

# THE Grapevine NEWSLETTER

And The Winners Were....  
All of us!

FROM THE SUTTON HALL  
STOCKCROSS  
July 2012 No:82



"Thank you to everyone who helped organise the jubilee events. Without you it would never have happened, and also many thanks to everyone who took part in the events and activities ... it was a lovely community event. The fact that people are still talking about its success and how much they enjoyed it, is brilliant!"

*Sarah Russell*



## View from The Chairs!

What a wonderful weekend it was! The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration in Stockcross proved to be a mighty fine one. Once the bunting went up in time for the NGS Open Gardens and Craft Fair it was possible to feel buzz around the village. The Open Gardens and Craft fair exceeded all expectations with the beautiful weather bringing everyone out into the sunshine to enjoy a touch of the English country garden. All credit to the gardeners, organisers and volunteers who made it all happen.



Then as soon as the scarecrows started popping up around the place, amid the squeals of delight from the children, the excitement moved up another notch. As I ran between home and the hall getting ready for the Tiara Ball I lost count of the number of times I saw a car stop in the middle of the B4000, hazard lights on, to view the 'Royal Guard' (I don't think he scared the crowd though). With so many brilliantly designed scarecrows and more ideas still coming one just knows this one is going to be a goer for years to come. Great idea from Denise Lewington.

So onto the Tiara Ball: the hall was stunningly decorated in Tiffany blue and silver by the, now legendary, hand of Lorraine Lees. Julie Smith produced delicious food, and three lovely ladies served until the bar was all but dry. A fantastic band was promised and boy, did they deliver! Everyone was on the floor at the end, the hall was jumping; they held the crowd in the palm of their hands.

So we were given a day to recover, catch our breath before launching into the next event in the fun-filled calendar, Fun-on-the-Field. How blessed we were! When so many events the day before had been partially drowned, we had a warm, dry and sometimes sunny day. The



dog show, before the races, proved to be a huge hit with classes to suit all dogs and their owners and the Knit-a-thon attracting a lot of interest, even allowing the boys a taste.

The tennis club also provided some opportunity to

imagine one was swinging for Wimbledon, enjoying strawberries and costing much less. The highlight of the day, of course, was the eclectic mix of races on the specially prepared track. What fun!

An enormous Thank you to every single person who has organised, worried, pulled-their-hair-out, counted the money (Mark), prepared the venues, contributed to every one of these events to make them happen. Thank you too for coming and joining in, it's your contribution that creates this precious sense of community, and ultimately that's what makes it all worthwhile.

Now hopefully we can look forward to a dryer, sunnier, restful summer and look towards our Autumn events namely, the Stockcross Quiz, the Harvest Supper and then, of course, it'll be panto time again.

Best Wishes

Siobhan and Sarah

## Jubilee Events - Treasurer's view!



The Jubilee was a busy time for the village – as reported elsewhere! How did it stack up financially?

From the outset the hall committee did not want the jubilee weekend events to be a fund raiser – this was to be a weekend for the village underwritten by the hall and so it turned out to be with the ball and the fun day offering something for everyone. The drinkers and 'eaters' among you will have noticed the very competitively priced food and beverages and of course there was no charge for the fun day. All that said, despite the events costing many thousands of pounds to put on, the costs were covered through food and drink purchases, tickets for the ball and the raffle and a small surplus was made of around £375. This will be ploughed back into village activities.

We were grateful for donations from Sutton Estates who funded the mugs for the village children and Speen Parish Council who funded the jazz band at the fun day. Thanks.

The weekend before we ran the Open Gardens event and this was a charity fund raiser. The sunshine brought out the crowds and made it a tremendous success. We raised £3050 for The National Garden Society whose proceeds are donated to various caring charities. In addition around £1000 will be split between the church, WBCH league of Friends and the Hall. A great day made better by knowing so much money was raised for worthy causes.

Thank you to everyone who helped out and put their hands in their pockets!

