

Sutton Bonington

Normanton on Soar

Kingston on Soar

VILLAGE NEWS

May and June 2021

ANDREW AND DEBBIE MOSELEY wish to thank everyone in the community for their kindness and support given to the family, displayed in so many ways, following the loss of their daughter, Jasmine. They were overwhelmed by the level of care and support shown and equally overwhelmed by the numbers who came out to say farewell or to pay their respects as Jasmine was taken through the village prior to her service. The kindness and generosity shown to the Moseley family by such a wonderful community will never be forgotten. An amazing £2,500 was donated to *Treetops* in Jasmine's memory and the lady who manages legacy and memoriam activity for them said "I can honestly say I have never known so many donations to be given in memory of one person". Thank you!

SUTTON BONINGTON and KINGSTON-on-SOAR OPEN GARDENS It's a pleasure to confirm that, unless lockdown restrictions worsen again, the annual *Open Gardens* event will re-appear this year with all proceeds going to Cancer Research as usual. There is a slight change to the usual date for the event to **Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th July**. As well as opening as many gardens as possible, we intend to serve tea and cakes and there will be plant and cake stalls, all of which will be done in ways that are compliant with Covid restrictions in place at the time. If you are interested in opening your garden do please contact Janine Bone on 07766 815251 or e-mail stanneshouse@btinternet.com. More details about the event to follow but, in the meantime, do put the date in your diary!

UPDATE ON PLANS TO SAVE OUR POST OFFICE Several further stages have been completed to enable the community to take over the running of the Post Office. An application has been submitted to the Post Office for the business to be transferred; the finance stage has been passed and the next step is an interview with the Post Office, expected in April with a decision by the end the month. A Business Plan has been drawn up and villagers will shortly be asked what they would like to see sold in what will then be the Community Shop. As you may have seen, work has started on a new frontage and signage for the shop. A Share Offer document has been drawn up which gives everybody the opportunity to invest in the Community Shop, with ownership of shares conferring a vote on how the shop is run and how any excess profits are used. The Share Offer will be launched on confirmation of the Post Office contract. Shares will cost £1 each with a minimum purchase of twenty. We are still hopeful of a transition in May or June.

SWAN COURT The Sutton Bonington and Normanton-on-Soar Social Services Association occasionally has 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 VILLAGE LITTERPICK Please join us for our second Sutton Bonington Village Litterpick on Saturday 1st May at any time between 10.00am and 4.00pm. We would be grateful for volunteers to help keep our village litter-free. Bin bags, gloves and a limited number of litter grabbers will be available from the driveway of 30 Park Lane and near the phone box at the bottom of Marle Pit Hill. If you still have a litter grabber please use it or drop it off at 30 Park Lane before 1st May. There are three options for your filled bag;

1. Take it home and pop in your black bin
2. Leave it in the playing fields car park next to bottle bank
3. Leave it in situ (we do a 'sweep' at the end of the day).

PLEASE DO NOT PUT BAGS IN ANY OTHER BINS! Thank you in advance. We collected an estimated seventy bags of rubbish last time! See you there.

KINGSTON ON SOAR PARISH COUNCIL Richard Parrey has been planning to retire from the role of Parish Clerk for a few months, and he has decided to retire at the end of May. The Parish Council is keen to find someone to take on this role which is home-based and comes with a modest remuneration. For further information please contact the Chairman, Mark Johnson (0115 983 0316) or Richard Parrey (0115 983 0730).

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH Sunday morning services will continue to be held in St Michael's at 11.00am for the foreseeable future and the church will continue to be open every day for visitors and private prayer, subject to Covid-secure restrictions.

ST ANNE'S CHURCH St Anne's will continue to be open for Prayer Book Holy Communion every Wednesday morning at 9.30am. No decision has yet been made on opening each day for visitors.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK While many of our regular Christian Aid week events can't take place this year we are still aiming to raise as much money as possible to support communities struggling with the twin challenges of climate change and Covid. Our volunteers will be distributing Christian Aid week envelopes between 10th – 16th May and these can be returned to Sutton Bonington Post Office or by post to Christian Aid. Alternatively, you can donate at our online giving page <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/sutton-bonington-and-normanton-christian-aid-week-2021> (see QR code below) where you can also read more about Christian Aid's work this year. Thank you for your generous donations.



