

# Sulgrave News



## February 2021

*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 Sally & Andrew Elliott, Susie Mason, Pim Lockwood, Jean Bates, Rachael Hijstee, Jan Castle and Nikki Mulcahy. Costs are met by Sulgrave Parish Council. 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 March Newsletter is 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Janet on 01295 760397 or e-mail [gypsysmith7@gmail.com](mailto:gypsysmith7@gmail.com)  
As always, articles can be left at Sulgrave Village Shop



## Church News February

*The Rector for our Benefice is Nick Leggett 07925 419068  
Email - [leggett1uwe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:leggett1uwe@yahoo.co.uk)*

I would like to offer my thanks to all those who participated in the Carol Concert held just before Christmas. Even though we were limited in numbers because of social distancing it was very uplifting to be able to have some form of celebration. The concert was filmed by Charlie Ford Zemelis assisted by Charlie Waite and has been put on the village website. Please have a look. I know we have moved on since Christmas but it's an opportunity to hear the wonderful singing.

Nick Leggett, our vicar, is very aware of our concerns regarding the pandemic. He has decided to hold one service each Sunday. Sulgrave is included in the pattern of services and there will be a Holy Communion Service on the third Sunday of each month. All the necessary precautions will be taken: Track and trace, mask wearing, social distancing and use of hand sanitiser. I'm sorry we can't offer you more but I'm very aware that here in Sulgrave we are being very careful during these difficult times.

Shrimp.



Thank you to all who thoughtfully donated to the PORCH, charity for the homeless in Oxford, for the display in the village bus shelter. You raised £106.57

Jane & Joy on behalf of SWAG



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone – 01295 760 066



e-mail: [svshop@hotmail.com](mailto:svshop@hotmail.com)

Our hopes that the pandemic would be on the wane as 2021 got underway were sadly misplaced and, as we write this news update (mid-January), the situation throughout the country is worse than ever. To protect our staff and volunteers, the Shop Management Committee has decided that we must be ultra-careful so, until further notice, the shop will not be open for face-to-face shopping. We have instead reverted to the order-and-collect system that was in operation earlier last year.

We appreciate that this is not as convenient as being able to pop in to do your shopping whenever you want but at least we shall still be open for trade and can continue to support the community. The members of the MC are constantly monitoring the situation so be assured that, as soon as we feel it is safe, normal service will be resumed. Any changes to the operating system will be displayed at the shop and will also be reported on Nextdoor and Facebook. We are now also on Instagram under "Sulgrave Village Shop". Please check regularly as the situation is constantly changing. We thank our customers for being so patient during these difficult times.

At the time of going to press, the procedure is that **the shop will accept telephone or written orders between 8.30am and 5pm on weekdays and from 8.30am to 3pm on Saturdays. but the shop will not be open on Sundays.** Customers will be notified by telephone as soon as their orders have been processed so that they can come and collect them. Customers are welcome to bring their order-form to the shop so their order can be put together for them while they wait outside. **The Post Office will operate every weekday from 9.00am to 1.00pm.**

**Customers must have a shop account to use the order-and-collect service and will need to be sure that their account is topped up as it will not be possible to fulfil orders on accounts that are overdrawn.** Vulnerable or elderly customers can ask to have their orders delivered to them.

Until further notice, the shop will not be baking, though frozen sausage-rolls, pasties, baguettes, croissants etc can all be purchased for cooking at home.

The shop is currently well-stocked, and we are still getting fresh-vegetable deliveries almost every day. Wine reserves are very healthy and a regularly updated list of all the wines in stock is pinned on the notice board outside the shop. The latest addition to our range is 'Mt Beautiful' - a seriously up-market New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc which usually retails at £16 a bottle and which we are selling for £9.75. You will need to hurry as stocks are limited.

The Christmas cards that we sold on behalf of Katherine House Hospice raised £563.40 for this admirable charity and we have received a letter thanking us for our efforts.

To finish on an up-beat note, Sulgrave Village Shop has just been awarded a "Rose of Northamptonshire Award" in recognition of all the hard work and dedication the shop staff and volunteers have demonstrated in supporting the community throughout the Covid pandemic. The letter from the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, the High Sheriff of Northamptonshire and Northamptonshire County Council notifying us of the award is appended to this newsletter.

Let us hope that by the time the next issue of Sulgrave News comes out, the vaccination programme will be in full swing, the epidemic will be on the decline and life will be showing signs of returning to normal.

