

# THE Grapevine NEWSLETTER

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

Our new website is up and running.

People can now check out our facilities, contact us and book the hall using the online booking form.

Thanks go to Anoushka Vandyk who has provided the professional photographs for the website and to Jackie Woods, our treasurer, who put the site together.

The next step is to attach 'The Grapevine', add in all up and coming events and insert links to other local sites so that everyone with access to the internet will know what's happening in the village.

We are now looking for local businesses to book advertising space on our website which will cover the cost of running it. An initial investment of £10 for the first year will book a business card size space from which you can advertise your service or business. Anyone interested just contact us, [suttonhall642@btinternet.com](mailto:suttonhall642@btinternet.com) Constructive feedback on the new site will be welcomed so let us know what you think of it.

## "Last Ball of the Match"



Picture courtesy of Angela Tyler

## FROM THE SUTTON HALL STOCKCROSS

September 2008 No: 67



## Current Hall Hire Rates (£ per hour) 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008

	Small Hall	Large Hall	Both Halls
Resident	5.00	7.50	10.00
Non resident	8.00	12.00	15.00

Call Mandy on 01488 608769 to Book

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Volunteers for Committee

Hall update

Stockcross cricket

## Chairman's Report

My two year stint as chairman of the village hall comes to an end in October and I am extremely concerned as to who will take over from me or indeed where new committee members are coming from.

As you know the hall is a registered charity with holding trustees and a constitution that stipulates that at the AGM the committee must appoint a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary from amongst their ranks. If this is not achieved then what happens to the Charity i.e. The Hall?

If you think that the village hall is an important amenity to Stockcross, then now is the time to make that extra effort to get involved.

Don't worry if you have never run a village hall before, none of us had until we joined the committee. Come along and learn all about it and if you already know then for goodness sake come and help us out! If you think you don't have the time, then spare a thought for existing committee members who are self employed, have full time jobs and young children and still slot in the running and maintenance of the hall and all the events that go on in the village. Being a volunteer is sometimes a thankless task, but it can also be an extremely rewarding one.

**This is a serious call to arms!** We need new committee members who are willing to be officers, if not immediately then in the near future. If you want to help but need more information, or if you would like to sit in on a couple of meetings to find out more please contact me or any other committee member by phone or e mail. *END OF PLEA.*

### Hall Update

Since June we have achieved our aim of a website for the hall with online booking facilities. By December we hope that the Grapevine will also be available online as well as in print. We were due to be assessed for our Hallmark level one on 21<sup>st</sup> August, but one of the assessors was ill so we still wait for a visit.

A big thank you to Monty and Linda Mason for organising the cricket match and allowing the use of their house for the afternoon and to Ken for running another super tom bola. A total of £325 was raised, which will be match funded by Vodaphone. The committee have decided to invest this money in a new sound system, which will improve facilities for hirers and users of the hall.

We also now have wireless internet access available to hirers whereby up to 6 connections to the internet can be made at any one time. We hope to promote this to local colleges and businesses to increase bookings.

Events this quarter will include the Treasure Hunt and results of the sunflower & photographic competitions; the Harvest Supper and the **very important AGM**. We have John Kirkpatrick appearing at the hall in November and the launch of our recipe book. I am also hopeful that another panto will be underway for performance in January 2009.

*Viv Wilson*



Here is one reason the Jazz on the Glebe didn't go ahead this year. Brian, our event electrician, is currently out of action. The other reasons included higher costs, poor PA system and the weather! Hopefully we can reinstate the event in the future.

## **HARVEST SUPPER – SATURDAY** **11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER -7.30pm** **'Sentimental Journey' by Mervin Penny**

For entertainment at this year's Harvest Supper, Mervin Penny will be recollecting his childhood memories of Stockcross together with a short rendition of a few old songs.

We will be having our usual excellent fare, produced by 'the ladies of the village'. Tickets are now on sale at £3.00 for villagers and £7.50 for guests. We expect a sell out as usual so please buy your tickets early so as not to be disappointed. If you wish to purchase tickets and/or can make a pud or pie please contact either myself, at the Post Office 01488 657602 or Alison John on 01488 608680.

