

South Newington Newsletter
Winter 2016

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South Newington Parish Council News

Our Village Website has now been updated and I spent some time recently looking at the various pages that provide comprehensive information about the history of the village, forthcoming events and other matters of interest in the near vicinity. This is a really useful tool for us all to keep in touch and Darron Maddock has worked hard on our behalf to provide the best experience possible. It must be acknowledged that not everyone wants to or is able to access the Village Website and I hope forthcoming village events will continue to be posted on the noticeboard, so that all information is shared.

Last week I signed a cheque for the sum of £1.00 enabling the Parish to formally adopt the telephone kiosk where we will be siting the defibrillator. Everything seems to take such a long time but we will get there in the end!

I have sent pictures of the war memorial to the War Memorial Trust to enable them to give us advice on the best way to clean it ready for 2018. You may recall the memorial was given a Grade II listed status last year.

Later this week the Parish Council will review, with advice from an Arboriculturist, what needs to be pruned or cut back in the village as part of our long-term maintenance plan that was started earlier this year with the coppicing of the dogwoods on the Poleaxe.

A big 'Thank You' to the Flower Show Committee for donating a new bench for the Poleaxe from monies raised at this year's show. It was recently installed and we are grateful to them for this addition to the Poleaxe.

Following my meeting with the Highways Department in the summer concerning the drainage in the Barford Road with the junction at the bottom of the Wom'll, a new bigger gully has replaced the old one which stood slightly proud, causing the water to cascade over the top of it. Hopefully this might improve safety in the winter when it freezes.

Peter Thomas. Chairman

The Parish Council can be contacted via email at:
southnewingtonpc@btinternet.com.

Welcome to the Village
I have no new faces to report in the village. ***Please*** would any of you with new neighbours let me know that new villagers have arrived and who they are, so they can be given a Welcome Pack from the Parish Council and be included in the Newsletter.

Thanks,
Alan Briggs

And a sad Farewell
To John and Magi Gardner who are leaving the village after the more than a few years. They have both contributed so much to the village being involved with the Village Hall, the church and its maintenance, the Flower and Produce show, the Youth Club and countless other activities. They will be greatly missed and we wish them well in their new home near the World Heritage city of Bath.

Church Fabric Report

I'm sure that you will all have heard the very disappointing and upsetting news of lead being stolen from the roof of our church on September 29th. The thieves smashed the alarm sensors above the north aisle roof before stealing a section of the lead and they audaciously returned a few nights later and stole some more - about half the length of the north aisle roof in all. The alarm system has been repaired and improved to give even greater protection. The roof has been sheeted and made weatherproof until a proper replacement can be made. Repair will require negotiation with the insurers and the church authorities and a detailed specification from the church architect. It is hoped that permission will be granted to replace the stolen lead with an alternative material similar in appearance to lead but not attractive to thieves.

Sadly there was some water ingress before the north aisle was made weatherproof and there has been some damage to the wall painting showing the execution of Thomas of Lancaster. This damage will have to be remedied by our wall painting conservator after the roof repair is completed.

The flood lighting on the south side of the church has not worked for some time. It is planned to get the wiring checked and the floodlights working again in the near future. This will increase the security of the church and will gladden the hearts of visitors and all the residents of South Newington on dark evenings. The failed light bulbs in the church will also be replaced in the near future.

John Gardner who has contributed a huge amount to the work of the Church Fabric Sub Committee is leaving South Newington. We shall miss John and thank him for all his hard work. We wish him and Magi every happiness in their new home.

We are delighted to welcome Alan Briggs who has kindly agreed to join the committee and is taking over from John.

Penny Carey

Banbury Historical Society Student Prize

The society is offering a prize of £100 for the best piece of historical work by a student (15 – 22 years):-

1) Two copies should be handed in to Banbury Museum, addressed to the Secretary of the society, Simon Townsend. The deadline is 30th April 2017. These should contain the name, age and address of the author, and the educational establishment attended.

2) The research can be on any topic and relate to any period but should be broadly local history i.e. based in Banbury and 'Banburyshire', the town's hinterland.

