SOUTH NEWINGTON NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2021

Editor: Nicky Smith. Send news and views to SouthNewingtonNewsletter@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 11th July – Bring & Share lunch on the village hall garden

Saturday 7th August – South Newington Flower & Produce Show on the poleaxe

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE DETAILS

Parish Council News

After long delays due to COVID we have at last been able to build a disabled access ramp on the Poleaxe. It will provide access for not only wheelchair users, but also disabled people and parents with pushchairs and prams. We have also put up two handrails, one at the steps up from Green Lane, and the other by the steps from the lower to the higher area adjacent the basketball hoop. A handrail will eventually be placed alongside the access ramp.

OCC have at last agreed to improve drainage at the top of the High Street and the junction of the Barford road with The Wom'll which floods badly in heavy rain.
The work will take place starting May 10th 2021 and is expected to last 7 – 8 days.

You will have noticed action in the village centred around telephone cables. Contractors have replaced the copper wires around the main overhead circuit in the village, and BT will be connecting individual properties to the new circuit. Since to date we've had no communication from BT, we have no knowledge of when and how this work will take place.

Gigaclear quite independently has been surveying the village with a view to building a new superfast fibre optic system for the village. When they have finished their survey, they have told us they will provide further details. They have offered to come to a Parish Council meeting to explain the scheme, which is part of the Government's Rural Superfast Broadband update plans.

The Parish Council has ordered three new electric winders for the church clock bells, but it will be at least 3 months before they can be installed. Michael Maskey has been able to obtain a grant of £5,000 as a trustee of the Paul and Louise Cook Endowment Fund. I am also delighted to report that we were able to raise approximately £2000 from other members of the village. Many thanks to Michael and everyone else who made a donation.

This will be my last update for the newsletter as I stand down as Chairman of the Parish Council in May.

Peter Thomas

Chair SNPC

Editors note:

I'm sure the village will join me in thanking Peter for all the time and energy he has given to the Parish Council on our behalf, serving our community well for six years.

Your parish council looks after, and into, a lot of things for the village. Recent subjects include dog attacks, footpaths and as mentioned above by Peter, drainage. You can read the minutes from the most recent meeting on the village notice board and also online, on the village website: www.southnewington.co.uk

The website is another thing the Parish Council and also Sue Robertson have been looking after. Do check out the website for dates, and handy information such as which bin to put out when and the dates of Parish Council meetings.

Remote Annual Parish Meeting – 27th April 2021 @ 7.30pm

Remote Parish Council Meeting – 25th May 2021 @ 7.30pm

Your Parish Councillors are Vanessa Doyle, Sarah Wilson-Medhurst, Graham Smith and Stephan Lucks. Chat to them in the village or to contact them with a query or question please email the clerk, Christine Coles southnewingtonpc@btinternet.com

VILLAGE EMAIL LIST

Want to share some news with the village email list? Or be on the receiving end of village emails and information? Send your news or email address to Sue Robertson.

The list is managed according to GDPR rules and is organised by Sue. Please email her to be added or removed from the list
susanrobertsonsnem@gmail.com

WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE

A warm welcome to Robyn and Robert Sternberg who have moved into Fenbury on Moor Lane.

Editors note:

There was some excitement to learn that we have a plumber in the village now, and you can see the advert for Robert's business later in this newsletter. They kindly shared this information:

We are very pleased to be here and actually met in South Newington in 2008. Prior to moving to South Newington, we were located in Burdrop. Rob is a plumbing and heating engineer and has recently started his own business called Fenbury Plumbing and Heating Limited. Robyn is a Legal Director for an automation and logistics company and along with our dog, Willow, are very happy to have moved to South Newington.

Bring & Share Lunch Sunday 11th July 2021.

Come and join a lovely South Newington social in July with a Bring and Share lunch.

Organised by the village hall committee, the plan is to hold the lunch in the Village Hall and garden, but it may have to be held on the Poleaxe depending on social distancing rules in place at the time.

Watch out for more information nearer the time.

SOUTH NEWINGTON FLOWER SHOW

Perhaps the most exciting news this issue is that the Flower and Produce Show is back! Saturday 7th August on The Poleaxe. Last year was sadly cancelled due to Covid.

To anyone new to the village, our Flower and Produce Show is said to be one the best traditional shows in the county. Other villages have stopped their shows but thanks to the hard work of villagers, our carries on. It's a lovely expression of history, community and local garden produce on display in the heart of our village.

And now with 21st century touches like online booking and for the first time ever – card payments! Yes we are trying to be as cashless as possible (from a Covid perspective) and will be able to take card payments this year.

The committee has been working really hard to offer all the show favourites (the usual highly coveted cups such as Best Dahlia, Best Rose, Best Sweet Peas, Largest Marrow, Best Craft Item, Dog with Waggiest Tail etc.,) whilst also having as a modern and covid-safe approach as possible.

