

SHUTFORD NEWS

Issue No. 223

January / February 2019



www.shutfordvillage.com

Can you design a Shutford Flag?

Now we have our flagpole, we are looking for a Shutford Flag that represents our village. Please send in your design taking note of the following criteria:

- Maximum 3 colours
- One main symbol
- No writing or seal
- Rectangle shape

Also provide an explanation why you think the flag represents Shutford. Here is an example of our first entry:

The patron Saint of Shutford is St Martin. He was known for his acts



of charity, famously cutting his cloak in two to share with a poor beggar.

Here is a stylised image of St Martin

cutting his cloak image and how it could look on a flag.

St Martin was a soldier, (appropriate to be flown on the pole which is part of the memorial) representing duty, commitment and compassion.

Closing date for entries **28 February**. Please email designs (jpegs) and description to: shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com.

All entries will appear on the village website from **16 March**, please visit www.shutfordvillage.com to vote for your flag, closing date for voting **31 March 2019**.

Dear Villagers...

Happy New Year and wishing you all the best for 2019...

Firstly, a big thank you to all our advertisers who support the Shutford News thank you for renewing your advertising for 2019.



We are featuring the beautiful 2019 calendar photos in this edition and don't forget to start taking photos for 2020.

We are also launching the search for a Shutford Flag details inside.

Remember to keep up with all the village news simply sign up to our newsletter by visiting www.shutfordvillage.com and completing the on-line sign up form.

Looking forward to keeping you in touch with news and events throughout the year!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'Rita'.

Rita Livesey, Editor

Email: shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com

Our front cover was taken by Andrew Robinson for this year's Shutford Calendar.

Congratulations to Chris Morris and Sophie Kirk who got engaged on the 12th January. They have set up their home together on The Dairyground. Janice Lydon

SHUTFORD VILLAGE HALL

100+CLUB

December:

First Prize:	£50.00	Raymond Sturdy
Second Prize:	£15.00	Olivia Taylor
Third Prize:	£10.00	Andrew Baud

January:

First Prize:	£35.00	Barbara Reynolds
Second Prize:	£15.00	Charlie Currums
Third Prize:	£10.00	Teresa Bull

**Next Prize Draw will take place on
7 February in the village hall.**

**Please note subscriptions are due on or before 31 March, we
will be door to door collecting on Saturday 23 February.
Please see the notice on the next page.**

CHRISTMAS BINGO: Thank you to everyone who gave prizes, helped and came to the Christmas Bingo which was held in the village hall in December.

Special thanks to Roger, Geraldine, Margaret and Sue for all their help. We raised the fantastic sum of £482.00 for village hall funds.

Joan Wright

Just to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the
Shutford Christmas Fayre.

£172.00 was raised from the raffle for Katharine House Hospice

£246.00 raised from the entrance fees and also the £10.00 donation from the stall
holders. (With a separate donation of the stall holders in the restaurant of **£60.00** to
CLIC Sargent).

£39.00 from the teas & cakes



Shutford Village Hall
100+ Club Members!

For those who are members, just to let you know we will be collecting the next annual membership fee of **£10.00** on **Saturday 23 February**. If you are not home we will leave an envelope whereby you can either drop the cash / cheque back to the address on the envelope or pay by BACS, please ensure you leave your name or membership number as a reference when paying by BACS.

Not a member and want to join? Please get in touch by emailing:

shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com

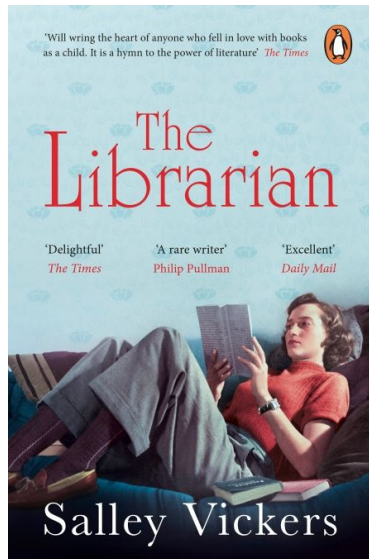
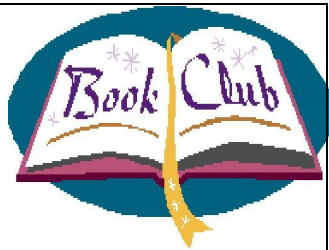
Please note subscriptions need to be paid on or before **31 March 2019 to be entered into the first monthly draw in April.**

Remember you need to be in it to win it !