PLANT SALE, NORMANTON-on-SOAR Following the success of the plant sale in Normanton last year, which raised £485, it is being held again. Barry and Gill Hilsdon (opposite the school) will have a bring-and-buy stall again on their front during Christian Aid week, 9th to 16th May. Please start collecting cuttings, seedlings now so that you can donate to the stall plus, hopefully purchase something to add to your garden collection.

SUTTON BONINGTON CRICKET CLUB is looking for new players for the 2021 season and would be delighted to hear from you if you're interested in joining. Please contact Frank Lester (843364), David Appleby (07855 934777) or Patrick Hood (07508 326009).

NORMANTON-on-SOAR MEN'S ASSOCIATION is planning to hold a croquet event in late May and there will be a bowling evening at Sutton Bonington Bowls Club on 28th June. At the time of going to press details for both events have yet to be finalised. Exact dates and times will be published in local media nearer the time.

ST JAMES CHURCH, NORMANTON-on-SOAR From the beginning of March, St James church in Normanton resumed weekly Sunday services at 9:30am in addition to the church being open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm for private prayer and meditation. Everyone feels safe, with sanitisers available in the porch, masks worn and social distancing in place. It was particularly good to be able to hold our Easter services this year, led by The Rev. Canon Michael Knight, The Rev. Michael Brock and The Rev. Glenn Martin. When visiting the church, please note that at 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 and point it to the QR code to 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).

SUTTON BONINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA We hope this message finds you well. We are reaching out to the local community for support. You may be a grandparent or relative of a child at the school, currently or previously; you may have attended the school yourself or you may just be interested in supporting the children of our local community. Whatever the case, we would really appreciate your support at this time which has been and continues to be hard for so many of us. Could you spare some time to help our school? If so, we would be so happy to hear from you! Here are some examples of areas where we would really value particular help and expertise.

Writing bids for funding e.g. to the National Lottery, Rushcliffe Council, EMA etc
Use *Easyfundraising* - raise FREE donations for school every time you shop online, with over 4,300 retailers, e.g. M&S, John Lewis, Argos, Dunelm, U-switch, Booking.com, eBay, Sky, Disney+, Just Eat and many more. It's very easy to sign up and it doesn't cost a penny:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/suttonboningtonpspta/?invite=k64dss&referrer-campaign=s2s>

Use 'Amazon Smile' - sign up to 'Amazon Smile' and select **Sutton Bonington Primary School Parent Teacher Association (not PTA)** as your chosen charity. You only need to do it once and it's very easy in the App. Then every time you shop, the school receives a donation

Please keep an eye open for further details in the Village Newsletter, local posters and our PTA Facebook page for further events and updates: <https://www.facebook.com/Sutton-Bonington-Primary-School-PTA-286026548272889>. If you feel you could offer y support in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you. Thank you. Theo Stavri, PTA Secretary - theostavri@yahoo.co.uk

SPECIAL SERVICE AT ST JAMES, NORMANTON-on-SOAR On Pentecost Sunday, 23rd May, we will be pleased to welcome the Venerable Phil Williams, Archdeacon of Nottingham, to take a service of Holy Communion at 9:30am. It will be good to welcome him to St James 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* at St. James church, Normanton, encourage 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. Our *Julian Groups* are at 6:30pm on the last Tuesday of each month and the next dates will be 27th April and 25th May. If you would prefer not to meet for these groups in person, we will still be 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 carolynmbrock@yahoo.co.uk.

SUTTON BONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Live *YouTube* services accessed through www.sbbaptist.org.uk and our Facebook page – SBBC – Sutton Bonington Baptist Church.

Christian Aid Service (SB Churches Together) May 9th at 10.30am. Our Methodist Minister Dennis Smith will be leading the service and preaching. And we will also livestream our service on Pentecost Sunday - May 23rd at 10.30am - when John Hebblethwaite will be speaking.

All our morning services are available on Zoom. Do get in touch if you would like to have the link. Services can also be made available on *YouTube* on request both live and as a catch up service.

Families and Youth Work Our families work has begun to meet again in person. Please get in touch with Helen Ison via our website if you would like more information on our toddler music group - Little Seeds - or regarding our Family Services (monthly on a Sunday afternoon).

Our *Rock Solid* (Tuesday at 7.45pm for years 7-9) and *Revelation* (Sunday evenings for years 7-12) groups have resumed meetings in the church building. Contact Brian Beach or David Drury respectively through our website.