Because of this and other Covid related issues, you can find the show categories online under a dropdown box on village website under the heading 'South Newington Flower Show', shown below



There won't be a printed brochure this year. You are invited to download the list of categories from the website and print it out at home, or keep this newsletter which has the entries printed out.

You should be able to find all the information you need about the categories, the timing and how to enter on the village website. If you can't find something or have any questions, please ask one of the committee members. Miles Colegrave is the latest person to join the committee so why not seek him out if you have any questions?!

The committee at the moment is Miles, Becky Harden, Amanda Blythe Smith, Nicky Smith, Graham Fewster, Harald Schulz, Julia Streeter, Lisa Roberts, Sue Thomas and Penny Waddell. If you would like to join us please do! The more the merrier – it's a great way to get to know people and support the village.

Now is good time to say thank you to Claire and David Swan who were on the committee for seven years and made such a huge contribution to its success. You will see they're not taking it easy though, opening their garden on request for Katherine House throughout the year.

The committee is having a test of the cashless card payments on The Polaxe soon, with wine and drinks (in a socially distanced way of course) so if you join the committee quickly you'll be in time for this, which will be our first face to face meeting and social event of the year.

We always need volunteers on the day to help put things up and down, or to man stalls such as raffles or the ever popular bottle stall. We will be asking for volunteers with rotas for different things, but please don't wait to be asked! If you know you can give an hour or two on the day please get in touch with any committee member.


SOUTH NEWINGTON
FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW
With Village Fete
Saturday 7th August 2021 @ 1.30pm
Silver Band, Tea Tent, Stalls, Dog Show,
Hook Norton Brewery Dray
Admission:
£2.50 – adults / £1 – children
Children Under 12 Free
Free Parking
www.southnewington.co.uk

SOUTH NEWINGTON FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW 2021

Programme of Events

08:30 – 10:00	Exhibits to be set up at the South Newington Marquee
10:15	Marquee closes for judging
13:30	Show opens + Barbeque + Hook Norton Brewery Dray
14:30	Dog Show
15:30	Announcement of the judging results and prize winners
16:00	Auction of Exhibits
16:30	Show end

Schedule of Classes

1 CUT FLOWERS		*Note: Retain some foliage on the stems of possible.*	
1		Hydrangea Heads	*vase of 3*
2		Dahlias	*any type, vase of three single blooms*
3		Gladioli	*3 spikes*
4		Miniature arrangement	*4" / 10 cm max overall*
5		Fuschia Heads	*4 floating in a small dish of water*
6		Marigolds	*four blooms*
7		Seed heads	*vase of mixed seed heads*
8		Rose	*one specimen bloom*
9		Annual flowers raised from seed	*one vase of one kind not included in the above*
10		Sweet Peas	*annuals six stems*
11		Hardy Herbaceous perennials	*one vase, one kind*
12		Container of mixed garden flowers	

Delphiniums: Spikes are preferably shown with side shoots removed. Spikes should be in good condition, long, tapering or columnar in shape, with at least two thirds of florets open. Should be staged with a minimum of 100 mm of stem visible below the bottom florets and carried out to present upright spike with clean foliage inserted to conceal packing.

Gladioli: Select straight, well balanced spikes still carrying bottom floret. Ideally 1/3 of each spike in full flower, 1/3 buds in colour and 1/3 gree bud. Remove seondary spikes.

Roses: Select blooms with a well-formed centre, free from blemishes, with strong stems and healthy leaves.

Sweet peas: Select strong spikes with well-spaced blooms, each one fully open and fresh with long, straight stems in proportion to the size of the blooms.

2 POT PLANTS			
13		Flowering plant	
14		Fern or foliage plant	

3 FLORAL ART		*Note: 2 ft / 60 cm space allowed, except miniature*	
15		Modern flower arrangement	*using either fruit or vegetables*
16		Arrangement of foliage	*no flowers*
17		Miniature arrangement	*4" / 10 cm maximum overall*
18		Floral Arrangement	
19		Flower Arrangement	*5 single flowers and foliage*

4 FRUIT			
20		Apples	*six*
21		Any other fruit	*one dish, one kind*

5 VEGETABLES		*Note: Rooted vegetables must have leaves cut to 3" / 7.5 cm length*	
22		Beans, broad or longpod	*four pods*
23		Beans, french	*four pods*
24		Beans, runner	*four pods*
25		Beetroot	*three*
26		Carrots	*long rooted, four*
27		Carrots	*stump rooted, four*
28		Courgettes	*four (length 4 - 6" / 10 - 15 cm)*
29		Shallots	*large, six on a plate*
30		Shallots	*pickling, six on a plate not exceeding 1" / 3 cm diameter*

31		Lettuce	*two of the same variety*
32		Marrows	*a pair, max. length 12" / 30 cm*
33		Onions	*spring sown, four*
34		Onions	*grown from sets, four*
35		Potatoes	*white, four*
36		Potatoes	*coloured, four*
37		Tomatoes	*four on a plate*
38		A pair of vegetables	*same variety, not included in classes 22-37*
39		The masterchef's choice	*minimum of four varieties*
40		Largest vegetable marrow	
41		Four varieties of cut herbs	*in small, named individual pots*
42		Misshapen Vegetable	

Potatoes: Choose even sized tubers of similar shape. White potatoes are all white. Coloured potatoes have coloured marks. Use potatoes that have no scab marks. Wash the potatoes without breaking the skin.