Proceeds from the 100+ Club go to the running and maintenance costs of our new Village Hall.
Thank you for your continued support.

Shutford Book Club

The Shutford Book Club meets on the last Monday of each month in Shutford Village Hall 7:30 pm.



February 25th "The Librarian" by Salley Vickers
hosted by Sara Swann

March 25th "Cry the Beloved Country"
Alan Paton, hosted by Kathleen Leeson



by

Currently the book club is full, however, you can always take part virtually. The books we are reading are regularly published in the Shutford News and on the village website, so feel free to read them alongside the Book Club. You can volunteer your thoughts via email to Kirsten Parrish or a note in the door of "The Nook" in Church Lane if you would like to, and we'll share them at the meetings!

Contact details:

Kirsten Parrish: Kirsten@kdpr.co.uk or 780412

Broughton Castle



2 Adult Admissions to the Castle during the month of April 2019 for £15

(Please bring this page with you)

The house, gardens, tearooms and shop are open to the public from 2pm until 5pm from April to end of September on Wednesdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays. **Groups welcome by appointment throughout the year.**

Tel: 01295 276070

Website: www.broughtoncastle.co.uk

Shutford Village Hall Lunch Recipes And Other Tasty Morsels



Copies still available for £8!

All proceeds to the village and charity

If you would like a copy please email
helennixseaman@gmail.com

Spicy Chilli Bean Soup

Serves 4

Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil
1 large onion, finely chopped
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 tbsp tomato purée
1 tbsp mild chilli powder
½ tsp ground cumin
400g can chopped tomatoes
500ml vegetable stock
400g can mixed beans, drained & rinsed
1 red pepper, diced
optional – tortilla chips and lime wedges to serve

Method

Heat the oil in a deep saucepan and fry the chopped onion over a medium heat until tender. Add the garlic and tomato purée, stirring for 1-2 mins until combined. Sprinkle in the spices and cook for another 1 minute.

Tip in the chopped tomatoes, half fill the can with water, and add to the pan. Pour in the stock and simmer on a medium heat for 10-15 mins, uncovered.

Season, then whizz using a hand blender until smooth. Add the beans and red pepper and cook for another 15 mins until the pepper is tender.

Serve in bowls topped with a small pile of tortilla chips and a lime wedge, if wished.

CHURCH NEWS

Rector - Revd Ronald Hawkes - 780555

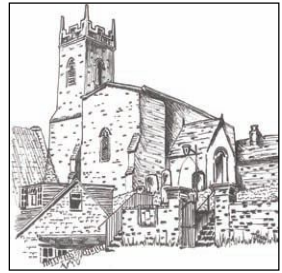
Church Wardens:

Mr Ken Jeffs – 788308

Mr John Hodgkins - 788609

SERVICES: Most Sundays 9.30am but see Wykeham

News & Benefice website for details



£260 was sent to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal from the Remembrance Service collection and other donations. The village collections raised £472 part of the Banbury Area total of £66,500.

Bishop Colin came to Tadmarton Church for a Confirmation Service on Advent Sunday 2nd December, when three people became full members of the church. Later in the day a candlelit Carol Service was held in Shutford with readings and Advent hymns and carols. Members of the benefice choir were present which made the evening extra special.

Messy Church on 8th December, in Shutford Village Hall, was well attended with more than 30 children and adults present. There were lots of Christmas crafts to make including cards, crackers, angels and Christingles. 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of Christingles in this country during which time the Children's Society have helped more than a million youngsters. A £100 donation has been sent to the society.

The afternoon culminated with the telling of the Nativity Story and the singing of appropriate carols. Excellent refreshments were served.

A Family Communion Service was held on Christmas morning with a reading from St Luke's Gospel telling of the birth of Jesus and the visit of the shepherds. The crib on the font depicted this scene.

The church was beautifully decorated for Christmas with flowers, greenery and a Christmas tree. There were also craft items from Messy Church on display. The church council is grateful for the flower ladies and others who donate and arrange flowers for Christmas and throughout the year: thank you to all concerned.

