

# SUTTONS SEASONS

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019



Showing Off

(Brownsea Island Café.29.03.12) © Kp

## Village Diary

3 February	10.00am.	Benefice Communion Service Bishop Francis of Rokon, South Sudan	St Bartholomew's Church
3 February	2.00pm.	Table Tennis (First Session)	SW Village Hall
20 February	2.30pm.	WI: Comedy Writer for the BBC	Abingdon Hall IM
3 March	2.00pm.	Table Tennis	SW Village Hall
13 March	7.30pm.	Parish Council Meeting	SW Village Hall
19 March	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (All Welcome)	SW Village Hall
20 March	2.30pm.	WI: Wildlife on your doorstep (Open Meeting)	Abingdon Hall IM
20 March	TBA	Quiz Night	SW Village Hall

## FROM THE EDITOR

A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year to all.

I knew many people who survived the torment of the last World War. I can even remember seeing limbless ex servicemen, some yellowed by mustard gas, from the Great War. What would these brave people make of our present day politicians and the haphazard way in which they seem to have approached our current conflict with Europe? Too many white flags shown—too many retreats under heavy bombardment .  
No more unto the beach, dear friends, no more.

Kp

## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We have a new form of entertainment for you all. We have very kindly been donated a Table Tennis table and as from Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February we will starting a monthly session in the hall at 2.00pm. It will take place on the first Sunday of every month, but there will be room for manoeuvre if it proves popular to another time/ day if required. There will only be a small charge of 50p to cover overheads of the hall. So I do hope many of you will come along. Leaflets have been delivered to remind you all.

Our regular films have begun again for the year so please look out for leaflets coming through your door. On 20<sup>th</sup> March we will have our Quiz Night complete with a meal, so do put that in your diaries to remind you not to book anything else on that evening! More information will come nearer the time.

Also on 14<sup>th</sup> April there will be our Annual Sutton Hill Walk around the Millard's' farm so let's hope the weather will be good, unlike last year when it rained the whole time, but a few brave souls turned out.

Just to make you aware that we will be having our usual Plant Sale in May, BBQ in July and a special evening in October! Details will follow.

We could still do with another person on the Committee, someone youngish would be very welcome!

**Jane McNeil 811008**

## SWIM NEWS

Since the last WI report in Sutton's Seasons we've held our autumn fundraising curry supper night in IM for 50 people. The money raised from this event allows SWIM to have some interesting speakers during the year.

With Christmas looming our late autumn speaker, Catherine Nix gave a demonstration on how to make scented dried fruit hanging decorations and a wreath using wheat. She brought plenty of material with her enabling many of us to have a go at making a decoration. Catherine lives in a beamed cottage and hangs material from the beams to dry which then becomes a fun obstacle course for her kittens!

In December we held our traditional members' Christmas lunch. After lunch the ladies were entertained by a magician with many comments 'how did he do that?'

At our 89<sup>th</sup> birthday meeting in January, our speaker Nicky Stevens from the 'Brotherhood of Man' pop group told us how her career evolved and how her life changed after winning the Eurovision Song Contest in 1976. She asked if any of us remembered the song and immediately most ladies broke into 'Save all your kisses for me' and Nicky joined in showing us the routine steps she had to learn for the occasion.

Nicky has a lovely Welsh accent having been brought up in South Wales where she began singing in a chapel choir and worked as a telephone operator earning £5 a week. She quickly realised that she could earn much more singing in pubs and working men's clubs. It was in such a club she met a song writer called Reggie Dwight who agreed to write a song specifically for her. Little did she know at the time that Reggie would become known as Elton John!

On 20<sup>th</sup> March, Brian Petit will be talking about 'Wildlife on your Doorstep.' This will be an open meeting and all, including gentlemen are welcome to join us for the speaker and a WI tea.

**Sandra Jelbart**

### **Suttons Seasons is now available to all in the following ways:-**

*Full colour: Downloaded in pdf from the Village website - [www.suttonwaldronpc.co.uk](http://www.suttonwaldronpc.co.uk)*

*Or sent direct in pdf to your personal email (with blind copy exclusivity)—contact K Prenton via above website*

*Black and White copies: available in limited quantities from the telephone box or church porch*

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the December 2018 meeting the Parish Council discussed the budget for 2019/20. The Parish Council anticipate that as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 – the end of this Financial Year – the reserves will be in the region of £3500.00. It is anticipated that the costs for 2019/20 will increase however any increase will be minimal. Given the extent of the reserves it was decided to keep the precept at its current level of £2400.00. The Precept is the amount of money the Parish Council get from the local authority in order to cover the Parish Council's costs. The budget and Precept Plan can be seen on the Parish Council website.

