

# *Sulgrave News*

*December 2024*



*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, 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 January 2025 Newsletter is**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

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**

**IF YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL OR A HOBBY THAT YOU COULD TELL US ALL ABOUT THEN PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH**

## SPRINGFIELD PHARMACY DELIVERIES

This is an update on the piece that appeared in November's  
SULGRAVE NEWS.

As you are all aware, the Pharmacy at Springfield Surgery will no longer be delivering prescriptions to us in Sulgrave after the 1 November.

However, we have now made an arrangement with Sohail at Middleton Cheney Pharmacy and he has very kindly agreed to take on any of the Springfield Surgery patients living in Sulgrave who wish to have their medication delivered.

All you need to do to arrange this **Delivery Service** is to call Sohail at the Pharmacy in Middleton and ask him to put you on his delivery list. When you phone him, **please have your NHS Number to hand** (this is on your repeat prescription). The telephone number is 01295 710386.

**Ordering** your repeat medication will stay exactly the same as you do at present, that is, through **Springfield Surgery** either online or with a repeat prescription through the door at Springfield.

At the time of writing this the delivery day of the week has not been finalised but we will let you know as soon as we can which day it will be, and will put a notice in the Village Shop window.

Sohail has indicated that if anyone is struggling with this method, he **may** consider taking the request over the phone. He would then send your request to Springfield Surgery on your behalf. However, this would need to be a discussion made between you and Sohail himself at Middleton Pharmacy.

Sohail is happy (and ready) to take your call to set up this service.  
The Middleton Cheney pharmacy phone number is 01295 710386.

Libbie Foster: 30 October 2024



## ***Sulgrave Advent Calendar Windows 2024***



Trial: This year we are doing gathering and non-gatherings nights. So here goes.....

Take a look at the Advent Calendar on the next page. All is clear and marked up we hope.

We start with the **1<sup>st</sup> December at 3.00pm** is Christingle at the church followed at 6.30 for our **FIRST** gathering. **PLEASE** try to kick start our Advent by coming along.

This will follow 4 evenings of just windows, where you can go along and check the many wonderful ideas at a time to suit you. **BUT** with no mulled wine and nibbles.

Friday, Saturday and Sundays will all be gatherings. **Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> Mother & Father Christmas will on their sleigh round the village. Starting at 5.00pm opposite the shop, will travel round the village back to the Christmas tree (which will be opposite the shop this year) and the Fish & chip van.** The switch on of tree lights and Christmas carols. Drinks are being donated by the Parish Council, on behalf of the village. Thank you!

The Advents will continue through the month until we get to the last week where we will have a **gathering on the evening of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> followed by the Bus Shelter on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>.** This year the shop has kindly offered to provide the drinks and Jane & Kym will be providing the food.

As we said this year this is a trial. We hope to get feedback on how you feel about this change. Helmdon do just windows for the whole of the month, and it seems to work. But we do like to collect for charity too, and have a chat. This year we will be collecting for **Dogs for Good.** They train helper dogs to help adults, children and indeed whole families that live with serious health challenges enabling them to have a better quality of life. Plus the dog has a pretty good life too. Read more about their work. Leaflets will be around on our gathering nights.

**Now all we need is for this wonderful village to do what they do best and come together visit as many windows as possible enjoy whatever our lovely volunteers offer you, put a few pennies into our buckets.**

**We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas.**

**Kym & Jane**



## Sulgrave Advent Windows 2024 Calendar

Please see below all the locations for the advent windows this year.

N.G = non gathering nights.

You can go along and look at all the amazing windows.



