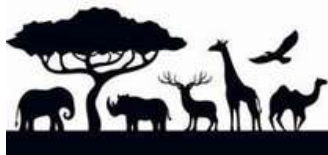
Events like these do not simply happen. They are the result of months of planning, organisation, and dedication by a small group of people who care deeply about our village and community. The Festival Committee deserves enormous credit for their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment in bringing together such a wonderful programme of events for us all to enjoy. Their time, energy, and commitment have made a real difference, and it has not gone unnoticed. From the earliest planning stages through to the final clear-up, you have given so much of yourselves to ensure the festival was welcoming, well organised, and full of community spirit.

We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did and look forward to doing it all again next year.



# STANTON HARCOURT AND SUTTON SUMMER FESTIVAL 2026

## “Our Living Planet”



Our full week of celebrating “Our Living Planet” has drawn to a close and what a great week of entertainment it has been! We hope you enjoyed all the events and, of course, Festival Day itself!

As usual, thanks go to Dan Barton and all the volunteers who helped create the colourful flower and butterfly decoration on the Green and the wildlife TV screens displayed at the Village Hall and the school.

Well done to everyone who added to the village decorations by creating a display in their gardens. After much deliberation, the winner chosen was the Sea World display on the house in New Road on the corner with Foxburrow Close. Runner up was the display at Saddleback Cottage on Sutton Lane. The Gorilla on Sutton Lane, Richard & Ginny’s display in Duck End and Angela on the The Row were all given a “highly commended” award. Well done all!

We had great weather all week and had a good number of events taking place including: An orchestral concert, the church flower festival, Hymns and Pimms, games and drinks at the Vicarage, drinks and teas and coffees in many gardens including hand bell ringing, a festival walk, a Living Planet themed pub quiz, yoga in the garden and at the Quoits, a classic car show, the Sutton Singers concert, bell ringing and supper, cream teas, a BBQ in the garden, a guided tour of the church, a music and drinks evening, a chance to get your bicycle serviced and, to finish off, a lively night of festivities at the Harcourt Arms! It was quite the week!

We extend a huge thank you to all those who organised and attended events throughout the week. Many Village Organisations and deserving Charities have benefitted from these fund raising events.

The weather held out for Festival Day with just a few spots of rain that didn’t deter the crowd. Well done to everyone who hosted stalls, particularly the VH committee for running the bar and bbq and to everyone who donated plants (especially Matthew) and to Lesley and Charlotte for their help running the stall.

The Royal party looked splendid in their costumes. Congratulations to Astrid (Queen), Luna (Attendant), Luca (Prince) and Phoenix (Princess).

The fantastic Sol Samba troupe made a splendid sound as their drums beat a carnival rhythm for the duration of the procession as they walked and drummed their way through the village.

Thanks again to Phil Taylor for storing and providing the Royal Carriage and to Tim Fenna and his tractor for the tow and to Matthew Judson for the last minute “tow “! Thank you to the villagers and children who also took part in the walking parade.

Steve Tuck was (once again) a brilliant MC in the arena for the afternoon’s activities as we were entertained by a song from the school choir and a working sheep dog display.

The tug of war contest was great fun and very competitive. The girls defeated the boys and honors were equal between Stanton vs Sutton as in the ladies “pull” Stanton defeated Sutton but in the men’s event Sutton prevailed!

Other prize winners announced on the day were: Lucky programme number – 225 – Peter Craddock and the Fancy Dress prize went to Ginny who was dressed as a very cute Bumble Bee. Well done to all who entered!

There are already some great pictures of the day on both the village and the summer festival FB pages – thank you all for posting.

The committee would especially like to thank all those who helped us get ready for festival day including selling programmes, bunting operations and Marquee duties as well as the big clear up on Sunday. We couldn’t do it without your help and it is much appreciated!

The committee are off for a little rest now and we will share plans for next year with you in the Autumn.

