

Sulgrave News



December 2013

Regular Events

- BB&C Service 2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth church - 11.00am
Book Club 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Star Inn - 8.00pm
Circle Dancing 3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth - 7.00pm

This newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Janet Smith. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stuchbury by Maureen Jeffery, George Metcalfe and Vera Smith. Costs are met by Sulgrave Parish Council and Sulgrave Manor. It is provided as a service to the community and those involved in its production cannot accept responsibility for omissions and errors, or necessarily agree with its contents.



Deadline for the January 2014 newsletter is 14th December

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Janet on 01295 760397 or e-mail janet_m_smith@btinternet.com.
As always, articles can be left at Sulgrave Village Shop

Church News

Service for December

Sunday 1 st	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion - Thorpe Mandeville
Sunday 8 th	4.00pm	Holy Communion - Sulgrave
Sunday 15 th	6.00pm	Evensong - Sulgrave
Sunday 22 nd	3.00pm	Carol Service - Sulgrave
Tuesday 24 th	11.30pm	Midnight Mass - Sulgrave
Sunday 29 th	11.00am	Carols - Edgecote

January 2014

Sunday 5 th	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion - Chipping Warden
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Carol Service

The annual Carol Service will be held in the Church on Sunday, December 22nd at 3.00pm. Please come and join us in singing carols and hearing the Christmas story. We will be placing the nativity figures by the crib and after the service there will be refreshments.

Please come and join us and enjoy the true meaning of Christmas. This is what it's all about.

Shrimp

Holy Communion

Please note that during the winter months, Holy Communion on the second Sunday of the month will be held at 4.00pm in the afternoon and **NOT** at 8.15am in the morning.



Flower and Cleaning Rota

December 7 th /14 th Advent	Mrs B Christy and Mrs L Harrison
December 21 st /28 th Christmas	All to decorate. Alter - Mrs B Christy
January 4 th /11 th 2014	Mrs J Taylor and Mrs L Moffit



Janet & Maureen would like to invite you to our

Soup Kitchen

at Sulgrave Church Hall on
Tuesday 10th December at 12.30pm



Game Soup

or

Broccoli & Stilton Soup (v)

Both served with croutons, bread rolls and butter

Christmas Mince Pies

With Custard

Cheese & biscuits, celery & grapes

Cafetieres of freshly brewed coffee

£7.50

Booking is essential

To reserve your place please call

Janet Smith
01295 760397

Maureen Jeffery
01295 768268



Village Shop News Update
Telephone – 01295 760066
Shop email: – svshop@hotmail.co.uk

CHRISTMAS HOURS – THE SHOP WILL CLOSE ON 24TH DECEMBER AT 1PM & RE-OPENS ON 27TH DECEMBER. NOTICES WILL BE POSTED IN THE SHOP WINDOW FOR THE NEW YEAR.

So, the Festive Season is almost with us & there's much to report leading up to what will be a busy period for us all & I hope that your plans include completing that all important Christmas Order Form that was distributed with the Newsletter last month. Spare copies are available from the shop so please get yours into the Shop just as soon as you can! We can offer Christmas trees (of the non needle dropping variety), wreaths & bouquets again this year so please do include these in your thoughts / plans; every little helps us all (sounds just a little familiar) improve our Shop.

This is also the month that sees David disappearing off into the wild blue yonder of retirement! Many of you will have joined him for his farewell bash at The Star on the 6th December to wish him well. **I'd like to add my personal thanks to a modest man (well that's how he describes himself!) for helping steer the Shop towards what could be the biggest in turnover terms since we started. David you WILL be missed ...**

The Management Committee would also like to update you on how the appointment of Sharron, David's replacement, is progressing. Darryl-Louise has been fantastic in both her determination to make things happen & keeping us all informed as a Committee & has put a piece together which outlines what will be happening & when.

'The Management Committee apologise for the length of time it has taken to confirm the official appointment of Sharon Halleron-Kerr as our new Shop Manager and Sub Postmistress. Unfortunately the Post Office has tightened up on their working arrangements with Community Shops and they weren't able to interview and confirm her appointment until last Friday (22 November 2013). Robin and Sharon spent a great deal of time together in the Summer to put together a robust business plan for the development of the Post Office services in Sulgrave. You'll be pleased to know that she did a great job in presenting it as well as answering some pretty tough questions about the Post Office operations and relevant legislation. According to Peter Pollak who accompanied her to the interview she was an absolute star !

