

Sutton Bonington
Normanton on Soar

Kingston on Soar

VILLAGE NEWS

January and February 2022

GINA, STEVIE AND FREDDIE would like to say a very big *Thank You* for all the lovely messages, cards and support that we, as a family, have received from everyone. Steve had an amazing send off. It was lovely to see so many attend his service at the Natural Burial Ground and afterwards at the King's Head in Sutton Bonington. His last ride through the village was amazing. Thank you to all who stood for him. What a lovely village we are lucky to live in. It restores your faith in people. And a very special thank you to those who tried to help Steve at the scene.

Love and thanks to you all!
Gina Day

SUTTON BONINGTON SURGERY The Village Health Group (formerly ELM Group) would like to consult patients whose usual general practice services are provided at Sutton Bonington's surgery on Orchard Close.

To do this, there will be a meeting in Sutton Bonington Village Hall on Friday 21st January, between 4.00pm and 6.00pm, when Doctors Stephen Shortt and Neil Fraser will share a presentation to illustrate what has been learned through the course of the Covid-19 pandemic and what the current issues are. Eighteen months of pandemic conditions have created a huge shift in the pattern of care and Village Health Group is examining how it can best use its resources to provide the best possible healthcare to patients.

Following the presentation, there will be a plenary session for questions and answers from the audience. Doctors Shortt and Fraser will also be happy to have one-to-one discussions with anyone who prefers not to participate in the plenary session.

We look forward to seeing you there. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend but would like to pose a question, you can e-mail it to nnccg.vhg@nhs.net and we can provide you with a response.

Thank you!

YOUR COMMUNITY SHOP As you may have seen there is a new counter, layout and much more. Peter, supported by his wife Julie and some members of the committee, has introduced a range of new gifts, obtained from local producers where possible. For our members (those who bought shares in the summer) we are holding our first Annual Members' Meeting on Saturday 18th January. ***The agenda for this meeting is on the final page of this newsletter.*** It is also available from *Your Community Shop* and the website - <https://suttonboningtonpostoffice.com>. As you will see from this agenda, a key part of the meeting will be the election of a new committee. Although, under the rules, the current one must stand down, people can choose to stand for re-election so all roles are open. The committee roles are: Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Postmaster/Shop Manager and six further members.

To support the shop through these additional roles we are looking for people with retailing skills; to be the voice of Normanton/Kingston/Zouch; to take on communications for *Your Community Shop* to the villages and members and to support with projects as they arise. For instance, we will need to find a long-term home for *Your Community Shop*. Overall, your role would be to help with the smooth running of *Your Community Shop* for the benefit of our local communities. The current committee is Michael Symonds, Chair; Miles Raven, Vice-Chair; Janine Bone, Treasurer; Richard Shore, Secretary; Sheila Harrod; Dave Smith and our Postmaster, Peter Eccles,.

SO LONG! FAREWELL! I am delighted that the community has taken on the Post Office and Gift Shop. I can now start to enjoy my retirement in the knowledge that the village is retaining its Post Office. My twelve-year tenure has passed so quickly and I have many a happy memory of former and current customers who helped make my business sustainable. Many thanks to all those who made it happen, especially those who became shareholders in the Community Benefit Society (CBS), along with the committee for their hard work. It is now up to the whole community to support the Shop and Post Office, particularly the shop as the Post Office will not survive without its income. In gratitude to my customers over the years and in support for the new venture, I donated the entire gift shop inventory to the Community Benefit Society when I retired. I wish the CBS good luck for the future! However, please remember that its success is down to you, by buying even 'just a card' when you drop off your pre-paid parcels, to help sustain the business for the future. Wishing you all a very happy and healthy 2022. Lesley Close.

