

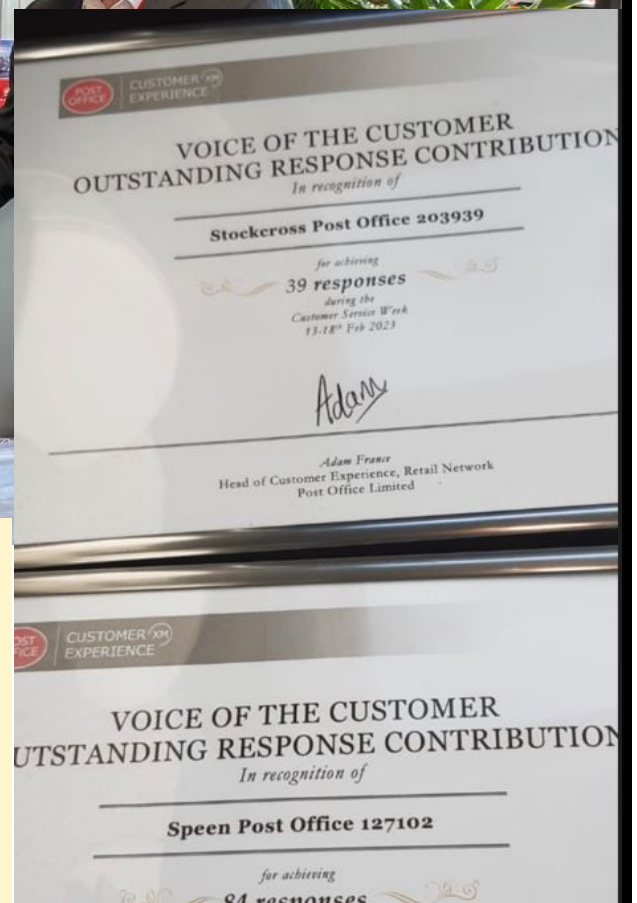
FROM THE SUTTON HALL
STOCKCROSS
May 2023 No: 125

THE Grapevine

NEWSLETTER



The Stockcross Village Post Office has just won an award from their Post Office bosses for the most feedbacks in a week. Congratulations to Peter, Sigal, family and dogs. They've only been in the Village briefly and have already made an impact. Pop into the shop for your daily needs or post a parcel or five... you will be welcomed with a friendly smile!



The Editor

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

Have a good summer!

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 April 2023

Sunny greetings to everyone! It seems ages since January when daylight hours were so few. Now we have more than 14 hours of daytime – not always sunny, warm or dry but the flowers, lawns, trees and birds have certainly got the message that it is **SPRING!**

As promised, Sutton Hall has already run 2 Pop Inns. Both were well attended and featured themed food choices from The Five Bells. To start the year, we had a Chinese themed end of January “do” with a Red Envelope game and prizes. Then in late March the Hall ran very jolly Irish themed Pop Inn with a treasure map game to find riches hidden in

Ireland and a best Limerick competition. It was great to see so many of you enjoying the evening. Great fun!

And, by the time this Grapevine reaches you Tony Hersh will have hosted another of his brilliant Wine and Cheese Tastings.

I also want to take this opportunity to encourage Stockcross villagers to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. A community celebration luncheon will be held at Sutton Hall on 7 May with entertainment to follow. I'm sorry I won't be able to share this event with you but will raise a glass of something with you in my local time zone. I will await reports on the Coronation Quiche.

And before Summer holidays begin there will be something much less royal - another Pop Inn! Plans are taking shape. Put June 30th in your diary. Hope to see you there.

May I wish you all a healthy and happy May and June. See you soon!

Liz



**Coronation mugs are on
Sale at the Village/ Post
Office Shop. £5 each**



Angela Palmer, being crowned Coronation Queen in 1953.

With the coronation coming up, I thought I would have a look through S&SHA's archives to see if we had any photos or details of previous Coronation celebrations held in the village. I found this photo of Angela Palmer being crowned Coronation Queen in 1953.

