

Sulgrave News

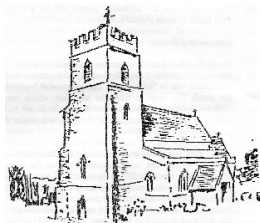


March 2022

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 Jane & Pim Lockwood, Susie Mason, Jean Bates, Rachael Hijstee, Jen Castle, Nikki Mulcahy and Claire & Jon Sadler. 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 April Newsletter is 18th March 2022

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Janet on 01295 760397 or e-mail gypsysmith7@gmail.com or post through my letter box.



Church News March

The Rector for our Benefice is Nick Leggett 07925 419068

Email - leggett1uwe@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday 6 th	11.00am	Holy Communion – Thorpe Mandeville
Sunday 13 th	8.15am	Holy Communion – Sulgrave
Sunday 20 th	10.30am	Holy Communion – Sulgrave
Sunday 27 th	10.30am	Mothering Sunday – Sulgrave

You will note from the order of services that on Sunday, March 27th we shall be celebrating Mothering Sunday. The service begins at 10.30am and we would encourage you to come and say 'thank you' to our mothers for all that they do for us throughout the year. Many years ago the service always finished with all those attending to gather outside, join hands and encircle the church building. This was known as 'clipping the church'. Let's see if there are enough of us to do it again this year!

Music plays an important part in our services, particularly as we are now allowed to sing again following the Covid restrictions. Unfortunately, it is getting harder to find organists. We have been fortunate over the last few years to welcome Michael Henson from Easton Neston, a pupil at Rugby School, who has been learning the organ. Michael will be off to university and will be unable to play for us. Is there anyone who could help us out? If you can play the piano to level Grade 7 we would really appreciate your help. The organ has been beautifully restored and is easy to play. Please contact the Churchwardens if you would like to help.

Shrimp Christy & Andrew Dixon.
Churchwardens



Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone – 01295 760 066



e-mail: svshop@hotmail.com

Oh dear – it has not been a good month. The first sad news is that Anne Allan will be stepping down as co-supervisor of the Shop at the end of April. Anne has been a brilliant addition to the Shop staff and has improved shop operation enormously. She will be hugely missed. The committee will be recruiting to find a replacement in the near future.

As you will all undoubtedly be aware, the Shop was broken into yet again in the early hours of Saturday 5th February. The shop was ram-raided with a stolen vehicle and the thieves tried to remove the Post Office safe. Thankfully, they were unsuccessful, only getting away with the shop till containing just over £100, but caused a great deal of damage to the door frame and the shop interior.

As was the case in the past, the incident has imposed a huge amount of extra work on the committee and volunteers. The responders on the committee were alerted to the break-in at 1.15 a.m. and spent much of the rest of the night on site dealing with the police and CID. Anne, Jeanette, Gordon and a number of volunteers spent all of the following morning cleaning up the mess and Clive has spent many hours repairing the damage in order to make the shop secure until we can get a specialist to fit a new door frame. Thanks to the efforts of staff and volunteers, the shop was up and running again within 24 hours.

This was the third attempt to steal from the Post Office (two burglaries and one daylight armed robbery) in the last three years, so the committee now needs to decide what is the best way forward.

Despite the setbacks, the Shop continues to serve the community. The shelves are full, fresh fruit and vegetables arrive almost every day and Digby has to top up the wine shelves with embarrassing frequency. As you know we like to ring the changes with wine so do keep your eye on the shelves for new lines over the next few weeks.

Colin Russell's lovely Sulgrave honey is back on the shelves and we have a good stock of the fabulous Te Souka Moroccan spices and sauces – so please support our home grown producers.

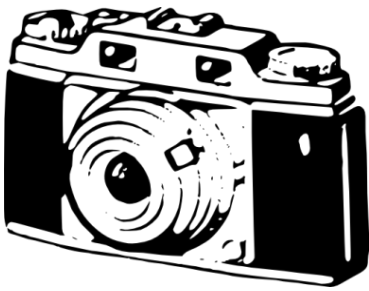
Don't forget that it is Mothering Sunday on 27th March when you can be sure that there will be good stocks of fizz and chocolates on the shelves.

