SOUTH NEWINGTON NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2018

Editor: Nicky Smith SouthNewingtonNewsletter@gmail.com

Parish Council News

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Nicky Smith for taking over the editing of the Village Newsletter from Alan Briggs.

The Newsletter is an important way of communicating the latest developments affecting the village, getting reports from interest groups and generally keeping up with the latest happenings within our small community. It is, however, not part of the Parish Council's remit to oversee its production.*

In early September Oxford County Council published a paper on the A361 Road Safety Improvements Project which incorporated the road between Chipping Norton and Banbury. This project proposes improvements to safety on the A361 which includes carriageway resurfacing, drainage improvements, vegetation clearance to improve sight lines, footway improvements, Wykham Lane and Ells Lane/Bloxham Grove Road junctions' improvements, relining and signage, speed limit reductions and new safety fencing.

It will include a programme of 'advanced works for South Newington, although the Parish Council has yet to be consulted! Oxfordshire County Council have been allocated £4.135 million for the whole project. There will be a public consultation in the Spring of 2019. The Parish Council has written to the Project Manager requesting a meeting so that we can hear first hand what is proposed.

During the Autumn the Parish Council will be carrying out some more pruning of overhanging trees around the Poleaxe play equipment, as recommended in our annual independent Safety Report this summer.

A reminder to you all that the village bonfire site at the bottom of Moor Lane should not be used for tree branches of a very large size. Recently, a large pile of vegetation was deposited and this was probably due to illegal fly tipping. If you come across anyone you think is dumping green waste that does not come from the village, please make a note of the registration of the vehicle and either let the Police or the Parish Council know.

Finally, Sue Robertson, susanrobertsonsnem@gmail.com, has taken over the responsibility for uploading your messages onto the village website. Many thanks to Darron Maddock for all his hard work to date. He will however be helping out with the overall site maintenance and posting your messages when Sue is not available.

Peter Thomas, Chairman.

**Editors note – how exciting, carte blanche! Seriously, any mistakes will be mine. Please complain as follows:*

- *Factual errors about events; dates; who does what; news for the next issue; relevant photos; positive feedback or anything important please email SouthNewingtonNewsletter@gmail.com*

- *Complaints about grammar, typos etc – keep them to yourself or offer to take over writing the newsletter. Email address as above or pop round to the Barn House, Green Lane or phone 01295 720228. Please note this landline doesn't work after prolonged or heavy periods of rainfall.*

South Newington Flower Show

A Saturday morning in August, not a cloud in the sky, the sun was shining, bees were busy, children chattered, there was an excitement not apparent in South Newington day to day. What was the reason for the buzz? ...it was the South Newington flower and produce show.

What a triumph it was and without doubt much credit should be given to Ms Paula Staples! She has chaired the committee very effectively for the past three years and it has been a pleasure for all the committee to work with her. Alan, Paula and Boucher will be missed by all their friends. We wish them well in their new surroundings.

The show was successful on many levels. Although the bitter winter, chilly spring and drought had challenged gardeners; entries were as expected in most classes. Elsewhere new classes proved popular. A range of stalls offered interest and entertainment. Hook Norton Brewery made a great effort to be with us and the spectacular sight of the dray was appreciated by all. The fire engine gave young button pushers some opportunities!
The initiative for the burger bar was well received and the offerings enjoyed. Tea and cake was consumed, laughter emanated and an atmosphere of pure happiness shone everywhere.

The financial success means that we have been able to give a record amount to charity. Recipients are: St Peter Ad Vincula, Banbury Young Homeless, The Village Hall, The Allotment Society, Katherine House Hospice, Papyrus and the Parkinson's Society.

A huge thank you to all the committee members for their tireless commitment and to all those who helped before and after the show. If you would be interested in joining the team please do contact Sue Thomas at Wingate Cottage.

Claire Swan





Two of the editor's favourite entries from this year's show

South Newington St Peter ad Vincula Church news

At long last common sense has won the day and we can progress on repairs to the north aisle roof at St Peter ad Vincula.

After the lead having been stolen twice, we have permission to use terne treated stainless steel in place of the lead which seems so attractive to thieves.

