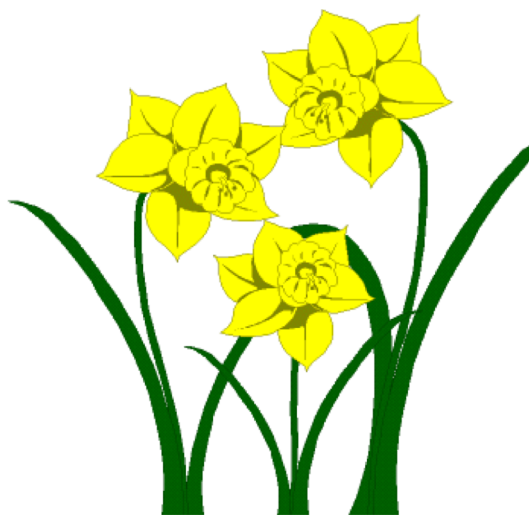


# *Sulgrave News*

*March 2023*



*This newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Lisa Roberts. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stuchbury by Kym & Tony Keatley, 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 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Lisa on **01295 768598** or e-mail **[lisa.griffin5@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa.griffin5@btinternet.com)** or post through my letter box - **Asby House, Manor Road, Sulgrave OX17 2RZ**



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone: 01295 760 066  e-mail: [svshop@hotmail.com](mailto:svshop@hotmail.com)



January and February are usually fairly quiet months for the Sulgrave Village Shop and therefore I thought it might be a useful opportunity for me to write a short piece to introduce myself as the new Chairman of the shop committee. Taking over from Neil Johnston, who filled the role for over 15 years is a somewhat daunting prospect, but equally it is a huge privilege to get involved in this amazingly successful and much-valued enterprise.

We have lived at Rectory Farm for over 30 years. Most people will probably know my wife Joanna, better than me as she has been involved volunteering for the shop in many different ways since its foundation 18 years ago, but because of that it has always played a large part in my life as well and I understand the vital role it plays in the life of our village. I also have huge respect for the formidable team of volunteers who tirelessly support Jai in the day to day running of the shop, serving behind the counter but also buying stock, collecting vegetables from Helmdon, putting together the amazing selection of wine we offer and continuously stocking the shelves, quite apart from providing the warm welcome we all expect when we go in to buy something. Having done a few sessions behind the till myself in recent months I know how rewarding it can be. Mel Kirkpatrick manages the volunteer rota and is always looking for new candidates to enable her to spread the load as widely as possible, so please put your name forward to her if you feel you might be able to help, if only occasionally. It is not complicated, there are always two people on each shift so you will never be alone in the shop and you will always be supported.

Alongside the day to day activities there is the management committee, of which I am now Chairman. Our role is to oversee the business and financial management aspects and this has undoubtedly been key to the shop's success over the last 18 years. We have been particularly lucky to have had the expertise of Robin Prior since its inception and it is largely due to him that we have such solid financial and commercial foundations. However, as noted by Robin in last month's newsletter, we do now need to look to the future and we need people with relevant expertise to join us on the Committee to maintain this legacy. By any standards the Sulgrave Village Shop is a very small business with two part-time employees and a dedicated and knowledgeable team of volunteers, so we are not asking for a major time commitment. It is relevant expertise we need in the areas of financial management, HR, company secretarial and operational supervision in order to keep us on the sound footing we have always prided ourselves on maintaining. Please do get in touch if there is any way you might be able to help.

**Charles Smyth-Osbourne**

**07500 833639**

*THE SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
in conjunction with the  
THE CASTLE GREEN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
propose*

## **“A VILLAGE CORONATION CELEBRATION”**



to be held on **Castle Green** on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 12 noon.**

- You are invited to bring your own picnic lunch – tables will be provided.
- A bar will be provided by The Star Inn.
- Teas and light refreshments will be available.

**Various Games, Craft Stalls, Demonstrations,  
Exhibitions & Entertainments are being organized.**

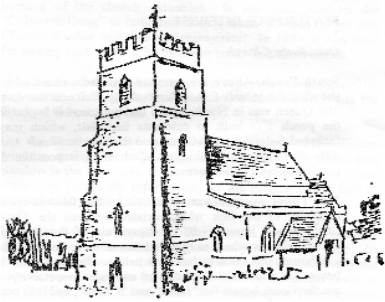
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We are asking anyone who would like to run, organize or help man any of these activities to contact any member of the Committee with their ideas and offers :-

