

# Sulgrave News



## May 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 June Newsletter is 21<sup>st</sup> May 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 May

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

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion - Thorpe Mandeville
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15am	Holy Communion - Sulgrave
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion – Sulgrave
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Mattins – Sulgrave
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Benefice Communion – Marston St. Lawrence

During April we were able to enjoy having a church service every Sunday! As the lockdown begins to ease we look forward to holding more regular services but we are fortunate enough to enjoy two Holy Communion services each month. By the time you read this we will have held our AGM so, hopefully we will have a good idea of the direction we will be taking over the coming year. More details next month.



Following the Parochial Church Council AGM Shrimp Christy and Andrew Dixon were elected as church wardens for the coming year. Despite the difficulties regarding the corona virus we look forward to a time when our church can be opened to receive visitors and those who just want a quiet place for contemplation. We are organising two events to ensure that the church and the churchyard are looking their best.

On Saturday, May 8th from 10am onwards we will be tidying up the churchyard. There will be pruning, weeding and general tidying so we invite you to bring your gardening tools along and join in the fun! Even if you can only manage an hour your time and effort will be much appreciated. The same applies to the inside of the church and on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th we will be dusting off those cobwebs, polishing the brass ware and sweeping. There will be a list left in the church so that jobs can be ticked off as they are completed. Covid regulations will be followed and hand sanitiser will be available. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible, particularly those who perhaps have not stepped across the threshold of the church building.

The church has a central place in village life and we have always made it available for visitors. Sadly, during the pandemic this has not been possible but, as soon as the lockdown is over we can open the door with pride. If you have any enquiries please contact Shrimp on 760214.



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone – 01295 760 066



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

The swallows have arrived so it must be summer. It looks as though we shall soon be able to invite lots of friends around to share a glass of wine or enjoy a barbecue in the garden. All we need now is good weather.

Thanks to the sterling input from our volunteers, we have managed to keep the shop running smoothly despite the fact that (at the time of writing) we are still a supervisor down. This hasn't been easy, and a number of our regulars have had to put in many extra shifts. This leads on to the attached *cri de coeur* asking for more volunteers to step forward. Please help if you possibly can. We would also be very happy to welcome representatives from the younger generation who want to add 'Community Service' to their DofE applications or CVs.

We are delighted to welcome Sara Findlay-Staples on to the management committee where she will take over the HR role from Andrew Elliot. Sara is hugely experienced in this field and has had a high-flying career in HR so she will be an invaluable addition to the team. We would like to thank Andrew for all he has done on the MC, especially during these current challenging times.

The Shop underwent a bit of a slump in sales early in the year – probably because we had to revert to a hub system and possibly because a number of very good customers left Sulgrave. Things are now picking up again and we hope that the new arrivals in the village will adopt the shop and give us their patronage. Although the shop is a 'not-for-profit' venture there is an ever-increasing number of outgoings and we have to break even if we are to remain operational. Just a few additional regular customers can make all the difference.

Wine sales have held up well throughout the lock-down (what else was there to do after all?) and, if previous years are a guide, as the weather warms up, there will soon be a move towards barbecue-friendly wines. So do keep your eyes open for some cracking bargains appearing on the shelves over the next few months. We have just placed an order for the hugely popular "The Pick" chardonnay which we sell at £6.95 (or, if you prefer, you can buy a bottle at the Hilton for £30!). It sold out very quickly last time we managed to get hold of some so you had better hurry before it is all gone.

The food bank appeal we mentioned last month has been a big success and was boosted by a very generous donation from the Barrettine Group whose CEO, Julian Anthony, lives in Sulgrave. Father Nick has prepared a list of requirements and the shop has made its first delivery of goods to the food bank. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed so far and please continue to support this worthy cause.