Mark Nevitt  
Hall Treasurer

*Many thanks to those who brought their four legged friends along to the inaugural novelty dog show. We weren't sure how many to expect so seeing so many was a lovely surprise - great judging, wagging, sausage finding & tricks to name just a few ... We raised £70 - half of which has gone to the Dogs Trust.*

## I Was There ...

I was there. The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. 1948. Five years old with my bright red apple sitting on the concrete terraces with my parents in brilliant sunshine, proud to be British. The hottest day in London since 1911. I had seen black and white grainy pictures of the Blitz and remember asking my parents whether the sun had shone during the War. That War had ended just three years before and now here was glorious colour. Flags flying, bands playing. They called it the Austerity Olympics but in post-war Wembley this was just one glorious extravaganza.

It was also to be my first lesson in hospitality. "When's England coming in?" I kept asking as the endless lines of flags and athletes paraded round the stadium. As hosts we were to be the last in. By the time the Union Flag appeared I had had enough so, as the National Anthem struck up, I simply sat and enjoyed my shiny apple. I can still see men and women standing all around me, like a forest, ramrod straight, arms at the side, thumbs pointing straight down to the ground in front, singing God Save the King. Me, ignoring it all, sitting, eating my apple. My father, a very gentle man, was mortified. Never was small boy so surprised to receive a smart clip round the ear. I don't even remember crying. I simply stood up with the rest.

Then, after we had all sat down again, in came the runner with the torch; through the tunnel in front of which, later in 1966, another famous moment when the ball did not cross the goal line and England beat Germany to win the World Cup. But now the



expectation and excitement was prematurely high as we looked up to try and identify where the flame would blaze, as I had been told and my parents believed, on top of one of the domes of the Stadium, to be seen for miles around. So how disappointed we were even on that special day to see the runner, having carried the flame all around the track, to then climb the steps only as far as a plinth just above the tunnel, no more

than halfway up the terrace and only just below where we were sitting.

Is this the same flame we shall have seen being carried through Newbury on 11<sup>th</sup> July I wonder?

*Keith Phillips*

## Going for Gold

Stockcross wheelchair basketball player Louise Sugden, who now lives in Wokingham, has been chosen to represent Great Britain in this year's paralympics. Louise was previously in Britain's 2008 Beijing squad.

## The Diamond Jubilee Exhibition.



Thank you to all who supplied photographs and ephemera covering the changing face of the village over the last 60 years. I am still on the look out for any record of our Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002, amazingly no one came forward with any photographs of that event!

*Viv Wilson*

## Jubilee Litter Pick



Claire and Mike Ralphson-Cook would like to thank all those who took part, helping the village look its best before the Jubilee celebrations, especially the assistance from the Speen, Shaw and Donnington Neighbourhood Action Group ([www.uknags.org.uk/speenshawdonnington](http://www.uknags.org.uk/speenshawdonnington)) and Newbury Neighbourhood Wardens.

## The Superfast Broadband Team

Please encourage everyone to register on [www.superfastberkshire.org.uk](http://www.superfastberkshire.org.uk) we expect to attract more investment through the procurement process if we can demonstrate high demand for broadband in our area.

# Out and About

## Village Pantomime 2012

This year's panto is being performed at the Sutton Hall from 29th November to 1st December.

I am delighted to announce that Stockcross Panto Players have the privilege of performing the world premiere of an original script by Mike Ralphson of "Dick Whittington"

Anyone wishing to be part of this year's production either on stage or behind the scenes please register your interest by e mail at [vc.wilson@btinternet.com](mailto:vc.wilson@btinternet.com) or telephone 01635 523963.

Alternatively join our facebook group Stockcross Panto Players at [www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stockcrosspantoplayers](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stockcrosspantoplayers)

Auditions will be at the end of August/beginning of September with rehearsals starting mid/late September. Full details will be announced during August.

Let the fun begin!

