

Sutton Bonington

Normanton on Soar

Kingston on Soar

VILLAGE NEWS

September and October 2021

GARDEN WALKABOUT 2021 A huge thank you from the Garden Walkabout Organising Committee to everyone who supported this year's Sutton Bonington and Kingston-on-Soar Open Gardens in July. It was fantastic to have nearly forty gardens open and the weather was kind. We are delighted to report that over £9,600 was raised for Cancer Research UK - the highest amount ever from this event. There will be special celebrations for next year's *Walkabout* - our fortieth! And we hope we can count on everyone's amazing support again. Thank you.

COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE We are pleased to say that representatives from the Post Office have completed their site visit and a few internal changes have been agreed. We have just received the contract and are reviewing the 125 pages! With the impact of COVID we expect the transfer from the Post Office to the community to be in September. The share offer has created good interest and we have already received 43 applications. However, we still need more community investment to reach our target of £10,000 and are looking for the widest possible engagement from all the villages. Application forms are available from Normanton Village Shop, Sutton Bonington Post Office or online at www.suttonboningtopostoffice.com - go to the Share Information page.

If you would like to talk to someone in person please call Sheila Harrod (01509 672507 or 07710 192447) or call/ e-mail Richard Shore (07739 506685 or richardshore6@gmail.com.)

If you are looking for tax relief on your investment, HMRC has now advised that, although not eligible for SEED Enterprise Investment Scheme, we can apply for *Social Investment Tax Relief*. We will be submitting our application during August.

Correction: The Unity Trust Bank Account Number is 20438458 (the final 8 was missing in the first flyer).

THE GALLOPING GOURMET will be on Saturday 11th September, subject to the latest Covid 19 guidelines. This is one of the highlights of the social calendar with all proceeds going to Christian Aid. Whether you would like to *Host* or *Gallop* please register your interest at sbgalpinggourmet@gmail.com or call Lizzie (07799 435032) or Richard (07739 506685). Tickets are £55 per couple.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT IN KINGSTON-ON-SOAR CHURCH

St. Winifred's is pleased to announce that the fifth annual chamber music concert will take place in Kingston-on-Soar parish church on Saturday 25th September 2021 starting at 7.30pm. The previous concerts in the ornate interior of Kingston church were successful and after last year's enforced COVID break our string quartet, all of whom have played in several symphony orchestras, will be back playing music by Bach, Barber and Borodin, all accompanied by some nibbles and a glass of fizz. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for students and children - pay at the door. The proceeds will be divided equally between the church and the UNICEF *VaccinAid* Appeal.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH is open every day for visitors. There are no roped-off areas any more so visitors can now sit wherever they wish. Services continue to be held every Sunday at 11.00am but a cautious approach is being taken with continued use of face masks, hand sanitiser and social distancing.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST MICHAEL'S will be held on Sunday 3rd October. We will be collecting food in tins and packets for *The Friary* in West Bridgford which helps local homeless and vulnerable families. Items can be left in St Michael's at any time during the previous week. We will not be auctioning fresh food for *Water Aid*, as we have in the past, but donations can be made to *Water Aid* at the service or delivered to Beth Clarke, 16 Gables Lea *in envelopes clearly marked Water Aid*.

CHURCHES TOGETHER OUTDOOR HARVEST SERVICE In place of the Village Show service, *Sutton Bonington Churches Together* are planning this event which will be led by Methodist Minister Dennis Smith in the beautiful grounds of St. Michael's at 11.00am on Sunday 5th September. We will sing or listen to some traditional harvest hymns alongside contemporary songs, have a chance to hear how God has been at work in Sutton Bonington community during the pandemic and consider some of the words of Jesus through *The Parable of the Sower*. In the event of bad weather, we will congregate inside St. Michael's.