*Angela Tyler*

## **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am** **At The Sutton Hall** **Coffee Morning** **for** **Sunflowers & Photograph** **Competition Prize Giving** **(All Photos will be on view)**

**To be followed by a**  
**Treasure Hunt**  
**Around the village for all ages!**

# OUT AND ABOUT

## STOCC

Never let it be said that a bit of rain will spoil a good day - our minibus trip in May to Aston Pottery and the garden Centre at Burford proved to be a very memorable day out for us all! Despite the tropical style rain, Ian drove a full bus (plus dog) so carefully and was such a good sport when he took a soaking from passing cars. A big thank you to him and Pat for organising the whole day.

We are also most grateful to Lynn for inviting us back to enjoy a cream tea with strawberries in her beautiful garden in June, see below. Her garden was looking exceptionally pretty, with a few quite unusual specimen plants to admire.



Charlie was the host for the July Garden Party for the 5th Year running and this time the sun shone! As usual, his garden looked immaculate with fruit and veg sitting comfortably alongside flowerbeds and, of course, his roses. The photo below sets the scene.



Some of us were lucky enough to purchase some of his sweet peas, that he had used to decorate the tables and it was nice to see some new faces amongst us. Thanks go to Charlie and also to Leigh & Tom for organising the afternoon.

## Tea with the Queen

Tim and I were very honoured to be invited to the Royal Garden Party this July. Typically British, it was organised to a tee. After turning into Constitution Hill, we were directed into parking by a waiting Policeman. Donning hat, it was just a short walk to Buckingham Palace gates, where we had our photos taken.



Gates opened at 3pm and the queue of 8,000 people soon moved quickly through the palace and into the gardens to be greeted by two bands that played throughout the afternoon. At 4pm precisely the Queen accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and Duke of York arrived. Tea was served- cucumber and mint sandwiches, cakes, ice creams and a lovely cup of tea.

Afterwards we strolled around the lake and gardens. At 6pm the bands played the National Anthem again and the Royal Party departed. Time for the guests to leave. We had had a wonderful afternoon, which we will remember for the rest of our lives and.... the sun shone.

# COMING EVENTS

Held in the Sutton Hall unless otherwise stated

## Sep

- 8 **Tour of Britain**  
1pm – 2pm through  
Stockcross
- 9 **STOCC** – Coach Trip to  
Hampton Court – see advert
- 24 **STOCC** – Tea 2pm
- 26 **FIRST MEETING FOR PANTO  
PANTO PLAYERS 6PM -7PM**
- 27 **Village Treasure Hunt and  
presentation of prizes for  
Sunflowers & photographs  
10.30am**

## Oct

- 11 Harvest Supper
- 15 Sutton Hall AGM 7.30 for 8pm
- 18 Church Jumble 2pm
- 29 **STOCC** – Tea 2pm

## Nov

- 28 John Kirkpatrick – singer  
“Carolling and Crumpets” 8pm  
*See Posters or website for  
more details*
- 29 **Book Launch & Coffee morning  
– Stockcross Recipe Book.  
10am – noon.**



**Tuesday 9th September**  
Coach trip with Kintbury KEWIs  
to Hampton Court Palace.  
Book by calling Merle: 01488 658345

**Wednesday 24th September**  
Tea in the small hall - £2 from 2:00 – 4:00pm  
Plans for Christmas Coach Trip and Dinner

**Wednesday 29th October**  
Tea in the small hall - £2 from 2:00 – 4:00pm

**Wednesday 26th November**  
Tea in the small hall - £2 from 2:00 – 4:00pm

**There will also be a day trip to Cardiff  
for sight seeing and Christmas  
shopping – details later**

ALL WELCOME

Call Jane: 01488 608762  
for further information

**STOCKCROSS PANTO PLAYERS**  
Anyone wishing to be involved in  
this year's production are invited  
to a meeting at The Sutton Hall on  
**Friday 26th September  
6pm – 7pm**

We are looking for performers,  
backstage crew, help with scenery  
and wardrobe.