Between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of May, the Plunkett Foundation, which helped to guide us in the setting of Sulgrave Village Shop seventeen years ago, will be mounting a 'Walk for Plunkett' challenge. The aim is to walk a minimum of 1000 miles in support of community businesses throughout Britain and to raise £5000 in order to help community groups that are battling to save endangered local assets such as pubs, shops and libraries. Plunkett's CEO James Alcock will be walking 30 miles on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May and will be calling at various community ventures on the way. He hopes to collect a lot of supporters to join him on his walk and will be dropping in at Sulgrave Village Shop between 12pm and 2 pm. It is a great cause and information about the walk is available on <https://plunkett.co.uk/walk-for-plunkett/>

We have recently added chicken breasts, whitebait and soy & chili squid to our freezer food range and, on the fruit and veg counter, there is new-season asparagus and locally grown rhubarb. We have also added some new lines to our Porch Preserves range. We have just taken a delivery of new greetings cards so do have a look on the stands when you next visit the shop. With barbecue time upon us, we have bags of briquettes on hand to get you fired up.

Fingers crossed for a happy, sunny, Covid-free summer.

Digby and Alison

## **AN APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY**

The recent presentation of the **Rose of Northampton Award** to Sulgrave Village Shop has highlighted the huge value of volunteering in small communities across the county. For the shop, this award is a recognition of the thousands of hours that have been put in by hundreds of volunteers who, rain or shine, have kept the shop running for seventeen years.

The last year has been extremely challenging but, despite all of the restrictions and problems imposed by the pandemic, our village shop has never closed. It has been the volunteers, working in tandem with our two supervisors, who have not only kept everything ticking over but have arranged deliveries to our more vulnerable customers, collected stock, and transformed and modernised the shop interior. The shop has become an important lifeline for many people in the community and is a testament to the community spirit that thrives within the village.

**So a huge ‘thank you’ to everyone who got involved and kept the show on the road throughout this last year.**

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the shop and without them it would die. Recently, a number of active volunteers have left the village so there is an urgent need to replace them. As the summer of freedom (we hope!) approaches the need for more assistance in the shop will increase so if you have a few hours to spare – please give volunteering a thought. It is not difficult and if you signed up for just a couple of hours a week, it would be a huge help as well as being a great opportunity to make new friends and learn more about village life.

We are always on the lookout for people with specialist skills and if there is anyone out there who is familiar with digital security systems and who would be prepared to take on the role as the shop security specialist – please step forward.

**If you or anyone you know would like to sign up to our team of brilliant volunteers, please have a word with any volunteer, leave a note in the shop or send an e-mail to the shop at [svshop@hotmail.com](mailto:svshop@hotmail.com) . We would love to hear from you.**



**Sulgrave Village Shop 01295 760066**  
**Opening Hours and Featured Suppliers**

Day	Shop	Post Office	Freshly available
Monday	8.00am - 1.00pm	9am - 1pm	Sausage Rolls, Pasties
Tuesday	8.00am - 6.00pm	9am - 1pm	Sausage Rolls, Pasties, Filled Rolls, Bread
Wednesday	8.00am - 6.00pm	9am - 1pm	Sausage Rolls, Pasties
Thursday	8.00am - 6.00pm	9am - 1pm	Sausage Rolls, Pasties, Filled Rolls, Bread
Friday	8.00am - 6.00pm	9am - 1pm	Sausage Rolls, Pasties
Saturday	8.30am - 3.00pm	Closed (stamps only)	Croissants, Pain Au Chocolat, Bread,
Sunday	9.00am - 12 noon	Closed (stamps only)	Croissants, Pan Au Chocolat

Every month we will take the opportunity to feature our local and artisan suppliers - this month: **Longley Farm**

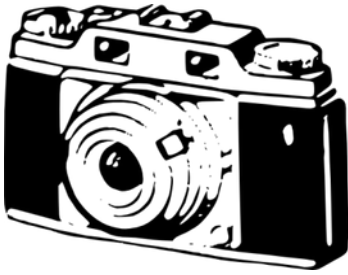
**Wychwood Fine Foods** based in Chipping Norton, supply the shop with a number of deli/cold items. This includes products from **Longley Farm**.

For over half a century, Longley Farm has worked hard to produce the very best dairy products. With one of the leading Jersey herds in Europe, they have developed a thorough understanding of the whole dairy process.

This knowledge has enabled them to keep a close eye on quality throughout production.