Digby and Alison

With Easter and Mothering Sunday in sight we shall be holding a Spring Fair in the Church Hall on Saturday, March 19th. Here's the chance to purchase last minute gifts and get together for a chat and a cup of tea. There'll be something for everyone, gifts, jewellery, home made cakes, Porch Preserves (we know you love them) refreshments, a raffle and much more! Please come and enjoy a relaxed morning in our newly refurbished hall.

If you can help in any way or can donate towards the raffle or cake stall please contact Shrimp on 760214





Our Plans for the next meeting have changed as the guest speaker we had invited is unable to attend on the date, but we are planning for later in the year, details will follow closer to the date.

Our next meeting will be at The Star at 8.00PM on Wednesday 9th March. At this meeting we will be discussing some photography techniques and looking at the first contributions to our 2022 monthly challenge. Four of our members have volunteered to photograph a subject in a creative manner. We are looking forward to seeing how the photographs turn out.

If you have an interest in photography and would like to join in with a group that meets once a month and enjoys a varied and entertaining evening, please contact

.grahamroberts53@hotmail.com



The editor has been asked to pass on thanks to Colin Wootton who bravely ventured forth on Friday 18th to collect the vegetable order for Sulgrave Village Shop from Helmdon. Due to Storm Eunice which was raging that morning, a fallen tree had blocked the Sulgrave to Helmdon Road. Luckily the timely arrival of the dustbin lorry, and with the help of the crew, the road was cleared and Colin was able to deliver the vegetable order to Sulgrave Village Shop!

A Grateful Customer



Yoga starting 17th March

At Sulgrave Village Hall - Thursdays 1:30-2:45
Perfect to Relax & De-stress

Suitable for all, nothing too bendy! Steady pace, qualified and experienced teacher, modifications offered as required

Please contact to book your space

You will need a non - slip mat, a block and a blanket or jumper for the relaxation
For more details please visit my website; www.vivsyoga.co.uk

Tel: 07941 547160 email : email@vivienduggan.com



Sulgrave Village Library

Huge thanks to all who made donations to our Library. However, due to lack of storage space in the Church please note that the Library is no longer accepting unsolicited donations of books/DVDs/Jigsaws and any items left in the Church may have to be destroyed. We will be in touch when further donations are required.

Many thanks



Sulgrave Hall Stories

by Sulgrave villagers

Come and meet others and hear interesting tales. Entry free but we request contributions to help complete the Village Church Hall renovation. Starts at 7.30pm for tea/ coffee and a chat, followed by an illustrated presentation at 8.00pm

Friday 11th March

100 Years - but worth the wait: Part 1 - by Chris Behan

The planning: for the creation of a new Oxford to London Marylebone rail link. The tale of choosing the route, the planning, delays, and the politics

Chiltern Railways

PROJECT
EVERGREEN 3 



Nothing like this had been seen since nationalisation of railways in 1948

It was the idea of one man with vision ... and the ability and authority to make it happen ... and a bit of luck

Friday 18th March

Voyages to the Arctic regions - by Graham Roberts

Magnificent scenery and ice: visiting Norway, Svalbard, Iceland, & Greenland



Quite a lot of ocean.
Lots of snow, glaciers,
mountains & ice ...

and nature's wild-life

If you have a story for a presentation, please contact Hywel Lloyd 01295 760520



March 2022

Webster's offerings this month

17th March - Games Night At Sulgrave Village Hall.

7pm Start - Bring your own drinks, we will teach you a new game I'm sure you will all love, suitable for all ages. (Bring 9 x 50p pieces each, which will be used as counters this makes it more fun and be prepared to not take it home).

Our aim is to raise funds for the Village Hall.

It's also St Patricks Night so what better way to celebrate then with a few drinks, games and friends?

Friday 25th March - Greek Night in the Tea Room.

Entertainment, an arrival drink and 3 course dinner £37.50 per person.

Greek Dine to Doors also available at £22.50 per person on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th March.

Sunday 27th March Mothering Sunday

We will be offering Afternoon Tea Deliveries all Day.

All available to book via the website www.websters-events.co.uk

THE GARDENING CLUB BLOOMS AGAIN IN SULGRAVE

December saw the inaugural meeting of the new gardening club in Sulgrave's refurbished Village Hall, with very encouraging numbers of enthusiasts. The Club aims to exchange knowledge and expertise, have visiting lecturers each month on a range of 'growing' and 'garden' topics and organise trips.