Digby and Alison



**Sulgrave Village Shop 01295 760066**

## **Opening Hours and Featured Suppliers**



### **Suppliers Feature**

This month, we feature 2 of our Crisp suppliers – **Two Farmers** and **Fiddlers Lancashire Crisps**. Whilst not local, they contribute to the shops aim of supporting small businesses who produce quality products. Also a suggestion regarding **Smith & Clay Butchers**.



Truly passionate about the Herefordshire countryside that has enabled them to grow award-winning potatoes, founders Sean and Mark met one night for a pint of local beer and a packet of crisps. They hatched out a plan of how to honour and celebrate these potatoes and that night the Two Farmers brand was born.

Most of their ingredients are grown by them, and for those they can't, are sourced from local producers.

All bags are 100% compostable. Potatoes are stored, cooked and packed using renewable energy where possible on their Herefordshire farm.

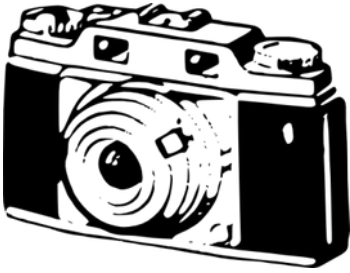


Fiddlers Lancashire Crisps say;

“We’re proud to turn our delicious potatoes into even more delicious crisps. Each potato is hand cooked in small batches in pure sunflower oil. We then add the best natural flavours Lancashire can offer – Lancashire Cheese, Ellsey’s Malt Vinegar and the delicately spiced Lancashire Sauce – all made by producers who care about taste and tradition just as much as we do”.

Finally, the shop is considering **Smith & Cay** (formerly Brackley Butchers). Initial thoughts are to stock their sausages – all using English free range pork and made on site in Brackley..

Feedback on this idea welcomed next time you are in communication with the shop, or drop an email to [svshop@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:svshop@hotmail.co.uk)



At our first meeting of the New Year we find ourselves in lockdown again and plans to get out for some photo-shoots have to be shelved. So once more we have reverted to video meetings and with a number of different topics on our list we have decided to hold a virtual get-together every two weeks into February.

The first of these meetings was an entertaining peek into camera bags, from large and formidable backpacks to small yet compact solutions, it was interesting to see what members carry with them and why. We also discussed some ideas for future meetings and then concluded by sharing photographs from our monthly challenge – CREATIVE & ARTISTIC PHOTOS OF EVERYDAY OBJECTS. The photographs will be posted on the village web-site.

When you read this our next meeting will have already taken place and we will have been discussing the art of Street Photography, sharing members photographic interpretation of LIFE IN A LOCKDOWN and planning for the following meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> February.

If you have a interest in photography and would like to participate in future meetings and events – contact

[Grahamroberts53@hotmail.com](mailto:Grahamroberts53@hotmail.com)



## February 2021

We hope everyone is keeping safe and well. Our aim is to bring some happiness to your homes over the next few weeks.

### **Webster's Wednesday's.**

Collection from The Manor between 5 and 8pm. 10 Minute Time Slots. Call it a Midweek treat ☺ Please book these via email [danny@webbsters-events.co.uk](mailto:danny@webbsters-events.co.uk).

#### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Mexican Night**

*Chicken or Vegetarian Fajita's*

*(Served with a Side Salad, Guacamole and Nacho's)*

#### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Casserole Night**

*Beef or Vegetable Casserole*

*(Served in a Whittlebury Baker's Bread Basket)*

#### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Burger Night**

*Homemade Tandoori Lamb Burger – Served in a Naan Bread*

*Southern Fried Chicken and Maple Bacon served in a Brioche Bun*

*(Served with a Salad Garnish, Sweet Chilli Mayonnaise and Seasoned Wedges)*

#### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Chinese Night**

*Chinese Beef or Vegetable Curry / Sweet and Sour Chicken Cantonese Style*

*(Served with Fried Rice and Prawn Crackers)*

### **Dine to Doors**

Still proving popular, these can be booked via the website [www.webbsters-events.co.uk](http://www.webbsters-events.co.uk). All Dietary requirements can be catered for.

#### **Lebanese is back on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of February**

#### **3 Course Valentine's Special 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> of February**

#### **New Theme TBC 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of February – Orders and Menu go live**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of February at 6pm.

#### **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea on 14<sup>th</sup> of March and Sunday Roast on 13<sup>th</sup> of**

**March**– Orders will also open Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm.

I previously mentioned we have some exciting news for you... We will be launching a Tea Room at Sulgrave Manor. Dates are still TBC but we are hoping late March - early April. (Covid dependant) Hope to see you all soon!





# FEBRUARY

**THE STAR INN – 01295 760389**

Hello Sulgrave – We hope you are all keeping safe & well

We are all still in these difficult times BUT at least we can now look forward to better times ahead and hopefully better weather in the not to distant future!