Date	Day	Time	Who	Address
1	Sunday	3.00 6.30	Christingle, the Church Olivia & Ben	The Old Stables, Off Manor Road
2	Monday	NG	Ingram & Hywel	Chapmans Close, School Street
3	Tuesday	NG	Linda & John	The Old Bake House, Manor Road
4	Wednesday	NG	Kym & Tony	Bentley's Farm Bungalow, Helmdon Road
5	Thursday	NG	Jane & Lee	Wykham House, Helmdon Road
6	Friday	6.30pm	Zoe & Richard	Wotton House ,Little Street
7	Saturday	6.30pm	Ben,Hannah,Theodora, Edmund & Antonia	The Old Stocks, Park Lane
8	Sunday	6.30pm	Mel & Chris	The Chestnuts, Little Street
9	Monday	NG	Maureen	Harry's Cottage, Manor Road
10	Tuesday	NG	Jackie & Nick	8 Spinners Cottages, Magpie Road
11	Wednesday	NG	Rachel & Family	High Barn, Off Manor Road
12	Thursday	NG	Kimberley & Connor	Jasmine Cottage, Little Street
13	Friday	6.30pm	Louise,Ollie & Alex	Apple Acre, Manor Road
14	Saturday **	5.00pm	Shelagh & Graham	Sleigh and carols round the Xmas tree Opposite the shop
15	Sunday	6.30pm	Joanna & Charles	Rectory Farm, Little Street
16	Monday	NG	Paul & Brian	The Old Forge, Church Street
17	Tuesday	NG	Sue & Phil	Cabin, down foot path at side of Wemyss Farm
18	Wednesday	NG	Libby & Steven	Wemyss Farm
19	Thursday	NG	Louisa, Kris & Khloe	Farm End House, Magpie Road
20	Friday	6.30pm	Shrimp & Ken	Wisteria Cottage, Helmdon Road
21	Saturday	6.30pm	Janet & Graham	Northston, School Street
22	Sunday	6.00pm	Church Carol Service	Church of St James the Less
23	Monday	6.30pm	Sarah & Andrew	The Old Farm House, Manor Road
24	Tuesday	6.00pm	Jane & Kym	Bus Shelter, Magpie Rd

**Photos will be taken of all windows for the Sulgrave Website.**

Thank you to all of you that have chosen to take a window this year gathering or not. This is a trial this year we hope you all enjoy. Feedback would be welcome. This year our chosen charity is the amazing **Dogs for Good**. NOT just about dogs they train helper dogs to enable children, adults and indeed whole families with various needs to lead a much better life. We hope you will come along to our gatherings with a few pennies for this wonderful charity. 100% from buckets goes to them.

Last year we managed to raise well over £1000.

Email : [Sulgrave.advent@aol.com](mailto:Sulgrave.advent@aol.com)

**Kym and Jane**



**Village Shop News Update**  
**Shop Telephone: 01295 760 066**



**e-mail:** [svshop@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:svshop@hotmail.co.uk)

Yet again, Christmas is upon us. How did that happen? No doubt, Jane will be waving her magic wand and turning the Shop into a festive grotto oozing with good cheer and glad tidings. Expect all the usual Christmas fare such as mince pies - and watch out for a few bottles of higher than average quality wine to grace your Yuletide table.

Sadly, the new baker who was scheduled to supply us with fresh bread, let us down rather badly and failed to deliver as promised. Jai has been hunting for a replacement supplier and *thinks* he has at last found one. The new candidate appears to tick all the boxes and will be sending samples for customers to try very soon. Cross your fingers that it all works out and that we shan't forever be condemned to plastic-wrapped sliced bread.

We have also found someone to provide the Shop with a regular supply of freshly made sandwiches. Filled rolls were very popular, both with regular customers and Sulgrave's population of itinerant tradesmen, so we hope that the new sandwich bar will fill a much-needed gap.

As usual, the Shop is selling Christmas cards on behalf of Katherine House Hospice – a wonderful organisation that has provided end-of-life support for many thousands of people over the years. Please note that payments must be made in cash as the proceeds go directly to the charity and not through the Shop's books.

On Christmas Eve, the Shop will be supplying nibbles and drinks at the 'big reveal' of the bus shelter as part of the annual Advent Window fundraising event that Sulgrave has presented so successfully for many years. Do come along to join in the countdown and enjoy a sausage roll and a glass of mulled wine.

**The shop opening and closing times for the Christmas period are as follows:**

**Tuesday 24 December**

**Christmas day**

**Boxing day**

**Friday 27 December**

**Sat 28 December to Tues 31 December**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

**Shop closes at 3 pm**

**Shop and PO closed all day**

**Shop and PO closed all day**

**Shop closes at 3 pm;**

**PO closed all day**

**Normal opening and closing times**

**Shop and PO closed all day**

A merry Christmas to one and all.

**Digby and Alison**

## **Village Carol Singing**

**Saturday 14th December..**

Time 6.00.pm onwards.

After the Carol singing round the village, there will be singing round the Christmas tree. The fish and chip van will be in attendance or bring your own food .

The Parish Council will be sponsoring the drinks. We look forward to seeing you all on a special occasion.



