

# Sulgrave News



November 2007

## MYopic Bit!

Well, among the problems to contend with this month is my togdom. At half term I took a few days off, and on one of them went to Staffordshire County Archive to do some historical research. It proved quite productive, but on leaving I somehow managed to forget my reading glasses! They are being mailed back to me but to date have not appeared. So I'm currently alternately squinting, peering and neck craning my way through the newsletter with my varifocals. It doesn't take long to get eye strain.

The new cat now has a name; Charlotte (Grey). She is a little more lovable, but is getting bigger and when travelling at the speed of light often collides with the impact of an unguided missile.

Thanks to everyone who rallied round last month to get the newsletter out, and apologies for the confusion that occurred in the chain of communication.

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

**newsletter@84f.com**

## Deadline for the December newsletter - 16th. November.

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



**Bob Foster's Heroic Charity Bike Ride to Paris**  
*as reported last month*

A Few Sulgrave Gardens



*Thanks to Colin Wootton for the photos, see more on the village website*

## Women's Institute

Last month at our AGM we reviewed our events and activities for the past year. Shrimp continues into her second year as President. After the business was completed we enjoyed a bowl (or two) of warming home-made soup and also celebrated in traditional style the very special birthday of Emma Cave.

This month, Sulgrave's Webmaster, Colin Wootton, is coming to unfold "Wonders of the Web". If computers are still a mystery - all will be revealed.

Visitors, as usual, are very welcome.

*Ann Mackness*

## Switch On To Home Security This Winter

WITH the dark nights drawing in, Northamptonshire Police are urging residents to check their security and lightening arrangements in time for the clocks going back on Sunday October 28.



The Community Safety Department has issued the timely reminder to all householders across the county to check internal and external home lightening security devices to coincide with the end of British summer time.

Residents are being urged to set up and test external security lights now the nights are lengthening, alter internal automatic timer switches and to remember to put the clocks back an hour.

This is the time of year to really be aware of your security as burglars prefer the cover of darkness, so when the clocks go back, burglaries can go up.

With a little bit of extra care, many of these burglaries can be easily prevented. The most important thing is to look like you're at home even when you're out – a burglar is a lot less likely to target a house that looks occupied.

Residents should be more aware of the simple security steps they can take to ensure their property. These include:

- Always use available alarm systems, even during the night
- Make good use of security lights, both inside and outside of your property and make sure they are in good working order
- If you think you will be returning home after dark install a timer on an inside light to automatically switch on at dusk and welcome you home. A house in darkness is an open invitation to burglars
- Make sure all doors and windows are secure, especially downstairs, and remove items from outside view such as handbags, wallets and mobile phones when you go to bed
- Make sure your front door is well lit all night long and fully visible from the street
- Keep your curtains closed at night – if you are away, ask a neighbour to close them for you
- And finally mark all property with your postcode - if you need advice call your local Community Safety Department.

Residents are also reminded to always lock their vehicles even if it's kept inside an alarmed garage. If vehicles have to be left outside park them in a well-lit area where other residents or members of the public can easily see them.

You may also wish to consider joining or setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, which can deter burglaries, vehicle crime and criminal damage, and in some cases also reduce household insurance premiums.

Anyone who would like further information on home security or Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is asked to contact the Northamptonshire West Community Safety Departments on 08453 700 700.



Anyone can become a victim or witness of crime and Victim Support is a national organisation that will support anyone who is affected by crime.

People react to crime in many different ways. Although most people don't suffer long-term harm, both adults and children can be seriously affected.

The support that is offered by Victim Support will vary from person to person. Sometimes it will be a listening ear, other times practical support, advice and information.

We can provide information on the police and court procedures.

We can liaise with other organisations such as the Housing Authority.

We can provide information on criminal injury compensation and insurance matters and can arrange for workers to accompany people to the police station and courts. We will help people access other forms of help if we cannot provide the service they need.

Our services are free and totally confidential and accessible to all.

