

# Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton  
February 2025

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**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7.30pm**, Parish Council Meeting,  
The Old Guardroom

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12pm**, Coffee at the  
Chapel

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, 8.00am**, Men's Breakfast, The  
Harcourt Arms

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, 12pm to 2pm**, Village Market,  
Village Hall

## March 2025

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Village Hall

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## Regulars (please see back page)

**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

Hello everyone, and welcome to 2025. The parish  
council wishes you all a Happy New Year.

### Dog Fouling

Our apologies to start the year on a serious issue. The  
parish council has received complaints about dog  
fouling in the village. There are many responsible dog  
owners in the village who always clear up after their  
pets and use the dedicated waste bins.

Unfortunately, it has been brought to our attention  
that there has been an increase in dog faeces being  
left on public pathways and green areas. Failing to do  
so is anti-social and can spread diseases. Dog faeces  
causes toxocariasis – a nasty infection that can lead to  
dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness or  
seizures. The village is a great place to walk dogs, and  
we thank dog owners who are always conscientious.  
Please help us to keep the village free of dog's mess.  
Thank you on behalf of the parish council.

**Parish Councillor Sandra Cosier**

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

Dear Residents, Happy New Year to you all.

**Oxfordshire County Council's Local Government  
Reorganisation Initiative**

Firstly, Oxfordshire County Council's cabinet has  
agreed to fast-track a request to government for local  
government reorganisation. The government aims to  
change to unitary councils across England, moving  
away from the current two-tier system. So far, district  
and city council leaders have expressed a shared  
commitment to further discussions on devolution. The  
government aims to transition to unitary councils  
across England, moving away from the two-tier system.  
Further meetings are scheduled between all councils to  
progress this issue.

### **The Guardroom**

I have been working with Parish Councillors Sandra  
Cosier and Joe Dean to provide roof insulation in the  
Guardroom.



After investigation by Sandra and Joe, it was found that  
Hayfield Homes had failed to provide any insulation. I  
spoke to Jon Jones, the Technical Director for Hayfields  
and a representative from a company called Absolute  
came to assess the roof space. It is hoped that very  
shortly The Guardroom will fully be insulated.

If you would like to chat about anything related to  
district council matters, including the two pieces  
above, please contact me. As usual I can be contacted  
on: [steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk) or message my  
Facebook page: Councillor Steve Cosier  
Take care, Steve

***Many people will be aware that the Air Ambulance  
and Paramedics attended an emergency at the Old  
Airfield, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.***

***Unfortunately despite everyone's heroic efforts,  
Kevin Watts passed away at the scene. Our sincere  
condolences and best wishes are offered to his wife  
Kim and their family.***

***To create a lasting legacy, we would like to  
purchase a Defibrillator for the Old Guardroom  
which we will dedicate in his name. Donations  
would be very welcome. Please donate to:***

***<https://gofund.me/4e18f7da>***

***Thank you, Jacqui Graves & Nicky Holmes.***

## 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)

## 200 Club

### January 2025

126 Mrs Thomson	£25
214 P. Fissenden	£12
250 P Craddock	£8
251 Sensecal	£5

### February 2025

185 E Floyd	£25
237 D. Richins	£12
161 V. Mullard	£8
137 C. Allison	£5

## Lower Windrush Garden Club

25 February 2025

Guest Speaker: Gillian Hovell

**"Ancient Roots: Classical stores growing in your garden"**

Gillian, The Muddy Archaeologist, is an award-winning writer for the RHS and the British Library, a lecturer at York University and the British Museum.

Gillian will be telling us how the Romans set the seeds for flowers, fables and features in our modern gardens. Come along to any of our meetings, meet fellow minded gardeners and hopefully learn something new from one of our guest speakers.

Meetings are held at Standlake Village Hall, OX29 7SB or on Zoom at 7:30pm. **New members always welcome.** Entrance fee/Zoom fee for evening talks: free to members or £5 for non-members. Membership costs £20 per year which goes towards the running costs of the Club and entitles you to **Club Discounts** at some local garden centres and nurseries.

For more information and our calendar of events see our website

[www.lowerwindrushgardenclub.weebly.com](http://www.lowerwindrushgardenclub.weebly.com)

or contact us by email [lwgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:lwgardenclub@gmail.com)

## Church Times

**St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt**

**Lower Windrush Benefice**

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

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

0830 Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February

1000 Holy Communion

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

0830 Holy Communion (BCP)

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 9 February, 3.00pm. Led by Rev'd Andrew Biggs.

### **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 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)



## Nursery places available from age 2.

Living, Learning and  
Growing together.

For more information or to book a visit, please  
contact the office.

**01865 881948**

[Office.3130@stantonharcourtschool.org.uk](mailto:Office.3130@stantonharcourtschool.org.uk)

[www.stantonharcourtschool.org.uk](http://www.stantonharcourtschool.org.uk)

Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School.  
Stanton Harcourt, Witney,  
Oxfordshire, OX29 5RJ





## Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2025 "A Century of Television"

A reminder that Festival 2025 will be celebrating the joys of television! The key dates to remember are:

**Festival Events: 14th June to 22nd Jun**

**Festival Day: Saturday 21st June 2025**

### Festival Royals – Attendant required!

Emma Apps will be crowned "Festival Queen" on Festival Day this year. We are looking for an attendant to accompany Emma on the Royal Float and become Festival King/Queen in 2025. If you are in school year 7 or above and would like to be our Festival Attendant, email your details to [jowilby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jowilby@hotmail.co.uk) before 6pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March. A name will be drawn "from a hat" of those who have expressed interest. The winner will be announced in May's edition of Village Voice.