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ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS AT ST JAMES On Sunday 2nd May, at the usual time of 9:30am, there will be a service of morning prayer led by Jan Bonser. At about 10:15am, we will hold our annual meetings (about thirty minutes), at which churchwardens and other officers will be appointed. Apart from talking about the year 2020, which has been dominated by Covid-19, we will be able to tell you of our plans for the year ahead. We'd obviously like you to stay to learn about what we have done over the last year and what we are currently planning but fully understand if you decide to leave after the service itself. We will be publishing the agenda nearer the time but there are a couple of things which you may wish to consider:

1. At the moment, Peter Tyers and Brian Archbold are churchwardens elected last year. They are not "precious" about continuing so if you would like to put your name forward nominations would be welcome.
2. There are currently six members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). We would very much welcome others to join us as we continue the work of the church during this period when we don't have our own resident vicar. Please give this some thought and, if you would like to learn more before committing yourself, please get in touch.

CHARITY OF THE YEAR – THE CARPENTER’S ARMS We agreed that we would support The Carpenter’s Arms for a further year and they have been really grateful for all the groceries and toiletries that have been donated. Many people are adding extra items to their supermarket shopping, and this makes such a difference to the residents staying in the men’s hostel and the separate women’s hostel. To celebrate Easter, we also donated Easter Eggs, chocolates, cakes etc. Apart from all those who donated items, we would also like to thank John Simpson for making very regular trips to deliver all that we are collecting. If anyone would like to donate items for The Carpenter’s Arms please put them in the baskets opposite the main door of the church.

SUTTON BONINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The role of the Parish Council is to represent the interests of the whole community, part of local government supporting the democratic process. Local councils provide a focus for the community to identify concerns and projects, and endeavour to solve them locally themselves. The main role of a Parish Councillor is to represent the views of all residents within the parish and to listen to, and understand, the views and needs of different groups in the community. As a councillor, there is a responsibility to be well-informed, especially about diverse local views. Parish Councillors are elected representatives, not volunteers or employees, and serve for a four-year term, unless co-opted or elected in a by-election when they serve until the next election. They must apply the law and comply with the Code of Member Conduct.

Councillors contribute to the work of the council by suggesting ideas, influencing policy, engaging in constructive debate and by responding to the needs and views of the community. Councillors comment on proposals to ensure the best outcome and vote to enable the council to make decisions. Individual Parish Councillors cannot make decisions on behalf of the council, but they can actively lead and engage with local projects. Parish Councillors have no powers outside of the council meeting.

Key Responsibilities

- As part of the Parish Council, councillors may have responsibility for running local services such as public open spaces, play areas, village halls, community car schemes and potentially much more.
- Deciding how much to raise through the precept in order to deliver the council’s services.
- Influencing and shaping the long term development policy for the parish, and as part of the planning process, commenting on planning applications in the parish.
- Improving the quality of life and the environment in the local area.
- Working to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents they represent.
- Working to bring about improvements through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with other parishes, local authorities and agencies.
- A councillor agrees to attend all meetings (reasonably possible) that he or she is summoned to.
- Councillors together as a team are responsible for the financial decisions made and implemented.

If you have any questions please contact clerk@suttonboningtonparishcouncil.org.uk

COVID The parish council would like to say a very big thank you for the support that has been given in transporting over 170 residents from Sutton Bonington, Zouch and Normanton-on-Soar to their vaccination centre. This would not have happened without the hard work and commitment of Jean Corliss, Philip Stafford, Arnold Goodwin, Sheila Harrod and the Soar Valley Bus team. The team will be busy again from Easter Sunday transporting residents for their second vaccination.

HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE The Parish Council wants to do its utmost to help tackle climate change, create habitats for wildlife and have spaces for residents to enjoy and there are a number of projects underway. You may have seen three new trees planted in the meadow, just beyond the Playing Fields. These are two field maples and an oak which were bought with money from Rushcliffe Borough Council. On the subject of trees there is the donation of four hundred saplings from the Woodland Trust which are due to be planted soon in Sutton Bonington. We are also expecting to take delivery of a large sack of wildflower seeds, also given to us by Rushcliffe Borough Council, and these will be sown in some of the shared spaces in the village. There has been a small band of residents helping to remove the plastic surrounds from the trees in The Diamond Wood – thank you to those helping out. There are other projects planned and please let us know of any suggestions that you have. If you would like to help in any way, please get in touch via e-mail at greeningsuttonbonington@gmail.com

GREEN HOMES GRANTS Included in this edition of the Village News is information about *Green Homes Grants*, a government-funded voucher scheme in England to help towards the cost of installing energy efficiency measures in your home.

