

Sulgrave News



The tallest Maypole in England, at 86 feet tall. Taken down every three years, on Easter Tuesday, and after inspection and repainting is re-erected on Whit Monday amidst village May celebrations. Traditionally this was done entirely by hand, using ropes and ladders, and given the proximity of the adjacent cottages and pub often caused mild panic! The ropes were released by a volunteer who then shinned to the top to spin the weather vane!! Where?

Sunshine and Floods!

Well, the weather is improving at last, and I'm enjoying the vibrant spring green and our garden flowers. However just when I was programmed to start the newsletter, we had a flood! The washing machine decided to throw a wobbly, and we had water right across the kitchen floor and into the dining room. The stuff we had to move to mop it up was gargantuan. Never mind it's all cleared and the awful contraption has been checked over.

I am presently 'resting', and in the present economic situation finding it difficult to come across gainful employment. I therefore hope you do not mind my small notice advertising the skills and services I can offer to those with the need for design and digital expertise.

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

newsletter@84f.com

Deadline for the June newsletter - 22nd. 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



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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 - **Barwick-in-Elmet**, near Leeds. Health & Safety and exorbitant insurance premiums have now brought this spectacle to an end.

The Sulgrave Charities

If you are seeking funding for a particular project have you considered approaching Sulgrave Charities?

Small grants available to students and children for educational purposes.

All written applications reasonably considered

Apply to:

James Garnett (Sulgrave Charities)

Dove Cottage, Sulgrave, OX17 2RP

Sulgrave Book Club

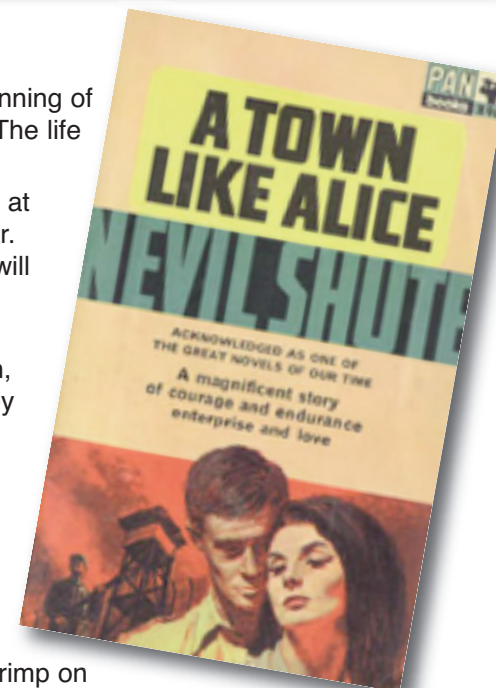
Sulgrave Book Club first met at the beginning of 2004 and the first book discussed was 'The life of Pi' by Yann Martel.

Since then the group have met regularly at 'The Star', discussing ten books per year. Every fourth Tuesday of the month you will find us there.

In April our chosen book was 'A Spot of Bother' by Mark Haddon. and this month, on May 26, it will be 'A Town like Alice' by Nevil Shute.

We are now in the process of choosing titles for 2009/2010. If you enjoy reading please come and join us, it is always fascinating to hear someone else's opinion of a book - We don't always agree!

If you want to know more please call Shrimp on 760214, or just turn up at 'The Star', you'll be made very welcome.



Dear Friends and Neighbours

I would like to say a sincere thanks from myself Kevin, Charlotte and Lynda, for all your kind messages of support and sympathy during our sad loss of Jenn. Your kindness is valued by us all during this sad time.

Kindest regards Pauline Walker and Family
The Junipers, Sulgrave



Well, a small documentary company from Iowa actually!

A study of the Washington family has been commissioned by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America for distribution to schools and societies in the USA, and filming will be happening in the second half of May at the Manor, the Church and in the village.

Ken, the producer, is interested in getting some shots of houses in the village – especially those reputed to have been built using Manor stone. He is, however, very aware of the need to respect people's privacy – no Google street filmer, he – so, if you'd prefer your house not to be included, please call the Manor (760205) or drop a note in with your address by 15th May when the crew arrives.

