

FROM THE SUTTON HALL
STOCKCROSS
February 2023 No: 124

THE Grapevine NEWSLETTER



The Panto in December 2022 was a huge success. Turn to page 7 to see an article by Claire Mingo (photos by Angela Tyler) to tell you more and how to get involved (if you wish)

The Editor

Any contributions for the **May 2023** edition of the Grapevine must reach me no later than **Thursday the 20th April 2023 and before 3.30 pm.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

If somebody would like a PDF file/ email copy of the Grapevine and regular updates then please email me (Glenn) at :

stockcrossgrapevine@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Village Hall Chairman's piece for grapevine February 2023

Happy 2023 to everyone. I hope you are safe and well. The daylight hours are ever-so slightly increasing at the moment but we have a few weeks before the sunlight begins to warm us.

The Sutton Hall has been quite busy since I last wrote to you in the Grapevine. Recent community events run by the Hall committee include another terrific wine and cheese tasting in early November run by Tony Hersh. About 40 local folks joined in and were very happy indeed by the end of the evening! We also ran a Pop Inn bar during Apollo Big Band's November gig to bring in income. Then there was the PANTO – oh YES!! The 2022 Panto was fun, funny and very well attended. Our congratulations and thanks to the cast, crew, directors and producer, dance instructor, prop maker, set designer, costumer creators and to those generous people running the bar, taking photos and cleaning up! A great community effort. And, yes, dates are already set for the December 2023 PANTO.

We have already begun shaping an events calendar for 2023. More Pop Inns starting with one to celebrate Chinese New Year in January, a wine tasting in Spring, and a coronation celebration in May are among the events on the calendar. And everyone attending meetings and/or events will see the “new look Hall”. During a short Christmas closure the large and small halls have been completely repainted – and wow it looks elegant! OK, that's my opinion (and I am American!). You'll have to come in and see for yourselves!!

Our Village Hall is an active part of this community, but can we do more? Within this grapevine you will find a short questionnaire asking for your input on how else the Village Hall can be used to further improve our community in Stockcross. Please do take a moment to share with us your ideas.

Finally, I do hope that wet January will lead to a sunny and mild February in Stockcross. The sun always lifts my spirits. Now I wish you all good health, warm homes and great friends. Happy 2023!

Liz

Sutton Hall update

The new heating is now fully installed and working well . So far it is proving effective at reducing our power use so that's a good move to improve our 'green' credentials and also mitigate the increased electricity costs we are now incurring. While the electricians were in we took the opportunity to improve other electrical items with more sockets installed in the large & small halls, lighting in the chair/table cupboard and an upgraded modern consumer unit to improve our overall fixed electrical condition.

we have now moved to redecoration including a colour change ! The large hall was done over Christmas , the small hall is being done as I write this, then the stage will be 're-blacked'and later in the year we will finish the toilets and corridors . The new more modern colour scheme has really improved the whole look of the hall with positive feedback from our users. Come along to the Pop Inn on Jan 27th and take a look!

The committee are keen to ensure we build on the success of the hall and ensure we are providing what you need , elsewhere in this issue there is a short survey to complete on things you would like to see us do, please do take time to complete this for us . The hall is yours & it is important we provide what you need both in terms of social activities and useful support for the community eg a warm hub or digital facilities for use by those that are not connected at home .

All the best for 2023

Mark



STOCKCROSS AND SURROUNDING HISTORY ASSOCIATION IS NOW IN ITS 10TH YEAR.

It was originally formed to find out some of the stories behind the 27 local men listed on the First World War Memorial Tablet in St. Johns Church. From our research we published a book "Discovering the Human Story". Copies which are still available to purchase.

Continuing on with our research we now have a comprehensive website and meet in the Sutton Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2pm often with speakers covering all sorts of local topics.

