

## **SOUTH NEWINGTON NEWSLETTER**

**SUMMER 2024**



*The dog show at the South Newington Flower & Produce Show*

**Taking place this year on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

### **IMPORTANT SHOW DATES & TIMES**

- ❖ **Bottle stall collection - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July**
- ❖ **Entries night - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 6.30 – 8.30 pm in the village hall (or online, see village website)**
- ❖ **Cake donations – from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**
- ❖ **Church exhibitions “An interesting person from my family” - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August from 8 am**
- ❖ **Entering exhibits to the show – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 8 – 10 am**
- ❖ **Show time - SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 1.30 – 4.30 pm**

## PARISH COUNCIL

Lots to look forward to this summer in the village, our village show in August is always enormous fun and so fingers crossed that the sun will shine on the day. Please see the programme that has already been delivered to your houses for more info on what to exhibit!

We have put a date in for a quick village clear up in preparation for the village show on the 20th July at 10am on the Poleaxe. The Parish Council will provide bin bags etc. Please volunteer your time if you can, everyone welcome, children especially!

Please can I remind all villagers to clean up after their dogs using the dog bins we have invested in and to also help with efforts to keep the village clean and tidy.

We would also ask villagers to support our efforts to follow the Dark Skies movement by, when possible, moving outside lighting to sensor triggers instead of always on. This movement not only stops light pollution harming our wildlife's natural patterns but also helps us all enjoy views of the fantastic starry skies we can see from the village.

Anyone interested in joining us in what is a hugely rewarding Parish Council role please contact the Parish Clerk on [southnewingtonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:southnewingtonpc@btinternet.com) or call 01295 276229.

Vanessa Doyle, Chair.

07972 324 512

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 publicised, plus the website [www.southnewington.co.uk](http://www.southnewington.co.uk) and two WhatsApp groups – one for general chit chat and another for important or urgent community announcements. Message Vanessa if you would like to be added to either of these groups.

## CHURCH NEWS

The church bells were rung on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June to mark the Patronal Service, when the church honours the Patron Saint of the Parish. Our Patron Saint is St Peter ad Vincula – St Peter in Chains. South Newington is one of only two churches in England dedicated to St Peter in Chains, most are just 'Saint Peter'. At the same service our two church wardens, Claire Swan and Tim Catton, were invested for another year, and we thank them again for their dedication to the Church and community.

The Coronation mosaic is now hanging in the church, our contribution to the generations of history that the building holds.



There are framed documents from many Kings and Queens hanging in the church, including this one shown below from Charles II. The church is open every day until October so do pop in any time to have a look.



Also a reminder if you contributed to the mosaic, Julia Streeter is organising a calligraphy display for the wall, as an accompanying time piece. Please do email [Julia.Streeter@btinternet.com](mailto:Julia.Streeter@btinternet.com) or pop in to the Barn House, Green Lane to tell her two lines about your mosaic and what it symbolises or why you made it, or correct any details from the list below.

| <b>Motif</b>         | <b>Name</b>                    |                             |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Lily of Valley       | Dee O'Conner                   | Marmalade                   | Nicky Smith        |
| Blue Delphinium      | Jenny Smith                    | Large Yellow "Vine Flower"  | Joy Dansette       |
| Dandelion            | Sue Davis                      | Bee                         | Angela Burns       |
| Thatched Cottage     | Bridget Read                   | Poppy                       | Gill Brounger      |
| Green Land rover     | Bill & Louise                  | Two Yellow Flowers          | Vijay Jois         |
| Alpaca               | Lilly ???                      | Carrot                      | Dawn & Neil Hodson |
| Brown Dog            | Theo Waters                    | Pink/Red Branch             | ???                |
| Corn Cob             | Susan Robertson                | Iris                        | ???                |
| Caterpillar          | Cleo Richardson                | Full Round Tree             | Roz and Mike Rapps |
| Poleaxe Goalpost     | Becky Harden + 1 ???           | Fritillary                  | Angela Burns       |
| Large Poppy          | Dorcas Cassimjee               | Fig with China Surround     | Graham Smith       |
| Sheep and Lamb       | Edie Whittle                   | Guide Dog                   | Ana Undasan        |
| Small Poppy          | Jean Tarver                    | 4 Leaf Clover               | Jean Tarver        |
| Bee with white wings | Amanda Blythe Smith            | Ladybird                    | Cleo Richardson    |
| Violet               | Nicky Smith                    | Pink Aster with blue centre | Jonah Cassimjee    |
|                      |                                | Delicate Tree               | Stella Darke       |
|                      |                                | Little Sheep                | Fran and Louise    |
| Bluebell             | Julia Streeter                 | Orange Bell Flowers         | Lin Brecknell      |
| Pink "Tropical"      | Penny Price or Penny Carey ??? |                             |                    |