(Youngsters – please ask your parent or carer to email on your behalf. Grown-ups – please make sure that any young person you are nominating is happy to take on this role!). Our Festival Prince and Princess will also be chosen in a draw that will be made at Stanton Harcourt School before Easter.

### A plea to all Gardeners World fans! Plants and cuttings needed!

The Festival committee ran a very successful plant stall on Festival day last year and we plan to do this again on 21<sup>st</sup> June. We would very much welcome donations of plants for the stall, so as you all start off your seedlings or take cuttings in the spring perhaps you could sow a few extra seeds and donate some plants to us in the summer. Many Thanks!

### Festival Week Events

If you or your village organisation would like to hold an event during the week, get in touch with Keith Hickson (07764 132178, email [keith@shpc.co.uk](mailto:keith@shpc.co.uk)) who is co-ordinating the event schedule for the week. Hosting a festival event is a great way to raise funds for your organisation or for your favourite charity.

### Festival Day Stalls

If you would like to have a stall on the field on Festival Day then please contact Lucy on 07775 604466 or email [lucylowe1974@gmail.com](mailto:lucylowe1974@gmail.com)

### Programme Booklet

If you are involved in a local business and would like to place an advert in the Festival Programme booklet then contact Gill [gill@gillmason.com](mailto:gill@gillmason.com)

For other information about Festival email Jo Wilby at [jowilby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jowilby@hotmail.co.uk)

### 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.

### 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



**\*\* BRING AND TAKE \*\***

**Sat. 8th February 10.00 – 11.30am**

**\*\* Eynsham Village Hall \*\* Back Lane \*\***

**in the Small Hall**

A Bring and Take event. Good quality and reusable items - all FREE!  
(You don't have to bring anything) RECYCLE – REUSE



Bring items only from 9.30 to 10.30am. Nothing broken or dirty, no large items or DIY materials. No videos.

Items are for taking: 10-11.30  
Entry (donation): £1 to cover hire costs  
Eynsham Area Waste Watchers  
(part of Green TEA)



### Sutton Singers.

Happy New Year to everyone. Sutton Singers would like to thank everyone who came along to our Christmas concerts. Singing at St Michael's Church was a delight with audience participation and was a fundraiser for the Church. We also sang at The Harcourt Arms with many folks coming along to join in the fun, some singers remained behind to enjoy the food at the pub. This was also a joyful sing and huge thanks to The Harcourt Arms for welcoming us so warmly and making room for us. Thanks go to all the singers for taking the time out of their busy lives to rehearse and perform. We also thank Lizzie Soden a brilliant professional musician and singer for her amazing patience, and enthusiasm enabling Sutton Singers to perform well.



### First and Last Mile

The popular First and Last Mile 471 Shopper Service to Witney currently runs every Wednesday. Subject to final approval a service each Friday will be added in addition from 14 February. The service will still leave Flexneys Paddock at 09.41 and return from Witney Market Square at 12.00. What is new is that the service will now run via Sutton Village and will on request divert into Halifax Way and The Green to make the service more convenient than ever.  
Regards, David Miles, First and Last Mile





### Save the Date!

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion  
are celebrating

### VE Day 80

7pm till late on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Village Hall, Blackditch, Stanton Harcourt, OX29 5SB

Featuring the Clive Fortune Big Band

Licensed Bar and Boogie

More details will follow and tickets on sale from March.



### Village Market & Cafe 2025

Our monthly Market & Café is back from February – a very popular meeting place for villagers to enjoy coffee or bacon rolls & soup and browse the stalls. It's all in aid of Village Hall funds, so a good village cause, that warrants everyone's support! Dates for your diary...

**February 8th**

**March 8th**

**April 12th**

**May 10th**

**June 14th**

**July 12th**

**August 9th**

**September 13th**

**October 11th**

**November 8th**

**December 13th**

### Café at the Chapel

Every first  
Wednesday of the month



**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

**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

### 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)

### 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

### Village Yoga 🌸🧘‍♀️

#### New Seated/ Standing Yoga Class

**Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall – drop in, no booking necessary.**

This class is a mainly seated class, though some movements can be done seated, standing, or using a chair for support- do what feels right for you. Yoga uses gentle movements, linked with our breath, these movements are designed to help us keep moving, at our own pace and in our own way.

**Also, Anahata Yoga Classes – Mondays 6.15-7.15pm**

**The Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt (please contact before coming) / Thursdays 10-11am**

**Stanton Harcourt Village Hall – drop In, no booking needed.**

Please contact Alison with any questions or for more information, on 0789 002 6446 or via

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

Peaceful Existence Yoga and Massage, based in Sutton xx

### 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! If you just love singing but are not so keen on performance we are the choir for you! As a Community Choir we welcome everyone and you never know - you may end up being inspired to perform? Get in touch with Jan Tomlinson on phone: 01865 881709 or

email: [janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com](mailto:janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com)

**We are currently working towards our performance at Chipping Norton Music Festival in March. Come along and join in the fun whether or not you want to perform at Chippy.**

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

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