The church tower was illuminated continuously from 21st December until New Year's Day to celebrate Christmas, the New Year, some birthdays and to remember loved ones no longer with us. Thank you to everyone who has supported Illuminate and Celebrate over the years: money raised has paid the church's electricity bills.

The Wykham Benefice Council met in Shutford on 11th January with members of our six benefice churches present. The Area Dean, Revd Philip Cochrane, spoke about the Deddington Deanery Mission Plan. The plan will determine clergy resources in this part of North Oxfordshire and will look at the possibilities and successes of Rural Ministry. Each village gave details of their social/fund-raising events and church services including Christmas. Ideas for Lent were discussed with dates for charity lunches arranged. Other agenda items included communication, use of social media, the future of the Benefice News and Benefice Choir and the outreach in our various communities.

The church Annual Meeting in Shutford will be held in March when new churchwardens and a church council will be elected. Before then the annual accounts will be accepted, a report written, and new church roll completed. An active church membership will ensure its viability.

Draft accounts for 2018 have been prepared showing a good year financially with our regular worshippers (average of 10 per week) and others covering the cost of Ministry of about £8500 each year. This is part of an annual contribution of our Benefice to the Oxford Diocese of £53000. General expenses are about £4500 so £250 per week is needed to keep the church in Shutford open. We have good support from the wider village community who help our fund raising and particularly the Shutford Festival who gave the church £3500 in 2018. This money has paid the church insurance and has been earmarked for future building restoration work. £1880 has been given to charity from specific fund raising and collections. Special thanks to those who support the church quietly behind the scenes with donations of food, cleaning materials, flowers etc and their valuable time and talents. This generosity keeps down our costs and increases the value of our charitable donations.

Contact KJJ@kennyjohn.co.uk or visit the church website for event and service information.

Illuminate & Celebrate in 2019!



Don't forget to get your special dates in for 2019!

If you have a special celebration, maybe a birthday coming up, or a loved one you would like to remember, a christening or some other occasion in 2019. How special it would be for the church tower to be illuminated for this occasion for a donation of only £10. Please get in touch with Ken Jeffs on KJJ@kennyjohn.co.uk.

Below is a list of those who have been or will be remembering a special day:

Date	Name	Occasion
30 th November	Alasdair Gibbs	St Andrew's Day
9 th December	Geraldine Bancroft	Roger's Birthday
10 th December	Roger Bancroft	Geraldine's Birthday
1 st January	Margaret Holloway	Brian Ailsby's Birthday
4 th January	Joan Wright	In memory of Tony
7 th January	Andrew Baud	Lotta's Birthday
11 th January	Wynne & John Gardner	Celia's Birthday
16 th January	Matt & Lisa Sinclair	Jane Sinclair's Birthday
17 th January	Wynne Gardner	John's Birthday
19 th January	Lena Cusiter	Joe's Birthday
23 rd January	Jacqui Morrissey	Bob Squire's Birthday
20 th January	Gordon Freeman	Claire's Birthday
24 th January	Debbie Pitt	Sasha's 18 th Birthday
14 th February	Anon	St Valentine's Day
16 th March	Debbie Pitt	Fin's 5 th Birthday
26 th March	Rita Livesey	In memory of Mum

Any donations received after deadline will be mentioned in the next SN issue: where more than one donation is received for a specific day, illuminations will take place on following days.

SHUTFORD WI

December was the month for celebrating, firstly with a Christmas Social at our monthly meeting. We all enjoyed a 'bring and share' buffet after a short parlour game of 'What's in the bag?'. Afterwards we exchanged Christmas cards and returned home with our Secret Santa present.

In the middle of December, the majority of our members met again at the Joiners' Arms in Bloxham for a more formal Christmas lunch.

At our January meeting, we were informed about Nuclear Fusion and its possibilities as a source of energy for our future, by Robin Allen from the Culham Centre at Abingdon. Members also voted for which Resolution, from a shortlist of five, would be presented for discussion at the national Annual Meeting in June.

