

SUMMER

JULY 2014

Hi Everyone,

It's summer time! I hope that you all have a relaxing summer, whether you travel or whether you stay at home.

We know how busy you all are – but please, if you have forgotten to join the Residents Association for 2014, we would still be glad of your subscriptions which are severely down this year. You can put your subscription in a sealed envelope with a telephone number, email address, ordinary address and your names and take it to the Spar Shop where it will be collected by our Treasurer. £3 for single membership, £5 for two people in the same house and £10 for a family of more than four over 18's at the same address.

We also need more people to join the Residents Association Committee, in order to not only ensure the Village Hall work is ongoing, but that all the many facets of our work for the Village itself are carried out. It is daunting that at the moment there are only six of us on the Committee and so much needs to be done. If you are interested in looking after Catney and protecting it for the future, please join us. We meet once a month usually on a Wednesday evening at 8 pm in the hall if available. Just come along. Our next meeting is on the 9th July.

We were so very sorry to learn of the untimely death of Sally Clark at the end of May. Her brother has kindly written a piece for the News in memory of Sally.

Chris Cluley
Editor

Best Dressed Scarecrow Event - please join in!!!



Can you make the best dressed scarecrow in the Village?

You do not have to display it in your garden unless you want to do so (some of you will have long drives and it may not be seen!) providing that you can bring it along on Catney Day to be displayed in front of the Village Hall. Your scarecrow can be dressed as any best dressed person, e.g. 007, Royalty, famous models, pop stars, film stars, it is really up to you as long as your scarecrow looks as if it is going somewhere very special. Those in gardens should be displayed for the week leading up to Catney Day and they will be judged during that week and those displayed at the Hall will be judged on Catney Day. The prize for the best dressed scarecrow over all those judged, will be presented on Catney Day on the 20th September. The scarecrows will be judged by a real farmer – and he knows his scarecrows!

If you are interested in taking part please contact the Association by phone/email **0776 8502039**/secretary@catney.co.uk to express your interest in order that we can establish whether to go ahead with the event Please let us know if you will be displaying your scarecrow in your front garden.

Wanted. Person to help with work in large garden at 29 Catherines Close. Irregular periods during July and August. May suit strong sixth form student. Cotact; Barry Lewis Tel 0121 704 4772.

CATNEY DAY

Catney Day will be on **Saturday 20th September** at the **Village Hall**.

There will be an afternoon Barbeque with games, a bar, raffles etc., etc., and in the evening we will be having a Barn Dance, with a meal included. We have moved the date to the 20th September to enable the Barn Dance caller to be with us.

Please put the date in your diary and come along and support this fun event.

We will have more details in the August edition of the Catney News.

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Solihull Cycling Club History (It started here!)

1929 The idea becomes reality.

Two friends, Tommy Hawkes of Hermitage road and Eric Walker from Catherine de Barnes, discuss forming a cycle club during a chance meeting in Hampton Lane. That year, together with two other friends, Arthur Holden and Ivor Goodman, the idea became reality.

The Thirties.

The club went from strength to strength promoting time trials then the basis of British competitive cycling of National interest as well as developing its social and family activities due to the fact that the club had always welcomed female applicants, rather avante garde in the thirties.

The War Years.

It was decided during September 1949 at the club's headquarters, Oak Farm in Catherine de Barnes, that cycling life would continue as normally as possible and in spite of Air Raid Warden and Home Guard duties, together with members being

called up into the forces, so it did. Servicemen and women continued to receive the famous club magazine 'Awheel'.

The Post War Period.

This was the golden age for Solihull CC in terms of competitive cycling with several members being chosen to represent their country in both National and Olympic events. It is impossible to list every honour won.

1961 to date.

The Solihull CC continue to succeed both socially and competitively but the nation was gradually evolving after years of imposed restraints and with of imposed restraints and with rising living standards people acquired a more relaxed and informal life. Today, there are ten separate weekly club runs catering for all levels of ability and Thursday night is club night at The Red Lion Pub - Knowle where members can meet for a friendly drink if they wish to do so.

Fancy joining them? Contact: Pete James on membership@solihullcc.org.uk

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Hampton-in-Arden
In the Church Hall every Thursday
Morning - 0945 & Evening at 18.45 and 20.00.