We are still hoping that King Charles may come and officially "open" the mosaic – watch this space!

## **VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

The most pressing news at the moment is that we are in urgent need of new committee members, as John Braithwaite is expecting to leave the village sometime in the next few months and I shall be retiring sometime next year because of health issues.

As the committee member responsible for building matters, John has generously agreed to continue to be in charge of the development project until the building stage. But this means we shall need committee members with at least some experience of engaging building contractors and fundraising.

**Please, please, give serious thought to joining us.**

**What would South Newington be without a beautiful place for all the delightful gatherings and classes that we so enjoy?**

**And our project to update the service area is essential to make our hall fully inclusive.**

Contact Stella Darke – [darkestella@gmail.com](mailto:darkestella@gmail.com) – or 01295 720096

There is no further news on the development project because John has been too busy with his house move, but he has organised the improvement of the outside lighting so that there is now a movement sensitive light that will come on over the new key safe and one to light up the path and entrance.

Happy Summer!

Stella Darke, (Chairperson of SNVH Management Committee)

### **Village Hall Bookings:**

To book the hall contact Louise Hands – either by phone 07813 901616 or by e-mail: [louisehands80@hotmail.com](mailto:louisehands80@hotmail.com)

### **VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS**

Held on the third Thursday of every month – 10.30 to 12. If you are around, please drop in for a friendly chat and catch up with friends old and new. Enjoy freshly brewed coffee and delicious home-made cakes and the ever-popular raffle.

£3.00 entry (includes your tea/coffee and cake) raises money for village hall fund.

New volunteers always welcome. If you would like to help or host a coffee morning please contact Penny Price – [penella11@gmail.com](mailto:penella11@gmail.com).

### **SOUTH NEWINGTON OCCASIONAL SINGERS (SNOS)**

Want to join a very happy, friendly group led by a professional conductor, our very own Stuart Dunlop, Director of Music at the University of East Anglia?

Whether you sing bass, tenor, alto or soprano or don't know what 'voice part' you are but just enjoy singing, do come and give it a try with us. Saturday mornings, South Newington Village Hall 10.30 – midday, £5 session. The new term starts on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Please contact Steph Rew by email [stephrew99@gmail.com](mailto:stephrew99@gmail.com) for more details.

### **SOUTH NEWINGTON BOOK CLUB**

#### **Who we are**

The Book Club assembles on the third Thursday of each month at the Duck on the Pond at 7:30pm. We enjoy our monthly catch-ups over a glass of wine, G&T, Lemonade, an occasional dessert, discussing books and having a jovial natter. If you love to read and fancy joining us, we'd love to see you there – the more the merrier.



We use two strategies for selecting our monthly ventures, and we usually alternate these each month. One month we will observe the classic book club custom and select one title which we will all read. These are compelling meetings, bursting with eager chatter. The conversations are unpredictable, darting between points in the narrative, as we reel off thoughts we've been gathering for days or weeks. It is gratifying to pick apart the themes together, and consider each other's perspectives and theories. There is always much to discuss.