## **Village Wreath Making**



We are looking for volunteers again to help make wreaths for the village lampposts this year. It's a lovely activity to get involved in - all supplies provided and no experience necessary. We will be collecting greenery and assembling the wreaths in the village hall on Thursday 12th December from 10am - 1pm. Mulled wine and mince pies provided!

If you can help please message Jo on 07973 747464. Thank you!



# Church News

*The Rector for our Benefice is  
Nick Leggett 07925 419068*

*Email – [leggettluwe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:leggettluwe@yahoo.co.uk)*



## Services for December:

**December 1st. Christingle. 3pm**  
**December 8<sup>th</sup>. Holy Communion. 8.15am**  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>. Holy Communion. 10.30.am**  
**December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Carol Service. 3pm**  
**December 24<sup>th</sup>. Midnight Holy Communion. 11.30pm**

This is by far the busiest month in the Sulgrave calendar but, nonetheless, a happy and joyful time.



Traditionally, we begin with a Christingle Service at the beginning of the month and you are all welcome to attend this service at **3 pm on December 1st.**

Christmas would not be Christmas without the telling of the Christmas story and the singing of carols. This service is a small oasis of calm amid all the hustle and bustle in the lead up to Christmas Day. The church will be lit with candles and lanterns and decorated with holly and ivy. The children are invited to place the Nativity figures in the crib and to hear the story of Christ's birth through readings and poems. Afterwards there will be the chance to catch up over festive refreshments!

**Please join us at 3pm on Sunday, December 22nd.**

Traditionally, in Sulgrave we always welcome in Christmas Day with a service of Holy Communion at midnight. With so many Services going on throughout the Benefice our vicar, Nick Leggett has been unable to find a member of the clergy to take the service. However, the Churchwardens will ensure that Communion will still be offered to the congregation. We would love to see as many of you as possible at **11.30pm on Christmas Eve.**

**Andrew Dixon and Shrimp Christy. Churchwardens**



## Christmas Fair

We look forward to welcoming you to our Christmas Fair on **Saturday, November 30th** in the church hall at **10am until noon**. This is a fantastic opportunity to pick up some bargains from the wide range of treats available. Fresh cyclamen plants and table arrangements to brighten up your home. Gifts, crafts and stocking fillers, homemade cakes, puddings and cookies, an amazing raffle plus refreshments. Come and join us for a one stop shopping experience, bargains galore and Free Parking! !

**From Andrew and Shrimp**





**EXCITING NEW**  
**STALL**  
**SULGRAVE XMAS**  
**FAIR**  
**30<sup>th</sup> November, 2024**  
**10am-2pm**

**‘FUNKY STUFF’**

New, Vintage, Designer Costume Jewellery

*[Everything half price and Less]*

**Give her a special present this Christmas**

Also back by popular demand

**TABLE DÉCOR**

**Unique Chocolate**

**Arrangements**

Boxed and in Beautiful Glass Vases



**Contact:** (from 24<sup>th</sup> November)

Pamela Wagman, 07774848988 or  
**thatchedtea@aol.com** If you can't  
make the Fair pop down and have a  
look [by appointment only]





From the beginning of December there will be a very special post box positioned next to the bus shelter.

Sulgrave children are invited to post their letters to Father Christmas.

**The post box will remain there until  
December 23rd  
so please make sure that you 'catch ' the post .**

This service is only available to Sulgrave children so please put your full name and address on your letters.

You never know, you may get a reply but Father Christmas needs to know where you live!





## *Christmas Messages for the Newsletter*

*No village Christmas card this year I'm afraid, but if you would like to include a Christmas message in the newsletter next month, for your friends and neighbours, then please do email me:*

*[lisa.griffin5@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa.griffin5@btinternet.com)*

*or pop your message through my letterbox at*

*Asby House, Manor Rd, Sulgrave.*

*By Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.*

*Mrs Tattersall has already got the ball rolling.....*

*January's newsletter will be delivered before Christmas (confusing, I know!) and so your messages will be read in good time for Christmas.*

*If you'd like to donate the money you'll be saving on Christmas Cards to charity, then do put a bit extra in the collection at one of the Advent Windows events.*

*Lisa X*

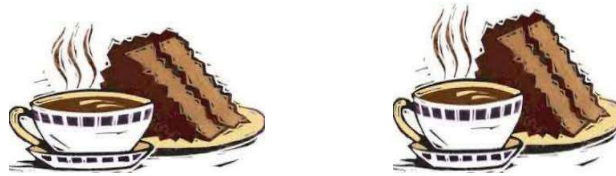


**December's Coffee Cake and Chat is part of the Christmas Fair held on  
Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> 10-12 noon 2024.**

**All proceeds go our Church, St James the Less, so you joining us is very  
important.**

**Come and join us for the this very busy SHOP, Coffee, Cake and Chat  
morning.**

**£3.50, cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake, drink top up free.**



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**The next CCC will be Saturday January 11<sup>th</sup> 2025 @  
10.00am.**

.....