Our second meeting on January 23rd kicked off with a very informative presentation given by a 'newcomer' to Sulgrave, Nick Jackson on the topic of compost. This evoked a brilliant discussion amongst the group with an exchange of advice and tips for compost beginners and seasoned gardeners.

We were thrilled to welcome some new members, many from surrounding villages, all eager to become join the club and offer suggestions and expertise. Amongst them was Tony Keatley, a keen Bonsai tree grower since the 80's who agreed to be the speaker at our last meeting on 21st February. He gave a power-point presentation with wonderful photos whilst not only explaining the fascinating history of the Bonsai, imparting his vast experience on how to keep these unique miniature trees alive!



It is also the intention of the Club to arrange varied and interesting 'outings' as the weather improves to famous and little-known Gardens. We hope these will add to our existing horticultural knowledge as well as give us some new ideas on what to plant in our own patches. The club will not just concentrate on making the earth bloom with flowers, but we are just as keen and interested in produce growing. Visits are already booked to Quintin Garden on 31st May and Coton Manor Gardens, on 15th June.

Membership is £12.50 for singles and £20 for couples. There is a £2 charge each meeting to cover the cost of the hall and refreshments with a monthly raffle offering 'garden' theme prizes. For further information please contact:

Pamela Wagman at The Thatched House Sulgrave. 07774848988
thatchedtea@aol.com or

Ingram Lloyd at Church Cottage Sulgrave . 07796545288 Ingram.lloyd2@gmail.com

The Gardening Club will meet again on **Monday 21st March** in Sulgrave Village Church Hall.



SATURDAY 30 APRIL 2022

7.30PM

**THE JUBILEE ORGAN CONCERT
ST JAMES THE LESS, SULGRAVE**

**PERFORMED BY
IAN TRACEY**

This is a unique opportunity to hear an organ recital by one of this country's leading musicians.

Ian Tracey is not only recognised as one of our foremost organists, but he has a worldwide reputation through his recitals and concerts. We are extremely fortunate to have acquired his services to play our newly restored Church organ in Sulgrave Church. For the past thirty years Ian has been the organist at the Anglican Cathedral in Liverpool whilst giving recitals across the country in which he has the great gift of, not only showing his musical skills, but also engaging with his audience, making an evening of wonderful entertainment. Many of us so enjoyed his playing at the Inaugural Concert in 2017, after completion of the organ restoration, that we could not resist asking him back for the Jubilee.

Remember the date and book your tickets early. You will not be disappointed. Refreshments will be provided at the conclusion.

Additional Ticket Application Forms in Sulgrave Village Shop and from Joanna Smyth-Osbourne, Rectory Farm : sosbournejm@gmail.com



ST JAMES THE LESS, SULGRAVE
Church Street, Sulgrave OX17 2RP



TICKET APPLICATION FORM
JUBILEE ORGAN CONCERT BY IAN TRACEY
SATURDAY 30 APRIL 2022 AT 7:30PM

Tickets: £25 each

Includes Programme, a glass of wine and refreshments after the performance.

Number of seats required: Unreserved seats

Name: (CAPITAL LETTERS PLEASE)

Address:

.....

Post Code: Tel No:

Amount paid:

Tickets must be paid for in advance and may be collected on the night.

Please tick this box if you would like your tickets posted to you ☐

Completed forms, together with the appropriate payment, should be returned to:

Joanna Smyth-Osbourne, Rectory Farm, Little Street, Sulgrave, Banbury, OX17 2SG.

email: sosbournejm@gmail.com

Payment by BACS to:

Sort Code 404786: Account No. 30410462: Ref: ORC and your surname

Cheques payable to SULGRAVE PCC

Disabled access is limited. Please bring your own cushion!

Sulgrave PCC Charity Number XN32789



FEBRUARY ON THE FARM (2022)

Forty days after Christmas is Candlemas day the 2nd of February, and there is a saying in farming, that says a prudent farmer should have "Half his hay on Candlemas day." A reminder that while Spring will soon be with us, it can still be some time before livestock can feed off grass alone.

The effect of winter weather on Autumn sown crops can be seen especially in barley at this time of year. It starts to go yellow which is nothing to worry about if you are the grower, as an application of nitrogen fertiliser as soon as the weather permits, will green the leaves up. Nitrogen is essential for the growth of all crops and has a significant contribution to yield. It has become an expensive input, now 250% more than two years ago, so is used carefully in the crops management.