Our workers are trained to deal with all types of crime from criminal damage, harassment, burglary, robbery, theft and assaults. Specially trained workers will also support male and female victims of domestic abuse, rape, sexual assault and people bereaved by homicide.

We also have workers that support victims of Hate Crimes, (racist, homophobic and disabilist crimes)

Hopefully you will never have needed the services of Victim Support, but if you do or know someone who might benefit from contact from us, don't hesitate to get in touch.

We will not contact a victim directly, unless we have their consent.

We can be contacted by telephone on 01604 603477, at our offices at Angel Street, Northampton or by e-mail to [admin@vsnorthants.co.uk](mailto:admin@vsnorthants.co.uk)

Bob Dunn; Support / Outreach worker



## The Book Club

Our October / November read is "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote, this will be reviewed at the meeting in November.

The original book was "The Pillars of the Earth" by Ken Follett, this will now be reviewed at the January 08 meeting. (So we have 2 months to finish it in!!).

## Christingle Service

Our annual Christingle Service will be on Sunday, December 2nd, at 3 pm, in Sulgrave Church.

Do come and join us, as we celebrate and raise money for the Children's Society in its valuable work with young people at risk on the streets.

**T**hanks to those volunteers who offered to print the October Newsletter, this was kindly completed by the staff at The Manor. Normal service resumed this month. *Chris Kellett*

## DISTRICT WIDE FLOODING IN JUNE/JULY 2007

This year has been a bad one for flooding incidents across the country. Locally, South Northamptonshire has had the worst year for flooding since the storms of Easter 1998 and in particular on 20th July, where some areas had worse flooding than in 1998.

The Parish Council have received a letter from South Northamptonshire Council as they are undertaking a review to its response to the flooding emergency on the 20th July. The outcome report will be published on the SNC website in due course.

If you experienced flooding on the 20th July could you let me know please either by email or letter. Please advise if your garden or internal property was flooded, were there any potential hazards created by the flooding and were there any injuries suffered?

We would also encourage affected householders to register with the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency cannot always stop rivers from flooding but they can warn you in advance. Only 40% of eligible homes have signed up to the Environment Agency's Floodline Warnings Direct service. If you haven't registered, please call the Environment Agency on 0845 988 1188.

To contact me, my email address and home address are at the top of this page. Once we have received this information from you we will be able to advise SNC to enable them to produce their report.

Thank you

Mrs Christine Coles, Parish Clerk

DID YOU KNOW:  
PETE M  
VOOCLO  
VERPA  
TIENCE

## Christmas Bazaar

A reminder that our annual Christmas Bazaar will be held in the Church Hall on Saturday December 8th beginning at 10:00 am. Please come and support us – There will be lots of Christmas Goodies for sale – plants, gifts, cards, presents, etc. Refreshments will be available. This is Christmas Shopping without the hassle!

Shrimp

Ps. A continuing plea for cushion pads please. I would be grateful, and intend to put them to good use!

## MUSICAL

Biggest single sales are 37 million of Candle in the Wind by Elton John.

Loudest Rock Band were The Who in the 60's and 70's; the band suffered hearing loss and were as loud as a jet taking off.

The album that spent longest in the charts was 'Dark Side of the Moon' by Pink Floyd; it spent 741 weeks in the charts..that's 14 years.

Biggest audience at a rock event was at Copacabana Beach in Rio on 31st Dec. 1994 for the Rod Stewart concert where an estimated 3,500,000 people attended.

Top selling album is Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' which has sold 54 million worldwide.

Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody' (1975) was the best selling single ever by a UK group.

And finally! The Beatles...are the only group to hold all 5 top positions in the US charts. This was on 4th April 1964 and there will certainly be a prize for anyone who can name the numbers in any order without looking below!

