



**May 2012**

## CATNEY NEWS

**JUBILEE BARBEQUE – SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
2 – 6 PM. REAR OF VILLAGE HALL  
FREE TO MEMBERS OF THE RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION**

**Bar, Music, Stalls and Children's amusements Why not come dressed in red, white and blue in the spirit of the occasion! Prizes for best dressed under 5's, under 10's and over 10's with prize giving at 4 pm.**

Free entry to members and their children, to include a burger each. So if you would like to come along and have not yet paid your £2 per adult, please make sure you have paid your subscription in the next couple of weeks so that we can tick your name off our members list as you arrive. Thank you. If you would like to come along but haven't joined by that date, you can pay £5 per adult at the gate (to include your individual membership and entry for you and your children. If you will be attending, could you let us know either by 'phone 0121 705 8037 or by email [cuthbert488@btinternet.com](mailto:cuthbert488@btinternet.com) before the 18<sup>th</sup> May, as this will help with organising the catering.

**AROUND CATNEY**

**FOR THE JUBILEE BARBEQUE**

**We are looking for donations of cakes, flans, jellies, gateau's—puddings - please deliver them to the village hall from 11pm on the day or if necessary we can make arrangements to collect if you are able to help please leave a message on the Association mobile – see back page, or on 705 4669, or email Dave on cuthbert488@btinternet.com**

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**FOR OUR CATNEY OLYMPICS FETE**

**The fate of our fete! You can influence it!**

**WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!  
CATNEY OLYMPICS – OUR FETE DAY on 14<sup>th</sup> JULY  
DONATIONS NEEDED:**

**Books, Cakes, Plants, Home Produce, Tombola Prizes, Silent Auction items, Evening Auction prizes. We also need Coconuts, , Egg Shells, and a Paddling pool.**

**At the back of this edition of Catney News there is a form for you to complete if you can help in any way with the Fete. The form can be left at the Spar shop, or you can complete the form online on our website. If you are able to help in other ways not listed on the form, then please contact us on any of the emails on the back page or on 0121 705 8037. Thank you so much!**

**There will be a Pig Roast and Barn Dance in the evening on the day of the Fete – Reserve your place by contacting Dave Cuthbert on 0121 705 8037 or Frances Cook (email address on back page).**

**AROUND CATNEY (CONTINUED)**

**MISSING** since around 11<sup>th</sup> April from Hampton Lane area – Pet Cat – children distraught! Large Black cat with white spot on face, one white paw, was wearing a black collar with bell and magnet - No name tag. Name : Jack. Please check your sheds etc. If you have any idea where Jack could be please contact Christina on 704 3282.

We would all like to express our grateful thanks to Pete Peters, for his excellent job of printing the Catney News for the last 25 years. Sadly, Pete’s printer has now given up the ghost and he has agreed that it might be a good time to stop this particular role. Pete as most of you know, is also our local historian and we are very appreciative of his stalwart efforts in many ways over the years, to keep Catney village alive and well.

We would like to thank the Parish church of Hampton in Arden for stepping in and allowing us to continue printing the News on their photocopier – we will provide the paper and pay for the pages used. Those of you receiving the News in hard copy – what do you think of the new format? Can you read it or is the print too small? Is it easier to handle? We are just experimenting at the moment.

We are seeking a Catney News distributor for Barston Lane and Henwood Lane—can anyone spare an hour max per month ? If you are able to help please leave a message on 705 4669. Thank you

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### **Catney Common Developments**

Great changes are now visible on our Common following the monthly Working Parties held over the winter. The area towards the stile, designated The Entanglement’, has had to be renamed The New Beginning as the entanglement has been entirely removed. What a difference. Now that the tree canopy has been removed we wait to see what will grow there over the next few years. So far it’s just nettles. Two structures have been built – a Habitat Pile and a flowerbed. Go and see what you think about these. Perhaps you have your own ideas what the area could be used for. The Meadow is also receiving attention. Undergrowth has been removed to enable regular grass cutting during the summer. Hopefully this will smooth out the grass and make the meadow easier to walk on. An area of meadow grass will be left uncut. Hopefully we will be in a position to install a table and seating during 2013 to make the Common a destination once again.

## CATNEY COMMON DEVELOPMENTS (continued)

Request for more help.

The winter's working parties were unable to achieve all the necessary work before the summer break so we need to have one more working party this spring. This will be on Saturday 26 May starting at 10am. For previous working parties people just turned up, so we never knew how many people would come. Now that we have a much more specific list of work items this approach is no longer suitable. So I'm looking for a group of people that we can call on to see if they are available. So I should appreciate it if you are willing to join working parties from time to time to send us your name and email address or a phone number. We can then contact you to see if you are available for specific events. Please notify your potential availability to [common@catney.co.uk](mailto:common@catney.co.uk) or 07768 502-039 to leave a message.



