



April 2014



Catherine-de-Barnes

CATNEY NEWS

Dear Villagers,

Spring is here at last. Crocus and daffodil have sprung into life in the Village and we have had enough sunshine to see the first green shoots appear on the hedgerows. Warm days are ahead. We are so lucky to live here.

We had a wonderful Open Day and Afternoon Tea, over 100 of you came along to support us as the Village Hall was handed over to the Village Trustees and the ribbon ceremoniously cut by Reverend Tim Pilkington from St. Alphege. Thank you all, it was so good to see you. Everyone voted for the new name of the Hall and "Catherine-de-Barnes Village Hall" was chosen from the list of three names. Photos of the event are in this edition.

We have two more fund raising events, both in April one to raise money for the Residents Association and one to raise money for the Hall –see overleaf. We need you to support both events please! The Residents Association needs to have an emergency fund – just in case we have to fight things with legal action – and some spare cash to buy a few things to improve the village this year! The Village Hall - well you all know that the new Trustees and the fund-raising team now have a massive job in front of them to raise enough money to keep the Hall viable, with repairs, redecoration, insurance, electricity, all the normal property expenses and any improvements they would like to do. Ideas are all very well, but both groups need to have cash to carry them out. They also need prizes for the raffles please. So please get your tickets for both events – I know you won't let us down.

Happy Easter everyone.

Christine Cluley - Editor

CATNEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

SKITTLES NIGHT

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL

IN CATHERINE DE BARNES VILLAGE HALL

COMMENCING 7.30PM

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

BAR

RAFFLE



**(IDEALLY NO MORE THAN 6 TO A TEAM – THE MORE
TEAMS THE MERRIER - WE WILL PUT YOU IN A TEAM IF
PREFERRED)**

TO BOOK A SPACE CALL /TEXT DAVE PARSONS 07778

295227 OR DAVE CUTHBERT 07824 696137

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Catherine de Barnes Village Hall Trustees

INVITE YOU TO A



Folk Evening

With

PAGEANT

SATURDAY EVENING 12 TH APRIL COMMENCING 7.30PM



CHILLI AND RICE

(VEGGIE OPTION AVAILABLE - PLEASE STATE AT TIME OF BOOKING)

BAR AND RAFFLE

TICKETS: £7.50 - CALL SUE ON 705 8338. TO RESERVE PLACES

(ANY MESSAGES LEFT WILL BE RETURNED)

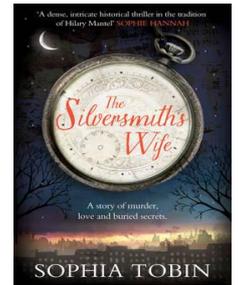
ALL PROCEEDS TO THE CATHERINE DE BARNES VILLAGE HALL FUND

DO YOU NEED A BABYSITTER?

Responsible 16 year old available for babysitting - any ages. Lives in Catney. Call Kirsty on 07535576587

AFTERNOON TEA, OPEN DAY AND THE HANDOVER OF THE HALL TO CATNEY VILLAGE - MARCH 8TH 2014



BOOK REVIEW by John Alderson**The Silversmith's Wife.** A novel by Sophia Tobin

This is a first novel by Sophia Tobin who worked for six years in a Bond Street antique dealer, specialising in silver and jewellery and is currently the Library Secretary of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths in London.

Sophia Tobin has used her knowledge and experience of working with silver to greatly enhance the colour and detail of this rather dark and psychological historical thriller set in the Bond Street area of London in the late 18th. Century.

Pierre Renard, a Frenchman aspiring to be a Gentleman, and the Silversmith of the title, is found with his throat cut by the night watchman, who, as there are no police at this time and no effort is therefore formally made to find the killer, becomes involved in the search himself. Mary Renard, the widow of the Silversmith, becomes the main character as she struggles to come to terms with the effect of her husbands death on her own life, as the marriage was clearly not a happy one, and that of her family and household.

Also central to the story are Chichesters, wealthy clients of Renard whose house is located quite close to where Renard was found murdered, and we have to wonder why Renard was there at that hour, but as we find more about the relationships between the two households and the problems surrounding the ability to keep the Silversmith business going, the author provides us with some well drawn characters and an insight into the interesting social relationships, prevalent at the time.

An interesting twist is the introduction of Renard's diary notes throughout the book, taking the reader the workings of his mind, his character and social ambitions. It is also through this diary that the identity of the killer is revealed at the very end of the book.

An excellent first novel with a very detailed insight into life in 18th. Century London.

MAIN EASTER SERVICES AT HAMPTON IN ARDEN CHURCH –

www.hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk for more details

13th April: 11 am. Palm Sunday service with distribution of Palm crosses.

17th April: Maundy Thursday: 6.30 pm. Denotes the Last Supper

18th April: Good Friday: Children's Activities at 10.30 am and Choir Recital at 7.30 pm

20th April: Easter Day: 5 am Sunrise Service, blessing of the Easter Fire etc. 11 am. Easter Day Communion followed by Easter Egg hunt.

Easter Holiday Ideas

The children will be home from school for two weeks and if you are unable to get away on holiday, you might be thinking of where you can take them for a day out that is not too far away from home.