Product ranges in the shop does vary but includes yogurts, creams, crème fraiche, cottage cheese





Spring is upon us and lockdown is easing so the impulse to get out and take some photographs is strong. We are planning to organise a number of opportunities which will include different formats, from formal gardens to street scenes, perhaps some village events, historic buildings or fast action. The scope is huge and after such a long period of restrictions a welcome change. Lets hope lockdown continues to be eased according to the Boris plan.

At our most recent zoom meeting we had both spice and variety, with something informative and then something entertaining. First a technical presentation on lenses followed by a conversation on the use of filters. To unscramble the brain we closed with a very entertaining, if tough, photo quiz on cinema and well known films. We had a good evening's entertainment.

If you would like to know more about Sulgrave Camera Club 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

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>



## May 2021

We hope everyone is enjoying the pubs being back open, especially now we are seeing more sun. They definitely need our support more than ever at the moment.

We have a lot of Fine Dining and small events this month. Nothing to advertise at present with a Dine to Door, we hope all that ordered the Around the World Special enjoyed it as much as I did to create the menu.

Any updates will be made on our social media pages.

Banbury Cricket Club are keen to use us for future events and excited about another local venue being interested in what Webster's has to offer.

Once we have more certainty on COVID's plans, I shall be seeking job opportunities, as we have lots of small ventures to look forward to, for which I will most certainly be needing a few more pairs of hands.

## Events

Weddings, Garden Parties, Cocktail Masterclasses and Events are extremely limited over this summer now, and luckily have bookings right through till 2023.



Tea Room opening should be announced in the next newsletter.

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, as we write this, we are preparing to open for the first time this evening & the sun is shining (when the clouds move) As I am sure you are all aware we are restricted to outside only with full table service until May 17<sup>th</sup> at the earliest. Therefore, our opening hours are limited until we can move forward to inside dining.

We can use our marquee as long as 50% of the sides/doors are completely removed (yes this does mean not even rolled up is permitted). The Marquee is heated with our new industrial heater, but as you can imagine heating a marquee 50% uncovered you will still need to dress appropriately for the weather.

We are currently BOOKING ONLY so we can allocate our tables safely and manage our staffing levels. Marquee first to book will secure.

We are still strict with all guidelines/laws in place. Everyone has come too far to ruin it now we all need to do our bit! Please be patient with our Star Team we do not make the rules BUT we will stick to them!

Unfortunately, this information all seems rather boring for now BUT we very much look forward to informing you of restarting our Lunch Bunch, Aunt Sally Evenings, Quiz Nights, Bingo Nights, Garden BBQs and of course the NEW Pool & Football Tables that a lot of you are looking forward to using as soon as restrictions allow. We have also given our restaurant a makeover

**REMINDER: SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – GARDEN CELEBRATIONS FOR ALL**

We are excited to announce that the Hooky Shire Horses will be joining us for the celebrations. Claire from 'Waggy Walks of Sulgrave' has kindly agreed to run the popular Dog Show again - Who will win Pub Dog this year? Paddy is an expert and a hard chap to beat, will he win again?

If you would like a stall please contact us to book – We are offering stalls for free – Perfect for fundraising & advertising small businesses

# SULGRAVE GARDENS

Following what seems like an eternity of lockdown there will be an opportunity for a great day out, without needing to leave the village, as six gardens will be open, as part of the National Gardens Scheme, on

SUNDAY 20th JUNE, from 2-6p.m.

Thanks to the magnificent efforts of the garden owners it looks like the experience will be even better this year. Previous openers have been busy making new plantings, investing in a superior lawnmower, building a new greenhouse and vegetable plot or creating a Beth Chatto area. There is, also, a new venue for refreshments, as Joanna has kindly offered to organise the main attraction, of tea and homemade cakes, at Rectory Farm.

All proceeds go to very deserving charities, including Macmillan Nurses and Cancer Research UK. We usually manage to raise in excess of £2000, so please support us in our attempt to exceed this.