**How much have the CCC mornings contributed to the Hall running costs?**

So far, the amount raised from the monthly coffee mornings is approx. £480 over 17 months Thank you so much to all the loyal CC & Chatterers and, all those who just drop in. Not a huge amount but “a good steady earner” for the hall's on-going running costs.

The Hall continues to be the one well equipped facility open to villagers and others to book throughout the year, so please keep supporting us.





2024  
Pop up Van visits for Sulgrave/Moreton  
Pinkney

14<sup>th</sup> December

*Howe & Co*



*Quality Fish & Chips*

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SULGRAVE GARDENING  
CLUB  
MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER  
“A HEAD GARDENER’S  
JOURNEY”

*An illustrated talk by*  
**ANDREW WOODALL**

*7.00 for 7.30pm in Sulgrave Village Hall*

An evening with Andrew Woodall, now Head Gardener at Broughton Grange, but with many interesting steps along the way. (Clue : Look for a message in a bottle in the fields of gold!)

Raffle, mulled wine, mince pies  
Non members £5pp



## SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB



Back in the summer, members of the Gardening Club had an evening visit to the wonderful Cedar House Gardens & Grounds in Wasperton.

The gardens were stunning – so much so we immediately booked to return in October to see the autumn colour – it did not disappoint.

However, I am somewhat ashamed to admit, much as we admired the hamamelis x intermedia westerstede and adored the anemathele lessiniana, most of the talk following each visit was of the absolutely scrumptious savoury bitesize biscuits served by our most charming and knowledgeable host, David Burbidge CBE.

I risked being thought a horticultural philistine (I am) and asked David to pass on the recipe from Christine, his housekeeper.

So here it is – and be warned, they are seriously addictive.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Christine's Cedar House Cheese Biscuits

5oz butter from the fridge

6oz plain flour

6oz finely grated cheese - any strong cheese, include some parmesan, especially if not adding anchovies

A few anchovies – optional but heavenly

#### Method

Put all ingredients into a food processor and blitz until it looks like pastry

On a floured surface, roll the mix into a long sausage

Slice into rings to double thickness of 1p. Press a small piece of anchovy (if using) in the middle of each ring

Place on non stick paper on a baking tray

Bake for 7 minutes in a hot oven (180 fan)

Serve when cool and enjoy the acclaim!

MJ





## **Sulgrave Camera Club**

For the November meeting we were able to return to The Star where we were made welcome by Landlord Mark.

Our topic for the evening was exposure, whilst today's digital cameras are excellent at measuring light source they tend to average the results of the light meter which may not always be best for images that are taken in a very low light, a very bright

light, or with a very wide dynamic range.

A short video on the subject was shown and from that we learnt some tips and hints on how to take control of the exposure taken. This was followed by a discussion and Q and A session. After a break, we looked at the photographs taken on the topic 'A day in Sulgrave' which generated a whole range of interpretations.

Our next meeting will be a more relaxed social event in the Church Hall as we approach the festive season. We will return to the Star in January on a date yet to be confirmed.

If you have an interest in photography and would like to join us contact [grahamroberts53@hotmail.com](mailto:grahamroberts53@hotmail.com)

Cheers  
Graham



## NOVEMBER ON THE FARM (2024)



**Sheep grazing the pasture land to the east of the village.**

**Photo: Colin Wootton**

### **Richard Fonge writes:**

November has been mild and with very little wind and no rain so far, it has meant that it has allowed the sowing of the winter corn to progress with most farmers in the area having now caught up with their seasonal work. Beans have been direct drilled in the fields up the concrete road before the bridge.