We made the very difficult decision not to offer takeaway through January due to lack of demand through the November Lockdown. Now with so many takeaways and Fish & Chips Vans local to the area unfortunately it was draining funds to offer this service. We have battened down the hatches and are in survival mode! Whilst we are incredibly grateful for any Government Support however little, we cannot sustain any further losses!

We must all remain positive, keep smiling and we greatly look forward to the time we can welcome you all back. The time we can all see family and friends again. Let us hope this teaches us all not to take the little things and normal for granted again.



Let us all spare a thought for all our NHS and Keyworkers working extremely hard, often with consequences for their own families to keep us well and safe.



Please if we can help anyone do give us a call!





*I am writing to thank everyone, in particular the Sulgrave Parish Council, Nicola and Steve at the "Star" and Dan Webster Catering for the generous food gifts given at Christmas. I would also like to thank friends and neighbours for all the help they have given through 2020.*

*It was a lovely thought and just goes to show what a very caring community we have in Sulgrave.*

*With my very best wishes to all for the coming year.*

*Eileen Roberts*



We would like to thank the Parish Council, The Star and Daniel Webster for the kind and thoughtful gifts we received before Christmas. They were such a lovely surprise and much appreciated.

Happy New Year to you all, best wishes

Ruth Fowler and Betty Lock



*Maggie and Donald Barrett would like to thank all their friends and neighbours that have helped them in the past year. Particular thanks go to the ladies and gentlemen from the shop who take the telephone orders and kindly deliver groceries, Niki and Steve from The Star who are always happy to deliver takeaways. They would also like to thank The Parish Council for the kind gift of a food hamper that was delivered for Christmas.*



Just a short note to say a Big Thank You for the lovely Xmas parcel which was a delightful surprise. Not only was it beautifully presented but also very well chosen, well done to all to all those involved. Danny Webster's tasty and generous contribution was also much appreciated.

The Parish Council are to be congratulated on this initiative together with Xmas tree and Carols on The Green. We are indeed fortunate to be living in such a Caring Village.

With many thanks and Seasonal Greetings from Two Grateful Recipients.

John & Celia Stimpson



*The Henn Family would like to thank everyone who so kindly sent cards and words of sympathy following the very sudden passing of Robert on Sunday, 27 December.*

*Any donations to Humphris Funerals in memory of Robert for Rowan Ward at Horton General Hospital, who were so kind to him, and Crohn's and Colitis U.K.*



**The fish & chip van** will be visiting Sulgrave on the following dates between 5.30pm and 7.00pm outside the village shop

February 13<sup>th</sup>

March 13<sup>th</sup>

April 10<sup>th</sup>

May 8<sup>th</sup>

June 5<sup>th</sup>

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

July 31<sup>st</sup>

August 28<sup>th</sup>

September 25<sup>th</sup>

October 23<sup>rd</sup>

November 20<sup>th</sup>

December 18<sup>th</sup>

I think we have a thief about ...

I love to feed the birds but now twice the whole container has disappeared as well as the food.

They are strong green metal ones, one to hold a square suet block and the other an oblong decorated with birds and a round suet block.... I am not blaming my neighbours!!!... I strongly suspect squirrels... so they could be left anywhere. If anyone finds one in their garden please could they let me know and I will collect.

Pat Thomas

07979930834

George would like to say Thank You to Sulgrave!

Baby George Jackson, and his parents Chris and Helen,  
would like to say thank you to everyone for the all cards  
and gifts we've received since he was born on  
30<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Thank you for thinking of us and sharing in our  
wonderful bundle of joy. George is looking forward to  
seeing you on his pushchair outings around the village  
in the coming weeks.



## **A Message from the Castle Green Management Committee:**



*In these Covid controlled days the one real positive outcome has been the opportunity to explore and enjoy our local countryside. We are positively encouraged to take daily exercise in our own locale. It has been a pleasure to see so many people out walking, running and cycling. Let us hope that post-Covid this enthusiasm will continue, leading to a fitter and healthier society.*

*The appreciation of our immediate environment hopefully will lead to a greater love and respect for the countryside around our beautiful parish. This has been much enhanced by our Parish Council Chairman's monthly articles on the Village Website explaining, literally, how the countryside around Sulgrave "works".*

*From the point of view of the Castle Green Management Committee it has been a pleasure to see many villagers, their families and children are using the recently extended Castle Green public open space. Now that the mound itself is an integral part of this public open space, the fabulous views of the village and its surroundings from the top can be enjoyed by all. It makes a beautiful spot for children to stretch their legs in the fresh air and perhaps even wonder what's beneath the Mound!!*

