



**OCTOBER 2014**

Shubh Deepawali to our Hindu neighbours  
for later this month!



## Catney Day Events

Thanks to all of you who supported Catney Day and the Evening Barn Dance and Pig Roast. The afternoon BBQ presented an opportunity for many of you to catch up with old village friends and meet new ones. Thanks to Steve and Claire for looking after the BBQ and keeping us satisfied and to Dave P for quenching our thirsts. Thanks too, to Steve Wallis and his folk group, who provided some great music. During the afternoon the winners of the scarecrow competition were announced and prizes presented by local farmer John Cox (thanks John). Very many thanks to all those who donated the numerous raffle prizes which enabled us to run one in the afternoon and the evening, and to those who provided the fantastic cakes which I was reliably told were not 'fat free and low in carbohydrates' – mmm they were delicious! Thanks must be expressed to John Vincent and Paul of Heath farm for the use of the field for the day - it's much appreciated and greatly assists our efforts to bring the village together.

The Pig Roast and Barn Dance was a great success attended by 93 residents and friends - it was great to see lots of new faces who I think it's fair to say, judging by the numbers participating in the barn dancing, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The food was delicious and there was plenty for all. The day was a great financial success too – raising just over £950 towards the Village Hall Fund.

These events rely on the volunteers, who give up their time and often more, to get them from being just ideas to actual events and I 'd like to thank you all- you know who you are – for making it the day that it was – so thanks again.

Dave Cuthbert



**Catney Day BBQ**

## **Scarecrow Competition**

**Our first ever Scarecrow competition was a great success, with 19 entries ranging from Ronald Reagan, James Bond and Elvis to a Fisherman and "Where's Wally". A local farmer was recruited to judge the entries and the winner was a more traditional scarecrow - Mr Button Crow of Foxley Drive, made by 6 year old Poppy. A "Crowbot" came in second place and "Scare Croak" frog was third. We hope to continue with this as an annual event, so please let us have a bumper crop of scarecrows next year.**



**Mr. Button Crow - Winner**



**Crowbot – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place**



**Scare-Croak  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place**



# THE WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING



Pete Peters tells us that £240 was raised this year, thanks to everyone who helped and supported this very worthwhile fundraising venture.

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## Planning Applications

- 1) **Planning Application** 2014/1160 Muslim Burial Ground ---- this goes before the Planning Committee on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. It is not too late to submit a letter – they can be accepted up until a few days before – the Association has responded to the application and our response is on the website. Although you may receive the Catney News around the 1<sup>st</sup>, we would still ask residents to help us in our fight to protect the Green Belt which surrounds us. The public are able to attend Planning Committee meetings and the major applications are generally discussed after 6pm – we hope some of you feel able to attend to express our concerns for the future of this land.
- 2) **Planning Application** 2014/1400 Thaqwa Burial Ground--- this application goes before the Planning Committee on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October and again you have until the 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> to respond to the application. Again the meeting is open to the Public.
- 3) **Planning Application** 2013/746 Birmingham Dogs Home—work started on the site on Monday 22nd September but we have recently learned that amendments have been made to the roofing material( no longer grass) and to the design of the kennels ( we understand that they are no longer in a staggered configuration which aided the reduction in the potential noise nuisance to a flat design which could not offer the same conditions. These changes were treated by the Planning Officers as ‘minor’ so have been approved. The Association has expressed our concerns over these decisions with our local Councillors and MP Caroline Spelman during their recent walkabout round the Village. We await their response.

**We are seeking the help of a Professional Fundraiser in helping us raise funds for the Hall. If you know of anyone who can help in this are we would be pleased to hear from you**

The Residents Association has also raised the issue of the double decker now regularly travelling down Lugtrout Lane. We understand that resident's vehicles have had to hug the hedges to avoid a collision which has resulted in some vehicles getting scratched. If you have been so affected please let us know. We believe this to be either a school bus on Green Bus Company route 871 or a JLR sponsored vehicle taking workers to and from car parks near the Airport .