I also came across extracts from NWN dated 29th June 1911 - George V Coronation Celebrations, some as follows:

Lady Sutton who came back from London purposely to present the Coronation Mugs to the children and to take her share in helping to entertain the villagers.

On Coronation Day, Thursday 22nd June, there was a service in the Parish Church largely attended by the villagers. A new flag, St. George's, was hoisted on the church tower for the first time. Many houses in the village had been adorned with decorations, either flags, bunting or mottoes.

The national celebrations didn't take place until the Saturday and in Stockcross the festivities started with a programme of sports on the cricket field.

Starting with the 100 yards handicap race for girls 6-10 yrs, 10-16 yrs, both followed by boys races.

Then the sack races and egg and spoon races.

Tug-of-War followed - 12 Stockcross Boys v 12 Marsh Benham Boys.

Then it was the turn of the Women, Tug-of-War (which I was quite surprised at, being 1911) followed by the Blindfolded Pony Race and the Egg and Spoon Race.

Time for the men: Tug-of-War, Throwing the Cricket Ball and Egg and Spoon Race where they were provided with a small tea spoon, which they had to carry in their mouths, and if they dropped the egg had to pick it up without removing the spoon out of their mouths.

After the fun of the Sports afternoon the children were presented with their mugs and afternoon tea was served at the School house.

In the evening the adults had a Meat Tea followed by a dance on the cricket pitch. The day's events finished with a bonfire and fireworks.

The National Anthem was sung many times, as were toasts to the new King .

The weather was very fine for the day and it seems a good time was had by all.

A full copy of the NWN report will be available at our next meeting:

on **Wednesday 10th May at 2pm in the Sutton Hall,**

where we will celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III with a Tea.

We ask members and guests to bring along any relevant memorabilia and a small plate of food to share.

Angela Tyler.



STOCKCROSS TWO O'CLOCK CROWD

‘Mysteries in Astronomy’ was the topic for our January meeting with another fascinating talk by Tony Hersch who had us enthralled. His enthusiasm is catching and we appreciate how lucky we are to have Tony ‘on our doorstep’ and keen to share his knowledge.

At the end of February we heard the performance of a poem about the creation of the universe and Earth and its millions of species. The title of the poem was ‘Do King Penguins Congregate On Frozen Ground Sometimes?’ This being the mnemonic for remembering Linnaeus’ classifications of species – Domain, Kingdom, Phylum etc. Steve Wallis’ wonderfully dramatic words, often reminding me of Dylan Thomas, and Isabel Carmona’s apt illustrations made for a magical and unusual afternoon and leaving us with something to dwell on.

At the end of March, Author Clive Williams delivered the tale of ‘rags to riches’ of the Craven family who lived at Benham Valence after making a fortune lending money and being Lord Mayor of London. We all agreed it was a wittily told story with many anecdotes. Clive’s latest book, *The Cravens*, is available to buy at £30 per copy but we have 2 for sale at £20 each if anyone wants to buy a copy and it will be helping fund STOCC teas.

Our upcoming meetings at The Sutton Hall are as follows:

Wednesday 26th April at 2pm: ‘Thirty Years in The Hampshire Constabulary’ with Jackie Dimmock

Wednesday 31st May: ‘Animals in Art’ an illustrated talk by Robert Kidner

Wednesday 28th June: ‘Tandem Adventures Around the World’ an illustrated talk by Maggie and Neil

Wednesday 26th July: Social afternoon with tea and cakes

August meeting may be a local outing to be confirmed later.

Cost of entry to each of these events is £3 pp and includes refreshments. All welcome, no need to book.

Jane Batt

Can you help the Stockcross PTFA with a donation for our Summer Auction of Promises?