Pilates Classes

See Website for details

Karen Dobson

Phone: 07794 439224

Web: www.swanpilates.co.uk

Email: karendobbo@btinternet.com

Improve your flexibility, strength & posture.

Tone up and have some fun!

Suitable for beginners to progressive levels



WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!



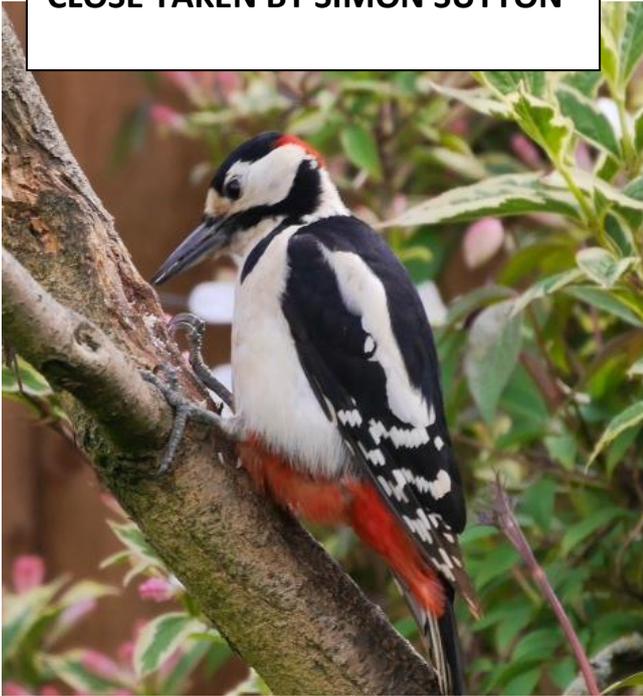
**A NUTHATCH IN LUGTROUT LANE
TAKEN BY GEOFF LORD**



**A HERON IN LUGTROUT LANE
TAKEN BY GEOFF LORD**

WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN (continued)

**WOODPECKER IN CATHERINES
CLOSE TAKEN BY SIMON SUTTON**



**HERON IN THE WINTER
GEOFF LORD**

CATNEY CRICKET CLUB

The season continues to be disappointing with some good performances but with no result at the end of the day, The weather has also had a major impact with the ground being under water at times but now with the weather improving we look forward to playing some good cricket and of course all villagers are welcome to come and watch, we meet behind the Boat pub.

We are hosting a charity match on the 20th July between teams from the Bulls Head, Barston & The White Lion , Hampton in Arden. The game starts at 2 pm and will be a 20 over bash, plus a B-B-Que, Tombola and various stalls.

All villagers will be made welcome and all proceeds will go to Help for Heroes,

Eddie Hewitt
Catherine de Barnes CC

HELP – was found!



Last month Jane Clancy asked us to help with the bees that are nesting in her bird box.

She has been advised that her bees are *Bombus hypnorum*, a tree bumblebee or new garden bumblebee, which is common on the European continent and parts of Asia. It has recently spread to the UK and Iceland. They are generally non-aggressive and will die off naturally between now and September. She is therefore leaving them where they are until then.

Jane also found this moth last month, (my apologies as I said Frances Cook had found it) and asked us what it was.

Hilary Harvey from Lugtrout Lane identifies the moth as an Eyed Hawk Moth. It has that name because it has two “eyes” on its wings which it shows when attacked by predators. The larvae feed on willow, sallow, crab apples and aspens. Jane has also been told it could be a Poplar Hawk Moth but these are found throughout the [Palearctic](#) region and the [Near East](#) and is one of the most common members of the family in the region.



The Grand Union Canal Race (GUCR)

Passing through Catney in May was Britain's longest and toughest, non-stop running race. The GUCR is run from the centre of Birmingham to the centre of London along the GUC over two days. Resting for more than 40 minutes at a time is not permitted.

