SOUTH NEWINGTON NEWSLETTER



Photo of Henry Harden by Angela Burns

AUTUMN 2023

Please send news, views and photos to
SouthNewingtonnewsletter@gmail.com

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Beetle Drive Bring & Share Fri Oct 20th
(also announcement of biggest pumpkin winner)

PARISH COUNCIL

As we see in the end of a beautiful summer, we can be proud of another successful village Flower Show and another year of productive Parish Council meetings.

Parish Council have had a busy summer working on numerous projects including planned repairs to the village gates which commences shortly, our application to move the village to a 20mph zone, repairs to the poleaxe playground equipment and lastly, considerations for new gym equipment on the poleaxe.

We are also considering a quarterly drop-in session where villagers could pop along for tea and a chat if they have any village thoughts or concerns; please let me know if this is something you would be interested in.

Date of next PC meeting in the village hall: Tuesday 21st November

Vanessa Doyle, Chair

CHERWELL COUNCIL

Cherwell Council is preparing a new Local Plan up to 2040. The plan can have a big impact on our villages, towns and infrastructure. The council is extremely keen to get feedback and would welcome any comments. Here is more information:

"The consultation draft of the Cherwell Local Plan 2040 has been prepared to prompt discussion and feedback on new planning policies to guide the delivery of sustainable development across the district.

We are inviting comments on an emerging set of policies and development proposals to help us consider:

- What is welcome/unwelcome and why?
- Have we missed anything?
- Could the plan be improved?
- Does the draft Plan meet Cherwell's needs?

The draft Plan sets out a vision and proposes homes, employment land, infrastructure and other essential services required to support the local community over the Plan period.

It is divided into the following sections:

Environmental and Energy evidence	Housing evidence
Economic evidence	Infrastructure evidence
Evidence from previous adopted Local Plans	Call for Sites / Local Green Space

There are public exhibitions at the Council offices in Bodicote, in local libraries and online at www. Cherwell.gov.uk/info/83/local-plans

FLOWER SHOW

The 2023 Flower and Produce Show went with a crash and a bang thanks to the Jubilee Brass (Oxford) Band who created a great atmosphere in the tent. The drumming of the rain on canvas was less welcome but spirits stayed high (especially of those who won on the bottle stall!). We were lucky enough to have some new stalls this year with Heath Farm Holiday Cottages, artists Charlotte Auckland and Maria Boyle, North Oxon Topsoil, as well as the ever popular annual stalls of Helen's Honey and Joan's plants and for the third year Dogs for Good.

There were 64 entrants to the show with 390 exhibits including in our new classes of rainbow chard, chilli peppers and garlic bulbs. The most popular class was Dahlias, swiftly followed by some hotly contested photography classes. The new Kings Coronation Cup for a vase of wild flowers was won by Joan Gianassi, and it was a display of entries in this category we think His Majesty would have been impressed with! Another first this year was our female compere Zoe Colegrave who entertained us with humour and singing!

The committee agreed back in 2022 that one of the key aims of the show is to keep it running for the community, to bring everyone together, and so whilst the downpours and heavy weather warnings did serve to significantly dampen takings this year we think the main aim was achieved and we loved seeing the village come together. We will still be making small contributions to the village hall and village church (both of which provided much needed facilities on the day) and also to charities of Lawrence Home Nursing Team and Bridewell Organic Gardens (who provide gardening for mental health).

We are already thinking about the 2024 show with the date set of Saturday 3rd August 2024 - a date for your diaries. Meetings will commence again in January for planning and we are planning a Flower and Produce Show quiz in the early Spring to start the growing season.

A huge thank you to everyone who helps make the show happen, including committee members, rota helpers, sign put-uppers and those who lend equipment, storage and space for the show.

We're delighted to welcome Cherry to the committee this year and anyone else who would like to get involved do say hello.*

Amanda Blythe Smith and Graham Fewster, Co-chairs.

**The best way to say hello is to look out for them walking their black spaniel, Squire*.

We thought it might be timely to give a financial statement for this years show. As said the key aim of the show is to keep it running for the village year on year however it does cost approximately £3,500 to hold.