<i>Richard Fonge</i>	<i>0750067081</i>	<i>Will Priestman</i>	<i>760890</i>
<i>Paul Crowley</i>	<i>768422</i>	<i>ColinWootton</i>	<i>760788</i>
<i>JoPowell</i>	<i>768243</i>		
<i>Rosie Shillito</i>	<i>760224</i>	<i>Martin Sirot-Smith</i>	<i>710340</i>

**Do get in touch to discuss how you can contribute. All offers of help, suggestions  
and ideas will be most welcome.**

***This is a chance for the whole village to come together to celebrate both the King's  
Coronation and the variety of talents and skills that villagers both young and old  
enjoy.***



# Church News

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

## **Services for March**

**March 12th. Holy Communion. 8.15am**

**March 19th. Mothering Sunday special service. 10.am**

**March 26th. Holy Communion. 10.30am**

We are now in the period of Lent which culminates with the Easter Sunday Service on **April 9th**.

Until then there will be no flowers in the church but will decorate with spring flowers on April 8th (Saturday) so that the church will look beautiful for our Easter Service. So that everything looks at its best we are organising a **Spring Clean on Wednesday and Thursday, April 5th and 6th**. If you can shake a duster or wield a broom please come and help. More details in next month's newsletter.

There will be a very special service on Sunday, March 19th. It's Mothering Sunday when we celebrate our mothers. All the children in the village are invited to come. Bring your mums and give them a special token of your love.

Don't forget, the village library is in the church. There are some amazing books to borrow as well as DVDs and jigsaw puzzles. Everyone is welcome.

**Shrimp Christy and Andrew Dixon.**

*Churchwardens.*

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## **VILLAGE CHURCH HALL, SULGRAVE**

Please come and enjoy our recently renovated and improved Village Hall. We have good facilities and a well-equipped kitchen. There is plenty of parking. We have a gardening club, bridge club and camera club, who meet monthly. The Hall is currently used for toddlers' dance classes, coffee mornings and lectures. Open for all bookings, especially fitness clubs and arts and craft displays.

Google Sulgrave Village Hall to find details about hire charges , contact details and availability. The Hall manager is Janet Smith - [gypsysmith7@gmail.com](mailto:gypsysmith7@gmail.com)

For your information , members of the Village Hall Committee and contact details are:

Janet Smith [gypsysmith7@gmail.com](mailto:gypsysmith7@gmail.com) (Hall Manager)

Jen Castle [jen.castle@live.co.uk](mailto:jen.castle@live.co.uk)

Andrew Dixon [awdixon@btinternet.com](mailto:awdixon@btinternet.com)

Anne Dyde [annedyde@gmail.com](mailto:annedyde@gmail.com)

Sara Staples [sara.julian@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.julian@hotmail.com)

Mike Powell [mikepowell630@gmail.com](mailto:mikepowell630@gmail.com)

Margaret Watts [margaretwatts59@gmail.com](mailto:margaretwatts59@gmail.com)



## Come for Coffee, Cake and a Chat in Sulgrave Village Hall.



Bring your friends and we will wash up!  
**Saturday March 18th 10.15am - 12.15pm.**  
Raffle and possibly a few cakes to buy!  
All welcome, and there's good parking.

A further date for your diary  
**Coffee, Cake and a Chat in Sulgrave Village Hall.**  
**Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.15am - 12.15pm**

**All proceeds go towards the running of the hall, do come and support**

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### **VILLAGE LITTER PICK** **Saturday 25th March**

***10.30 AM. Village Church Hall Car Park***

We are proposing to hold our Springtime village clean up and litter pick on Saturday the 25th of March, starting at 10.30am at the Village Church Hall. Please bring sturdy shoes or boots and gloves if you have them. We do have a limited supply of gloves, litter pickers and refuse bin hoops if you don't have your own.

Volunteers are invited for an hour or so to help collect litter from in and around the village. Family groups and individuals welcome. For more information, and in case of inclement weather on the day, please check the village website. ([www.sulgrave.org](http://www.sulgrave.org))

*An event organised by Sulgrave Parish Council*



## **March 2023**

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Drag and Dine

The Saturnos' will be hosting an evening full of fun and frolics. Mexican style food will be served on the evening. Prosecco on arrival. £40 per person.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Afternoon Tea Mothers Day Special  
£17.50 per person £8.50 for children.

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Pottery and Prosecco evening.