As can be seen from the news, there is much unrest within the farming community with threats of direct action. Land is a precious commodity, especially on our small island where there is a need to feed an expanding population, to house people, to conserve, to provide recreational use and to provide green energy. Farming is a generational industry with large estates and owner occupied farms going back many years and centuries in many cases. In our Parish we have land owned by an Oxford college stretching over to Weston. One tenant grazing with sheep the pasture land, another tenant growing crops up the concrete road and beyond. The Oxford and Cambridge colleges have always been large landowners with their land farmed by tenants.

On the southern edge of the Parish we have a privately owned estate mostly farmed in hand. The other land surrounding the village is privately owned by various farmers, all bringing a diversity of land management. So we have grazing pastures, arable and conservation managed land all within our parish, and this is replicated across our county and beyond. We also have many woods, copses and railway embankments for our fauna, flora and wildlife. Today land managers and farmers are aided by grants to enhance conservation and biodiversity and much sound advice is available to them and it is in their nature to look after their land and protect the landscape. This is not something new as for centuries it was the gamekeeper on the estate or farm who managed the conservation along with his job of maintaining field sports with great skill. Always keeping a balance, as I witnessed when working for a large estate in the



late seventies, and they still do today because their understanding of the countryside has been often passed down through generations, as has the estate. Farmers have always been innovative, and welcoming to new entrants and ideas and along with their love of the land they feel betrayed by politicians of all parties at times who fail to see and understand the rural life and what it brings to the benefit of the nation.

A countryman was asked how he felt one morning. Reply. "Up and down like the sparrows".

**Richard Fonge.**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Christmas*

AT COSTOW  
FARM PRODUCE

MARSTON ST LAWRENCE, OX17 2DA

**FARMSHOP**

Discover a delightful selection of seasonal treats. From traditional to unique festive flavours we have something for everyone. Open from 9am to 6pm

**CHRISTMAS TREES**

In stock from the 23rd November  
In a range of sizes, cut & potted available.  
Nordman (Non-drop), Traditional Spruce & Frazer Trees

**WREATH MAKING WORKSHOPS**

21st November 6pm, 28th November 6pm,  
5th December 6pm & 12th December 6pm

All wreath foliage and materials are provided, along with a selection of decorations and ribbons to create a fabulous festive wreath.

A glass of mulled wine or scrumptious hot chocolate  
Homemade Mince pies  
**£45 per person**

Spaces are limited. To book or request more information,  
please email - [jess@costowfarms.co.uk](mailto:jess@costowfarms.co.uk)  
Or phone 07807 693394

## "Weather Wise"

Facts and figures from Sulgrave's own weather station.

(21 October - 16 November 2024)



Intro' for new readers of **Sulgrave News**.

Your Editor thought it would be interesting to talk about the weather! After all, it is the subject we often choose when we want to break the ice!

Sulgrave has had its own weather station in the centre of the village for several years. Its 'live data' is posted every two or three minutes, wirelessly, via the internet, to a host website in the USA, where it can be seen by any visitor from around the world.

The Sulgrave village website ([www.sulgrave.org.uk](http://www.sulgrave.org.uk)) has a grey 'patch' on its homepage, which shows the current 'live' summary of the weather.

Clicking on the patch's bottom line 'extended forecast' switches you to the main dashboard of Sulgrave's weather station website, opening up an almost endless array of weather data. It shows what will be happening in the next 10 days from Sulgrave's perspective and what has occurred in the previous weeks, month or years.



### Weather stats for October 2024

	<b>Max</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Temperature</b>	17.9°C	1.3 °C	10.5 °C
<b>Rain</b>	60.2 mm		
<b>Pressure</b>	1031.5 mBars	985.1 mBars	
<b>Wind</b>	Steady - 17 mph Gust - 22 mph		Direction South

Sulgrave's total rainfall for the first 10 months of 2024 was 837 mm. For the same period in 2023 we had 627 mm, which is still 33% more than the same period last year.

So far the weather for November has settled down to dry and very cloudy, with little wind. So much so that the energy producers are having to reach for their coal fired power stations. Almost the opposite of last month's extremes.

## Weather stats for the period 1 - 16 November 2024

	<b>Max</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Average</b>
Temperature	<b>12.8 °C</b>	<b>2.3°C</b>	<b>8.0 °C</b>
Rain	<b>1.5 mm</b>		
Pressure	<b>1037.9 mBars</b>	<b>1017.6 mBars</b>	
Wind	Steady - 8 mph Gust - 15 mph		Direction - SSE

November's conditions have been caused by a high pressure weather system (an *anti-cyclone*) sitting over the UK. This is normally associated with clear skies, but unusually this time the cloud cover was prevented from being dispersed. Hence we've had little wind and cloudy skies. This anti-cyclone system over the UK was thought to be a contributory cause of the terrible rainfall and floods on the Mediterranean coast of Spain. It apparently stopped the Spanish low pressure from moving and enabled the rain clouds to concentrate in that area.