Costs	
Marquee	£1,782
Engraving	£392
Jubilee Band	£200
Incidental Expenses	£200
Crockery Rental	£138
Road Closure & Lottery Licence	£128
Printing	£90
Catering	£290
Raffle Prize	£25
Total	£3,245

There were many increased costs this year but thanks to a generous offer of most of the printing the total was kept down to £3,245. The new signage was also generously gifted to the show this year.

Unfortunately the weather dampened more than the exhibits and our income was down to £3,300 from last year's tremendous £4,600. The enthusiastic support of everyone who came despite the rain meant we covered our costs and we have reserves for the donations we will always make.

Last year we were able to purchase the large gazebo which proved extremely fortuitous however we do not have much spare for investment this year. New ideas or offers of help to ensure we improve on this year's result are very welcome but most importantly the committee hopes we will see you at next year's show, you will exhibit something and you will tell your friends to come too.

Julia Streeter, Treasurer



David Streeter, hero of the Bottle Stall. That's one way to get more people in the pews!





Getting ready is half the fun! Thanks to all the helpers, including everyone who baked cakes or donated prizes for the raffle. A special thank you to Julia Streeter, Treasurer and Amanda Blyth Smith Co-Chair, whose tireless hard work was very much appreciated.



Did we say getting ready is half the fun? It's definitely at least half the work! Huge thanks to everyone who helped get things out, decide where to put them, put them up, take them down and then put them away again.



This team were nominated for their own special cup: "best determination to erect a gazebo and still keep smiling."



Also special thanks to Miles and Laurence Colegrave for going the extra mile – many miles! - to collect this extra marquee for shelter from the rain.





Fun face painting 😊







Young and old enjoying the tractor! Makes a change from a plane cabin for Graham Fewster, above.





Many thanks to Simon Hambidge for lending us his tractor for the day.

FLOWER SHOW CUP WINNERS WALL OF FAME



Daphne Pearson, Sweet Pea Cup



Penella Price aka Penny, Best Rose Best Cake in Show, Victoria Sandwich



Joan Gianassi, Wild & Pollinator friendly Floral Art, Best Flower Arrangement, Modern Flower Arrangement



Simon Hambidge, Largest Marrow



Henry Harden 5 – 8 yrs Garden on a China Plate





Gordon Most Points Men, Flapjack with a Twist. Gordon should also have a special medal for "services to spreadsheets" for the flower show categories and cups - it would definitely be a big one!





Three generations from the Barbour family:
Violet Barbour, 9 – 13 yrs Garden on a China Plate, Jonah Cassimjee Craft Article, 9-13 yrs most points, Julian Barbour Overall Best Photography, Nicky Smith, Floral Arrangement Coronation Theme, Best Fruit & Veg, Most Points Ladies



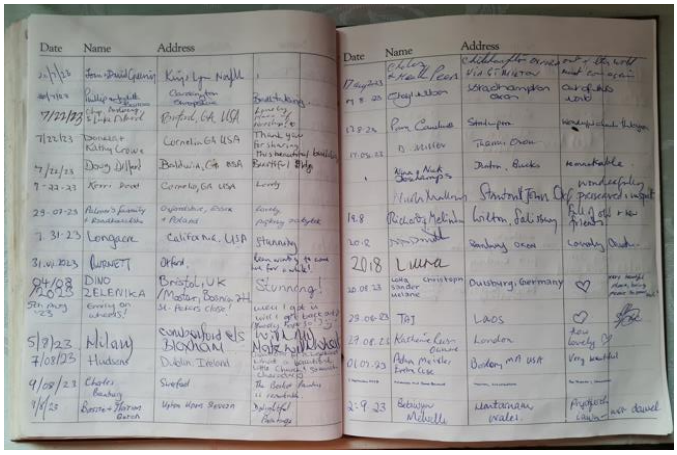


Other cup winners who we didn't manage to catch on camera:

- *Lara Maskey, Under 5 Most Points*
- *Cleo Richardson, 5 – 8 Most Points*
- *Angela Burns, Miniature Flower Arrangement*
- The cups are being engraved and winners will be contacted when they're ready to collect. Please return them next year in good time for the show on Saturday 3 August 2024

CHURCH NEWS

People come from all over the world to see the medieval wall paintings in South Newington Church. This is a list of places, taken from just two pages of the visitors book this year that people have come from:



Bloxham
Boston, MA, USA
Buckingham
Buford, GA, USA
California, USA
Cardington, Shropshire
Cornelia, GA, USA
Dinton, Bucks
Duisburg, Germany
Great Milton
Kidlington
Kingston, Norfolk
Laos, Vietnam
Llantarnan, Wales
London
Mostar, Bosnia
North Aston
North Ayrshire
Norton, Lincolnshire
Oxford
Pennsylvania, USA
Pittsburgh, USA
Pocklington, Yorkshire
Poland
Reading
South Newington
Stadhampton
Stanton St John
Swerford, Upton on Severn
Thame
Wetherby
Wilton, Salisbury

Many people signing the visitors book comment on how nicely kept the church is, especially the fresh flowers. A huge thanks to Jean Tarver who has organised the rota of flower arrangers in the church for thirty years, a service that was recently marked by a tea party in her honour.

Thanks too to all the flower arrangers who have helped Jean for many years as well, and a warm welcome to all the new people who are joining the rota to continue the tradition in the village.

If you would like to learn more about sustainable flower arranging and see a demonstration of flower arranging using local or seasonal flowers and foliage, do join the talk at South Newington Church on Monday 9th October at 6.30 pm. Donation of £7 for the pinnacle fund.

RIDE + STRIDE



This annual event, on the first Saturday in September, is organised by the Oxfordshire Historical Churches Trust (OHCT) and is the main fund-raising activity of the year for the charity. All the churches in Oxfordshire are open across the country and provide food and refreshments to people who are sponsored to walk, cycle, drive or ride to visit them. OHCT has given a significant amount of money to South Newington church to help with the cost of maintaining the building fabric of the church and the wall paintings.

Thanks to kind sponsors, South Newington raised £140 this year.

CAT NEWS (TO MAKE A CHANGE FROM DOGS)

Alfie the black and white cat who was rescued as a tiny, scruffy kitten from a street in East Jerusalem a few years ago and came to stay temporarily in South Newington, has moved to his new home in Surbiton. Thank you to the many people who slowed down to keep him safe as he lolled about on the roads or tolerated him as he made himself at home in odd places.



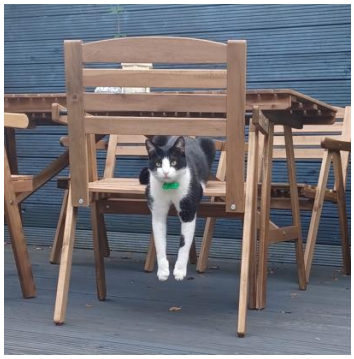




Alfie around the village

Spot the cat, above.





Now settled in and being his normal self in Surbiton.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning with Judith's fabulous cinnamon buns, and many other delicious cakes and goodies generously donated by villagers, raised £457 for the charity.



Thank you to everyone involved, especially Judith and Becky for organising.

REGULAR WHAT'S ON

What	When	Where	More info
Table tennis	Monday eves 6.30 – 7.30pm	Village hall	Dawn and Neil Hodson hodsod@hotmail.co.uk
Art class	Tuesday morning	Village Hall	bridget.read@icloud.com linda.brecknell@gmail.com
Yoga	Weds eves	Village hall	Geraldine Thomas 07584 571979 southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk
Seated Yoga	Friday eves	Village Hall	Liz Davis
Book Club	Thursday evening	Pub or Village Hall	southnewingtonbookclub@gmail.com
Coffee mornings	Thurs morning most months	Village hall	darkestella@gmail.com
Circle dancing	4th Thursday of month	Village hall	Stella Darke darkestella@gmail.com
Singing	Sat morning 10-12.30 am	Village hall	Steph Rew stephrew99@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
Biodiversity group	Now and then	Committee members house	Stella Darke & Nicky Smith darkestella@gmail.com NFDSmith@gmail.com
49 Club	Weekly prize draw	Cash for the winner	Judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk
Church Services	Sunday morning 8am, 11.15 am or 5pm	Church	Church wardens: Tim.Catton@epr.co.uk claire_ainley@hotmail.com