Root vegetables: Choose vegetables that have no brown or green tops. Wash the roots carefully without damaging the skins. Choose roots which are roughly the same size and shape. Avoid parsnips with rusty brown marks. After washing clean where the leaves join the root with a pointed knife and remove any yellowing or broken stalks. Cut the leaves to about 75 mm above the top of the the root and tie to make a neat finish.

Courgettes / Marrows: These need to be even sized, ideally with their flowers still attached. Cut leaving a small piece of stem.

Tomatoes: Choose firm even sized fruit. Cut the tomato stem leaving a little stalk and the green bit on.

Onions / Shallots: Don't leave until the last minute, lift early and allow to dry. Rub off the loose skins when dry. Sometimes peeling the skins is required but do not damage the skin below. Cut the stems leaving enough to be able to turn over and tie with either raffia or string. Don't tie too early as the stems shrink. Slice the roots off close to the bottom of the bulb.

Beans: Make sure your beans are young as the Judge will snap them to see if they are stringy. They need to be the same length and shape. Leave a little bit of stalk on.

Lettuce: Pick two that are about the same size and shape. Pull the lettuce keeping the roots on. Remove any damaged or yellow leaves, but not too many. Wash the lettuce including the roots. Trim the roots slightly. Lettuce should have firm hearts.

6 COOKERY & PRESERVES			
43		Lemon orange lime curd	*one plain jar named with screw top*
44		Jam	*one plain jar named with cellophane top*
45		Honey	*clear or set, standard 1 lb / 450 gr screw top jar*
46		Marmalade	*one plain jar named with cellophane top*
47		Jelly	*one plain jar named with cellophane top*
48		Decorated or iced cake	
49		Flapjack with a twist	*men only*
50		Banana loaf cake	*any recipe*
51		Fruit Scones	*six on a plate*
52		Victoria Sandwich	*classic*
53		Fruit infused spirit	*one bottle named variety*
54		Chutney	*one plain jar with screw top*
55		Salsa	*any in a bowl*
56		Eggs	*three*

Unless specified, exhibits should be shown on a white plate. The majority of marks are awarded for flavour/aroma but internal condition and overal appearance are also taken into account.

Cakes: Should be well risen, even in shape and baking. Any fruit should be uniformly distributed. A domed top with slight cracking is acceptable for light fruit cakes. The cake should not bear any cooling rack marks.

James, conserves, etc.: The flavour, consistency and colour are all judged but some account is also taken of the jar, which should be labelled given the contents and the date, month and year of making.

7 CRAFTS		*Note: Crafts can be tapestry/hand embroidery/hand sewn/machine sewn/knitted or crocheted/ceramic metal or wooden*
57		Article

8 PHOTOGRAPHY		*Cup for best exhibit*
Type 1		*Photographs can be digital or traditional cameras but must be unmanipulated prints no larger than 7" x 5" / 18 x 13 cm, or up to 10" / 25 cm panorama. Content takes priority over technical competence.*
58		Architectural feature
59		An animal picture

60		Sunset/Sunrise	
61		Trees	
62		Street or market	
63		Doors	
64		On the move	
Type 2		*Photographs can be whole or part enlargement, traditional or digitally reproduced.*	
65		Land or waterscape	
66		Wildlife	

9 NOVELTY		*Note: Open to all ages*	
67		Adult colouring	

10 CHILDREN			
Under 16			
68		Grow a sunflower	
69		Plant a potato	*pot size max. 12" / 30 cm*
70		Gingerbread character	
9-13 Years old			
71		Garden on a china plate	*with only natural flowers and foliage*
72		A decorated cake	*can be a bought cake*
73		Something to highlight the importance of bees	*be creative think outside the box, collage, poster etc.*
5-8 years			
74		Garden on a china plate	
75		Three decorated bisuits	*can be shop bought biscuits*
76		A rainbow collage using natural materials	
Under 5			
77		Thumb print picture	
78		Picture using natural materials	

OTHER AWARDS	
	Ladies - most points
	Men - most points
	Floral Art - Best Flower Arrangement
	Best cake in show
	Most exhibits staged
	Overall best exhibit
	Best in fruit and veg
	Children under 5: Most exhibits / points
	Children 5 - 8: Most points
	Children 9 - 13: Most points