Sharon is currently a Senior Science Technician at a Senior School in Henley in Arden but was formerly the landlady of The Butchers Arms in Bishops Itchington and a Mortgage Advisor/Cashier for the Coventry Building Society. She lives fairly locally in Fenny Compton and now that her boys are off to College and University wants to move back into a managerial role within a community-based business. She is very excited about joining us here in Sulgrave and has lots of ideas about how we can consolidate and build upon the Shop's success going forward.

Given the above delays it has not been possible to synchronise David's retirement and Sharon's start date and so Susie Blayney has very kindly agreed to take charge of the shop during the interim. David will leave as planned on 07 December and Sharon will join us in the first week of January 2014.

We are currently working with the Post Office to secure temporary cover for the Post Office during December and early January whilst Sharon undertakes six days classroom-based training. Watch out for notices in the Shop window / door for more information as things develop.

We hope that as many villagers as possible will join us for David's farewell drinks in The Star on 06 December to wish him a long and happy retirement ...

We also look forward to introducing you all to Sharon when she joins the Shop in January ...

So, how has the Shop performed in the last few weeks? Excellent is the answer; sales up to close of business on 10th November are up 5.3% on the same period in 2012. With the takings over the Christmas / New Year period, we may just see a record performance in terms of takings which would be a phenomenal achievement when all around us in the retail world still seem to be struggling. Thank you everybody that has helped make 2013 a memorable year for our Shop.

The main areas where we've seen the growth has come from alcohol (+63% hic), frozen foods (+26%), ice cream (+18%) & crisps / snacks (+13%). Interestingly vegetables & fresh produce are actually down in takings but this may well pick up when you get your Christmas Order Forms (yes I know that I'm a nag!) into us. Digby's area has just been an outstanding success for us this year & a huge vote of thanks must go to him. His 'Festive Wine Corner' makes excellent reading & follows this missive.

There are lots of Festive treats that are in the Shop now so spend a moment when you're next in having a look. Winter vegetables are there in abundance; we now sell loose potatoes as well, no more pre-packed spuds for us. The clementines are in stock & are absolutely delicious.

This is now beginning to get a little on the lengthy side so I'll cut short here & finish by wishing you all a very happy Christmas & a prosperous new year. See you in the Shop & over to you Digby ...

'Mac' Macdonald
01295 760470

WINE CORNER



The perennial problem - what should we drink with our Christmas turkey? The trouble is, no one can agree and if you asked a dozen Masters of Wine for their suggestions as to what kind of wine goes best with the main Christmas meal, you would probably get twelve different answers. But there are some ground rules and it is probably best to work backwards and decide what you DON'T want.

The old adage "White wine with white meat, red wine with red meat" died a long time ago though it does retain a small element of truth. A powerful, tannic red that would be a great partner for grilled steak would almost certainly overpower a delicate chicken dish while a fragrant white which would be the perfect choice for fish is wasted on a rich casserole.

Roast turkey or goose with all the accompaniments provide a rich panoply of flavours that can be matched by a wide range of wines from flavoursome whites to medium bodied reds. The ones I would probably leave off my list are really delicate whites that make great aperitifs but can be overwhelmed by strong food flavours and heavy cabernet sauvignon or grenache based reds which might fight with the food rather than compliment it.

My personal choice would be a light to medium bodied red (SVS's 'Brown Brothers Tarrango' slightly chilled would slip down particularly well). If you prefer a white wine, our excellent 'La Taste' with its rich flavours would be a good choice. But don't be swayed by my views. Your taste buds are different from mine and what I think would make a perfect match you might consider grounds for separation.

One thing most people agree on is that a glass of chilled fizz before the meal titillates the taste buds and gets them tuned in for the main event. Good Champagne is, of course, the sparkling wine of choice but SVS's Maipo valley sparkling brut is remarkably good for the price and would beat a lot of far more expensive wines in a blind tasting.

I am writing this before I go on my big pre-Christmas wine shopping expedition so do keep an eye on the shop's wine shelves from early December. If I manage to pick up a few festive specials that I think would go particularly well with the Christmas bird - I shall put a notice up.

A merry Christmas to all imbibers
Digby Lewis



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

At 4pm, SUNDAY 12th JANUARY, 2014

Christingle services, first introduced in to the Church of England 40 years ago by the Children's Society, can be held between Advent (four weeks before Christmas) and Candlemas (2nd February). In Sulgrave we have held Christingle services both at the start of December and later on during January and even February. This year we are going to hold it after Christmas due to all the other events going on in December and we hope it will be a nice way to end the festive season!

