

# Sulgrave News



September 2006

## Another year older and ..... (complete accordingly)

Wow, doesn't two years pass quickly when you're enjoying yourself! I must say the Village Shop training has been very enjoyable and Diana and I have now done a few sessions. Thanks to everyone for putting up with the odd glitch as we struggle to come to terms with PLUs, Accounts, Functions, Over-rings, etc. At least I know one end of a broom from the other!

I'm sorry to say that I'm back in a car, commuting to the West Midlands. I was disappointed to find that I can catch a train south and arrive in London by 6:50 am., but couldn't catch a train north until 6:53 am! This gave me so little margin for the unexpected (or expected) delays that the offer of a cheap but well maintained and hopefully reliable vehicle for half the price of a folding bike clinched the matter. I would say to Chiltern Railways, if the train isn't there, you can't use it!

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

**newsletter@84f.com**

## Deadline for the SEPTEMBER newsletter - 15th September.

**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  
Appletree Cottage, The Close,  
Greatworth, Banbury, OX17 2EB  
Telephone 01295 711326, or  
email newsletter@84f.com

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 and Sulgrave Manor. 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.

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## Regular Events

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|----------------|---|
| 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          |
| Culworth Gang  | Fortnightly on a Wednesday, 2:15 pm in the Church Hall  |
| Mums & Tots    | Every Friday in the Church Hall, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon  |
| W.I.           | 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm |

## Church News

Our Harvest Festival is on Sunday, 10th September, at 6:00 pm The church will be decorated and we would be very grateful for any flowers, fruit and vegetables which we would use to adorn the window sills.

The Harvest Supper is in the Church Hall the previous evening. There is a list in the shop, or you can ring Shrimp on 760214 to reserve a seat. Numbers are limited but anyone can book a place. It's a lovely occasion to have a night out with the children, whatever age they are – it's a real family get-together.

## Women's Institute

Following last month's talk on nutrition we're all feeling fit and healthy ready for whatever life throws at us.

Look for the W.I. Stall at the Field Day. We shall be selling homemade cakes. Just think – a fun afternoon with your dog, enjoying all the Field Day has to offer, and then home for a cup of tea and a delicious piece of homemade confection!!

At next month's meeting there will be a demonstration of Flower Arranging by Lana Weston. You are welcome to join us and the small charge of £2.00 for visitors includes refreshments. The meeting starts at 7:30 on 13th September.

*Shrimp Christie*

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## The Culworth Gang

The Culworth Gang meetings resume on Wednesday 6th September and will be held fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2:15 pm until 4:15 pm in Sulgrave Church Hall.

We shall be holding our AGM that afternoon and the annual subscription of £15 will become due.

If anyone out there is lonely or feels like some genial company with added entertainment, do come along, we shall be pleased to see you.

For just the odd afternoon it will cost £1, with tea and biscuits thrown in.

We look forward to another happy year.

*Rose Courtney – 01295 760489*

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## Phoenix Open House

Come along and see the new Autumn and Christmas range, have a cup of coffee and a chat. Anytime between 9:30 am -3:00 pm, and 4:30 – 6:00 pm on Thursday 21st September, at Eagles Court, Helmdon Road, Sulgrave.

If you are unable to come but would like to arrange another time or have a catalogue give me a call on 01295 768840, or email me at [lis.stuart@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:lis.stuart@tiscali.co.uk).

Hope to see you then

*Lis Stuart*

## Treasure Your Trees!

It is now thirty years or so since disease killed off the tall stately elm trees which used to form such an important feature of the Midlands landscape. Now sad skeletons of their descendants, which seem to grow to no more than about twenty feet before succumbing in their turn to the disease, are a reminder of what we are missing. It is doubtful whether any of us will live long enough to see mature elms, in this part of the country, at least. We find that the oak and the ash are the unchallenged dominant hedgerow trees, but even here there are reasons for concern.