How to enter

Please refer to the South Newington website for our new and easy-to-use entry form with which you should **register your exhibits electronically** for one or more of the 78 classes listed above. The entry form will also ask you for your email address so that once you have submitted your entries **you will receive a confirmation email** containing the selections you have made. Simply bring a copy of your confirmation email (printed or on your phone) to our **Registration Night** at the **South Newington Village Hall** to receive your show card(s) and pay the applicable entry fees.

https://www.southnewington.co.uk/south-newington-flower-produce-show/

Note that the new entry form on our website will not be accessible before 1st July 2021. **Entries can be submitted until 4th August 2021.**

Competition entry pricing:

Adults: £1 per class, capped at £10
Children: 50p per class, capped at £5

Entrance to the show: £2.50 for adults, £1 for children

We encourage all payments to be made online by BACS (bank details will be issued as part of the confirmation email) or by card (card readers will be available during our registration night and at the entrance desk on the day of the show).

SOUTH NEWINGTON FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW 2021

The Marquee will be open for **staging exhibits from 08:30 to 10:00 on the 7th August**. You can **donate your exhibits** to the end of the show auction. All you have to do is leave them in the marquee. If you want to keep your exhibit please ask for a colour dot to put on your show card. This will identify "not for sale" to the auctioneer.

The committee regrets that it cannot be responsible for any damage or loss affecting any exhibit. Any decision by the committee regarding any dispute over judging, staging, wording of classes or any other matter connected with the Show shall be final.



Dog Show

Back by popular demand! Entry fee: £2 per class

Waggiest tail	Dog most like its owner
Best dog couple	Dog fancy dress
Best turned out dog	Best child handler, under 12 yrs
Best veteran dog	Dog judge would most like to take home

Committee Members: *Amanda Blythe-Smith, Miles Colgrave, Becky Flowers, Graham Fewster, Harald Schulz, Julia Streeter, Lisa Schulz, Nicky Smith, Penny Waddell, Sue Thomas*

CHURCH NEWS

The church is now open every day, as it is every year throughout Spring and Summer. People of any faith or no faith are welcome to come and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the church for private prayer and contemplation. The church also welcomes visitors from all over the world (when not in lockdown) who come to see the famous wall paintings.

A huge thanks to the many kind souls who decorated the church so beautifully for Easter and also those who gave it a Spring clean.

There are different types of services across the benefice churches of Bloxham, Milcombe and South Newington. For April and May, South Newington will hold the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion Service at 8 am on the first & fourth Sundays of the month. Hazel and James Hewison will come to provide music for 11.15 services on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays.

25th April services

8 am	BCP Holy Communion South Newington
9 am	CW Morning Prayer Bloxham
11.15 am	Family Communion Milcombe
6pm	BCP Zoom Evening Prayer

For any questions about church or faith do get in touch 01295 720252

Dale Gingrich, vicar

OPEN GARDENS & SUPPORTING CHARITY

In order to raise much-needed funds for Katharine House Hospice, Bush House and South Newington House gardens will be open by appointment for the rest of the year.

https://www.khh.org.uk/Event/south-newington-open-gardens

Any offers of cake would be warmly accepted. Claire will slice and freeze them to use for visitor teas.
If you are interested in opening your garden for Katharine House Hospice then contact Sandra Price: getinvolved@khh.org.uk

VILLAGE HALL

Village hall reopening – The government's current Covid unlocking 'road map' should allow the village hall to reopen for some activities from 17 May 2021. Precisely what activities will depend on the Covid 19 restrictions at the time. If you would like to book the hall for an activity, please contact Stella Darke, who is acting as booking secretary, on 01295 720096 or darkestella@gmail.com.

Booking Secretary – We are still looking for a Booking Secretary to replace Abi Lucks. If you are interested and would like to discuss what's involved, please contact Stella Darke as above.

Hall chimney – We have been fortunate to have received a grant from Historic England under the government's Covid-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fund that will cover most of the cost of repairing the hall chimney. We are now awaiting a slot in the stonemason's schedule when the chimney will be taken down to the roof ridge, new stone cut as necessary and the chimney then rebuilt.

Development Project – Building historians Oxford Heritage Partnership surveyed the hall in December and produced a report, the Heritage Appraisal, assessing the conservation significance of all aspects of the village hall. This will help the management committee, the architects and, ultimately, the CDC planning and conservation officers assess what changes can be permitted to the 17th century Quacker meeting house and the 20th century lean-to. A particularly interesting finding is that the gallery was probably inserted some years after the original 1692 building was completed and that it was repaired, and possibly modified, in the 19th century. The gallery stairs are certainly not original, although probably in the same position as the original, but were extensively rebuilt and repaired in the 19th and early 20th century.

Please contact John Braithwaite (01295 722181 or jkbraithwaite@btinternet.com) if you would like to see the Heritage Appraisal.

