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# Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton  
November 2024

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## November 2024

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8.00am**, Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm**, Parish Council Meeting, The Old Guardroom

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12pm**, Coffee at the Chapel

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>, 12pm to 2pm**, Village Market, Village Hall

## Regulars (please see entries for details)

**Every Thursday – Lunch Club**

**Every Monday and Thursday – Yoga with Alison Usher-Wilson**

**Every Tuesday (term time) – 7pm Sutton Singers**

**Every Tuesday and Wednesday – Pilates with Nicky Holmes**

**Every Tuesday – Senior Badminton (Tony Baker on 0x 882576)**

**Every Thursday (term time) – Zumba**

## Parish Council News

As a new member of the parish council I hope I can be of help to the residents of Stanton Harcourt and Sutton. We live in a wonderful area and are lucky to have such a wonderful community.

## The Old Guardroom

If you're looking for a room to hire in the village, The Old Guardroom on the Old Airfield development is the ideal venue.

The facility is suitable for business meetings, small social gatherings (receptions, memorials, parties etc), taught lessons (Yoga, ballet, art classes etc). It comprises of one large open area (54 m2) with patio doors that open out on to a large, enclosed garden with seating. There is a small kitchenette and a toilet. Maximum capacity 108 people. Seating and tables provided for 30. There is a small car park for approximately 10 cars adjacent to the building. See our welcome book for more details.

Hire charges:

- Regular Bookings Village Societies e.g., Drama Club, Book Club etc £5 per hour.
- Taught classes e.g., dance, yoga, bounce, art class etc. £10 per hour
- Casual bookings in the day and Sunday to Thursday evenings (until 6pm) £10 per hour
- After 6pm Friday and Saturday £14 per hour
- Special occasions where the facility is required in the day and evening (per 24 hours) e.g.
- A Wedding or special occasion related to a Stanton Harcourt or Sutton resident £100
- Non-resident of our village Outsider £150

For more information email:

oldguardroom@shpc.co.uk

## Electronic Speed Signs

The parish council are now investigating the addition of new electronic speed signs at both ends of the parish. The plan is to replace the existing sign on the

Eynsham Road and erect a new one near the Stanton Harcourt cemetery. The parish council are exploring the best options to amplify the impact of the signs to stop speeding through the village.

The next parish council meeting is Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November in the Old Guardroom everyone is welcome. It would be lovely to see you there.

**Parish Councillor Sandra Cosier**

## Monthly Report October 2024 from West Oxford District Councillor Steve Cosier (SASH)

Dear residents,

I hope you are well. Just a few pieces of information for you.

## Pension credits and housing benefit – winter fuel bills

Since the Government's changes to Winter Fuel Payment eligibility rules, I have been asked by local SASH pensioners how they might access information regarding pension credits and housing benefit to help them with the payment of winter fuel bills.

On their behalf, I have contacted Democratic Services (WODC) who have explained that the Customer Services team (WODC) have a signposting message to put any caller in touch with housing team to discuss pension credits and help with housing benefit. Alternatively, members of the public can go to town centre shop on Welch Way where they can speak to staff in person. I have included the web links that residents can use to find out more information. Please can you pass this message onto anyone who you think might be eligible to claim pension credits and help with housing benefit.

<https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit>

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/.../housing-benefit-and.../>

WESTOXON.GOV.UK

Also, I would like to also pass on information from the Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire. If you are interested in making an application for pension credit to help with winter fuel payments call:

0808 2787908

or write to:

The Old Print House  
Marlborough Ln  
Witney OX286DY.

## Parking Witney Town Centre

Many SASH parents have contacted me about the lack of parking in Witney town centre for parent & toddler parking. Though not a direct ward issue, I have been in contact on their behalf with Councillor Tim Sumner the Executive Member for Leisure and Major Projects, who is responsible for overseeing such issues. Tim has passed on my request to officer from the Leisure and Major Projects team to investigate making more of WODC owned spaces available for parents and

toddlers. I will update residents when I receive confirmation of the changes.

**Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are:**

Steve Cosier

- Email: [steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

Charlie Maynard

- Email: [Charlie.maynard@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Charlie.maynard@westoxon.gov.uk)

**Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is:**

Dan Levy

- Mobile: 07852 748362
- Email: [dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**Your Member of Parliament is:**

Charlie Maynard

- Email: [charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk)

**Your Parish Councillors are:**

James Coleman // [james@shpc.co.uk](mailto:james@shpc.co.uk)

Sandra Cosier // [sandra@shpc.co.uk](mailto:sandra@shpc.co.uk)

Keith Hickson (chair) // [keith@shpc.co.uk](mailto:keith@shpc.co.uk)

Ellen Judson // [ellen@shpc.co.uk](mailto:ellen@shpc.co.uk)

Geoff Webster // [geoff@shpc.co.uk](mailto:geoff@shpc.co.uk)

Joe Deane // [joe@shpc.co.uk](mailto:joe@shpc.co.uk)

**Parish Council Information:**

All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA. [clerk@shpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@shpc.co.uk)

**Village Market and Cafe**

Dates for Autumn are as follows:

- 9<sup>th</sup> November
- 14<sup>th</sup> December

***Zumba Classes***

*Thursday evenings 6.30pm- Stanton Harcourt Village Hall ( term time ) if you love to dance, learn new routines, make new friends while having fun & getting fit, you'll love zumba- all abilities welcome. Classes are £6 per session. For more information please contact Debbie 07733081620/ [debbiepargeter@gmail.com](mailto:debbiepargeter@gmail.com)*

**Church Times**

**St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt**

**Lower Windrush Benefice**

**\*\*\*Evening Prayer said most Mondays and Thursdays at 4pm\*\*\***

November 3<sup>rd</sup>

0830 Holy Communion (BCP)

November 10<sup>th</sup>

1045 Remembrance Day Service

Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm we have a short service of Compline via Zoom. Thursday mornings we have Early Bird Prayer at 7:30am via Zoom. All Zoom codes can be found on [www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org](http://www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org)

For more information about all services taking place in the Benefice (Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor, Standlake, Yelford) please visit the Lower Windrush Benefice website: [www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org](http://www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org)

**Sutton Chapel**

SUN 10 NOV AT 3.00 PM, LED BY REV SUE JACOBS, WITH COMMUNION. ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US.

**St Peter's Roman Catholic Church**

**Eynsham**

For information about services at St Peter's please visit [www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/](http://www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/)

**Lower Windrush History Club** meetings started on 1st October, but if you missed the first one don't worry! You can come to any of them, for just £5/person on the door. All meetings start at 7.30pm.

- Standlake Village Hall 5th November 2024: How many architects named Gilbert Scott do you know?
- Northmoor Village Hall (TBC) 3rd December 2024: Living the Lexicon: James Murray and the creation of the Oxford English Dictionary.
- Standlake Village Hall 4th February 2025: Coming of the railways to Oxford.
- Standlake Village Hall 4th March 2025: History of afternoon tea.
- Northmoor Village Hall (TBC) 1st April 2025: Talk TBC

For more details email [lwhscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:lwhscommittee@gmail.com)

The poster is for a concert by the Freeland Orchestra West Oxfordshire Clarinets, conducted by Wendy Marks. The title 'From Baroque to Broadway' is written in a stylized, gothic font. Below the title, it says 'A musical journey through time'. The programme includes Mozart's Overture to The Magic Flute, Strauss's Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, Bizet's Carmen Suite No 1, and Rodgers' South Pacific Medley, among others. The concert is on Saturday 23 November 2024 at 7.30pm at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall. Tickets are £5 on the door, with under-18s free.

**FREELAND ORCHESTRA**  
**WEST OXFORDSHIRE CLARINETS**  
Conductor Wendy Marks

*From*  
**Baroque**  
*to*  
**BROADWAY**

*A musical journey through time*

Programme to include  
Mozart Overture to The Magic Flute  
Strauss Tritsch-Tratsch Polka  
Bizet Carmen Suite No 1  
Rodgers South Pacific Medley  
and more!

**Saturday 23 November 2024, 7.30pm**  
Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

**TICKETS £5**  
**ON THE DOOR**  
**UNDER 18s FREE**

**Sutton Singers**

Sutton Singers meet on Tuesdays during term time at 7pm. Would you like to sing? Come and join in the joy and fun of singing together? No auditions needed. We welcome new members, have parties sometimes and our Musical Director, Lizzie Soden, is a joy to work with, fun, encouraging and says everyone can sing! Get in touch with Jan Tomlinson on phone: 01865 881709 or email: [janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com](mailto:janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com)

**A date for your diary - Our Christmas Concert at St Michael's Church is on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.30 to start singing. We are again preparing for some well-loved songs for everyone to join in with as well as A Sutton Singers Performance. Don't miss this joyous festive event. Entrance £5 on the door in aid of St Michael's Church. Light festive refreshments after the concert. Sutton Singers will also be joining in with a harmony to one of the hymns at The Remembrance Service at St Michael's Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November.**

## Anahata Yoga 🌿🧘🌞

Yoga means 'union' or 'to yoke'. Yoga aims to bring together our breath, mind, and body, creating inner calm, and a connection to ourselves, each other, and with the universe itself!