Both photos below taken on Fri 26 Sept 2014 by Chris Boxall.

Chris says: The first photo was taken opposite the entrance to the cricket ground. Lugtrout Lane is at its narrowest here, close to John Florence's house. The approaching bus travels in the middle of the road, filling the lane and smashing the tree canopy. In the second photo, the bus passed a white van directly adjacent to where I was sitting. I had insufficient time to photograph this properly. It seems that both vehicles were in their own lanes. The lane is a little wider here than on the 'approaching' photo. However, I suspect that the bus was off the carriageway on the near side. It is clear that there are a number of bus tyre tracks off the road at this point.

Anyone else like to comment on this or have you taken photos?



## Airport

Back in June following a 'review' Birmingham Airport decided to remove a number of Airport Consultative Committee members, of which we are one, from the group. Following discussions during a recent review to discuss the Airspace change programme (option 5 and 6) Caroline Spelman MP and Cllr Bob Sleight suggested to the Airport Company that they review their hasty actions in the hope of restoring some Community confidence. This they have done. At a recent meeting of the old ACC the Airport tabled their original plans but this time have asked for Members participation in coming up with ideas and proposals for a New Committee which they

hope to have in place by September 2015. We will keep you updated as to developments.

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*Christmas is coming* (Sorry, but it is getting nearer!)

## Catney Christmas Party

Don't forget the date this year will be Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December – tickets will go on sale in November. Space is limited so please don't leave it too late to buy yours.

## Catney Christmas Tree

We would like to erect a Xmas Tree again this year and are seeking a sponsor . On checking last year's final figures the cost of the 7m tree was £280 and we were charged £180 for delivery and installation. If you feel you are able to help please contact the Association.

### Catney Carol Singing

We hope to arrange village Christmas Carol singing under the Tree again this year – more detail in our November issue



## VILLAGE HALL

As some of you will have seen the inside of the Hall has been painted and freshened up (it's not finished yet). We hope you think it looks a lot brighter and cleaner. Still lots more to do—now the kitchen roof has developed a leak – looks like it need re-roofing .

## Finance

We have now started to refurbish the Village Hall as you can tell if you look at the front of the building and over the next few years we will be taking on various projects to restore and upgrade the facilities within the Hall. The Hall is open for bookings re parties, meetings and any classes people would like to carry out there. Gareth at the SPAR Shop handles all bookings on 0121 705 6135

**THE HALL IS FOR THE COMMUNITY TO ENJOY BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SUSTAIN FUNDS TO CARRY OUT NECESSARY REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS.**

## Village Hall (Continued).

During the last 12 months various people have kindly pledged to donate to The Village Hall Funds to enable us to carry out these various repairs /improvements some of which we have mentioned earlier and we would now like to take you up on the pledges .

Will you please support us in any you can with an ongoing or one off contribution any of which would most gratefully received?

### You can either:-

Fill in the enclosed Standing Order form at the back of this edition and send to your bank.

Cheques should be made payable to Catherine de Barnes Village Hall and either posted to David Parsons at 39 Oakfields Way, Solihull, B91 2TR.

Or handed to Dave Parsons, Dave Cuthbert, Dave Lusty, Steve Scott or Stephen Wallis or simply hand into the Spar Shop marked for Catherine de Barnes Village Hall Donation Fund.

**THANKING YOU ALL IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR SUPPORT**

### THE TRUSTEES

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### VACANCY

There is a vacancy on Hampton Parish Council which they have decided they would like to fill with a representative from Catherine de Barnes (he/she could come from the whole village - not just the HPC part over the bridge) There is a piece in their newsletter which will be available on their website about it and I think we should reproduce it for the next Catney News and there maybe someone in the Village who may wish to be considered.