Based on the measured survey carried out in August 2020 and the Heritage Appraisal, architects Acanthus Clews have produced draft initial designs for reordering the lean-to service area as a single storey building or with second floor with access to the existing gallery. The management committee have suggested other alternatives for the architects to consider. The design work has shown that it is very difficult to make significant layout improvements or introduce new features within the lean-to area because most of the building already extends to the boundaries of the site, meaning that there is little scope of enlarging the service area.

Hopefully the Covid 19 restrictions will soon be relaxed sufficiently to allow us to exhibit the ideas generated so far.

Stella Darke

Chair, Village Hall Management Committee

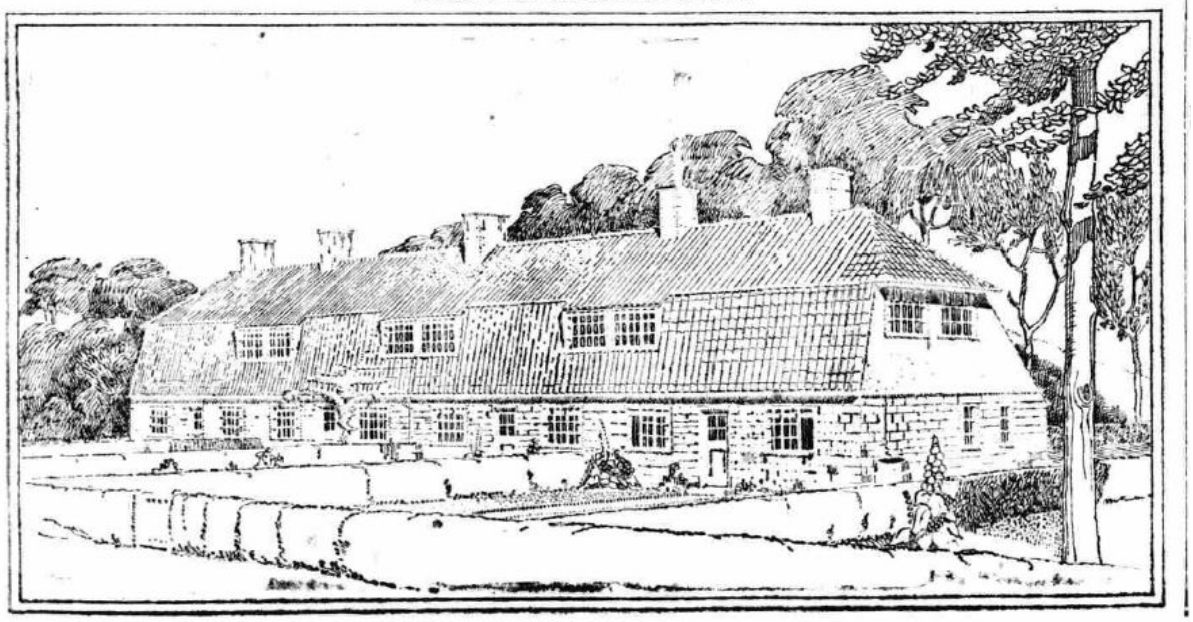
BUILDING RURAL HOMES IN VILLAGES IN THE 1920'S – SOUTH NEWINGTON

Banbury Rural District had a very forward thinking approach to building houses in the early 1900's including improving the levels of sanitation in rural homes. The plan was to avoid the more commonplace design of four walls and box roof, but design and build homes which were more in keeping with their rural environment.

Below is an artist's impression of what the new houses to be built in the villages within Banbury Rural District would look like.

TYPE OF THE NEW HOUSES PROPOSED TO BE ERECTED IN THE BANBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

(By MR. T. LAWRENCE DALE, A.R.I.B.A.)



Source: Banbury Guardian -24th April 1919.

The idea was for these houses to be built in locations where there was an attractive outlook, often with expansive views of the countryside, whilst still remaining close to the village. The typical home would be double fronted.

Every house was to have a garden of about a quarter of an acre (this was twice the minimum the Local the Government Board required). The houses were built in smaller groups four or six to avoid disturbing the serenity of the countryside.

There were two style of house – A1 South Type and the Cropredy Type. As well as South Newington, the nearby villages of Bloxham, Milcombe, Milton, Barford St Michael and many other villages around Banbury all have examples of these types of houses in their villages. The scheme involved some 170 houses being built in the villages in the 'Banburyshire' countryside.