The Clerk is still chasing Highways to find out whether they are going to cut back the hedges that are obscuring the signs on the A350 northbound into the village. She is also endeavouring to speak to the company that owns the mast at the top of Sutton Hill to see if anything can be done about securing the enclosure to prevent fly tipping. To date however she has not tracked down the correct part of the company with responsibility for the mast.

The Police Community Support Officer recently visited Sutton Waldron with the co-ordinator for Community Speed Watch ("CSW") in Dorset. The co-ordinator is responsible for visiting areas to assess if they are suitable and conform with the policy relating to the operation of CSW. They were unable to find a suitable site on the A350 through Sutton Waldron. This was due to the line of sight available for any CSW teams and drivers and the distance between the change in the speed limit and the location where a team would be able to operate. It would therefore seem that the Parish Council cannot take this further at this time.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. As ever everyone is welcome to come along.

**Marianne Wheatley**

.....

### A Supper to Celebrate Robert Burns (1759 - 1796)



An evening of Scottish delight was offered to all who attended a joyous Burns Night Celebration in the Village Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January (only a day Late!)



All were piped into the hall by a very competent bagpipe playing Clayesmore student. We were offered a formal welcome, drinks, nibbles and a quiz to complete over the course of the evening.

Several toasts were made, including the all important one - "To the Haggis" which was piped in, addressed and then served to all with optional "whiskey gravy, neeps and tatties".

An entertainment presented by Jeff Waring, was then followed by a cheese course, readings and desserts. The latter included cranachan and tipsy laird cake. Coffee and Scottish Tablet concluded the meal.

Rabbie Burns's "Auld Lang Syne" was sung with actions.

The winner of the most appropriately dressed person was Mr David Milanese. As you can see the prize was well deserved.

£263 was raised by Anita and Jeff Waring who organised a stunning evening, both enjoyable and informative. St Bartholomew's offers its thanks to them and to all who participated.

**Yvonne Pinder**

## Best Laid Plans Part Two

Annoyingly the phone rang at 7.30 just as I was dishing up home made chicken curry and rice.

After a cold, grey and dreary day, the sort that never really reaches full light, we'd lit the fire, the heating was on and the sitting room was quickly accelerating to a dozy height of heat. Having lounged excessively in a gloriously hot, steaming bath with an engaging novel, I was now enveloped in fleecy reindeer PJ's, slippers and dressing gown and had poured a glass of wine to compliment the gorgeous curry. The children were in bed and an evening on the sofa beckoned teasingly. Except now the phone was ringing.

'Leave it!' came a shout from the sitting room. We had a film poised on pause. 'It's probably your Mother!!' I delivered curry number one and said I'd pick up but call back later.

It was not my Mother; it was a friend, which was mildly alarming as faint warning bells were ringing in my head.

'You are still coming aren't you?'

'Ooooooh, Yes..... No, (pause) Oh Crikey', (stalling now) 'Oh Gosh, how embarrassing', (invisibly squirming down the line) 'that is to say we completely forgot!!'

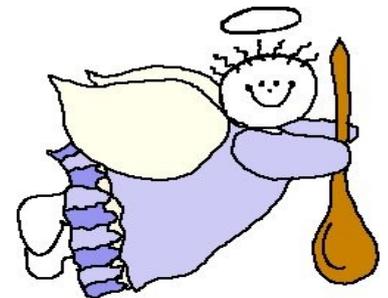
30 minutes later I was sitting with friends (not in PJ's) partaking in a rather nice dinner party enduring significant amounts of flack and apologizing for there just being one of us due to an unplanned absence of a baby sitter! Meanwhile at home my husband slouched on the sofa watching our film and eating our curry and drinking our wine but dutifully looking after our children, who happened to be asleep! My best laid plans for a slob night with a lap full of curry and too much wine fell by the wayside but it was nice to catch up with my friends and I expect my liver did a little somersault of glee when it discovered it was a fizzy water night instead of too much red!

