

Sutton Bonington

Normanton on Soar

Kingston on Soar

VILLAGE NEWS

March and April 2021

TRANSPORT TO VACCINATION CENTRES This is to say a special thank you to all involved with getting people to vaccination centres who would otherwise have found it difficult. Particular thanks go to Sheila Harrod and Jean Corliss for all their efforts along with the drivers of the Soar Valley Bus. The Soar Valley Bus service will continue to be available so, if you haven't yet had your jab and free transport is likely to be of help to you, please contact Sheila Harrod - 01509 672507, 07710 129244 or e-mail CllrHarrod@suttonboningtonparishcouncil.org.

SUTTON BONINGTON POST OFFICE AND GIFT SHOP This is to let you know that plans are fairly well advanced for the community to acquire ownership of the Post Office following Lesley's forthcoming retirement, without which action the Post Office would close. To facilitate the acquisition, a *Community Business Society (CBS)* has been registered **and approved** to run what will be known, in future, as the *Sutton Bonington Community Shop*. This arrangement will allow the gift shop and post office to make money, with all profits either reinvested in the shop or returned to the community.

Business plans are now being put together and, at the same time, negotiations underway with the Post Office concerning the transfer of the Post Office activities to our CBS. A further update will be provided when this process is complete as it may be necessary to raise some funds by means of a community share offer. Volunteers are sought to help finalise this, to assist with the on-going oversight of the Community Shop and to take on some Treasurer activities. If you are interested in helping with this please contact Richard Shore - richardshore6@gmail.com - who will provide you with more details. The current plan is to have everything in place by May/June.

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE? I am hoping that you may be able to help in my quest for information about the Roadley family of Sutton Bonington. My sixth great-grandfather, Samuel Roadley, married Ann Gadd in Sutton Bonington on 17th December 1747 and their four children, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary and George, were all born in the village. There is also a record of Samuel Roadley of Sutton Bonington being deported to Australia in 1765. I have been unable to trace further back from Samuel and I was wondering if there was anyone who might have any information about the Roadleys or Ann Gadd's line. If you do, please contact me, John Roadley, on 07875 629713. Thanks!

SWAN COURT The Sutton Bonington and Normanton-on-Soar Social Services Association occasionally have vacancies at Swan Court. The properties are one-person bungalows consisting of sitting room, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. They have gas central heating and an emergency communications system. There is a warden who visits the site daily and is able to assist tenants in certain circumstances. The site has a community room for informal gatherings and all the garden and grounds are maintained by the Association. The rents are from £175 per fortnight with the tenant being responsible for all utility bills. These properties are designed for and aimed at older members of society. Potential tenants must already live in Sutton Bonington or Normanton (or have previously lived in those villages and wish to return) or new residents who would like to live closer to relatives who do live in the villages. If you are interested or know someone who might be please contact Miles Raven (01509 672160) or Rosie Hopkinson (01509 672811).

SUTTON BONINGTON AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB is looking forward to reopening as soon as the restrictions change. Tennis is one of the sports where it's easy to maintain social distance so we do hope we can all get back on court soon because everyone is keen to get playing again! Our ever-popular junior coaching sessions will start as soon as it's allowed. Let's hope it won't be too long...

SOAR VALLEY U3A cannot hold live speaker meetings currently but is able to host on-line sessions using *Zoom*. Details are being e-mailed to members. Roll on the return of our usual meetings in due course!

SUTTON BONINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL Given that schools will not open before 8th March it's important to acknowledge the magnificent job being done by parents. With only the children of critical workers and vulnerable children attending school the place is very quiet. All the others are dearly missed along with many and varied events that make school so special. Parents are making incredible sacrifices juggling their many roles and continue to impress with their engagement in the school's home learning offer. The staff all enjoy seeing the work that is being sent in on a platform called *SeeSaw*. Daily *Zoom* calls keep the children in touch and staff members are working incredibly hard to ensure that the work set each week is of a high quality while also managing the learning of those children attending school. The staff are also ensuring that the curriculum remains broad, balanced and matches what children would be taught in school. Parents have been asked to avoid putting extra on themselves and, if they need to take time out, finish home learning tasks at another time, take a breath and be kind to themselves as well. Despite the limitations, school will still be celebrating *Safer Internet Day*, *World Book Day* and *Comic Relief* - albeit remotely!

NORMANTON ON SOAR COMMUNITY SHOP will remain closed until further notice. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. We look forward to welcoming you back as soon as possible.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH - OPEN Although we are allowed to hold services, the risk of spreading the virus led us to cancel Sunday services through January and February. However St Michael's church is open every day for visitors, in accordance with Covid restrictions, and everyone is most welcome. We hope to hold Sunday services again at 11.00am in St Michael's church in March and April, especially Mothering Sunday March 14th, Palm Sunday March 28th and Easter Day April 4th. However, only time will tell..!