Visitors will be made very welcome at any of our forthcoming meetings, held in Shutford Village Hall on Tuesdays at 10am, when our future speakers will be:

February 5 th	Jane Wimbury - Mosaics Workshop
March 5 th	Annual General Meeting (no speaker)
April 2 nd	Mike Payne - History of Pinewood Studios

For further information on our WI, please contact either Geraldine on 780579 or Jenny on 780570

Shutford Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 9th January at 7.30pm in Shutford Village Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Debbie Pitt, Helen Nixseaman, Ashley Taylor, Carolyn Rann, George Reynolds, Tom Parrish, Sandy Forrester and David Best, Parish Clerk. Also present were 6 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: None

18/056	Declarations of Interest: None.
18/057	Minutes of the last meeting: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 14 th November were a correct record and signed. Proposed by Cllr Rann, Seconded by Cllr Taylor.
18/058 18/050/1	Matters arising from the minutes: Actions List - After review it was noted that all had been completed with the exception of providing a summary of the Dairyground Survey. The actions list will be published on the website.
18/059 18/059/1	Parish Matters: Review and agreement of 2019-20 Budget and Precept – The budget, which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, was discussed and agreed. Proposed by Cllr Pitt and seconded by Cllr Taylor. It was RESOLVED that there would be no increase in the Precept of £7,500 (unanimous). The Clerk undertook to send the Precept Demand to Cherwell District Council before the deadline of 18 th January.
18/059/2	Ash Tree by the pond in Church Lane – several residents had reported that it is leaning towards the road and houses opposite. It is believed to be safe but it was agreed to obtain a professional opinion on its safety. The Clerk undertook to contact Oxfordshire County Council.
18/059/3	Charter for Trees – This was launched in 2017 by a steering group led by the Woodland Trust. Signatories to the charter undertake to preserve trees where practical and promote greener areas. It was RESOLVED to consider the charter when making decisions on trees. Proposed by Cllr Parish and seconded by Cllr Nixseaman (one councillor abstained).
18/059/4	Grass Cutting – The Clerk had contacted the two current contractors who both indicated that they would like to continue mowing and verge cutting in 2019. Another contractor has also agreed to quote. The current suppliers have not yet confirmed the cost that they propose to charge.
18/059/5	Allotments – Allotment holders had attended a meeting with Parish Council representative since the last Parish Council meeting. The following points were reported: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two more allotments have been rented out and one is still available to rent. 2. A clearance day will be organised to tidy up the allotments and remove waste. 3. Smiths of Bloxham will be asked if they will collect the leaking water tanks and scrap metal. 4. The owners of the house next to the entrance to the allotments off Banbury Road have given permission for the low branches to the trees to be pruned to allow access to a lorry. 5. The Parish Council agreed in principle to fund the purchase of 1000 litre Intermediate Bulk Container (IBC) tanks to provide a water supply to the allotments at a cost of approximately £35 per tank. 6. An updated Allotment Agreement is being drafted. 7. It was RESOLVED to increase the allotment rents and reinvest any surplus from rents into the allotments. Proposed by Cllr Reynolds and seconded by Cllr Rann. All the allotment holders who attended the meeting with Parish Council representative had agreed that there should be an increase in rents. 8. Footpath 346/18 running up hill from Ivy Lane – the path is difficult to walk along at one point due to the angle of the path. The tenant of the adjoining allotment has given permission for the path to be diverted slightly to make it easier to walk along. It was agreed that the revised route will be marked with posts and rope.
18/059/6	Risk Assessment – An initial draft has been completed and sent to the Clerk for additional items to be added.
18/059/7	Play Equipment Quotes – Three quotes had been obtained for the replacement of equipment that was recommended for renewal in the Playsafety ROSPA report. It was RESOLVED to use T Stewart as the supplier to carry out the replacement of the swings as in option 1 of the survey (phase 1) prior to supplying more equipment in phase 2. Proposed by Cllr Rann and seconded by Cllr Pitt. Most respondents to the survey on the Dairyground play equipment had indicated that they favoured like for like replacement. It was agreed to investigate a Charter to facilitate

Shutford Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 9th January at 7.30pm in Shutford Village Hall

