

# Sulgrave News



June 2007

## Blooming Marvelous

It's that time of year to enjoy your garden, that is if the weather picks up again. But more especially it is the time to visit the Open Gardens of Sulgrave. Well worth the small admission charge (for charity) with plenty to and admire, from the dedication of the gardeners, the magnificence of the plants, or the splendour of the landscaping.

I would also like to be amongst the first to congratulate Kenneth and Janet Tattersall on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, a marvelous occasion.

Once again, apologies for burning the midnight oil, but it was a change to Broadband this month, and the associated problems (having to get emails on my laptop, and forgetting to check I had the newsletter email address set up on it.) I'm also sorry if there are a few spelling mistakes in this issue, as the new DTP software is crashing when I try to run the spell-checker. Who said computers saved work.

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

**newsletter@84f.com**

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

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 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

### An invitation to a Sulgravians Kenneth and Janet Tattersall will be "At Home"

On Sunday June 10th at Corner House,  
between 11:30 am & 2:00 pm  
and will be delighted to see anyone who would care to call in for a drink,  
to help them celebrate their Diamond Wedding



### Sulgrave Open Gardens

Sunday 10th June, 2-6 pm  
Combined Admission to all gardens, £4  
(children under 16, free)

For any gardener, and many non gardeners, one life's pleasures is to look round some else's garden. It's the enjoyment of spending time in pleasant surroundings, but it's also a learning process. Every garden is different, every one has something to offer – perhaps the form of its layout, or its special "features" (a waterfall, anyone?) or its selection of plants. You'll learn something from each garden, picking up ideas on what to do (or, sometimes, on what not to do!). You'll learn more from this than from a visit to a garden centre because you'll see plants in action, growing naturally among others, and you can put questions to the owner. You may see plants unknown to you and which could look good in your own garden. If your garden is looking a little tired and needs pepping up, just use your eyes (and have a paper and pen with you).

What's that you say, you've seen them all before? Probably not so, because three of the gardens are newly opened this time, and others have had interesting new developments. All right, then, but you don't see why you should pay to look round your own village? Please remember that all money taken under the National Gardens Scheme goes to a number of charities – Macmillan Cancer Support, Help the Hospices, Crossroads (Caring for Carers), Perennial (Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society) and other worthy causes. Plant sale money goes to the local Wildlife Trust.

£4 for entry to eight gardens – seems a bargain.

Tea and delicious cakes will be provided at The Cottage, Magpie Road (opposite the village shop), and perennial plants will be on sale at Ferns.

These are the open gardens (\* indicates new to the scheme)

CHURCH COTTAGE, Church Street

FERNS, Helmdon Road

- \* GREENFIELDS, Spinners Cottages
- MILL HOLLOW BARN, Stockwell Lane
- \* THE OLD FARMHOUSE, Manor Road
- SULGRAVE MANOR, Manor Road
- THREEWAYS, Little Street
- THE WATERMILL, Stockwell Lane

## Women's Institute

Our last meeting was an evening of discussion about the Resolution to be debated at the National AGM in the Royal Albert Hall this month. The Resolution urges HM Government to stop the closure of Community Hospitals which provide essential services. All our members voted for the Resolution and I am very much looking forward to attending as the delegate for Sulgrave with Culworth WI.

Jean Bates gave us a detailed account of the Great Milk Debate she, along with two other members and their husbands, attended at Daventry. The Hall was packed. We heard of the real plight of a local female dairy farmer struggling to maintain a dairy herd. Our MP, Tim Boswell, urged everyone to be vigilant about buying British dairy products, while continuing to lobby for realistic Farmgate Milk Prices.

We thank all of you who came and supported our Coffee Morning in April. We hope you enjoyed the morning and maybe went home with a few goodies.