ST ANNE'S CHURCH Prayer Book Holy Communion is being celebrated at 9.30am every Wednesday morning at St Anne's church which will remain locked during the rest of the week.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held on March 5th. There will be no service this year but service booklets will be delivered to all those who usually take part. If you would like to join in please contact Liz Hartley (674042). The service this year has been prepared by the Christian Women of Vanuatu, an archipelago of eighty islands, two thousand miles east of Australia. The Day of Prayer begins as the sun rises over Samoa, encircles the globe and ends thirty-six hours later as the sun sets over American Samoa.

EASTER LILIES If you would like to donate to the cost of Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one please contact Beth Clarke (672110) with the name of the person to be remembered. These names will be read out at the Easter morning service. If we are unable to hold a service the names will be read out in St Michael's church on Easter morning.

SPECIAL SERVICE AT ST JAMES - SUNDAY 23rd MAY In the hope that the church will be open for services by then we will be pleased to welcome the Venerable Phil Williams, Archdeacon of Nottingham, to take a service of Holy Communion on Pentecost Sunday 23rd May at 9:30am. It will be good to welcome him for his first visit to our church. He will then go on to take a service at St Michael's Church, Sutton Bonington.

QUIET SPACES AT ST JAMES : JULIAN GROUP The regular monthly *Julian Meetings* encourage each of us in the practice of contemplative prayer. Julian of Norwich's writings inspire us to be still, silent and receptive in God's presence, trusting Him to make Himself known to us. As we can't meet for these groups in person we are sending out the meditations by e-mail and suggesting that people set aside some time at home – possibly at the same time. It's really encouraging how many people follow the group. Our times together are based on the simple idea of spending at least half an hour in silence, waiting on God. You can find more information on the website: www.thejulianmeetings.net or e-mail sue.archbold@btinternet.com (842341) or carolynbrock@yahoo.co.uk. The groups are at 6:30pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month the next dates being Tuesdays 23rd March and 27th April. The popular Taizé style services will appear again as soon as possible.

SUTTON BONINGTON AND NORMANTON LUNCH CLUB A belated *Happy New Year* to all our diners! Hopefully, you enjoyed your Christmas gifts from the lunch club and managed to have a lovely time over the holiday. It may not have been what we were hoping for but things will get better. Don't forget, we have a boat trip booked for August so there's something to look forward to! Keep safe! Everyone's looking forward to getting back to normal again. If you have any queries contact Sue James (673460).

ST JAMES CHURCH For reasons we know too well, services remain suspended but we aim to restart them as soon as we're allowed. Information will be provided on the church noticeboard and in our weekly e-mail newsletter. If you'd like to receive a copy please e-mail brian.archbold2@btinternet.com. You can visit the church any day between 10.00am and 4.00pm and we are really grateful to the team of volunteers who make this possible. Some people are also choosing to visit the church at 9:30am on Sundays (the time that we would normally meet) for private prayer and meditation so, for that reason, we are opening the church a little earlier on Sundays. However, the heating won't be on so make sure you're well insulated! When visiting the church, please note that on each side of the porch we have put the Test & Trace QR code so if you have the app on your phone you can open it, point it to the QR code and log your attendance. Please don't forget to use the sanitiser, wear your mask, and keep your distance. Anyone who visits the church and later suspects that they may have COVID-19, should please phone Brian Archbold (07850 414158). Do also remember that you can visit the website of St Mary's, East Leake (eastleakechurch.org) to attend their on-line services from your own home. The services are at 10.00am and 6.00pm on Sundays but they remain available on the above website after the date. We have heard people say they're bored during the lockdown so if you are looking for something to do, please feel free to get in touch about helping out at the church. We would be very grateful for any volunteers who could help with jobs like washing the porch doors and windows on a sunny day and cleaning the brass.

ST JAMES CHURCH – CHARITY OF THE YEAR Each year, St James church nominates a local charity to support and over the past nineteen years £12,200 has been donated to different charities. In 2020, the charity was The Carpenter's Arms, a Christian abstinence-based residential programme for people aged 18-65 and challenged with homelessness due to an addictive lifestyle. As we weren't able to do our usual fundraising for our charity of the year in 2020 it has been decided to continue supporting The Carpenter's Arms for a second year. Groceries etc. are also being collected for them and the baskets for donations are just inside the main door of the church. Please keep them coming – they are much appreciated!