Please come and join us on Sunday 12th January at 4pm in Sulgrave Church for our very special, candlelit, Christingle Service celebration, complete with the colourful and tasty Christingle oranges, which will raise funds for the Children's Society charity. - all ages welcome! Refreshments will be provided at the end of the service.

The Children's Society helps some of the country's most vulnerable and disadvantaged children. If you are unable to attend the service but would like to make a donation to the Children's Society, a Christingle Collection box will be left in the village shop for this purpose. Last year we raised over £200 which was brilliant. Collection Candles and envelopes will be distributed shortly!

Many thanks,

Kate Miles, Local Box Secretary, Children's Society. 760957



Annual Village Carol Singing

Carol singing around village Friday 20th December from 6pm. Meet at the shop at 6pm or join us later in the evening as we move around the village. All ages and voices welcome to join in the festivities. There will be a door to door collection in aid of the Church Hall.

For more details please contact Julie Wood 768326.



Christmas Fayre

We shall be holding our Christmas Fayre in the Church Hall on Saturday, December 7th from 10am - Noon. If you have never been before please come and join us.

There will be lots of goodies to purchase. Christmas wreathes and arrangements, beautiful cyclamen to brighten up your home; covered coathangers and cushions, a fantastic raffle and an abundance of homemade cakes and treats. Sit and enjoy a cup of tea and catch up on all the village news.

If you can provide anything, such as items for the raffle or homemade cakes etc., please call Shrimp on 760214 or just drop them off at Wisteria Cottage.

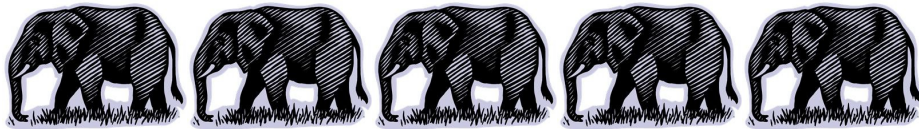
See you there!



Letter to Father Christmas

From the beginning of December there will be a special postbox in the shop where you can place your letters to Father Christmas. All those under the age of 10yrs are welcome to write their wish lists and put them in the box. Please put your full name and address so that Father Christmas knows who you are and where you live.

Remember - be good!



Safari Supper

Okay, here we go! Put a circle in your diary round Saturday, January 18th. This is the revised date for the Safari Supper. We are keeping the cost at £15.00 per head and, hopefully, lots of you will join in. It's a fantastic way to meet new people in the village, and no need for a designated drive! Please can we have lots of volunteers to provide either a starter or main course - contact either Shrimp on 760214 or Anne on 760634. We'll be waiting for your call!!

After all the frantic build up to Christmas and New Year the Safari Supper is something we can all look forward to!!

Please join in, **you'll be promised a really good evening.**

Shrimp



The Christmas Wreaths.....a reminder

Friday, December 13th, from 9.30am onwards in the Church hall.

Looking forward to seeing helpers, old and new!

*Suitable greenery can be left outside the Hall on Thursday
December 12th*

*Julie Metcalfe
01295 768103*



Hywel Lloyd's Everest talk on Friday 22nd November marking the 60 years since John Hunt's successful expedition

At least 50 people braved a rather chilly damp night to come to hear Hywel talk on the eight expeditions attempting to climb Everest and a brief outline of the ninth successful attempt in 1953

We had a brief history lesson of the surveying of India and Peak 15, later known as Everest; the politics of British relations with Nepal and Tibet in gaining access to the mountain. A description of the geology of the mountain and how this affected the routes chosen by the early climbers. The photographs of the expeditions were largely from the collection held by the Alpine Club.

The Everest doctor on the 1933 expedition was Dr Greene and his tricouni nailed leather climbing boot and long wooden ice axe were on show, on loan from the Alpine Club.

Andrew Elliott donated three books which Hywel auctioned. The final amount raised was £400, £280 to Church funds and £120 to the Bell fund to repair Number 2 Bell pulley and ropes damaged by a squirrel last year.

Many thanks for all your support to help make a successful and enjoyable evening

Ingram and Shrimp

Thanks to so many very generous donations the clothes sale has made nearly £5500.00 so far.

We are terribly grateful to all of you who supported us by giving and/or buying.

