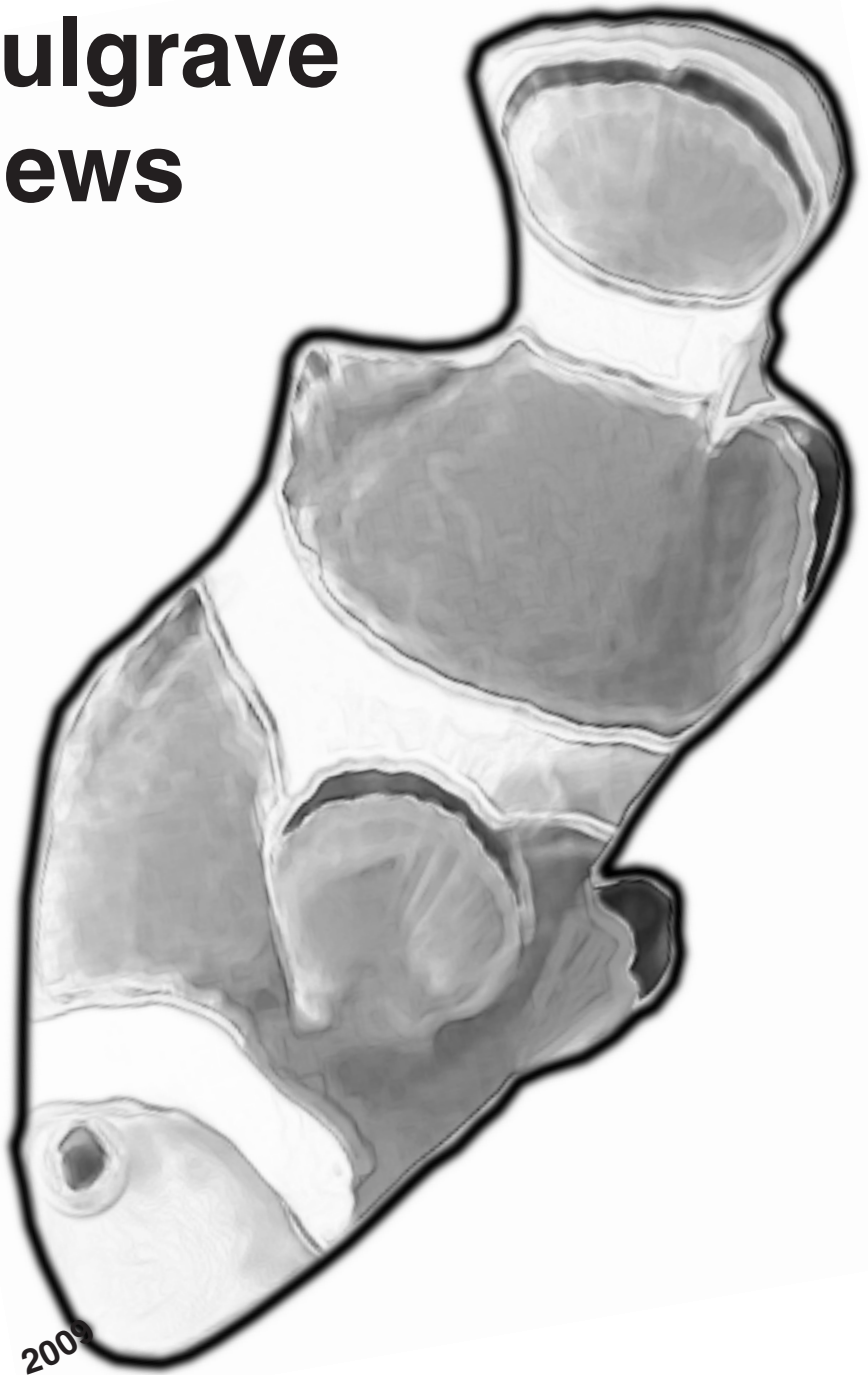


# Sulgrave News



April 2009

Spring is here; it's official, so why am I wrapped up like Mr Bibendum? However we have seen a few lovely days, and spent some time in the garden tidying up and rebuilding a collapsed rose arch. I hope you are all looking forward to some outdoor events in the next few months. Please let me know about anything you are considering, or reports that you have. I would like to thank everyone involved in the Safari Supper last month, especially Shrimp, as is proved as splendid as usual.