---

Some weeks ago I found myself in an alternative situation whereby my guests turned up a day early for a meal that I had not yet planned let alone cooked!

I was in the middle of preparing a batch of apples to put in the freezer as well as starting numerous curry dishes (yes curry again!) for a bash in two days time. My early warning dog alarm system barked to indicate movement outside and there, to my surprise, were the two friends who I thought I was feeding the next day carrying a bottle of wine under one arm and chocolates under the other. Standing in the doorway with apple knife poised they immediately grasped the vibe that something was a little amiss. The kitchen was chaotic, dirty pans and dishes everywhere, the table covered in kids' homework and the usual trash that never seems to find a permanent home. There was nothing bubbling away pleasantly in the oven. Confessions were quickly made and I think it was amusement that we were offered rather than offense. My husband had already eaten his meal and so while I fell upon the contents of the fridge and dug deep for inspiration, he ensured happy chitter chatter along with casual table clearing, which meant sweeping everything to one end. Half an hour later we had a delicious mushroom risotto, tomato and fresh herb salad and pitta bread followed by ice cream and homemade chocolate sauce and while we ate, my husband politely toyed with a bowl of cereal! You know your friends are good when they let you off for completely forgetting they were coming! On this occasion my best-laid plans were non-existent but I feel resourcefulness deserved a full ten out of ten!

Celia Myth



### Winter

*Darkness, thunder clashing like symbols,*

*Lightening strikes again.*

*The rain 'tip tapping' on the glass roof, on a dark, gloomy day.*

*Wind in the trees stroking the roof,*

*Hurling its leaves in the wind.*

*Soon to be bare, naked and cold,*

*As winter hides the sun away.*

*Gone is the summer,*

*Pretty flowers no more.*

*The warmth of the sun has been stolen.*

Claire Mabbort

## BOOK REVIEW

Imagine 250 women of a certain age in a room together for a quiz - but a quiz with a difference.

Each team has come from a book club and of course the quiz itself is literary based.

Much laughter is heard, a fair amount of wine is consumed, and team names are along the lines of "Is it me or is it hot in here?"

"Has anybody seen my glasses?"

and "Does anyone think we should talk about the book?!"

Some questions are harder than others and of course it is always the most unexpected that catches you out; who wrote *A Tiger Who Came to Tea* anyone?!

Anyway, moving on. This is an annual pre-Christmas charity fundraiser and something I have been lucky enough to go along to for the last couple of years. It is a fabulous evening, which raises significant funds for Crisis, but perhaps of interest to this readership is the Book Mark.

Every year, each book club team is asked to submit their favourite book read over the year and the results are collated and a book mark produced. These are books read by ordinary book clubs, nothing highbrow, just readers who enjoy reading and chatting about books and I list the final ten this year for anyone looking for inspiration:

*A Gentleman in Moscow* (Towles),

*The Heart's Invisible Furies* (Boyne),

*Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* (Honeyman),

*This is Going to Hurt* (Kay),

*Little Fires Everywhere* (Ng),

*The New Mrs Clifton* (Buchan),

*Notes on a Nervous Plant* (Haig),

*Munich* (Harris),

*Home Fire* (Shamsie)

*Milkman* (Burns).

I can definitely vouch for *A Gentleman in Moscow*, *This is Going to Hurt* and *Little Fires* and will try the rest I am sure.

For more details go to [www.literarylughs.co.uk](http://www.literarylughs.co.uk).

The diligent amongst you may have noticed I promised to review *Eleanor Oliphant* this time.

Sorry about that, next time I promise... 😊

**Next:** *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman.

**A Book Lover**

### Public Information

New protection when making your own package holidays

Holiday makers will be pleased to learn that new rules have come into force regarding building your own package holiday. Previously only package holidays bought from a travel agent were covered. The new rules mean that if you buy two or more travel services, such as flights, car rental, accommodation or other tourist service e.g. such a tour, then the new Package Travel Regulations apply and you get the same protection as if it was bought as a complete package from a travel agent.

In practice this means that if you visit the web page of an airline and book a flight and they offer you a link to 'our preferred car rental company' or 'our favourite hotels' and you book a car or hotel by following that link then that constitutes a package, providing the second booking (the car or hotel) is booked within 24 hours.