Come and join us on-

Mondays 6.15-7.15pm The Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt (please contact before coming, this class is nearly full)

Thursdays 10-11am Stanton Harcourt Village Hall- Drop In, no booking needed.

Anahata yoga uses breath and movement to create an inner sense of calm, stretching our bodies, creating flexibility, and helping to improve our alignment.

These classes are donation based, with a suggested donation of £8 🌿 All equipment is provided and the classes are suitable for all levels.

I am also a bodywork therapist offering Thai Yoga Massage, and full body/ back, neck and shoulder Oil Massage from my home in Sutton. Please contact me for more information on 0789 002 6446 or via

[alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk](mailto:alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk)

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful November

### Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion

#### Annual Act of Remembrance

Sunday 10th November 2024 is the annual Act of Remembrance at St Michaels Church. We will gather in the churchyard at 10.45-10.50, with a two-minute silence at 11.00, followed by a church service. There will be a further short Act of Remembrance afterwards at the old airfield War Memorial. The whole community is invited to attend any part of these events, followed by refreshments at the Old Guardroom, with donations to the Annual Poppy Appeal. We will be joined by the Harley-Davidson riders from the Black Mountains, Thames Valley, Cheltenham and Oxford chapters.

### Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion Branch AGM

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion branch will be holding their AGM in the Holland Room, Millenium Village Hall, on Thursday 28th November 2024 at 19.30 and we welcome anyone to join us. You do not have to have served in the armed forces or be a member of the Royal British Legion to attend. We are always looking for volunteers to support the Branch, so if you are interested please contact Rachel on [elliottcains@gmail.com](mailto:elliottcains@gmail.com) or Jacqui on [gravesjacqui@gmail.com](mailto:gravesjacqui@gmail.com)

### Monthly Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast meet ups are held at The Harcourt Arms on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 am to approx. 09:15 for a breakfast & general social chat. Have a full English, with tea/ coffee & toast. Other breakfasts available from the menu too. Open invitation to all, but anyone who would like to come along please let Rob Brown know by text or telephone on 07957 664117 or email [rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com](mailto:rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com) so he can give the Arms numbers by the Thursday beforehand.

### 200 Club

The 200 Club has been running for ever it seems and thank you to all those who pay their subs each year. It is this time of year that we go around collecting the subscriptions.

Each month there is a draw from the 200 numbers, and the prizes are allocated.

Each number is £6 per year and for a chance to win why not contact Liz Strange (07810606755) who will gladly give you a number for your money as there are a few not allocated. The funds are divided, half goes out in prizes and half goes to keep the church maintained.

### Café at the Chapel



Every first  
Wednesday of the month



**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00 - 12.00**

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE / SELECTION OF TEAS

TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT BUTTERED TOAST.

BOOKS AND GIFTS SALE TABLE TO BROWSE  
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!

### THE THURSDAY CLUB

We meet every Thursday at Northmoor Village Hall between 12:00 and 2 pm. **COOKS NEEDED.** We have several local volunteer cooks who work on a rota basis providing traditional food, but need more people to help ease the pressure on our existing cooks. If you feel you could help out generally or by cooking dinners or puddings, please contact Anna on 01865 881363 / Michael on 01865 3004480 or pop in and see us one week between 12.00pm and 2.00pm

## JAMIE FELTON



PLAYING LIVE AT STANTON HARCOURT CRICKET CLUB "ONE OF OXFORD'S MOST TALENTED AND ENTERTAINING ARTISTS" - TALENT OXFORD



FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER AT 8PM

BAR OPEN FROM 6PM

HOT FOOD AVAILABLE

FREE ENTRY

[WWW.JAMIEFELTONMUSIC.CO.UK](http://WWW.JAMIEFELTONMUSIC.CO.UK)

### Village Shop & Post Office

Monday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Tuesday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Wednesday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Thursday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Friday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Saturday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Sunday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00



### **Pilates with Nicky Holmes**

Tuesdays – 5.15pm / Village Hall

Wednesdays – 10.10am and 11.20am, Guards Room

Classes start from £10 for a 6 week course – personal tuition is also available

[www.physiquepilates.co.uk](http://www.physiquepilates.co.uk)

[info@physiquepilates.co.uk](mailto:info@physiquepilates.co.uk)

Tel : 07949 764 966

Dear Villagers

Thank you again to everyone who joined us for the wonderful exhibition of Wedding Dresses Through the Decades hosted at St Denys' Church last month. We were delighted with the success of the weekend and amazing feedback from visitors who came from near and far.