Pottery Panda take over – supply a pottery piece of choice, you decorate whilst enjoying some lovely canapes and a glass of prosecco.  
(bookings via pottery panda)

**We are Open Everyday**

**Monday - Saturday 08:30 - 16:30**

**Sunday 09:00 - 14:00**

*Serving Great Coffee, Cakes, Breakfast and Lunch.*

All Fire Station Bookings email - [OFS@websters-events.co.uk](mailto:OFS@websters-events.co.uk)  
Or 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](#) / [theoldfirestationbrackley](#)



WOW where do we start with updating you on everything that has happened since the last Sulgrave News edition? With thanks to the lovely Lisa for letting us have extra space I think we should start with the last trip (now being known as Trip 1) We have a lot to fill you in on.

As many of you are aware The Star drivers left at 3.30am on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January for their 5 day trip to Lviv in Ukraine with the 2 vehicles purchased from our fundraising events, plus customers just willing to donate to the pot and buy raffle tickets. The vehicles were also full of donated aid. For those of you who attended the 'Driver's Ukraine Talk' on the 10<sup>th</sup> February you already know from the videos and photographs shown (with thanks to Tony) why they wish to carry on helping Ukraine.

The convoy was welcomed through every step of their journey but most of all the welcome they received in Ukraine will stay with them forever. They were welcomed into a Ukrainian home where all 11 drivers were provided with a meal, the children had baked cakes for them. The Ukrainian family and their extended family were extremely thankful and spent the evening talking about the Ukrainians need to carry on with as much normality as possible. The evening had many stand up and toast moments 'Slava Ukraine' with their homemade Honey Vodka which I hear Tony was rather partial to, but I won't fill you in anymore on that particular part. We have an display a Ukraine Flag that was gifted and signed by the Ukraine family.. Some of you may have noticed that the flag has been signed upside down, this is not a mistake. When a flag is presented upside down it symbolises a country in distress! They were shown around Lviv and all the drivers will not forget the noise and the smell of all of the donated generators that were keeping the shops open in what we would call here a 'High Street'. The drivers also attended a Military Funeral and saw for themselves the Churches which were filled with the soldier's photographs that have lost their lives, with poignant and upsetting messages from their childrer missing their Daddies. It is unbelievable.... their resilience and how they try to carry on as normal. Many of you saw the photos and the video of the funeral when you attended the Driver's Talk.

I think those of you who do not know already can probably guess that the drivers are keen to go back and help again. If you attended the Driver's Talk I am sure many of you have seen for yourselves why. James from Hook Norton Brewery paid a welcomed surprise visit and also thanked everyone for their kindness and generosity. James is very surprised how 1 pub in a small village has managed to pull people together and achieve so much between us. We have had much help from our customers in Sulgrave, surrounding villages as well as Brackley and Banbury. Together we have stood and never given up on what we all set out to achieve... We thank you all for getting involved and supporting Ukraine... We could not achieve this without you.

It was lovely to see some representatives from Eydon village at the talk, who have been very keen to support Ukraine but had no idea how and the best way. We have the contacts through Magda (The Old Debenhams), who we have been working alongside now for almost 1 year, Hook

Norton Brewery and now the experience of actually going to Ukraine already. So, if you, like Eydon, would like to fundraise on your own and then pull together the resources we can achieve so much more. Eydon are planning a fundraising event on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March**. I have no further details at the time this goes to print. Maybe you would like to get involved with your school, workplace or just attend a car boot, every penny really does count and is gratefully received. If we can help advertise any of your fundraising events if you would like to get involved fundraising with The Star please do get in touch.

### **YES WE ARE - Lets talk about 'TRIP 2'**

Things have moved amazingly quickly since the Driver's Talk. The plan originally was to hopefully head back to Ukraine in May with fundraising being pushed again for vehicles and aid. However, an email from James and a call out for help from Magda, 2 days before the talk, has meant that

Trip 2 has now been moved to the end of March. We originally thought how on earth are we going to achieve this? THEN 2 totally astonishing things happened. The first was Paul (as many of you know as 1 of the drivers). Paul's brother 'John' had heard what Paul and the other 10 drivers had achieved and decided he wanted to help. John lives in New Zealand and amazingly decided to donate enough funds for 1 vehicle. Paul, as well as everyone here will understand how much difference this will make. This made us realise maybe we could achieve this with your help? You certainly proved us right we raised a fantastic amount of money at the Driver's Talk night, a generous welcomed donation from my 91 year old Nan and many more donations from our customers over a busy weekend. We then suddenly had enough funds to purchase 2 vehicles **TRULY FANTASTIC** and we still cannot quite believe it. THANK YOU