We always welcome new committee members to help spread the load so if you would like to get involved please get in touch. (Festival contact email [jowilby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jowilby@hotmail.co.uk))



## FREELAND ORCHESTRA'S CONCERT AT THE FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT FOR THE SUMMER FESTIVAL



What a delightful evening we all enjoyed, with music and words vividly depicting a whole array of different animals in celebration of Sir David Attenborough!

The first half had the Freeland Orchestra on display and began with the angry sound of buzzing wasps created by the musicians in Vaughan Williams' 'The Wasps'. We were then entertained with Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake and a delightful oboe solo. After a 'clucking' Haydn 'The Hen' Symphony, we moved on to the main piece in the first half – Saint-Saens' 'Carnival of the Animals'. Each animal was introduced by pupils of Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School, reading poems by Michael Morpurgo, that enhanced the musical depiction of the animal, from the roaring lion, slow can-can dance of the tortoise, to the beautiful cello solo that vividly created the musical picture of a graceful swimming swan.

The first half ended with a moving performance of 'What a Wonderful World' sung by pupils of Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School, sensitively accompanied by the orchestra. Each section and individual players of the orchestra shone in different pieces, with the orchestra demonstrating musical contrast of dynamics with harmonious balance of sonority, under the excellent direction of conductor Wendy Marks.



The second half brought onto the stage the West Oxfordshire Clarinets. The theme of music portraying animals continued, and we were presented with music ranging from 1726 to 2019. From the very first piece, Rameau's 'The Hen', the clarinets from high to low demonstrated instrumental skill as individuals, alongside notable ensemble skills with balance across the sections, allowing tunes to stand out and individual musical lines to be heard.

After Deterling's 'The Black Cat' we heard a beautiful arrangement of 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square', where the lovely performance of the lyrical melody contrasted with the energy and rhythmic drive of the next two pieces, Bucalossi's Grasshopper's Dance and the jazz favourite, Tiger Rag. This was followed by Kats-Chernin's 'Wild Swans' where the varying textures were confidently displayed.



The programme concluded with Mancini's 'Baby Elephant Walk', with the excellent bass clarinet section driving the music forward and supporting the rhythmically assured accompanying and melodic lines.

This was an entertaining evening, with variety, musicality, and individual and collective achievement, made possible through the leadership and musical direction of Wendy Marks.

*Paul Willett*

# SUTTON CLASSIC CAR FESTIVAL



Well what an evening!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us on June 16th for this year's Classic Vehicle Show. With the amazing vehicles, delicious BBQ, enormous tombola's, hard-fought Aunt Sally competitions, lashings of homebrew, and of course our star raffle, the atmosphere was brilliant. Even a few spots of rain couldn't dampen what is always a fantastic event.

As the cost of living remains challenging for many, it also impacted our own overheads. Despite being hit by a 60% rise in food prices for example, we were determined to keep 2025 prices for visitors, ensuring everyone could enjoy the evening without those costs being passed on. That said, we are incredibly proud to have still made over **£1800** to support **St Michael's Church** and **Sunshine Cat Rescue**.

A Sincere Thank You to so many volunteers that helped on lead-up and on the day; Steve, Christine, Noel, Helli, Sue, Chrissie, Mavis, John, Carol, Richard, Andy, Tom, Sharon, Standlake Vehicle Services and many many more!  
We really couldn't do it without you!  
Here's to next year!

If you would like to help the 2027 event, please do get in touch, we always need more volunteers!

Ro  
Sutton Village Classic Vehicle Show  
07795 371294



# SUMMER FESTIVAL EVENTS



# SUMMER FESTIVAL DECORATIONS



# SUMMER FESTIVAL DECORATIONS



# SUMMER FESTIVAL DAY



# SUMMER FESTIVAL DAY



# CELEBRATING OUR VERY OWN VILLAGE CENTENARIAN

## RITA STOCKILL



The festival theme “Our Living Planet” was chosen to honour Sir David Attenborough who celebrated his 100th birthday in May this year. We wanted to take this opportunity to also pay tribute to Sutton’s very own centenarian and village “treasure” Rita Stockill.

