



# CATNEY NEWS



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Dear Villagers,

Here we are again at December. Where has the year gone? For my family it has been a mix of happy and horrible. We have celebrated two special birthdays and a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, but have also had to face things that we wish had not had to happen. But that is life, and we are grateful for the good times.

So may I wish you all love and peace in your hearts and homes this Christmas and may 2018 bring you good health, and many opportunities to make lovely memories

Chris Cluley,  
Editor



Catney Residents  
Association

**DECEMBER 2017**

**JANUARY 2018**

## **PARISH BOUNDARY UPDATE EVENT**

**followed by complimentary wine and seasonal nibbles**

**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER COMMENCING 7.30pm VILLAGE HALL**

**ALL VILLAGERS WELCOME**

# NEWS FROM YOUR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## Parish Boundary – Community Governance Review (CGR)

As you know we recently submitted our Petition asking Solihull MBC to undertake a CGR seeking the incorporation of the whole of Catherine de Barnes (ward BH07) into Hampton in Arden Parish ( Ward BH06).

This process is now underway and SMBC are currently preparing the Terms of Reference document which will be presented to the Governance Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> November and which will then be publicly available on 29<sup>th</sup> November. The document will explain the aims of the review, and some of the policies that the Council consider important in its reviewing process **and will include the 3 maybe 4 simple questions aimed at seeking residents initial views.** We do not have these at the time of printing but will be producing a further flyer which will be delivered to ALL residents in both areas early in December with full details. In addition we will be holding an event on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December in the Village Hall from 7.30pm** as an opportunity for residents to discuss the proposals etc., which will be followed by complimentary wine and seasonal nibbles.

**PLEASE JOIN US – ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME.**

Copies of the Terms of Reference document will be available online from 29<sup>th</sup> November at [www.solihull.gov.uk/cgr/hamptoninarden](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/cgr/hamptoninarden). Paper copies will also be available at Hampton in Arden Library, Fentham Road, Solihull Connect in Theatre Square, and at the Council House reception Manor Square. If you are unable to access online please call the **Catney residents mobile** 0776 8502039 with your name and address and we will arrange to get a copy to you .

Residents of both areas are encouraged to let the Council know their views during the consultation period which runs from 29<sup>th</sup> November through to 31<sup>st</sup> December. Comments can be left online, e-mailed to [electoralservices@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@solihull.gov.uk) , or posted to Electoral Services, Solihull Council, Manor Square, Solihull, B91 9QS.

**PLEASE SUPPORT US AND RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION**

**THANK YOU – David Cuthbert - Chair Catherine de Barnes Residents Association**

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**THERE WILL BE A CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS EVE IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 4 PM. DO BRING YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, NIECES AND NEPHEWS TO THIS DELIGHTFUL EVENT.**



# CAROLS AROUND THE CATNEY CHRISTMAS TREE



**THIS YEAR OUR CAROL SINGING WILL BE  
ON  
SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 5.30 PM.**

**DO PLEASE JOIN US TO SING SOME WELL LOVED CAROLS BY  
THE LIGHT OF OUR TREE (ALL ARE WELCOME; BRING YOUR  
CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND  
YOURSELVES – CAROL SHEETS ARE PROVIDED)**

**. THERE WILL BE FREE REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL AFTER THE  
SINGING. IF THE WEATHER IS BAD, WE WILL SING IN THE HALL.**

**SO PLEASE TRY AND FINISH THE SHOPPING EARLY THAT DAY  
AND COME AND JOIN US. BRING LANTERNS IF YOU HAVE THEM  
OR TORCHES. PLEASE HELP US MAKE THIS THE BIGGEST SING  
EVER FOR THIS EVENT!!!**

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**Excerpt 1 from : A Village Christmas by Laurie Lee**