As you know we were closed for 4 days during half term and this time was used to source 2 vehicles... Easy you may think but you would be wrong! The prices of vehicles has gone sky high, therefore it takes many hours to source the right vehicles for the right price. . You also have to be very careful as there are many scam sellers of vehicles out there at the moment! However, with thanks to a lovely lady in Devon and a day trip by Steve and Nigel to Devon, the 1st vehicle was purchased. Many of you know my eldest daughter Chloe. Chloe managed to source another vehicle luckily closer to home in Northampton through word of mouth, before it was advertised. This is John's vehicle. Meaning we now have 2 pick up trucks at The Star. Both vehicles need a little Steve TLC as well as Graham getting involved (I think he knows about this, if not, he does now 😊) They will then be good to go. The 2nd vehicle will obviously be going out to Ukraine with not only the Ukraine and British Flags but will also be displaying the New Zealand flag of course for John.

Unfortunately, this does not mean we are all set and ready to go! We have got some funds left to get the vehicles out to Ukraine BUT we are £600 short. We will be continuing to shake the pot and welcome donations right up until they go. The vehicles have to be purchased as a priority, firstly due to the documentation needed, and then the admin process completed by Magda to export them. Ukraine contacts are also informed and each vehicle is allocated to where it is needed most before they even arrive. Everything must be done properly!

Unfortunately, also due to the trip now being in March instead of Ma, Paul is unable to join the other drivers on this trip... He will be greatly missed, but will no doubt head out again at some point. Luckily, we have found another driver to replace Paul on the trip and Richard, Tony's Son in Law, who spends a lot of time in the village and has attended many of the Ukraine fundraising events held here at The Star, will be joining the expedition.

As you all know The Star is run with an extremely small dedicated team. Therefore, once Steve has been out in March it will be impossible for him to head back out to Ukraine again before the autumn, due to The Star's busier season. This will not stop us fundraising going forward and achieving things from this end.



We really hope many more of you will get involved



**MARCH**



**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March - LEIGH CHAMBERS is back - from 7.30pm** ALWAYS  
a fun night - This event is STRICTLY BOOKING ONLY first come first serve!! - Popular  
Pizzas, Basket Food & Chunky Chips available

**Homemade Pie Night - Friday & Saturday Evenings** Extremely popular and 'The Pie  
Challenge' is back. Can you clear your plate for your FREE dessert? GOOD LUCK 😊

**Taking a break - Ian's Folk Night**

Ian's Folk Night is taking a break and back in April - I know there are already some of  
you missing it but it will be back! Looking for more people to get involved with this so  
please do contact Ian or Susan. You can also leave your details with us and we will pass  
them on. Always a great night with fabulous music and company

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Niki's Bingo Night - 7.30pm** WOW what can I  
say about Bingo and its popularity and BIG winning prize pots AMAZING - Always  
attended by a mixture of age groups and Bingo is not just for the girlyies, the chaps have  
great fun too 😊 Full menu available - BOOKING ONLY!

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Steve's Quiz Night - 7.30pm** Quiz Night  
is a fun night for all, a good excuse to get together with family & friends, always plenty  
of laughter involved - No excuses you are useless with quizzes this night is for everyone  
of all ages - Full Menu available + Pies - BOOKING ONLY!

**Ukraine Fundraising Events** Due to the  
short notice of the next trip in March we have been unable to add any extra events for  
fundraising this time. We will be shaking the pot at all events already scheduled and  
look to be holding further fundraising events in the future plus another raffle.



## March on the Farm



*Aconites up the Moreton Road*

February **filldyke** is the saying, meaning it's the month of rain filling up our ditches. This year we have had very little rain in February, with the ground relatively dry. Firm enough for some early spring operations with tractors to take place.

Early applications of nitrogen have been applied to some of the winter sown crops, and up the concrete road it looks to me that the black grass I noted last month has been sprayed with roundup. Those fields on both sides of the road were cultivated to form a "false seedbed" last autumn. This fine tilth of soil allowed a good germination of the black grass seeds. A good control of the grass now will allow the spring crop sown, whatever it might be, to grow without the competition of this weed which stifles the crop and reduces yield considerably.

Whilst on the subject of weed control, I would like to put into perspective the use of sprays in agriculture, the industry that feeds us. Herbicides are used to control weeds so that the crop can grow without competition. Fungicides are used to keep the leaf clean of the many diseases that attack the plant. A clean green leaf allows photosynthesis to take place to an optimum, thereby producing a good fruit. Insecticides, contrary to many reports are only applied when absolutely necessary. The control of flea beetle in Oilseed rape being the main one... I can assure one and all that Farm Assurance Schemes monitor the use of all these applications very diligently, and the cost per acre alone means that any spray is only used when needed.