Advent, (from the Latin, *Adventus* -meaning a *coming, arrival*) begins on 1st December, and takes through to Christmas, with the daily opening of a window in our Advent calendar, hopefully revealing a small treat as a taster of what's to come on the big day.

When I was a small boy, my parents encouraged me to send a letter to Father Christmas on Christmas Eve. This was sent up the chimney by the hot smoke from our open coal fire to be caught by Father Christmas' helpers, so that he would know what to leave by the tree in the morning. My mother kept one of my notes, written aged six, to which after the list of wishes, roller skates, football boots and a cricket bat etc. a PS was added, "I have been a fairly good boy"! History doesn't relate if Santa Claus was ever influenced!

For reference, units for measuring atmospheric pressure:

1 inch of mercury = 33.77 mBars, thus 30 inches of mercury = 1013 mBars or 1013 hPa.

More technical info' can be found on the Sulgrave weather station website at:

<https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IUNITEDK128>

More from *Trebormint* next month. *Written: Saturday 16 November 2024.*



**Parish Council**  
**SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL ON  
THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Chair, Cllr Richard Fonge, welcomed all to the meeting. There were six villagers.

**Apologies for Absence-** Cllr Joanna Peppiatt. Cllr Alison Eastwood.

**High Speed Rail (HS2)-** Cllr Sara Staples advised that there was nothing to report on HS2 activities. She had met up with the Clerk, Christine Coles, to discuss the application form to progress the monies for the Pocket Park, which is well advanced. Cllr Sarah Parker to collate the many responses from villagers to the questionnaire about upgrading the park.

**Christmas-** The Christmas tree is to be erected on the grass verge opposite the village shop. Thanks are due to Mr and Mrs George Jenkins for allowing us to use their electricity for lighting purposes. Carol singing round the village on Saturday 14th December thanks to Graham Trower and his tractor and trailer.

**Pocket Park-** The Chair reported that there had been no response to the request for volunteers on the working party day. It was agreed that further requests should be suspended and so any remedial work will therefore need to be paid for.

**Sulgrave Manor-** Cllr Will Priestman reported that despite the best endeavours of himself and the Chair to improve relationships with the Manor, the lack of any meaningful response could only lead them to recommend the deletion of this matter as a regular Parish Council agenda item. Council agreed and a formal letter will be sent to Manor.

**Sulgrave Chronicles.-** Martin Sirot-Smith reported that 32 copies of the reprinted and updated Chronicles had been pre ordered.

**The King's Portrait-** The Chair was aware that a portrait of King Charles was available to hang in the hall. He felt strongly that as our head of state his portrait should be in the hall. Agreed that the hall committee be asked to consider.

**Church Library-** The Chair advised that there had been a very successful opening ceremony. An archive section is to be included. £25 has been donated by readers to the Childrens' Society and a letter of thanks for this had been received from Kate Miles.

**Castle Green-** The Council agreed to accept a quote from Simon Watts to replace a length of fencing.

**Footpaths-** Bridleway AY5 remains closed due to the broken bridge over the stream. A repair date from the Highways Department is expected within the next six months.

**Other Items-** Cllr Mike Powell is investigating if Gigaclear can extend service to the bottom of Little St.

A quote is to be obtained for the clearance of leaves from the Stock's Green.

**Date of Next Meeting**

**Thursday 9th January at 7.30pm**

**Meeting closed at 8.20pm.**



Richard Fonge. Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Take a Trek to The Star**

Our village pub is back! After three months looking lost and forlorn (and that's just the regulars) the Star has reopened thanks to our new and enthusiastic Landlord,

Sulgrave resident Mark Penne-Stuart.

For the first few weeks Mark has been serving drinks only while he prepares the kitchen but imminently he promises an interesting menu featuring dishes from different parts of the World as well as some of the old favourites. Mark says: "We took the opportunity to make some much-needed adjustments to the kitchen to enable us to provide menus to suit our customers. The menu, whilst having some regular dishes, will change seasonally using fresh local ingredients. We will also do some themed food evenings with some specific food tasting sessions (pre booking only for these please)."