We are looking for activities, days out, event tickets, gift vouchers, promises of labour, generous hampers and money can't buy gifts! If you or your business would be willing to donate please let us know - stockcrossptfa@gmail.com

Our summer auction of promises will be raising vital funds for Stockcross Primary School classroom resources and development of the conservation garden

STOCKCROSS PTFA REGISTERED CHARITY 1105137

STOCKCROSS PTFA REGISTERED CHARITY 1105137

**Sat
10th
June**

**12-
3pm**



Stockcross Summer Fete

Save the Date!

FAMILY FUN & GAMES • BBQ • BAR

STOCKCROSS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHAPEL ROAD, STOCKCROSS RG20 8LD

WANTED - CLERK OF WORKS

The village hall is very busy and is an old building. This generates a need for continuous maintenance both planned & responsive.

If you are local and enjoy being a 'handi-person' the committee would love to talk to you about overseeing planned works, organising responsive maintenance and undertaking minor works to support the caretaker, Treasurer & Chair.

You would not need to join the committee (although you would be welcome to do so !) but would be providing valuable support in running the hall.

If you are interested please contact Mark: suttonhalltreasurer@hotmail.co.uk

HAPPY'S CIRCUS

Even the kids will love it!

**EARLY BIRD TICKETS ON SALE NOW
SECURE YOUR SEATS TODAY**

**A fun packed comedy show for all the family
supported by amazing International Circus Artists
www.happyscircus.co.uk**

Welford & Wickham Primary School

SAT 22 JULY

**Bar, Refreshments, Kids Activities
plus lots of fun for all the family**
Showground opens at 12pm
Circus Performance begins at 2pm



Village Post office/ Store (under new management)



Many of you would have seen over Saturday 25 March 2023 a volunteer group from Sir Richard Sutton Limited (SRTL) working away at removing the tree guards from the 2012 Jubilee Wood plantation north of Stockcross. Rest assured; the remaining tree guards will be removed later this year. The stakes and guards taken away are all heading to a recycling centre, which turns wood and plastics into further useful products such as woodchip pellets and chicken houses.

We are now looking for more similar community-based clean-up projects within the village and surrounding area.

We need your help to put around 80 members of the SRTL Team to good use on 17 July 2023, and beyond, working on community-based initiatives in the area. Projects could include repainting parts of the inside of the village hall, decorating/treating play equipment on the recreation grounds, or litter picking along the roadsides around the village.

If you could please email your community-based ideas to Benham@srtl.co.uk by no later than 1 June 2023, we will work with the relevant proposers and parties to establish which projects to action on 17 July as part of a wider Company-based day. Under Data Protection, we will need your permission to use your contact details to reply and help make the chosen initiatives work. Ideas selected for 17 July will be based on timescale to action and resourcing/access requirements. Initiatives which require more time and logistics will be added to a wider programme of events for SRTL to get involved in in the future, in which residents in the area may also be able to join in.

We very much look forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes,

James Ingestre, *Benham Estate Manager and Director of Rural Property*



Pop In Pub/ Panto

The hall looked lovely decked in orange, white and green bunting and The Five Bells continued the theme by giving the options on their menu an Irish twist. Many people joined in with the games, both guessing where the Leprechaun's Treasure was buried and entering the Limerick competition. The winning limericks are below so that you can enjoy them once again. We sold out of our Paddy Power cocktail and emptied the barrel of Good Old Boy proving just what cosmopolitan tastes the village has.

The Pop Inn is your chance to catch up with neighbours and friends. Our friendship and connection is just one of the things that makes Stockcross such a special place to live. So once again thank you for your support and we look forward to welcoming you to future events.

Limerick Competition Winners (at the Pop Inn Pub Friday 31st March) and runner-ups.

Winner (Denber Poets): This wine has gone to my head. I should swap to water – I know that I oughta – then he ordered a Guinness instead

2nd (Linda Mason) Is the Pop Inn with all of the team. With food from the Pub, such incredible grub. And Irish night makes it a dream.

3rd (Janette Sullivan): I am really not very well-read. But the things that I know I am happy to show. At least I know Arsenic from lead.

