

# Sulgrave News



July 2007

## It's raining; it must be summer!

I understand that Sulgrave Open Garden Day was a beautiful event, held in glorious sunshine. I'm sorry I missed it this year (I had been looking forward to it for a long time) but commitments got in the way. However, Diana and I did manage to attend the celebration of Kenneth and Janet Tattersall on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, and we would like to thank them for their wonderful hospitality, and wish them continued happiness together.

Since then we seem to have entered the monsoon season, and we must all be grateful we are not suffering to the extent of others. One of my interests, the Severn Valley Railway has been washed away in many places, and a TV news reporter, stood in water up to the top of his Wellies, was broadcasting a few yards from my junior school! Mind you the River Don always flooded when I was a child, and I find it strange we are surprised when it does these days.

I look forward to barbeques at Christmas!

Once again a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter. It is

**newsletter@84f.com**

### Deadline for the AUGUST newsletter - 20th July.

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*



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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 Ann & Peter Mackness, 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

Mums & Tots	Every Friday in the Church Hall, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
BB&C Service	2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church, 11:00 am
Book Club	4th Monday of each month at the Star Inn, 8:00 pm
Circle Dancing	3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth, 7:30 pm
W.I.	2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm

## Thanks

### To all Sulgravians and Honorary Sulgravians

Kenneth and Janet Tattersall were greatly touched by all the kind messages and good wishes they received on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and send their love and thanks to you all, for making this such a truly happy and memorable occasion.



## Sulgrave Open Gardens

Only those directly engaged in opening their gardens to the public can know how many worries loom beforehand. Will the garden be ready in time and looking its best? How many days before the event should I cut the grass and trim the lawn edges? Will my best flowers be in bloom on the day (a bigger problem this year than usual, with many plants blooming a good two or three weeks earlier than the norm)? Have I time to spruce up that untidy patch, or can I pass it off as a wildlife corner? And perhaps the biggest question of all – will the weather be kind, and will anyone turn up?

Well, this time we needn't have worried. On 10th June the weather couldn't have been better, the gardens were looking lovely and lots of visitors arrived (over 400 paid for admission). The two car parks were soon chock-a-block, and hastily cows had to be displaced to open up a further field for parking. At some point in their tour, most people popped in at The Cottage for tea and delicious cakes – the word must have got round, for the place was soon heaving. Even the village shop, opened up for the occasion, almost sold out of ice cream. All seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

The end result was a record £2218 for the National Gardens Scheme charities – this includes a staggering £600 plus for teas alone! In addition, the plant stall raised £283 for the Northants Wildlife Trust.

Was it worth all the trouble? We certainly think so. Very many thanks and congratulations to everyone involved.

*George Metcalfe*

## Village Walk — 11:00 am, 8th July

Walk to Greatworth for a pub lunch, at The Inn, and return by a different route.

Meet at the old Sulgrave stores.

There will be more information posted outside the village shop, nearer the time.



## Women's Institute

June was quite a W.I. month for Sulgrave. Rosie Moffat presented "Elements of Fitness" and discussed the benefit of exercise, stamina and endurance. She encouraged us to take part with her in some simple strengthening movements that can be practised in an everyday setting.

Later in the month we welcomed members from Lois Weedon & Weston, and Helmdon W.I.s to a group meeting. After an open discussion pooling our ideas, and refreshments, we took part in a Beetle Drive. (When did you last play 'Beetle'?) Some dice never seem to land on a 6.

Earlier in June I attended the National AGM at the Royal Albert Hall. What an atmosphere! Excellent keynote speakers. Marks & Spencer's CEO, Stuart Rose declared his "huge admiration for the W.I. and our Carbon Challenge." He said "both our organisations hold similar strong values - ethical, health and environmental concerns". The Resolution to stop the closure of Community Hospitals was debated and carried and the day ended when legendary crooner Tony Christie gave us a roof-raising rendition of "Is this the way to Amarillo?" (Yes, we did join-in!) It was the W.I. in a nutshell - action and fun.

This month it's our evening Summer Picnic - chatter and good food - and the sun usually shines.

