SOUTH NEWINGTON NEWSLETTER



Queen Elizabeth II book of condolence, South Newington St Peter ad Vincula, 2022

WINTER 2022

Newsletter by Nicky Smith
Please send news, views and photos to Southnewingtonnewsletter@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Summer came to an abrupt end for most of us with the very sad passing of her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, in September. Like most villages we moved quickly to implement the mourning protocols sent out by Buckingham Palace via project London Bridge. Many of you came together to write in the condolence book and there were some wonderful notes left. This will be kept in the village archive.

Please contact your councillors if you have any issues, and we invite you warmly to the next meeting on the 22nd November in the village hall.

Vanessa Doyle
Chair-person of the SNPC

A reminder that the village website has a list of parish council meeting dates, minutes and contacts , as well as host of other useful information about what's on in South Newington. The site is kindly managed by Sue Robertson. *www.southnewington.co.uk*

Another reminder that every activity in the village from art classes to beetle drives, church flowers, parish council, pumpkin competitions, table tennis and website management is entirely down to volunteers.

WELCOME TO SOUTH NEWINGTON

Welcome to Vivek V. Jois, who has moved to the Coach House on the main road.

Also a huge welcome, or welcome back to Dorcas, Mo and Jonah Cassimjee who have moved to Inglenook on the High Street. Dorcas is Julian Barbour's third and youngest daughter and grew up in the village at College Farm. Dorcas and her family have lived all over the world including Malaysia and Africa and most recently Berlin where Mo was deputy ambassador to South Africa. But South Newington has called them back and Jonah is now happily settled at Great Tew school 😊

If you have moved here recently and been missed out, or know someone who has moved here recently, please drop an email to Southnewingtonnewsletter@gmail.com

FLOWER SHOW

It was widely commented that this year's flower show felt like one of the best ever. A beautiful sunny day, beautifully decorated show tent and tea tent with charming art in the church, the silver band, hugely popular dog show, children's games, stalls and a very generous set of raffle prizes made for a very enjoyable day.

Here is a selection of photos which hopefully show the pleasure that was had by all, especially those happy prize winners!



Sue Moon nee Aydon
Photography overall winner



Louise Hands for Golly
largest marrow
and best gladioli



Julia Streeter
ladies most points
and best dahlia



Zoe Davison
best fruit & veg
+ Overall Best Exhibit



Ben Harden
most points
aged 5 – 8



Henry Harden
most points
aged 5 and under



Jonah Barbour Cassimjee
best garden on a plate



Lin Breknell
best rose

There are many other cup winners, apologies if you're not shown in the photos here including:

Madeleine Frost - most points aged 9 -13
Robert Stone (with Eleanor) - Men most points
David Barbour – best sweet peas
Carmen Guard – miniature arrangement
Nicky Smith – modern flower arrangement

But of course everyone who takes part and has fun is a winner! Also a special shout out to Charles Ludlow for the generous Dubarry gift voucher and all those who donated raffle prizes.



Jean Tarver
best flower arrangement



Viv Atkinson
best victoria sponge



Dorcas Barbour Cassimjee
best craft item



Amy Richardson
best cake show



Best bunting and straw bale combination



Best floral table arrangements



Most charming sitting on bench



Best dog show judges

Special thanks to the committee which works throughout the year (well some parts of the year involve chatting, drinking and thinking, but other times involve a huge amount of labouring) to make it happen.

Also huge thanks to all the stall holders, BBQ chefs, people who put up signs, judge categories, stewards, people who lay out tables, donate flowers, put away tables, serve tea, bake cakes, sell raffle tickets, buy raffle tickets, donate raffle prizes, collect bottles, label bottles, buy bottle tickets, play games, run games, provide equipment, tidy up equipment, auction produce, buy ridiculously priced or sized marrows, – basically THANK YOU SOUTH NEWINGTON!

Money-wise more details will follow when our treasurer is back from New Zealand but to summarise, the show made around £900 profit, some of which will be donated to charity and some will go towards the next show including buying new gazebos.