The following month we will choose a theme to guide us in our book selections. Members can interpret the theme in any way that suits them, and select a book of their choice to present to the group. These themed months are terrific because we see such a diverse range of titles, and usually some fantastic recommendations to take away.

#### **What we've been up to**

So far this year we've explored themes such as Religion, Colours and Royalty with a wonderful variety of participants from Sherlock Holmes to Stephen King, from doll's houses to grand royal gardens.

In February we dared to embark upon the eerie tale of *The Woman in Black* by Susan Hill. This book was enjoyed virtually unanimously. A beautifully written narrative expertly developed tension and illustrated some truly spooky scenes. This one was quite the page-turner, achieving a good number of goosebumps among our eager group.

As this story has been adapted into a very popular stage play, a small group of us journeyed to Milton Keynes Theatre in April to experience the chilling story up close and personal.



In June, the club committed the cardinal sin in publishing circles. We judged our books by their covers. Don't think less of us. What an assortment of covers we had, from bright colours, to bold maps and beautiful paintings. Without the blurbs to guide us, we had a number of rather surprised and perplexed readers. This was a fun month, with some keen recommendations for *The History of Bees* by Maja Lunde, *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey, *The Power of Geography* by Tim Marshall and *Four Thousand Weeks* by Oliver Burkeman.

### **What we've got planned**

Coming up we've got *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman as our July read. I hope the group enjoys this one as it was my recommendation! I found it to be a funny, surprising and heartwarming story, exploring themes around love, loss, family and genuine acts of, somewhat reluctant kindness. There are two film adaptations of this story that I am aware of. One of them is in Swedish, which is the original nationality of the book, but there is a Hollywood version as well, starring Tom Hanks, titled *A Man Called Otto*.

In August the club will be exploring the theme of Plants/Flowers in honour of the annual Flower Show. I'm looking forward to seeing the range of titles presented, with pen and paper to hand for taking notes for my own reading list. Finally, in September, we'll be reading *Great Circle* by Maggie Shipstead which comes with a fervent recommendation from Linda Brecknell. I for one can't wait to get stuck in.

### **Keeping in touch**

The South Newington Book Club switched from our original method of communication over email, to a WhatsApp group which is now used for reminders and updates, as well as some social chatter. This more informal method of contact has given voice to the wider group and opened the door to a more social atmosphere. We have enjoyed a little digital book quiz and shared pictures. We also had the opportunity to cheer on one of our members, Eleanor Stone, as she ran the London Marathon on 21st April this year. We sent messages of encouragement, and shared live updates using the 2024 TCS app.

### **Come and see us**

If I have sparked your interest in this fun literary group, and you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group, feel free to email Sue Robertson and Cherry Durley at the Book Club with your phone number, and we'll get you added.

[southnewingtonbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:southnewingtonbookclub@gmail.com)

Cherry will also be running the book stall at the South Newington Flower and Produce Show on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 13:30-16:30. There will be a sign-up sheet handy for anyone who would like to put their name down. Even if you'd just like to find out more, come over and have a chat on the day.

## Dark Skies

In the past villagers elected not to have street lighting, which means that today we are in the very privileged position of having access to “dark skies” at night. You will see that the Parish Council has asked us to support the Dark Skies movement, but what does it actually mean?

Zoe Colegrave, who recently completed a course at the Smith’s School of Enterprise and the Environment (to add to her first degree in Zoology and Masters in Advanced Ecology – [she will be blushing now / very cross with me for mentioning this]) kindly provided this information for us.