Both children and adults are invited to  
take part.

If you can't make the meeting but still  
wish to be involved please contact

Viv Wilson 01635 523963 or  
vc.wilson@btinternet.com

# CHURCH SERVICES

## Sept

- 14 11.00am Holy Communion
- 21 10.00am United Benefice  
Morning prayer at Boxford
- 28 11.00am Holy Communion

## Oct

- 5 6.00pm Harvest Festival
- 12 11.00am Holy Communion
- 19 10.00am United Benefice  
Morning prayer at Wickham

## Nov

- 9 10.55am Holy communion
- 16 10.00am United Benefice  
Morning prayer at Stockcross
- 23 11.00am Morning Prayer

**Church Jumble Sale**  
*Including auction, teas & raffle*  
**Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> 2pm**  
At  
**The Sutton Hall**

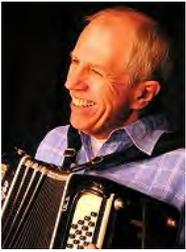
*If you have jumble to donate  
please deliver to the hall on  
the morning of the sale. Thank  
you*

## Regular Weekly Events

<u>When</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
Mondays	8.30pm	Quiz Night Lord Lyon
Tuesdays	6.30-8pm	Yoga Sutton Hall
Thursdays	7.30-10.45pm	Bridge Club Lord Lyon
Sundays	from 8.30am	Tennis Club The Rec
Sundays	Evenings	Folk club Rising Sun
Daily	Snooker & Billiards Club	Sutton Hall

*If you would like an event included in the listings please contact Grapevine on  
01635 523963 or e-mail vc.wilson@btinternet.com*

Next Grapevine due out 1<sup>st</sup> Dec Last date for submitting items for inclusion 15<sup>th</sup> Nov



**John Kirkpatrick**  
**Live at The Sutton Hall**  
**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 8pm**  
**“Carolling and Crumpets”**

From the late 1960s John has been at the very forefront of innovative folk in Britain and has played with, among others, the Albion Band, Steeleye Span, The Richard Thompson Band, Brass Monkey and Band of Hope as well as establishing himself as a brilliant solo act.

John has gained wide acclaim for his virtuosity and musicianship and a solo evening with him guarantees an evening of variety and entertainment of the highest quality.

Carolling and Crumpets is an evening of traditional and self-penned songs and carols connected with Christmas and mid-winter.

Tickets will be available from the middle of September and can be purchased from The Rising Sun, Stockcross

**An Uplifting Experience**

Some ladies in the village have commented on how much they have enjoyed visiting Marlborough recently for a truly uplifting experience. The change in them is quite noticeable!

**Stockcross Recipe Book**

There is still time to submit a recipe for inclusion in the Stockcross Recipe Book due to be published at the end of November. The Book will also contain Photos of the village and its people and recipes from celebrity chefs with local connections. If you have not received details please contact Linda Mason on 01488 608436.

**Slip Sliding Away?**

If you see Nigel Rickard, don't ask what he's done to his knee. He'd rather not let on that he came a cropper on a water slide whilst on holiday. He just went sailing right out there.... Eddie the Eagle maybe? Hope it mends soon, Nigel.

**Keeping Up Appearances**

You may have noticed several ladies walking around the village in an effort to lose weight and get fitter. Perhaps they should ask Nigel Batt to be trainer – he's done a superb job with Black Lab Treacle, who is really looking trim!

**Village Telephone Box under threat**

A notice has appeared in the phone box stating that because it isn't used sufficiently, it could be removed in the near future.

The phone box has been out of order since last October and despite reporting this to BT on several occasions they still haven't repaired it .....we wait and see.

**Road Safety**

The new VAS signs are up, thanks to Gill and other residents of the village.

WBDC website has detailed in its Traffic Management & Road Safety Programme 2008/2009

“Stockcross C of E School warning signs with flashing lights programmed for August”.