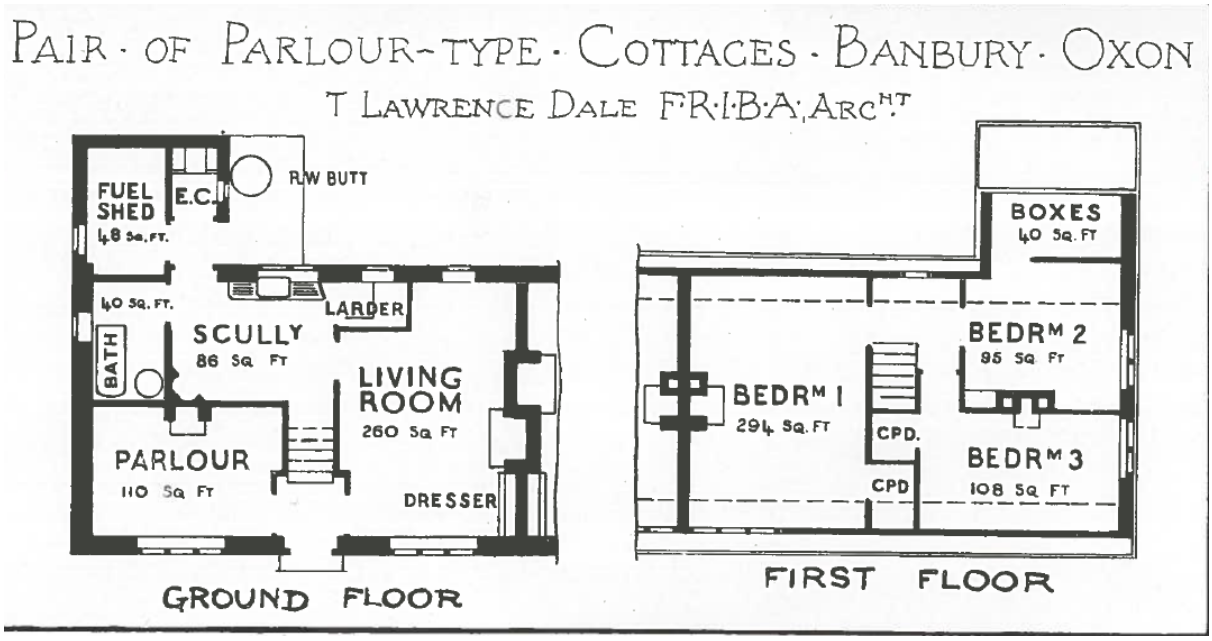
In South Newington, a block of six A1 South Type Houses were built in Barford Road (Nos. 1 – 6).

In the A1 South Type, there is a small entrance hall with stairs leading to the first floor. When entering the house from the front, on the ground floor to the left was a parlour and to the right, a living room with kitchen range grate, dresser and shelves. There was also a larder, something which is becoming fashionable again. The scullery had a cement floor with a fireplace, a sink and draining board and from the scullery there was access to a 'wash house' with a boiler (copper) and place for a bath. The Council did not fit baths, but provided space for one to be installed. There was a shed for fuel and storage, and a rain water tank outside the back door capable of holding some 200 gallons.

The old pump to the well which served the six houses in South Newington still exists, located in the front garden of No.4 Barford Road. There was septic tank at the bottom of the gardens, which served all 6 houses. The houses no longer have to use a septic tank.

The houses are built of local ironstone, while the mansard roof was chosen to save on the stone walling and designed to minimize the impact on floor space in the rooms on the first floor.

Below is the floor plan for a typical cottage:



Source: The Building News – 9 Feb 1923.

Image of the houses being constructed in South Newington



Source: Lawrence Carey – South Newington Village Archive

Image of the six completed houses taken from across the road.

The roofs are slate rather than the tiles shown in the artist impression. The tall trees no longer exist.



SOUTH NEWINGTON SOUTH GROUP, BANBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING SCHEME, OXFORDSHIRE.

Source: The Building News – 9th Feb 1923

The internal layout of the houses is now somewhat different, as needs and tastes have changed. The Council install bathrooms on the first floor, taking part of bedroom one to accommodate this. Downstairs the larders have been removed and the scullery and 'wash house' were combined to create a larger kitchen. The fuel shed is typically now used as a utility room.

This article was compiled by Sue Robertson and the research was undertaken by James Durley, who has moved into one of these houses in Barford Road.

Reference Sources:
Various articles from the Banbury Guardian (24 April 1919, 26 August 1920), Oxfordshire Photo Archive and The Building News – 9 Feb 1923 and South Newington Village Archive.

YOGA GROUP

We are planning to restart Yoga on 17th May. Based on the current Covid information it will run in the same format as now 2 groups in each class. The classes with our new teacher, Lisa Kinslay, will now take place on a Wednesday evening instead of a Thursday.
Currently, we do not have any vacancies but this may change if restrictions are removed in June. If you wish to go on the waiting list please email: southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk.

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

For the time being coffee mornings aren't taking place in the village hall, hopefully they will re-start soon.

SUPPER CLUB

Still hold and also Colin Galloway's outings. Hopefully resuming soon.

TABLE TENNIS

Table tennis on Mondays in the village hall is also not taking place at the moment, due to very strict covid-19 rules but hopes to restart from June. Would anyone like to take over the running of the club? Anyone interested please email gillian.brounger@btinternet.com

SOUTH NEWINGTON OCCASIONAL SINGERS (SNOS)

SNOS been meeting most Saturday mornings and singing online for the last 6 months. Whilst the experience of singing in this way has its challenges, much good work has been done, and the preparations are under way to sing 'live' again in the near future.