*Viv Wilson*

### Stockcross children in musical production at Welford Park

**What?** A production of 'A little Drama at the Big House', written by Berkshire's award-winning author, Geraldine McCaughrean - with the beautiful façade of Welford House, once Henry VIII's Hunting lodge. as a backdrop.

**Where?** Between Great Shefford and Stockcross. (RG20 8HU).

**Who?** All ages welcome to picnic in the stunning gardens, browse craft stalls and buy refreshments beforehand (real ale served from 6pm).

**When?** The play starts at 7.30pm Wednesday July 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, & 29th with a Matinee on Saturday July 28th at 2.30pm.

**Why?** Stockcross children will be starring in this musical/play - which includes a horse and trap, vintage car and a chicken.....

**How much?** Tickets are £6-£11. Children under 7 are Free - available from the Watermill Box Office Tel: 01635 46044 - or cash on the day at Welford Park. Car Parking Free.

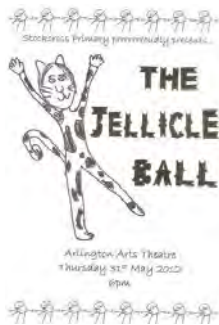
Please bring your own chairs and tables for picnics please - and a torch might come in handy for later.

A talented cast, historic country house, beautiful gardens, refreshments, a play, art & crafts, live music and dancing on a summer's evening. What more could one wish for?!

Please see the following websites for further information:

[www.boxfordmasques.org.uk](http://www.boxfordmasques.org.uk) [www.watermilltheatre.org.uk](http://www.watermilltheatre.org.uk)  
[www.welfordpark.co.uk](http://www.welfordpark.co.uk) [www.knight-howardpr.co.uk](http://www.knight-howardpr.co.uk)

## The Jellicle Ball



Stockcross School's recent production The Jellicle Ball was a triumph! Head-teacher Mrs Rostrun was the director producer and inspiration behind a show that involved all the pupils, staff and parents

Performed at the Arlington Arts Theatre, with all the advantages of the available technology and professional staging, the children were outstanding and looked to have thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The set, costumes and makeup, all done by staff and parents, were delightful and really gave the audience a visual treat.

It is unfair to single out individual performances as all the soloists, and ensemble groups gave beautiful renditions of songs from Andrew Lloyd Webber's "CATS", not easy pieces to learn. The dancers were well choreographed and slick. Live musical accompaniment came from a band of local musicians and Mrs Rostrun on the piano.

A super evening out. Congratulations to everyone.

What talent we have to call on come panto time!!!!

*Viv Wilson*

## Pilates

New classes being held at The Sutton Hall on Wednesdays 11.30am and 12.30pm by teacher with 11 years experience of running classes in Newbury. Please call for more information: 01235 814299 or 07981 362867

## Kettle Ball

Come along to a great new fitness class that helps you to improve your posture, joint stability, core strength, functional strength and endurance as well as lose some of those stubborn extra inches!

These classes are suitable for all levels, all ages (18+) and both men and women. Your first class is FREE, so why not come along Wednesday at 6.10pm to give it a go!

[www.berkshirefitness.co.uk](http://www.berkshirefitness.co.uk)

Tel 07825259612

[berkshirefitness@gmail.com](mailto:berkshirefitness@gmail.com)

# Jubilee Scrapbook

## Open Gardens & Craft Fair 2012

On 27th May, a glorious Summer day, Stockcross opened five gardens under the National Garden Scheme for the first time. The NGS is a national charity, established 85 years ago, which arranges the opening of private gardens and the proceeds are donated to various nursing and caring charities including Macmillan and Marie Curie, last year it donated £2.6m. In addition to the open gardens we also had a Craft Fair of over 25 stalls, all sourced by Viv who also created the exhibition of 60 Years of Stockcross. There were homemade Teas in the Sutton Hall and St John's was open with a flower display and stalls.