Unfortunately the rails (which are now residing in my dining room) do not look quite as empty as this yet.

Please, do come and have another rummage, or collect any clothes, which you would like us to return to you. I would love to see you. Ring at any time. 01295 760242 Thank you all Gabriella



Don't miss out on the wonderful designer bargains at the

Pre-loved Clothes Sale

at and in aid of

Sulgrave Manor

OX17 2SD

Friday 15th Nov 6-8pm £5 (inc glass of wine)

Saturday 16th November 10am-4pm £2

Sunday 17th November 12-4pm £2

Warning after scam continues to affect people in Northamptonshire

Police are issuing crime prevention advice after a phone scam continues to affect people in Northamptonshire.

The phone scam encourages residents to part with bank details including pin numbers and banks cards and police are urging people never to part with this information. During the scam the offender calls the resident, purporting to be a police officer, investigating a fraud on their bank account, a fraud investigator from a bank or other bank official. They then ask for account information, including their card numbers, security number and pin number. If the resident becomes suspicious, the offender suggests that they call 999 or 101 and ask for confirmation that the person is a police officer. The victim then calls police, but doesn't realise that the offender has not hung up so goes straight through to them again. In some cases another offender comes on the line and pretends to be working in the police control room and verify the officer's details. The caller is then transferred back through to the first offender who obtains all their details. In some cases the criminals have sent couriers immediately to the victim's property to pick up their cards which are then used fraudulently.

More recently there has been a variation on the original theme, the caller will request that the victim go to their bank to withdraw money or simply instruct the victim to transfer an amount of money into a specific bank account.

The offenders are deliberately targeting older victims. Bryan Pye from the fraud and financial investigation team of the East Midlands Special Operations Unit said: "This is a scam which appears to be operating nationally. An arrest was made shortly after a number of incidents occurred in Northampton in July and as a result that investigation is still ongoing. It appears that residents are refusing to give their details but these calls show that the offenders are continuing to target people in Northamptonshire and the surrounding area. "In previous cases some residents have been conned into handing over their cards and pin numbers, resulting in money being removed from their accounts. I would urge people to share this information with their elderly relatives or neighbours so they are aware."

- Never give your card details, PIN or bank card to anyone

Report any incidents to the police. Always call 999 if the crime is in action.

For non urgent incidents please report to Action Fraud, the central reporting and recording system for fraud, on 0300 123 2040 or online at:

www.actionfraud.police.uk



SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:	Mr A Waite	Parish Clerk:	Mrs C Coles
	3 Manor Road		55 Gillett Road
	Sulgrave		Banbury
	Oxon		Oxon
	OX17 2SA		OX16 0DR
			Tel No: 01295 276229
			Email: sulgravepc@btinternet.com

HS2

HYBRID BILL DOCUMENTATION

The documentation relating to the HS2 Hybrid Bill is now available for public inspection. All the documentation is currently with the Parish Clerk.

It will be available for inspection, at a later date to be confirmed and some information is on the website.

Please contact Christine Coles, Parish Clerk (01295 276229) if you would like more information.



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LAUNCH OF HIGHWAY WARDEN SCHEME

Would you like to become a Highway Warden for Sulgrave and be the eyes and ears on the road network within the village. The role is voluntary and you would be supported by the Parish Council and Northamptonshire Highways. Induction training would be arranged.

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk, Christine Coles on 01295 276229.

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to
THE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING

To be held on

THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER 2013
@ 7.45PM

In Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

This is your opportunity to speak to your Parish Councillors

Mulled wine and mince pies
will be served after the meeting



We look forward to seeing you there

DECEMBER 2013

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	Thorpe Mandeville Benefice HC1 10.00am
Church Hall Christmas Fayre 10.00am - Noon 7	Sulgrave Holy Communion 8 4.00pm
14	Sulgrave Evensong 15 6.00pm
21	Sulgrave Carol Service 22 3.00pm
28	Edgecote Carols 29 11.00am

Deadline for the January 2014 Newsletter is 14th December 2013

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4	5	6
11	Church Hall Mtg Parish Council 12 7.45pm	Church Hall Wreaths Christmas 13 9.30am
18	19	Singing Village Carol 20 6.00pm
25	26	27

MONDAY	TUESDAY
30	31
2	3
9	Church Hall Soup Kitchen 10 12.30pm
16	17
23	Sulgrave Midnight Mass 24 11.30pm