FINLAY'S WALK The recent passing of village schoolboy Finlay Elliot was devastating for his family, his friends and the wider community of Sutton Bonington. His passing was caused by asthma-related issues and a large group of his friends, primarily made up of those who attended the local Sutton Bonington Primary School with Finlay from 2012 to 2018, have decided to come together to complete a sponsored walk in his memory. Not only will this bring his friends back together but will give them the opportunity to raise some money for two worthwhile charities - *Asthma UK* and *Paediatrics Intensive Care* at the Queen's Medical Centre. The group hopes to complete a ten-mile walk - the furthest most will have walked in one go - through the local countryside and they are asking for help from the community to raise funds for these worthwhile causes. The walk will take place on Sunday 5th September. There will be the opportunity to donate via the *JustGiving.com* page or physically at Sutton Bonington Post Office, The Kings Head pub or Pasture Lane Stores. If any local businesses are in a position to support this endeavour please get in touch on 07817 329172. Thanks, in advance, for your help!

ST ANNE'S CHURCH will remain locked for the time being, opening only on Wednesday mornings for Holy Communion at 9.30am.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER We are hoping to hold *Memorial Candle Lighting, Remembrance Sunday and a Christmas Market* in some form but no decision has been made, as yet, about how these can happen.

SUTTON BONINGTON TENNIS CLUB It's been a busy summer for the tennis club! We're delighted to announce that we've started a new partnership with the University of Nottingham coaching team who will be running our junior coaching and competition programme with the aim of getting children of all ages and abilities active and engaged with tennis. They will also be contacting our local schools to work with them at grass roots level. It's a fantastic opportunity for us to benefit from their first class coaching skills while students from the Sutton Bonington campus who are studying for their coaching qualifications can also gain hands-on experience. A great partnership for our village community! We are also investing in court refurbishment and replacing floodlights with environmentally friendly LED alternatives. Interested in playing? All ages and standards are always welcome. Contact Jo (Secretary) for more details: *jo@10ant.net*

COFFEE BREAK meetings will recommence in the Baptist Church Lounge on Wednesday 1st September at 10.30am and at fortnightly intervals thereafter. There's a warm welcome to all who wish to join us for our friendly get-togethers over tea/coffee and biscuits to share thoughts, experience and kindness with a Christian content. If you would like to know more please contact Iris Bonner - 672788. We hope to see you there!

KINGSTON ON SOAR PARISH COUNCIL CLERK After many years of dedicated service Richard Parrey has retired from the role of Parish Clerk. The Parish Council is keen to find someone to take on this role which is home-based and comes with a modest remuneration. The council will provide any technical equipment necessary for the post and pay for appropriate training. For further information, please contact the Chairman, Mark Johnson (0115 983 0316) or the Vice Chair, Gill Aldridge (01509 672944).

SUTTON BONINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY intends to restart its programme of talks on Thursday, 16th September in the usual venue - the Library Room in the Village Hall. Talks will start at 7:30pm. The programme is as follows:-

16 th September	Fuschias
21 st October	National Forest
18 th November	Chrysanthemums

At the moment it's difficult to be certain that Covid will not interfere again but there's an outside chance (at the very least) that masks may be required.

SUTTON BONINGTON PLAYScheme'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Pavilion, Sutton Bonington Playing Fields, on Monday 13th September at 7.00pm. For Playscheme to continue into the future we need to build our core team so, if you are interested, please come along to help us plan Playscheme for 2022.

SOAR VALLEY u3a will be holding its next general meeting in Normanton-on-Soar Village Hall at 2.00pm on Tuesday 28th September. This will be the first 'live' meeting for some time and limited to a maximum of fifty members for Covid safety reasons. Our speaker John Hope's subject is *Time Through The Ages*. Soar Valley u3a provides relaxed learning and leisure activities for retired or semi-retired people in the area. For more information contact Membership Secretary Marilyn Wood (07812 913807) or search the website *Soar Valley u3a*.