Many thanks Wendy Barnes. Director, Sulgrave Manor
01295 760205 - www.sulgravemanor.org.uk

SULGRAVE VILLAGE SHOP

for
CHOICE, QUALITY, VALUE AND SERVICE



10K, Childrens and Fun Relay Races
Sunday 31 May 2009, The Racecourse, Northampton

In aid of
**Macmillan Cancer Support and the
Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance**

A fantastic opportunity for serious athletes or beginners to take part in a 10k race or in teams of six in a fun relay race where each member will run a mile. There are also two children's races for the whole family to enjoy.

The 10K race is the first race of the day and starts at 10am.

A "Miss Motivator" will help runners warm up and there will be medals for all participants.

Everyone is invited to join in but if you would prefer to come along and support your family, friends and colleagues there will be refreshments, music, a pig roast, bouncy castle, bar and many other stalls to enjoy.

For further information or to obtain an entry form

Either go to www.rotaryraceday.co.uk or

Call Steve Howe on: 07702 107639 or email:

rotary.raceday@btinternet.com with your name, the event you want

to register for, email address, contact number

& postal address

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN**



The plight of Honeybees and Bumblebees

Across the world honey bee numbers are declining - and fast.

Billions of the UK's bees are dying from unknown causes and one in three honeybee colonies in the UK were lost last winter alone!

Honeybees are very important for everyone. They pollinate more than 100 crops – including fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds – and these foods then go on to feed us and many other animals, including farm animals.

The dramatic decline in honeybee populations in the UK means that we now import 80 per cent of our honey. Without beekeepers there would be no honeybees. In the UK there are approximately 44,000 beekeepers managing around 274,000 hives, each worth about £600 to the UK agricultural economy



Bumblebees are beautiful, hard working and incredibly important pollinators. The UK has 25 species, but sadly 3 are nationally extinct, and many more are seriously threatened.



Bumblebee populations on UK arable farms have declined by more than 70% over the past 30 years, primarily through loss

of vital nectar food resources and nesting sites as cropping patterns have changed. One of the 20 bumblebee species has disappeared altogether, and three other species are on the verge of extinction.

Bees play a vital part in our food chain and the environment. We can all help to nurture bees by planting nectar rich plants and shrubs; and you can read more about the work being done to halt the rapid decline in bee populations by visiting these websites.

www.britishbee.org.uk/news/

British Beekeepers Association

www.britishscienceassociation.org

British Science Association

www.operationbumblebee.co.uk

Sainsbury's & Syngenta website

<http://bumblebeeconservationtrust.co.uk>

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust

www.co-operative.coop/ethicsinaction/takeaction/planbee

The Cooperative Group

Peter Mackness

Sulgrave with Culworth Women's Institute

Our meeting on May 13th is a trip to a mystery location. Please meet at 6:40 pm at the Church Hall (if wet we will meet as usual at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall).

At our April meeting Mr. John Cornwall spoke about being a volunteer for Amnesty international, and his dedication and commitment to this became apparent.

Many thanks to Maureen and Janet, who left the Easter decorations and flowers from the Soup Kitchen for our meeting.

Our refreshments also had an Easter theme including Hot Cross Buns, Easter Biscuits and other goodies, thanks also to Marianne Harris for making and displaying these.

Members all went home with a small Chocolate Egg.

Margaret Watts

Church News

At our recent AGM of the Parochial Church Council, Christopher Beck stepped down from his position as a Church Warden. He had held that this role for over 20 years and tribute was paid for all the valiant work he has done. In his place, Bob Batts was elected as the new Church Warden to work alongside myself.

Shrimp Christy

Churchyard Tidy-Up, Saturday, May 9th

We would welcome helpers, of any age, in our annual sprucing-up: weeding, cleaning Ivy from headstones, some gentle tree pruning..... Please bring any useful tools you may have, and join us any time after 9:30 am.

Coffee promised at 11 o'clock! Look forward to seeing you.

Julie Metcalfe

Church Spring Clean

We have planned the Big Spring Clean for the weekend of May 16th, in readiness for weddings and summer visitors. A list of areas to be cleaned will be in the Church from Thursday 14th May. Many hands make light work, so please tick off the list areas when they are completed.

Thank you so very much for your help. We have many visitors during the year and they never fail to comment on how lovely the Church looks.

Jean Bates

Sulgrave Spring Front Gardens.

