# Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

### October 2025

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**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, 10am to 12pm,** Coffee at the Chapel

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>, 8.00am,** Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm,** Parish Council Meeting, Old Guardroom. (*NB A representative from Smiths Bletchington will be in attendance to discuss plans to develop the gravel pit to the north of Sutton Village.*)

### Saturday 11th

10.30am to 12pm, Litter Picking, Village Hall 12pm to 2pm, Village Market, Village Hall Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>, Sutton Singers Open Mic Night, Village Hall

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

### November 2025

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>, 8.00am,** Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7.30pm,** Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall

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

### Saturday 8th

10.30am to 12pm, Litter Picking, Village Hall
12pm to 2pm, Village Market, Village Hall
7pm, Village Hall Quiz, Village Hall
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>, Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

### 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

### Stanton Harcourt Parish Council - Update

Your Parish Council has been busy this month working on several important community projects and initiatives.

**Environmental Progress** We're moving forward with our zero-carbon energy plans, with a free energy assessment of the Guardroom scheduled for September 30th. Our solar panel grant application to SSE has, unfortunately been rejected so we are actively looking for alternative sources of funding.

**Traffic and Road Safety** Good news on traffic calming measures! The location for Sutton's second speed sign has been confirmed, and installation is scheduled for early November. Our recent Speedwatch

team continues to monitor and report speeding on Eynsham Road and is finding that 25% of traffic exceeds the 20mph limit, with many repeat offenders identified. We're consulting residents about speeding concerns and seeking more volunteers to expand our coverage across the parish.

**Village Improvements** Several maintenance projects are underway. Tree and hedge trimming on the Village Green will begin this week, and we're addressing the gap in the Village Green hedging. A new dog waste bin will be installed on New Road by the Methodist Church, and playground bark has been replenished in our play areas.

We have also ordered 60 mixed bare root trees from the Woodland Trust which we are earmarked to form a small copse on the recently cleared area of the green at Bury Mead these trees are planned to be delivered in November. We will need some volunteers to help plant them.

**S106 Funds** We are actively looking for ideas to improve play and leisure facilities in the Parish. Please send us your suggestions.

**Planning and Development** The PC is exploring the possibility of developing either a Village Design Statement or Neighbourhood Plan and is asking the WODC Infrastructure Delivery Lead to attend our November meeting to discuss these options further.

**Smiths of Bletchington** will be attending our meeting on 6th October to present their plans for the land north of Sutton along the B4449

Our next meeting is Monday, October 6th at 7:30pm.

The Parish Council continues working for our community's benefit.

Stanton Harcourt Parish Council

### Monthly Report from West Oxford District From Councillors Steve and Sandra Cosier

## Planning for a Greener Oxfordshire: Local Energy, Local Action

We are pleased to share an update on Oxfordshire's Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) initiative. This is a project that will help to shape how we meet our energy needs in the years to come.

Oxfordshire is one of six areas in the UK selected to pilot LAEP, a nationally supported programme that uses detailed local data to plan for the change to net zero. The aim is to identify effective ways to decarbonise our buildings, transport, and energy systems (personalised to the unique needs of each district, including parishes).

Oxfordshire's energy demand could rise by 60% by 2050, driven by electrification of heating and transport. The plan highlights the need for improvements to our electricity grid. Local solar generation could play a major role, with potential to supply up to 25% of Oxfordshire's electricity needs by 2050.

This means thinking about how WODC supports residents in making energy-efficient improvements and ensuring our infrastructure keeps pace with change.

### Nature Recovery in West Oxfordshire: A Shared Vision for a Wilder Future

West Oxfordshire District Council has endorsed the Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), a countywide plan to restore biodiversity and tackle the climate and ecological emergency. Covering over 40% of Oxfordshire, including 41% of West Oxfordshire; the strategy identifies priority habitats and actions to support over 800 species while delivering benefits like carbon storage, flood protection, and improved access

Shaped by over 2,100 public responses, the LNRS will guide Biodiversity Net Gain in developments and inform the district's Local Plan 2041. Its success depends on collaboration across councils, communities, landowners, and conservation groups, making it a shared commitment to a greener, more resilient Oxfordshire.