49 CLUB

The 49 Club provides lucky members with weekly prize winnings - the weekly prize is £20, or £35 for the first week of the month, based on the lottery numbers.
As well as giving prize money it also raises money for the church repair and insurance – something which has proved essential in recent years with a pinnacle blowing off in a storm.

There have been several lucky winners in the 49 club over the last few months:

Mariejke Jones (twice!)
Peter Hudson (twice!)
Amanda Blythe Smith
Nicky & Graham Smith
Jean Tarver

More winnings will be dropping through letterboxes in the comings days*:

Nicky & Graham Smith
Harden family
Hugh & Diana McIlveen
Lois Atkinson
Lois Atkinson
Andrew Wells
Nicky Catton
Carmen Guard
Jim & Jean Honeybone

We really need more members to make the 49 club viable, so please consider joining for the remaining 6 months of this membership if you can. You can email me at judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk

**This was true when Judith kindly supplied the article, the money may have been delivered by now, just to manage expectations.*

VILLAGE EMAIL LIST
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 www.southnewington.co.uk

BARFORD ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN WI

If you have the impression that WI is all about 'Jam and Jerusalem' or that you're not old enough, then you'd be completely wrong. Barford WI is a group of lively, interesting ladies who will welcome you and your friends as visitors any month. We won't be singing Jerusalem and after some brief announcements the meeting is given over to our speaker or home grown activity, tea/coffee and biscuits and a chance to chat. Why not come along?

We have an interesting and wide ranging programme. In October our speaker will be Jane Robinson with 'Ladies Can't Climb Ladders'. Not physical ladders, but all about pioneering women and the careers they forged.

In November Age UK will be enlightening us about Scams and Tricksters. We also have social occasions, including a skittles evening in the autumn. We meet in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on the second Wednesday of each month.

If you would like to know more, please call either president Kathryn Wheeler (01869 338221) or secretary Christine Hall (-1869 338659) or email barfordwi@oxforshirewi.co.uk

SOUTH NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL

There is no change in the development plans for the village hall, and the need for fund raising events and ideas is still there. Do let Stella Darke, Chair of the Village Hall Committee know if you have any suggestions.

Meanwhile we're delighted to announce a return of this very popular event in the village hall:

SOUTH NEWINGTON BIGGEST PUMPKIN AND BEETLE DRIVE EVENING,
WITH BRING & SHARE HARVEST SUPPER
FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER 7pm

Last year 21 pumpkins were measured to see which was the biggest. How's yours looking this year? Here's one we spotted at the Malvern Show recently:



Don’t let this whopper put you off entering the South Newington competition. In this particular case size does matter but also having fun is very important and the beetle drive was surprisingly fun last year!



Tickets are £5.00 (all profits to the village hall) available from James Durley snpumpkin@outlook.com or Zoe Colegrave, or Nicky Smith.

Don’t forget to bring something to eat and share, plus BYO booze. And a £1.00 coin to play ‘heads & tails.’ Doors open 7pm

Village Hall Bookings:

For all bookings contact Louise Hands – either by phone 07813 901616 or by e-mail: louisehands80@hotmail.com

IN FOND MEMORY

We remember with great fondness Golly Hands who died this summer. Golly and Dorothy lived in South Newington for many years and were much loved by all who knew them. Golly built the family house, Logodo, on the Wigginton Road himself, and many houses and properties in the area have benefitted from his touch as a skilled builder and stonemason. Golly was also well known for his love of gardening and taking part in the Flower Show and we will miss him and remember him especially at that time of the year. We send our best wishes to his daughter Louise and son Mark.