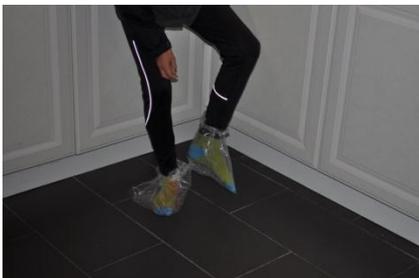
This 145-mile ultra marathon starts at 6am on the Saturday morning of the last bank holiday weekend in May.

What happened on the morning of 24th May at our house in Catney, was a little unexpected to say the least.



At 7.30am there was a knock at the door. A quick dart out of bed to find Steve a friend of ours in full cycling regalia, his bike leaning against the porch. Not far behind, his son Joe also with bike but dripping wet.

As a keen ultra marathon runner himself, Steve and his son had planned to follow part of the ultra marathon course from Solihull to Hatton, via Catney on their bikes where they would meet up with wife/mum for breakfast (sensible women went in the car!).



Like all good plans, there was an earth shattering moment. Joe, as only 11 year olds do, looked upwards to see an aeroplane coming into land and finds himself taking an unexpected swim in the cut, at one of Catney's bridges near to Catherines Close. The bike amazingly, stayed on terra firm as all good bikes generally do!

A hot drink, a quick change of clothing, feet ensconced in plastic bags and off they went to Hatton for breakfast, supporting the runners of the race along the way. The main topic of conversation no doubt being "what on earth do we tell mum"?

So if anyone wonders what was going on outside our house at 7.30am that Saturday morning, not much really, just a running enthusiast and his very wet son on their bikes, perhaps they should stick to running rather than cycling!

Well done Steve and Joe for making us laugh that early in the morning.



JANE CLANCY

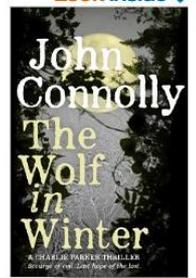
What's on during July and August?

- **5th and 6th July.** The legendary Robbie Williams has announced an additional date at the LG Arena, now playing in Birmingham on 5 & 6 July 2014. Playing songs from his incredible new album 'Swings Both Ways', this is a diary date you don't want to miss.
- **Saturday 12th July:** Vivaldi's Gloria, with Ex-Urbe in Hampton Church @ 7:30 pm Tickets £10 (under 16s free) - available on the door
- **Saturday 19th July at 7.30 pm: CLOUDS Harp Quartet Concert in Hampton Church.** CLOUDS is an all girl Harp Quartet who perform original music inspired by the folk music of the Scottish Borders. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for students and children. Please speak to Nick Hodgson (07789 264391)
- **Sunday 20th July - Music in the Park Brass Bonanza**
Knowle Park, B93 9HT, 2.00pm - 4.15pm
Spend a lazy Sunday afternoon in the park listening to the Alcester Victoria Silver Band as they perform a selection of brass favourites old and new. Bring along a picnic or enjoy the refreshments available - the perfect finale to the weekend!
- **Thursday 24 July 2014 - Saturday 26 July 2014 at the NEC**
Antiques For Everyone Summer
Adults & Seniors £12, Children (u16) free Halls 17 – 19 Free Parking

Antiques for Everyone is one of Britain's largest vetted and datelined antiques fairs featuring around 240 exhibitors from across the UK, Europe and America. With prices from less than £10 to more than £100,000, the huge selection of antiques includes art deco, decorative and period furniture, highly collectable ceramics, pottery, silverware, glass, stunning British and European works of art and vintage items.

BOOK REVIEW by John Alderson

THE WOLF IN WINTER A novel by John Connolly



John Connolly has written a series of books featuring his detective Charlie Parker and as I have not read any of his work prior to this story, I was interested to find that this is not your usual technique of following a detectives' thought process from beginning to end.

The death of a tramp and his missing daughter takes us to Prosperous, a peaceful and affluent small town in Maine USA. But Prosperous is not the town it appears to be and harbours a dark secret, embodied in the old church which was brought over by the original founders of the town centuries earlier and rebuilt stone by stone.

Rather than watching Charlie Parker, Connolly makes him almost a peripheral figure, but it is the reaction to his investigations by the elders of Prosperous determined to keep the secret of their town at any cost that makes this a very interesting book.