**For billions of years, all life has relied on Earth’s predictable rhythm of day and night, light and dark. It’s encoded in the DNA of all plants and animals. Humans have radically disrupted this cycle by lighting up the night.**

According to the groundbreaking “World Atlas of Artificial Night Sky Brightness”, 80 percent of the world’s population lives under skyglow. In the United States and Europe, 99 percent of the public can’t experience a natural night!\*

### Did you know...

- Plants and animals depend on Earth’s daily cycle of light and dark to govern life-sustaining behaviours such as reproduction, nourishment, sleep, and protection from predators.
- Predators use light to hunt, and prey species use darkness as cover. If your garden is overrun by rabbits, keep your garden & home dark, so owls and other predators can help balance the population.
- Glare from artificial lights impact wetland habitats that are home to amphibians such as frogs and toads, whose nighttime croaking is part of the breeding ritual. Artificial lights disrupt this nocturnal activity, interfering with reproduction and reducing populations
- Recent large surveys by the American Medical Association found that brighter residential nighttime lighting is associated with reduced sleep times, dissatisfaction with sleep quality, excessive sleepiness, impaired daytime functioning and obesity in people.
- Nighttime exposure to artificial light also suppresses melatonin production, which is needed to keep us healthy. Melatonin has antioxidant properties, induces sleep, boosts the immune system, lowers cholesterol, and helps the functioning of the thyroid, pancreas, ovaries, testes, and adrenal glands.
- Glare from poorly shielded outdoor lighting decreases vision by reducing contrast. This limits our ability to see potential dangers at night. Aging eyes are especially affected.

**99% of Europeans can’t experience a naturally dark night**

**30% of outdoor lighting is wasted – to offset needs 875 million trees planted annually**

**Research suggests a correlation between light pollution and Alzheimer's disease**

\*Source: [DarkSky International](#) | Protecting the night skies for present and future generations

**We can all take positive action to combat the negative impact of light pollution. The International Dark Sky Association suggest a set of 5 simple principles that can cost-effectively help.**

### LIGHT TO PROTECT THE NIGHT

IDA's Five Lighting Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting



INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION

|               |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USEFUL        |  | <b>ALL LIGHT SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR PURPOSE.</b><br>First, before installing or replacing a light, determine if light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and their habitat. Whenever possible, use alternatives such as reflective paints and self-luminous path markers. |
| TARGETED      |  | <b>LIGHT SHOULD BE DIRECTED ONLY TO WHERE IT IS NEEDED.</b><br>Use shielding and shaping methods to target the direction of the light beam so that it does not spill beyond where it is needed.                                                                                                                       |
| CONTROLLED    |  | <b>LIGHT SHOULD BE USED ONLY WHEN IT IS USEFUL.</b><br>Use active controls such as timers or motion-detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed and turned off or dimmed when it is not needed.                                                                                                     |
| LOW INTENSITY |  | <b>LIGHT SHOULD BE NO BRIGHTER THAN NECESSARY.</b><br>Use the least amount of light needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| WARM COLOR    |  | <b>LIGHT SHOULD EMIT THE LEAST AMOUNT OF BLUE LIGHT NEEDED.</b><br>Where possible, use warm color lights at night.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## **SOUTH NEWINGTON OIL GROUP**

The South Newington Oil Group is run by Stephen Anderson. By consolidating your oil order with those of other members you benefit from obtaining a more competitive price per litre than if ordering directly from a supplier yourself.

Orders are prepared at the beginning of a month, typically, between September and May, inclusive. The monthly order is triggered by a member contacting Stephen with a request for oil. An invite is then sent round to all members asking if they need oil. Using a link to an online form, those who need oil submit their quantity by a cut-off date. Once that date arrives the quantities are amalgamated and the bulk quantity is used to obtain a best price from suppliers.

The overall timescale for an order from receiving the invite until delivery is up to 3 weeks. The Oil Buying Group does not get involved in the payments for deliveries – this is the responsibility of the individual members. Other queries about a delivery are also down to the member once the order is placed.

If you would like to join the Group or obtain more information about it, please contact Stephen Anderson by email at [sn.oil.club@gmail.com](mailto:sn.oil.club@gmail.com)

## **49 CLUB**

The 49 Club plays a vital role in raising money for the church. In just the last 4 years, the 49 Club has raised over £4000 for the SN Church repair fund and paid out over £2500 in winnings, thanks to the generosity of villagers joining the club.