- Do you have feedback or ideas for next years show?
- Were any of your favourite categories missing?
- Have you seen any activities at other shows which we could introduce to South Newington?
- Want to come on the committee, help on the day and be more involved?

Please email the chair amandablythesmith@gmail.com

PS If you're wondering where your cup has gone, it has gone to be engraved. The idea is then that we commission a secure, handsome cabinet for the village hall where they can be seen and enjoyed all year round. If anyone would like to build or donate said handsome cabinet, we would love to hear from you. :)

HOW TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE

The village email list notifies villagers about things going on in the village.

Some emails come from the Parish Council e.g. to inform villagers of Parish Council Meetings and other matters. Other emails will keep villagers informed about what's on or planned such as road works/road closures, coffee mornings, church services, village quiz nights, and other village meetings.

If you wish to join the village email distribution group please email Susan Robertson using the following email address: susanrobertsonSNEM@gmail.com

You will need to provide your name, address and email address and Sue can then add you to the email distribution group.

Who Is Your Information Shared With? The information will not be shared with any other organisations. **How Do I Opt Out?** If in the future you wish to opt out, simply send another email to that effect to susanrobertsonSNEM@gmail.com and your details will be deleted.

NOTE: Due to data protection rules you cannot ask on behalf of someone else that they be added to the village email distribution group.

There's also the village noticeboard where most village events are also publicised, plus the website.

CHURCH NEWS

Through the Oxfordshire Historic Church Trust, we have applied for a Grant which might contribute towards the Pinnacle and Merlon damaged by Storm Eunice (February 2022).

Services continue to be well attended with a pattern of Worship as follows:

- First and Fourth Sunday – 8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
- Second Sunday – 5.00pm Sung Evening Prayer
- Third Sunday – 11.15am Family Service
- Fifth Sunday (when applicable) 11.15am Holy Communion

It was a joy to welcome a large number of people to church on Sunday 2nd October for the Benefice Family Communion Patronal Service. Many of the visitors had not admired our Medieval Wall Paintings before. It was suggested that we should offer more combined services.

Everyone enjoyed drinks and biscuits after the service; a custom we would like to offer more regularly.

If you have any suggestions for what you would like from your village church please do get in touch, we want to keep the heart of the village church beating strongly for everyone.

Vicar Dale Gingrich – Tel: 720252
Church Wardens; Tim Catton and Claire Swan

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The heating is now on for regular weekly events. Please could organisers let John Braithwaite know when there are breaks or changes in schedule so heating can be turned off or adjusted as appropriate. (jkbraithwaite@btinternet.com or 01295 722181).

Development project

A request for pre-application advice on the proposed development of the village hall was submitted to Cherwell District Council (CDC) Planning Department on 15th August. A site meeting was held with Shona King, Senior Planning Officer, and Joyce Christie, Conservation Officer on 28th September. Their report, giving CDC's comments on the proposals, is expected by the end of October.

The village hall committee and trustees will then consider what, if any, changes may be required to the current draft plans to maximise the chances of gaining planning approval and listed building consent and whether further consultation with the village and hall users would be appropriate.

Stella Darke

Chair, Village Hall Committee

RECOMMENDED TRADESPEOPLE

Someone asked if we had a village list of recommended tradesmen. We don't but we could if someone wanted to coordinate such a thing? But then Gill Brounger mentioned her 'miracle man' so here is a mention of Scott Goode who lives at no 3 Barford Road and couldn't be more local.

Scott does pretty much any building work apart from electrics and plumbing, or things up high ladders. You can admire his handiwork on Ron and Dee's drive at the Little Forge on Moor Lane, and many people will know the Goode's dog Bilbo.

Contact: Scottiethegoodelife@gmail.com

THE 49 CLUB

This quarter has seen plenty of winnings going out to 49 Club members, with 3 lucky members having double wins of £55! What to do with such a windfall?!?

As well as giving back to our members, the club continues to donate £200 every quarter to the South Newington PCC Repair Fund. Over the last few years the amount we can donate has sadly reduced as the number of members in the 49 Club has decreased.