SUTTON BONINGTON AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB Work on re-laying tennis court 3 has started and the new surface should be completed early in 2022. The upgraded flood lights on all the courts are finished and are fabulous! The coaching from Nottingham University for adults and juniors is as popular as ever and will continue throughout the winter months. For any further information please contact Jo - 07834 098436

SWAN COURT Just to remind those who may be interested the Sutton Bonington and Normanton-on-Soar Social Services Association does, 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 responsible for all utility bills. These properties are designed for, and aimed at, the older members of society. Potential tenants must already live in the villages of Sutton Bonington or Normanton, or have previously lived in the villages and wish to move back, or be non villagers but wish to move to be 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 HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY is taking tentative steps towards normality and the programme of talks for winter and spring is as follows:-

20th January : Growing & Showing. Jeff Bates.

17th February : Land of Giants all about Echiums. Linda Haywood.

17th March : Gardens of North Wales. Mike Davey.

21st April : Scents and Desirability. Andrew Ward.

All meetings start at 7:30pm and will be held in the Baptist Church, Main St, Sutton Bonington. Additionally one or two new members are needed to bolster the committee. The duties are not onerous and members from a younger generation would be particularly welcome! If you are interested in helping run the Society, please contact Colin Blackshaw (672144).

LUNCH CLUB Don't forget about joining the Lunch Club for the New Year! If you have just retired and would like to lunch with others once a month, join us at Sutton Bonington Village Hall. Meetings are always on the second Thursday of each month with the next ones on 13th January and 10th February. Please ring Sue - 673460 - for more details and to book your place.

METHODIST CHURCH The *Afternoon Tea* event continues to be held in Sutton Bonington Village Hall. Do come along for sandwiches, cake and chat on Thursday 27th January and Thursday 24th February between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Everyone is welcome!

POP IN FOR COFFEE at The Methodist Church every Monday between 9.30am and 12 noon will restart on Monday 10th January. Join us for toast, teacakes, coffee, tea or hot chocolate. Everyone welcome. Bring a friend along!

SUTTON BONINGTON SHOW will be on Sunday 4th September and we look forward to everyone's continued support. More details will be in the next Village News. The show's AGM will be held in Sutton Bonington Village Hall Library Room on Tuesday 22nd February at 7.30p.m. All welcome.

KEEPING MIND AND BODY ACTIVE IN RETIREMENT If you're busy working, raising a family or doing all the other things that make today's life pretty hectic, you might not have heard of us. But if you've recently retired (or semi-retired) and are looking for something to fill the space, the u3a could be just the thing. Part of a national charity movement founded forty years ago, there are now over a thousand local u3as around the country providing relaxed learning and leisure activities, with plenty of opportunities to make new friends.

This area is served by *Soar Valley u3a* and, like all local u3as, we're run entirely by volunteer members. We draw on their knowledge, skills and experiences to organise various interest groups and social events. Currently we have around forty such interest groups: science, singing, birdwatching, dancing, walking, crafts, photography and many more. Plus, we hold guest speaker meetings (at Normanton-on-Soar Village Hall), we arrange day trips to places of interest, and we organise social activities such as Christmas parties, quizzes and coffee mornings - something of interest for everybody.

All are welcome, and we're particularly seeking members who are happy to take on active roles. So, if you're looking for a more fulfilling retirement and want to try new experiences in good company, why not get in touch? Membership costs just £12 a year. Search *Soar Valley u3a* to visit our website and find out more. Or contact our Membership Secretary for details - 07812 913807 : e-mail marilyniwood@yahoo.co.uk.

CHRISTMAS IN NORMANTON-on-SOAR There was an excellent turn-out for the switching-on of the Christmas Lights with carols sung at the old conker tree and mulled wine and mince pies being enjoyed by all. A couple of weeks later, the Candlelit Christmas Concert was held in St James church and, the following day, the Village and Soar Boating Club Carol Service took place, led by The Rev. Canon Michael Knight. At this service, a cheque was presented to Judith Spence, Executive Director of The Carpenter's Arms, St James' Charity of the Year 2021. On Christmas Eve, Jan Bonser led a contemplative service of music, readings and poetry with Christmas Day Holy Communion led by Rev. Canon Michael Knight.

