

Sulgrave News

July 2025



*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 August Newsletter is
Saturday 12th July 2025

If you have information, articles or stories for the newsletter telephone Lisa on
01295 768598 or e-mail **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**



CALLING ALL SULGRAVE GARDENERS!

SULGRAVE ALLOTMENTS

GROW YOUR OWN VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND CUT FLOWERS!

VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE NOW IN A RANGE OF SIZES WITH NO WAITING LIST. VERY REASONABLE RENT FROM £30 PER YEAR.

IT' S NOT TOO LATE TO SOW BASIL, DWARF FRENCH BEANS, BEETROOT, SPRING CABBAGE, CORIANDER, CHICORY, SPINACH AND COSMOS.

THIS MONTH WE ARE HARVESTING RUNNER BEANS, CARROTS, ONIONS, POTATOES, RADISHES, LETTUCE, COURGETTES AND CUCUMBERS.

COME AND JOIN US!

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT ROSIE ON 07779149319



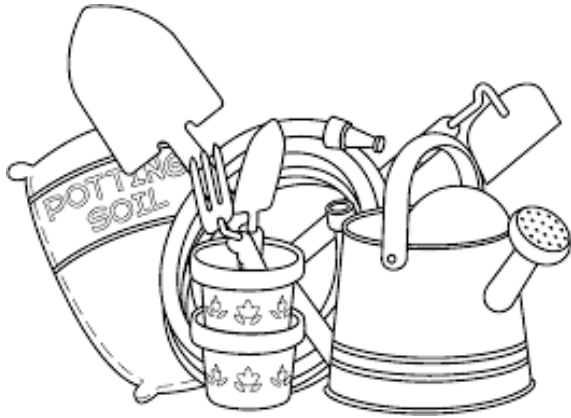
Volunteer Needed.....

.....to take on the delivery of the newsletter along the west side of Magpie Road each month.

It will be around 28 newsletters to deliver.

If you can help, and for more details, please contact

Kym Keatley - 07513 758763



SULGRAVE GARDENING CLUB

MONDAY 14TH JULY 2025

A private evening visit to

**Hardwick Hill, Priors Hardwick
CV47 7SP**

By kind permission of Candy Kelly

We will meet at Hardwick Hill (just a 25 minute drive away) at 6.15 for a 6.30pm start.

Candy Kelly is a professional garden designer, and her beautiful five acre garden ends in a ha-ha with views stretching to the Malvern Hills.

We can expect to find mature trees, long borders and an ornamental pond leading to a summerhouse with a small wild flower meadow and beehives. Along with a vegetable garden and much interesting hedging.

Admission to Candy's garden is £12.50 each, to include a tour of the gardens, wine or a soft drink and savoury nibbles. Please bring your payment with you – right money if possible!

Please let Maureen know by Friday 10th July if you'll be coming along – 07788 191601 (maureenjeffery1@btinternet.com) and car share where possible. Non Gardening Club members are most welcome.

We look forward to meeting up with you there.

Pamela and Maureen



The Sulgrave Club and The Gardening Club



proudly presents

A Vintage Garden Antiques Roadshow

featuring

John Matthews

**leading expert in
Garden Tools and Features**

**His fascinating Lecture will include
examples of his vintage collection of garden implements
all of which are on sale**

**Why not bring some of your own (garden) relics
and heirlooms for John to give his learned opinion**

Saturday, 5th July 2025, at 2.00 pm

The Thatched House, Manor Road, Sulgrave, OX17 2SE

Entrance: Members Free: Visitors £5 (cash only) per person

Raffle: £1 a strip, Refreshments: Afternoon Tea

Reservations: Please email: the.sulgrave.club@icloud.com

"Give us the tools and we will finish the job"

Village Shop News Update.

Telephone: 01295 760 066 email: svshop@hotmail.co.uk



Summer is upon us again and the sounds of lawn mowers, hedge trimmers and HS2 fill the air.

Trying to find exciting news to put in the newsletter every month becomes ever more difficult as, when everything is running smoothly, sales ticking along nicely and volunteers and shoppers are all cheerful – what can one say? We still get “What a wonderful shop” comments from new customers almost every week which makes the effort put in by the managers and volunteers feel worthwhile.