The change in the weather meant we were almost overwhelmed with visitors, well over 500 adults plus plenty of children, and the car park in the Glebe Field was completely full by mid afternoon. The Craft Fair was well attended and the Teas were extremely popular, at one point there were eight volunteers working in the kitchen serving Teas and washing up. All the donated cake was sold and eaten up very quickly and the cake deficit was then filled by buying most of the cakes from one of the Craft Fair stalls whilst others scoured the local shops and neighbours houses for yet more milk! We are so grateful to all who donated cakes and volunteered to help in the kitchen and special thanks to Viv for organising everything in the Sutton Hall - the Teas raised an amazing £765.

The five gardens were opened by Sue Vandyk (Stockcross House), Ron Cummings (Spring Cottage), Janet Scull (Pump Cottage), Tony Hersh (Highfields) and Charlotte Digby (Rookwood Farmhouse). Many thanks to all of them for their hard work ensuring their gardens looked immaculate. Ron's help with the printing and organising the signage was invaluable, Tony sold ice-creams and completely sold out which meant an emergency dash to the supermarket for further supplies.

Now for the score. From the monies we raised the NGS received £3050, the Hall, WBCH League of Friends and St. John's received just over £380 each and the church also made over £700 from its stalls and donations. Thanks go to Mark Nevitt for his excellent keeping of the financial scorecard.

Thank you again to all concerned and also to the village for putting up with the invasion!

*Sue Vandyk*



**Crafts at Open Gardens . Marquee generously supplied by Charles Pack, Redcrest Events, quality event management. [www.redcrestevents.co.uk](http://www.redcrestevents.co.uk) or tel: 07721 866702**



**Knitwits & STOCC joining forces at the Craft Fair**



**Scarecrows Around And about Stockcross**



**Déjà vu ?**



# Jubilee Scrapbook



## Phoenix Rises

This is what the organisers were greeted with on the morning of Fun On The Field. But thanks to an engineering degree and a liberal application of Duck Tape everything was sorted out. Did anyone even notice ...?! →



# Jubilee Scrapbook



## Fun On The Field

It started with a post-committee "meeting" at the local Think-Tank (a.k.a. Rising Sun) during the winter of 2011.



"What we need for the Jubilee Weekend", said Sarah Russell, "is a fun event to be held on the Stockcross Rec, something that everyone can take part in." After a few pints and bags of peanuts, the basis of the Fun On The Field day was born.

Over the ensuing months there were several planning meetings and a trip to Stockcross School to borrow key equipment - starting pistols, coloured sashes and space-hoppers etc. A race track was painted, a location for the Tug Of War was found, and volunteers for bar and barbeque duty were press-ganged etc. - all was set.

The gazebo Olympic city was built on the day before and was promptly half-blown down in the gale that night, but volunteers turned up on the morning to put it all right. The day was started off by the Dog Show which was great fun for participants and audience alike ; thanks to Sarah Russell, Sarah Ching and Gordon Pearce.

The Bar was manned by Stewart and kept the Villagers refreshed with local beer. The barbeque was manned by Dr Bob with helpers Rachel Thistlewaite, Linda Mason, Ernie Preece, Mark Nevitt, amongst others. Races started at 2pm split across three teams Red, White and Blue, captained by Richard Crouch, David Seaton and Stephen Mullally. Villagers and their friends of all ages then took part in a number of competitive but not too serious races including :- Bean Bag, Space-hopper, 3-legged, Rugby ball dribbling Welly Wanging, Dressing Up, Toddler Race, Mystery Race Carry A Wife and Water-bomb Angry Birds. Gold medallist swere the Blue team, Silver went to The White team and Bronze to the Red team.

The "Blue Riband" event was the Tug Of War with the North of Ermin Street versus the South of Ermin Street - apparently a long-standing sporting rivalry.

The North men took the contest 2-0 but as the crowd started to disperse, a lone voice, Julie Smith, in the crowd shouted "What about the Women!" Puzzled looks were exchanged between the organisers; this hadn't been planned for ! More voices were added to Julie's and so with a life of it's own, the Women's Tug Of War was born.