As usual a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter. It is

**newsletter@84f.com**

## Deadline for the May newsletter - 18th. April.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE LEFT AT THE VILLAGE SHOP.

*Could I remind all contributors to provide a name and contact number with their articles- Thanks*



**Tom Cockeram**, editor

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This Newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Tom Cockeram. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stutchbury by Jill & Anthony Barrett, George Metcalfe and Vera Smith. 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.

## Regular Events

BB&C Service 2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church, 11:00 am

Book Club 4th Tuesday of each month at the Star Inn, 8:00 pm

Circle Dancing 3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth, 7:30 pm

Pilates Most Wednesdays Culworth 7:30 pm

Most Fridays Sulgrave Church Hall. 9:30 am & 10:30 am

W.I. 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm

Cover - The Clown Fish (Appropriate for April) Please colour me bright!

## Safari Supper

A huge thank you to all who took part in the Safari Supper in March. To all the wonderful hosts who produced such fantastic food and hospitality, to those who donated puddings and raffle prizes, and particularly to Pete and Moo who opened their home for the dessert course after the rest of us had traipsed around the village, meeting up with others and enjoying our first and second courses! The element of surprise is what makes it such a great evening. We have raised nearly a thousand pounds for the church – thank you so much, and roll on the next Safari Supper in eighteen months time!!! *Anne and Shrimp*

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## Sulgrave with Culworth Women's Institute

Thank you to all who supported our recent Coffee Morning which raised £100.40. A donation from this is to be made to the Associated Country Women of the World towards buying brick-making equipment for a Women's Group in Kenya.

Our skittles team has continued its busy schedule, not only have we learnt more about playing skittles, we have had the opportunity to meet fellow members from other W.Is. Thanks to Jo Coverley who made all the arrangements for the matches.

Members took part in the recent litter picking in the village, with some picking and others providing the well deserved teas and coffees for the pickers.

Our March meeting was interesting when Jean Wilson spoke about 'Hats'. Jean read poems of hats, told us the origins of various types of hats and brought a selection of hats from trips abroad including New Zealand and USA.

Nine members also had a joint lunch at the Red Lion in Cropredy at the end of March.

We next meet in the Church Hall on Wednesday 8th April at 7:30 pm., when John Cornwall will speak on 'Being a volunteer for Amnesty International. *Margaret Watts*

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## Church News

The Womens's Day of Prayer, held on March 6th, in Sulgrave church was a warm and inspiring service. There were over fifty in the congregation, of which sixteen were from our parish. The collection raised £191.00 and will go to a variety of good causes, including the care of families in Papua New Guinea whose womenfolk had prepared this year's service.

Our thanks to all who helped to provide refreshments and serve the teas. Many hands certainly made light work! *Julie Metcalfe*

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## Wool Gathering

Should your thoughts be turning towards spring cleaning (what's that?) the knitting group would be most grateful for any double knitting wool, of any colour, that you no longer need. We continue to make blankets. Of either 6 inch or 4 inch squares, to send to such as Brackley Cottage Hospital, or the special baby unit at the Horton.

Do phone me if you can help.

Julie Metcalfe 768103

## Many Thanks

Mrs Lily Young wishes to say a big thank you to all neighbours and friends for the lovely cards and messages of good wishes during her recent stay in hospital. Special thanks to Maureen, Peter and family for their wonderful care and help.

## CHERWELL EDGE GOLF CLUB

Chacombe, Banbury, OX17 2EN



Cherwell Edge Golf Club would like to welcome new members to their Ladies Section.

Come and join a friendly group of lady golfers who welcome new members with any level of experience, whether they are beginners or more advanced.

The ladies meet on Tuesday mornings and at weekends for both social and competitive golf.

We are planning to hold regular group coaching sessions run by our Professional, Jason Roberts-Newman, at the driving range. So, if you are new to the game or just need brushing up on your golf then do come along. We are hoping to make these sessions social occasions with coffee afterwards for a relatively small charge.

The first session will be held on Thursday, 30th April at 10.30am.

Please contact the club on 01295 711591 or Annie Hooper on 07774 226724 if you are interested in these coaching sessions or any other information concerning our Ladies Section.

We look forward to welcoming new members.