ST JAMES CHURCHYARD – CELEBRATING OUR WILDFLOWERS Many thanks to the Normanton-on-Soar Environment Group for working with us on our ongoing plans for the churchyard and to all those who donated towards the native wildflowers. By the time you read this, these plants will be in the ground and getting established. We have been able to buy eighty plants, 144 plugs and have had seed sent to us by the diocese, all of which will join the wealth of existing wildflowers that can already be found in the ancient churchyard. Going forward, these will be left unmown in specific *meadow spaces* during spring and summer. This way, they will be able to flower and set seed. Since the 1930s, the UK has lost 97 per cent of its wildflower meadows. The threat of biodiversity collapse, not to mention a third of our food requiring pollination by insects, means that working with wildlife is an important part of our future. Along with many other efforts, there has been a nationwide push in recent years to allow the native plants in our communal spaces and verges to flourish again, with new spaces being established in the wider Normanton environs. Sarah and Stuart Sleight have given the grass its first cut of the year and you can see the start of the design of the new *meadow spaces* taking shape; already we seem to have more wildflowers than ever before. As the year progresses, we will be putting together an exhibition board in the church showing what plants to look out for. To date, sightings included snowdrops, daffodils, violets, lesser celandines and primroses, among many others. You may recollect that we recently planted four new trees in the churchyard too and have been watching the buds develop on those. With the amount of rain we have had they will have been well watered-in! We are encouraged by the enthusiasm with which this new scheme has been greeted and look forward to welcoming you to enjoy the space.

SOAR VALLEY U3A will be holding its next general meeting at 2.00pm on Tuesday 26th May. The meeting will be held on Zoom due to the current restrictions and will be open to members only. The guest speaker will be Sandy Leong who will be giving a talk on the history of tea. Soar Valley U3A (University of the Third Age) provides relaxed learning and leisure activities for retired people in your area. For more information, phone Membership Secretary Marilyn Wood on 07812 913807 or visit our website - <http://u3asites.org.uk/soar-valley>

SPEEDING ON FAR LANE, NORMANTON It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there is a problem with speeding vehicles on Far Lane, some of which are delivery vans. We have contacted NCC/VIAEM to see if there is any action they can take to reduce this problem and they have replied with the following;

"Given the narrow nature of the route and the fact that it is a dead end residential road, I believe that the comments relating to speeding on this road are perceived rather than actual. The Department for Transport now has very strict conditions under which we are allowed to introduce signing on the highway to avoid an unnecessary proliferation of signage. In addition, the reason for limiting the number of signs placed on the highway extends to the fact that it is not possible to provide warning to road users of every hazard they may encounter. Therefore, it is deemed counterproductive to attempt to do so - at least in terms of those hazards which people ought reasonably be expected to anticipate.

It should go without saying that drivers' ought to anticipate the possibility of meeting pedestrians on a residential road such as this, particularly when access will be, in the large, by residents who live on Far Lane"

It seems, therefore, that all we can do at present is to ask that all users of Far Lane be conscious that there is no pavement and to be more aware of pedestrians.

SOAR LANE BARRIER, NORMANTON Following several complaints over the last few months of inconsiderate parking on Soar Lane hindering access to the slipway, the Parish Council has resolved to erect a barrier at the Main Road end of the lane. From then on, if you require access to the slipway it will be necessary to contact a council member.

QUEEN'S PLATINUM HOLIDAY The 70th anniversary of the Queen's accession falls on 6th February 2022 and there are plans to celebrate it over a four-day bank holiday weekend from **2-5 June 2022**, coincidentally one year ahead of the 70th anniversary of her coronation. Normanton-on-Soar Parish Council will be discussing how to commemorate this at a future meeting and if you have any suggestions or ideas please contact clerk@nospc.parish.email.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE please to Arnold Goodwin (674563) Christine Elliott (844045) or Geoff Parnell (672639) by Monday 7th June. ***This will over events for the months of July and August.*** Our e-mail address is villnews@yahoo.com.