On the land up Barrow hill and along the Weston Rd, hedges are being laid in the traditional way, before stock fencing is put up. In places along the roadside the hedge has been cut off at ground level. This is for a very good reason, as the hedge was weak and thin. By cutting it back hard, it will now shoot out at base and with the planting of some new plants between the stumps, a much improved boundary hedge will be seen in a few years.

Mechanical hedge trimming finishes on the 28th of February, for the obvious reason of bird nesting and what is noticeable is the high standard to which it is done by local farmers and contractors. Maintaining a hedge takes skill and precision, and the value of hedges and the way they shape our countryside has been emphasised by the destruction by HS2 of great lengths of hedgerow, opening up long vistas and exposing buildings and houses previously hidden from view.

So much to do with the management of the countryside has to be viewed in the long term, an attribute not always apparent in Government policy. We are entering a new phase in agriculture policy after our exit from Europe, with many organisations wanting a say in our land management, and we will see in our own parish the effects of those policy changes in time.

Finally a quote from a past village character. When told of the death of a contemporary he replied. " That's funny, he's never done that before".

Richard Fonge



Red Cross have a Free Coronavirus support line 0808 196 3651, It is free and confidential.

Red Cross also provide wheelchair hire £17.50 per week for as long as you need. They are very regularly serviced. They also have other aids that may well help with those less mobile or for visitors.

It is all on their web site under RED CROSS.

They are also always looking out for new volunteers in whatever capacity you may be interested - I found they do not hassle you, just grateful for any help.

Pat Thomas



Village Litter Pick

We are planning another village litter pick in March, and after the success of our last one, it is hoped that we can encourage a similar number of volunteers this time. All those with suitable equipment or clothing are asked to bring it along, but we will have a certain number of hi-viz vests, picker sticks, refuse bags and holders available on the day.

The date in question is Saturday 26th March, and meeting time will be 10.00 am in the Village Church Hall car park, weather permitting. All welcome."

DONALD TAYLOR

It is my sad task to record the death of Donald Taylor, who was born in the village in 1929 and except during his army career lived here all his life. He was 92 in December last and until his death he was my eldest remaining relative in the village.

He spent his boyhood at the family farm (Mill Farm, Sulgrave). During the war years he attended Banbury Grammar School and not long after the end of the war in 1945 he embarked on a career as a regular soldier in the Army Intelligence Corps, serving mainly in Austria.

After more than ten years of important interviewing and recording work in and around Graz – a part of Europe then in post war turmoil - he left the army and returned to the family farm in Sulgrave.

He married Biddy not long after his return and their son Paul was born in 1958.

He had a keen interest in vintage agricultural machinery and with his 1955 Ferguson took part in many ploughing competitions in the village and elsewhere.

In the seventies and eighties he was a patient and kindly driving instructor and quite a few people in the village owe their early success with the driving test to him.

He was an active member of the local branch of the British Legion for many years and often acted as standard bearer at Remembrance Ceremonies. Villagers will remember his smartly dressed appearances around the village, selling poppies in the weeks before Remembrance Sunday (see opposite).

From time to time he also acted as quiz master at the Star Inn, having set the questions himself, usually with a military theme.

He was the custodian of numerous fascinating stories about the village, many of which he recorded for the Oral History Project and produced as illustrated articles for the village website. His father had been the commanding officer of the village home guard and as a regular soldier he reckoned they were "far from dad's army" and "would have given a good account of themselves"!

The funeral will be held in Sulgrave Church at 12 noon on Wednesday 9th March and those attending are cordially invited to join the mourners at the Star Inn afterwards.

Family flowers only but if anyone wishes to make a charitable donation this would be greatly appreciated and shared between the British Legion and Air Ambulance.

A more comprehensive appreciation of Donald's long life, with illustrations, will appear on the village website after the funeral.

Colin Wootton



DONALD TAYLOR "DOING THE POPPY ROUNDS" IN 2015

Summary of Parish Council Meeting held at Sulgrave Village Church Hall on Thursday 6th January 2022

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr Nigel Bowles, Chair of the Sulgrave Manor Board, along with two trustees, Mr Clive Preston and Mr William Twiday

In his opening statement the Parish Council Chairman reminded them of the Parish's objection to the proposed development of Kiln farm in its present form, the village's embarrassment with the two derelict cottages, and the lack of co operation between The Manor and village.