*Ann Mackness*

## Church

A big thank you to all those who helped in our "Churchyard Tidyup" in May. We are very grateful to those who volunteer to keep the church and the churchyard looking good for visitors (particular thanks to Sue Pearce who has been trimming the beech hedge along the north footpath).

You may have noticed that the new gates have been put at either end of the footpath that runs from Magpie Road to Church Street. Please ensure that they are closed after use, to prevent dogs running in and fouling the churchyard.

*Shrimp Christie*

## Red Cross Week

Thank you to everyone in Sulgrave who gave so generously to the recent collection for the Red Cross. The weather was awful so perhaps you felt sorry for us but the great total of £170 was raised. This was helped by The Star and Sulgrave Village Shop having boxes on their counters so a big thank you to them too. Gabriella Magney and Pat Thomas would like to thank everyone who has made this job enjoyable over the years, it reminds us what a friendly village this is. It is always nice to chat to those who have the time to call.

*Pat Thomas*

## Front Gardens

We are sure that you enjoyed looking round the Open Gardens of Sulgrave last month. Well, now it's your turn to shine.

Our front gardens will be judged by an expert this month (July) with trophies subsequently awarded to the most attractive and/or well kept. These are annual awards organised by Sulgrave W.I.

The results will be published in the Newsletter to enable us to stroll round the village to see if we agree with the judge!

*Pauline Flynn*

# ARTS ACTIVITIES AT SULGRAVE MANOR

The following activities will take place at Sulgrave Manor during the Summer holidays. For further information please contact Sue Carverhill at South Northants Council on 01327 322334.

All workshops inclusive for all children, including those with disabilities.

Mornings, 10am to 12 am

(younger age groups) or 12.30pm

Art & craft workshops with **Sarah Bament**.  
£6 each. Maximum numbers 15 per session:

Monday 30 July: Ages 8-16

**Mono-print Monsters** — Come and explore the magic of print. Make one-off prints by drawing mad monster images into ink. Experiment with an exciting range of mark making tools.

Tuesday 31 July: Ages 5-10

**Happy Hats** — Using a hat mould, design a cool fun hat. It can be painted, collaged and transformed through your own ideas and a range of exciting scrap materials. Fun to wear home!

Wednesday 1 August: Ages 5-16

**Jazzy Jewellery** — Have fun designing your own jewellery using a variety of collage and scrap materials. Bling's the thing!

Thursday 2 August: Ages 5-16

**Potty Pots** — Using a paper maché mould, design your own bowl or pot. Using wacky collage materials and fun paint effects create your own potty pot.

## Circus Skills with Kevin Burke

Circus Skills are great fun and good exercise too! Entertainer and street artist Kevin Burke demonstrates and teaches all the traditional circus skills such as stilt-walking, plate-spinning, juggling, diabolo, flower-stick and more for older children. Great for developing co-ordination and it's fun to try things out with guidance from an expert.

Monday 6 August

**Circus Skills:** Ages 5-16

Tuesday 7 August

**Circus Skills:** Ages 11-18

Wednesday 8, Thursday 9 August

& Friday 10 August,

**Sing Out & Shine!** with **Gareth Fuller**

Everyone can enjoy singing! Prepare to be lifted by this lively, soulful, fun gospel style singing experience as you learn how to perfect those vocals & move like your favourite performers. All 10-17 year-olds welcome, whether or not you can read music or are an experienced singer. Led by dynamic Director, Gareth Fuller, who has worked with Elton John & many more musicians, do not miss out on this opportunity to 'shine'!

Three half-day workshops Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 August: 10:00am – 12:30pm at Sulgrave Manor, followed by a performance with the Towcester Group in the Towcester Flower Festival on 10 August, 1:30 pm.

£35 for 3 half-days.

## African Dance & Drumming with Kyreme Arts

Lively workshops offering a great experience of African rhythms.

£6 per activity.

## CASTLE GREEN PROJECT HAS NOW BEGUN

Having successfully raised grants for the restoration of Castle Green, members of the Management Committee have been working hard, monitoring the first stage of the project – the construction of the new fencing and Access path across the green by Frank J Morris Contracting Ltd.