### **How does the 49 Club work?**

The club is based on the National Lottery Saturday bonus ball numbers. Each person in the group is allocated one of 49 numbers (the numbers used when we first started, hence the name!) and if your number comes up as a National Lottery bonus ball then you have won.

It costs £1 per week to join, so £52 to join for a year, and this money forms the fund to pay out winners. If your chosen number comes up as the Saturday bonus ball, then you are a winner. If your number is drawn in the first week of the month, you'll win £35. Later weeks in the month gain a £20 win. You can see the list of recent winners below. Any left over money is donated to the church repair fund.

We have several numbers which are not spoken for and so are inviting villagers to join the club on a half-year subscription, starting from September and running to end February. This will cost £26.

Come March next year, we hope to expand subscriptions further and include numbers up to 59 which is the number of bonus balls the National Lottery now uses.

There are currently 18 spare numbers in the 49 Club. Would you like to join? Then you too could be a winner!

Here is a list of our most recent winners:

|    |    |    |    |    |        |                      |
|----|----|----|----|----|--------|----------------------|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 02-Mar | Gill Brounger        |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 09-Mar | Carmen Guard         |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16-Mar | no winner            |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 23-Mar | Mariejke Jones       |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 30-Mar | Peter Hudson         |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 06-Apr | Rob & Freya Waters   |
| 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 13-Apr | no winner            |
| 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 20-Apr | Lin Brecknell        |
| 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 27-Apr | no winner            |
| 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 04-May | Judith Denby         |
|    |    |    |    |    | 11-May | no winner            |
|    |    |    |    |    | 18-May | Amanda Blythe Smith  |
|    |    |    |    |    | 25-May | no winner            |
|    |    |    |    |    | 01-Jun | no winner            |
|    |    |    |    |    | 08-Jun | no winner            |
|    |    |    |    |    | 15-Jun | no winner            |
|    |    |    |    |    | 22-Jun | Graham & Nicky Smith |
|    |    |    |    |    | 29-Jun | Gill Brounger        |

Please do consider joining. Zoe Colegrave has kindly taken over running the 49 Club from Judith (many thanks again Judith for all your time and help) so please let Zoe know by **August 11th** if you would like to join. Email her [zoedavidson@sky.com](mailto:zoedavidson@sky.com) or call in at No 1 Barford Road.

### WHAT'S APP

During lock down a WhatsApp group was set up by Vanessa Doyle, chair of the Parish Council, so that we could help each other out if needed.

The group is still going and is intended not for general chit-chat but for important village communications. This is in addition to the village email system.

If you would like to join the WhatsApp group please contact Vanessa [vanessasnpc@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessasnpc@hotmail.com).

## PARAKEET POPPING IN

You may have heard that a parakeet recently turned up in the village.



Angela Murrey on St Peter's Close has very kindly taken the parakeet under her wing and is caring for it in her aviary where it has happily joined her budgerigars.

Angela has been keeping budgies for about 20 years and currently has 16 birds of different colours. Clearly the parakeet couldn't have come to a better home. But how did it get here and is it an escaped pet or the first of an invading species to reach this far north?

Angela said, "We think at times that it may have been a pet but there are times when someone he doesn't know goes to him, he moves away."

People say the parakeet is a problem in this country, especially London, so I asked AI Chat GPT the following question: "What is the problem with parakeets in London?" and the answer below popped up, so do keep an eye out for more and perhaps notify the RSPB if you see one, and join me in thanking Angela for giving this fellow a safe home on our behalf.



In London, the problem with parakeets, specifically the ring-necked parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*), involves several key issues:

### 1. Ecological Impact:

- **Competition with Native Species:** Parakeets compete with native birds for food and nesting sites. This competition can adversely affect native bird populations, particularly those that are already vulnerable.
- **Disruption of Local Ecosystems:** The presence of an invasive species like the ring-necked parakeet can disrupt local ecosystems and alter the balance of wildlife in the area.