Ivy Rita Batts was born on 16th February 1926 in a small, thatched cottage just off Sutton Lane. Rita was one of six children. Her siblings were elder sister Elma who will be 103 this year, a twin sister Ena, a younger sister Mavis who was the first ever village carnival queen and two brothers – Ron and Tony.

Rita has lived in Sutton Lane all her life. The family moved from the small cottage to Batts Cottage when Rita was 10 years old and she lived there until she married Ted Stockill in 1958 when she moved to her current house Southdown.

Rita attended the school in Stanton Harcourt and then worked in a factory in Witney that made Military Hats. She cycled to work every day from Sutton and her first week’s wage was 13 shillings and 6 pence – of which she gave 10 shillings to her mother!

Rita and Ted had two sons Tim and Collin and Rita has two granddaughters Holly and Rachel.

Rita has had a long-standing connection with the Methodist Chapel in Sutton. She first went to services when she was just 4 years old and she still attends morning service at the Chapel once a month and monthly Wednesday Coffee mornings so that is 96 years of Chapel going! She also taught Sunday School at the Chapel from the age of 15 which she loved as well as helping children with their learning at the primary school in later years.

Another of Rita’s long service contributions in the community has been on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Rita sold poppies for the November Remembrance Appeal in Sutton Lane for 45 years for which she was deservedly presented a “Certificate of Appreciation” from the RBL.

In February Rita enjoyed lovely 100th birthday celebrations with her family and received 84 birthday cards including one from King Charles and Queen Camilla.

Rita has bravely faced and overcome a few health issues over the last few years but is still going strong, walks daily and enjoys pottering around in her much-loved garden.

When asked what she attributes her long life to, Rita credits her father for growing delicious and fresh vegetables and her mother for insisting that she ate all of them!

God bless you Rita – you are an inspiration to us all. We wish you many more happy years and birthday cards from the King!

# HEALTH & FITNESS EVENTS

Still keeping to your New Year health resolutions, or wanting to start something new, meet new people and have fun?

## ZUMBA CLASSES

Thursday evenings 6.30pm- Stanton Harcourt Village Hall ( term time ) if you love to dance, learn new routines, make new friends while having fun & getting fit, you'll love zumba- all abilities welcome.  
Classes are £6 per session.

For more information please contact **Debbie 07733 081620/ [debbiepargeter@gmail.com](mailto:debbiepargeter@gmail.com)**



## PILATES

Pilates, Personal Training and Breathwork  
with Nicky Holmes

**Tuesdays – 5.15pm / Village Hall**

**Wednesdays – 10.10am and 11.20am, Old GuardRoom**

Classes start from £10 – personal tuition is also available.

Nicky specialises in rehabilitation from injury, improving posture, strength and flexibility work including breath work and relaxation techniques. Every class is varied, sometimes using equipment, stability balls, weights and foam rollers. Numbers are limited as classes are small and personalised to each individual. [info@physiquepilates.co.uk](mailto:info@physiquepilates.co.uk)  
[www.physiquepilates.co.uk](http://www.physiquepilates.co.uk) Tel : 07949 764 966

## ANAHATA YOGA


Please come and join us-

**Monday 5-6pm Yoga for Wellbeing**, The Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt

**Monday 6.15-7.15pm Anahata Yoga**, The Old Guardroom

**Thursday 10-11am Yoga by The River**, The Ferryman Inn, Bablock Hythe- Anahata Yoga

Please note this weather dependent and may move indoors when wet or too hot- there is a WhatsApp group available for updates- please contact me to join

Please contact me for more information, all classes are £8, concessions available  Anahata yoga is a style of Hatha Yoga, from the north of India, based in nature, and with flowing rather than static poses.

Expect classes that are varied, designed to help us to clear our minds, move our bodies, in the hope we can go out in the world stronger and calmer ✨

Please note there are no classes on the bank holidays.