On the top Stuchbury footpath an electric fence has been put up to hold a flock of sheep in. They are grazing the autumn sown grass down before maize is planted in April. Sadly, despite many reminders from farm organisations, sheep and cattle worrying by dogs is on the increase. As recently as last autumn a sheep in our parish was mauled to death. It is essential to have control of the dog at all times.

It is great to hear the woodpecker tapping away, and it is wondrous how the hole they make is so perfectly round. On another nature note, the aconites up the Moreton road are still in flower, some five weeks after first appearing. I am sure this is due to the many hard frosts we have had, making our winter weather as it should be. These successions of hard frosts do a great deal of good, especially to the earth. Take note of how easily the soil breaks down after being dug in the early winter.

Cold weather and outdoor work used to be a recipe for chilblains. An old and effective remedy was to make an ointment from the elderflower.

**Richard Fonge**

## Parish Council

### *Summary of Parish Council Meeting held at Sulgrave Village Church Hall on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023*

Chairman Richard Fonge welcomed all to the meeting.

He then asked that we take a moment to remember *Jean Baigent* who had died earlier that week.

#### *Apologies for Absence:*

Cllr Mike Powell.

Fourteen villagers present.

#### *Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.*

The defective street light had now been fixed.

#### *Sulgrave Manor.*

Mr Clive Preston, a trustee of the Manor, attended the meeting and reported that the sale

of the Manor Road Cottages had fallen through. The Manor would now be applying for

planning permission for the internal works, for the two cottages. The Council agreed to

support this application.

The Manor will be open on Coronation weekend

#### *HS2 (High Speed Rail)*

Cllr Sara Staples reported that the lights on the works compound on the Magpie to

Marston Road which had tended to dazzle drivers of vehicles on the adjoining road had

now been dimmed.

Liaison Officer Steve Davis to be invited to the March Parish Council meeting.

Road to B4525 from Magpie junction will be closed February 13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Village Shop.*

The Chair had had a meeting with Robin Prior and Charles Smyth Osbourne from the

Shop Committee, resulting with an invitation to this meeting to see if the P.C. could help.

He stressed that it was important that some positive results should come from this meeting.

Council agreed to put out a survey to the village, and write to neighbouring village Parish

Councils, asking for their support and advertising the shops Post Office and goods.

#### *Storage of P.C paperwork.*

It was agreed that it was not practical to have a cabinet within the hall – a secure unit was needed outside.

#### *Church Hall Survey.*

Cllr Sara Staples reported on the results of the survey and that the Village Hall

Committee had discussed the results and would now be acting upon them.

#### *Coronation of King Charles III.*

The Chair reported that quotes had been received for a marquee, for the “Big Lunch” on

Sunday 7th May 2023. Steve, the Star Inn Landlord, had offered his, and Ingram Lloyd

said there was one in the hall. Both possibilities to be followed up.

Caroline Grant was organising a painting competition for children and adults.

The Parish Council wished this to be an event for the whole village.

#### *Church Library.*

Once permission from the Diocese had been granted, the pews would be removed and





# SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB

## PROGRAMME 2023



## **SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB**

### **PROGRAMME FOR 2023**

- **Monday 23rd January Successional Planting**

An illustrated talk by Chris Day, Broadcaster and Manager at Buckingham Nurseries and Garden Centre  
Maximising the productivity of the vegetable plot or garden border.

- **Monday 27th February Pin me to the Wall**

An illustrated talk by Andrew Mikolajski, speaker and RHS judge  
Everything we need to know about wall shrubs and climbers.

- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March**                      **Climate Change and Gardeners**

An illustrated talk by Howard Drury, horticultural lecturer and adviser  
How we need to adapt our planting for the changes we are already seeing throughout the seasons.

- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**                      **A visit to a local tulip grower**

Date and time to be confirmed depending upon how this winter and spring affect the growing.

- **Thursday 25th May Guided tour of Whichford Pottery**

This will be a morning visit, followed by an optional bookable lunch in their excellent on-site café.

- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June**      **Coach trip to Wisley (tbc)**

Our Gardening Club is now affiliated to the RHS, and one of the advantages is a group of up to 40 can, once a year, visit any RHS property free of charge. Wisley would be our nearest garden - once we have the 2023 coach costings this visit will be put to the club for consideration

- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**      **An evening local garden visit -**  
suggestions from club members invited

- **August**      No club activities this month.