There will be a small menu available from Friday 22nd November. This will widen in coming weeks. "We are excited also to introduce a bar menu featuring some tapas items. Sunday Roasts - We love them and look forward to starting these in December. Christmas meals will also be available."

Already there have been some great evenings attended by many villagers as well as people from neighbouring villages. With several newcomers to Sulgrave there are some new faces and it's a great opportunity to introduce ourselves and make them feel welcome. The Hooky beer is as good as ever and a number of new wines are making an appearance. Mark is continuing the dog-friendly policy and well-behaved dogs are invited, as long as they bring their owners.

On wine Mark says:

“We are passionate about wine and keen to provide a good selection of premium wines while at the same time keeping some affordable day-to-day drinking wines. In January, we look forward to conducting some wine tastings.” Weekly opening times are from 6.00pm Tuesday-Friday (closed Mondays) and from 12 Noon on Saturdays and Sundays.

**Christmas & New Year Opening at The Star**

**Christmas Eve – Open from 3 pm**

**Christmas Day – Open 11.30 - 2.00 pm (or empty)**

**Boxing Day – Open from 12.00 noon**

**New Year’s Eve - Open from 3.00 pm**

**New Year’s Day - Open from 12.00 noon**

**Any Dinner parties or Christmas bookings, please talk to Mark for a tailor-made package.**

Mark is very much open to new ideas whether it is around food, drink, events or even the décor (“We are making constant changes and improvements as we go forward”), He can be contacted on: **07741 316253** “Feel free to send a text or to call - I am not always available to receive calls, depending on what’s happening”

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE STAR**

Some of you are already aware that Mark is bringing our Star back to life. We know there is a lot Mark wants to do with the pub, but it will take time. We wish him all the very best in his new venture.

It’s not easy taking on a business especially when it’s been closed for a while. Given time and with luck and the support of the village you will continue to grow.

Mark’s number is 07741 316253 No land line at the moment.

The landline you may have is No longer The Star number.

All the very best Mark

Kym & Tony





**December 2024**



**OPENING TIMES - We are Open Everyday**

**Monday – Saturday 08:00 – 17:00**

**Sunday 09:00 – 15:00**

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

Christmas Madness will soon be in full swing but roll on Christmas for some well-earned days off as we will be closed 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December. Surely that makes time for a Holiday?

Something exciting is starting in the new year... We should be collecting keys for a new premises. This has come up out of the blue really but also potentially at the right time... Possibly never a good time but this just feels right. Since owning the Firestation I have relit my love for baking and well we need more space and as we await the extension... I'm going to open a Bakery. It's on the Market Square in Brackley. I'm literally extremely nervous but at the same time very **EXCITED....**

I'm going to make some changes into how I run Webster's as something will have to give – However – A Coffee Shop or Bakery was never something I wanted – However I blooming LOVE IT and so glad this is the direction I'm now focusing on.

That's enough from me... I Would like to wish everyone in the Village a huge Merry Christmas and Happy New Year... Here's to a happy and healthy 2025. As always Thank you to all that support my business.

All Fire Station Bookings email – [ofs@websters-events.co.uk](mailto:ofs@websters-events.co.uk) or  
Call – 07876747437

Website – [www.websters-events.co.uk](http://www.websters-events.co.uk)

Facebook and Instagram – Webstersevents / oldfirestationbrackley



## **'A MUSICAL CELEBRATION of the CHRISTMAS STORY'.**

**At Egerton Hall, Juno Crescent, Brackley, on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>  
December 2024 @ 7.30pm, Brackley Jubilee Choir and Brackley  
Wind Orchestra will join in collaboration for the first ever musical  
concert performed together.**

This musical celebration of the Christmas story will be themed around the music of *'On Christmas Night'*, composed by Bob Chilcott in 2010, as the Brackley Jubilee Choir will perform a sequence of eight original carols combined with a complementary series of Christmas tunes and original compositions provided by the Brackley Wind Orchestra. The whole concert is programmed specifically to complement the Christmas story, which will also be interspersed with traditional carols inviting audience participation.

The Chilcott composition calls upon several familiar carol melodies within his own settings, resulting in an impressive array of styles and moods - from comforting and reflective to jubilant, swinging, and folksy. *'On Christmas Night'* is a versatile and enchanting addition to the choral repertory, combining tradition and invention, to provide an excellent setting for individual carols and accompaniments programmed separately between the musical numbers.