As with all activities, the effort required to ensure safety and regulatory compliance is significant, but the level of enthusiasm from members about the idea of singing together is very great.

SNOS has remained a little community throughout, and the chat in rehearsal breaks (ranging from the elevated to the absurd) has been continuous and an obvious source of pleasure. The conductor is, on this basis, campaigning for the mute button to remain a feature of live sessions.

If you would like to join SNOS please be assured you will find a welcome whatever your critical assessment of your own singing ability might be. There are no tests or auditions, just a lot of endorphins to be had from the joy of singing.

Contact Elizabeth Wheeldon elizabethmwheeldon@gmail.com or Stuart Dunlop s.dunlop@talk21.com

SOUTH NEWINGTON OIL BUYING GROUP

If you use oil for your domestic heating boiler or range, you can join the village buying group.

Ordering oil as part of the group can save you up to 3 or 4 pence per litre, on a minimum order of 500lt. The scheme works by combining individual orders into a single quantity, which is used to obtain a bulk order discount from a supplier; there is no fee to be part of the group. No payments are made to or through the group, it is the responsibility of individuals to settle their accounts with the supplier.

If you would like more details or wish to join the group, please contact Stephen Anderson by email: sn.oil.club@gmail.com.

Stephen

49 CLUB WINNERS

The 49 Club raises money for the Church insurance using lottery ticket numbers. A new year for the 49 club started in March - many thanks to all those members that renewed and a warm welcome to our new members!

Winning numbers to date:

6 Mar	No winner
13 Mar	Michael Maskey
20 Mar	Julia Streeter
27 Mar	Tim & Nicola Catton
3 April	No winner
10 April	No winner
17 April	Mary Adam

If you haven't done already, please do renew or start a membership to the 49 Club. There are plenty of spare numbers and it is a fun and easy way to support our village community.

Contact Judith Denby judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk 07866 630454 if you would like to play - the cost is only £1 per week, giving you the chance to win £20 or £35.

SOUTH NEWINGTON PUB NEWS

The Duck on the Pond is re-opening on 20th May

We're really looking forward to reopening our doors and welcoming everyone back from 20th May onwards. Fingers crossed for some lovely sunny days when we can make the most of the terrace and gardens. We have ordered new terrace furniture with individual chairs to replace the benches and make for more relaxed seating outside.

2020 was a year of highs and low, from the sudden lockdown just before Mothering Sunday to a busy summer then, sadly, more and more restrictions before locking down again toward the end of the year.

December was inevitably quieter than normal without the Christmas parties but meant we could focus on our regular guests. It was the first year we have opened for meals on Christmas Day and we were pleased we did as most of our guests were from the village. As such, we went into the third lockdown with memories of a delightful and convivial lunch.

Since then we've been thinking up new menu ideas, updating furnishings and trying to come up with new ways to improve our offering. (Many of you may also have noticed that we enjoyed more than a few hikes and bike rides as well on our extended holidays.) We're keeping to a shortish menu when we re-open to allow us to continue to make most of our dishes made from scratch on the premises. We will have a bar menu for more simple and causal food - with a restaurant offering for those special occasions and leisurely meals. We are also keeping up our policy of offering a wide range of interesting soft drinks as well as real ales, wines and spirits.

We are thinking of offering morning coffee and croissants on Wednesday mornings for those of you working from home, missing some away time or company or just to meet up with friends out of the house. We would love to hear from anyone who would be interested in using this - or if another day would be better, though we wouldn't want to clash with the village hall coffee mornings on Thursdays as we enjoy a trip up there every month as much as anyone.

Hoping to see you all in the very near future

Gordon, Penny, Patryk and the team at the Duck on the Pond

SOUTH NEWINGTON WEATHER REPORT

One of the many wonderful things about South Newington is that it we have an official Met Office weather station in the village. This is why every now and then we get a mention on the TV or radio. It's all thanks to John Britten on Moor Lane. Although the weather station readings have been automated now, John still keeps records and we are grateful for his report of the weather from the winter.

December 2020, January and February 2021

Our winter this year has been a "v" winter in many ways. It is been "v"ery wet at times particularly December, and very cold in January and February . We also had a very mild spell towards the end of February, so we have had a bit of everything. We have also had a "v"irus to contend with but I promise not to mention that again in this report.

January was the coldest recorded month in Great Britain since January 2010 aggravated by snow and severe flooding in some parts, but South Newington was fortunate and avoided the worst of the problems. We claimed the coldest place record in the country at South Newington on the 20th December.

Village lowest temperatures at night were minus 6.9 degrees C on the 11th February and minus 6.1 on the 1st January and every night produced a frost from the 16th to the 14th February.

The daytime temperatures were in single figures (1 to 9 degrees C) from the 4th to the 14th February, and we had one day when the temperature remained below freezing all day on the 11th February at minus 0.2 degrees C.