### 2. Agricultural and Horticultural Damage:

- **Crop Damage:** Parakeets are known to cause significant damage to crops, which can impact local agriculture. They feed on fruits, nuts, and grains, which can lead to economic losses for farmers.
- **Garden Damage:** They also pose a threat to domestic gardens, eating fruit and vegetables and causing frustration for gardeners.

### 3. Noise and Nuisance:

- **Noise Pollution:** Parakeets are noisy birds, and large flocks can create significant noise pollution, disturbing residents in affected areas.
- **Droppings and Mess:** Their droppings can create mess and potential health hazards, particularly in urban areas where they roost in large numbers.

### 4. Human-Wildlife Conflict:

- **Roosting Behavior:** Parakeets often roost in large numbers in urban and suburban areas, which can lead to conflicts with humans. For example, their roosting can damage buildings and infrastructure.
- **Public Health Concerns:** While not a major issue, there are concerns about diseases that parakeets might carry and transmit to humans or other animals.

The introduction and proliferation of parakeets in London is attributed to escapes and releases from captivity. Their ability to adapt to urban environments has allowed them to thrive and expand their population rapidly, leading to these issues. Managing their impact involves a combination of monitoring, public awareness, and potential control measures to mitigate the negative effects on the local environment and human populations.

## THE FLOWER SHOW SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 1.30 – 4.30 PM

Yes, it's show time soon! Your committee has been working hard all year to prepare another great show which we hope you will come and enjoy on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

### Great community event

The show is a great community event, where we have fun showing our home-grown fruit, vegetables and flowers, plus arts and crafts, photography and delicious home-made produce including jams, chutney and spirits and many other lovely things, all in a spirit of amiable competition.

All the favourite, traditional categories are there including garden on a plate, the highly coveted 'Best Dahlia' and 'Best Sweet Pea' cups to name just two, plus the ever-entertaining 'Misshapen Vegetable'.



This year we're delighted to have the Hook Norton Dray back again, and for children Simon Hambidge is once again kindly offering his tractor for you to sit in, and there will be lots of games to play on the Poleaxe. We have a new game for children and adults alike this year – Challenge Neil at the table tennis, with a prize for the top score of points won against our local table tennis ace, Neil Hodson.

The amazing Colegrave brothers will once again be running their BBQ with tasty sausages and burgers on offer, and the ever-popular tea tent with freshly baked cakes and freshly brewed tea and coffee will be there too of course.

### How to be part of the show



Last year we had over 350 entries and we hope to have even more this year. Please check out the brochure which was posted through your letter box earlier this year, or look on the village website [www.southnewington.co.uk](http://www.southnewington.co.uk).

You can apply online or come along to entries night on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August with a completed form that is in the back of the brochure, or can be downloaded from the website.

Don't forget that you need an entry card for each item you want to enter and the entry cards must be purchased in advance – not on the morning of the show!

### **Exhibition in the church**

As in previous years there will be an exhibition in the church. This year's theme is "An interesting person in my family".

Please do bring along any photos, memorabilia or stories of any interesting or much-loved person from your family that you are happy to show. Please bring along any exhibits and display them in the church on the morning of the show on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, the church will be open from 8am.

### **Bottle stall and cakes**

Huge thanks to David Streeter who is once again managing the bottle stall, probably the most popular stall in the show, to misquote a famous lager advert. The stall is made up entirely of bottles donated by villagers and so we hope you will once again donate generously when committee members come round on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Alternatively, you can leave bottles at the Streeter's house, Barn House, Green Lane.

Thank you also to cake bakers – please do bring any cakes, flap jacks etc to the tea tent on the day of the show, all contributions gratefully accepted.