Please Please Please Me  
I Want You To Hold My Hand  
She Loves You  
Can't Buy Me Love  
Twist And Shout

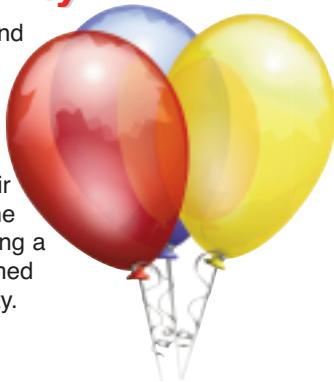
## Tots & Tea Christmas Party

We would like to thank everyone for their help with our fund raising over the last 12 months. As Part of this we would like to hold a fancy dress Christmas party for Sulgrave village children up to 10 years of age on Sunday 16th December 2-4pm.

If your child / children would like to attend please add their name, age, a contact number and any dietary needs to the list at the village shop by 20th November. We will be having a visit from Father Christmas, please could you bring a named present for Father Christmas to give your child at the party.

Any queries please contact:

Lis Stuart 768840 or Caron Mumford 760001



## Carol Singing

All welcome to this annual event. We will meet outside the shop at 6.30pm on Friday 14th December or later en route.



### Remembrance Sunday and the Poppy Appeal

This year Remembrance Sunday falls most appropriately on the 11th November. We will not be having a house to house collection. Instead a collecting box will be placed in the Village Shop on 27th October with an additional box available for those unable to reach the shop.

The Royal British Legion Remembrance Day Service takes place at Abthorpe this year with assembly at the War Memorial outside the church at 10:45 am. All are warmly welcome.

As in previous years we will be having our own Remembrance Sunday Service at 6:00 pm. Once again it will be conducted by Reverend Peter Shaw to whom we are most grateful for his continuing help and support. The Standard of the Legion's Wappenham Branch, of which we are a part, will be paraded. Sulgrave has always given great support to this Service and we hope that this will continue.

Sadly the hostilities in Iraq and Afghanistan have placed an even heavier burden on the Legion's resources to assist servicemen and women and their families, a task which the Legion is best placed to undertake.

Chris Beck

## 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 11th October 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)

### Update on Underground Cabling

The Chair noted that Central Networks had started an underground cabling programme in the village to replace the overhead wires some time ago. The next phase would include Helmdon Road, from the crossroads by Little Street and Church Street, from the telephone exchange to Dial House Farm and Park Lane. The work has been passed to the contractor and is in the programme of works for 2008. The council will be given one months notice of when the work will start. The work will be subject to inspection reports and have to be signed off by the Highways Agency. 4 poles will have to be removed and replaced and the quote for this work from ABB Lighting is for £1321.50 & VAT.

The Chair then asked the councillors for their views.

Cllr Waite suggested that the council buy the standard lamp and paint them. He agreed to investigate the possibility of new poles for the next meeting. Cllr Kellett suggested that the council buy the existing poles for a small nominal fee and then adopt and take ownership of them. Light pollution is an issue and the old lamps are so old that they would not be very energy efficient. This is another factor for the council to consider.

The Chair agreed to find out the condition of the existing poles from Central Networks. The Clerk would speak to their insurers to find out public liability costs should the pole fall down. She was also asked to invite ABB Lighting to a future council meeting. This item would be kept on the agenda for future meetings.

### Councillors Reports

#### Community Speed Update

Cllr Powell had spoken to Carolyn Tate, Rural Safety Officer of ACRE who advised there has to be pledges of support from 60 villagers before Sulgrave can be put on the waiting list.

Forms will be left in the shop and pub and have to be returned by 3rd December. 10 volunteers will be given proper training.

#### Allotments

Cllr Waite had read the notes given to him from Anglian Water. The first part of the application for water will involve sending maps of the area which he will have to buy first. The Chair added that there are more allotment holders now and they have asked for water. There will be a long term benefit in developing the area generally. The council agreed that Cllr Waite could spend up to £30.00 on the maps. This was proposed by Cllr Osborne and seconded by Cllr Pollak. All the councillors voted in favour.

## **Sulgrave Parish Council** (Continued)

### **Update on work on Castle Green**

Cllr Pollak gave a progress report on Castle Green Restoration Project.