So, if you would like to join our village lottery, be in the weekly draw to win either £20 or £35 and help raise funds for a village cause, then please do let me know.

judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk

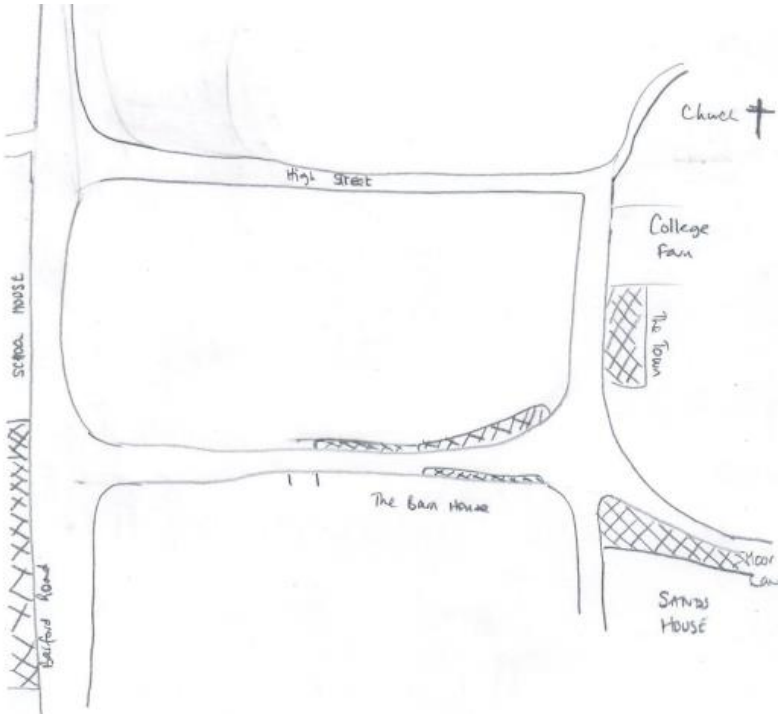
If anyone in South Newington needs a babysitter or someone to walk their dog, I'm available to help. I have grown up in the village so many of the children know me already. £5 / hour, after school or weekends. Please contact me via Judith on 07866 630454. Thanks, Tom Sayers.

BIRDS, BEES AND BIODIVERSITY (Aka 'Style Council')

This group was set up to help restore and rebuild biodiversity in our village. One of the ways we are trying to make a difference is through encouraging less use of pesticides, and less cutting of verges, where possible.

As so much land is now intensively farmed or built on, verges offer an important sanctuary for nature. The verges are cut in South Newington in the following months, the exact date varies according to weather conditions: May, June, August, September, October.

The five verges which have been assigned to leave in South Newington, to compare the difference between cutting or not cutting the grass, are shown in the sketch below. On these small patches, comparative results suggest they support five times more types of plants, or biodiversity,y than grass which is regularly mown.



Verges or meadows needs active management to keep them flourishing, and not overcome by monoculture. Please do join the next meet up to help manage the verge on the Barford Road

Saturday 22 October at 10am, Barford Road verge

Everyone is most welcome! Please do bring garden trowels, strimmers or any other equipment you think might come in handy. The plan is to:

- cut down and remove grass, clear grass from around the now established flowers
- remove the mulch mat and seed the area with yellow rattle.
- Fresh seed is best so please bring any packets of yellow rattle
- Please do also bring wild flower bulbs to come and plant them

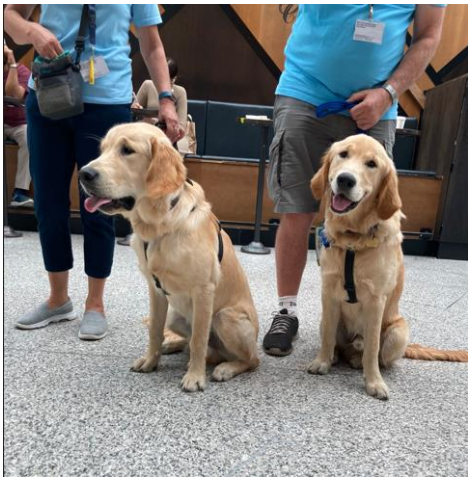
Thank you!
Stella Darke and Nicky Smith

DOGGY UPDATE

Remember Ana's brood day Rosie who had a litter of ten puppies, from the Spring 2022 newsletter? Ana kindly gave us an update on them. The dogs are all given official names, you can see the list here. Lazarus who Ana revived and bottle fed is now called Craig, that's him on the right looking at the camera in the photo below. He's been chosen to be a buddy dog.