This month Rosie Moffatt is coming to our meeting to talk on Elements of Fitness - and no doubt encouraging us to join her in some Keep Fit routines. As usual, you will be given a warm welcome. — *Ann Mackness*



English

## SPANISH IMMIGRATION

I would like to remind every reader of the danger to the English Bluebell caused by hybridisation with its imported cousin. If you wish to preserve our bluebells you should dig out the spanish ones; allow them to dry in the sun and then burn them. If you compost them they may recover!

For more information log on to  
Plantlife--[www.plantlife.org.uk](http://www.plantlife.org.uk)  
*Christopher Magnay*



Spanish

## "Did You Know"

In 1865 during a war between Uruguay and Brazil a Uruguayan ship ran out of canon balls. So, in an act of desperation, they fired stale Dutch cheeses instead, one of which dismasted an enemy vessel and killed 2 sailors!

*Pete, Moo ,CLover and Pati*



## Animal Rescue – Live.

Selina Scott, fresh from her victory on the successful BBCTWO series Underdog is teaming up with Blue Peter veteran and Crufts presenter Matt Baker to try and find new homes for dozens of rescue cats and dogs in a brand new series for BBC Daytime. And they're looking for individuals and families from throughout the UK to take part in their unique Pet Matches.

The duo will be broadcasting live from the famous Battersea Dogs and Cats Home in London for three weeks this summer, following prospective pet owners on their rigorous and emotional journey to adopt a rescue pet. With the emphasis on responsible pet ownership, they'll be working closely with Battersea's rehoming experts to make sure new owners can give the animals the life they deserve.

The programme will also take viewers behind the scenes at Britain's most famous rescue centre, feature Animal Sanctuaries from throughout the UK and tell the inspiring success stories of previous residents.

Stories like these:-

- Pippa the Border Collie was abandoned on the streets of London, but rescued by dog wardens. She's been chosen from all the Battersea residents to be re-trained as an airport sniffer dog.
- Bilbo is a big brown Newfoundland and he's a rescue dog with a twist. His webbed feet and water-resistant coat make him Britain's ONLY qualified canine life-guard. He passed swimming and fitness tests to join the team and spends his days patrolling Cornish beaches with his handler.
- Bobbi the Springer was dumped on Battersea's doorstep. She was neglected and had a broken leg. We're there as the team nurse her back to health and try to find her a loving new home.

Anyone with a genuine interest in adopting a rescue animal and willing to take part in the series can apply now by the following means...

Phone: 0871 66 44 808\* for an application form

\*Calls cost 10p per minute from a BT landline. Mobiles & other networks may vary.

Post: Animal Rescue Live, Room 3029, BBC Television Centre, London, W12 7RJ

Online: [www.bbc.co.uk/whatson/beonashow/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/whatson/beonashow/)



BBC Press Release provided by Angharad Lloyd a native of Sulgrave

## Memories of Mrs Joan Oakley

In October 1985, during an interregnum, Joan started a Children's Service, based on the one she had led for many years in their London parish. Eight children came, aged from 3 to 11, from the Henn, Houlston, Lloyd and Tims families. By Christmas there were 25 at this 11 o'clock service, by 1987 there were 30, and in 1996 there were 40 on the register. What an achievement, and of course all due to Joan's loving influence.

Here then are the thoughts of former members of that congregation, now scattered (two emails from America!) and some with children of their own.



"Mrs Oakley was a real inspiration to us all. She would always listen, always be interested, nothing was too much trouble"

"How sweet she was to our family when we first moved to Sulgrave"

"In every memory she is always smiling. When I had chicken-pox, she came round with a colouring-book and some crayons – it mad my day!"