The new rules mean that:-

Holiday makers can cancel their holiday and get their money back in the event of 'unavoidable' events at the destination, such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

Package travellers will also be able to cancel their holiday for any reason by paying a reasonable cancellation fee. The organiser of the package in all EU Member States will have to deal with the problem if something goes wrong. Traders will be made explicitly liable for booking errors. The organiser will have to help travellers in difficulty, for example with information on health services and consular assistance, and help make alternative travel plans. For example, travellers will be entitled to extra accommodation for three nights if the return journey can't be carried out on time if there is a natural disaster. Guarantees of money back and repatriation if the package organiser goes into liquidation or bankruptcy. Good news for those holiday makers who like to build their own holiday. For advice on this, or to report something to Trading Standards, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.

## Notes From A Country Church

### May we wish you all a belated Happy New Year

We would like to thank all those who supported our activities throughout 2018. We enjoyed some very successful events. Our Christmas activities, in particular, saw more people involved than usual. Our carol service enjoyed a congregation of over 90 people. Several took advantage of the gift wrapping sessions enjoying good company and refreshments at the same time. The carol singing, despite the weather, saw some thirty hardy souls taking part.

In the new year of 2019, we had the Annual Jumble Sale on the 19th January. We extend our grateful thanks to all those who helped and supported the event. Yet again over 60 people, from as far afield as Yetminster, Swanage and beyond, queued in the rain for first sight of the excellent goods on offer. We raised more than £850 for the church.

### Church services:-

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February all parishes in the Iwerne Valley Benefice are coming to our church for a special communion service at 10 a.m.

Bishop Francis of Rokon Diocese, South Sudan will be preaching. Shown here with fellow clergy and village leaders. Can you spot him?



See you all on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> February to find out!

This coming year sees a change to our pattern of Sunday Services:-

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Holy Communion
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Breakfast Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Morning Worship
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Family Communion

All services will start at 9.30

**Breakfast Church** is a new initiative. The first will take place in the village hall on the 10th February at 9.30am. All are invited to come along and have some breakfast together. The service element will be very informal. We hope to invite people to provide a brief thought or theme for the day. There will probably be a reading, a short time of reflection and/or a prayer. An activity for children will be available. This part of the "Breakfast" will last no longer than 20 minutes. More details will be forthcoming.

The church's financial situation continues to be precarious. In 2018 we ran at a loss. Unless we are able to increase our income we will again be unable to meet our everyday expenses for 2019. We are in the process of liaising with our Salisbury Diocese over this. Our Parish Share payable to the diocese this year is £8994. It has risen 14%. Other annual costs normally amount to around £6,000. This situation is, of course, worrying. It is also very frustrating because we really do "punch above our weight" for our size, in terms of people involvement, activities undertaken and money raised through funding raising events. There are many parishes that are bigger than us which have churches that are less active or indeed not active at all. Others are being propped up by large financial endowments. Thanks to the "Friends of St Bartholomew's Society" we are currently able to maintain the fabric of our church and its premises.

In the long term the future is uncertain as it is for many rural churches. In the short term, we do remain very positive. We have a particularly unique church building, with its Owen Jones internal decoration which we are determined to see well maintained at the heart of our community. We shall continue to provide for the spiritual needs of our parishioners. We do recognise and appreciate the support that the church, with all its activities, receives from many people in the village.

**Ian and Yvonne Pinder (Churchwardens)**

#### Key local price indicators

Description	Price	Amount/timing	Source	Date
Heating Oil	£254.18	500 litres (incl. VAT)	Boilerjuice	30 Jan 2019
Electricity	£816.24	5000 Kwh p.a.	Comparison Website: Annual Contract	30 Jan 2019
Broadband, unlimited + calls	£24.99	Per month	Comparison Website: Annual Contract	30 Jan 2019
Broadband, Fibre, unlimited, +	£29.99	Per month	Comparison Website:	30 Jan 2019
Savings Rates, easy access	1.45% variable	Per annum	Comparison Website	30 Jan 2019
Savings Rates, notice account	1.80% variable	Per annum	Comparison Website	30 Jan 2019
Diesel	125.9p	Per litre	Comparison Website	30 Jan 2019
Petrol	119.9p	Per litre	Comparison Website	30 Jan 2019

Editor: Keith Prenton