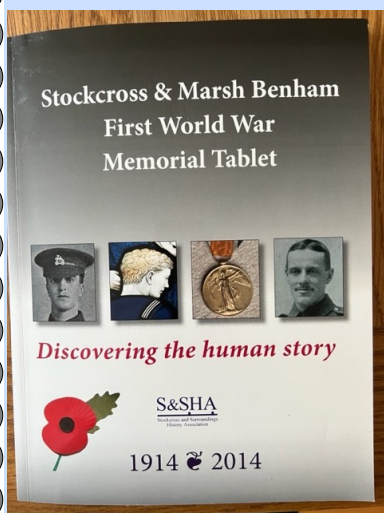
In 2022 we had 25 members and are hoping all will rejoin again this year along with some new ones as well.

Membership is £15 for an individual and £25 for a joint membership. As a special offer any new member will receive a free copy of our book.

Meetings

Wednesday 8th February 2pm - Looking through our archives.

Wednesday 8th March. 2pm. - Keith Abbott - Talk on Ermin Street.



For further details: www.stockcrosshistory.org.uk

Email Secretary: hanburyirene@yahoo.co.uk

Or knock my door. Angela Tyler, Sunflower Cottage (just up from Rising Sun)



STOCKCROSS TWO O'CLOCK CROWD

Recent meetings have featured our 20th birthday tea and prize quiz and a demonstration by Penny Web on decorating a Christmas cake. Both afternoons were lovely get-togethers leading up to Christmas. Our January meeting will have been an illustrated talk by Tony Hersh on 'Mysteries in Astronomy'.

I would like to say a word about upcoming meetings. On February 22nd we will have a poem recital by local poet Steve Wallis: A Climate Crisis Campfire Tale. I have already seen a performance and it was quite amazing so I am thrilled that he and Isabel Carmona, the local artist who designed the accompanying visuals, are able to come to us in Stockcross.

For those of us interested in local history, we have Clive Williams coming on 29th March to talk about the Craven Family who lived, at one time, in Benham Valence. Clive has recently published a book on the subject and I can tell you that he is an excellent speaker with astonishing memory for fascinating details.

For a complete change, we will be having a talk about Thirty Years in the Hampshire Constabulary by Jackie Dimmock on 26th April.

All cost £3 including refreshments

Our events are advertised on the noticeboard outside the shop and on the village webpage. For more information call me on 07771 511317 or Irene on 07766 635176 or email me on

jane_batt@btinternet.com



THE SUTTON HALL SURVEY

Have your say!

This survey is anonymous.
Dated: Jan 2023

Would you be interested in the Village Hall offering a computer hub (with access to online resources)?

Yes No

Would you be interested in the Village Hall offering a warm hub (providing heated surrounding during the day)?

Yes No

Are there any additional events that you would like to see the Village Hall offer?

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Do you have any other points you would like to raise with the committee?

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Closing date: Monday 13th February

Please complete & hand into the Stockcross Village Shop (who are kindly collecting the completed surveys on behalf of the Village Hall Committee).



If you would prefer to complete this online, head over to:
<https://forms.gle/2kQACckDrhoBNip68>
Or follow the QR code

Thank you for taking part!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Apollo Big Band - Friday 10th February, 8pm

A chance to catch up with family, friends and neighbours and enjoy the music of the popular Apollo Big Band. Tickets available on the door at the Village Hall £10, under 16s £5.00. Pop Inn bar available from 7pm



Pop Inn Celebrate St Patricks Day - Friday 31st March, 6.30pm

More details to be announced nearer the time



Cheese & Wine Tasting - Friday 21st April

More details to be announced nearer the time.



Coronation Celebrations - Saturday 6th May

More details to be announced nearer the time

Panto in December 2023

Stockcross Panto Returns



It was a real treat to be able to kick off the festive season once again by bringing back Panto to Stockcross, this time with a production of Dick Turpin by Colin Barrow. We welcomed back many familiar faces, as well as introduced some new ones to the cast this year.