NORMANTON-on-SOAR WOMEN'S INSTITUTE's normal meeting times have returned! The next ones are 4th January - *First Responders* and, for something completely different, 1st February - *Roman Remains*. Meetings are always at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Feel free to come along as a guest. Ring Sue James – 673460 - for more information.

SUTTON BONINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA Lee Shilton, head teacher at Sutton Bonington Primary School, would like to tell you about the amazing fireworks celebration on Saturday 6th November organised by the Sutton Bonington PTA and which you may have attended. Staging this event was a remarkable achievement and the profit from it looks like it might be quite something! A huge *thank you* to the all the parents (more than sixty), carers, community members and school staff without whom this event would not have been possible A substantial number of tickets was sold and it was amazing how far some people had travelled! Many children also helped and were publicly praised in assembly, given a headteacher's award sticker and a gold star. A special thanks to Theo Stavri (chair of the PTA) who has been the glue that has held all this together. The PTA is an incredibly active group with more plans for the coming months!

NORMANTON-on-SOAR MEN'S ASSOCIATION At 7.30pm on Monday 31st January there will be a Quiz Night at the King's Head, Sutton Bonington with a fish and chip supper and free transport on the Soar Valley Bus (which will leave The Plough at 7.15pm) all for just £7 per person. We need to pre-order food so, if you're interested, please contact John Herrington (646240) before Monday 24th January.

On Monday 28th February, there will be a talk entitled *Medieval Medicine: Superstition and Science* by Gareth Howell. Gareth has joined us before and is an accomplished speaker and radio presenter. We meet at The Plough, Normanton, at 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start - £3.00 (non-members £5.00). For more details contact John Herrington (646240). New members are always more than welcome.

ST MICHAEL'S & ST ANNE'S CHURCHES We are taking a cautious approach to socialising. Face coverings are to be worn for all services and hand sanitiser is available. Sunday morning services are currently being held in St Anne's church for the winter. Both churches are open every day for visitors. Ring Beth Clarke - 672110 or e-mail frankandbeth91@gmail.com for further advice. Many thanks to all who supported the Remembrance Service and the Christingle Service. As a result we have been able to send £126.50 to *The Royal British Legion*, £126.50 to *Combat Stress* and £114 to *The Children's Society*. Thanks to those who supported the Advent Fair held in St Michael's which raised a much needed £550 for church funds. In the past we have given away all our Christmas collections to various charities but we shall be unable to do so this year due to a shortfall in income. Instead, we'll be giving away a percentage of the amount.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY A joint service between Anglicans, Baptists and Methodists will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 23rd January at the Baptist Church, although a different venue may be chosen depending on the Covid situation.

SUTTON BONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH www.sbbaptist.org.uk

Churches Together Service at SB Baptist Church on 23rd January at 10.30am. We are meeting together for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to pray for all our churches and for our shared events. This will be as part of a contemporary worship service.

Sunday in person and online Our services are all held in person at 10.30am. We continue to make services available weekly on *Zoom* - live from church. Contact us through our website for a *Zoom* link or to access our catch-up service on *YouTube*. Families, children and youth at the Baptist Church on Sunday. Groups begin at 10.45am for one hour. We have dedicated teams running *Crèche* (babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers), *Roots and Shoots* (primary age children) and *Revelation* (secondary age children). For *Roots and Shoots* family members are welcome to attend or you can drop your children off and join us at 11.45am for coffee. Please contact us via the website if you'd like more information.

Rock Solid Is a fun-filled youth club for years 7-9 at the Baptist Church, meeting every Tuesday night between 7.45pm and 9.00pm. New friends, discussions, games and lots of laughs! If you're interested, please contact Brian Beach on 07747 697006. We would be delighted to see you.

Week of Prayer 9th to 15th January. If you have anybody or anything you would like us to pray for then do contact John via the website or at the church office (673264). Or PM Kathy your prayer request (look out for her, *I love SB* posts in January). Six groups meet fortnightly to explore the bible together and develop community. This includes a group called Firm Foundations. Most are inter-generational but we also offer a daytime group for those who are retired.

In addition we have a *Student Life Group* and an *International Student Group* which meet weekly.