3) The word limit is 2,500 words but can be fewer; the work can and should include illustrations, tables, maps and so on.

4) Referencing and credits: all facts or opinions derived from others should be credited, with all evidence from documents and other primary sources clearly identified. (There are several different ways of doing this, which can be accessed on line. If further advice on presentation is required please contact the society before submission). Primary sources are original documents: maps, accounts, letters, diaries, interviews, newspaper reports and observation in the field. Secondary sources are published works.

5) The entries will be judged according to the age of the author and the society may decide to award an extra prize for a younger historian with a good piece of work.

6) Possible topics could be:
    - An interesting building, garden or landscape
    - A person
    - An institution – school, charity, workhouse, hospital, club, business
    - A specific time of change
    - Archaeological discoveries
    - A craft, trade or profession

More ideas for possible topics will be suggested by looking at a few issues of the society's journal, *Cake and Cockhorse*, which carries a broad range of articles:

Available on the society's website (www.banburyhistory.org).

CHRISTMAS CHARITY INSTEAD OF SENDING VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARDS

As in previous years, some of us are planning to give to charity instead of sending Christmas cards within the village. This year our chosen charity will be RP Fighting Blindness. This charity is somewhat personal for me, as some of you already know, I have a grandson, George now 16, who suffers from Retinitis Pigmentosa and is registered blind, although he still has some central vision.

Retinitis Pigmentosa, RP is a disease of the eye that leads to loss of vision and blindness. RP Fighting Blindness works hard to stimulate and fund cutting edge research to find a treatment or cure, and support those affected.

If you wish to be included in this donation, would you please contact Gill Brounger by telephone on 721029 or by emailing gillian.brounger@btinternet.com

Christmas wishes from all the contributors will be posted on the village notice board, emailed using the parish email facility, and also placed in the village newsletter (Spring Edition)

Performance to Raise Funds for 'Help for Heroes' and the 'Oxford Children's Hospital'.

We should like to thank all those who attended the Performance and those who very kindly contributed donations to these worthwhile Charities. We should also like to thank the Trustees of the Village Hall and the Village Hall Committee for offering the use of the building free of charge.

We are delighted to report that the total sum raised with no deductions whatsoever amounted to £1,150.00. Please see copy receipts from the two Charities.

For your information, Wing Commander Steve M. Smith RAF offered his apologies the following day for his non-attendance on behalf of Help For Heroes, which was due to a member of his family being admitted to hospital as an emergency that evening. However, many thanks to Victoria Prentis our Member of Parliament, who described the work of the Charity on his behalf.

It was an enormous pleasure to arrange this event in South Newington. Again, we thank you for your support which resulted in raising this substantial amount for the benefit of 'Help for Heroes' and the 'Oxford Children's Hospital'.

Jenny Rudnay and Gill Brounger

(Editor's Note: Receipt copy on back page)

VILLAGE HALL

The Committee has recently lost two of its members – Debbie Gale who has moved to Somerset, and Magi Gardner who is moving to Bath. Their contribution has been great and they will be very much missed. In such a small committee to lose 2 such active members at once means we need to find new people willing to help care for our wonderful village hall. The remaining members will be speaking to people over the next few months who might be persuaded to join the Committee – you have been warned!!

At a recent meeting it was agreed to look into the possibility of installing a suitable dishwasher in the kitchen. This is only possible because our bank balance is healthy thanks to the people who host and attend our monthly coffee mornings.

We are grateful to Charlie Curtis who has taken on the housekeeping chores from Jenny Gale, and to Stella Darke who has agreed to look after the garden which Magi has done in previous years..

Joyce Aydon

The 49 Club

- ***Cheaper than the National Lottery at only £1 per week!***
- ***More winners in South Newington than the Postcode Lottery!***
- ***OK, so no chance of a £1m pay out, BUT all prizes are delivered to your door!***

There are still spaces available to join the village 49 Club with a prize of £35 on the first Saturday of the month, £20 on other weeks, and even more if there is a rollover! We are sadly losing some of our supporters as they move away from the village. We are keen to replace them (and encourage even more members) to keep the club viable for the New Year which starts in March. The village church, St Peter ad Vincula relies on the surplus to cover insurance costs. Please email paula.staples@yahoo.co.uk or call 01295 721104 if you wish to join. I'd love to hear from you.

