



Calendar

Blackberry Season is coming! 😊

Tom Henton

It's with great sadness we report the passing of Tom Henton last month after being ill for some time. Tom has lived in the village all his life and long been a part of our community over the last century and will be missed by many of us.

Tom can be seen in the centre of the picture below showing the Sutton Cricket Team in the 1950's



The Sutton Cricket Team used to play in the long field at the bottom of Sutton alongside the footpath from around 1940. This became the Stanton Harcourt Cricket Club in 1971 now based beyond the airfield. If you're interested in joining in visit:

www.stantonharcourtcc.co.uk/

Fly Tipping

If you're on the facebook or have gone for walks I'm sure you've seen the appalling acts done by absolute idiots (I would personally use something very worse that would be bleeped out). If you do see any fly tipping please report them to this website:

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment/fly-tipping/> or use the clearwaste website/app

Village efforts to address include the addition of signage and surveillance to catch the blighters!

Don't forget your mask!

The government has now made it compulsory to wear a mask in all shops and public transport. Please do follow the guidance no matter what some may say and please do wear one to keep each other safe.

As you probably know you can wear a reusable mask or fabric one but don't forget to wash it. They have to be 2-3 layers depending on fabric used. There are many online or you can support a local business run by Cat Mercer at the website bit.ly/suttonmasks More guidance about wearing face masks and the latest requirements, please look at the government's corona virus website.

Cut back your Hedges please!

We have had a few complaints about hedges. I know sometimes it can be annoying to have to do them but it is needed. Especially the corners of roads as trying to look round the branches for other cars can be unsafe. Also next to footpaths as in the dark people are looking where there feet are not the branches. Also as being a tall person it can get rather annoying. So if you're hedge looks over grown please cut it back as it is your responsibility.

Overhanging hedges and trees can be a particular problem to those with vision problems!

If you spot trees or hedges that pose a particular danger to the highways please report it to the Parish Council Clerk.

Mrs Nina Ireland

We also celebrate Mrs Nina Ireland, she died on May 18th two weeks short of her 103 birthday and was probably one of the oldest members of the village community.

News for this month!

The Bell Ringers are Back!

The pub garden and restaurant are open!

IS THIS A PAPER COPY? HELP YOURSELF! ➡

We've left printed copies stapled to things in the village, so you can pick one up to keep or pass on to anyone who doesn't have this new-fangled internet thing. It should just tear off, if the notice board comes with it you can help us make some more notice boards perhaps.....

Scare crows

During lockdown unfortunately we haven't been able to run our usual festival week. Saying that our amazing community that we live in came together and celebrated the festival safely of course.

Multiple people in the village made scarecrows to liven up our village. On the week of the festival me and my mum went out and judged the scarecrows.

We were amazed by the effort of so many in the village and I'm sure many people would have loved them too. The scores on the doors were

1st place- the duo on Beaumont Green

2nd place- The badminton player relaxing on a bench On the green

3rd place- Joe Deane and Aunty Caro one of our NHS superstars

A massive well done to everyone who took part and there were so many amazing entries we had to make an honourable mentions list:

- Becher's brook at manor Cottages
- The lady in the bush on the front of the Green
- Our social distancing Steve and Sylvia Tuck
- The Ski Sick Steve in Foxburrow close



Litter Pick – we're looking at how we can manage a village litter pick with suitable controls, watch out for more news soon.

School News
 Would you like a job which allows you to drop off and pick up your child from school and still have time to yourself? Stanton Harcourt School is looking for a lunchtime supervisor to work between 11.30 am and 1.30 pm each weekday during term time.
 If this is of interest to you, please check out this link:
stantonharcourtschool.org.uk/vacancies/staff-vacancies/



Baby sitter
 I am looking to earn a few extra pennies so am available for babysitting (when it's safe). I am free from 5.00 pm each day and can do the odd weekend etc too. For those of you who don't know me I'm a primary teacher and have more time as my boys off to uni etc. If you would like to book me my mobile is 07815 978989. Could you tell your friends nearby in Standlake and Eynsham too please?
 Thanks Heather Walsh



Environmental Hotline
 The Environment Agency has a hotline for environmental issues, if you spot sewage in rivers or any other major pollution, call the hotline and they will send a team to investigate!
Incident Hotline on 0800 807060
This will be added to the next revision of the contact sheet!

Village competition

Want something to do during lockdown and the summer Holiday. We've got just the right thing for you. As a village we thought it would be fun to do a competition as to who can grow/make the best sunflower or rainbow. To enter please upload a photo to Villagers other voice on Facebook with the hashtag #overtherainbow. All entries have to be posted on Facebook with the hashtag and name. We have had a few entries, but more can be posted. Then the editors Lucy and Joe will judge. Good luck!!!!

Parish Council News

Parish Council Meetings will take place on 'Zoom' as required but inline with normal on the first Monday of the month. For details see the PC Website and notice boards.

Sewage in Rivers

Did you know water companies are permitted to discharge untreated sewage into waterways during periods of 'unusually heavy rainfall' and this appears to be occurring far more frequently in recent years, despite our sewage treatment plant in the village being relatively small and modern was around the top ten of leaking/discharging of sewage in the country, last year on average it was discharging untreated sewage for an equivalent of 20% of the time!

Beyond the obvious this causes severe problems to our waterways and the natural habitat, to work on addressing this the Parish Council has formally written to protest this behavior to key stakeholders including the water company, the government and the regulator. And we hope to continue to push this issue.