SB Churches Together Lent Course (TBC)

We are exploring the possibility of doing a Lent course in person this year or on *Zoom* if the Covid situation is difficult. This would begin on Shrove Tuesday at 2.00pm with pancakes if we are in person. All are welcome whether you are committed to a church or just wanting to find out more.

QUIET SPACES AT ST JAMES, NORMANTON-on-SOAR On 25th January we will be holding a Taizé-style service to welcome the new year at 6:30 pm. You are very welcome to come along to this short service using some of the lovely Taizé music with readings and quiet stillness. The next *Julian Group* meeting will be on 22nd February at 6:30pm. All are welcome to these monthly contemplative groups which encourage each of us in the practice of contemplative prayer. Julian of Norwich's writings help us to be still, silent and receptive in God's presence, trusting Him to make Himself known to us. After a brief introduction, our gatherings follow the simple idea of spending at least half an hour together in silence, waiting on God and are open to anyone who would like to come - www.thejulianmeetings.net or e-mail sue.archbold@btinternet.com (842341) or carolynbrock@yahoo.co.uk.

PRAYER BOOK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES AT ST. ANNE'S will continue at 9.30am on Wednesdays in St Anne's church. Different parts of the Sutton Bonington are prayed for each week and everyone is welcome.

SOAR VALLEY U3A will be holding its next general meeting at 2.00pm on Tuesday 25th January in Normanton-on-Soar Village Hall. The guest speaker will be Julie Kinnear who will be giving an illustrated talk about *Edith Piaf*. Due to the current restrictions the meeting will be open to members only.

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 - 07812 913807 - or visit our website by searching *Soar Valley u3a*.

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS RC CHURCH, EAST LEAKE Mass time: 4.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass, Sunday Mass 11.00 am at St Margaret Clitherow Church, Keyworth.

CHARITY OF THE YEAR Each year, St James church, Normanton, supports a local charity and, over the years, £12,500 has been donated to local causes. Last year's donation to The Carpenter's Arms, based in Loughborough, a Christian abstinence-based residential programme for people aged 18-65 and challenged with homelessness due to an addictive lifestyle. For 2022, we are pleased that St James church Parochial Church Council has agreed to support *Wenlo Riding for the Disabled Group (Wenlo RDA)* based at Bowleys Barn Farm, Normanton-on-Soar. Wenlo RDA offers adults and children with physical and/or learning difficulties an opportunity to ride, carriage drive and look after horses, all designed to help with those people's health, confidence and self-esteem. They aim to teach new skills and promote independence by encouraging their riders to take charge of their horse in a safe and secure environment. In addition to lessons, riders can enjoy a variety of activities. Some may want to compete in regional and national events organised by RDA UK; others can enjoy riding in the beautiful countryside right on our doorstep. Still others just long to be around horses, stroking, grooming and exploring the sensory experience at their pace.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE please to Arnold Goodwin (674563) Christine Elliott (844045) or Geoff Parnell (672639) by Monday 7th February. ***This will cover events for the months of March and April 2022.*** Our e-mail address is villnews@yahoo.com.

*It is better to keep one's mouth shut and appear stupid
rather than to open it and remove all doubt
(Mark Twain)*

Sutton Bonington Community Shop Limited

Your Community Shop

First Annual Members' Meeting

Sutton Bonington Village Hall - 6.30pm, Tuesday 18th January 2022

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Welcome by Chair – Michael Symonds
3. Chair's report – progress to date and future plans
4. Secretary's report – Richard Shore
5. Treasurer's report – Janine Bone

6. Election of Steering Committee
All current standing committee members must stand down and a new committee will be elected by the members.

We would ask that, if you are interested in joining the committee, to please contact Richard Shore on richardshore6@gmail.com by 14th January with your expression of interest.

For information about the committee and its purpose please feel free to contact any of the current committee members.

7. Phase 3 of Business Plan : identification of a long-term home for *Your Community Shop*

8. Any other business
Please advise any items by 14th January to richardshore6@gmail.com

9. Date of next Members' Meeting