THE METHODIST CHURCH Sunday morning services continue to be held each week at 10.30am. Temporarily in Sutton Bonington Village Hall, please join us, if you can, for *Afternoon Tea* on Tuesday 28th September and Tuesday 26th October between 2.30pm and 4.30pm for sandwiches, cake and chat. Everyone welcome. Also, just *Drop In* for coffee, tea or chocolate plus toast, teacake or biscuits at the church on Monday mornings between 08.45 and 11.00 from 6th September in term time. Pop in for a chat with friends before the week gets busy.

NORMANTON-on-SOAR COMMUNITY SHOP is now open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings from 10.00am to 1.00pm but a shortage of volunteers prevents our offering afternoon opening times. If you are able to spare a couple of hours a week you will be most welcome, enabling the shop to continue. If you're interested please contact the shop - 01509 646464 - on one of its open mornings.

NORMANTON-on-SOAR MEN'S ASSOCIATION At 8.00pm in The Plough on Monday 27th September Ian Dicker will give a talk on a trip he and Sally made around South America. On Monday 25th October we plan to have a *Ghost Walk* in Nottingham. More details about that will be published nearer the time.

ST JAMES CHURCH, NORMANTON-on-SOAR SERVICES We are now allowed to sing hymns in church again even though the sound was muffled through masks and visors! We shall continue to be cautious even though restrictions have been eased. The church will be open every day of the week between 10.00am and 1.00pm and it has been lovely to see it being visited and used regularly, measured by the number of candles being lit. We have also reintroduced the visitors' book and it's good to read the comments from those visiting the village and church.

SUTTON BONINGTON PARISH COUNCIL is delighted to announce that Duncan Collings has joined the council. Duncan has lived in the village since 1976 and been involved in many organisations. He was a founder committee member of the Soar Valley Bus, served on the Parent-Teacher Association and played cricket for the local team for many years. Since retiring he has been heavily involved with Nottingham Rugby. For the past twelve months he has been the Lead Flood Warden for the village and continues to work to help prevent flooding in the area. He can be contacted by e-mail - cllrdocollings@suttonboningtonparishcouncil.org.uk or by 'phone - 07946 872319.

BUS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN SURVEY In collaboration with the county's bus operators, Nottinghamshire County Council will soon be drafting a *Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)* for both the city and the county. This stems from the government's recently published National Bus Strategy (*Bus Back Better*) which requires all English local transport authorities to work with bus operators to come up with bold plans for improving their local bus services and encouraging more people to use them.

The Government has pledged £3 billion across the country to help deliver these plans and this area is aiming to secure a fair share of that funding! An important element of the plan is to find out what people think would improve local bus services and what would persuade them to increase their use of those services or to start using them. And it's important to hear from everyone – those who currently use the buses and those who don't. Your views will help shape the plan so please take a little of your time to complete the survey at: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/public-transport/bus-service-improvement-plan-survey>

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AT ST JAMES CHURCH : 14th NOVEMBER

We weren't able to hold our traditional Remembrance Sunday service last year but we hope that will change this year. Please put the date of 14th November in your diary.

QUIET SPACES AT ST JAMES – JULIAN GROUP, TAIZÉ SERVICE

The *Julian Group* has continued during lockdowns with people using the meditations at home but we are now able to meet in the chancel on the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. If you'd like your name to be added to the list to receive e-mails with the *Julian* meditation materials, please contact sue.archbold@btinternet.com. The next Taizé-style service is 28th September and the *Julian Group* on 31st August and 26th October. All are welcome to these contemplative groups.

NORMANTON-on-SOAR 'MINI' CHURCH FÊTE

We couldn't hold the Church Fête last year and this year we're still being very careful about the sort of things we can do. In addition to a number of small events held through the summer we have decided to have a 'mini' church fête on Saturday 11th September between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. There will be jazz in the churchyard with Ken Godfrey's Central Jazz Band. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served and there will be a few stalls. It may be small but it will still be fun!