Works to start on 5th October 2018 and will only take 10 days. Thanks to the brilliant work done to temporarily make the roof water-proof, the wall paintings have fared well through this predicament.

Many thanks to all who came to the rescue when help was needed and to all who are vigilant in watching for signs of unusual activity and responding to the roof alarm when activated.

Your vicar, churchwardens and parochial church council are doing our best to keep the village church an open and active place of welcome for all in the village, and we welcome you to appreciate the treasure we have to enjoy and maintain for future generations.

The Revd Dale Gingrich, Vicar

A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Sunday November 11th

10.30am: Piper's Lament on the Poleaxe
10.45am: Service begins in the Village Church
11.00am: 2 Minutes' Silence and wreath-laying at the Churchyard memorial
11.10 Service continues with Hymns, Readings and the Village Roll of Honour
11.45 The Celebration of Bells

In addition to the regular weekly worship in the village church which is usually at 11.15 am on Sundays, the autumn brings a number of special services:

*

Sunday October 14th: Harvest Thanksgiving 6.00pm

*

Sunday October 21st: Third Sunday at Six Taize Service 6.00pm

Following last month's Jazz Church, the second in our series of alternative services offers the simple songs, chanted prayers, music, meditation and silence of the Taize community. With tea and cake, and the vicar on clarinet.

*

Sunday November 11th: Service of Remembrance 10.45am

For the first time in recent years, South Newington has its own service to remember those who have died in war and to mark the centenary of the ending of the Great War.

*

Sunday November 18th: Third Sunday at Six "Deeds not Words" 6.00pm

A service devoted to marking one hundred years of women's suffrage and celebrating just some of those who inspired and fought the struggle for women's rights through that time, from the suffragettes to #MeToo.

The Duck on the Pond

“There can't be that many people going to and fro between Banbury and Chipping Norton on such a small road...”

Those words that echo ironically in our memory were spoken just over 450 miles north of Banbury in Ballater, the Highland village, just up the road from Balmoral Castle, which was our home for 14 years. We bought a hotel there in 2004 planning to stay for three or four years. As we debated leaving in our third year we were surprised and delighted by our inclusion in the Good Hotel Guide and decided we should hang on a while longer – twelve years as it turned out.

During those years we enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the Cairngorm National Park spending our off duty time walking or cycling in the mountains, seeing a multitude of pheasant, grouse and red deer, ski-ing at Glenshee and, very occasionally swimming in the lochs! Refreshing, that is one word for it – there are others.

We enjoyed foraging for wild mushrooms, which went on the restaurant menu, along with venison and other game from the local estates.

But despite the fulfilling lifestyle and a thriving seasonal business, we missed our families, who remained firmly ensconced in the south, steadfastly refusing invitations to visit us when we were closed through the long, dark winter months from October, when the risk of being snowed in preoccupied them.

From an area which regularly featured in the weather reports, we learned with surprise and delight that South Newington is equally well featured in that regard. We were delighted to get a copy of the paper from John recently, displaying the recordings from the Met. Office device in his field.

So the decision was made to return to Oxfordshire where Penny spent her formative years and continued to regard as her spiritual home.

We spent a year in St Albans looking for a suitable property and came across South Newington and The Duck on the Pond.

Cautious at first, as the property had been on the market for a while with seemingly no takers, we visited as customers before arranging a formal visit.

We were struck by the lovely interior and the large gardens. Importantly for us, the village was delightful with a tranquil charm that remained with us when we returned home, the website and noticeboards both suggested a vibrant community with plenty of groups and activities.

After another two visits we were convinced that this was the place we had been looking for and put in our offer. The purchase was long and drawn out, not always smooth but we were delighted to get the keys on 25th July and open our doors to customers the very next day.

So here we are almost two months later. There have been some teething problems – we didn't know that the pond wasn't watertight or that the irrigation system for the hanging baskets was watering the walls more than the plants!

We're still looking for the right team of staff to support us. And we were very wrong about the road being quiet! But we are confident that we were right in our decision. We have met some amazing people, been made to feel very welcome and can see a bright future for ourselves here, hopefully giving something back to the village that has taken us in so warmly.