The characters are well drawn, so that you begin to have feelings towards them bringing about an enjoyment in what is a dark and at times violent story. I found it absorbing and feeling that I might want to try other Connolly books.

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Do you have a child under school age? Why not bring them along to "Tiny Tots" at Hampton church on a Friday in term time between 2 and 3 pm. A different topic every week, lots of fun for the little ones, while you have a chat and a coffee. Occasional trips out and a teddy bears picnic sometime in the summer term.

"Tiny Tots" was formed more than 35 years ago and we are now looking for a new person to run it, as Sally Jarrett is stepping down after three happy years doing the organising. Her replacement could be one person, or the role could be shared.

You would have to be DBS checked of course, but the main duties would involve:

- * Arranging for a leader to take a session (this is done for three terms per year)
- * Opening up the church and setting up
- * Providing drink and biscuits (which is paid for by the church)
- * Putting together a report once a year for the church.

If you would be interested or would like more information – please contact

sally.jarratt@hotmail.co.uk

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In memory of Sally Clark 1964-2014 by Kim Clark

It was only last September that Sally Clark, my sister, wrote a playful piece for the Catney News. She recalled her primary school years at Catney school and noting that she would be returning to the same village hall to teach a Tai Chi class. She got the class running, but just after Christmas she became ill with a rare and untreatable cancer, and passed away on 30th May 2014.

Sally lived in Lugtrout Lane nearly all her life, apart from her first few years after she was born in Farnborough, and a couple of years where she was studying contemporary dance in London. She had a great fondness for the fact that Catherine-de-Barnes and the surrounding area has managed to retain so much of the countryside, and she could often be found enjoying a walk along the canal, and round the nearby fords.

My mother Hilary Clark was one of the first to move into the houses on the canal side of Lugtrout Lane with my father in 1965. Sally was only one year old, and I turned up a few years later. It was a wonderful place to grow up. Good neighbours, many of whom still live there, have been great friends to Sally over the years, and a tremendous support in her final few months.

Aside from being a Tai Chi instructor Sally had also taken an MA in Poetry at the University of Gloucestershire. She taught poetry there for a while and edited poetry publications. At one point she worked with a friend who taught poetry in prisons, and she even tried poetry slam competitions. Her poetry was popular and a group of poets related to the University obtained Sally's agreement to publish an anthology posthumously.

For those who knew Sally and would like to give something in her memory, there are two charities that she felt strongly about. Marie Curie Cancer Care provided astounding support throughout Sally's final weeks. Sally was deeply thankful for their support and very keen they should receive donations. Also, Sally was a keen supporter of Amnesty International throughout her life. Two donations pages have been set up on the www.justgiving.com website and can be reached either by searching for her name on the site, or going directly to the following links.

www.justgiving.com/SallyLynnClark

www.justgiving.com/SallyLynnClarkAmnesty

If anyone would like further information relating to Sally please feel free to contact her brother Kim Clark (kimjclark@gmail.com).



CHURCH BELLS OF WARWICKSHIRE WEBSITE SAYS THAT THE TURRET AT THE TOP OF THE VILLAGE HALL HOUSED THREE BELLS – HOW MANY ARE STILL THERE – DO YOU KNOW?

HISTORY OF THE BELLS IN CATNEY VILLAGE HALL

In 1879 a dual purpose church and day school was opened. Over the centre of the building is a timber framed turret containing three bells that are hung dead, with the tenor on top of the other two. The bells, which have canons, are sounded via ropes that are connected to the clappers.

DETAILS OF THE BELLS

1	John Taylor & Co, Loughborough	1878	0-3-08	17.00"
2	John Taylor & Co, Loughborough	1878	1-2-17	18.50"
3	John Taylor & Co, Loughborough	1878	2-2-06	21.00"

WE HOPE TO RESTORE THE ROTTING PART OF THE TURRET SOON AND REPLACE THE METAL TOP-PIECE.



I would really appreciate articles of interest to put in the **August** issue; please let me have all copy by **20th July**. For contributions to the Catney News, you can contact me at 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 us by emailing Frances Cook at secretary@catney.co.uk or If you do not have email, please contact us on 0776 8502039 and leave a message. Or please speak to a Committee member. Chris Cluley, Editor