18/059/8	securing grants for play equipment. The Clerk will contact the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils to seek their opinion and advice on a charter. Damaged & rotten bollards round the pond in Church Lane – After a discussion on the purpose of the wooden posts it was RESOLVED to remove them (unanimous). It was considered that there were more important items to fund and that they could always be replaced in the future if required.
18/060 18/060/1 18/060/2	Finance: Statement of Receipts and Payments and Bank reconciliation – These were reviewed. The documents can be viewed at http://www.shutfordvillage.com/parish-council-meetings Asset Report – This has been completed with a column of current replacement values which is required by the Insurers.
18/061 18/061/1 18/061/2 18/061/3 18/061/4 18/061/5	Correspondence: Citizens Advice have asked for a donation – it was agreed that a collection will be made at one of the village lunches. The current policy is not to give money outside the village. Possibility of the resumption of bus service – This is still a possibility although no firm decision has been communicated by the supplier. If a service is resumed it is unlikely to commence before the end of February. Pothole in Ivy Lane – A resident had reported this and was asked to report it on Fix My Street. This is the reporting mechanism used by Oxfordshire County Council. All residents are encouraged to use this and it helps if more than one resident report potholes. Remembrance Day Posters – a resident has suggested that a list of people who had given their lives in wars is made into a poster and that the posters a displayed at various locations around the village. This will be discussed and a decision made in the May meeting. Complaint about rubbish dumped in the Trading Estate – The resident has been given the name and address of the agent that manages the Trading Estate.
18/062 18/062/1 18/062/2 18/062/3	Planning: 18/01798/F – Mr & Mrs Gillespie, Drogheda, Malthouse Lane – Granted. 18/01862/TPO – Mrs Allan, The Grange, Malthouse Kane – Consent given 18/01927/F – Mr & Mrs P Hollidge, Fiveways Cottage, Lower Tadmarton Road - Granted
18/063 18/063/1 18/063/2	Any Other Business: Damaged footpath styles – two damaged styles have been reported. Oxfordshire County Council has a reporting mechanism on their website. The Clerk will provide the details to Cllr Parrish who knows the location and report them. Replacement of faded road signs – The Clerk will contact Cherwell District Council again to try to get them replaced.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.03 pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....

Minutes are marked as draft until the Parish Council agrees that they are a correct record at the next meeting.

Summary of feedback to survey on Dairyground play equipment

Introduction

During October and November 2018 Shutford Parish Council undertook a survey to understand people's views around the potential replacement of the play equipment on the Dairyground. This note provides a summary of the responses to the survey and the Parish Council's subsequent decisions.

Background to the survey

The play equipment on the Dairyground is inspected on a regular basis by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) to make sure equipment is in a suitable condition for use and does not pose any unnecessary risks.

The most recent RoSPA survey identified a number of minor risks which need to be addressed, but of most concern was the identified decay to timber supports on both the junior and toddler swings and risks associated with the hangers used on the swing chains.

The Parish Council identified three potential options to address the problems identified with the junior and toddler swings and decided to undertake a survey to seek feedback on the identified options from those people who use the play equipment, live on or near the Dairyground or have an interest in the matter.

The survey was distributed to every property in the village on 21st October with a letter to explain why people's views were being sought. The survey asked the following two questions:

Question 1: From the three options outlined in the letter accompanying the survey, which would you like to see on the Dairyground?

If you have a preference, please 'tick' in the list below.

- ☐ Option 1: Replace both the toddler and junior swings, funded by the Parish Council.
- ☐ Option 2: Replace both the toddler and junior swings now, funded by the Parish Council. AND, once funding can be found, purchase a multi activity unit.

- ☐ Option 3: Remove the toddler and junior swings (the other existing play equipment would remain).

Question 2: Do you have any other comments related to the play equipment on the Dairyground which you would like the Parish Council to take into account?

Responses could be provided by either completing the paper copy of the survey and returning it to Sunrise Cottage, Cooks Hill or emailing comments to shutfordpc@gmail.com by 4 November 2018.

Summary of the feedback received

A total of 53 responses were received to the survey. These were a mix of paper copies of the survey (43 responses) and emails (10 responses).

Responses to question 1

The following table provides a summary of responses to question 1 on the three options being considered by the Parish Council. Note: some respondents identified a preference for more than one option and some did not identify any preference, choosing only to provide comments in response to question 2.

Option	Number of responses expressing a preference
Option 1: Replace both the toddler and junior swings, funded by the Parish Council.	20
Option 2: Replace both the toddler and junior swings now, funded by the Parish Council. AND, once funding can be found, purchase a multi activity unit.	34
Option 3: Remove the toddler and junior swings (the other existing play equipment would remain).	2

The responses to question 1 suggest there is strong support to replace both the toddler and junior swings – options 1 and 2. A substantial number of people who responded also supported the idea of adding a new multi-activity unit – option 2. There were also a few people who expressed opposition to the multi-activity unit, but only two respondents suggest removal of the swings – option 3.