*It is hoped, Covid willing, to hold a Mid Summer's Fair towards the end of June when all and sundry will be invited to enjoy gathering together on our Castle Green again. Keep your eye on future Village Newsletters and the Village Website for further updates.*

*In the meantime enjoy your daily exercise and do visit the Castle Green and Castle Hill Public Open Space.*

**Martin Sirot-Smith, Chairman,  
on behalf of the Castle Green Management Committee.**

# ABILITY



01327 604123

Your Local Community Bus Service



Part funded by  
South Northamptonshire Council  
www.southnorthants.gov.uk

ABILITY is a social enterprise providing a community bus service. Our aim is to reduce loneliness and social isolation.

We help people to get out and about by providing transport for those who need it to reach services such as shopping, bank, hairdressers and local places of interest.

## HOW TO USE THE SERVICE

All passengers must be registered, just give us a call.

**Booking office open  
9am to 2pm**

All Journeys must be booked with the office in advance.



## FARES

**CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES ARE ACCEPTED AFTER 9.30AM**

If you do not have a valid bus pass, standard fare applies.

## WHAT TO DO NOW

Select which service you require, if you require support or would like to be picked up from home and not walk home in the rain with your shopping - select GOLD.

SILVER members receive some support and are picked up near to home. BRONZE service members are picked up from a bus stop.

Then call us on 01327 604123 between 9am and 2pm and we will do the rest.

Service	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Price	£36 Single or £48 Joint Discount for 2 <sup>nd</sup> person from same household	£24 Single or £36 Joint Discount for 2 <sup>nd</sup> person from same household	No cost
Pick up/drop off	Pick up and drop off to home	Pick up nearer to home – advised when booking	At the bus stop only
Destination	Regular bus service to town	Regular bus service to town	Regular bus service to town
Booking	Priority booking Book 4 weeks in advance	Priority booking Book 4 weeks in advance	Book up to 2 weeks in advance and subject to availability
ABILITY Trips	Priority Advance Booking for ABILITY Trips and days out.	Priority Advance Booking for ABILITY Trips and days out.	Requests are on the reserve list, and subject to availability
Help	Assistance provided getting on/off the bus	Assistance provided getting on/off the bus	
Extra Help	Shopping Carried to your door		

## Summary of Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 7th January 2021

*The Meeting took place via Zoom remote technology. The Chairman opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.*

*He then reported on the Christmas Hampers, which had been well received and appreciated and quoted from some of the letters of thanks. All agreed that the gesture had been a great success. The shop had asked for a list of recipients, so that they could make sure that group shopping needs were looked after.*

*The Christmas Tree on Castle Hill had also been much appreciated, [with a Carol Service attended by some forty people observing social distances](#). The Websters had also used the area for a Pizza Night. The Chairman thanked all who had been involved in putting up the tree and decorating it and taking it down again. It was hoped to repeat the idea next year with improved lighting.*

*Councillor Faure reported on HS2 (High Speed Rail). The main point of interest was traffic flows, information on which is to be put on the Village Website by Colin Wootton. It was noted that all HS2 construction traffic will display identification so that any complaints can be referred back to the right vehicle.*

*Councillor Faure also reported on the HS2 funded improvements to the Church Hall. Depending upon Covid pandemic developments, it was hoped that work could start in late spring 2021.*

*Pocket Park. The Chairman thanked Julien and Sarah Staples for their work on the pond which had been most satisfactory. The Council agreed to buy five more trees to plant this month; these will be located in the wooded area rather than in the Millenium Wood itself. A quote had been received for the re-felting of the shelter roof and a second quote is required.*

*It was reported that the Allotment Gardens were in good order with some rental availability.*

*The poor state of the Manor Road sign at the junction of Little Street had been reported to the County Council. If nothing comes of this it will be fixed by Councillor Powell.*

*The Precept and Budget for next year was agreed.*

*The new Eon street light maintenance contract had been signed. Problems with the lamps in Magpie Road and Little Street are to be reported.*

*In the public participation part of the meeting a suggestion was made as to tree planting along the hedge line in Helmdon Road. The Council will look into this possibility.*

*The Chairman closed the meeting with a strong reminder to everyone to observe the Covid rules.*

**Richard Fonge. Chairman. Sulgrave Parish Council.**



# SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to  
THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on

**CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

In  
Sulgrave Church Hall



*We look forward to seeing you there*

# FEBRUARY 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 8.15pm Camera Club Mtg via ZOOM	11	12	13 5.30pm Fish & Chip Van Village Shop	14
15	16	17	18	19 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

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