I am also a qualified massage therapist, offering a variety of treatments including Thai Yoga Massage, Holistic Massage, and Deep Tissue Massage.

Please contact me on 0789 002 6446 or via

[alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk](mailto:alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk)

Peaceful Existence Yoga and Massage, based in Sutton Xx

## VELVET SOLES FOOT HEALTH - FOOT CARE FOR ALL

Mobile Foot Health Professional Covering West Oxfordshire. Stanton Harcourt based. Caring, professional foot health service brought to you. Nail trimming & filing – Thickened nail reduction – Corn & callus removal – Verrucae – Diabetic foot care – Conservative ingrown toenail care. Call me to book an appointment on **07798 829457**

Or email me at [jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk](mailto:jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk)

For more information please visit my website 23

[www.velvetsoles.co.uk](http://www.velvetsoles.co.uk)

# July 2026

## EVENTS



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		<b>1</b> Cafe at the Chapel 10:00am - 12:00pm  Pilates 10:10am & 11:20am Old Guardroom	<b>2</b> Yoga 10:00am-11:00am Village Hall  Thursday Club Northmoor Village Hall 12:00pm-2:00pm  Zumba Village Hall 6:30pm	<b>3</b> Baby & Toddler Group Village Hall 9:15am - 10:45am	<b>4</b> Monthly Men's Breakfast 8:00am Harcourt Arms	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Ladies Walking Group Village Hall 9:30am  Yoga for Wellbeing 5:00pm-6:00pm Old Guardroom  Anahata Yoga Old Guardroom 6.15-7.15pm  Parish Council Meeting Old Guardroom 7:30pm	<b>7</b> Senior Badminton 10:00am -11:00am Village Hall  Pilates 5:15pm Village Hall  Sutton Singers 7pm	<b>8</b> Pilates 10:10am & 11:20am Old Guardroom	<b>9</b> Yoga By The River 10:00am - 11:00am Ferryman Inn  Thursday Club Northmoor Village Hall 12:00pm-2:00pm  Zumba Village Hall 6:30pm	<b>10</b> West Oxfordshire Winds Concert St Leonard's Church, Eynsham 7pm	<b>11</b> Village Hall Market & Cafe 12:00pm-2:00pm	<b>12</b>



**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

# July 2026

## EVENTS



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<p><b>13</b> Ladies Walking Group Village Hall 9:30am</p> <p>Yoga for Wellbeing Old Guardroom 5:00-6:00pm</p> <p>Anahata Yoga Old Guardroom 6.15-7.15pm</p>	<p><b>14</b> Senior Badminton 10:00am -11:00am Village Hall</p> <p>Pilates 5:15pm Village Hall</p> <p>Sutton Singers 7pm</p>	<p><b>15</b> Pilates 10:10am &amp; 11:20am Old Guardroom</p>	<p><b>16</b> Yoga By The River 10:00am - 11:00am Ferryman Inn</p> <p>Thursday Club Northmoor Village Hall 12:00pm-2:00pm</p> <p>Zumba Village Hall 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>17</b> Baby &amp; Toddler Group Village Hall 9:15am - 10:45am</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>
<p><b>20</b> Ladies Walking Group Village Hall 9:30am</p> <p>Yoga for Wellbeing Old Guardroom 5:00-6:00pm</p> <p>Anahata Yoga Old Guardroom 6.15-7.15pm</p>	<p><b>21</b> Senior Badminton 10:00am -11:00am Village Hall</p> <p>Pilates 5:15pm Village Hall</p>	<p><b>22</b> Pilates 10:10am &amp; 11:20am Old Guardroom</p>	<p><b>23</b> Yoga By The River 10:00am - 11:00am Ferryman Inn</p> <p>Thursday Club Northmoor Village Hall 12:00pm-2:00pm</p> <p>Pub Quiz Harcourt Arms 7:30pm</p>	<p><b>24</b> Unplugged Open Mic Night St.Michael's Church 7:30pm</p>	<p><b>25</b> Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Beer Festival, St.Michael's Church 12-10pm</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>