We also benefitted from our local Newsquest who kindly promoted our event, and arranged a follow up article which was published last weekend - please see attached link.

<https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/24613912.wedding-dresses-display-raises-funds-oxfordshire-church/>

A book of event photographs will be displayed in St Denys' in due course and pop along any time to take a look, or join us on our monthly cake, coffee and clean day.

On a slightly more serious note, the exhibition was organised to raise awareness of our vision is to bring the beautiful St Denys' Church into the 21st Century and make it a community space to be enjoyed by all whether for worship, life and community events, or just to sit and enjoy the peace. We would like to hold more events like this one but going forward we need your help please to raise funds to install a small kitchen facility and accessible toilet.

If you would like more details on becoming 'A Friend of St Denys' please email [mafstdenys@outlook.com](mailto:mafstdenys@outlook.com) – we would be delighted to have you join us as our friend.

Thank you again for all your support

Best wishes

Mary Anne, Melinda and Denise

### **Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2025**

#### **Dates for your diary!**

Following our amazing Egyptian adventures during festival week last June, the Festival Committee are now making plans for 2025!

#### **Our week of Summer Festival events in 2025 will take place from: 14th June to 22nd June**

#### **Our village Festival Day will take place on Saturday 21st June 2025**

We will reveal the theme for Festival 2025 in the December edition of Village Voice so do look out for that announcement and make a note of the above dates in your 2025 calendars – you will not want to miss out on another fabulous week of village festivities and events!

If you already have ideas for an event that you would like to hold or if you would like to get involved in organising the week then you can email Jo Wilby at [jowilby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jowilby@hotmail.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from lots of you!

Cheers.



The Festival Committee

Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month  
[village-voice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:village-voice@hotmail.co.uk)

While we try to ensure the accuracy of information in Village Voice, readers use the information at their own risk. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editor. Inclusion of an advertisement does not indicate endorsement of the product, service or event being advertised.

### **Update on the Standing with Giants Story**

To say it's been a surreal year is an understatement. years of incredibly hard work, with 87 different groups coming through the workshop to help assemble and paint the installation, led to our trip over to Normandy to install the display. The WI knitted an incredible 37,000 poppies for us. We're so very grateful to our regular volunteers, and it was wonderful to meet so many groups who helped paint, assemble, and pack the figures.

Leaving from Blenheim Palace with 270 Harley-Davidson riders, organised by Stanton Harcourt's very own Alan Holland, and his Black Mountain HOG Chapter assisting us over the channel was the most memorable experience. Once installed at The British Normandy Memorial in France 200,000 people visited, including their majesties the King, the Queen, who we were formally introduced to, the Prime Minister, and many heads of state from near and far. President Macron mentioned the silhouettes twice in his speech to the nation, and we were so very humbled to meet the Normandy veterans who travelled across the Channel for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events.

We have now removed the installation from France and reinstated it at the National Trust's Stowe Gardens in Buckinghamshire, which is already receiving tens of thousands of visitors weekly. They are also holding special early morning and twilight events to mark the occasion. Soon after the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, the installation will be dismantled and brought back to Stanton Harcourt for storage. We will work on maintenance over the winter.

We recently created an installation for the Ministry of Defence, now on display at Salisbury Plain, featuring some Stanton Harcourt models you may recognise. To watch a video, search '[Respect the Range](#)' on YouTube. For more images, just Google 'Standing with Giants' or stay updated by following us on Facebook, Instagram, or visiting our website: [www.standingwithgiants.co.uk](http://www.standingwithgiants.co.uk). Normandy are very keen to see our return. Sadly, as with most things, it's all down to finance. We are already being approached by interested parties regarding displaying back in the UK next year.

We came across this comment on Facebook, one of thousands, and it reads particularly well:  
*The [Standing with Giants](#) 'For Your Tomorrow' tribute at Stowe. Intensely emotional - breathtakingly powerful and poignantly beautiful. I used to try and hide my emotions, until I realised they're a strength, not a weakness, but I wasn't expecting the wave of emotion I felt from standing among the figures, each with their head bowed - I had an overwhelming need to touch them, to let them know they were not alone. But what really got me were the last letters home displayed on boards among them. The first one I read had me in tears, clearly written from a recent conflict it hit home hard. I've stood silently at too many dawn ramp ceremonies honouring the fallen on their last journey home and the memories came flooding back - never were the words 'For your Tomorrow' more apt. If you have the chance to visit, don't hesitate, it's a remarkable tribute.*

Dan Barton, Founder, Standing with Giants  
[info@standingwithgiants.co.uk](mailto:info@standingwithgiants.co.uk)