The work was carried out under the watchful eye of a professional archaeologist, Dr Richard Ivens, who identified various archaeological features at the Church Street end of the path. He will be providing a report on his discoveries in due course.

Work on the path is almost completed, but it will remain closed for some time, to allow the new grass seed to become established.

A detailed Contract is now being drawn up for the next stage, rebuilding the dry-stone wall around the site. The contractors, Underwood and Weston, have suggested a provisional start date of mid-July. The work is expected to take about 3 months, and once it is under way a guided tour and talk on the ancient art of dry-stone wall construction will be arranged. The talk will take place on a weekday evening and will conclude with refreshment at the pub!

The committee wish to thank the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, which has provided the majority of the funding (up to £48,400). **Northants County Council's Voluntary Sector Support Unit** (£15,777) and **South Northants Council** (£15,000) have given generous grants and **English Heritage** and the **Alan Evans Memorial Trust** have also provided funds.

*Clare Pollak, Project Co-ordinator*



## Culworth Primary School Association Summer Garden Party & Celebration Evening

Friday 6th July 2007

Culworth Primary School is holding a Summer Garden Party & Celebration Evening on Friday 6th July 2007, 6.15pm to 9.15pm at the school.

The evening is not only to raise much needed money for the school, but for all parents, children and friends of the school to get together for a social evening and to celebrate the achievements of members of the School Community.

Live music, disco, pig roast, strawberries & cream, bar, children's games, raffle, display boards sharing the achievements of those connected with the school.

Tickets – include entrance, entertainment and games

Family	£5
Adult	£2
Child	£1

(Food and drink payable on the night)

Contact Stephanie Fry 01295 768182 for tickets or further information.

**DID YOU KNOW:**  
PETEM  
POOCLOR  
VERLO  
TIENCE

### Laughable Laws:

- In France, no pig may be called Napoleon.
- It is illegal in Kansas, USA, to eat a rattlesnake in public, on a Sunday.
- In England, a law passed by Oliver Cromwell totally banning the consumption of mince pies, has never been repealed.
- Anyone detonating a nuclear bomb within the city limits of Chico, California is liable to a \$500 fine.
- British citizens are forbidden from impersonating a Chelsea Pensioner.

## Sulgrave Ancestry

Colin Wootton received this email, and we both felt it was interesting and worthy of publication.

“Hi, I have looked at your village website with interest. Do you have a family history section for people with Sulgrave ancestors? My ancestors were called Barrett and Mayo. Persis Mayo born in the village in 1728ish. She married a John Barrett, either from Sulgrave or Brackley, there is some confusion to which. Their son Thomas born around 1753 was either born in Sulgrave or Piddington. He married Mary Whitman in Brackley. I have found a will for a Margaret Mayo of Sulgrave on the internet, she left some money to her god daughter called, Margaret Washington and leaves things to Barretts also.

Does anyone know of the Mayo family and Barrett family? I know the Washingtons were George W's ancestors from your website, I wonder what the connection is with the Mayo's if any apart from friends I presume. With many thanks Andrew Bartley.”

If you can add anything to this enquiry can you reply to Colin, in the first instance, who has Andrew's email address.

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## Sulgrave Parish Council

**Chairman:** Mr G Robert, Westfield, Park Lane, Sulgrave, Oxon, OX17 2RX

**Parish Clerk:** Mrs C Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 0DR,  
Tel No 01295 276229, Fax No 01295 276658, Email colesnccj@btinternet.com

### Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 14th June 2007

The Parish Council is made up of the following members and they can be contacted as follows:

Chairman – Cllr Graham Roberts (07778 584108)	Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)
Vice-Chairman – Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574)	Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)
Parish Clerk – Mrs Christine Coles (01295 276229)	Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)
	Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

### Councillors Reports

#### Training Course

Both Cllr's Waite and Kellett advised they would be attending a training course for new councillors at the NALC office in Northampton on 20th June.