Here are some tried and tested places by water.

Draycote Water Country Park: This very large reservoir on the other side of Coventry, just past Dunchurch, is a lovely place – whether you cycle around or take a picnic, or participate in some water sports. It has a good restaurant with a balcony overlooking the water, a little gift shop, a large children's play area. Chill out and watch the sailing, take photos of the sunsets, or just go for a walk by the water – normal parking is £2.50 for the day – but on busy days, parking can be free! Please note: Dogs are allowed in the Country Park area, but not around the Reservoir. Good toilet facilities in the Country Park and under the restaurant. Disabled access by lift to restaurant. You might like to have a walk around Dunchurch village too.

Kingsbury Water Park: Just past Coleshill. Lots to do, or you can just sit by the water and watch all the water events. Many lakes, all with different activities, from model boats to sailing, fishing and pedaloos. Enormous children's play area, train rides, children's activities, walks, restaurant, toilet facilities. Bike hire. Dogs allowed on leads. £3.50 per car. Pedestrians free. Disabled access.

Chasewater Country Park: Nr. Brownhills/Burntwood. Whether you want to practice water sports in a safe environment, take a picnic, play crazy golf or pedal go carts, canoeing, swings, slides - you will not be short of something to do here. Large cafe with art area, another cafe and a restaurant by Chasewater Railway station, where you can have a train ride on full size trains, antique shop, gifts, model railway, boating. Bird watching. Toilet facilities and disabled access. Free parking.

Can you recommend anywhere for families to visit in the Whitsun holidays? Let us know.

Ideas of what you would like to read about in your Catney News are always welcome. I would really appreciate articles of interest to put in the May issue; please let me have all copy by 20th April. The May News will be a 4 page edition, so space will be limited. Please let Frances Cook have your email address if you would like to receive the Catney News by this method in colour. Chris Cluley. Editor.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY AT LONGFELLOWS

PIE N'PUD QUIZ NIGHT.

WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL.

STEAK PIE (SUET CRUST) or FISH PIE (POTATO TOPPING)

MIXED VEGETABLES & NEW POTS.

FOLLOWED BY

APPLE CRUMBLE & CUSTARD.

Or

STILTON & MATURE CHEDDAR.

ONLY £12.50 PER PERSON.

PLEASE PRE-ORDER !!!!!

Do you need a cleaner?

**Do you want someone to do all those household jobs
you haven't got time to do?**

Call Jenny now on 07901 530861

CONTACT US: *You can contact us by emailing Frances Cook at secretary@catney.co.uk or for contributions to the Catney News, you can contact Christine Cluley at editor@catney.co.uk If you do not have email, please contact us on 0776 8502039 and leave a message or you could speak to a Committee member.*

Airport Noise complaints: Airport Environmental Helpline on 0121 767 7433

Emergency Vets: 608 Vets, 608 Warwick Road - open 24 hrs for help or advice 0121 705 3044

Ring and Ride - Solihull

The Elmdon Depot is also the home of the 'Taxi Bus' service. This service provides a lifeline for people living in the Meridan Gap, the rural area between Solihull and Coventry. It links into conventional bus and rail and can be used by any member of the public for a commercial fare.

With spring almost on us the staff are already looking at places to get people out and about over the summer months. We will be advertising through posters on buses with trips to garden centres and pub lunches always popular. Birmingham City Council will put on events throughout the summer and again we will keep people informed on any trips that we will be operating. Contact us on : 0121 782 9316 or 0121 782 9320.

TIDY UP THE VILLAGE INITIATIVE

Sunday 11th May 10.30am (duration 1 1/2 hours max)

Meet at Catherine de Barnes Village Hall

(bring a rake /gloves and anything else that might help)

Let's tidy up/clear litter in the Village and make it look good for Summer. The more people come, the less you will have to do!

What would you like to see in our Village?

- a. More benches**
 - b. More flowers**
 - c. A water feature**
 - d. A piece of art/statue**
 - e. A play area**
 - f. A memorial garden**
 - g. Something else**
- Let us know!**

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Do you have a building improvement business or a business with associated skills, and would like to help the local community? Could you assist us to refurbish and repair the Village Hall? Or would your business be prepared to give a donation? However you can help, we would love to hear from you. We will advertise your company's generosity as widely as we can and it will hopefully bring more business your way.

The Hall is part of a Charitable Trust.

Please speak to a Trustee (see March edition) or contact Frances Cook (see Contacts) if you would like to help us.

APPLICATION FORM FOR JOINING CATNEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION FROM APRIL 2014

Please hand your completed application form in at the Spar shop in a sealed envelope with your Subscription. If you have mobility difficulties, please contact Frances Cook or any Committee member and we will arrange collection.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Subscription fees are £3 for Single Membership

£5 for Joint Membership

£10 for Family Membership (4 or more people 16 or over who live at the same address) Children 15 or under have free membership.

ADDRESS:
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TELEPHONE NO:

E.MAIL ADDRESS:

I/We would like to receive the Catney News by e.mail only

I/We would like to receive the Catney News by hard copy only

I/We would like to receive the Catney News by e.mail and hard copy

NAME:

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