- **September**      **Possible visit to Highgrove**

Highgrove will be publishing group date options in February. Costings to be completed and discussed in club as soon as available.

- **October and November**      **Evening talks recommence.**

Suggestions for subjects to be discussed by the club (early in the year) so advance speaker bookings can be made

- **December**      **Date to be confirmed**

If the 2022 quiz is a hit, we'll go bigger, better - and harder!

**All talks commence at 7.30pm in Sulgrave Village Hall**  
**Contact: Pamela Wagman   [thatchedtea@aol.com](mailto:thatchedtea@aol.com)**

# SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB

Our club was launched in January 2022 in the newly refurbished Sulgrave Village Hall, and it was immediately recognised that it was going to be a great success.

The Gardening Club year comprises really good and interesting speakers each month from October through to March, then garden visits from April to September.

We are affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), which enables us to have a free visit each year for the whole group to any RHS garden - this year we plan to go to Wisley. We also have a garden entry card offering 50% discount for up to two members per visit, again to any RHS garden, to be shared between the group throughout the year.

If you would like to book it, please contact **Maureen Jeffery** - [maureenjeffery1@btinternet.com](mailto:maureenjeffery1@btinternet.com) - 07788 191601.

New members from Sulgrave or any other village are always very welcome. The annual fees for 2023 are £12.50 for single and £20 for joint membership, which covers all speakers for the year, RHS affiliation plus a Christmas party! Fees are payable each January. There is always a raffle and also light refreshments (cash contributions on each evening please). Garden visits will be costed and charged separately for payment by members.

For any information, please contact:

**Pamela Wagman at The Thatched House in Sulgrave.**  
[thatchedtea@aol.com](mailto:thatchedtea@aol.com) 07774 848988

Library moved to the other side of the church with a table and a couple of comfortable chairs put in the area.

*Litter Pick.*

Annual litter picking date fixed for March 24th. Details in March newsletter.

*Contingency Fund.*

Council agreed a sum of £150.

*Councillors' Reports.*

West Northants Councillor Alison Eastwood attended the meeting and reported on the Helmdon Food Larder.

The meeting closed with the Chairman congratulating Steve, Paul, Tony and Mark on their successful humanitarian trip to Ukraine, taking vehicles loaded with aid to Lviv and leaving them there. Sulgrave should be very proud of their achievements.

***Meeting closed at 8.35.***

***Births, Marriages and Deaths***

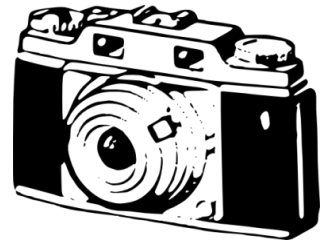
The village is saddened to hear of the death of *Jean Baignet*.

Jean was well known and hugely respected in Sulgrave for her wonderful garden, which we could all enjoy as we walked down the Manor Road past the corner of Tow Rise.

Although still working in Banbury until well into her eighties. Jean could be seen tending to her immaculate hedge and borders from dawn to dusk, throughout most of the year – she created a true plants woman's garden. Jean's deputy gardener was husband Ted, to whom we send our sincere condolences.



# **Sulgrave Camera Club**



We had a good turn-out at our February meeting for a discussion on processing photographs using software. Digital Cameras are capable of capturing a lot of detail, or dynamic range, and drawing that detail out using editing software can make a huge difference to the final photograph. There are a number of software options available, including free to use software but one of the more popular photo processing solutions is Adobe Lightroom, a subscription service which provides Lightroom as a processing suite and Photoshop as an editing suite.

We concentrated on Lightroom at the meeting giving examples of techniques with just a limited number of the tools available, leaving room for more on this topic at a later date.

Our March meeting will be on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 8.00pm at The Star**. For this meeting our members have a challenge – a photograph that makes you smile.

For more information contact [grahamtroberts53@hotmail.com](mailto:grahamtroberts53@hotmail.com)

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## **Gascoigne Farm** **Small Market Garden, Sulgrave.**

Hi,

My name is Tim, and I am the founder of Gascoigne farm, a small market garden based here in Sulgrave.

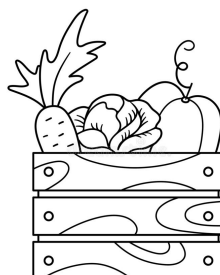
Since 2021 I have been working hard to develop the space into an abundant food forest for us as humans to consume, but also building a habitat for insects and wildlife too. All the seasonal vegetables are organically grown with no chemicals using the “no dig” method along with permaculture principles, to help create top quality soil and tasty produce.