#### Pocket Park

Cllr Osborne noted that she had been to Pocket Park to look at the walkway and there is a post broken off it. She is hoping to ask Tony Patten if he can fix it. A note and safety tape will be put on the equipment to say it is temporarily out of use. Whilst discussing Pocket Park the Clerk advised that a safety inspection is normally carried out at this time of year on the play equipment. She felt it would be of no benefit as there is still work outstanding from last years report. The councillors agreed that an inspection should be carried out after all the work is done. The Clerk will speak to John Hicks to advise of this.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

### Allotments

Cllr Roberts confirmed he is still waiting for the third quote for the fencing around the allotment area but the situation is getting more complicated. A further couple of residents have shown an interest in having a plot and Cllr Roberts felt this was rather encouraging. He is hoping to get together with them in the near future.

**Work at Castle Green** - Cllr Pollak gave a progress report on the work at Castle Green.

#### Contracts

The contract for Morris was drafted with assistance from Colin Wootton and Cllr's Waite and Kellett. On Friday 24th May, Peter and Clare Pollak went to the offices of FJ Morris Contracting and met Frank and his son Hayden. The contract was read, and various issues clarified prior to signature by Frank Morris and Clare Pollak. Practical details of site safety etc were discussed and a Health and Safety 'Method Statement' provided.

A contract for the wall repairs contractor is being drafted by the Rhodes partnership, and will be available next week for checking. A provisional start date of mid July has been given but it could be earlier. A site meeting will be held as soon as possible and the Chair of the Parish Council will attend if possible.

#### Work on Site

Work commenced on Tuesday 29th May and was completed on 14th June except for the tarmac splays at each end of the path. These are being held up until the water board move their manhole. An enormous amount of soil had to be moved at the Church Street end, because of the shallow slopes required by disabled access legislation. This work was monitored by the archaeologist, Richard Ivens, who was advised throughout by the English Heritage Ancient Monuments Inspector. An ancient drain was discovered and two walls of an uncertain date but possibly contemporary with the Mound. Dr Ivens is preparing a report on his work and the work was watched by many residents with interest.

The path is now completed but must not be used until the grass has become established. The committee apologised for any inconvenience this may cause.

#### Boundary Issues

Peter and Clare Pollak feel it is important to be clear about questions concerning the boundary between the Castle mound and the Castle Green. The contractors have put the new fence as close as they can to the original fence line, except where the hedge has been laid, and the place where it meets the wall will be marked with a large stone.

The stretch of wall that belongs to them needs to be clearly demarcated when the wall is rebuilt. In addition, some of the inner edge of their wall was exposed during the ground works and this will need to be repaired.

A site meeting has been held with TRP who will advise them of the potential costs involved, some of which could be regained from lottery funding. This will need careful consideration and maximum transparency.

#### Permissive Path

The new path crossed the Pollak land and emerges through their gate. This will not be a permanent Right of Way, but will be what is known as a permissive path. They are consulting a solicitor and have been advised that it would be help for the Parish Council to write requesting permission for the path to cross our land. They can then enter into negotiations concerning the exact terms under which the permissive path is established. They are seeking advice from other organisations, such as the National Trust, which use permissive paths.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

### Financial Issues

The Heritage Lottery Fund has transferred £24,400 (which is 50% of the funding) into the Castle Green account. With the £2000 from the Alan Evans Trust they now have £26,400 in the bank. Some of this will be transferred into their high interest earning account. An enormous amount of voluntary hours have been put into site visits and meetings, by committee members and these will be given a monetary value by the Lottery Fund (Cllr Pollak has worked 30 hours, just on this part of the project).

Completion of contract: A site meeting was held with H Morris and most of the work was 'signed off'. However there are some outstanding questions concerning 'extras', such as the loads of earth that had to be taken to a landfill site. It has been agreed that the contractor will email a draft invoice, listing the work that was done, and the Castle Green Committee will discuss the finer details with them before a final invoice is submitted.

### Update on Annual Report for Quality Council Status

Cllr Roberts had put together a draft report which was circulated at the meeting for everyone to see. It has to be produced and published by 30th June 2007. Cllr Roberts asked for any comments to be made by Wednesday 20th June to the Clerk. If none are received by the Clerk, the Chair will organise the printing, copying and distribution of the annual report.

### Finance Report

#### a) Cheques

The following payments were approved:-

- £33.00 – ACRE Subscription
- £634.50 – R & D Landscapes (3 x grass cuts)

### Update on Planning Applications

There are currently two new applications in circulation within the council.