NM	Golden	Dog	Wesley	MID	Boydie
LF	Golden	Dog	Garret	MID	Conor
RH	Golden	Dog	Craig	SE	Lazarus
BOT	Golden	Dog	Ripley	SE	Stephen
NECK	Golden	Dog	Nathan	SW	Alex
HEAD	Golden	Dog	Tex	SW	James
NM	Golden	Bitch	Edith	SW	Patsy
RF	Golden	Bitch	Purdey	SW	Peggy
LF	Golden	Bitch	Rita	SE	Hepburn
RH	Golden	Bitch	Mini	MID	Christine



The dog now called Rita who had emphysema at birth was also nursed back to health by Ana.,and has now been chosen to be a brood dog like her Mum. All the dogs are doing well and in training. Rosie herself is waiting for some tests to see if she can have another litter. Watch this space for more news!



RIP Sybil 2008-2022.
Will be very much missed by the Harris family
The luckiest dog in the world to enjoy her entire life in South Newington

GARDEN NEWS

Gardeners far and wide will bleat that 2022 was a challenging year for nature throughout the distinctive seasons…..

Haven't you heard that complaint before? Was this year any different to any others? Of course it was! We had the hottest summer in a long time and it really challenged plants and creatures. That said, some of the best has been saved till late with dahlias performing a fantastic colour display, grass recovering from its parched state and the leaves on trees offering us a spectrum like none other.

Bush House and South Newington House continued to welcome a wonderful and appreciative selection of visitors. Most notably, Alan Titchmarsh and his television camera team (Episode to be aired in the Spring). Another treat was a large group of visitors from USA. They were going on to visit Highgrove after a morning with us! We were thankful they visited us before a royal residence! Although, afterwards they wrote to thank us and stated they'd enjoyed our gardens far more! 🤷‍♀️

All our takings for National Garden Scheme, Katharine House Hospice and Lawrence Home Nursing team have not been as splendid as last year. This is due largely to the fact that many more gardens have re-opened this year post pandemic.

We're constantly questioning how we can make both gardens more interesting and inviting. Would anyone like to make any suggestions?

Claire Swan



South Newington House

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PUMPKIN BRING & SHARE HARVEST SUPPER & BEETLE DRIVE

Saturday 22 Oct 7pm
South Newington Village Hall
Tickets £5.00



Please book tickets in advance:

Nicky Smith nicky@twelvepr.co.uk
James Durley snpumpkin@outlook.com
Miles Colegrave milescolegrave@gmail.com

Please bring:

- ♥ Supper contribution – for a buffet sharing supper
- ♥ Harvest produce to auction
- ♥ Your own drinks BYOB

Timetable Doors open 6.45, welcome drink 6.45 – 7 pm,
Supper at table from 7 pm – 8.15; clearing tables.
Beetle drive 8.30 – 9.30.
Auction of produce and Announcement of winners 9:45:
Biggest pumpkin in the village + Beetle drive champion

SOUTH NEWINGTON BONFIRE NIGHT

Sat 5th November start 6pm
Barbours Fields off Sands Lane

James Durley and Miles Colegrave have kindly offered to be in charge of the display if they receive any fireworks to display! Please donate cash or bring any fireworks to them by **Tuesday 1st November** at the latest. This is to allow them time to arrange the display safely.

Address for firework drop off: Miles Colegrave no 1 Barford Road or James Durley no 4 Barford Road.