If you would like to discuss any issues arising from the report, please contact us.

Best wishes Sandra and Steve West Oxford District Councillors (SASH) Sandra.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

### Your Parish Councillors are

James Coleman // jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Sandra Cosier // sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Keith Hickson (chair) // keith@stanton-harcourt-

Geoff Webster // geoff@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Joe Deane // joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Robin Morley // robin@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Parish Council Information: All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA. clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk

### Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are: Sandra Cosier

Email: sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk **Steve Cosier** 

Email: steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

### **Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is:**

Dan Levy

Mobile: 07852 748362

Email: dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

### Your Member of Parliament is:

Charlie Maynard

Email: charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month 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.

### **Church Times**

### St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt Lower Windrush Benefice

October 5<sup>th</sup> 8.30am Holy Communion, followed by breakfast October 12<sup>th</sup> 10am Benefice Holy Communion / 12.30pm Harvest Lunch Northmoor Village Hall

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

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

### Sutton Chapel

Sun 12 October, 3pm - Rev. Sue Jacobs, Harvest Festival

### St Peter's Roman Catholic Church <u>Eynsham</u>

For information about services at St Peter's please visit www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/

### St Michael's Church

Some of you may have noticed coming and going at the church over the last few weeks. There have been extensive repairs to the lead roof of the nave, the stone cross on the west gable, which had been blown down, has been replaced, and intrusive vegetation has been removed and gutters cleared from the turret above the tower staircase and round the base of the tower. So far the current repairs have cost us some £18,000 and we are intending to fit a roof alarm to protect the lead which will cost another £3,000 or so.

We have been able to meet the cost from our Restoration Fund which has been built up over the last few years by some very generous donations and by the ongoing support of the Friends of Stanton Harcourt Church but, needless to say, our funds are now much depleted. You should soon receive a leaflet telling you about the scheme and asking you to consider becoming a Friend and so help in maintaining this lovely building for the enjoyment of all of us in the village. We also hold some excellent Friends parties!



### Café at the Chapel

Every first Wednesday of the month

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!

### Can I have your Old Mobile Phones and Tablets?

I'm still collecting old mobile phones and tablets to help the many refugees and asylum Seekers within Oxfordshire. If you have any such devices to spare, please get in touch. Email:

- nasser@asylum-welcome.org
- dearnasser@hotmail.com (personal)

Or message me on 07799 838554. You can drop them off at The Fox (OX29 5RR), or I'll be happy to collect them at your convenience. Many thanks, Nasser

# Sutton Singers Open Mic Night 17th October 2025, 7pm - 9pm

### At Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

Cost £5 per person to cover hall rental, musical director fee and to raise funds for Sutton Singers. Please come along if you want an opportunity to sing or play to others or if you just fancy an evening of listening to song and music. Bring your own drinks and snacks, there will be a raffle and lots of fabulous music.

Sutton Singers will sing a few songs but everyone who wants a go at singing or playing will have a chance. How long you get to sing will depend on how many want to perform but prepare about 10-15 minutes. If lots of folk want to sing it may be slightly shorter. Do get in touch if you want to perform. If we are having fun we might go on a little later than 9pm!!

### Monthly pub quiz

There is a (very popular) pub quiz each month in the Harcourt Arms, attracting 70-90 people in teams of up to 6. The entrance fee is only £3 and there are cash prizes. Come along and have fun! Tables need to be booked in advance as demand is high: visit the Arms or call (01865 416516) to do so but please only book if you are sure you can participate. A curry is available each quiz night as is the regular menu. The quiz starts at 7.30pm; come earlier to eat. The next three quiz dates are: *Thursday 23 October // Thursday 20 November Thursday 18 December* 