The Committee is now working on the Coronation Celebrations - Sunday 7th May

We would love for you to join our village celebrations with LIVE music from The OMP

Bring your own food, drink or picnic to share with friends

12.30pm Doors Open

12.45pm Toast the King with a free glass of fizz

1pm Dine with fellow villagers

2pm LIVE music with OMP. This popular Boxford based band will play a selection of well-known hits

4pm Close

Sorry - the bar and kitchen will **not** be open so please bring your own crockery, cutlery and glasses.

Please can you let us know if you plan to attend to we can set up enough tables and most importantly ensure we have enough fizz!

Please RSVP by 3rd May to Carol carol@accordantpartners.co.uk



Stockcross Panto 2023 – Get Involved!

How great it was to be back in 2022 with our performance of Dick Turpin! Thanks to everyone who came along and saw us, the audience reactions really made all the work worthwhile.

We are already starting to look forward to the Panto for this year. We are always looking to involve people from the village both onstage and behind the scenes. No previous experience required although a sense of humour helps. There are many ways to get involved, from stage design & creation, make up and costumes, helping stage management, helping with the lighting and many other smaller jobs.

We are a friendly bunch of people, and we enjoy working with the children too who often grow up with the pantomime taking on larger parts over the years.

If you would like to find out more, we are meeting up on Sunday 9th July at 4pm on the Rec. Bring along a chair and some refreshments and we can answer all your questions. If you would like to get involved but cannot make this date, please contact us, our details are below.



For those of you who like to plan ahead, we will be performing this years pantomime on Thurs 7th, Fri 8th and Sat 9th December.

Jane, Claire, Grace & Sarah

janeaton@hotmail.co.uk

claire_mingo@hotmail.com

sarahsa@rustyandsaz.com





Astronomy Article May Edition

This month the Eta Aquariids meteor shower peaks late in the evening of 6th May but will be displaying several days either side of that date. The Moon is fairly full around this date though, so we will only see the brightest ones. These meteors come from the trail of rubble and dust that came off the rocky surface of Halley's Comet when it last came close to the Sun.

The rubble and dust heat up in the atmosphere of Earth as Earth passes through the trail and show as bright streaks of light in the sky. Three planets are easy to spot this month. Saturn will be just above and to the right of the Moon early morning about 4.30am on 13th May, Venus will be just below the Moon around 10pm on 23rd and Mars just below the Moon on 24th around 10pm.

Topic of The Month

Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system with a mass two and a half times greater than the mass of all the other planets combined. It often shines brightly in the sky and has been observed since ancient times. It has at least 95 moons though 79 of these are less than 10 km in diameter. The four largest moons were discovered by Galileo on January 7th 1610 and are all very different from each other and extremely interesting. Io is closest to the planet and is the most volcanic object in the solar system. Europa is completely different, smooth and white covered with frozen water ice 25 kilometres thick and it might have a liquid water sea underneath the surface which could harbour life. Ganymede is the largest moon and is bigger than the planet Mercury! It and the furthest large moon, Callisto seem ancient and are mostly heavily cratered but have smooth areas on their surfaces indicating some geological activity. All this makes Jupiter's moons a target that Astronomers want to investigate in more detail. Just last month the European Space Agency launched their instrument packed Jupiter Icy Moon Explorer (JUICE) to fly to Jupiter's moons and carry out flybys, collect data and finally go into orbit around Ganymede. However it's a long journey. Jupiter is 884 million kilometres from Earth and the JUICE probe won't reach it until 2031 so we have quite a while to wait before we have more information about these amazing objects.



Find out more about Astronomy via Newbury Astronomical Society which hosts monthly meetings for both beginners and experienced astronomers and is free to people under 18. See

www.newburyastro.org.uk.

Questions ; tonyhersh@hotmail.com



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.



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

Church Services

**Service of
Holy Communion on the 2nd
and 4th Sundays of
every month**

Mobile Library visits
to Stockcross

Village Hall 9.30 to 10.00 am

May	June	July
9th 30th	20th	11th