Please add any DRY WOOD only (no wet leaves) to the bonfire site which you will see in the field just off the footpath marked with a flag from October 29th (no sooner.)

The fields are available by kind permission of Julian Barbour and Carmen Guard. Please do not drop litter or metal items such as sparklers in the field to protect nature. The firework and bonfire display is at your own risk.

EXCITING NEWS



Table Tennis club is back! Dawn and Neil Hodson have kindly agreed to re-start this popular club started by Gill Brounger.

First session is on Monday 17th October 6.30 - 8pm. £1.50 per session or £5 for 4 weeks in advance.

Any questions, like whether you need to bring your own bat (BYOB) please email snewingtontt@gmail.com

FRACKING AND FOSSILS AKA 'CELEBRATE SCIENCE IN YOUR CHURCHYARD'

- Saturday 12 November 2.30 pm
- South Newington church yard, then village hall with tea and refreshments

A chance conversation about fracking during the coffee break at South Newington Occasional Singers (SNOS) revealed that one of the altos is a geologist and familiar with the rocks of Oxfordshire.

Dr Nina Morgan studied for her DPhil in geology at Oxford University and worked for seven years as an exploration geologist, before turning to science writing and editing.

Together with Phillip Powell, Nina has written a book called 'The Geology of Oxford Gravestones.' Phillip studied for his degree in geology at Oriel College, Oxford, and was Assistant Curator of the Geological Collections at the University Museum of Natural History at Oxford for 41 years.

Nina and Phillip have kindly agreed to give a free guided tour of South Newington church yard, where they will provide each person with a hand lens and show what you can see and learn about the rocks used in the headstones.

Nina writes "The wide range of rock types used for gravestones means that cemeteries can be geological treasure troves. Come and join our tour and see what you can find and bring your own

samples afterwards in the village hall for an informal rock and fossil identification session. You'll never look at cemeteries in the same way again!"

Phillip will bring some examples of local fossils from Oxfordshire which was once under a warm tropical seabed. Copies of their book, 'The Geology of Oxford Gravestones', costing £15, and Philip's book, 'The Geology of Oxfordshire', costing £10, will be available to examine and buy at the event.

Numbers will be limited for the tour so please RSVP to Nicky Smith at the Barn House Nicky@twelvepr.co.uk

OTHER REGULAR VILLAGE EVENTS

What	When	Where	More info
Table tennis	Monday eves	Village hall	Dawn and Neil Hodson snewingtontt@gmail.com
Art class	Tuesday morning	Village Hall	bridget.read@icloud.com linda.brecknell@gmail.com
Supper club	2nd or 3rd Weds eve of the month	TBC	
Coffee mornings	3rd Thurs morning most months	Village hall	darkestella@gmail.com
Yoga	Weds eves	Village hall	susanrobertsonSNEM@gmail.com
Circle dancing	4th Thursday of month	Village hall	darkestella@gmail.com
Singing	Sat morning 10-12.30 am	Village hall or Church	elizabethmwheeldon@gmail.com
Parish Council Meeting	See village noticeboard or website	Village Hall	Vanessa Doyle, chair vanessasnpc@hotmail.com www.southnewington.co.uk
Flower Show Committee	Now and then	Committee members house	Amanda & Graham, co chairs amandablythesmith@gmail.com gfewster@gmail.com
Style Council – Biodoversity	Now and then	Roadside verges	Toby Harris, Stella Darke & Nicky Smith darkestella@gmail.com Nicky@twelvepr.co.uk
Christmas Window Displays	From 1st December	People's windows	Date coordinator Rozz Rap rozmuirie@hotmail.com
49 Club	Weekly prize draw	Cash for the winner	Judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk
Church Services	Sunday morning 8am, 11.15 am or 6pm	Church	Church wardens: Tim.Catton@epr.co.uk claire_ainley@hotmail.com

CHRISTMAS WINDOW ADVENT CALENDARS AROUND SOUTH NEWINGTON

The truly creative community of South Newington did an amazing job with advent windows last year and raised a fabulous £255 for Thrive Northox.