The lucky winners in the last quarter were:



	Date	Amount	Number	Name
1	10 Sep	£20	02	Margaret Forster
2	17th Sep	£20	37	John Braithwaite
3	24 Sep	£20	42	Debbie Gale
4	01 Oct	£35	55	*Rollover*
5	08 Oct	£20+£35	27	John Hadley
6	15 Oct	£20	53	*Rollover*
7	22 Oct	£20+£20	23	Peter Read
8	29 Oct	£20	42	Debbie Gale
9	05 Nov	£35	27	John Hadley
10	12 Nov	£20	8	Bill Burles
11	19 Nov	£20	40	Adrian Atkinson
12	27 Nov	£20	17	Dorothy Hands
13	03 Dec	£35	31	Harden Family

South Newington Flower and Produce Show 2017 – hold the date!

Please hold the date of Sat Aug 12th for next year's Show! We welcome any ideas as well as offers of help as we start the planning process to maintain this annual event in our village calendar. Our Secretary, Sue Thomas (suethomas0948@gmail.com) will be delighted to hear from you. As you may have seen on the Poleaxe or on the website or read in the Parish Council minutes, the Flower Show Committee decided to put some of the Show's accumulated funds towards a new bench which we hope everyone will enjoy.

South Newington Occasional Singers

If you have ever thought you'd like to return to singing again, or maybe for the first time, South Newington Occasional Singers is a great place to come. We meet on Saturday morning in the village hall from 10.30 – 12.00 with a short coffee break.

At the moment there are around 20 of us, and we sing in the different voice parts of soprano, alto, tenor and bass. We have a professional conductor, Stuart Dunlop from South Newington who kindly leads us out of the goodness of his heart, as usually he does conducting for a living as Director of Music at the UEA, and we also have Joe Cummings, our professional, paid piano accompanist who comes from Kings Sutton.

We're working on four different short pieces at the moment, and although some of us can read music it's not necessary to read music to come along and sing with us. What we all seem to enjoy is the focus and concentration that comes from singing, the Goosebumps of pleasure when we sing nicely together and the gently sociability of being part of a small choral group. We're not singing huge works, just lovely music selected by Stuart that suits our skills and gladdens our hearts! Sounds cheesy but I think it's true.

Do come along and give it a try, no obligation! Word is gradually spreading and we have people coming from Barford, Bloxham and Overthorpe. We're called 'Occasional' because you don't need to come every week; we all have weekends now and then when we can't make it. Each session costs £5.00 or £3.00 for concessions which is good value for an hour and a half of what one newcomer described as "a surprising amount of snorting with laughter."

This Christmas we will start off the singing round the Christmas tree as the lights are turned on at 5pm on Sunday 11th December. We'll start in the church for ten minutes and then move out to the Christmas tree where there'll be more carols, with mince pies and mulled wine.

Everyone is very welcome

If you'd like to join us in the New Year we'll start singing again on Saturday 7th January after a break for Christmas and the New Year.

Nicky Smith

A Round-up of Dates For Your Diary Over The Christmas Season.

11th December	Christmas tree lighting at St Peter Ad Vincula and carol singing, with mulled wine and mince pies. Everyone welcome to join this lovely village event.
15th December	Christmas coffee morning on Thursday 15th December from 10.30 to 12.00 at South Newington Village Hall.
17th December	Helpers wanted to decorate the church ready for Christmas – meeting between 9-12 am on Saturday December 17th. (Gill Brounger on telephone 721029 or email gillian.brounger@btinternet.com)
18th December	The Christingle will be on Sunday 18th December at 5.00 pm at St Peter Ad Vincula. Again, all ages very welcome with or without children. This too is a lovely village event not to be missed. A special visitor may attend.
25th December	There will be a service of Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 11.15
8th January	Our special Benefice Epiphany Service at St Peter Ad Vincula will be Sunday 8th January 2017 at 6.00 pm. This will be its twenty first year and is much loved by the congregation so if you have never been, do please come.