Next time you travel along the road to Helmdon, raise your eyes to the tops of the ash trees (not if your driving!) and you may see bare branches, on trees which are no means old enough to be coming to the normal end of their days. The cause of this die-back is still not known for sure; disease, drought, compaction of the soil, root-damage have all been suggested. A few hundred yards outside the village along the same road, in the left-hand hedge, stands a large oak tree, in its prime of life, you might say. Yet its crown of foliage is noticeably thinner than it was two or three years ago. You may have spotted on your way to Banbury, in the last field on the right, before the motorway, another oak which too seems to be aging rapidly. Of course, oak trees are well known for the fact that they die slowly, often over the course of centuries, and their bare branches do not always portend imminent death, but the whole process seems to be speeding up.

Is this one of the results of global warming? Certainly the dryer weather of recent years is having its effect. Look closely at the beech trees in the Church Hall car-park, and you will see branches which, during the summer, have lost all their leaves. Beeches are shallow rooted and also absorb large quantities of water, and are clearly suffering from the present drought. Other species of tree are showing signs of an early leaf-fall. Perhaps, come the autumn, there'll be lots of rain, and the trees will recover. Perhaps, perhaps ... If not, the outlook for our trees is not as sunny as the weather.

*George Metcalfe*  
(Parish Tree Warden)



# **FIELD DAY & DOG SHOW**

**CASTLE GREEN, SULGRAVE**

**Sunday 10th September 2006**

**2:00pm — 4:40pm**

## **PROGRAMME**

**EVENTS AND FUN FOR  
ALL THE FAMILY!**

**Fun Dog Show and Novelty Races,  
Children's Treasure Hunt**

**Stalls & Games**

**BEER TENT - FOOD - DRINKS**

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 2:00pm **Bring your dogs** for the Fun Dog Show, plus Beer & Tea Tents, Side Shows & Stalls open.
- 2:15-2:45 **Dog Show Judging**, Rosettes awarded for:-
- Best looking Large Dog
  - Best looking Small Dog
  - Oddest looking Dog
  - Most Obedient Dog
  - Cleverest Trick
  - Best Six Legs (Dog & Owner!)
  - Most like the Owner
- 2:45pm Child and Dog Races
- 3:15pm Children's Treasure Hunt on The Castle Mound & Churchyard.
- 4:15pm Announcement of Best Dog in Show, Other Winners & Prize Giving.

**ENTRY FREE** to Field Day and Dog Show, so bring all your family and friends.

**PARKING** is not available on the Field. Please leave your car in the Church Hall car park.

**FUND RAISING:** Monies raised go to Local Clubs & Societies running the stalls, or to the Castle Green wall repairs and improvements.

**EVENT ORGANISERS:** Castle Green Management Committee.

*For further information contact:*

*Martin Sirot-Smith, 01295 710340, or  
Peter & Clare Pollak 01295 768224, or  
other committee members.*

## CIRCLE DANCING ON CASTLE MOUND

Tuesday 5th September, 7pm - 9ish. (In the Church Hall if wet)

An opportunity to enjoy the ambience on top of the mound, as well as the dancing and good company!

Come to Kirkleys, Magpie Rd. Phone Clare Pollak, 01295 768224.

**NB** there will also be circle dancing at Culworth village hall as usual on the 3rd thursday in Sept.



## ORAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT NEWS

Visit the Oral History and Archaeology project pages on the Local Heritage Initiative website to see photos, reports (and maybe even yourself)!! The Archaeology Group were recently awarded a grant of £18,727 for the second stage of the Sulgrave Castle Project.

The address is <http://www.lhi.org.uk> then go to Project Directory, then East Midlands and look for Sulgrave Characters and Heritage, and Sulgrave Castle Project stages 1 and 2.

*Clare Pollak, 01295 768224*



Coin found at Sulgrave



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## Sulgrave Parish Council

Chairman: Mr K Christy, Wisteria Cottage, Helmdon Road, Sulgrave, Oxon, OX17 2SQ

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

**There was no Parish Council did meeting in August**

### Date and Time of next meeting

14th September at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Magpie Road.