*For us boys in our village in the Cotswolds, Christmas always started on a star-bright night, never pre-arranged but intuitively recognised. A few of us would wrap ourselves in scarves and mufflers, fix lighted candles in jam jars and go through the streets calling out the rest of the gang. "Coming carol barking, then?" It was a declaration, not a question. One by one they appeared, flapping their arms and stamping their feet.*

*We were a ragged lot but we had official status for we were the boys of the village choir, and as a reward for a year of dutiful churchgoing, we'd earned the right to sing carols at all the big houses in the valley, and collect our tribute.*

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**FOR SALE:**

Yamaha piano keyboard PSR 125 plus instruction manual and several other books for beginners. Exc. cond. £45

Please ring for more details:

0121 705 9856

## Excerpt 2 from: Village Christmas by Laurie Lee

*Now our band of musical footpads set off merrily through the crunching snow, swinging our lanterns on loops of string. We began with the Squire, while still in good voice – advancing in awe down his well swept drive to the great house. The old man, wrapped in a rug, stood at the door and listened, weeping softly, as our Christmas trebles reminded him once more of the passing of time.*

*“Hark the herald angels sing!” Once again we were the bearers of the miraculous tidings to house and farm, to the folk by the fire, the stamping beasts in their stalls. And at each house, when we’d finished, we were rewarded with handfuls of coppers, hot mince pies, tangerines – gifts as precious as gold or myrrh.*



### What's on in Solihull in December and January?

**3<sup>rd</sup> December:** 12 NOON TO 3 PM Brueton Park.

Father Christmas is making a special appearance in the park so come and visit him in his grotto to receive a small gift! There is a festive treasure trail and other entertainment for you to enjoy, including a Christmas craft activity at the Parkridge Centre. Entrance costs £3.00 per child.

Reduce your queuing time by booking a time slot in advance via the Solihull Connect Contact Centre on 0121 704 8000. With Carols in the Park taking place from 1.00pm, visitors of all ages can get into the festive spirit! Join our brass band and choir for some seasonal good cheer.

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**The Moat Players proudly present Peter Pan–to** at Hobs Moat Church Hall on

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm

Tickets: Adults: £8 Concessions: £6.50

07760 306605 or [www.moatplayers.co.uk](http://www.moatplayers.co.uk)

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**Pete Peters would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning in the Village Hall for MacMillan Cancer Support. A grand total of £330 was raised. Thanks to all the helpers.**