THE VILLAGE BOYS BIG NIGHT OUT*

The annual Village Harvest Supper took a slightly different turn this year with all food prepared and served by a team of village menfolk - largely to give the ladies who have served the supper for some years now, a much deserved break.

The Harvest Cocktail, Harvest Stew followed by Blackberry and Apple Crumble seemed to go down well; while dramatic entrance of the night went without doubt to Julian Barbour who prepared all the vegetarian options brought to Hall in his wheelbarrow; whilst himself suitably attired in full evening dress to deliver his village anecdotes as after supper speaker.

Around sixty people joined the Supper taking part in a table quiz and the Harvest auction. The evening raised £474.60 for Banbury Young Homeless Project (BYHP).

Food was prepared by Graham Smith, David Brounger, Tim Catton, Rob Lawrence and Julian who served the Supper with added help from Toby Harris, William Brounger, and David and Toby Swan. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped out. It was a fun night out for all - not least for the boys!

NB Toby Harris has since lodged an official request for an industrial dishwasher! A good call!

Graham Smith

*(Where was the one in the Native American Headdress? Or am I confused again? Ed)

Cherwell Plan, Oxford's Housing Needs and South Newington

There has been some discussion lately about the Feedback being sought by Cherwell on their future plans for housing in the District Council area. Part of the documentation has addressed land at the south east end of Sands Lane. The Parish Council is making a considered response to the very detailed and complex papers. This is NOT a planning application. There have been some concerns raised within the village. To try and clarify the situation Julian Barbour whose family trust own the land has allowed me to publish the following.

Land off Sands Lane.
The Chair of the Parish Council has kindly alerted me to concern in the village about the inclusion in the recently published Cherwell District Council planning review of the field either side of the footpath to Barford that leaves the corner of Sands Lane. The background to this is as follows. The field was left in trust by my late mother to me and three siblings. There are four trustees, of which I am one. Some years ago, we asked a property management company in Banbury about the possibility of getting planning permission for perhaps two houses on the land immediately to the right of the entrance to the field. They said that, though circumstances might change, there was no chance whatever at the time of getting permission and strongly recommended us not to waste a lot of money on an application that would surely fail.

However, earlier this year the company suggested we register the land for the upcoming review as possibly available for development at some stage. As their fee for doing this was very modest, we agreed. For some technical reason, they registered the whole field as available even though there is obviously not the remotest chance that could be approved. As of now, there appears to be no possibility that any application however minimal would succeed, and there is no intention of the trustees to make an application at the present time. By law, the trustees must act unanimously and put the interests of the beneficiaries, who in years to come are likely to be grandchildren of my mother, before their own. What might happen in the future is therefore uncertain.

Julian Barbour

As a general note, all members of the village are strongly encouraged to keep an eye on street furniture where Planning Applications are published or via the Cherwell website. The Parish Council responds to these but its response only counts as a single 'voice'***. It is very important that if you have a strong opinion (either in favour of or objecting to an application) that you make your own comments to Cherwell. Each 'voice' heard counts in the Planning Committee deliberations.***

Editor.

South Newington Autumn Weather Report

Autumn went out with a shiver with winter coming in decisively over the last days of November/first few of December, bringing hefty night frosts and the village again being mentioned on national media as one of the coldest spots in England.

Though there were some ground frosts, the first week of November brought the first air frosts, bringing the eaves off the trees, but autumn was fairly mild on the whole. Our warmest autumn day was 28C on 13th September and 8th November the coldest at 5C. Rainfall was low in September with only 46.4mm, followed by a very dry October (13.7mm). This was the driest recorded since I started in 1994, dropping the River Swer to negative readings. It remains low even after the November rains. The latter were associated with Storm 'Angus', the first named storm of the season which caused much flooding and disruption along the South coast. The village was lucky to escape it with winds only up to 35-40mph.