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

K.P.Scott
Electrical

FULLY QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN

- SMALL INSTALLATIONS
- FULL REWIRES
- MAINTENANCE
- PAT TESTING
- EICR'S
- EV CAR CHARGERS
- REPAIRS

07805604078
kpselectricalservices@outlook.com
k.p.scott_electrical

NAPIT

SOUTH NEWINGTON BIODIVERSITY GROUP

The selected biodiversity verges are looking especially wild at the moment but hopefully will be especially helpful to birds this winter as the seed heads (including thistles – sorry!) provide much needed food, particularly for finches. The verges will be cut before next Spring.

Stella Darke came across this photo of South Newington in the 1970s and thought people would enjoy seeing how many more trees there are in the village and surrounding area since then. One tree or large shrub can provide as much food for insects as an acre of pastureland, plus of course they help to reduce the temperature and mitigate traffic pollution.



This is a photo of the village taken recently by Amanda Blyth Smith's Dad while flying with Graham:



SOUTH NEWINGTON WEATHER FROM THE MET OFFICE STATION LOOK OUT

It often seems to be the case that a change of season brings a change of weather and this is very much so in 2033. We ran into Autumn a short while ago with some of the hottest weather records ever, up from the high 'teens' at the end of August, but I will deal with the September heat in the next three monthly update and stick to June, July and August for now.

June was drier than average with total rainfull of 51.8mm. It fell mostly on three dates, 11.4 mm on 11 June, 10.8 mm on 12 June and 19.4 mm a week later. Other showers were brief with a touch of thunder.

July was opposite and brought a total of 125 mm the heaviest being 13.8mm on 10 July, 24.2mm on 14 July and 17.2mm on the 22nd and 10.8mm on the 26th.

There were other wet dates with smaller amounts we remember July as a wet month overall. August was a little dryer than June with a total of 49.4mm coming in small lots and much of it damp all the time. Farmers had a difficult haymaking and harvest this year, but as always persevered to end with the best crops possible.

The other summer requirement is sunny weather for holidays at home or away. The highest June temperature was 29.4°C on 10th which was the high spot of 'nice' weather lasting to the end of the month. July temperature reached 27.5mm on 7th in a short, warm spell and was not the month to 'strip off on the lawn'. August managed 26.0 °C. on 10th but temperatures were most high teens or low 20's. There were a few frosts in the grass meaning below 0.0°C at night, three in early June and four in July but none in August.

I noted a few extremes during the summer, a severe thunder storm on 12 June at 17.99 hrs which flooded the Gatehouse yard. We made national records, reported in the Daily Mail, as the coldest spot in the UK on the following days:

June 19 10.0°C
June 25 10.0°C
June 30 6.0°C
July 3 7.0°C

Storm Anton brought some wind and rain and was this year's first named storm. There was a blue moon on August 31 which was visible at 2am. It isn't blue of course (although I was caught out!) It is the nearest that the moon comes to the earth in its journey round us in a good many years, hence the old saying "once in a blue moon." We learn all the time don't we. See you in the Autumn.

John Britten

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR KIND, ANONYMOUS BENEFACTOR WHO PRINTS THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE VILLAGE AT NO COST, YOUR GENEROSITY IS MUCH APPRECIATED




GARRETT
Electrical Services
DOMESTIC - COMMERCIAL- INDUSTRIAL
NEW INSTALLTIONS
ALTERATIONS
REPAIRS
ELECTRICAL TESTING AND INSPECTION
FULL OR PARTIAL REWIRES
FUSEBOARD REPLACEMENTS
LIGHTING DESIGN
PAT TESTING
HONESTY - QUALITY - PROFESSIONAL - CUSTOMER FOCUSED
For quality work at honest prices carried out by a professional team who are focused on customer satisfaction Garrett Electrical Services are one of the leading local electrical firms.
CONTACT US:
01295 721854
07738 164551
enquiries@garrettelectricalservices.co.uk
www.garrettelectricalservices.co.uk