**My goal this year is to have produce ready to sell at the beginning of May and this should then continue through to October/November.** However, this will be the first major year of growing so please bear with me as I work through this.

If you haven't already got in contact with me please do so at [gascoignefarmenterprise@gmail.com](mailto:gascoignefarmenterprise@gmail.com). I will be sending out an email to all who have shown interest in the coming weeks with further updates about the farm, what veg I will be selling first and some prices.

Thanks,

Tim





# “Weather Wise”

## Sulgrave’s own weather station.

Sulgrave has had its own weather station right in the centre of the village for several years. Its’ “live data” is posted every two minutes, wirelessly, via our broadband router in the house, to a host website in the USA, where it can be seen by any visitor from around the world. Your Editor thought it might be useful and interesting to talk about the weather!



The Sulgrave website, ([www.sulgrave.org.uk](http://www.sulgrave.org.uk)), relays the current local weather stats. These are shown on the grey data patch on the “homepage”.

“Clicking” on the bottom line of the patch - “extended forecast” - switches you to the main dashboard of Sulgrave’s weather station website, opening up almost endless possibilities of seeing what will be happening in the 10 days ahead or what has occurred in the previous weeks or months.

If we look at the “history” for February 2023, we can see that very unusually, we have had almost

no rain in our immediate area. Just 1.01 mm, echoing Richard Fonge’s comment, about our very dry fields.

### Summary of principal data for 1 - 20 February 2023

	Max	Low	Average
Temperature	14.9 C	- 3.7 C	6.0 C
Rain	1.01 mm		
Pressure	1046.73 hPa	1016.26 hPa	
Wind	Steady - 19mph. Gust - 24mph		Av direction SW

Note: **hPa = hectopascal**, now the SI, standard unit for atmospheric pressure in the meteorological world.

**1 hPa = 1 mBar.**

For those using antique barometers, **1 inch of mercury = 33.77 hPa!**

The main website “*dashboard*” also shows a forecast for the next ten days. From experience, it is usually very accurate for the first two to three days, but gets less so as we move further ahead.

For those looking for a little more technical info’, the website address for our weather station is <https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IUNITEDK128>



It is known as a “personal weather station” or “PWS”.

The host website, “weather underground”, manages over 250,000 around the world!

The Sulgrave PWS is a “*Davis Wireless Vantage Pro2 ISS*”.

Incidentally, if you are about to go on your travels, you can search for a local PWS for your destination, to see what is about to occur when you arrive. Do you really need to take your umbrella or that thick sweater?

More from “Trebormint” next month.

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## **SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

7.30pm in Sulgrave Village Hall

### **CLIMATE CHANGE AND GARDENERS**

**An illustrated talk by Howard Drury**

Horticultural lecturer and adviser

How we need to adapt our planting for the changes we are already seeing in the UK throughout the seasons

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The evening will include the Sulgrave Seed Swap - bring any unwanted seeds or seedlings onto the swap table and maybe find some new ideas to try for your garden.

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Light refreshments as usual.

New members always most welcome - please see our programme for details.

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## **Sulgrave Allotments**

A plot is currently available. If you are interested, please **contact Graham Trower on [trowergraham5@gmail.com](mailto:trowergraham5@gmail.com)**





### **Coming up at Katharine House**

Our calendar for the coming months is already packed! As well as our much-loved Moonlight Walk and challenge events, we're looking forward to our Open Gardens returning and the launch of Rose to Remember. It's thanks to your ongoing support that we can continue to care for local people and families when they need us the most.

### **Can you walk the walk?**

Join us for this year's Moonlight Walk on Saturday 20 May and get ready to MOVIE! Choose from a six-mile or ten-mile walk and help us put the FUN into fundraising. From Darth Vader to Disney princesses, Mary Poppins to Marvel characters – the costume options are endless! So gather your crew, dress to impress and take part in our annual fundraising walk through Banbury to help raise vital funds for our hospice. [www.khh.org.uk/moonlight](http://www.khh.org.uk/moonlight)

### **Rose to Remember**

Remember a loved one at our special Rose to Remember event this June. Purchase your hand-crafted metal rose, designed especially for Katharine House Hospice, and dedicate it to the life and memory of someone special. The roses will form part of a stunning temporary installation at Sulgrave Manor for two weeks in June. We have a limited number of roses available, so visit our website for more information and to order yours today. [www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember](http://www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember)

### **Calling all budding gardeners**

Can you help our hospice and take part in our Open Garden scheme this year? Whether you've taken part for us many times before or are just interested in finding out what it involves, then we'd love to hear from you! We are always so grateful to the green-fingered supporters who have made Open Gardens for Katharine House such a success over the years – and we hope it continues to grow. [www.khh.org.uk/gardens](http://www.khh.org.uk/gardens)

### **Three cheers for our volunteers**

Could you spare some time – either on a regular basis or occasionally? We're looking to recruit volunteers across a number of areas, including: shop volunteers, gardeners, hospice companions, receptionists and patient drivers. Our volunteers are a vital part of Katharine House and we simply couldn't run the hospice without them. Find out more about how you can make a difference here: [www.khh.org.uk/volunteering](http://www.khh.org.uk/volunteering).