After a bit of a slump after Christmas (no doubt attributable to short-lived New Year resolutions), wine sales are taking off again and Digby wonders whether the shop should provide him with a new wheelbarrow as his old one is beginning to fall apart after so many journeys to top up the wine cupboard. Some new lines have recently been added so do check the shelves. The Trapiche Reserve Malbec has received a lot of positive comments from customers – though it is probably a bit too classy for swigging at a barbecue.

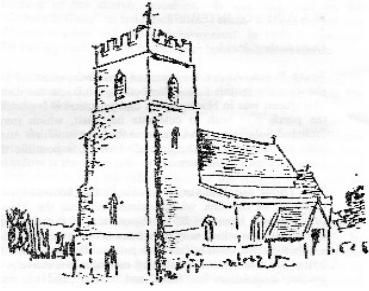
The recent warm weather has resulted in a boost in sales of ice-creams and ice lollies so we shall ensure that we have good stocks in hand to meet the increased demand.

Wimbledon will be the viewing of choice for many during the first fortnight of July so be sure to get into the spirit of things and feast on lots of strawberries and cream in front of the TV (the shop will do its best to stay well stocked) with maybe a glass of chilled Prosecco (also plenty in hand) during the evening sessions. Apart from strawberries, we shall be stocking all the usual delicious summer fruits as they come into season.

Our greetings card selection continues to be very popular, and a big order has just gone in for some new ones – so do keep your eye on the racks over the next few weeks.

Enjoy the summer weather and don't forget your sunscreen

Digby and Alison



Church News

The Rector for our Benefice is

Nick Leggett 07925 419068

Email – leggettluwe@yahoo.co.uk

Services for July

Wednesday 9th.	Holy Communion. Noon
Sunday 13th.	Holy Communion. 8.15 am
Wednesday 16th.	Holy Communion. Noon
Sunday 20th.	Family Holy Communion. 10.30am
Wednesday 23rd.	Holy Communion. Noon
Sunday 27th	Evensong. 6.00 pm
Wednesday 30th.	Holy Communion. Noon

The summer pattern of services continues with our midweek Holy Communion service each Wednesday at noon using what is now designated as a small side chapel in the church. For those who cannot always attend a Sunday service this is an opportunity to partake in Holy Communion

The Family Holy Communion service will continue through the summer. Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in the service. Refreshments are served afterwards.

You will see that there are two notifications of fund raising events. Urgent work is required on the tower; and the weather vane, damaged in the winter storm needs to be repaired and re-instated. We hope that you will come to one or both of these events. We look forward to seeing you.

Shrimp Christy and Andrew Dixon Churchwardens.



SATURDAY 27th **SEPTEMBER.**

It's been a long time
since we held a Safari
Supper in the village!



In fact, the last one was pre - Covid! It's an event that has proved really popular; an opportunity to meet up with both friends and new arrivals to Sulgrave. No need for a designated driver as all venues are within walking distance.

This is the ideal opportunity to get together over a meal, whether they be friend, neighbour, or newcomer! The surprise is you won't know where you're going until that evening.

It's a timetabled event and takes a bit of organizing, so you need to sign up fairly quickly!

The evening begins at one venue for drinks where you will discover where you're going for your first course. At the end of that course you will then find out where your next course will be . Finally, we meet up all together for desserts - a chance to catch up on the evening's event!

We hope as many as possible will join in. We would appreciate volunteers to host a starter or main course. I

If you wish to take part or need more details please contact:
Shrimp Christy on 01295 760214 or Anne Dyde on 07493 882657

We can't wait to hear from you!





Pimm's, Fizz and Fancies Party. Save the Date.

Friday August 8th, 6-8pm at Chapmans Close.

Proceeds will go to (hopefully) reinstating the cockerel windvane that was damaged in one of our winter storms. The tower needs repair work as well as the cockerel repair so the more people who comes to this event the better.

Please bring friends and family, all are welcome including children.