**KNOWLE & DORRIDGE  
LIONS CLUB**

Reg. charity no. 509993



# FESTIVE WALK

**Wednesday 27 December**

**Baddesley Clinton National Trust House**

Start from 9:00, finish by 16:00

Choice of 3, 6 or 9 miles



**Walk off the  
Christmas pud**

**Bring along your  
family & friends**

**Add it to your  
festive calendar**

FREE entry to National Trust  
House & Gardens

Enjoy a mulled wine & mince pies  
with the Lions

Help raise funds for

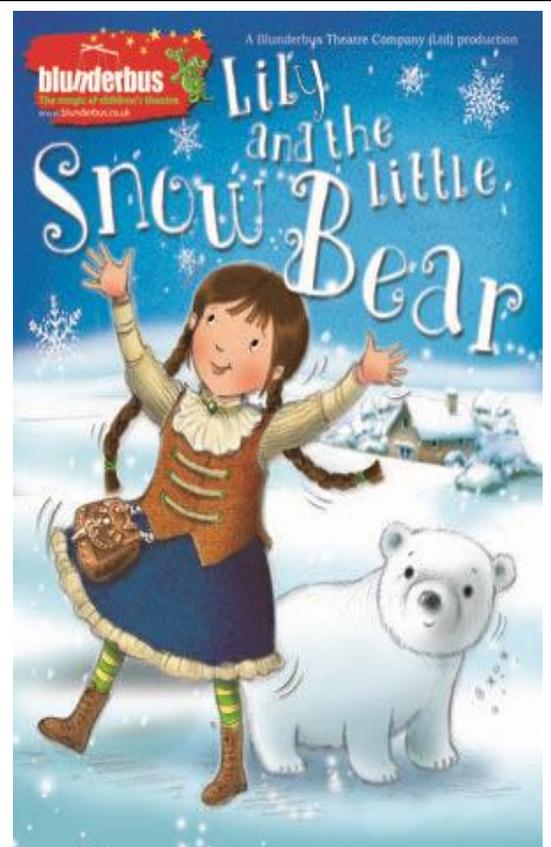


Improving life after brain injury



With half of all funds  
raised going to Lions  
locally determined  
causes

Download your registration form today  
[www.knowleanddorridgelions.com/walk](http://www.knowleanddorridgelions.com/walk)



The Core Theatre, Solihull

**Wednesday 20 December**

10:30 am and 1.30 pm

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

10:30 am and 1.30 pm

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

10:30 am and 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

10:30 am and 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm

£10 per ticket

0121 704 6962



# The Syd Lawrence Orchestra - Golden Night of Swing

Wed 17 Jan 2018, The Core Theatre 7.30 Tickets £24

50th Anniversary Tour

Come and join this wonderful Orchestra to celebrate 50 glorious years of swing!

## An Audience With Rev. Richard Coles

Tues 30 Jan 2018, The Core Theatre. 7.30 pm Tickets: £20

The Reverend is back from Strictly!

Join *Strictly's* latest dancing star as he recounts his experiences both on the dance floor and backstage with the stars.

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**Turkey stroganoff** This is a warm, creamy dish that's perfect for using up all the leftover turkey meat on Boxing Day! Serve with rice or just crusty bread and salad. You can easily use this recipe with leftover chicken, too.

**Ingredients** Serves: 4

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 knob butter
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 6 mushrooms, cleaned and sliced (optional)
- 100ml white wine
- 500 to 700g leftover breast and brown turkey meat
  
- 3 to 4 spring onions
- 1 (284 ml) carton double cream
- 1 or 2 teaspoons Dijon or wholegrain mustard
- a few sprigs fresh thyme, stems removed
- salt and pepper
- a few sprigs fresh parsley, chopped

**Method** Prep:15min › Cook:5min › Ready in:20min

1. Heat the oil and a knob of butter in a deep sided frying pan. Add onion and cook over medium heat until lightly browned and soft. Stir in mushrooms and cook until softened.
2. Pour in the wine and let the mixture simmer for a few minutes before turning the heat down to low. Stir in the turkey, spring onions, cream, mustard and thyme and continue to cook gently for another 5 or 10 minutes.
3. Season with salt and pepper and garnish with fresh parsley.

### ***Use for leftovers***

You can freeze any leftovers or use as the filling in a savoury pie.



## Classes at Catherine de Barnes Village Hall

Email Jennie on [contact@pilateswithjennie.co.uk](mailto:contact@pilateswithjennie.co.uk), call 07860 139680 or visit [www.pilateswithjennie.co.uk](http://www.pilateswithjennie.co.uk)

## PILATES FOR WINTER SPORT

There's nothing more exhilarating than the thrill of skiing or snowboarding down a snow-covered mountainside with clear blue skies overhead and fresh clean air in your lungs. So how can you prepare yourself for a safe and injury-free holiday in the snow?

By focusing on correct core muscle engagement, Pilates exercises helps a skier to focus on allowing the movement to start from the centre of the body and move outwards. The result is a stronger and more adaptable skier with improved body awareness and proprioception. By practicing Pilates, you will develop a strong core, improve balance and increase agility. With the additional core strength, you can improve your edging and transfer a powerful line of energy into the skis. A strong core, coupled with improved alignment, will also reduce impact on a skier's back, hips, and knees. As a result, you will become energy efficient and reduce wear and tear on your joints.



Pilates concentrates on achieving good posture alignment and this will help maintain control whilst skiing.