WORKING ON THE COMMON



**FOR SALE**

**IKEA STORA Loft Bed. King size in solid pine. Additional Table/Desk added to take TV, Sky Box, DVD player and other noise generating equipment. Also shelf with lighting.**

**Two seat Sofa, IKEA, which fits under the Loft Bed.**

**3 Door wardrobe with Pine finish.**

**Offers for all or parts. Please ring Martin on 704 9269.**

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**FOR SALE**

**Charcoal Barbecue £15**

**Contact Liz 705 9856**



**Contact Mac on 0121 704 1485**

**(Oakfields Way)**

**Your Local Handyman**

**General Gardening, Landscaping, Paths, Painting & Decorating and General Renovation Work.**

**All carried out to your satisfaction.**

**No job too small.**

**to let: Static Caravan**



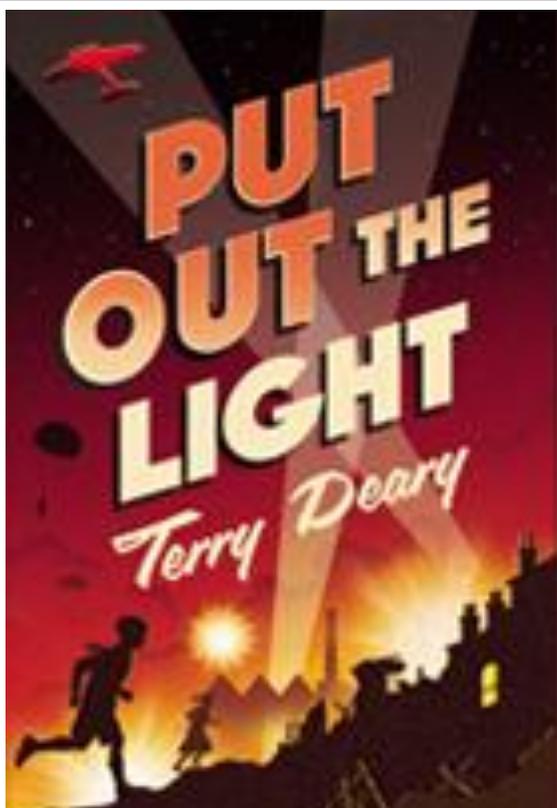
**Sunrise from the garden**

Our two bedroomed static caravan on a five star site on the Isle of Portland, Dorset has magnificent sea views. Peaceful and beautifully situated with a small private garden overlooking a cove, the caravan has everything you need for a comfortable and relaxing holiday. Just across the island from the Olympic Sailing events and a short drive to the beaches and delights of Weymouth. Find out more by telephoning Chris on 0121 705 4669. Quote Catney News for 10% discount

## BOOK REVIEW

This month's book review was sent to us by

Florence Cutts— aged 12.



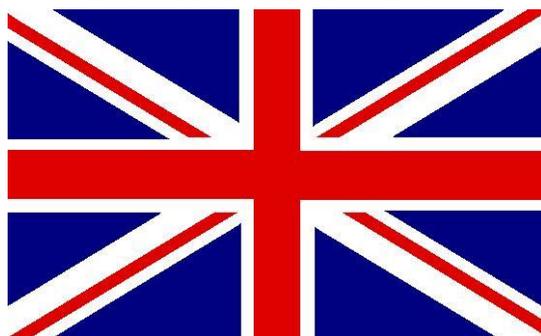
It's 1940 and war is underway. In Dachau, Germany, two schoolboys, Manfred and Hansl, come up with a courageous plan that they think will bring an end to the war and will help Irena, a Polish prisoner, who is trapped behind the iron gates of a Jewish camp, to escape.

Meanwhile, a hundred miles away, brother and sister, Sally and Billy set out to solve the blackout mystery, audaciously believing that the air raid alarms are false.

But then things begin to go wrong. When bombs begin falling on Sheffield and Manfred and Hansl's plan tosses them into grave danger, their adventures no longer seem as fun as they were; instead becoming a frightening fight to survive.

This book is wonderfully told and cleverly planned and thought out. I would recommend this book to children around the ages of 10 years and upwards.

Our own Diamond Jubilee Celebrations are being held on the 27<sup>th</sup> May, so that you can all come to the Catney event and then go along to the Hampton-in-Arden Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on the weekend of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. This is a very big 3 day celebration in Hampton with many things going on. Details are on Noticeboards around Hampton village.