After a keenly fought contest that made the Men's event look almost tame in comparison, the South Ladies took the contest 2-1 ! Linda Mason handed out medals to the winners of the races and the Knitathon and Scarecrow competition on a podium made of straw bales to an accompaniment of the National Anthem by the jazz band. Half-way through, Meg John kindly unveiled a Fields In Trust plaque with a heartfelt speech about the importance of the field to the local community.

All in all, a great day of fun on the field for the whole village.

Many thanks to David & Jane Seaton and Stephen & Rachel Mullally, who helped plan, organise and run the races on the day.

*Richard & Julia Crouch*

# Jubilee Scrapbook

## STOCKCROSS TWO O'CLOCK CROWD

At our April meeting we enjoyed a slideshow of toys from the Museum of Childhood's collection by Caroline Goodfellow, a former curator. These included unusual toys from all over the world and afterwards a few of us had brought along some old family toys to show and to learn more about.

In May we joined the Kintbury KEWI's trip to Oxford for a guided tour of the 'Gown' area of the city including a tour of one college. Despite the cold and rain we had a good time and were able to dive into cafes and the Ashmoleum Museum for lunch and a warm up!

Our next coach trip is to The Weald and Downland open Air Museum – see our advert for details.

STOCC had a stall at the Open Gardens event craft fair and raised £80 from donated items of jewellery. With plenty left, we will be able to put another stall together in the future so thank you to all who contributed and helped on the day.



At the end of May we held an early Jubilee Tea Party in the large hall and were pleased that a quite a few villagers came to join us. Guest of Honour was Angela Palmer who had been Stockcross Coronation Queen in 1952. We also watched Mike Pike's video of the presentation of his MBE by her Majesty.



Children from Stockcross school entertained us with songs from 'Cats', providing a truly magical end to the tea.

We thank, not only those children who performed so beautifully, but the Headteacher and parents for being willing to give up their time for us at the end of a long day.



The excellent '60 years of Stockcross' exhibition, of photos and newspaper cuttings, was a big focus at the tea party. Not only serving to remind us how young and slim we used to be but how much the shape of the village had changed from the Coronation year onwards. It was also lovely to see those no longer with us joining in happy festivities at the hall, the pubs and on the Glebe. Viv Wilson with help from Jackie Caufield put it all together – thank you for all the hard work, it was very worthwhile. We are very lucky that we have such avid historians in the village, I don't think many people realise how much goes into selecting the material for each exhibition that they put together – and it all has to be stored too!

**NB There are probably others of you equally enthusiastic and more qualified to delve into the history of our village. If anyone would like to help set up a Local History Group please get in touch with me. An organised group would be able to do more research and possibly obtain grants to assist with equipment and storage and conservation.**

**Viv Wilson Tel 01635 523963  
e mail [vc.wilson@btinternet.com](mailto:vc.wilson@btinternet.com)**



*Brian Palmer enjoying his afternoon at the Open Gardens event helping to fill in background information about the village.*



# Around The Village

## Lord Lyon Latest



As I'm sure you know we have expanded slightly up the road and have now taken on the Five Bells, which has meant that I haven't been spending as much time of late in the Lord Lyon, however Susan and FJ and the team have been holding the fort admirably and seamlessly.

Now that the Five Bells is up and running nicely I will be able to concentrate a bit more on spending time back in Stockcross, and whilst it has been lovely to see so many people from Stockcross and the surrounding area at the Five Bells it will be great to spend more time back behind the bar at the Lord Lyon.



It may be nearly July but the weather is still truly awful. The garden is struggling to produce much at the moment, but what there is we're using in our menus. The flavour is superb, and makes it all worthwhile growing it ourselves. Please feel free to have a wonder around the garden or speak to Lynn our superb gardener, she is a mine of information and loves having a chat about chickens or growing things!

If we ever get a summer we have some lovely things planned for the menu, we're trying to edge in the salads but it is proving tricky.

On 31 July we have the Old Speckled Hen Morris group at 8 PM. Look forward to seeing you there.