Pilates is excellent for skiers to regain muscle balance and avoid sport specific injuries. Bringing the body back into balance requires stretching the dominant and strengthening the less dominant muscles. Many Pilates exercises do both simultaneously

By using a range of Pilate mobility and strength exercises you can safely prepare for the ski season. Due to increased core strength and awareness, even if you clip your skis and fall over – your obliques will assist in a graceful recovery to a standing position to start again!

**HAPPY SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING!**



**Cyril on his toadstool, nuts for dinner. By Jane Clancy**

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## **Our Remembrance Service Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Once again, this service was held in our Village Hall, converted back to being St. Catherine's Church for the occasion. It was lovely to share this service with all those that attended from the village. It is always a moving occasion, particularly when we take our poppies to the font in an act of Remembrance for all those from Catney who have fought and died in two world wars. We remembered all who have given their lives the world over in an effort to bring peace. Many thanks to Beryl Moppet, MBE for taking our service and to Bruce Hart, from St. Michael's Church for playing the piano and accompanying our hymn singing.

Do join us next year.

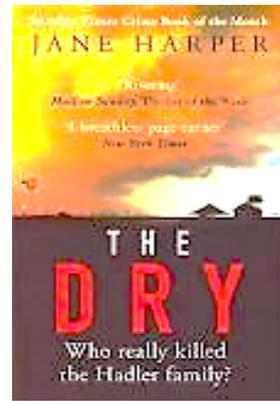
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### **Except 3 from Christmas Village, by Laurie Lee**

*Christmas in the country meant feasts and fires, a few brief days of excess, when even the poorest among us would confront the stern gods of winter with the bravest possible show of good living. Everybody was busy this morning, chopping wood, carrying in logs or sitting on the doorstep plucking ducks or geese. Now the time had come for us to go up to the woods and collect leaves for decorating the house. Among the black and bare trees we shook the snow from the undergrowth with frost-reddened fingers, seeking the sharp-spiked holly, bunches of laurel and ivy, cold clusters of moon-pale mistletoe. With these, our sisters transformed the familiar kitchen into a grotto shining leaves, an enchanted bower woven from twigs and branches sprinkled with scarlet berries.*

# THE DRY A NOVEL BY Jane Harper

A Book Review by John Alderson



The Dry is an amazing first novel from ex journalist Jane Harper, centred on Kiewarra, a small community in the Australian Outback suffering from extreme drought and excessive heat and with a history of strife and division.

Aaron Falk, now a financial investigator in Melbourne, was forced to leave the town with his father twenty years earlier, being accused of involvement in the death of Ellie Deacon and is now returning to Kiewarra to attend the funeral of his earlier best friend, Luke who with his wife Karen and son Billy have been shot dead.

Falk is invited by local policeman Sergeant Raco, who regards the deaths, supposedly by Luke's hand as suspicious, and the story is of the investigation which turns up lots of bad blood, lies and obfuscation, all within the incredible domestic background of a drought threatening drought.

The characters are so well drawn you cannot help but relate to them all almost feeling you are there with them in this hostile environment and always surrounded by suspicion and the plot weaves gradually to a conclusion leaving you with doubts until the very end.

This is a very well written novel and highly recommended.

John Alderson

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## Excerpt 4 from Village Christmas by Laurie Lee

*Everything was now ready for tomorrow. There was nothing to do except go to bed, curl up in our blankets and wait, each with his long stocking hanging on the bedpost, empty. Would there be a flash of red in the window, a snow-glint of beard and ermine, a whisper of sleigh bells on our rooftops as Father Christmas made his benevolent entrance? We suspended judgement and kept an open mind.*

*And when it happened, it was like the opening of a flower in the dark, the sudden ripening of fruit on the bough. A minute ago there was just the limp dead stocking. Now it hung heavy, bulging with gifts. Of all moments in childhood this must remain the most haunting, most unforgettable: the drowsy hand in the cold of the winter's dawn reaching out as a test of hope, then suddenly finding itself filled with this weight of love, bestowed silently while it slept*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH CHURCH.

You are all very welcome to any or all of these services.

- Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>. 8.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Parish Communion  
6.30 pm A service of Nine Lessons and Carols
- Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>. 8.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Parish Communion  
3.00 pm Children's Crib Service  
11.30 pm Midnight Mass
- Monday December 25<sup>th</sup>. 8.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00.am Christmas Family Communion

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### Excerpt 5 from Village Christmas by Laurie Lee

*Christmas dressing was formal – for the boys, velvet suits, starched collar and hair shining with Vaseline; for the girls, best dresses and new pinafores. We tumbled downstairs, three steps at a time, into the kitchen's glow. The fire was ablaze and Mother had already started the breakfast, frying great pans of eggs and bacon. We sat down to the finest breakfast of the year, which included real cream and porridge.*

*"Hark children!" cried Mother, suddenly cocking her head, "Isn't that pretty? Now fancy that."*

*With our mouths full of bacon we ran out into the yard and stood listening in the snow. Then we heard it, the pealing of the Painswick bells, the traditional and joyous sound, coming faint but clear over the distant hill like icicles stirred by the wind, ringing Christmas in the valley. Our own village bell started up soon after, cool as a snowdrop, calling us all to church.*

**Like to read more of this delightful book? Village Christmas by Laurie Lee is available in Paperback from good bookshops or Amazon or for Kindle from Amazon.**



**You can now follow “Catney Village Hall” on Twitter (@catneyA) Our website is : [www.catney.co.uk](http://www.catney.co.uk)**

**Contacts: Secretary of the Residents Association: Frances on 0776 8502039 or [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk)**

**Anything for the Catney News: Contact Chris at [cluleychris8@outlook.com](mailto:cluleychris8@outlook.com) **Note: new email address****

**Spar Shop/Hall Bookings: Gareth on 0121 705 6135**

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### **The Ladies Breakfast is 3 years old !**

We meet in Hampton church hall on the second Saturday of each month to have breakfast together and share in some good conversations. In addition each month someone volunteers to tell us about something they have done, somewhere they have been or something they are particularly interested in. During the course of 2017 we heard about : different ways of celebrating Christmas and Easter, trips to Fiji and to Kenya supporting education projects, the icon project here in Hampton in Arden, diabetes, books that have impacted on us, interesting jobs in schools and in hospitals, training courses completed, travelling with those who have vision problems. We welcome ladies of all ages from Hampton, Barston, Bickenhill and Catherine-de-Barnes. For more information please contact Helen Wood (01675 44 2976) or Sheila Wyatt (01675 44 2316 ). It would be great to see you on any of these dates in 2018 or on all of them!

- January 13th
- February 10<sup>th</sup> (tbc)
- March 10th,
- April 14th
- May 12th
- June 9th
- July 14th
- August 11th
- September 8th
- October 13th
- November 10th
- December 8<sup>th</sup>

**The last Ladies' Breakfast of 2017 will be on Saturday December 9th at 9am in the church hall: This time with the additional touch of something special and Christmassy ! For more information please contact Helen or Sheila as above**

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## USEFUL NUMBERS

West Midlands Ambulance	+ 44 (0) 138 421 5555
West Midlands Fire Service	+ 44 (0) 121 359 5161
West Midlands Police	+ 44 (0) 845 113 5000
Solihull and Heartlands Hospitals	0121 424 2000
<b>IF YOU SMELL GAS OR SUSPECT A CARBON MONOXIDE LEAK:</b> Call National Grid free on our 24-hour GAS and CARBON MONOXIDE emergency helpline,	0800 111 999
Taxis	+ 44 (0) 121 782 3744
National Rail enquiries	+ 44 (0) 845 748 4950
Central Trains	+ 44 (0) 870 608 260
Solihull Council general enquiries, information	0121 704 8001/6000
Environmental Maintenance, (includes Waste & Recycling, Street Care and Pest Control)	0121 704 8000
Roads & highways	0121 704 8004
National express coaches	+ 44 (0) 870 580 8080