Pauline Flynn writes: The gardens were judged in March and the judge's letter is below:-

"My name is Peter Payne, I reside in Helmdon and I'm a member of Helmdon Garden Club.

A few weeks ago at a Garden Club meeting two members from Sulgrave, Ann and Peter Mackness, very kindly asked if I would judge the front gardens in Sulgrave for the W.I. – I was, of course, delighted to.

On March 25th I was shown round the gardens by Ann, Peter and Pauline and I then revisited the village on the 31st of March on my own, to cast another eye.

After much thought and consideration the number one garden is Northston in School Street, number two is the Old Manse in Little Street and number three is No.1, Towrise.

I will be delighted to present the cups in September.

Also many thanks for the cup of tea on the way round the gardens – it was very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely, Mr Peter Payne

DigiTAC

Digital Services

Tom Cockeram
digitac@84f.com
01295 711326



Photo Restoration

Restore contrast, correcting light, medium or heavy damage.

Photo Editing

Add colour to B&W photographs - collage your favourite photographs into one image - remove unwanted backgrounds or defects.



Web Prepared Images

Convert digital images to web efficient standards

Data Archive

Bring together family information and photos into a digital display. Transfer favourite family photos to CD/DVD for all the family. Convert paper archives into digital records, in a range of formats, stored on the media of your choice.

Data Transfer

Rescue files from old Floppy/Syquest/Zip Disks. Convert files from obsolete formats to MS Word or Adobe pdf format on USB/CD/DVD media.

Training

Adobe Photoshop & CS4: Create simple effects in Photoshop Elements, or understand the concepts and professional techniques of Adobe CS4.

Microsoft Office - Improve your skills in Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Twenty years experience in digital image editing and training for all age groups. Single sessions, or courses tailored to your needs.

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

You are invited to a
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 7th May, 2009
Sulgrave Church Hall, Magpie Road

Topics for discussion will include

- **Election of Chair and Vice Chair for coming year**
- **Updates on Castle Green & Underground Cabling**

We look forward to seeing you there.

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Graham Robert, Westfield, Park Lane, Sulgrave, OX17 @RX (07778 584108)
Vice Chairman: Vice-Chairman – Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574)
Parish Clerk: Mrs Christine Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, OX16 0DR (tel. 01295 276229; fax. 01295 276658; email colesnccj@btinternet.com)
Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)
Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)
Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)
Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

Draft Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 12th March 2009

Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on 22nd January 2009

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record. These were proposed by Cllr Pollak and seconded by Cllr Powell.

Update on grass tenders received and selection of contractor

Cllr Waite gave an update from the last meeting. Tenders were received after Christmas and the Parish Council approached the four lowest companies. Two were excluded immediately because of price. Two were shortlisted, R & D Landscapes (the previous contractor) and Shires Gardening Services. Shires Gardening Services currently cut the grass for Middleton Cheney and North Newington Parish Council who have both provided excellent references.

Shires had quoted for 12 close cuts, at three weekly intervals for £660.00. 8 main cuts for the other areas for £1756.00. 1 strim at the start and end for £200.00. 8 cuts around

the pond for £160.00. Total of £2756.00. The council are not sure if they are VAT registered although VAT can be recovered. This quote is over budget by £156.00.

R & D Landscapes had quoted 8 close cuts for £96.00, Castle Green, £60.00, main cutting for £760.00, strimming at £190.00, cutting around the pond area at £8.00 per cut for the path only. Total is £2262.00 & VAT. This contractor has worked in the village for the past three years but service has fallen in the last year.

The main difference in the two quotes is the close cutting which was felt to be of great importance to the council. Shires have quoted for 12 close cuts and R & D for 8. The Chair suggested that the council try a new company although there will be risks attached. Cllr Pollak was impressed with the way the staff of Shires responded to doing tasks.

Cllr Waite proposed that Sulgrave Parish Council proceed with Shires Gardening Services for a one year contract with the option to renew for the following two years subject to agreement of both parties at the end of the first year. This was seconded by Cllr Osborne. All the councillors voted in favour.

The Clerk to call Shires Gardening Services first to ensure they can do the work and then write to the other people who quoted to advise they have not been successful.