## - YOUR BREAKFAST MENU -

A selection of cereals, muesli, yoghurts, fruit juices and whole grapefruit

\* \* \* \*

choose from....

### **Traditional full English breakfast**

with sausage, egg, bacon, mushrooms and tomatoes (sourced from local suppliers)

or

### **Continental breakfast**

of croissant and pain au chocolat (freshly baked on the premises)

\* \* \* \*

Organic and wholemeal breads, marmalades, jams and honey

A selection of coffees and teas

All available from

### **SULGRAVE VILLAGE SHOP**

for

**CHOICE, QUALITY, VALUE AND SERVICE**

## IVY: FRIEND OR FOE ?

Of all our native plants, few provoke such opposing views as the common ivy. There are ivy-lovers and ivy-haters, and those who can see both sides of the question, according to the angle from which they happen to be viewing it. So what are the pros and cons ?

To deal first with the factors which count in its favour. There is no doubt that ivy is invaluable from the wildlife point of view. Being evergreen, it provides a snug place for many creatures - insects, spiders, small mammals, birds - to live, roost or nest; its flowers are valuable as a source of nectar to bees, butterflies and others in autumn (it is one of the latest plants to flower); and then afterwards its black berries offer food for birds when little else may be around in the coldest months of the year. So 1-0 to ivy.



Next, as our only native self-clinging climbing plant, ivy is useful as cover for the unsightly, such as concrete-block walls, ugly chain-link fencing and the like. Back in Victorian times, when “gothick” ruins were desirable landscape features, ivy added a touch of the romantic to many a tumbledown building or folly. It has a place in gardens too. The plantsman’s indispensable reference book ‘The Plant Finder’, believe it or not, lists over 350 named varieties of our common *Hedera helix*, ail of which can be assumed to be of some garden worth. There are variations in leaf size, shape and colour. As well as climbing, ivy can be a useful ground cover plant; the golden and silver variegated forms light up many a darkk corner where little else will grow. So far, 2-0 to ivy, then.

Ivy is not a parasite: it takes in all its nourishment like other plants, mainly from its own roots, it uses walls or trees purely as supports, clinging by means of many small adhesive suckers. It will do no damage to a wall if the brick- or stonework and mortar are sound. But — and it’s quite a big but — it can cause serious mischief if the mortar is crumbly, or in a dry-stone wall, where it will force its way into any crevices and widen them, perhaps causing the wall to collapse or sometimes it will reverse roles by ending up as a support for the wall. Of course, left to its own devices, it will grow over windows, doors and roofs, and it will penetrate under eaves and choke gutters. So - I speak from experience — if grown on house walls it does need regular cutting back, perhaps twice a year, to prevent it taking over. The anti-ivy team pull one back: 2 – 1.

There’s a further problem which has been (like the ivy itself) stealthily creeping up these latter years. In olden days, when hedges were routinely laid every few years, in the traditional way by hand and billhook, the hedger would at the same time cut out the self-sown ivy, along with elder. Nowadays, more often than not, the hedges are trimmed by machine and no weeding is done, therefore many hedges are full of ivy and, more importantly, so are the hedgerow trees. Look at roadside trees and, particularly at this time of the year when they have dropped their leaves, you will see the dark masses of ivy, in many cases completely filling the crowns. The ivy may not extract any nourishment from its host, but what it does do is shut out the light, sometimes even physically strangling the tree. Moreover, the heavy body of ivy can make the tree top-heavy and render it more liable to be blown over in a high wind. At a time when we are being urged to plant more trees, it would be a pity if at the same time we were to lose so many of the older trees in our countryside. A plea, then, to landowners and tree-owners: look to your trees. It would be difficult to bring all the established ivy out of the tree-tops? it’s a relatively simple matter to kill the top growth by cutting through the stems low down. In time the ivy will lose its leaves, thus lightening the tree’s burden. And don’t fear - there’ll still be enough ivy left for the wildlife!

A late equaliser by the anti-ivy team, then: 2-all. Which means we can still love and/or hate ivy, however we are inclined.

*George Metcalfe*

## GIVE US THEIR NAMES, NOT YOURS

Northamptonshire Police is encouraging members of the public to contact Crimestoppers if they wish to remain anonymous when providing information about any criminal activity they may be aware of.