We wait to see what happens next.

**Tour of Britain**

Don't miss the cyclists as they race through Stockcross from Wickham on their way into Newbury. They are scheduled to go through the village between 1pm and 2pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

**Santas Wanted!!**



**Stockcross Children's Christmas Party 2008**

Would your children or grandchildren be interested in coming to a village Christmas party this year? The party will be self funding, so there will probably either be a small entrance fee or a request to bring a plate of party food. The Sutton Hall has been made available for Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> but we need to get an idea of numbers before going ahead and organising this – if you know of any children from Stockcross, Wickham Heath or Marsh Benham, who might like to come, could you let me know please? We are also looking for parent/grandparent volunteers to either help organise or help out on the day, and – more importantly – we need a Santa!

Nominations to: Gill Cresswell – [gilly@cresswell-online.co.uk](mailto:gilly@cresswell-online.co.uk) 01488 608212

# AROUND THE VILLAGE

## **Christopher Balk-foote**

As many people in Stockcross may know, Christopher passed away recently after bravely fighting cancer for many years. He will be remembered by our regular churchgoers for his attendance at church services, his help within as a PCC member and his many years of work in the churchyard helping to keep it at its best, which he had to reluctantly retire from as time went on.

His service to the church was very much appreciated. Also our appreciation goes to Shirley, his wife, who was never far away helping with the job. Our prayers and sympathy are with her and her family.

*The Rector and Churchwardens  
St Johns Church*

## **Don't let the Train Take the Strain!!**

Bob John took an unplanned return train journey between Newbury and Thatcham recently when the train pulled out of the station whilst he was still on board helping Alison with her Suitcase.

Alison was off to Edinburgh but luckily for Bob the first stop was just up the road!

## **More News Please**

The Grapevine is a hall newsletter but includes various snippets and stories gleaned from around the village. It would be nice to include stories submitted by as many of you as possible. It would be especially nice to hear from any of the village clubs or groups on a regular basis. The last date for Submission for the December issue is 15<sup>th</sup> November. All items can be sent to [vc.wilson@btinternet.com](mailto:vc.wilson@btinternet.com) or posted to 2 Foley Cottages, Stockcross.

**Open invitation to Cheese & Wine  
Followed by the AGM of  
The Sutton Hall  
Management Committee  
Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm for  
8pm  
At The Sutton Hall  
All are Welcome**

## **Victor W J Roussel 1919 - 2008**

No doubt long serving residents will remember Victor Roussel, who passed away on August 18<sup>th</sup> aged 89. He and his family lived in Stockcross for 32 years and played an active part in the village through the Church, the choir and the tennis club.

A full obituary appeared in the Newbury Weekly News on 21<sup>st</sup> August. His funeral and interment took place at St John's Church on the 27<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Pearl Dromgoole**

Grapevine sends very best wishes to Mrs Pearl Dromgoole, who suffered a mild stroke in August. Pearl has been in the village a long time and together with her late husband Paddy ran The Rising Sun Inn and a bus company from the now car park. We all hope to see her back at the Two o'Clock club and running the raffles in due course.

## **Recycling**

Communities all over West Berkshire have sorry tales to tell of the very poor start to the newly introduced contract for recycling.

The new contractors, Veolia, did not endear themselves to rate payers with their failure to remove rubbish from a huge number of households including the hamlet of Hoe Benham, where some wag put up a sign to show their twinning with Naples, a city notorious for its absence of any rubbish removal facilities with the result that pavements were left covered with black bags of rubbish.



The photo shown highlights the dissatisfaction felt.