I have no extreme weather to report I make no forecasts for the winter to come, some anticipating very cold, others another mild one. We will see and with luck I shall be here to write about it in March. All that remains is for Anne and I to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas followed by everything you would wish yourselves in 2017.

John Britton

CHESS PLAYERS WANTED



Would anyone be interested in setting up a chess group, perhaps taking it in turns to host it? Maybe an evening or two a month? This isn't for me I'm much too stupid, but I've been asked to see if there's any interest in the village.

Email or call if you are nicky@twelvepr.co.uk or call 01295 720228.

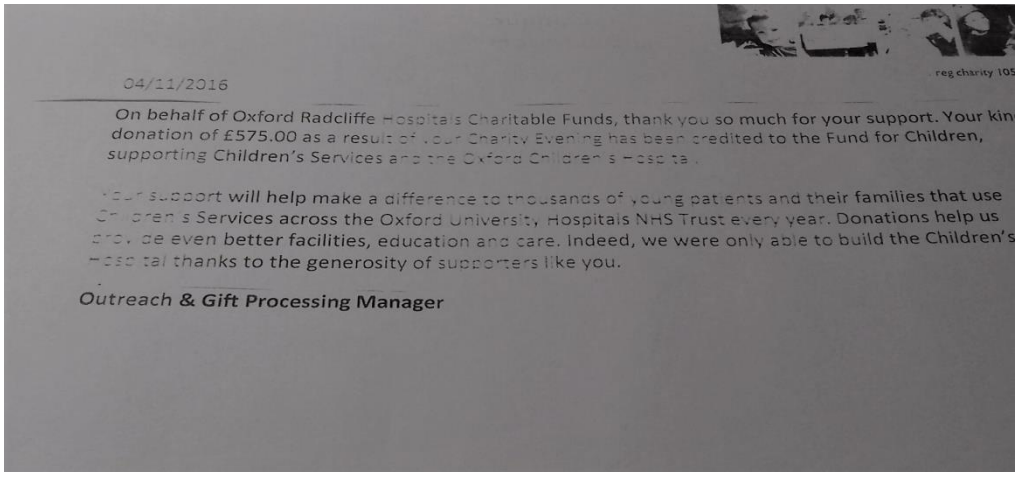
South Newington Yoga

The South Newington Yoga Group meets termly on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8.30 in the Village Hall. Each term consists of 10 sessions.
Each session usually involves one hour of Yoga and half an hour for meditation and relaxation.
The type of Yoga practiced by the group is Hatha Yoga and our teacher is Catherine Chappell who is Wheel of Yoga trained. Our group is very friendly and comprises people from all ages with different levels of Yoga experience.

The Yoga sessions involved doing poses (asanas) and breathing exercises (pranayama). These asanas and pranayama are designed to stretch, unwind and release tensions.
If you are looking to be more flexible, improve your balance and be more relaxed then this group is for you. It is an excellent way to relax and unwind after the stresses of daily life. I always get the best night's sleep after my Yoga session.

For more information please contact Sue Robertson
Tel: 07745 798782
Email: southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk

RECEIPT COPY FROM OXFORD RADCLIFFE HOSPITALS CHARITABLE FUNDS FOR £575 DONATION



04/11/2016

On behalf of Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Charitable Funds, thank you so much for your support. Your kin donation of £575.00 as a result of your Charity Evening has been credited to the Fund for Children, supporting Children's Services and the Oxford Children's Hospital.

Your support will help make a difference to thousands of young patients and their families that use Children's Services across the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust every year. Donations help us provide even better facilities, education and care. Indeed, we were only able to build the Children's Hospital thanks to the generosity of supporters like you.

Outreach & Gift Processing Manager

TOBOGGANING:
If we get snow this winter, parents and children are, as in previous years, welcome to sledge on the bank in the College Farm meadow. No need ask - just
walk along next to the churchyard wall past Arcadia into the meadow. It's great fun to go down the bank six or more at a time on a plastic sheet. At your own risk. I can take no responsibility for accidents.

Julian Barbour

HAPPY XMAS
From the Editor and delivery team (Alan, Paula and Jasper) to all the readers on line and by paper copy we hope you all have a Happy Xmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.