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Hopefully your hyacinth pot did well after Christmas! In the absence of our usual meetings please check your e-mails for details of our *Zoom* replacements. The *Zoom* meetings we held last year and last month were popular and gave us a chance to catch up. If you've got any queries or suggestions for the committee please contact Sue James (673460 or suelijames@yahoo.com). Take care - see you soon

EASTER LILIES AND EASTER GARDEN AT ST JAMES CHURCH The hope is that the church will be open for services by Easter but please do check the church noticeboard for any updates. The church will still be open whether or not there are services. On Easter Sunday (4th April) lilies will be placed in the church to remember those who are no longer with us. If you would like your loved ones to be remembered you may wish to make a donation to Anne Lawes to buy the lilies and advise her of the name(s) you wish to be mentioned. Terry Tyers will again be preparing the lovely Easter garden at the altar. If you would like to donate some flowers (eg. daffodils, small pots of primulas or bluebells) please leave them in the church porch on Good Friday, 2nd April. If you'd like to put any flowers in vases, there will be some in the porch.

WALKING IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Fed-up with doing the same old walks? *Walking in Nottinghamshire* (www.walkinginengland.co.uk/notts) is the website for you! With hundreds of walks/maps to download and print free of charge, books of walks and contact details for all the walking groups in the county, it's a great place to start your latest stroll. With routes from half-a-mile to twelve miles with notes on pushchairs and wheelchair access there's an adventure for everyone. Please check current COVID-19 rules on outdoor exercise and travel before planning your next walk.

SUTTON BONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH (www.sbbaptist.org.uk) Services on Zoom/YouTube are held weekly at 10.30am and feature music and songs recorded by members of the church family, creative contributions, prayer for our community and the wider world, as well as contemporary and practical bible-based talks. You are welcome to join us on *Zoom* at 10.30 or to watch our services on YouTube (including our catch up service). See our website for links.

Good Friday Service - 7.30pm. A reflective service of Holy Communion, including the narrative of Jesus' crucifixion. Our ***Palm Sunday Service*** (March 28th) and ***Easter Day Family Service*** (April 4th) will both be streamed live on YouTube from the church building. We begin a special week of prayer on 18th April. Look out for *FaceBook* posts on *I Love Sutton Bonington* to enable you to request prayers.

Other online events happening regularly in March and/or April:

- Alpha Online (over Lent on Thursday evenings)
- Home Groups (alternate Thursdays)
- Little Seeds (a toddler music group)
- Little Seeds on Sunday (A family service held monthly)
- Revelation (a chance to socialise, play games, learn to read the bible and pray. Our Sunday event for secondary school aged children)
- Student Life Group (Sunday evenings)
- International Students Bible Study (Wednesday evenings)
- Weekly drop in (most Wednesday afternoons).

Contact the pastor, John Hebblethwaite, via the website if you have something that you would like prayer for or to find out more details about any of our services and regular events.

SUTTON BONINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Social Media. The decision in early November to establish the council's *FaceBook* page went live on the 14th November and, since then, thirteen posts have been produced covering such matters as the Park Lane development, flooding, Diamond Wood, Covid and snow/gritting. Our highest engagement, the Park Lane development post, reached 1,800 people - measured by the number of comments and shares it received in the community. In future, the aim is to highlight key aspects of what the council is doing, with details also available on the parish council website and in the Village News.

Flood Working Group Update. During the past month a lot of behind-the-scenes work has been done such as a meeting and village walkabout with representatives from Nottinghamshire County Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council to identify on-going issues in the parish. Other matters include:

- The Flood Warden has now walked and documented all ditches and dykes to identify any issues, speaking to some of the people directly affected by flooding. This continues to be done on a regular basis to identify any new issues.
- Flood working group meeting planned for the coming month
- The Flood Warden has visited vulnerable residents in Zouch where a severe flood warning was issued and made arrangements for both Normanton and Sutton Bonington Village Halls to be on standby in case evacuation is necessary.
- The Highways Agency has investigated the situation on Landcroft Lane and action to resolve is in hand
- Cllr Collings has been working with Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of village drain clearance.
- Severn Trent has been working with the Flood Warden to identify problem areas and what support can be provided.
- The Flood Warden has now identified 75% of the surface water drains in the village and 100% of the ditches and dykes and had them mapped. Following the meeting in late December, he is working with Nottinghamshire County Council to confirm the many and varied ownerships of these dykes and ditches.

Flood Volunteers for the parish are : Duncan Collings - Flood Warden : Kim Collings
Cllr Patrick Hood : Cllr Julie McMullen-Kerr : Cllr Miles Raven : Cllr Sam Collings
(Chair of the flood working group) : John Paling : Linda Mason.

If you would like become a flood volunteer please e-mail Sam Collings at CllrCollings@suttonboningtonparishcouncil.org.uk

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE please to Arnold Goodwin (674563) Christine Elliott (844045) or Geoff Parnell (672639) by Monday 5th April – Easter Monday. ***This will over events for the months of May and June.*** Our e-mail address is villnews@yahoo.com.