**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

# July 2026

## EVENTS



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<b>27</b> Ladies Walking Group Village Hall 9:30am  Yoga for Wellbeing Old Guardroom 5:00-6:00pm  Anahata Yoga Old Guardroom 6.15-7.15pm	<b>28</b> Senior Badminton 10:00am -11:00am Village Hall  Pilates 5:15pm Village Hall	<b>29</b> Pilates 10:10am & 11:20am Old Guardroom	<b>30</b> Yoga By The River 10:00am - 11:00am Ferryman Inn  Thursday Club Northmoor Village Hall 12:00pm-2:00pm	<b>31</b>		



# SAVE THE DATE

Save the dates for upcoming village events in your diary so you don't miss out!

<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
NOTE	No Parish Council Meeting AND no Village Hall Market in August
20th	Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms, 7:30pm
25th	Unplugged Open Mic Night, St Michael's Church, 7:30pm-9:30pm
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
7th	Parish Council Meeting, Old Guardroom 7:30pm
12th	Village Hall Market & Cafe, 12:00pm-2:00pm
12th	SH&S Royal British Legion Family Day, Old Airfield, 3:00pm - 7:00pm
25th	Unplugged Open Mic Night, St Michael's Church, 7:30pm-9:30pm

# GET INVOLVED

## THE THURSDAY CLUB



We meet every Thursday at Northmoor Village Hall between 12:00 and 2 pm.



### WE NEED MORE COOKS!

Many hands make light work! Preparing a main course or a pudding from time to time could make a real impact and help support the volunteers currently cooking both courses on a regular basis..

If you think you might be able to help in any way, I'd love to have a chat—please do give me a ring. (Liz Strange - 07810606755) or pop in and see us one week between 12.00pm and 2.00pm

**STANTON HARCOURT CHARITIES**

RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY NO. 201569-0      EDUCATIONAL CHARITY NO. 309895

**DO YOU KNOW THERE ARE TWO CHARITIES THAT EXIST FOR THE BENEFIT OF VILLAGERS?**

<p>RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY PROVIDES SHORT TERM FINANCIAL RELIEF TO ANYONE WHO LIVES OR WORKS IN VILLAGE</p>	<p>EDUCATION CHARITY EXISTS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WITH EDUCATIONAL PURSUITS</p>
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ALL REQUESTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL TO THE TRUSTEES

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY BENEFIT

[shcharities@yahoo.com](mailto:shcharities@yahoo.com)

## Save The Date!!

RBL FAMILY DAY

12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

3PM TO 7PM

THE OLD AIRFIELD

MILITARY WIVES CHOIR

TREASURE HUNT

BBQ & BAR

WW2 VEHICLE DISPLAYS & EXHIBITS

HOME GUARD REENACTMENT

Stanton Harcourt baby and toddler group

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April 17<sup>th</sup>  
May 1<sup>st</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup>  
June 5<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup>  
July 3<sup>rd</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup>

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Time  
09:15 - 10:45

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• PLACE •  
Stanton Harcourt Village Hall  
Blackditch, Witney OX29 6BB

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Tea, coffee and Kids snacks included  
£2.50 per family, come along for a chat and well-earned cuppa while the kids play.

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# CONNECT WITH US

This newsletter is the online version of the printed black and white newsletter which is distributed throughout the villages.

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.

The deadline for the next issue is 22nd of the month.

Contact - [village-voice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:village-voice@hotmail.co.uk)

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Get the latest news, events, and community updates delivered straight to your inbox — simple, local, and never spammy. Sign up and don't miss a thing.

[mailchi.mp](#)

### VILLAGE PARKING COURTESY

Just a small reminder for motorists not park on the grass verges in village, especially around the village green and dropping off or picking up at the Primary School.