Crimestoppers is a charity that enables people to get information passed to the Police without revealing their identity. It does not matter why you wish to remain anonymous; perhaps you are concerned for your safety, perhaps you have information about the activities of someone close to you. All information is valuable and can lead directly to offenders being arrested and charged.

If you have any information about a crime or criminal in your community then the Police want to know about it.

Some specific things to look out for include, people who are selling cheap goods, drug activity, homes that appear empty, curtains drawn during the day time, people frequently coming and going from a property, or neighbours keeping strange hours.

Either contact Northamptonshire Police on 08453 700700 or alternatively, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 if you would rather remain anonymous.

By calling the Crimestoppers number, you will not have to give your name, your call cannot be traced, your call is not recorded, and you do not have to go to court.

The number is free if you are calling from a landline, but you may be charged by your mobile phone network operator if your call is from a mobile phone.

When you call Crimestoppers you will be connected to one of a number of highly trained and experienced call operators, who will pass on any useful information to the Police in the area you are calling about.

Every call is valuable, but if your information leads to an arrest and charge, it could bring you a cash reward. Rewards are set according to the seriousness of the crime.

As a result of your calls, Crimestoppers has achieved some very positive outcomes across the UK since 1988, including 89,396 people arrested/charged, 1,036,505 actionable calls, £104 million goods recovered, and 164 million drugs recovered.

Your call can really make a difference to making your area safer so if you are aware of any suspicious activity, please contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

For further details, visit the Northamptonshire Police website at [www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk) and follow the Crimestoppers link.



# SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to

## THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

To be held on  
THURSDAY 9th APRIL 2009  
7:30 PM

in

Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

This is your opportunity to question  
and find out what is happening around you!

### SPEAKERS / REPORTS WILL INCLUDE:

PARISH COUNCIL  
REVIEW AND PLANS FOR  
THE YEAR AHEAD

AN UPDATE FROM  
CASTLE GREEN  
COMMITTEE

A REPORT FROM  
SULGRAVE CHARITES

AN UPDATE FROM LOCAL  
POLICE OFFICER

A REPORT ON THE  
VILLAGE WEBSITE

AN UPDATE FROM NORTHANTS COUNTY COUNCIL  
AND SOUTH NORTHANTS COUNCIL ON THEIR WORK  
DURING THE LAST YEAR

*Nibbles and refreshments will be served*

*We look forward to seeing you there*



The  
**ROTARY CLUB**  
of  
**TOWCESTER**

**MAY DAY FAYRE**

The Recreation Ground  
**TOWCESTER**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

**11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.**

Duck Race

Balloon Race

Fire Brigade demonstrations

Prize Draw

Corps of Drums

Husky dogs demonstration

# Great Daffodil Run

**Sunday May 10, 2009**

15 mile and 10km road race

1.5km family fun run and  
family attractions

Join Daffodil Runners from across the country at Kelmarsh Hall, Northamptonshire and help raise vital funds to care for more people with terminal illnesses.



Events hotline: 08700 340 040  
Email: [daffodil.runs@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:daffodil.runs@mariecurie.org.uk)  
[www.mariecurie.org.uk/running](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/running)



**April 2009**

| Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday | Sunday   |
|--------|--|--|--|--|----------|--|
|        |  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4        | 5<br><b>Benefice Holy Communion</b><br>10:00 am Culworth |
| 6      | 7<br><b>Soup Kitchen</b><br>12:30 am Church Hall                                 | 8  | 9<br><b>Parish Council Annual Meeting</b><br>7:30 pm Church Hall | 10<br><b>Benefice Service Music &amp; Prayer</b><br>2:00 pm T. Mamd. | 11       | 12<br><b>Easter Holy Com.</b><br>10:00 am Sulgrave       |
| 13     | 14   | 15<br><b>W.I. Meeting</b><br>7:30 pm Church Hall | 16<br><b>Circle Dancing</b><br>7:30 pm Culworth                  | 17   | 18       | 19<br><b>Evensong</b><br>6:00 pm Sulgrave                |
| 20     | 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25       | 26<br><b>Mattins</b><br>10:00 am Sulgrave                |
| 27     | 28<br><b>Book Club</b><br>8:00 pm The Star<br>A Spot of Bother<br>by Mark Haddon | 29   | 30   |  |          |  |