Tickets will cost £10 per person and this includes one free drink.

We need help with providing canapes, sausage rolls and not forgetting the fancies etc, or just help with tables and possible tent (hopefully not).

**Please contact Ingram Lloyd 07796 545288 or
Shrimp Christy 01295 760214**

.....



COFFEE, CAKE AND CHAT

**Saturday July 12th 10-12noon
@ Sulgrave Church Hall**



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

All proceeds go to funding our Church Hall, so you joining us is very important.

***There will be no August or September Coffee, Cake and Chat.
Sulgrave's Macmillan Coffee Morning will be September 6th.***



Not a lot to report from the Camera club for this newsletter as the usual Wednesday meeting has been postponed due to members holidays until Tuesday 17th June which is after the Newsletter deadline.

At the next meeting we will be looking at backlight photography, photographs of subjects against the light, silhouettes, and shadows. The results should be interesting as it offers the opportunity for creative photography and no doubt some discussions on technique will follow the viewing of members contributions.

If you have an interest in photography, at any level, Sulgrave Camera Club always welcomes new members. Pop along to The Star at our next meeting, usually the second Wednesday of the month at 8.00pm or contact grahamroberts53@hotmail.com.

Take a look at our website sulgravecameraclub.org to see some of the members contributions

Cheers

Graham

Weather Wise

Facts and figures from Sulgrave's own weather station. Facts and figures from
Sulgrave's own weather station.
(18 May - 15 June 2025)

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) has a grey
'patch' on its homepage, which shows the current 'live' summary of
the weather.*



15 June 2025

Weather stats for May 2025

	Max	Low	Average
Temperature	27.3 °C	2.0 °C	13.3 °C
Rain	18.3 mm		
Pressure	1027.4 mBars	1002.4 mBars	
Wind	Steady - 16 mph Gust - 22 mph		4.7 mph Direction SE

Weather stats for 1 - 14 June 2025

	Max	Low	Average
Temperature	27.7 °C	6.1 °C	14.5 °C
Rain	24 mm		
Pressure	1021 mBars	998.7 mBars	
Wind	Steady - 15 mph Gust - 20 mph		2 mph Direction - SSW

The “Drought”?

No I don't think so. We eventually had almost four inches of rain in Sulgrave over the last six weeks. Not enough to catch-up to our normal rain fall levels at the end of spring. Dramatic photographs have appeared in the press showing very low levels in many of our reservoirs.

Richard Fonge in his “June on the Farm” article this month talks about the consequences of having had very low levels of rainfall this spring - poor cereal yields and higher prices in the shops for all of us.

I've just watched the latest episodes of “*Clarkson's Farm*” on Prime Video tv, reminding me how wet during harvest last summer was for the farmers. Again causing very low yields resulting in higher prices at the shops.

However the *jet stream* seems to have moved back into its more normal summer pattern, allowing variable periods of dry followed by unsettled weather moving east across the UK from the Atlantic. It remains to be seen as to whether we will avoid having hosepipe bans later in the summer.

Out of interest I had a look at the Met Office's historical archive to see what had happened in previous July's of the last 20 years. (Within living memory - perhaps for some?):

- Highest ever recorded temperature in the UK - 19 July 2022. 40.3°C at Coningsby, Lincolnshire.
- Very heavy rain. 115 mm at Brize Norton and 147 mm fell at Sudeley, Gloucestershire between 6.00am and 6.00pm on 20 July 2007. That is more rain in a 12 hour period than we have had in the last 12 weeks!
- Very high winds? In fact a *level four tornado* forced a 12 km long track through the east side of Birmingham's city centre on 28 July 2005, causing considerable damage to housing and trees.

Happy days in July? Fingers crossed!

More from Trebormint next month.

Written: Saturday 15 June 2025

JUNE ON THE FARM – 2025



Moisture starved barley in a field off the Moreton Road

Photograph: Colin Wootton

Richard Fonge writes:

June has begun with much needed rain. All the grassland fields are looking very sparse and the corn whether sown in the winter or spring is desperate for rain. The forecasters have often said during this long dry sunny spring that growers and gardeners need some rain. That is true, but it is to all our benefit that we have enough rain to grow good crops - The farmer for his business and the consumer for the plentiful supply of food at reasonable cost.

