

# Sulgrave News



**25th April 2021**

**Penguin Day**

Awareness day to highlight the dangers that penguin's habitats face, as well as the number of penguin species which are endangered.

## April 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, Jen 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 May Newsletter is 16<sup>th</sup> April 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 April

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

Maundy Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion - Sulgrave
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Easter Day - Vigil Mass - Sulgrave
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.15am	Holy Communion - Sulgrave
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion - Sulgrave
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Mattins - Sulgrave

April is a special month in the church's year. It is a time for renewal and, particularly after such a difficult twelve months, we are ready to face the future with renewed hope. We await the lifting of lockdown restrictions with anticipation. You will see that there are numerous services in our church over the month of April. We have been fortunate that we have held one service of Holy Communion in Sulgrave each month. Nick Leggett, our vicar, has worked really hard to ensure that this Benefice has not missed out on services throughout the pandemic. He will be leading us for all the services to be held in Sulgrave except for Mattins on April 25th which I shall be taking. At this special time we welcome you to our church to express our renewal of faith. We look forward to seeing you. Please be aware that we shall continue to abide by government regulations until further notice.

Shrimp

If you have any questions please contact me on 760214

# St James the Less - PCC AGM & Elections - SUNDAY 18th April, 11.30am in Church

The Annual General Meeting of Sulgrave Parochial Church Council (PCC) will take place at 11.30am on Sunday 18th April, immediately after the 10.30am service, following all government guidelines relating to the pandemic. All villagers are warmly invited to attend this event.

As we were unable to hold an AGM last year due to the pandemic, this year there will be interesting, succinct updates by the vicar, Nick Leggett, the Treasurer, Margaret Watts and Shrimp Christy on all aspects of Church activities from since April 2019 to March 2021. We will also be holding elections, in line with Church regulations, for the posts of Churchwarden ( 2 people required), members of the PCC ( 6 to 8 people typically). Election of people to the posts of PCC Treasurer and PCC Secretary will take place at the first PCC meeting after the AGM which is scheduled for Monday 19th April at 6pm, probably via Zoom.

If there are any villagers who are interested in taking a more active role in the life of our Church here in Sulgrave and would like to join the PCC please contact the current PCC Secretary for further information.

Kate Miles, PCC Secretary, Tel (01295) 760957."



Barbara Burke  
Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 1925 - Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 2021

Our dear mother sadly passed away peacefully on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Godswell Park Nursing Home.

Mum had many very happy years in Sulgrave; she always spoke so fondly of the village and the friends she had there. Mum embraced village life and loved welcoming people into her home for cups of tea, prosecco, wine with good food, and lively debate. She loved her garden and studio where she expressed herself in the vivid colours and shapes through her planting and painting. Three generations of children all have lovely memories of sunny days playing in the garden. Christenings, Weddings, Birthdays were celebrated in her unique style, hiding under the weeping ash was a favourite game.

We know how much she enjoyed visits from village friends; she loved to hear all the news and share fond memories. With a cheeky glint in her eye she would recall such visits when we next saw her. We could go on and on sharing the wonderfulness of mum she was a lovely mother, friend, grandma and great -grandma who will be sadly missed by so many.

Louisa Shaw and Family



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone – 01295 760 066



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

Well, Spring is almost sprung and the grass will soon be riz – so it is once again time to oil the lawn-mower and blow the dust off the garden furniture. As for the 'boidies', the chiff-chaffs should have already arrived from the Mediterranean and West Africa and they will soon be joined by willow-warblers and swallows. Almost time to sit in the garden with a glass of wine.

The shop has faced a tough month as both of our supervisors were off for a number of weeks and our trusty band of volunteers have had to put their collective shoulders to the wheel in order to keep things running smoothly. As usual, everyone responded brilliantly to the call so many thanks to all those who chipped in. Special thanks are due to Sally Elliot and Anne Allan who took over the supervisors' and PO duties.

With the clocks going forward and the days getting longer, folks will be more inclined to venture out in the evenings so, from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April (the day after the Easter weekend), the shop will stay open for an extra hour, closing again at 6pm rather than 5pm. The Shop and Post Office opening times over the Easter period are listed below.

There have been a number of changes in the personnel running shop operations in the last month. Mel Kirkpatrick has taken over the onerous task of putting together the weekly volunteer rota from David Walker and has done a brilliant job. Filling all the slots and applying gentle arm-twisting when necessary is not easy – so well done Mel.

There has been a major changing of the guard on the Management Committee as Anna Faure has just signed up as our Treasurer. She takes over from Robin Prior who has overseen the finances of the shop since its inception 17 years ago. Robin has a vast amount of accumulated knowledge so will remain in the background as an '*éminence grise*' though officially we refer to him as a consultant. Zoe McCrow has already taken over the book-keeping and payment duties from Robin and is doing an excellent job.

It's great to see that some new faces have joined our band of merry volunteers on the shop floor. We can never have too many so, if you are still dithering, please step forward and contact Mel at [melkirkp@hotmail.com](mailto:melkirkp@hotmail.com) who will be delighted to add your name to the list.