Gordon and Penny

**Editors note – I invited Gordon and Gordon & Penella, the new owners of our village pub, The Duck on the Pond, to give us an introduction to themselves, written above. They are kindly hosting our Harvest Supper this year, hope you will join this fun event. The food is sure to be delicious, the company excellent and the table top quiz will be amazing - top tip - learn your combine harvester machinery parts.*

Hooray for the Harvest in South Newington

Instead of supper at the Village Hall, we are invited to a meal of celebration at the Duck on the Pond. Penny and Gordon are closing to the public and giving the village exclusivity.

They will offer a delicious two course supper, as well as a quick quiz followed by an auction of offerings. Penny and Gordon have also warmly invite you to take your own drinks, with no corkage, but a wide range of beverages will be available from their bar at standard prices.

All profits from ticket sales and the auction to be shared between the church and the charity MIND.

Tickets are available until 7th October 2018 at £15.00 from Gill Brounger or Nicky Smith. Gordon and Penny need advance notice of numbers to organise the food and tables so please book early to avoid disappointment!

HARVEST SUPPER MENU

Sunday 14th October

Daube of beef (braised in red wine with vegetables and herbs) with mashed potato and vegetables

Vegetarian offer of cauliflower cheese and bean croquette

followed by

sticky toffee pudding with hot fudge sauce

Yoga Group

The South Newington Yoga Group meets termly on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm to 8pm 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 involve 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. Yoga is increasingly mentioned in the news for the health benefits it brings. I always get the best night sleep after my Yoga session.

If you are interested in joining our Yoga Group please contact me for more details.
Sue Robertson
Tel: 07745 798782
Email: southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk

49 Club

The 49 Club raises money for the Church using lottery ticket numbers. It costs just £1 per week or £13 per quarter. Carole Hancock is kindly running it now, taking it over from Paula, who we thank for her generous help. If you would like to join the 49 Club please email carole.hancock@btinternet.com or call 01295722966

	Date	Amount	Number	Name
1	7th July	£35	01	Jenny Smith
2	14th July	£20	58	*Rollover*
3	21st July	£20+£20	52	Peter Read
4	28th July	£20	10	Keith Loban
5	4th Aug	£35	52	Peter Read
6	11th Aug	£20	57	*Rollover*
7	18th Aug	£20+£20	11	Michael Pritchard
8	25th Aug	£20	48	Swan Family
9	1st Sept	£35	50	Michael Maskay
10	8th Sept	£20	48	Swan Family
11	15th Sept	£20	44	*Rollover*
12	22nd Sept	£20+£20	36	Peter Hudson
13	29th Sept	£20	27	John Braithwaite

SOUTH NEWINGTON ALLOTMENTS aka "South Newington Coal Allotments" *

Did you know we have allotments in South Newington? They are located just off the A361 before New Road turn to Milcombe.

With Brexit on the horizon and the recent hot weather affecting crop yields, food prices are said to be on the rise, why not grow your own delicious produce on one of our allotments. Your lovely fresh produce will taste far better than the shop bought ones.

You will also get some exercise, be outside in the lovely fresh air and meet new friends who are fellow allotment holders. Although many people grow vegetables you can also grow soft fruit and even flowers. Who knows you could grow that prize winner for the next South Newington Flower show! One of the allotment holders is also a judge at our flower show.

We currently have allotment space available to rent, we have one full size allotment (22 yards) which could be split into 2 half allotments and one half allotment available.

The allotment rent is extremely reasonable.

For more details contact Sue Robertson.

Tel: 01295 722543
Mobile: 07745 798782
Email: SusanLRobertson@yahoo.co.uk

** Editors note – I have been asked to ensure that the allotments are referred to by their correct name "South Newington Coal Allotments". Might make an interesting feature for next newsletter – does anyone know why this is the correct name?*

South Newington Occasional Singers

We're still having a lovely time singing on Saturday mornings in the village hall. We start at 10.30 and work on the music until 11.15 when we break for coffee. Su Ruck Keene from Bloxham* very kindly organises a rota of people to make coffee and wash up, and the cup of coffee is free with our weekly subscription of £5.00

Then we start singing again from about 11.30 until midday. Research has proved that singing is good for you through breathing, concentrating and the shot of endorphins from performing and making harmony together.