Under the guidance of Brian Dipple, Musical Director of Brackley Wind Orchestra and Nick Perry, Brackley Jubilee Choir, Musical Director, the whole concert programme has been carefully curated to appeal to audiences of all ages. This will be an evening of entertaining, engaging and varied Christmas music, which we are sure to please both our regular and new audience members from the growing Brackley and District community.

**Diary note: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 @ 7.30pm, 'A Musical Celebration of the Christmas Story'. Egerton Hall, Juno Crescent, Brackley, NN13 6GN. Tickets: £10.00. Available in advance via a Choir member or at the door.**



*Brackley Jubilee Choir is a mixed voice choir based in Brackley, Northamptonshire. The choir was originally formed in 1977 to celebrate the late Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee, and over the past 45+ years has built an enviable reputation of successfully performing a number of challenging Sacred Music, Classical, Modern and Musical Theatre concerts. The choir rehearses every Tuesday 7.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. during school term time at the Baptist Church, Waynflete Close, Brackley, NN13 6AE. New members are always welcome to join us at our rehearsal evenings from 9th January 2024.*

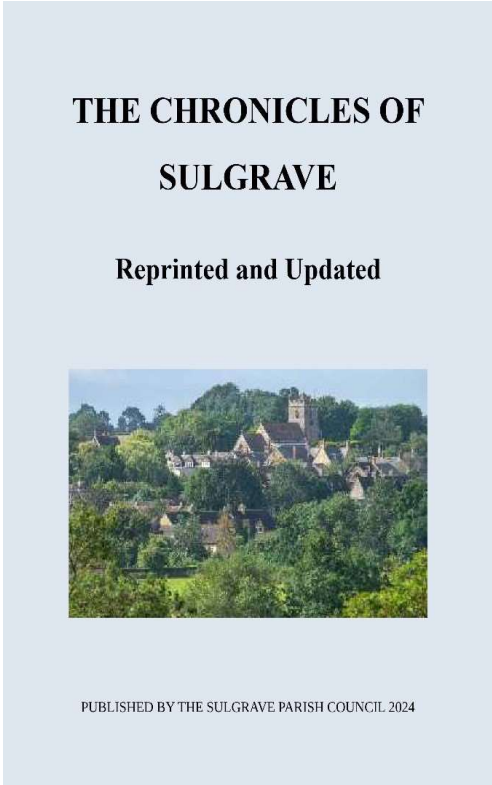
Press & Publicity- Contact: David Taylor

E-Mail: david.taylor@fisherkingmedia.co.uk Tel: 07811 716355

Web Site: <http://www.brackleyjubileechoir.co.uk/>



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I would like to order.....copies at the pre-publication price of £15.

I enclose a cheque made payable to “Sulgrave Parish Council” (or I have transferred £.....to the Sulgrave Parish Council Account 60711977 – Sort Code 20-03-84)

Please leave this order form at Sulgrave Village Shop or deliver to “Richard Fonge, Magpie Cottage, Manor Road, Sulgrave” on or before Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....





**Award winning community led and run village shop and Post Office  
01295 760066**

**Opening Hours** *Do check with the shop as times may change, particularly on Bank Holidays.*

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

Why not open an account to charge your purchases too? Ask next time in the shop.

Volunteers always welcomed – either as part of the volunteer management group (HR, Finance experience particularly needed), to work in the shop, or various other key roles behind the scenes. Please leave your details in the shop, and someone will get in touch with you.

# December 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					30 <sup>th</sup> Nov Christmas Fair 10am – 12pm Village Hall incl Coffee, Cake and Chat	1. Christingle 3pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Advent Window 6pm
2. Gardening Club Talk 7.30pm Village Hall	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8. Holy Communion 8.15am
9.	10.	11.	12. Wreath Making 10am-1pm Village Hall	13. Newsletter Deadline	14. Village Carol Singing @6pm Chip Van	15. Holy Communion 10.30am
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22. Carol Service 3pm
23.	24. Shop closes @3pm Midnight Holy Communion 11.30pm	25. Shop and PO closed	26. Shop and PO closed	27. Shop closes @3pm PO closed	28.	29.
30.	31.	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2025 Shop and PO closed				

Deadline for the January 2025 Newsletter is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024