Stockcross "Man of the Match"  
Malcolm Sanday



Umpires  
Jonathon Lewis and Ron Cummings



Imago "Man of the Match"  
Ian Vickerage

## Stockcross Gentlemen v Imago

10<sup>th</sup> August 2008

### Stockcross Gentlemen - Innings

Will		b. D. Wilcox	6
Duncan		b. D. Wilcox	3
Graham		b. I. Vickerage	33
Malcolm	c. R. Green	b. Wayne	39
Paul		Run Out	3
Nick		b. I. Vickerage	1
David		Run Out	1
Ernie		lbw I. Vickerage	3
Richard		Not Out	2
Mick		b. I. Vickerage	0
Monty		b. I. Vickerage	0
		Extras	19
		<b>Total (24.3ovrs)</b>	<b>110</b>

Bowler	O	M	R	W	Fall of Wicket							
G.Little	5	0	15	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
D.Wilcox	4	0	11	2	6	11	87	99	102	106	108	110
C.Costa	3	0	21	0								
J.Vickerage	3	0	24	0								
A.George	1	0	4	0	9	10						
I.Vickerage	4.3	1	9	5	110	110						
Wayne	4	1	6	1								

### Imago - Innings

Lucy Vickerage		b. Paul	0
Nick Waldeck		b. Paul	1
Graham Little		b. Malcolm	41
Ian Vickerage		b. Richard	16
James Vickerage	c. Monty	b. Dave	0
Andrew George		b. Mick	2
John Vickerage		b. Will	2
Wayne Mason		b. Graham	3
Carlos Costa		Not Out	0
Joel Price		b. Graham	0
Dave Wilcox		b. Mick	2
		Extras	2
		<b>Total (23ovrs)</b>	<b>69</b>

Bowler	O	M	R	W	Fall of Wicket							
Paul	3	1	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Will	3	0	15	1	1	2	47	48	62	62	65	67
Duncan	2	0	6	0								
Malcolm	3	0	4	1	9	10						
Graham	3	0	7	2	67	69						
Richard	3	0	15	1								
Dave	2	0	5	1								
Nick	2	0	12	0								
Mick	2	1	1	1								

**Stockcross Gentlemen won by 41 runs**



Back row: Ernie Preece; Monty Mason; David Seaton; Paul Willis; Duncan Price; Richard Stapleton  
 Front row; Malcolm Sanday; Nick Drew; Mick Scarlett; William Preece; Graham Smith (Capt)

### **A View from the Wicket**

Sunday 10th August saw the 2nd annual cricket match between the Stockcross Gentlemen and the Imago Eleven at the Stockcross Rec. An afternoon of hard fought cricket was in store, assuming that we could dodge the showers!

Stockcross won the toss and elected to bat and were in trouble after the 3rd over having lost Will and Duncan for just 11 runs. Graham and Malcolm steadied the ship with an explosive partnership of 76 until a catch by Russell Green removed Malcolm for 39. Graham followed in the next over, playing all round a straight delivery from Ian.

From then on the Stockcross batting collapsed earning only 11 runs from the last 6 wickets. The last three of which, provided a well deserved hat-trick for Ian Vickerage in a fabulous display of wicket to wicket bowling. You miss, I hit! The best part of any cricket match is tea and Linda, along with numerous contributions from the star cake makers in the village, produced one of the best cricket teas I have seen in a very long time. But Imago had to chase down 111 in 30 overs to overturn their defeat from last year, so we headed back out to the wicket for the Imago reply.

Lucy Vickerage and Nick Waldoock opened the Imago innings, but were both dismissed by Paul in the 2nd over. 1 for 2 wickets, Imago needed a steadying partnership. Graham Little batted with a runner and along with Ian, put on 45 for 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket. Unfortunately the last 7 wickets fell for only 20 runs, giving the win to the Stockcross Gentlemen by 41 runs.

Malcolm picked up the man of the match award for Stockcross with his 39 and Ian was awarded man of the match for Imago with his hat-trick and for taking 5 wickets for just 9 runs. Well done chaps!

Everyone involved in this match took part with great enthusiasm. Monty and Linda, we all thank you very much for the organisation and we must show our appreciation to the ground staff who produced a playable wicket in double quick time. It's just a shame that the weather wasn't kinder to us. But that's the joy of the English summer.

*Jonathan Lewis (Umpire)*