The trial run of Smith and Clay (Brackley Butchers) sausages has been a success so we shall probably be keeping them on as a regular line. They really are great bangers. The yummy Russell and Atwell fresh chocolates are also proving very popular and the current stock will remain in tip-top condition in the chiller through to the end of the month. Remember to keep your eye on Nextdoor, Facebook and Instagram for the latest product news and promotions.

Word has clearly got out that the shop is baking again and the smell of fresh sausage rolls and pasties is luring in a steady stream of passing trade each morning. The weekend croissants and *pains au chocolat* are also in demand – and, if you are worried about missing out on a croissant with your morning coffee, you can always place an order the day before.

We shall be sticking to the ‘one in, one out’ policy for customers for the time being but if, as we all hope, the pandemic continues to recede, we may soon be able to get back to the hustle, bustle and buzz of the good old days. Fingers crossed for 21<sup>st</sup> June if not before.

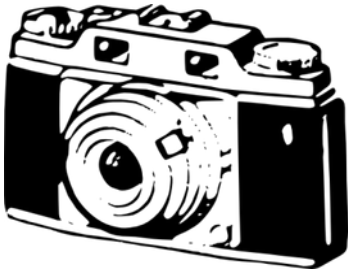
And finally, don’t forget you can make a donation to the local food bank run by Father Nick, through the shop.

A Happy Easter to one and all.

Digby and Alison

## **EASTER 2021 - SHOP & POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

	<b>SHOP</b>	<b>POST OFFICE</b>
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>8.00am - 5.00pm</b>	<b>9.00am - 1.00pm</b>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April (Good Friday)</b>	<b>8.00am – Noon</b>	<b>9.00am – Noon</b>
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>8.30am - Noon</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>9.00am - Noon</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Monday)</b>	<b>Closed</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>8.00am - 6.00pm</b>	<b>9.00am - 1.00pm</b>



With the lockdown preventing any alternative we are continuing with our regular ZOOM meetings every couple of weeks. At a recent meeting we discussed the ways and means of publicising our work, either on social media sites or for the more determined of us through a web-site. There is also the option of printing your favourite photograph, there is little more satisfying than to see your own work displayed in a nice frame and hanging on a wall.

We also set out a monthly challenge and the first meeting in March was an opportunity to share and discuss 'Still Life'. A varied set of photographs were shared, fruit and flowers were to be expected but also some really nice photographs of everyday objects. Lighting was the key, many professionals will use a complex array of floodlights, reflectors and spotlights to produce a stunning image. Our members deployed torches, table lamps and sunlight to illuminate their subject, with some pretty surprising and very pleasing results.

The Camera Club continues to meet every two weeks on ZOOM during the current restrictions, if you would like more details contact

[..grahamroberts53@hotmail.com](mailto:grahamroberts53@hotmail.com)



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

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>



## **April 2021**

We recently catered for the BBC. It was an event for Bargain Hunt in Brackley. This made us look forward, and feel positive about future events and normality slowly returning. Better days are coming.

### **Webster's Wednesdays.**

We are extremely pleased with how Wednesdays went, with pubs and restaurants starting to open with outdoor seating we will be reducing the amount of Wednesdays we do. We are looking forward to seeing some normality too. I'll update Next Door with the next dates and no doubt bring some favourites back.

### **Dine to Doors**

Our latest offering of Caribbean sold out in less than 24 hours. We will be releasing a special Dine to Door to mark 12 Months of Dine to Doors. I will update on Next Door and post on our social media and website.

Easter Weekend Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April - Afternoon Tea and a Easter Sunday 2 Course with Purston Manor Roast Lamb.

### **Events**

Weddings, Garden Parties and Events are taking over all our Saturdays throughout July and August. If you are planning something then please send an email and we would love to help if we can.



Tea Room is currently in many discussions. I personally want to Thank Caroline and Nick Grant for all the time and dedication they put into helping upcycle all the Tea Room Furniture it all looks perfect!

Email - [Danny@websters-events.co.uk](mailto:Danny@websters-events.co.uk) Website - [www.websters-events.co.uk](http://www.websters-events.co.uk)  
Facebook and Instagram - Webstersevents



THE STAR INN – 01295 760389

Hello Sulgrave. We hope you are all well and still smiling - Nearly there

**SATURDAY NIGHTS = PIZZA & SCAMPI £10 each**

We are still offering our 12" Pizzas and Scampi & Chips

We offer a Takeaway & Delivery Service. Slots must be booked please

**APRIL OPENING?**

As you are probably all aware hospitality can reopen from the 12<sup>th</sup> April outside only. We have been working extremely hard to make this as comfortable as possible for you, and very much been looking forward to welcoming you and The Star Team back. Our marquee was to be erected with extra provisions in place to ensure it stays there and the wind does not cause the disruption with it as it did last year. Our plan was to make this a lovely dining area with heating, as a few pubs did last year.

**HOWEVER**

We have hit a slight problem. All pubs have recently been sent an email from the council regarding Marquees, they now are not being classed as an outside space (whilst we totally understand this and remain committed to the guidelines to ensure everyone's safety) it has left us with a dilemma and yet more frustration.