SUTTON BONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH For more information on how to join in any of our events please contact us using the website www.sbbaptist.org.uk

Sunday - in person and online. Throughout June and July we held evening services with the help of our *Student Life* group but have now returned to in-person morning services at 10.30am. These may also be accessed online. Simply contact us through the website for a Zoom link. Our crèche, Junior Church and Revelation groups (the latter for secondary school age people) are now running on Sundays. We will not be meeting in church on Sunday September 5th because of the *Churches Together Service* (see foot of page 2 of this issue)..

Catch-Up Service. Please feel free to request YouTube links to watch the recordings of previous online services.

Our termly week of prayer will be held from 5th – 11th September. Please let us know via the website or our *FaceBook* page if there is something or someone you would like us to pray for.

Little Seeds has returned in person to provide fortnightly music, song and stories for babies and toddlers. Contact Helen Ison via the website.

Rock Solid is a youth club for school years 7 to 9 on Tuesday nights from September 14th. Helping you work out happiness, popularity, relationships, fear, security, cash, pressure, influences, heroes, image, decisions, friends, faith, starting over and stacks more, all served up with a laugh and a side order of games. Contact Brian Beach via the website. We would love you to come and join us for evenings of discussions, games, nights out and more!

Student Welcome Event. On 3rd October we will be holding a welcome service and offering meals in church and in homes for new and returning students. Our *Student Life* group will resume in early October.

NORMANTON-on-SOAR HARVEST FESTIVAL It's good for a rural community to celebrate Harvest Festival; to give thanks for all that is produced and to acknowledge all the hard work during the year by our local farmers. The service will be at 5.00pm on Sunday 26th September in St James church. After the service the congregation normally stays for the Harvest Supper but, sadly, that can't happen this year. Neither will there be a service at 9:30am on that day.

THE KINGSTON-ON-SOAR BEER FESTIVAL is back for a third year over the weekend of 17th to 19th September. There will be at least fifteen real ales available, all from top, local breweries and gravity-served direct from the cask. In addition, there will be at least three locally-produced ciders. This is a family-friendly event with profits going to support more events in the community.

Friday Evening. Beer festival preview and bar night.

Saturday 12.00 noon until late. Free entry 'til 4.00pm. Live music in the evening from Lincoln-based *Relentless Rockabilly*.

Sunday 1pm until 5pm. Family day, tea, coffee and cakes as well as the beer festival.

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIT CONCERT We are hoping to hold the popular Christmas Candlelit Concert at St James church at 7:30pm on Saturday 11th December and confirmation has already been received of The Bridge Singers' availability (they met together only very recently for the first time in over a year). Flute player Viola Calthrop-Owen will be there along with Neil and Jane Millensted on piano. Please put the date in your diary. Further information will be made available nearer the time.

ST JAMES CHURCHYARD CHANGES You may have noticed the changes in churchyard maintenance which have been made in conjunction with the Normanton-on-Soar Environment Group. There have often been positive comments about how Sarah keeps the churchyard and now, with her help, some areas of the grass have been allowed to grow so that wild plants can flower alongside. The Diocese provided wildflower seeds as part of the *God's Own Acre* project; the Normanton-on-Soar Environment Group organised the planting of more wildflowers around our lovely seat and Ben Fern and Terry Tyers prepared really helpful information boards in the church for anyone who would like to know more about what is growing. These changes have enabled us to provide hospitality for a variety of bees and insects alongside some of their favourite foods. All sorts of bees have been seen bumbling and foraging around in the churchyard together with several species of butterflies, moths and other insects. We have also noticed people walking along the grass paths that Sarah has cut into the wild areas. Before long we will be cutting down these wild areas - but only in preparation for next year!

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE please to Arnold Goodwin (674563) Christine Elliott (844045) or Geoff Parnell (672639) by Monday 4th October. *This will cover events for the months of November and December.* Our e-mail address is *villnews@yahoo.com*.