New members of any voice part are always welcome to come and see how enjoyable it is!

Elizabeth Wheeldon

** Editors note – people from other villages are allowed to join*.

SUNDAY 11th NOVEMBER AT 4pm SOUTH NEWINGTON SINGERS

We hope you will come and support our next performance on Sunday November 11th at 4pm in South Newington Church.

This is a concert to commemorate 100 years since the end of WWI and the Suffragette Movement. It will include music, a few readings and poetry, and some community singing (ie you can join in) of music associated especially with WW1:

- Jerusalem
- I Vow to Thee My Country
- Keep the Home Fires Burning

There'll be refreshments and a retiring collection to be shared between Help for Heroes and South Newington Church.

BRACKLEY CHAMBER CHOIR

Saturday 6th October 7pm

A programme of English choral music

South Newington Church

Tickets £6 on the door, all profits to South Newington church
Please see Edwina Laurence, The Old School House for more information

WHAT'S ON Diary Date for Villagers – special events

What	When	Where	More info
Brackley Chamber Choir	Sat 6th October 7pm	SN church	£6 ticket at door
Harvest Service	Sun 14th October 6 pm	SN church	Free
Harvest Supper	Sun 14th October 7 pm	Village pub Duck on the Pond	£15 ticket
Taize by candlelight Church service	Sun 21st October 6pm	SN Church	Free
Remembrance Day Church Service & laying of wreath	Sun 11th Nov 10.30 am	SN church	Free
South Newington Occasional Singers (SNOS) Remembrance Day Concert	Sun 11th Nov 4pm	SN church	Free, collection at door Refreshments
Deeds not Words Church service	Sun 18th Nov 6pm	SN Church	Free
SNIFTA Film Society	Sun 25th Nov 5pm	Village Hall	TBC
Singing Round the Christmas Tree	Provisionally Sun Dec 9th 5.30	SN churchyard	Free Wrap up warm

WHAT'S ON Diary Date for Villagers – regular events

What	When	Where	More info
Table tennis	Monday eves	Village hall	Gill Brounger
Circle dancing	Weds eve	Village hall	Stella Darke
Yoga	Thursday eve	Village hall	Sue Robertson
Groove Aerobics	Sat morning from Nov 9 – 10 am	Village hall	Nicky Smith
Singing	Sat morning 10- 12.30 am	Village hall	Elizabeth Wheeldon
Parish Council Meeting	See village noticeboard	Village Hall	Peter Thomas
Flower Show Committee	Now and then	Committees house	Sue Thomas

Dance Cardio or Groove Aerobics TASTER SESSION Sat 3rd November 9am

There'll be a taster session on Saturday November 3rd in the village hall 9 – 10 am. Come and see if starting the day with disco dancing will get your weekend off to a flying start!

The teacher, Jess is busy before then organising a dance show hence the delay in starting.

£5.00

SOUTH NEWINGTON SUMMER WEATHER

June, July and August 2018

At the end of summer, I commented: "I hope we can go forward to a very enjoyable summer" and we certainly have. Hot and sunny much of the time and very dry. The extreme dry conditions produced a very early haymaking and harvest and lots of watering problems for gardeners. The following table gives some comparisons to previous year…

Average maximum temperatures

	2018	2017	2016	2015
August	22.1	20.4	22.5	20.5
July	26.1	22.0	22.0	21.3
June	21.8	21.2	19.2	19.7

It can be seen that July particularly this year was much warmer. The village does not get exotic temperatures like some of the south east: we are more likely to be coldest in the country as we were on June 16th and August 2nd recorded in the Daily Mail. Our hottest day was on 31.9C on 26th July.

The dry conditions were obvious by the river and the cracks in the soil, and also by the fact that we recorded 1.2mm rain in June and 31.6mm in July against a normal monthly average of about 65mm. August was a bit wetter at 56.4mm but we are still very dry, and the river board well below the 00 mark. June was the driest month recorded here since I started in 1994.