"She always made me feel the best of helpers"

"She started something very special"

The detail in their letters is proof of how special those services were; jobs were allocated – ringing the bell, carrying our small wooden cross or our banner, reading a lesson, taking the collection and then counting it – the young treasurers job. There were stars and stamps to mark attendance. Rewards for completed books were modest – a bookmark, a little picture. For long service awards, so to speak, there were small notice boards for your room, or "I am still using an alarm clock that I received." The church year was always followed and celebrated: Mothering Sunday, with a full church, followed by the revived tradition of 'clipping the church', Palm Sunday was recalled, with its real donkey at the church door, on one occasion; the Easter Garden had to be decorated with tiny flowers. The year carried on without a break. Joan would say "the church never stops, so neither do we!" After Harvest Festival there was, all too soon, Advent to prepare for: its Christingle service ("We always remember when Robbie's cassock caught fire!"), a carol service and nativity play. Not in the Church's calendar was Ice-cream Sunday – high on the memory list.

It was a variable feast, not widely advertised in advance, but simply when Joan felt the weather might be kind. Cornets were served on the very convenient table-tomb near the south door, with many photos in our scrap-books proving one memory: "The sun was always shining."

There was always singing and acting, simple actions with songs, or the uninhibited interpretation of Bible stories: "I think my ad-libbed and understated line 'Oh, dear!' at the terrible news of my leprosy is what let me down! But when the imaginary curtain came down, Mrs Oakley would always be smiling." And how Joan would have smiled at remembered mistakes:

"My favourite song was about Pontius Pilot – what a funny name, I thought"

"Today Joan taught us about the Holy Goat."

As a helper at the service, I recall Joan asking me to talk about Trinity Sunday. On very safe ground, or so I thought, I started with "tricycle – three wheels. Now let's think of other word." The list grew: triangle, trio, triplets, tri-plane, trimaran (I was now getting out of my depth), and then a very small boy said "Trifle!", and it was carefully written down. Joan would have smiled, but never criticised.

To think of Joan was also to remember her car ("A groovy Beetle that we all loved", "She did have an extremely cool car!"). And from a parent: "Joan had parked her famous VW Beetle in the Church Hall car park. On coming out from a meeting, she went to her car, but it wasn't there. It had rolled across the car park, crashed through the fence on the boundary with the Old Vicarage, but miraculously missing the concrete fence posts. The car was only slightly scratched, the fence easily repaired, and clearly the Lord had steered the car in the safest path."

Perhaps best of all, from a founder member of the Children's Service: "If we all listened very carefully, we may just be able to hear, from up high, the sound of the air-cooled engine of a speedy VW Beetle, with one of life's saints at the wheel."

Thank you for your memories. They show your love and appreciation of all that was offered to us, over those years – how to worship, how to create a caring community, how to grow confidence, and now, how to treasure memories of a most beloved friend.

Many thanks to Lucy Allan, Ian Cherry, the Collinsons, David Doswell, George Holley-Moore, the Houlstons, Angharad Lloyd, Rachel Massey, the Macdonalds, Katherine Lewis (nee Tims), Helen and David Tims.

Your letters will be sent on to Jimmy, Joan's son.

*Julie Metcalfe*

## MISSING

On Saturday afternoon (probably during the FA Cup Final) Tanzy disappeared from her home along the Weston Road. She is a 10yr old border terrier with a leather collar. At approx 3p.m. she was lying in the kitchen in front of the cooker, because it was a nice day the door was open so she and everyone else could wonder in and out. By approx 6p.m we realised she had completely disappeared. Any of you who walk your dogs along the lane will probably know her for barking at you through the fence. She has never wandered off by herself hunting before, so we are hoping someone has picked her up thinking she may be homeless.

If you have any information which would help us find her please contact us on 760465 (The Steele Family).

Thank you. - Jackie Steele

## 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 colesncej@btinternet.com

### Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 17th May 2007

This was the first meeting of the newly elected council. Two new councillors have joined the Parish Council, Mr Andrew Waite and Mr David Kellett.

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

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

### Election of Chair

The councillors were asked for their nominations and Cllr Roberts was voted as Chairman.

### Chairmans Declaration of Acceptance of Office form

This was duly signed by Cllr Roberts and returned to the Clerk for filing.