### 200 Club Draws

September	October
1st // Gill Gray 149 £25	1 <sup>st</sup> // P Burden 101 £25
2 <sup>nd</sup> // R Stein 259 £12	2 <sup>nd</sup> // R Eagle 258 £12
3 <sup>rd</sup> // S Broadhurst 119 £8	3 <sup>rd</sup> // D Bloomfield 194 £8
4 <sup>th</sup> // W Morris. 110 £5	4 <sup>th</sup> // A Cross 128 £5

### **H J Agility**

You may have noticed (and heard!) a lot of dogs barking recently on a Monday and Wednesday morning and a Tuesday Evening (soon to change to Saturday morning). We're a local dog agility club and at the end of July we had the privilege of moving our training sessions to John and Carole Burden's beautiful garden.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to John and Carole for generously stepping in and giving us a new venue to train at. Until recently, we trained at Burleigh Farm in Cassington, but unfortunately, due to the Botley West Solar Farm project and Blenheim's involvement, we lost access to that site. After searching for quite some time without success, I put out a message on the village Facebook page. John kindly reached out and offered us the use of his garden — and thanks to him, our little club has been able to keep going!

We also wanted to take this opportunity to politely ask that the training rings and equipment are not used or entered without one of us being present and giving express permission. The equipment is private and not suitable for general use. Since John and Carole's land is on a public footpath, many of you may pass by and see us training, so we thought it best to introduce ourselves. If you'd like to join our club (we do currently have a waiting list), please contact our club owner and head trainer, Hazel: Email: hetom@go-plus.net Text: 07742 919054 Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to seeing you around the village.

Warm regards, Hazel, Jenny, Wendy, Tracey & Ian

\*\*\*Village Shop & Post Office\*\*\*
SHOP ONLY IS OPEN EVERY DAY
FROM 0800 TO 1000
THE POST OFFICE IS OPEN TUES & SAT
FROM 0800 TO 1000

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2026

### Important dates for your diary!

Following our fabulous celebration of a Century of Television during festival week this year, the Festival Committee are now making plans for 2026!

Our week of **Summer Festival events** in 2026 will take place **13th June to 21st June** 

Our village Festival Day will be on Saturday 20th June 2026

We will reveal the theme for Festival 2026 in due course so do look out for further announcements and make a note of the above dates in your 2026 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 Festival 2026 then you can email Jo Wilby at jowilby@hotmail.co.uk We look forward to hearing from lots of you!

#### The Festival Committee

### Royal British Legion Annual Act of Remembrance:

Sunday 9th November 2025 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 welcome to attend all or any part of these ceremonies, followed by refreshments at the Old Guardroom.

### **Royal British Legion Branch AGM:**

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion branch will be holding their AGM in the Old Guardroom, on Thursday 27th November 2025 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:

StantonHarcourt.POC1@rbl.community

The Lower Windrush History Club will be commencing their new season of talks shortly. All are welcome, and membership is £25 for all 6 talks, or £5 on the door. For more information please contact Jenny Beilby at <a href="mailto:lwhscommittee@gmail.com">lwhscommittee@gmail.com</a>

Upcoming talks are held at Standlake Village Hall at 7.30pm

- 7<sup>th</sup> October Always Ready, Always Willing: The story of fires and firefighting in Oxford
- 4<sup>th</sup> November Charles I and Oxford, Pre-Civil
   War
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December Oxford's statues and the forgotten celebrated citizens they remember

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The 2025-26 series of Witney Music Society concerts starts in October. Details of all the concerts are on the Witney Music Society website and in its new brochure, copies of which may be obtained via the website or from locations throughout Witney. The opening concert of the new season will be given by the Prague-based Trio Bohémo who'll be performing works for piano trio by Haydn, Smetana and Schubert. The concert is at 7.30pm on Friday 10 October at High Street Methodist Church, Witney. Tickets (£18, £1 for under 19s) will be available at the door from 7pm or in advance online. For more information, please telephone 01993 898020 or visit the Witney Music Society website <a href="https://www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk">www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk</a>

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Pantomime Revival – Calling All Interested
Performers and Helpers!