Responses to question 2

Question 2 invited respondents to provide any comments related to the play equipment on the Dairyground that the Parish Council should take into account.

Of the 53 respondents, 40 provided further comments in response to question 2. A wide range of comments were received with many providing explanation for the preference expressed to question one. Other common themes included suggestions of additional play equipment, comments on costs and funding mechanisms and concerns about disturbance caused by the use of the play equipment.

Parish Council's actions

The Parish Council considered all of the comments raised in the responses received and discussed the results of the survey at the Parish Council meeting on 14 November 2018.

Taking into account the feedback to the survey, the Parish Council agreed to replace both the toddler and junior swings. It was agreed that a number of quotations would be sought to undertake this work and that replacement should be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Parish Council also agreed to:

- consider re-locating the swings, in response to concerns raised about overlooking of neighbouring properties;
- consider planting some vegetation to screen the swings from neighbouring properties; and
- once the swings have been replaced to re-consider the addition of further play equipment, such as a multi-activity unit and some additional seating, and the best methods of funding and delivering further new equipment.

Summary report produced by Tom Parrish on behalf of Shutford Parish Council, January 2019

Please contact Shutford Parish Council on shutfordpc@gmail.com if you have any questions related to the survey or this summary.



Easter Egg Competition Monday 22nd April, 2pm Shutford Village Hall

There will be two categories:

Best Decorated Egg

Best Concept Egg

Prizes will be awarded to the Winners in the following age groups:-

Under 7 years

7 - 10 years

11 - 15 years

Adults 16 and Over

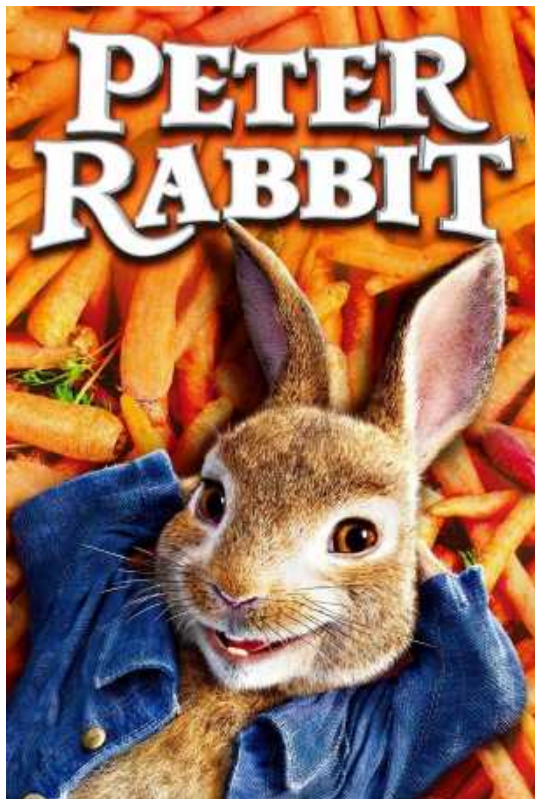
Then there will be refreshments afterwards in
The George & Dragon.

Remember the Judge's decision is final.





We are delighted to present the **Shutford Kids Film Club** in the village hall. Next film is....



**Sunday
24 February
Doors open at
2:30 pm**

**Membership for a calendar year
(October 2018 – September 2019).**

Films are every 6 weeks.

Membership costs £5.00.

Popcorn & ice cream available on the day.

Contact Zoe: wellszoe@hotmail.com



Shutford Village Hall

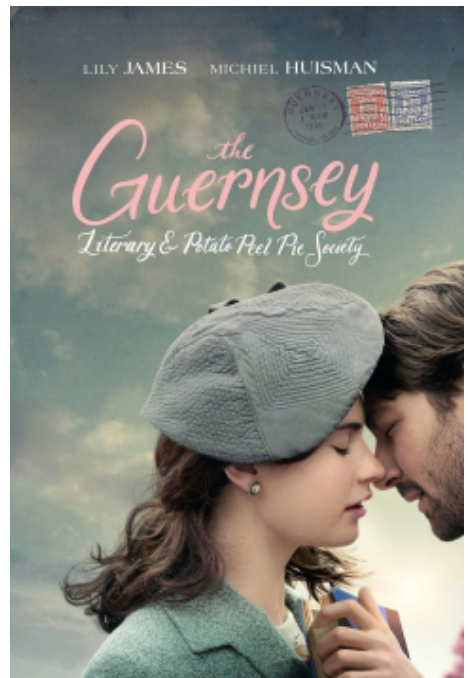
Doors open 7:00 pm / Film starts 7:30pm



Saturday, 23 February: "On Chesil Beach"