#### **Paths**

Repairs are now complete and an invoice has been received. It is awaiting payment.

#### **Residents Request**

1. The Castle Green Committee agreed at a meeting on Monday 8th October that the residents adjacent to the Church Street entrance could plant suitable wild flowers and small shrubs such as heathers to screen the fence but larger shrubs would cause trouble in future. Their roots would damage the wall, and they would need maintenance. It could also cut out the light.

2. It was felt that the colour of the fence would soon fade, and blend in with the surroundings.

Cllr Pollak has agreed to speak to them after consulting with George Metcalfe.

#### **Benches**

An advert will be in the November newsletter.

#### **Geophysical Survey**

There was no further news.

#### **The Wall Restoration Project**

Underwood and Weston (U & W) are back on site and work is progressing well. The communication problems still continue. The access steps were built without any consultation with the Committee or Parish Council, and the design and workmanship were bad. There were issues with the standard of work on the wall and the finished height. Residents complained of obstruction on the road, and the unsightly WC at the Dark Lane entrance. Most of the trees have not been felled, but this is not directly U & W's fault. Most of these problems have now been resolved.

The Archaeologist, Richard Ivens, has been doing regular site visits and making sure that nothing of archaeological importance is disturbed.

#### **4 week site meeting with Rhodes Partnership**

This took place on 4th October. The Chair of the Parish Council attended and the meeting went well. Simon, the director of U & W had carried out a review of the site with Rhodes Partners before their meeting began. (Full notes of the meeting are available to councillors should anyone wish to see them).

#### **Main Points**

- Cecil Rhodes confirmed that the final cost would be within the agreed margin of an extra £3K & VAT, and he estimated that the work would be finished within the contracted time, end of November. He had issued a certificate for the first four weeks work.
- The steps had been instantly condemned and will be demolished. A revised design is being considered.
- Parts of the wall that were causing concern have been demolished and the final height of the wall has been agreed.
- Bollards will be placed on the bend next to Wemyss Farm road.
- Signed contracts were handed over and will be signed by Martin shortly.

## **Sulgrave Parish Council** (Continued)

### **Finances**

Paul Crowley, CGMC Treasurer has provided an interim statement of accounts up to end of September.

- Invoices from U & W and Morris are waiting to be paid. There are enough funds to pay this. The next invoice from Underwoods is due soon.
- Copies of paid invoices have been sent to SNC and County Council's VSSU. The latter have agreed to pay their contribution of £15,777 but it has not yet arrived.

#### **Dry Stone Walling talk and conducted tour**

Cecil Rhodes offered to give a talk and Martin Sirot-Smith organised this on 6th October. After a slow start, 20 people arrived and walked the length of the wall, and then tried their hands at building some! Afterwards refreshments were served in the hall and Cecil showed slides of many of the historic buildings he had restored. Everyone agreed it was an extremely interesting and educational afternoon. Cllr Pollak thanked Cecil Rhodes for giving the talk and putting on the slide show.

#### **Finance Report**

##### a) Cheques

The following payments were approved:-

- £27.00 to CPRE (Subscription)  
 £196.51 to Parish Clerk (hours)  
 £21.08 to Parish Clerk (mileage)  
 £156.48 to Powergen  
 £40.80 to BT (fax)

It was agreed that the grant from Sulgrave Charities for £1K should be moved into the Pocket Park account until the work is ready to be done.

Cllr Osborne asked when the shop lease is due for renewal and the Clerk replied in September 2009.

#### **Open Forum**

- Mrs Barber noted that dog fouling in the village is on the increase again. The clerk will try to obtain a suitable notice from SNC for inclusion in the next newsletter. She would also enquire about who is the SNC dog warden at the moment.

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

Thursday 15th November at 7.30pm in the Church Hall.

**November 2007**

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

*Tom Cockeram, Appletree Cottage, The Close, Greatworth, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 2EB*

*spot the reference*