Once again thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you in the pub soon.

*Mark and the team*

### Hall Hire Rates (£ per hour) Effective from 1st November 2011

	Small Hall	Large Hall	Both Halls
Resident	6.00	9.00	12.00
Non resident	9.50	14.00	17.00

Call Jay on 01488 608769 to book  
or visit our website

[www.suttonhallstockcross.org](http://www.suttonhallstockcross.org)

or email

[suttonhall642@btinternet.com](mailto:suttonhall642@btinternet.com)

## Unveiling of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust Plaque at Stockcross



As part of the Diamond Jubilee Fun Day on Monday 4th June Cllr Meg John, Chair of Speen Parish Council, unveiled the Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust Plaque at the recreation ground in Stockcross.

Cllr John explained that the objective of the QEII Fields in Trust campaign was to dedicate and therefore protect for future generations, 2012 playing fields across the UK as a tribute to Her Majesty The Queen, and as a lasting legacy in the year of her Diamond Jubilee. It is also a fitting programme in the year of the London 2012 Olympics. The recreation ground will now be officially known as the Queen Elizabeth II Field at Stockcross.

## The Dedication and Unveiling of the Bomber Command Memorial in Green Park On 28th June

Tom & Leigh Darling attended this event.  
Tom was a Sgt Air Gunner in Bomber Command.



## New starts

Last month we had a rare occurrence in the heavens. Venus passed in front of the sun. Although it wasn't readily visible – I believe it was quite cloudy here in Stockcross on the day in question – the effects will have been felt by all of us all around the world. This might sound like old news, but the effects of this transit will be felt for the next 6 months.

It is a very auspicious time – the chance for bringing in the new and letting go of the old. I expect most of us will have noticed changes, but sometimes changes can be hard to handle.

So if you've been having a challenging time recently, take this as reassurance that you are entering a new, hopefully improved, phase of your life.

If you or anyone you know are struggling with this process of letting go or embracing the new, please visit my website [www.roskitson.co.uk](http://www.roskitson.co.uk) . I also have a re-launched blog <http://roskitson.blogspot.co.uk/> and a Facebook business page <https://www.facebook.com/roskitsonholistictherapy>.

### A Ballad of Stockcross

The following ode was written by Margaret Wood in 1989 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St John's church and came to light when Keith Phillips produced a photograph of the Ode for the recent exhibition. Margaret was a retired physiotherapist who lived at Ermin Cottage or number 13 until she moved to the south coast for family reasons.

Where wheels have rolled since Roman times;  
Where trees are tall with beech and pine;  
Stockcross bestride the Ermin Street.  
The Sutton house unique with thatch -  
Sir Richard built them all to match  
With tended garden long and neat

The neighbours as one family seem  
They work together as a team:  
In social and in serious vein  
They – in all mood – for discourse meet  
In church, shop, school and village street  
O'er garden fence and country lane.

On recreation ground so wide,  
In Sutton Hall, the village pride  
The village folk play games with ball:  
There's football, billiards, tennis green  
And table tennis for the keen,  
With bowls club catering all for all

In church the choir in Vic's sure care  
Sing sweetly through the Christian year  
St John's built well with vision bright  
It's building loved by all that use  
Who deck with flowers in many hues  
And so enhance eternal light.

Without the coaches – Paddy's five,  
Mike's shoes and service could survive  
This place? And what of village store?  
With much to serve, kind, kindness too  
What cheer with bright post box in view  
A village could not ask for more!

And others too be not forgot  
The folk whose work fulfils their lot  
Wherein the vast estate abounds:  
Keeper, forester, agent each  
Have in their day a goal to reach  
While village policeman does his rounds

The village children have their part  
In school they learn their lives to start;  
So much is owed to teachers past.  
When lessons end the youngsters play,  
And Brownies hurry on their way;  
That happy times and health may last

The Cricketers and Rising Sun  
And Old Lord Lyon – when work is done  
When folk feel free to down their tool  
- are there for them to meet and chat  
Of politic and this and that,  
To right the world both wise and fool!