How many customers we wonder would sit outside to eat and drink if the temperatures are low, the wind blowing a gale or indeed rain? We ask you to please understand that reopening and restocking a business is a huge task with many considerations needed to make it viable. Fresh Food and Ale have a short shelf life and would need consistent custom to avoid huge losses. We have made it this far only by being sensible and strict with avoiding losses, and much appreciated help



from Rishi Sunak. It has not been without its frustrations to both ourselves and our customers, and we thank you for your understanding.

Whilst we are sure for the first weekend demand on dining out and having a pint with your friends and family will be at the top of some peoples to do lists, we would need this to be continuous throughout April to be viable.

We will be making a decision on whether we can open in April by Easter Weekend. This will solely depend on the weather. So please keep an eye out on Facebook, Nextdoor, our Website and the boards outside the pub. We are remaining positive with our fingers firmly crossed that April will be kind to us. We continue to put plans in place to be ready. We hope you can appreciate why we have given you the details of our dilemma/frustrations and hope that you can appreciate us being honest with you all.

The Star Inn has had many Landlord's & Landlady's over the years. We very much hope to be here for many years to come and bring the consistency to The Star that it deserves. We very much hope you will support us in this goal.

### **SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – 3 YEARS AT THE STAR INN**

Please join us for our planned 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Anniversary celebrations from 12pm. There will be plenty for all to enjoy. We welcome any involvement from the village

A celebration of our Anniversary, of not taking anything for granted again, celebrating life, family and friends coming together, community.

Please if anyone would like a stall or wishes to do anything else – give us a call – we are friendly (as many of you know) and I am the same Niki that you all used to say hello to when I rode out with Simon and stood at the school bus stop with– This was one of the main reasons we took on The Star, the village & the people in it.

**A Meeting of the Parish Council was held via remote technology on Thursday 4th March 2021. The following summary has been prepared by the Chairman:**

*“The Chair, Richard Fonge, welcomed to the meeting Mrs Alison Eastwood from Moreton Pinkney. Alison introduced herself and gave a brief resume of why she is standing as a candidate at the May elections to the new Northamptonshire Unitary Authority.*

*Councillor Faure reported on HS2 (High Speed Rail), in respect of road alterations on A43 north of Brackley. She also reported on the improvement scheme for the Church Hall, being funded by an HS2 grant. Further grants are being applied for, to improve the kitchen and the floor of the hall. There may be other grants available which could be of benefit to the village. Agreed that Councillor Powell will work with Councillor Faure to explore possibilities.*

*Parish Footpath Warden Graham Roberts reported on a number of matters affecting rights of way. There are to be improvements to Footpath AY3 where it crosses the former Great Central Railway Line en route for Weston and Moreton Pinkney. These will involve the erection of kissing gates on each side of the old railway and surface work to the footpath. There are to be new way markers on the Stuchbury path. Graham Roberts and the Chairman had made improvements to this path by putting down chippings and constructing steps.*

*Councillor Higginson reported on Stocks green. The Council agreed to the raking out of moss and re-seeding. The grass cutting contractor is to do this work.*

*The “Pop Up Picnic” on Castle Hill and Green, postponed because of the Pandemic, will now take place on Sunday 11th July, with catering by Websters and bar by the Star. Further details to follow.*

*The proposed Drivers' Lane Solar Farm was discussed. There was general agreement on the need for renewables but assurances are to be sought in respect of footpaths. The Clerk is to ask the developer for a copy of the Environment Impact Analysis.*

*Councillor Priestman is to explore the possibilities for an appropriate solar powered speed restriction sign on the Magpie Road.*

*The Council agreed to Sarah Brown’s request to use part of the bus shelter for a seed swap.*

*The annual village litter pick will be held on Saturday 20th March. Details will be posted at the village shop and on the village website.*

*Andrew Osmond is to be the Village Tree Warden.*

*The Annual Parish Meeting is to be postponed until May or June.”*

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

# SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

## SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman:** Mr R Fonge  
Maggie Cottage  
Manor Road  
Sulgrave  
Oxon OX17 2SA

**Parish Clerk:** Mrs C Coles  
55 Gillett Road  
Banbury  
Oxon  
OX16 0DR  
T: 01295 276229  
E: [sulgravepc@btinternet.com](mailto:sulgravepc@btinternet.com)  
W: [www.sulgrave.org](http://www.sulgrave.org)

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## SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place remotely on  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

Details will be on the agenda which will be placed on  
the website and village noticeboard outside the shop.



# APRIL 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 10.00am Holy Communion Sulgrave	2	3	4 8.00am Holy Communion Easter Day Vigil Mass Sulgrave
5	6	7	8	9	10 5.30pm Fish & Chip Van Village Shop	11 8.15am Holy Communion Sulgrave
12	13	14	15 7.30pm Remote Parish Council Mtg	16 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	17	18 10.30am Holy Communion Sulgrave
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 10.00am Mattins Sulgrave
26	27	28	29	30		

Deadline for the May Newsletter is 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021