It's nearing that time of year again, so do let me know if you have a specific date in mind for your window.

Each evening at 6.30pm a new window will 'open' (possibly light up / draw curtains) throughout the month of December, to cries of great joy from the crowd gathered outside.

The photos below show just a few of the creations from last year. If you would like to take part, please contact Roz rozmuirie@hotmail.com with your preferred date.

Looking forward to seeing the 2022 windows in their full glory.

With anticipated sparkle,
Roz








CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND LIGHTING OF TREE

Christmas tree lighting will be on Sunday 11th December, with the popular concert of singing and folk music beforehand in the afternoon, probably at 4.15 pm. More details to follow nearer the time.

IN MEMORIUM

We remember with fondness Margaret Forster and Cyril Aydon both of whom have recently passed away, and extend our love and best wishes to their families.

Cyril and his wife Joyce and daughters Deborah and Sue lived at Sands House from Spring 1971 to Autumn 1972, and loved the village, then were able to come back to South Newington and settle at The Murroes in Moor Lane from Autumn 1973. When Cyril and Joyce left the village in 2011 the village gave them a party on the Village Hall lawn.

Margaret was a teacher at Blessed George Napier in Banbury and lived in the Old Farmyard with her family of three sons, Alan, Gary and Martin.

Cyril and Margaret gave much to the communities they loved so much. Both were also authors and will be remembered with fondness by all who knew them.

SUMMER WEATHER IN SOUTH NEWINGTON 2022



June, July, August 2022

At the end of my Spring notes I wrote 'I hope you will enjoy a lovely summer at home or on holiday'. So did you enjoy it? In my case the answer is regrettably no!

Obviously longer days with plenty of sun will always give the season a boost from the weather point of view, but the excess of 2022 made me glad to see September and some low pressure from the Atlantic arrive.

To explain a bit more. I love England's green and pleasant land where regular changes in temperature with some hotspots and wet times, produces healthy gardens and crops, plentiful harvest and haymaking. We don't want the dry, brown, wildfire prone season that 2022 developed into.

South Newington is a lovely village situated in the countryside and we came through it with less extremes than the towns and cities whose buildings roads and traffic added to their problems. I have ambled on enough here so here are a few facts about summer 22.

We had the highest temperature in the village ever recorded which was 37.5°C on Tuesday 19th July and 35.7°C on Monday 18th July. This had built up daily in the previous week and then on July 20th the maximum temperature dropped to 21.9°C - a remarkable 15 degrees cooler drop.

Temperatures were up again in August and in the 30's on the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th so the August average maximum just peaked July's 24.9°C against 24.6 °C. Hot nights and trying to get some sleep were another problem. The highest night time temperature was 18.6°C on the 3rd August, 18.3°C 24th August and 17.9°C on 20th July.

The other problem was lack of rain with an official drought which is affecting us now at the time of writing, with hose pipe bans and other restrictions. Thunderstorms and heavy rain in September will ease these problems in time but that is autumn news!

June produced rainfall of about 30mm. August produced 42.6mm nearly all on one day, the 16th with a tremendous thunderstorm and heavy rain at about 4:00pm. The storm itself produced 41mm all at once. The other 1.6mm came from the rest of the month.

Regrettably the volume of rain was so heavy that it ran off the surfaces and failed to help our water problems. (*Although it did cause some problems for households in the village where at least two houses suffered flooding.)*

The river Swere has been below any reading since mid June. We had a Met Office technician here on the 1st July because the part of the weather station that transmits all the data to the Met Office had failed in June, which left them and me short of data.

Fortunately, my weekly notes helped with some details for this report. We were in the national press once on July 3rd, being the coldest spot in the UK over 24 hours at 4.5°C and my notes indicated ground frost of minus 0 .6°C on the night of July 3rd.

That is all for now we will be back in the autumn.

John Britten

If anyone in South Newington needs a babysitter or someone to walk their dog, I'm available to help. I have grown up in the village so many of the children know me already. £5 / hour, after school or weekends. Please contact me via Judith on 07866 630454. Thanks, Tom Sayers.

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