If you would like to become more proactive in monitoring and campaigning against rivers full of sewage, why not get involved in WASP – Windrush Against Sewage Pollution, for more info visit:

www.windrushwasp.org

Playgrounds

The Parish Council have agreed to reopen the playgrounds subject to clear guidance on their use in line with government and industry advice.

The guidance requires:

- Maximum stay of 30min to ensure fair use under the limited capacities;
- No eating or drinking and any rubbish must be disposed of;
- As always give people plenty of distance, use hand sanitizer and wherever practical keep equipment clean.
- Limited Capacities:

Village Hall Playground 5

The Leys Playground 10

Jubilee Field Playground 15

Please follow this guidance and ensure the playgrounds can be safe shared spaces to everyone who wants to use them and help ensure we can keep them open when practical.

The fantastic 'WhatsApp' volunteer group is still available help if any of you need to isolate and you want someone to collect your shopping or pick up a prescription. Just contact one of the parish councillor to say you are isolating and we will take it from there. Or put a heads up on 'Villagers Other Voice' to say 'I'm Isolating' and we will contact you to check that you have everything you need.

The PC are here to help, please do not hesitate to get in contact see details below:

Charles Mathew, 01865 882205

Gill Sellars, 01865 731238 or 07778 924964 or gill.sellars@gmail.com or 3 Beaumont Green

Mathew Judson, 01865 731310 or 07977 502209 or matthew.judson@talk21.com

Graham Dixon-Brown, 01865 882065 or deansfarmhouse@gmail.com

Trudi Gasser, 01865 686498 or email (below)

Joe Deane, 07812204277, or

joe_deane@hotmail.com or 24 The Green (knock loudly and stand well back!)

www.pc.stantonharcourt.online

Parish Council Information

All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA.
trudigasser@rocketmail.com

Page three bird The flying fish

There are over 50 species of flying fish belonging to the family Exocoetidae. They cannot fly in the same way a bird does, flying fish can make



powerful, self-propelled leaps out of the water where their long wing-like fins enable gliding for considerable distances above the water's surface. The main reason for this behaviour is thought to be to escape from predators. Flying fish eat a variety of foods, but plankton make up a large part of their diet. They sometimes eat small crustaceans as well. They live in the Atlantic, Pacific coasts of the US and the Indian oceans.

Circular Walks in the Lower Windrush

The Lower Windrush Valley Project (LWVP) has secured funding to improve access and promote three beautiful circular walks in the Lower Windrush Valley. The three routes have been selected because of their ease of access, beautiful scenery, proximity to local businesses and nature reserves and links with longer distance footpaths like the Windrush Path and Thames Path National Trail. Now you have no excuse to get out for a walk and they have lovely paths as well.



Surviving Lockdown

Although we are allowed out a lot more please do stay safe and wear your mask. We recently posted a contacts list so please do use it :)

Village Shop & Post Office Opening Times at the Village Hall

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



THE
HARCOURT
ARMS

**& The
Harcourt
Stores**

The stores are open daily 8am – 5pm

The pub garden is now open daily, weather dependant, for drinks and takeaway menu

The restaurant is now open for fine dining; booking required.

Call to book on 01865416516

www.theharcourtarms.com

Bell ringing

As you may of heard the bell ringers are back! They were able to have six ringers in the bell tower, all wearing masks and socially distancing the whole time. As part of the bell ringing team, we hope you enjoyed it as we're back for good now. Ding Dong!



The Comet mini bus is back!!

The Comet Minibus runs on Tuesday mornings only to Eynsham or Witney it will pick up from Stanton Harcourt (Harcourt Arms) at 10.21 and Sutton (Sutton Lane) 10.22 and will drop you off in Eynsham or Witney. Because of Coronavirus you have to wear a face mask and there is only room for 6 people. The total charge for the whole group is £15 that would be divided by the number of people booking. For more information please contact Sheila Caygill on 01865 731394

Village Markets:

These usually happen on the second Saturday of the month in the Village Hall. We have lots of local stalls selling a range of different food, craft and garden items as well as books. We also serve bacon rolls, a seasonal lunch and a delicious range of cakes to go with coffee and tea.

Our committee is currently reviewing options for starting to hold markets again, using guidance on COVID-safety and talking to stallholders. One key mitigating factor is using an outdoor space, so we would be reliant on favourable weather conditions. As these are unpredictable, and Government guidance may change suddenly, we may only be able to announce a market at short notice.

Once we have made a decision on any of the markets scheduled between September and December, we will publish confirmation on the various village news and social media sites, as well as on our

website (stantonharcourtvillehall.co.uk), on or before the preceding Thursday.

Potential dates are already shown on the website. We hope to see you soon!

The algal bloom

As I'm sure many of you are aware that the lake up by the devil's quoits has an algal bloom. Over the past few weeks, it has become very bad from a rotten smell to fish being killed. If you go for a walk (which I don't recommend it can be very distressing) please be careful. DO NOT go in the water or allow your pets to go in as it can kill.

The EA have investigated and confirmed an 'Algal Crash' which is when the algae blooms so much the oxygen level in the water drops to almost nothing affecting fish and wildlife. This can occur naturally in hot weather when the sun drives the bloom and warm water holds far less oxygen than cold water, but it can also be made worse by pollution which can 'fertilise' the algae. The exact cause of this occurrence is unclear but algal blooms are becoming far more common in the waterways, as is hot weather and pollution!

WARNING

Blue-green Algae bloom(s) have been spotted in this waterbody!

Avoid Harmful Blue-green Algae Blooms while swimming, fishing and boating



Learn more:
www.health.ny.gov/HarmfulAlgae
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html