### Election of Vice-Chair

The councillors were asked for their nominations and Cllr Kellett was voted as Vice-Chairman.

## Sulgrave Parish Council 17/5/2007 (Continued)

### Matters Arising

#### Lights

From the last Parish Council meeting held in March the clerk was asked to report light no 4 in Magpie Road, outside the Old Farmhouse which was not working and light no 1 in Magpie Road, outside Dial House Farmyard which was on during the day. These were both reported to ABB Lighting.

#### Pocket Park

A letter had been received from Kevin Moore to advise of the work that needs to be carried out in Pocket Park to comply with last years safety inspection.

The proposed work is as follows:-

**Parallel Bars** – to supply and install safety grass mats beneath the bars. Cost £844.00.

**Two Way Spring Mobile** – allowance to dig up from the bark pit and relocate the existing two way spring mobile. To supply and install the following safety grass mats for beneath the existing mobile. Cost £745.00.

It was agreed that £700.00 would be moved from the Pocket Park account and the Sulgrave Educational Charity have confirmed a grant of £1K. This was proposed by Cllr Pollak and seconded by Cllr Powell. All the councillors voted in favour.

### Councillors Responsibilities for 2007/8

These are as follows:

Cllr Roberts - District/County Council Consultation Documents, Planning and Utilities

Cllr Pollak - Communication, Environment and Heritage/Cultural Activities

Cllr Powell - Heritage/Cultural Activities, Highways and Inter-village co-ordination

Cllr Osborne - Children/Young People, Highways and Utilities

Cllr Kellett - Children/Young People, Environment and Highways

Cllr Waite - Communication, Heritage/Cultural Activities and Planning

### Update on Quality Council Status

Cllr Roberts noted that the Parish Council are able to proceed with gaining quality council status. They thought that an election had to be held recently to qualify but the criteria, read out by the Clerk, is as follows:

*“On accreditation 80% of the members of the council must have been elected. ‘Elected’ means that the member has been nominated and stood as a candidate for election. Where an election was not held, ‘elected’ means those councillors who stood for election and were elected unopposed’.*

In fact, just recently this council actually had 100% members of the council elected. Therefore they qualify in this section.

The Clerk, Cllr Waite and Cllr Roberts agreed to help produce an annual report which will have to be completed and published by 30th June 2007.

### **Grass Cutting**

Cllr Roberts in the past has organised the work of the grass cutting contractor. He has a schedule of what has to be done but this is very dependent upon the weather. He carries out eight main grass cuts during the year and two strimmings around Park Lane/Church Street. He also cuts the churchyard which the Parochial Church Council pay for. Some concerns have been raised recently about his work and this was opened to the floor for discussion.

Cllr Pollak advised there are specific areas within the village such as Pocket Park, the churchyard and Castle Green where the grass has to be kept long at certain times of the year. These areas were not cut last year and are very long now. She suggested that an advert is placed in the newsletter to look for a grass cutting warden who could be around during the week to liaise with Philip Daynes. This was felt to be a good idea as there is a tree warden and footpath warden. An advert will be put in the newsletter. The council agreed to look at what areas need cutting now and advise Philip accordingly.

### **Litter Pick**

Unfortunately due to the council changing members recently, this has not taken place. The grass is too long now to carry out a litter pick at present. The next one will be done in the Autumn.

### **Councillors Reports**

#### **Castle Green Restoration Project**

Cllr Pollak gave the following report.

The funding required for the project has been secured and the committee are working to get the project underway. Final signing of contracts with the funding bodies, Heritage Lottery Fund, Northants County Council and South Northants Council will take place at a Finance sub-committee meeting on Friday evening with Paul Crowley, Martin Sirot-Smith and Cllr Pollak.

The treasurer Paul Crowley is setting up a separate Castle Green project account to receive all the funding, so that it can be kept separate from the normal account.