### **Return of cups**

If you were one of the cup winners last year, please could you polish and return your cup for this year's show to Cherry Durley, 4 Barford Road, by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August. Alternatively, please bring any cups to the entries evening on August 1<sup>st</sup> in the Village Hall from 6.30 – 8.30 pm.

### **All hands to the pump – volunteers**

The show relies on volunteers and it is way more fun and easier for everyone if we have lots of volunteers to help man the stalls, or set up and put down things. If you can give half an hour or an hour of your time to help, please contact any member of the committee.

### **Committee members**

Amanda Blythe Smith <amandablythesmith@gmail.com>

Graham Fewster <gfewster@gmail.com>

Roz Rapp <rozmuir@hotmail.com>

Penny Price <penella11@gmail.com>

James Durley <j.durley@outlook.com>

Julia Streeter <julia.streeter@btinternet.com>

Nicky Smith <nicky@twelvepr.co.uk>

Tracey Schilling <schilling@live.co.uk>

Cherry Durley <cherrydurley30@outlook.com>

Miles Colegrave <zoedavidson@sky.com>

### **Great raffle prizes**

We have some amazing prizes on offer in the raffle this year including:

- Weekend break in a luxury cottage at the Heath Farm near Chipping Norton
- Meal for two with wine at our local, Good Food Guide recommended Duck on the Pond
- £25 gift voucher at Jaffe & Neale bookshop and Café

- Floral garden planter
- Bottle of champagne
- £25 cash
- Hamper

You can buy tickets in advance at the village hall coffee mornings, or from any committee member, plus of course they will be on sale at the show.

### **Heath Farm special events**



We're especially delighted to offer the holiday break at Heath Farm in the Flower Show raffle as it has recently been awarded gold for 'Best Self-Catering Accommodation of the Year' in the Tourism South East award scheme.

As well as offering self-catering cottages, with hot tubs and wild swimming in the lake you can see in this picture, Heath Farm is also hosting a number of events this year.

Creation Theatre presents As You Like It on the 17th July and Treasure Island on the 18th July. The events will be held on the farm's woodland stage in a magical setting. Bring along your own picnic and blanket or chairs and sit back and enjoy! Ample car parking available at the foot of the driveway with a short 2-minute walk in the woods to the stage. Disabled access available, just call 07810 554486 to arrange.

Heath Farm is up the road from the village on the way to Chippy, and is in fact part of the Parish of South Newington so do support this remarkable, organic, family-run business which is also supporting our Flower Show. [www.heathfarm.com](http://www.heathfarm.com).

### **Thank you**

A huge thank you to everyone who has kindly donated prizes for our amazing raffle prize draw.

We're delighted to say that Charles Ludlow is once again offering a pair of the highly popular Dubarry boots worth £350, with some examples of the Dubarry boots shown in the photo below.



There will be a special raffle just for the boots, where tickets will be sold for £10 each.

Contact any committee member in advance of the show to buy a ticket or you can buy them on the day.

## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE

| What                      | When                                                | Where                         | More info                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Table tennis              | Monday eves<br>6.30 – 7.30pm                        | Village hall                  | Dawn and Neil Hodson<br><a href="mailto:hodsod@hotmail.co.uk">hodsod@hotmail.co.uk</a> >                                                                                 |
| Art classes               | Tuesday morning                                     | Village Hall                  | <a href="mailto:bridget.read@icloud.com">bridget.read@icloud.com</a><br><a href="mailto:linda.brecknell@gmail.com">linda.brecknell@gmail.com</a>                         |
| Yoga                      | Weds eves                                           | Village hall                  | Geraldine Thomas 07584 571979<br><a href="mailto:southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk">southnewingtonyoga@yahoo.co.uk</a>                                                      |
| Seated Yoga               | Friday eves                                         | Village Hall                  | Liz Davis                                                                                                                                                                |
| Book Club                 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of<br>the month<br>evening | Pub                           | <a href="mailto:southnewingtonbookclub@gmail.com">southnewingtonbookclub@gmail.com</a>                                                                                   |
| Coffee<br>mornings        | Thurs morning<br>most months                        | Village hall                  | <a href="mailto:darkestella@gmail.com">darkestella@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                         |
| Circle dancing            | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of<br>month                | Village hall                  | <a href="mailto:darkestella@gmail.com">darkestella@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                         |
| Singing                   | Sat morning<br>10-12.30 am                          | Village hall                  | Steph Rew<br><a href="mailto:stephrew99@gmail.com">stephrew99@gmail.com</a>                                                                                              |
| Parish Council<br>Meeting | See village<br>noticeboard or<br>website            | Village Hall                  | Vanessa Doyle, chair<br><a href="mailto:vanessasnpc@hotmail.com">vanessasnpc@hotmail.com</a>                                                                             |
| Flower Show<br>Committee  | Now and then                                        | Committee<br>members<br>house | Amanda & Graham, co-chairs<br><a href="mailto:amandablythesmith@gmail.com">amandablythesmith@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:gfewster@gmail.com">gfewster@gmail.com</a> |
| Biodiversity<br>group     | Now and then                                        | Committee<br>members<br>house | Stella Darke & Nicky Smith<br><a href="mailto:darkestella@gmail.com">darkestella@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:Nicky@twelvepr.co.uk">Nicky@twelvepr.co.uk</a>         |
| 49 Club                   | Weekly prize<br>draw                                | Cash for the<br>winner        | <a href="mailto:Judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk">Judithdenby@hotmail.co.uk</a>                                                                                                 |
| Church<br>Services        | Sunday morning<br>8am, 11.15 am<br>or 5pm           | Church                        | Church wardens:<br><a href="mailto:Tim.Catton@epr.co.uk">Tim.Catton@epr.co.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:claire_ainley@hotmail.com">claire_ainley@hotmail.com</a>            |

## Spring weather in South Newington

### March, April, and May 2024

The Spring weather has in a way followed the winter weather by not producing any particularly violent spells. The overall picture is “wet.”

All three months produced above average rainfall. March was the wettest month we had 113.8 mm of rain and a few days at the end of the month, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> produced most of it. Amounts were 11.8 mm., 15 mm and 15.4 mm respectively. It was midweek and I recall a very wet journey to the supermarket.

Two wet days in April produced most of that month's rain, 26.4 mm on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> and 18.2 mm on Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The wettest day of the whole spring, double those already mentioned was May 21<sup>st</sup>. Most of the rain came overnight on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and totalled 45.4 mm. The wet spring has produced a lot of growth along the roadsides and the hedges and deep-rooted trees will have benefited a lot this year

I cannot report that it has been particularly warm and even at the time of writing this report (mid-June) I hear of friends lighting the wood burner for the evening. Average top temperatures show no sign of summer throughout the period. March managed an average of 11.9° C and maximum of 16.3° C. April averaged 13.9° C and a maximum of 19.6° C and May averaged 18.5° C and a maximum of 25.5° C on one day. This was Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>, so if you were lucky enough to be at the seaside you picked the right day! Right or wrong, I cut my grass and lawn that day. Having said all that, I looked back at May 23 and found average temperatures of 17.4° C and a maximum of 21.1° C so overall May was warmer this year than last.

During the Spring we had a few named storms crossing the village. On 28<sup>th</sup> March “Nelson” went across the south but was not strong in the village. On 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> of April “Kathleen” came in from the west where the strength of the storm lay, but the wind was only 38 mph in the village. On 15<sup>th</sup> April an unnamed hail storm hit the village, wind up to 43 mph. The Gatehouse where I live, and large quarter inch hailstones which I could have shovelled up if I had been inclined to.

I hope you have a nice, sunny, warm summer to come and the national trend of warmer weather stays (Not too warm!!)

John Britten 18.07.24

*Further confirmation of John's description of “wet” from the BBC Weather forecast, May 22<sup>nd</sup>*



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