Councillors Reports

Pocket Park

Cllr Osborne had produced a leaflet asking how the village wanted the money spent, raised at last years fete, on Pocket Park. 210 leaflets were distributed and thanks was given to those who had delivered them. 29 responses were received. 5 people have agreed to take part in a group. Cllr Osborne will contact them to arrange a meeting and put an advert for a Pocket Park Warden in the next newsletter.

Money has been raised by the toddler group and they wish to be involved in how it is spent.

Community Speedwatch

Cllr Powell noted that Sulgrave will be paired with Halse again from 20th September to 1st November on alternate weeks starting 20th September. Ten volunteers will be needed. A note will be put in the newsletter nearer the time.

Castle Green

Cllr Pollak has been in contact with Cecil Rhodes recently and he reported that he had received another request for funding from the wall contractor. He had told them that they must provide figures to justify a further payment but he has not received anything.

The committee received a very generous donation from Alec Cave to pay for one of the benches, which will be dedicated to Emma Cave. They are most grateful to Alec. The committee will provide a plaque for the bench.

Progress has been made on the design of a signboard and Cllr Pollak will be writing to English Heritage to arrange for them to draw up a Section 17 Agreement which will have to be signed. This will secure the funding for the next financial year.

In February Peter Pollak and Paul Crowley trimmed the hedge between Castle Green and the Castle Hill that was laid a couple of years ago. This will give more cover for nesting birds.

Allotments

Cllr Waite has received an offer from a resident of Towrise about providing transport to collect a water bowser if needed. The council would need to pay for the petrol. Another suggestion was to pump water up from the stream. Cllr Waite thanked him for his offer and would look into the suggestions. It is hoped an allotment society will be formed. Jill Barrett agreed to write to each person who has an allotment. The Clerk has received an email from a villager asking for an allotment. There is a spare plot and she will suggest they look at it first as it is in a bad state.

Spinners Cottages parking

Information has been received from South Northants Homes on a capital works programme for improvements for residents car-parking. The Chairman will make contact with the Project manager to find out if there are opportunities for funding the Spinners Cottages car parking improvements project.

Finance Report

The following payments were approved and cheques raised accordingly. They were proposed by Cllr Waite and seconded by Cllr Powell:-

£95.20	Sulgrave Manor (copying of newsletter for 7 issues in 2008)
£100.00	Sulgrave Parochial Church Council (upkeep of church clock)
£148.49	Wessex Cleaning (equipment for litter pick)
£30.00	Parish Clerk (contribution to broadband costs)

Update on Planning Applications

Two new applications had been received by the council since the last meeting and are in circulation:

S/2009/0125/P, Two storey rear extension and porch to side at Bengairn, Manor Road

S/2009/0130/LB, Opening up of the wall between the side hall and the dining room. Reframing of the original front door and addition of a new porch at the Old Vicarage, Magpie Road.

Approval

A decision notice had been received from SNC.

S/2008/1712/P, Erection of monument at the Old Windmill. This was approved with conditions.

Withdrawn

S/2009/0028/P, Two storey front extension and single storey rear extension at Pear Tree Cottage, Church Street. This application has been withdrawn but Cllr Waite is hoping to present it again to SNC with agreement from the applicant.

Open Forum

Cllr Powell suggested that the council stop copying and delivering flyers as it costs a lot of money and takes up a lot of time. Meetings dates are advertised on the notice-board and in the newsletter. It was agreed the flyer would still be produced for the Annual Assembly meeting but subsequent flyers would be put into the newsletter, on the noticeboard and on the website. This would save on time and money.

Date and Time of next meeting

7th May 2009 at 7.30pm in the Church Hall

May 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3 Benefice Holy Communion 10:00 am Edgcote
4 May Day Fayre Towcester from 11:00 am	5	6	7 Parish Council 7:30 pm Church Hall	8	9 Church Yard Tidy-up from 9:30 am	10 Holy Communion 8:15 am Sulgrave
11	12 Soup Kitchen 12:30 pm Church Hall	13 W.I. Meeting 7:30 pm Church Hall	14	15	16 Spring Clean The Church	17 Evensong 6:00 pm Sulgrave
18	19	20	21 Circle Dancing 7:30 pm Culworth	22	23	24 Mattins 10:00 am Sulgrave
25	26 Book Club 8:00 pm The Star A Town like Alice by Nevil Shute	27	28	29	30	31 Rotary Race Day Northampton