It can be seen how short the crops are in length, and they have come to flowering or into ear much earlier, by a good two weeks at least.

There are two types of barley with many varieties within each type. The barley seen up the Moreton Rd and along the concrete road is feed type, used in the feeding of livestock mainly. The other type is malting barley for the brewing trade, more suited to the lighter, brashier soils of the Cotswolds for example. It needs slightly different management to reach the standards of the brewer. Minimum protein of 9.5% to 12%. for one.

Wheat can also be divided into three types. Off Park lane there is a small field of wheat which is being grown for animal feed, therefore a feed wheat. Milling wheat is another type, like the malting barley requiring different management to reach the bakers criteria.

Milling wheat commands a higher price, but has higher inputs and yields less than feed wheat. As a grower getting a contract with Warburtons is a premium for example.

The third wheat is durum mainly grown in Italy for the making of Pasta and macaroni, with semolina as a by-product.

Agricultural shows start throughout the country in May and go on till September. Whilst farming is at the heart of the show, with livestock and agricultural machinery to the fore, there are many other attractions, with stalls and entertainment. A great day out for all and an opportunity to get to know how the countryside works balancing the demands of farming, conservation, public access and sport.

Finally a Warwickshire farmer I knew was called Birchley Saunders. His three brothers were called: Ashley, Elmly and Oakley. Do you think there was another branch to the family?

Richard Fonge.



**2025 Pop up Van visits for
Sulgrave /Moreton Pinkney**

		<i>June 28th</i>
<i>July 26th</i>	<i>August 23rd</i>	<i>September 20th.</i>
<i>October 18th</i>	<i>November 15th.</i>	<i>December 13th</i>

SULGRAVE PARISH **COUNCIL**



Summary of Parish Council Meeting held at Sulgrave Village Hall on Thursday 5th June 2025 at 7.30 pm

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated Unitary Cllr Alison Eastwood on being elected Chair of the new West Northants Council.

Apologies for Absence.
Cllr Will Priestman.

High Speed Rail (HS2).

Cllr Powell reported that the Banbury Lane (Culworth to Thorpe Mandeville) will be closed for three days from Wednesday 18th June. Bridge being put in place.

Councillors' Email Addresses

New email addresses required for all councillors and clerk by government. The village website also to have a government domain name. Colin Wootton agreed to seek advice and inform clerk.

Pocket Park.

Cllr Sarah Parker gave an upbeat report. She had had good feedback from her discussions with the young families in the village and hoped to be ready to present a submission to HS2 for funding by September. Council agreed with the concept that this was a community project. Cllr Peppiatt to report back to Hall committee on their request.

Broken Defibrillator.

To be repaired and an insurance claim submitted.

Gigaclear.

Cllr Powell reported that the Broadband Service is to be commissioned later this month.

Village Newsletter.

Chairman reported that he had asked Victoria Barker of Kiln Farm with Kat Farmer and Taylor Smith of Lowick House to take over the editing of the village newsletter and they had accepted. They will take over later in the year in agreement with Lisa Roberts.

Trees.

Council agreed to get quotes for the pruning back of overhanging branches including an assessment of the copper beech on the Stocks Green.

Allotments

Poorly used. Only three cultivated. Action needed. An article will appear in next month's newsletter.

Annual Accounts.

Council agreed and signed the presented accounts.

Councillors' Reports.

New dog waste bins installed. Housing Needs survey being carried out by Stonewater.

Residents to be informed later this month.

Meeting closed 8.25pm.

Next meeting: July 3rd at 7.30pm

Richard Fonge. Chairman

The Sulgrave Charities

The Trustees of The Sulgrave Charities invite applications for funding from Sulgrave residents only.

“On the 29th March 1700, John Timcocks willed £10 for the benefit of the poor in Sulgrave. The capital was to be invested and the interest distributed at the discretion of the trustees.