Saturday, 30 March: 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society'

Membership (calendar year September 2018 – August 2019) only costs £12.00 for adults and £6.00 young adults (12-18).





Saturday 30th March 2019

11.00am

Grand launch of the new Swalcliffe community project,

WOODLAND PLAY PARK

- Fun Bug Hunt
- Bring a toy rabbit
- Goody bags
- All children welcome

12.00 noon - 3.00pm

SPRING CRAFT FAIR at Swalcliffe Church

- Over 20 local artisans -
- Prize raffle including Daylesford hamper
- Café with homemade cakes
- Seasonal BBQ with spring lamb, beef and veggie burgers

All proceeds will be shared between the Woodland Play Park, the Village Hall and Thrive – a charity supporting child poverty in North Oxfordshire.

Further details available at www.swalcliffevillage.org

[REDACTED]

Did you know?

With the current state of our roads did you know that you could report this on Fix My Street, a website for mapping and reporting street problems to the councils responsible for fixing them – anywhere in the UK. At present, the road between Shutford and Epwell is in a dreadful state, so if as many people as possible could report the state of the road, maybe we could get it resurfaced. We have been advised that Epwell will be reporting, so let's get as many in Shutford to report too.

www.fixmystreet.com

The more people complain about things, the more likely the council will do something about it. It is useful if you add the size and depth of the pothole or even a photo and whether there is any danger in where the hole is situated (at a busy junction, narrow part of road causing cars to use centre of road). You can also go on:

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/report> to report a number of things, including footpaths, faulty street lights, fly tipping etc.

Shutford Calendar 2020

Thank you to everyone who took part in last year's search for calendar photos (you can see the images on the centre pages). We are now on the search again. Please send photos to:

shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com

Photos ideally need to be landscape and in hi-res jpeg / png format. Last date to receive photos is 31 October.

You will have the opportunity to place orders for calendars later in the year. Happy photo taking!

Did you see Shutford's Telephone Box featured in December's issue of Fourshires?

FOUR SHIRES FEATURE

The Big Red Box

with Maggie Chaplin



December, and Christmas is on the horizon. It's a time to catch up with friends, relatives and those you might only deem acquaintances. You'll probably be looking up that address list, renewing your familiarity with snail mail (and handwriting!) and amassing a great pile of Christmas cards to post. You may just take the easy option and email your good wishes, and certainly many of you will be communicating face to face via Skype or WhatsApp, and almost everyone's telephone usage (landline or mobile) will increase dramatically over the festive season. It wasn't like that 60 years ago.

Before the dawn of the digital age, communication was largely by post, urgent messages were conveyed by hand delivered telegram, and talking to each other by telephone could be a long-winded process often fraught with difficulties, and reserved mainly for emergencies or special occasions like Christmas. Nowadays we fret over our broadband speed, but then the concern was about access to a telephone. In the 1950s only a few people had land lines, because availability was limited. In some cases two sets of people, often complete strangers, shared a "party line", which could lead to friction. Of course, mobile phones hadn't been invented – and yes, life was possible!

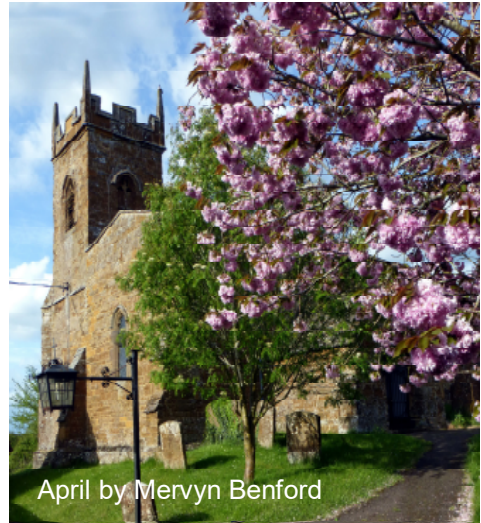
The increasing demand for some means of freely available telecommunication led to the development of the public telephone box. The first telephone exchanges opened at the end of the 1870s, but they were by subscription only and were expensive. One subscriber apparently commented that it was cheaper to employ your own telegraph boy to deliver messages for you.