After a long and unexpected pause since our last production in February 2020, I'm hoping to bring pantomime back with Stanton Harcourt Drama Group this season. Health challenges have kept me from the stage, but the spirit of community theatre still burns bright—and I'd love to rekindle it with your help. If you're interested in performing, helping backstage, or simply being part of the creative process, please email me at <a href="mailto:steve.tuck@stantonharcourtdrama.com">steve.tuck@stantonharcourtdrama.com</a> to register your interest. I'm aiming to hold an informal meeting in October to gauge enthusiasm and begin planning.

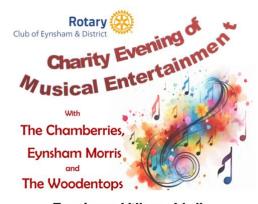
The likely performance dates will be the week following February half-term, so do keep that in mind.

Let's make some magic together again!

Let's make some magic together again!
— Steve Tuck

# \*\*News Flash!! Village Hall Quiz\*\* Quiz Master Dave

Saturday 8th November 2025
7pm. 6 in a team
£12 per person to include Chilli and jacket potato.
Vegan chilli available. Licensed bar
Book your team in advance via email to
jane1.goldenbridge@gmail.com
Or at the Village market on 11th October.
Don't miss out - book your place now!



# Eynsham Village Hall

Saturday 11th October

Doors open 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

### Tickets £10.00

Available from: Evenlode DIY Roy Wilkinson 01865 883917 or 07970 227364 https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FEVN



### **BAR & RAFFLE**

All profits for LOCAL and Rotary charities

### !!! REVISED BUS SERVICES !!!

From 1 September bus services in Stanton Harcourt and Sutton will be changing.

The 418 service from Standlake to Eynsham via Stanton Harcourt will now be operated by West Oxfordshire Community Transport to a revised timetable which is available to view on their website. The service is still broadly 2 hourly Monday to Friday but the morning peak service has been withdrawn.

The 418S service to Bartholomew School will now be operated by Pulhams Coaches and no longer open to paying passengers.

First and Last Mile will continue to run the popular Wednesday and Friday Shopper Service to Witney. The timetable will be unchanged.

### 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 zumbaall abilities welcome. Classes are £6 per session. For more information please contact Debbie 07733 081620/debbiepargeter@gmail.com

### **Velvet Soles Foot Health - Foot Care For All**

Mobile Foot Health Professional Covering West Oxfordshire. Stanton Harcourt based. Caring, professional foot health service brought to you. Nail trimming & filing - Thickened nail reduction - Corn & callus removal - Verrucae - Diabetic foot care - Conservative ingrown toenail care. Call me to book an appointment on **07798 829457**.

Or email me at <a href="mailto:jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk">jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk</a>
For more information please visit my
website <a href="www.velvetsoles.co.uk">www.velvetsoles.co.uk</a>

### <u>Pilates, Personal Training and Breathwork with</u> <u>Nicky Holmes</u>

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. Nicky specialises in rehabilitation from injury, improving posture, strength and flexibility work including breath work and relaxation techniques. Every class is varied, sometimes using equipment, stability balls, weights and foam rollers. Numbers are limited as classes are small and personalised to each individual. info@physiquepilates.co.uk

www.physiquepilates.co.uk Tel: 07949 764 966

Anahata Yoga 💙 🗱 🙏

Mondays 6.15-7.15pm The Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt (Intermediate class- booking required)

Thursdays 10-11am Stanton Harcourt Village Hall- Yoga for All- Drop in and all are welcome

Tuesday 2.45-3.45pm Chair Yoga Class - The Old Guardroom (Booking required due to space)

Please contact me for more information, all classes are £8 when booked in advance, concessions available- please ask♥ 0789 002 6446 or via alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk

All equipment provided, classes are run by Alison. I am also a qualified bodywork practitioner, specialising in Thai Yoga Massage, Holistic, Deep Tissue, and Thai Table

Massage. Expect classes that are varied, designed to help us to clear our minds, move our bodies, in the hope we can go out in the world stronger and calmer

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