A power point presentation was then given by the trustees, showing the financial situation, their obligations as trustees and reasons for the development. Some good questions were then asked of them, but no movement in their position on planning was forthcoming.

Other points on the agenda.

Allotment hedge to be discussed.

Precept for next year to rise by 3% . Basketball hoops bought and paid for by Sulgrave Charity . Mr Nick Jackson making backboards.

The Chairman thanked Sarah Garnet for organising and making of the sixteen wreaths, that were hung round the village. Also Danny Webster and all those who helped him, in organising the Winter fair, which raised in excess of £1600.

Castle Green committee to organise Platinum celebrations.

Clerk to report poor road repairs not long done in Magpie road.

Richard Fonge, Chairman, Sulgrave Parish Council

Note: Colin Wootton apologises for the delay in sending this summary to the Newsletter for publication.

Summary of Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Church Hall on Thursday 3rd February 2022

All Parish Councillors were present, together with Councillor Alison Eastwood of West Northants Council and eight villagers.

Matters discussed:

Sulgrave Manor

The Chairman, Councillor Fonge and Councillor Will Priestman had met with Alison Ray, C.E.O of the Manor and Trustee Clive Preston. Councillor Priestman reported that the Manor was now selling the two thatched houses with Kiln Farm Yard as one development lot. The Wool House is on the market but there is no movement on the size of the houses proposed for the Kiln Farm development. However, lines of communication between the Parish Council and Manor are now ongoing.

New Planning Application for Housing Development at Kiln Farm

This had been submitted with a business plan two days earlier. The Chairman explained that the application only differed from the previous one in small detail, whilst the business plan set out in full the reasons for the use of the Enabling Act to justify the granting of planning permission which was otherwise likely to be refused. The plan also emphasised the limited opportunities which the Manor had in raising income from events so as to provide it with long term security.

West Northants Councillor Eastwood had met with her Council's Planning Officer as a result of which she advised the Parish Council to take professional advice on this matter.

After some positive comments from members of the public attending, it was agreed that as many letters of concern as possible should be submitted to West Northants Council by the deadline of 22nd February.

It was further agreed that the Parish Council would meet again on 17th February.

Pocket Park

Councillor Fonge reported that Andrew Osmond had cut back the overhanging tree by the pond, and felled the dead oak in the woodland area, caused by squirrel damage to the bark. The new fencing posts were ready to be put in and the kissing gate had been strengthened.

High Speed Rail (HS2)

Councillor Staples reported that electric cabling was being laid for traffic lights on the main road to Thorpe Mandeville to be installed when the road strengthening takes place.

HS2 Contractor's representative to be invited to a future Parish Council meeting.

Dog Waste Bins

These are becoming increasingly onerous for the volunteers to deal with and the Clerk was asked to ascertain the cost of having these emptied by the local council.

Sulgrave Village Shop.

Councillor Staples reported upon the matter of the shop lease and all were agreed on a new ten year lease.

Litter

The Annual Village Litter Picking Day was agreed for Saturday March 26th at 10.00 am. Meet at the Village Church Hall Car Park. The Best Kept Village Competition had been entered.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

Plans for the picnic on Castle Green and Castle Hill had been advertised by the Castle Green Committee, with a meeting in the Star planned for 10th February to progress the matter further.

The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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
T: 01295 276229
E: sulgravepc@btinternet.com
W: www.sulgrave.org

You are invited to
THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on

THURSDAY 3rd March 2022
@ 7.30PM

In Sulgrave Village Church Hall



MARCH 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Church Hall	4	5	6 11.00am Holy Communion Thorpe Mandeville
7	8	9	10	11 7.30pm Sulgrave Hall Lectures Church Hall	12	13 8.15am Holy Communion Sulgrave
14	15	16	17 7.00pm Games Night Danny Webster Church Hall	18 7.30pm Sulgrave Hall Lectures DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	19 10.00 - 12 noon Spring Fair Church Hall	20 10.30am Holy Communion Sulgrave
21 Gardening Club Church Hall	22	23	24	25	26 10.00am Litter Pick Church Hall Carpark	27 10.30am Mothering Sunday Sulgrave
28	29	30	31			

Deadline for the April 2022 Newsletter is 18th March 2022