1. S/2007/0656/LB, Single storey garden room to rear. Walls to match existing stone. Hardwood timber and clear toughened double glazing. Timber composite roof. The Old Vicarage, Magpie Road.
2. S/2007/0680/P, 2 front dormers and 1 rear dormer at Eagles Court, Helmdon Road.

The following decision notices had been received from SNC.

1. Application S/2007/0378/LB, decision date 17th May 2007 at Yew Tree House, Manor Road. Installation of new internal secondary glazing to 11 existing leaded light casement windows. Approved.
2. Application S/2007/0491/PT, decision date 29th May 2007 at The Thatched House, Manor Road. Crown lift by 2 metres. Approved.

Two new applications had been received since the last meeting and were answered as follows:

1. Application S/2007/0526/LB, Removal of conservatory and construction of new single storey garden room extension. The Old Stables, Manor Road. The PC replied that they objected to it as the drawings were not clear about proposed materials. The elevation drawings were very poor.
2. Application S/2007/0577/P, Single Storey rear extension and garden shed at The Old Wesleyan Chapel, Manor Road. The PC replied that they had no objections to the proposed changes to the building which appear sympathetic to the design. However they did object to the proposed set of high front gates which will remove all of the building from view. This is a historical building and part of the village heritage.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (Continued)

### Update on access to Spinners Cottages

Cllr Osborne had kindly agreed to meet Nick Gore, Chief Engineer of Northants County Council Highways department. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the request the Parish Council had received from a villager in Spinners Cottages asking to put a path across their grass verge to the road. They first walked up and down the layby to look at the feasibility of the proposal. Mr Gore then advised that there is no funding available to do the work. The grass is the property of the highways department and the villagers would need complete planning permission and the agreement of the Highways Department to put a driveway in. Three houses currently have drives, two have tarmac on them and one is hardstanding. Mr Gore will be writing to each villager to check they have the proper permission to have put their own driveway in. He was horrified to see a car parked over the Slow Down sign in the road. NCC would be able to provide a full survey of the area but the Parish Council would have to bear the cost of this. Cllr Osborne advised Mr Gore that the Parish Council did not want a piecemeal approach. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Mr Gore of NCC Highways and a representative of SNC Housing to attend a future meeting. The Clerk would also draft a letter to the residents of Spinners Cottages inviting them to a future meeting (date to be arranged) to discuss in more detail.

### Correspondence

#### a. Requiring attention by councillors

#### Sulgrave Charities

- A letter had been received from Robin Prior advising of his intention to stand down from Sulgrave Charities. The Parish Council accepted his resignation and recognised the hard work that he has put in over the 10 years that he has served on the Charity. Another letter had been received from James Garnett of Dove Cottage, Church Street who had offered to fill the vacancy left by Robin. Cllr Roberts proposed that the Parish Council welcomes James Garnett as a trustee of Sulgrave Charities. This was seconded by Cllr Kellett and all the councillors voted in favour. The council also ratified the position of Joanna Gregory as a trustee of Sulgrave Charities. This was proposed by Cllr Osborne and seconded by Cllr Pollak. All the councillors voted in favour.
- In a letter from Mr and Mrs Lloyd they complained about the position of the church gate post opposite Spinners Cottages which has not been positioned properly and the roughness of the new gates and posts which catch on clothing. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Christina Shillito to find out who was responsible for fitting the new gates and posts.

### Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 12th July at 7.30pm in the Church Hall

July 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30	31					1 <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> 10:00 am Edgcote
2	3	4	5	6 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	7	8 <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:15 am Sulgrave <b>Greatworth Walk</b> 11:00 am Old Shop
9	10	11 <b>W.I. Meeting</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	12 <b>Parish Council</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	13 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	14	15 <b>Evensong</b> 6:00 pm Sulgrave
16	17	18	19 <b>Circle Dancing</b> Castle Hill, Sulgrave	20 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall <b>DEADLINE</b> August Newsletter	21	22 <b>Mattins</b> 10:00 am Sulgrave
23 <b>Book Club</b> 8:00pm Star Inn	24	25	26	27 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	28	29 H.C.10:00 am M. Pinkney