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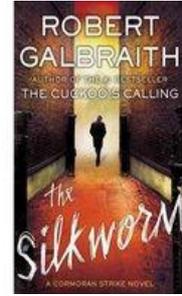
## CATNEY CRICKET CLUB

With the end of the Season came relegation for both sides after the euphoria of last season we came down to earth with a bump but it was not till the last game when our fate was sealed however we are starting to make plans for next Season and would welcome ant Villagers that might want to play Cricket or have time to get involved in the clubs activities. If anyone is interested please contact Eddie Hewitt on 0121 373 9104.

Regards Eddie

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# THE SILKWORM A novel by Robert Galbraith



## Book review by John Alderson

When I reviewed Galbraith's first novel in August of last year, I was enthusiastic about it even before I knew Galbraith was a pseudonym of J K Rowling, and I thought it a new, interesting and readable formula with an equally interesting detective hero.

Regretfully, I cannot say the same about *The Silkworm*, which is a story of life in the literary world, which J K Rowling presumably knows well and is filled with dreadful people doing appalling things to one another.

Cormoran Strike (detective hero) is invited by his wife to locate the missing novelist Owen Quine, who it seems has recently completed a manuscript with hidden – or not so hidden – references to his contemporaries. Quine is found to have been killed in a most appalling manner and as Strike uses the manuscript with its inevitable list of suspects, it becomes impossible to identify with any of the rather distasteful characters portrayed. It's also told in a period of unceasing freezing weather, which doesn't our hero at all kindly I'm afraid, having a partial prosthetic leg.

I found this a disappointing book on a number of levels; it is not for the squeamish and finally having the killer revealed from such an unlikely and undesirable list of suspects comes as a relief that you can now put the book down.

J K Rowling, Robert Galbraith or whoever, has to do better than this next time. Not my recommended reading I'm afraid.



**There will be an Arts and Crafts Exhibition**

£1 entry (under 16 free)

at The Fentham Hall in Hampton in Arden on

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October from 10 am to 5 pm.

Refreshments, cakes, Light lunches available

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# Hampton in Arden Church

Please note that when the clocks go back at the end of October Sunday Evensong will be moving from 6.30 pm to 4pm

**HAMPTON CHURCH WILL HAVE A HARVEST FESTIVAL  
ON THE 5TH OCTOBER AT 11 AM.**

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO COME TO THIS SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE GIFTS OF FOOD TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE NEEDY, THEY WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AT THE SERVICE.  
THANK YOU.

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A very different aerial view of our Village Hall



I would really appreciate articles of interest and your photos to put in the **November** issue; please let me have all copy by **20<sup>th</sup> October**. For contributions to the Catney News, you can contact me, Chris Cluley at [editor@catney.co.uk](mailto:editor@catney.co.uk).

Please let Frances Cook have your email address if you would like to receive the Catney News by this method in colour and so that we can contact you on Village issues. You can contact her by emailing Frances Cook at [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk)

Want to book the Village Hall for a function? Contact Gareth at the Spar Shop on **0121 705 6135**

**Chris Cluley, Editor**



# New Standing Order Instruction

To

Bank

Please set up the following Standing Order and debit my/our account accordingly

### 1. Account details

Account name

Account number

Account holding branch

Sort code

### 2. Payee details

Name of person or organisation you are paying

Payment reference (if known) - this will appear on the bank statement of the person or organisation you wish to pay

Sort code - the bank code of the person or organisation you are paying

Account number - the account number of the person or organisation you wish to pay  
(Eight digits - if less place zeros at the front)

### 3. About the payment

How often are the payments to be made

Weekly

Two weekly

Four weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Half yearly

Yearly

Amount details

Date and amount of first payment  
(please allow 3 working days for receipt)

£

Date and amount of ongoing payments  
(If different from the first payment)

£

Choose one of the following two options

1. Date and amount of final payment

£

2. Until further notice

(payments will be made until you cancel this instruction)

### 4. Confirmation

Customer signature(s)

Date