The W.I. Ah! What their task?  
To help the village, need we ask?  
To socialise and educate:  
They clear the litter from the lane  
And see that produce makes some gain;  
They teach and learn to cook and make.

Keep long your kindly mellow way  
And let not country charm decay  
That there for good may always stand.  
Remember let this be your role  
Stockcross, a village with a soul –  
This place in England's pleasant land.

*The village has altered over the years. The Benham Estate is no longer the main employer of its residents and some of the people, places and institutions mentioned have long gone. But Stockcross still maintains its soul – and Mike Pike is still mending shoes!*

# Around The Village

## Nature Notes June 2012

This is not a very good spring so far and it is now officially summer, although I still have the heating on and am lighting a fire when it is even more depressing than usual.

The nesting season is tailing off a bit and all my lovely blue tits, great tits and others have flown their nests, I do miss watching the parents come and go like clockwork. They now have to find all the young that have spread out in the surrounding trees and hedgerows.

Talking of hedgerows I hope some of us were able to appreciate the wonderful hawthorn blossom in such profusion along the A4. It looked just like a heavy snow storm and many thanks to Sutton Estate for leaving some of the hedges to grow on.

There have been some strange goings on at the Post Office this year! It has beaten us all as to what is happening.

The sparrows have been pecking away at a rather soft brick in



one wall for some time now, not the mortar but the brick itself. I wonder if they will soon be joining Stu and Heather for breakfast indoors! If anyone has noticed this happening before do please let me know.

Otherwise, please let there be better weather for actually going out and seeing all that is going on.

*Janet Scull*  
01488 608324

**Speen Parish Council** (covering Bagnor, Marsh Benham, Speen Stockcross and Woodspeen) currently has three vacancies for Councillors.

As a Councillor you would be representing the people who live in the local area. Councillors are involved in making decisions that affect the local community, such as: where money should be spent, which activities the Council should support, applying for grants to benefit the local community, which services should be delivered and which policies should be implemented.

We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in keeping Speen Parish a vibrant and great place to live. Be involved in the 'grass roots' of Local Government and make things happen. Help resolve local issues and bring them to the powers that be.

If you are interested in joining the Council please contact the clerk. Tel: 07584 435656 Email: [clerk@speenpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@speenpc.org.uk)

## Tennis Club

The new fence to surround Stockcross Tennis Club courts is currently being erected and should be finished by the time the Grapevine goes to press. In addition to the new fence, an extra area has been tarmaced in front of the practice wall, which will allow for individual practice. We hope to have a soft tennis set soon so that our younger members can play on this when the larger courts are busy.

The Tennis club has been successful in applying for a grant from New Greenham Trust, which is helping to offset the cost of the fence and other works, including the cleaning of the courts. Hopefully we will have enough money before too long to pay for resurfacing the courts in the Autumn.

## Stockcross PO & Village Store.

Business has been steady over the past few months. On the shop side, we have continued to try and promote local produce and currently have Award winning fudge from Marsden's and the very tasty Summerdown Mint range. Local honey is also sold and has been praised by the Executive chef at the Vineyard, so must be OK. Another local product we now have available are jams, marmalades, chutneys and pickle from Welford Park. Along side the well known Ham that we sell, we now have Oven Roast Beef Topside.

Exciting development is that we should hopefully be able to sell Lotto in the next few months.

Thank you all for your continued support.

*Stuart & Heather*

## Speen, Shaw & Donnington Neighbourhood Action Group

launched their 'No Cold Calling Zone' schemes for streets in the Brummell Grove Ward and Speen Parish along with Donnington Square Residents' Association and Trading Standards on Wednesday, 4th July. Street Signs will be erected and stickers distributed to every house in the zoned streets after the launch.