Gardens opening will be:

Church Cottage.	(Ingram and Hywel Lloyd),
Mill Hollow Barn	(Judith and David Thompson),
Rectory Farm	(Joanna and Charles Smyth-Osborne),
Threeways	(Alison and Digby Lewis)
The Watermill	(Alison and Tim Frost),
Wooton House	(Zoe and Richard McCrow).

Anyone using the NGS website or Yellow Book will notice that Claire and Jon Sadler, at Vincroft, have dropped out, because of COVID concerns. We hope to welcome them back next time! The good news is that Ingram and Hywel are very welcome additions since the Yellow Book was published.

Hoping to see you there!

David Thompson.

## Calling All Cricket Lovers - Old & Young

Marston St. Lawrence Cricket Club run two Saturday XIs in the South Northant Cricket League. The First XI in the Premier Division and the Second in Division 1.

We also have a thriving Junior Section with Under 16, Under 14 and Under 12 teams all playing regular cricket on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday respectively. All are mixed teams and we have some fine girl players. Coaching takes place on Friday evening at 6.00pm with qualified coaches.

We have a most attractive ground with a fine pavilion, two separate practice nets and a square the envy of many a cricket club. Senior practice nights, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Anyone interested in cricket, whether it be playing, just watching or supporting us in any way, will be most welcome to join us. The season starts on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May with practice friendly games on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April.

So whatever your standard, do come along and enjoy playing with a very friendly and welcoming group of enthusiasts. Bring your family along and introduce them to our wonderful game in the most perfect of settings.

For further information, do contact me, Martin Sirot-Smith on (01295) 710340 or martrss@tiscali.co.uk



**JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS  
STARTING FROM WEDNESDAY 14TH APRIL**

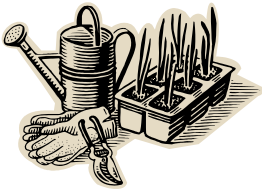
**Book Your Entrance Tickets Online  
[www.sulgravemanor.org.uk](http://www.sulgravemanor.org.uk)**



[enquiries@sulgravemanor.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@sulgravemanor.org.uk)

SULGRAVE MANOR  
MANOR ROAD  
SULGRAVE  
OX17 2SD

01295 760205



## SULGRAVE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

One plot of 46sq mtrs @ £17.50 per annum is vacant.

If you would like to take on an allotment (plots don't come up very often!!) then please contact Ryan Barnes [barnes5000@hotmail.com](mailto:barnes5000@hotmail.com).

If you are new to the village, the allotments are located in Towrise.

On behalf of the Parish I would like to express our sincere condolences to her Majesty the Queen on the death of His Royal Highness Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. A man of great stature, who was an inspiration to so many.

Over the past six months, we have had a number of new residents move into Sulgrave. A warm welcome to you all.

On July the 1st the Parish Council will be opening and running a honesty library in the Church. It will therefore be open during the day for people to come and browse and take out books. We thank the P.C.C for allowing this to happen, and I am sure it will be used by many of all ages.

The Pop up Picnic will take place on Sunday July 11th from 1.30pm. This is an event where we as a village can come together and enjoy the freedom that has been missing over the past year or so. It will also be an occasion to take a reflected pause and give thanks. A secret special moment will occur during the afternoon.

Danny of Webster's will be selling pre ordered picnics. Follow his website for details, and there will be updates on the noticeboard and in the newsletter. Or bring your own picnic. The Star will be running a bar during the afternoon.

Please put the date in your diary. A special occasion on Castle Green. Don't miss it.

Richard Fonge.

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

# SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

## SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place remotely on  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm

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

# MAY 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
31					1	2 11.00am Holy Communion Thorpe Mandeville
3	4	5	6	7	8 10.00am Churchyard Tidy-up 5.30pm Fish & Chip Van Village Shop	9 8.15am Holy Communion Sulgrave
10	11	12	13 7.30pm Remote Parish Council Mtg	14 Tidy-up Church	15 Tidy-up Church	16 10.30am Holy Communion Sulgrave
17	18	19	20	21 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	22	23 10.00am Mattins Sulgrave
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 10.30am Benefice Communion Marston St. Lawrence

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