#### **Contractors**

Contracts are being drawn up for all the contractors, and these will include topics such as insurance cover, statutory regulations, health and safety and equal opportunities etc.

The committee intends to use Underwood and Weston to carry out the repairs to the wall. This part of the project will be managed by a professional company, the Rhodes Partnership. The path and fences will be undertaken by a very experienced company recommended by South Northants Council, F J Morris Contracting. The Resistivity Survey will be carried out by Northants Archaeology. This is planned for August, weather permitting.

There are trees growing along the line of the wall, and these will need to be removed, so a site meeting has been held with Ian Lorman, the South Northants Tree Officer. The exact details of which trees he has recommended to be removed will be on the agenda of the next PC meeting. Another site meeting will be held with residents immediately adjacent to the Green, so that they will know exactly what is planned.

Cllr Pollak then put forward the following resolution:

“The Castle Green Management Committee would like the Parish Council to authorise the Chairman and Project Co-ordinator to sign the necessary contracts with funding bodies, and with the selected contractors to the value of the funding already secured”. This was proposed by Cllr Osborne and seconded by Cllr Kellett. All the councillors voted in favour.

### **Allotments**

There are currently two allotment holders. The ground has been cleared and work is ongoing to improve the area overall. Cllr Roberts is in the process of getting quotes for new fencing around the allotment area. 2 quotes have been received and the council are awaiting a third.

### **Finance Report**

#### a) Cheques

The following payments were approved:-

- £141.52 to Wicksteed Leisure (play equipment)
- £751.36 to Allianz Cornhill (council insurance policy)
- £236.07 to Parish Clerk (hours and mileage)
- £50.00 to Parish Clerk (float)

#### b) To consider a request from the Clerk for her to join the Society of Local Council Clerks at an annual cost of £18.33. The Clerk noted that by joining this society she would be kept updated on government legislation which is changing constantly. It is cheaper to join on behalf of the three councils that she works for and her other two have already agreed to contribute £18.33 each. The council agreed that she could join.

### **Update on Planning Applications**

Application S/2007/0114/PT, Reduce Tall Stem (upper crown) at Sulgrave House, Little Street. SNC have approved the application.

Application A/2006/0476/LB, Conservatory to rear, part rebuilding of boundary wall at Rectory Farm, Little Street. The Planning Inspectorate made a site visit on 27th March 2007 and has dismissed both appeals. A copy of the report is available via the Clerk should anyone wish to see it.

Application S/2007/0491/PT, Crown lift by 2 metres at The Thatched House, Manor Road. The Parish Council replied they had no objections to make.

Application S/2007/0378/LB, Installation of new internal secondary glazing to 11 existing leaded light casement windows at Yew Tree House, Manor Road. The Parish Council replied they had no objections to make.

Application S/2007/0331/P, Amended plans for Two dwellings and detached car shelter at Dial House Farm, Magpie Road. The Parish Council have approved this application. This is going to be considered by the Development Control Committee on 24 May at 2pm. SNC's recommendation is for approval of full planning permission.

Application S/2007/0526/LB, Removal of existing UPVC conservatory and construction of new single storey garden room extension at the Old Stables, Manor Road. This is currently in circulation within council.

### **Date and Time of next meeting**

14th June at 7.30pm in the Church Hall

**June 2007**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	2	3 <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> 10:00 am Culworth
4	5	6	7	8 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	9	10 <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:15 am Sulgrave <b>Sulgrave NGS Open Day</b>
11	12	13 <b>W.I. Meeting</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	14 <b>Parish Council</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	15 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	16	17 <b>Evensong</b> 6:00 pm Sulgrave
18	19	20	21 <b>Circle Dancing</b> 7:30 pm Culworth	22 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall <b>DEADLINE</b> June Newsletter	23	24 <b>Mattins</b> 10:00 am Sulgrave
25 <b>Book Club</b> 8:00pm Star Inn	26	27	28	29 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	30	