Our new cast members made a great impact - Floss Fearon was a wonderfully snooty Lady Ffour Ply and Callum Wilding played a very dashing Lord Peter Piper. It was also very exciting to have an entirely new “all girl!” chorus with Marretta Chandler, Anya Poliakova, Mina Wingfield Digby and Tess Wingfield Digby, who all proved to be wonderful dancers and very confident actors, and who we hope would like to take part again next time.

Our familiar faces also gave us plenty of entertainment. Keith Phillips was a fantastic baddie as Rufus Dastardly, causing some very loud booing indeed, complemented beautifully by Lucy Darlington as a fabulously swashbuckling Dick Turpin. It was great to see Carl Smith back delivering justice as the magistrate, Sir

Justice Rules, especially after suffering a stroke the previous year. John Mingo surprised and delighted us as the Dame, Molly Dunit, who partnered with Claire Ralphson-Cook as her sister Betty Dunit, to give us a lovely rendition of “Sisters”. Lizzie Thislethwaite, last seen as the Ghost of Christmas Future, and Helena Mullaly, previously Tiny Tim, were the brilliantly daft apprentice highwaymen Snip and Snap. Grace Mingo and Rachel Mullaly were absolutely hilarious and utterly hopeless policemen, Nicker and Plodder, and Josie Appleton stepped into a principal role for the first time this year and did a wonderful job as the beautiful Cushel Ffour Ply.



Last but by no means least, Liz Newell-Hart showed her flexibility in being both a very cheeky Radio and an excellent Ghost!

These are of course the people you see on the stage. The Panto is an enormous team effort – from set design, build and painting, costumes, props, stage management, chaperoning the children, choreography, make-up, sound and lighting – to ticket sales and

welcoming the audience on the nights. We couldn't do it without the support of so many people – thank you to everyone who supports us. Being able to bring Panto back to Stockcross this year has felt particularly important after the challenges that many experienced during the pandemic. We hope you all enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed taking part in it. It made us realise how much we'd all missed it!



If you're inspired to join in, in any way, take a look at our pages on the Sutton Hall website: <https://suttonhallstockcross.org/stockcross-panto-players/> or contact Claire Mingo (claire_mingo@hotmail.com), Jane Seaton (janeaton@hotmail.co.uk) or Sarah Russell (sarahsa@rustyandsaz.com) directly.

(Article by Claire Mingo)

(Photos by Angela Tyler)

COMING EVENTS

Regular Events

Daily Billiards at village hall
(stockcrosssnookerclub@gmail.com)

Weekly
Monday Yoga at village Hall 7pm
Tuesday Yoga at Village Hall 6 pm
Hall Toffs Bridge at Village 1.30pm
Wednesday Pilates Village Hall 10.15 & 11.15 pm
Friday Toffs Bridge at Village Hall 1.30pm

Monthly
2nd Tuesday Hall Committee meeting
2nd Wednesday S&SHA 2 pm Sutton Hall
Last Wednesday STOCC



VILLAGE SHOP/ POST OFFICE NEWS

(OPENING HOURS)

MON-FRIDAY 07:30-18:00 AND SATURDAY 08:00-16:00
SUNDAY CLOSED.

THE GRAND OPENING OF THE POST OFFICE WILL BE ON THE 23RD JAN. YES, THE POST OFFICE IS NOW OPEN.



Church Services

No dates available as we go to press.

Hall Hire Rates (£ per hour)
From 1st January 2023 (time booked must be sufficient to include set up cleaning afterwards)
Minimum hire 2 hours

	Small	Large	Both
	Hall	Hall	Hall
Resident	11	15	19
Non resident	16	22	26

Call Jay on 01488 608769 to book
 or visit our website
www.suttonhallstockcross.org
 or email
suttonhall642@btinternet.com

Please be warned: because of the Virus check the Sutton Hall Website for further information

Mobile Library visits
to Stockcross

Village Hall **10.00 to 10.20 am**

Feb.	March	April
16th	9th 30th	20th