We had some thunder and rain abut 1800 hours on 28th July and another storm which passed over the village on 24th August at about 17:30 hours and made quite a noise!

Although there have been one or two low pressure systems around this summer, they have passed us mainly to the north, and we have not suffered any gales or high winds. We must now wait to see what the Autumn has in store with no prediction about that or the coming winter from me! Autumn can be a very pleasant time of year offering beautiful colour in the countryside.

John Britten 4 August 2018

11. 11. 11

Laying wreath and Remembrance Service, South Newington Church

I don't know about you but I didn't think it would mean quite so much. Armistice Day ceremonies have a power and poignancy undiminished by the years, and enhanced, of course, in this centenary year marking the end of the Great-War-to-end-all-wars.

But what I hadn't expected, as one not even born during the two great global conflicts of the last century, was the very personal connection to this year's Remembrance Day.

It feels like a last, very emotional farewell to an era and a generation, my parents' generation: those born in and just after the first war who served in the second and then helped to build the peace that has endured for us thus far in the twenty-first century, but which we must clearly never take for granted.

Which is why this year, in South Newington's own service of Remembrance in the village church, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of November, we want to offer anyone in the village the opportunity to share with us the names of those for whom you hold a special memory from the last one hundred years, and whose memory you would like us all to acknowledge.

Peter Thomas as chair of the Parish Council will be leading the wreath-laying and the reading of the names of those from the village who died in the wars and whose memory is inscribed in the stone of our fine churchyard memorial, newly cleaned and presently resplendent in the autumn sunshine - thanks to the care of the Parish Council.

But afterwards, in church, we would like to extend that roll of honour to those whom we knew and loved personally, who may have fought and died or survived and made the country we know today, the heroes in the home as well as on the battlefield.

Some historians believe that future generations may come to refer not to the First and Second World Wars of the twentieth century, but simply to The Great War that spanned the conflicts and the troubled peace between them, in the way that we refer to the Thirty Years War that so devastated Europe in the seventeenth century.

A hundred years of the Great War and the Great Peace: a good time to remember, collectively and individually, the heroes of both.

So do please join us in Church on Remembrance Day for this tribute to those who gave their lives to the service of others. We'll have uniformed representatives of today's services, RAF, Police and Health, with a bagpiper to accompany us in lament, and bells to rejoice with us in celebration.

Lest we forget. And regret.

Tim Brierley

Welcome to S.N.I.F.T.A.!

If you are a fan of world cinema, film noir, cult classics and independent film, The South Newington Independent Film Association (SNIFTA) has recently been formed with the intention of bringing interesting, enjoyable films which you might not find on the small screen, to your very own village Hall.

In the Producer's Chair are: Rob Lawrence, Geraldine Thomas, Stephanie Rew, Tim and Nicky Catton.

The inaugural film screening will take place on November 25th at 5pm. Look out for more information about SNIFTA soon on the village website, emails and noticeboard.

Nicky Catton

THE PEOPLE'S VOTE : One in / out question

How would you like to receive your village newsletter in future? Please put one X in the box.

Printed and delivered to my home	
Emailed to me as a pdf	

But actually we need to ask a follow up question! Seems like a simple in - out question never really is that straightforward…. PLEASE TELL US YOUR CONTACT DETAILS:

Printed and delivered If you would like the newsletter delivered to you please pop this completed slip in to the letter box for Nicky Smith at Barn House, Green Lane, South Newington.
Emailed as a pdf details If you would like the newsletter emailed to you please send an email to SouthNewingtonNewsletter@gmail.com and include your address in with it so that we know where not to deliver a newsletter to.

This database will be GDPR compliant, it won't be used for any purpose other than the SN Newsletter and won't be shared with anyone.

SOUTH NEWINGTON OCCASIONAL SINGERS

Conducted by Stuart Dunlop

warmly invite you to a special concert

Commemorating 100 years since the end of World War 1 and the start of Women's Suffrage

with reflective and uplifting choral music, poetry readings and community singing

At St Peter Ad Vincula Church South Newington

On Sunday 11th November at 4pm

There will be a retiring collection to be divided between Help for Heroes and St Peter's Church Refreshments will be provided after the concert