'No Cold Calling' zones are designed to send a clear message to cold callers that residents do not wish to purchase goods or services at the door of their homes. The scheme has been very popular and the 66% majority of voting cards returning a 'yes' vote was easily achieved. Cold Calling can sometimes lead to distraction burglaries with elderly and vulnerable residents being the main target of this type of crime.

If any residents of Stockcross would be interested to learn more about the scheme please contact Dawn Brennan via e-mail on [ssdnag@gmail.com](mailto:ssdnag@gmail.com) or mobile: 0778 780 2728. To learn more about the Speen, Shaw & Donnington Action Group and what we do, please visit our website at [www.uknags.org.uk/speenshawdonnington](http://www.uknags.org.uk/speenshawdonnington)



**Wednesday 25 July**

**A tour of Benham Estate**

Meeting Jonathan Russell at 2pm at the shooting lodge - directions will be supplied. Numbers will be limited so please book. Cream teas afterwards £5.00ea

**Tuesday 28 August**

**Coach trip to**

**Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, West Sussex**

Full details and booking forms available from Jane and the shop.

**Wednesday 26 September**

**Garden Party at Bagnor**

From 2pm

Viv and Roy Lovell have kindly invited us to tea in their lovely garden again.

**ALL WELCOME – BRING A FRIEND AND HELP US KEEP THIS GROUP GOING**

Call Viv: 01635 523963  
or Jane: 01488 608762

**Regular Events**

- Daily** Billiards at village hall
- Weekly**
- Monday** Yoga at village Hall 7pm
- Tuesday** Yoga at Village Hall 6 pm
- Wednesday** Pilates Village Hall 11.30 & 12.30 pm  
Kettle Ball Village Hall 6.10  
Zumba Village Hall 7.30pm
- Thursday** Bridge Club at Lord Lyon from 7.30pm
- Friday** Toffs Bridge at Village Hall 1.30pm
- Sunday** Tennis at Rec mornings
- Sunday** Folk at Rising Sun 8pm
- Monthly**
- 2nd Monday** KnitWits at Lord Lyon 8pm -10pm
- 1st Weds** Quiz at Rising Sun 8.30pm
- 2nd Tuesday** Village Hall Committee Meeting at the hall

**Church Services**

- JULY**
- 22** Holy Communion 11am
- 29** 9.30am United Benefice Winterbourne
- AUGUST**
- 5** Family Service 11am
- 12** Holy communion 11am
- 26** Holy Communion 11am
- SEPTEMBER**
- 2** Family Service 11am
- 4 September 7.30pm**  
**At St Barnabus, Peasemore**  
**Licensing Service for the**  
**Rev Dr Douglas Dales**
- 9** Holy Communion 11am
- 23** Holy Communion 11am
- 30** 10am United Benefice Brightwalton
- OCTOBER**
- 7** Harvest Festival 11am

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**HARVEST SUPPER**

**Saturday 6th Oct -7.30pm**

**Do not miss this annual village get together**

We will be enjoying our usual high standard of homemade fare with a bit of entertainment thrown in. Tickets will be £3.00 for villagers and £7.50 for guests and will go on sale at The Shop in September

**Mobile Library**

**visits to Stockcross**

**NOTE CHANGE OF TIMES**

Village Hall 12.00 to 12.45  
Bayford House 1.50 to 2.50

July	Aug	Sep	Oct
9 30	20	10	1

**AGM of  
The Sutton Hall  
Management Committee  
Wednesday October 10th  
at 7.30pm for 8pm  
At The Sutton Hall**

Stockcross Village  
**Quiz Night**  
Friday 19th October  
Sutton Hall, Stockcross  
Details TBA

**Church Jumble Sale  
Saturday 13th October 1pm**

Clear out your cupboards and then refill with other people's stuff at the annual Church Jumble. Also enjoy Tea, cakes , raffle and auction.

**Village Pantomime  
Dick Whittington**

**Thursday 29th November**

**Friday 30th November**

**Saturday 1st December**

**Details TBA**

This photographs used in this Souvenir issue have been supplied by a variety of people.  
Thank you