Then Henry Fawcett became involved. He was an amazing man; blinded in a shooting accident aged 25, MP at 32, vocal supporter of women's suffrage and an innovative Postmaster General. He introduced parcel post, postal orders, savings stamps and in 1884 facilitated the establishment of public call offices. Anyone, for a fee, could make a call. If, that is, they could find a telephone. By 1886



Shutford Calendar 2019

Here are the 12 selected photos for this year's calendar:



June taken by David Speck



SHUTFORD

Please drive carefully

July taken Helen Nixseaman



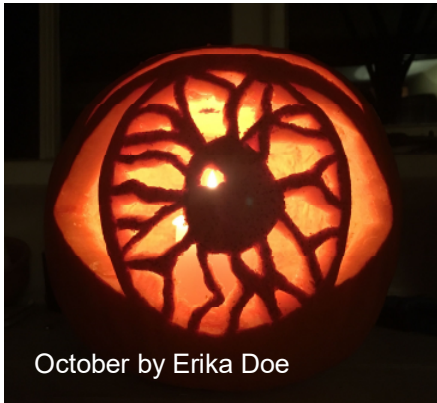
August by Claire Corry



September by Rita Livesey



October by Erika Doe



November by David Speck



December by
Juliette Currums



[REDACTED]



Thank you to everyone who supported the monthly Sunday morning breakfast in the village hall last year, and to those who have already volunteered to help with this year's monthly Sunday breakfast. The next one being

Sunday 24 February 2019.

We still need a few volunteers for April, May, June, July & August:

**Are you handy at doing a breakfast?
Or happy just to help serve and tidy up?**

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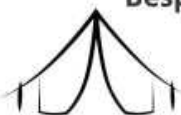
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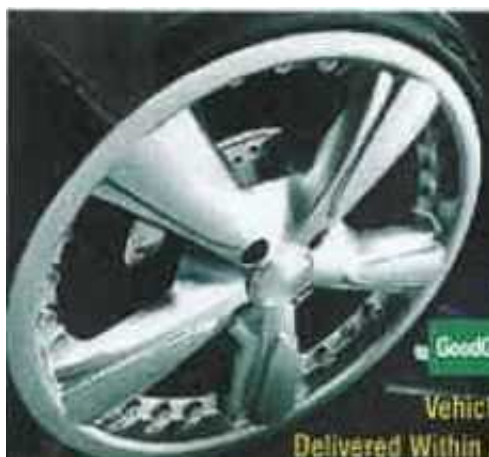
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Diary

February		
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Thursday	7	Meet & Eat, Village Hall, 12:30-2pm (weekly)
Saturday	16	Music in the Village hall, Tickets Only
Saturday	23	Shutford Film Club, 7:30 pm
Sunday	24	Breakfast, Village hall, 9:30-11:00am
Sunday	24	Kids Film Club, 2:30 pm
Monday	25	Book Club, Village hall, 7:30 pm
March		
Tuesday	5	WI: 10:00 am Village Hall
Thursday	7	Meet & Eat, Village Hall, 12:30-2pm (weekly)
Wednesday	13	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30 pm
Monday	25	Book Club, Village Hall, 7:30 pm
Saturday	30	Film Club, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Sunday	31	Breakfast in the Village Hall, 9:30-11:00am
		For full details of activities in the village hall, please see village website

The 'Shutford News' Team - Editor: Rita Livesey

Editorial Team: Margaret Holloway

Advertising & Accounts: Rita Livesey

Distribution: Pam & Di

Printing: Mail Boxes Etc, Banbury

The next planning meeting will be on

Tuesday 5 March @ 7:00 pm in The George&Dragon

DEADLINE FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE: Saturday 16 March, 2019

Email: shutfordvillagenews@gmail.com

Please note dates are correct at the time of going to print.

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