On or about 15th February low pressure pushed in from the west and brought very mild conditions (15.6 degrees on the 24th) to give us all sunshine and a touch of spring which must have lifted everyone's spirits

Rain has been exceptional as well, particularly in December and January. Bearing in mind the average rainfall is about 65 to 70 millimetres per month we had 134mm in December and 119.6 mm in January. February was more

normal at 61.2mm but the total of 314.8mm could have totalled six month rain in one of our drier years in the past. It goes to prove you can never be sure what nature is going to throw at us

A few other items should be mentioned. Big snowballs appeared on the 15th and 16th January and we had about 7.5 centimetres of snow. Three named storms came close to the village, 'Bella' overnight on the 26th to 27th December. 'Bella' gave us the strongest gales (45 mph) and then 'Christopher' on the 19th and 20th of January. We then had 'Darcy' who came in from the east and brought some very cold air on the 7th and 8th February. The 100 centimetre (one metre) soil thermometer down in the ground dropped to 6.1 centigrade on the 17th, 18th and 19th February and was in the "6" area for all of February . Last year it did not drop to below 7 degrees - that's why the cold water tap runs so cold!!

I'm sure we will have a lovely spring, the birds, daffodils and snowdrops are saying so. We will all appreciate it .

John Britton 04.03.21

Make space for nature

Did you know that in the summer, South Newington high street used to be full of house martins swooping in and out of their nests, tucked under the house eaves? Now there are none.

Have you noticed how fewer birds and butterflies there are around? We can make a difference through how we garden and maintain our village, leaving more areas to grow wild and not using chemicals. Would anyone like to champion nature for South Newington and coordinate activity for us? There are several useful campaigns we could support including:

- 'No Mow May' organised by Plantlife.org which aims to increase the number of bees in our lawns by 10%
- 'Campaign for a Wilder Future' by Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) aims to create a nature recovery network.
- 'Naturehood' by Earthwatch to support local champions and community action for nature.

Anyone interested drop an email to Nicky@twelvepr.co.uk and let's see if we can help nature more in our village.

In fond remembrance

It is with great sadness that we remember Roberta Ainley who recently passed away. The Ainleys came to the village in 1984 and lived at South Newington House, where their daughter Claire Swan and her family now live. Roberta, together with her husband John created two lovely gardens, the first at South Newington House and the second at Bush House on the Wiggington Road where John now lives.

Both gardens are open for viewing all year on request, on behalf of Katherine House Hospice. Claire would also like to highlight the tremendous support and service provided by the Laurence Home Nursing Team.

We remember Roberta with fondness and send our best wishes to her family.

Fenbury Plumbing and Heating Limited

Fenbury, South Newington

E-mail: mail@fenburyplumbingheating.co.uk

Mobile: 07966084270

For all your domestic plumbing and heating requirements.

Our services include:

- Oil boiler installations and repairs
- Gas boiler installations and repairs
- Boiler services
- Heating system repairs and upgrades
- Underfloor heating
- Bathroom installations or changes
- General domestic plumbing

We are fully insured and are both OFTEC & Gas Safe Registered.

Visit us at: www.fenburyplumbingheating.co.uk

We look forward to meeting you soon.

SHM Automotive Limited



Class 4 Class 5 Class 7

MoTs - Class 4, 5 & 7— All carried out on site. MoT bay has 4.8m headroom and a 6m long vehicle lift enabling us to MoT large Class 5 vehicles and camper vans up to 5 tonnes.

Servicing & Repairs - All makes and models

Family-run business with over 35 years' experience

Established in South Newington since 1997

Homehill Barn, Homehill, South Newington, Oxfordshire, OX15 4JJ.
Telephone : 01295 720182. Email : shmauto@btconnect.com

Website : www.shmautomotive.co.uk

KopyRite printers

Ask us about our SAME DAY SERVICE

01608 64 65 66

PULL UP BANNERS

MENUS

NEWSLETTERS

BOOKLETS

GREETING CARDS

LABELS

POSTCARDS

PVC BOARDS

LEAFLETS

VINYL BANNERS

LARGE FORMAT

STICKERS

POSTERS

LETTERHEADS

OUTSIDE SIGNS

NCR SETS

INVITATIONS

NOTE PADS

BROCHURES

CARD PAYMENTS TAKEN & FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS

Tel: 01608 64 65 66 | print@kopyrite.net



THE DUCK ON THE POND

"Quack open the bubbly!"

WE ARE RE-OPENING ON 20TH MAY

We look forward to welcoming you back with our fresh new bar and restaurant menu, plus a wide range of beers, ciders, spirits and wines.

Well-spaced seating indoors and lovely gardens and terrace.






REAL ALES • SEASONAL MENUS • BAR MEALS • LOCAL SUPPLIERS

Main Street, South Newington OX15 4JE
01295 721166
duckonthepond.com