John Walker added £20 on 5th April 1715 under the same conditions. A gift of £2 by the ‘parishoners of Sulgrave’ on the 4th November 1717 brought the total to £32 which was used to purchase land in the parish of Helmdon. A rent charge of £3.4.0d was levied on the land to give the first regular income to the trust which was subsequently entitled ‘Timcocks and Walkers gifts’”
(recorded by the Charity Commissioners on 27th March 1759)

As with all the other bequests to the charities, the income remains the same to this day.

In 1977, a radical overhaul of the charities was instituted by the Charity Commissioners and this resulted in the various bequests from across the years being grouped under one of two headings.....

1. The Gardiners Education Charity – with the underlying principle of providing funds to be used to provide education for the children of the parish.

In recent years this has resulted in donations being made to the local primary and secondary schools and used to purchase computers, books, chairs etc..... A long way from the sorts of purchases that were being made 300 years ago when ‘the money was used to pay the salary for a

Schoolteacher to instruct ten poor children in reading, writing and casting accounts', but with the same principle in mind. Tools for starting an apprenticeship and even funding for some cricket kit are also examples of how the money has been used in more recent times.

2. A Relief in Need Scheme – A scheme designed with the underlying principle of helping those in need in the parish.

If you wish to apply for funding from either of the Sulgrave Charities then please do use the relevant application form which are listed down the right-hand side of the homepage on the village website: Sulgrave.org

Or contact The Chair of the Charities,

James Kirkham – Kirkham_james@hotmail.com

All applications are seriously considered and treated confidentially by the Trustees.

The money is there to be used so please do get in touch.





SULGRAVE MANOR & GARDEN

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ANCESTRAL HOME

Sunday, 6th July
10:30am - 4pm

Family Fun Day

to celebrate
at



INDEPENDENCE DAY

**SULGRAVE
MANOR & GARDEN**

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ANCESTRAL HOME

A FUN-FILLED DAY SPONSORED BY



Join us for a fun-filled day featuring American cars, tours of the Manor and garden, and a variety of outdoor games. Younger visitors can enjoy face painting and plenty of family-friendly activities.

Our pop-up café will be serving hot dogs, burgers and cakes, along with a selection of hot and cold drinks.

All activities, guided tours, talks, games, and face painting are included in your entry fee.

*Entry**

Adults: £12.50

Children: £7

Family: £32

Sulgrave Manor, Manor Road, Sulgrave, Banbury, OX17 2SD



OPENING TIMES

Monday – Saturday 08:30 – 17:00

Sunday 09:00 – 15:00

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



Opening Times

7:30am – 4pm Monday – Friday

8am – 4pm on Saturday's.

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Call – 07876747437

Website – www.websters-events.co.uk

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Revised Deadlines for Newsletter Articles 2025

- Saturday 12th July (note change of date!)
 - Saturday 16th August
 - Saturday 20th September
 - Saturday 18th October
 - Saturday 15th November
 - Saturday 13th December.

nomad.

BIKE REPAIRS & SERVICING

NEED YOUR BIKE FIXING?

But don't have the time.

Don't worry - we come to you!



Free Pick-up and Drop-off in Sulgrave + Helmdon

Our Cytech-qualified mechanics are experienced working on all types of bikes, including mountain, road, gravel, commuter, hybrid, BMX, and children's bikes.



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Facebook page





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.*

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

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

July 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1.	2.	3. Parish Council Meeting @Village Hall 7.30pm	4.	5. Vintage Garden Antiques Roadshow 2pm	6. Family Fun Day @ The Manor 10.30am – 4pm
7.	8.	9. Holy Communion @ 12pm Camera Club Meeting @ The Star 8pm	10.	11.	12. Coffee, Cake and a Chat @ Village Hall 10am-12pm	13. Holy Communion @8.15am
14. Garden Club Trip to Hardwick Hill	15.	16. Holy Communion @ 12pm	17.	18.	19.	20. Family Holy Communion @ 10.30am
21.	22.	23. Holy Communion @12pm	24.	25.	26. Chip Van	27. Evensong @ 6pm
28.	29.	30. Holy Communion @ 12pm	31.			