### **Shop from your sofa**

As well as our six local shops we also have an eBay store selling a wide variety of items, ranging from men's and women's fashion, through to books and DVDs. So if you can't make it into one of our town centre shops, why not take a look online from the comfort of your own home? [www.khh.org.uk/ebay](http://www.khh.org.uk/ebay)

### **Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your hospice**

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep in touch with all latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. [www.khh.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.khh.org.uk/newsletter)

# WE GROW FOOD

HEALTHY. TASTY.  
ETHICAL.  
SUSTAINABLE.

While healing the soil, land &  
restoring wildlife habitats.



## In our farm shop you'll find:



100% GRASS-FED ORGANIC BEEF

Grown/reared  
by us



Produced  
by same-ethos  
farmers/producers

100% GRASS-FED ORGANIC LAMB & MUTTON



PASTURE-REARED CHICKEN



PASTURE-REARED DUCK



HEDGEROW-REARED ORGANIC TURKEY



WOODLAND-REARED PORK



100% GRASS-FED ORGANIC DAIRY



ZERO-IMPACT WILD SUSTAINABLE FISH



LARD & BEEF DRIPPING



AMAZONIAN CHOCOLATE



HOMEMADE CHUTNEYS, JAMS, MARMALADE



ORGANIC NO-DIG VEGETABLES



BRITISH BEANS, PEAS, GRAINS & FLOUR



  
Nature Way  
FARM SHOP

**Farm Shop Open every:**  
**Thursday 1-6pm**  
**Saturday 11am - 4pm**

At Old Park Farm, Syresham, NN13 5PT

[naturewayfarm.co.uk/farm-shop](http://naturewayfarm.co.uk/farm-shop)



# SULGRAVE MANOR & GARDEN

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ANCESTRAL HOME

**BUILT BY THE ANCESTORS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON AND SAVED FROM RUIN BY DONORS FROM BOTH THE UK AND USA, SULGRAVE MANOR IS STEEPED IN HISTORY WITH A LEGACY THAT UNITES NATIONS**

**WHAT'S  
ON**

**2023**



**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
AND TO BOOK  
TICKETS VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE**

Easter Themed Open Days  
9-11 April 2023, 10.30am to 4pm

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Coronation Themed Open Days  
7-9 May 2023, 10.30am to 4pm

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Independence Day  
2 July 2023, 11am to 3pm

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The Great Gatsby Outdoor Theatre  
16 July 2023, 5.30pm

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Sulgrave Explorers Summer Weeks  
23 July 2023 to 19 August 2023,  
10.30am to 4pm

Sulgrave Creators Summer Weeks  
19 August 2023 to 3 September 2023,  
10.30am to 4pm

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Alice In Wonderland Outdoor Theatre  
13 August 2023, 5.30pm

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Autumn Fest  
29 October 2023, 11am to 3pm

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Christmas Themed Open Days  
17-19 December 2023, 11am to 3pm

**[WWW.SULGRAVEMANOR.ORG.UK/WHATS-ON](http://WWW.SULGRAVEMANOR.ORG.UK/WHATS-ON)**

**2023 SEASON RUNS FROM 2ND APRIL TO 31ST OCTOBER**

# March 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Camera Club @The Star 8pm	9	10 Leigh Chambers @ The Star 7.30pm	11 Chip Van	12 Holy Communion 8.15am
13	14	15	16	17 Village Newsletter Deadline	18 Coffee, cake and a Chat @Village Hall 10.15am - 12.15pm	19 Mothering Sunday Service 10am
20	21	22 Niki's Bingo @ The Star 7.30pm	23	24	25 Village Litter Pick 10.30am Meet at VH Car Park	26 Holy Communion 10.30am
27 Gardening Club Talk @ Church Village Hall 7.30pm	28	29	30	31 Steve's Quiz @ The Star 7.30pm		

Deadline for the April Newsletter is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023