**FOR SALE: AUDIO BOOKS (CDs)**

**Contact: Mrs Clancy – 0121 704 4346**

**P.D. James**  
**DEATH IN HOLY ORDERS – an Adam**  
**Dalglish Mystery**  
 A complete and unabridged reading by  
**Michael Jayston**  
 12 x CD  
 Running time approx. 14 hours 5

**Ian Rankin**  
**THE COMPLAINTS**  
 Read by James Macpherson  
 Abridged version  
 6 CDs  
 Running time approx. 7 hours 50  
 minutes

**The Mephisto Club**  
 Read by Laurel Lefkow  
 3 x CD  
 Running time approx. 3 hours  
**£5.00**

**Tess Gerritsen**  
**VANISH**  
 Read by Laurel Lefkow  
 3 x CD  
 Running time approx. 3 hours  
**£5.00**

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**THINGS TO DO IN MAY  
 IN THE SOLIHULL AREA**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Knowle Park -  
 Jazz Music**

2.00pm - 4.15pm  
 The popular 'Music in the Park' series gets off to a lively start with local jazz bands playing some classic tunes. Bring along a picnic, sit back and enjoy the perfect soundtrack to a Bank Holiday Sunday afternoon!

**Saturday 19th May  
 Shirley Park. Donkey  
 Derby**

12.30pm - 4.30pm  
 This family event has it all - donkey races, entertainment for all ages, children's rides, sideshows and stalls. Come along and join in the fun - for more information, contact Hugh Masters on telephone 01564 774230

**Thursday 24th to Sunday 27th  
 May Meriden Park  
 Robert Wilkinson's Funfair**

Come and enjoy all the fun of the fair as this popular event returns to Meriden Park for another year. There are thrills, spills and rides suitable for all ages, as well as chances to win prizes and refreshments galore. £1 per person admission, plus an additional charge for some of the rides.



**No Charge - Free - Gratis** be our guest - come along and try a game of boules.

Solihull Club de Petanque is based at Blossomfield Sports Club and is the home of French Boules in the South Birmingham area.

You will find us in Widney Lane, Solihull, B91 3JY



### *Club Days:*

*Tuesday (evenings) from 6:30*

*Thursday (afternoons) from 2:00*

*Sunday (mornings) from 10:00*



Come and join in, whatever your experience. Whether a competitive player or maybe you've just played on holiday. Or never played before. All are welcome and loan boules are available if trying the game for the first time.

*Give us a call and arrange your visit. Bring some friends or a neighbour. All are welcome*

*Contact: Barry Cox - 01564 730151 or Bob Wardle - 0121 745 2227*



## **More Fete help required**

Following the checking of the stalls on 15/4( thanks to all who turned up) there will be a couple of working groups for painting, building and repairing of stalls on Sunday 13th May and again on the 20th from 10am till you can manage .-- weather permitting of course . To keep energy levels up we will bbq hot dogs with some liquid refreshment also available . Spend a sociable Sunday morning - we look forward to seeing you

Dave Cuthbert .

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## **HAMPTON PLAYERS NEXT PRODUCTION**

### **“ONE LAST CARD TRICK”**

**By**

**STEWART PERMUTT**

**At the FENTHAM HALL, Marsh Lane, HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN**

**16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May inclusive**

**Starting at 7.45 pm**

In a West End synagogue three septuagenarians, Sophie, Hetty and Magda meet every Tuesday to play cards. Loretta, a youthful forty seven year old, keeps the score. But all this is about to change as their synagogue is to be sold to a strip club owner. These intrepid ladies decide to take direct action and barricade themselves in their fated synagogue. Can they succeed or will their constant bickering put paid to their plan?

More info can be found on the Hampton Players website

<http://www.thehamptonplayers.co.uk>.

**Get your tickets from our Spar shop**

**0121 705 6135**

## ROUND ABOUT CATNEY

**BRACEY'S NURSERY IN CATHERINE DE BARNES LANE  
ARE HOSTING AN ART EXHIBITION UNTIL THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
MILLPOOL AND SOLIHULL ART CLUB HAVE SOME WONDERFUL ART ON  
DISPLAY - WHY NOT GO ALONG AND HAVE A LOOK AND TAKE SOME  
REFRESHMENTS IN THE LAVENDER TEA ROOMS?**

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**DID YOU KNOW THAT RICHARD WINTERTON AUCTIONEERS  
GIVE FREE VALUATIONS OF YOUR ANTIQUES EACH MONDAY AT THE  
BOAT INN BETWEEN 11.30 AM AND 1 PM?**

**Tel +44(0)1543 251081**

**Email [adrianrathbone@richardwinterton.co.uk](mailto:adrianrathbone@richardwinterton.co.uk)**

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**Simon Talbot has some memories of a walk to Catney in  
the 70's**

I was very intrigued by Dave Cuby's ghostly experience at Catherine De Barnes. I lived at Knightsbridge Road, Olton in the late seventies, and it was very much the 'in - thing' for our group of teenage lads to go walking along the Grand Union canal or 'cut' on the summer and autumn evenings, climbing the trees and indulging in general tomfoolery. We often used to go from Castle Lane Bridge, Olton and up to Catherine De Barnes, where we would turn and head home, often in darkness. It was on one such night that a large, eerie light appeared out of nowhere, high above the water, right in front of Dovehouse Lane bridge. When approached the thing would disappear, only to reappear behind us as we walked towards Lode Lane bridge. The process occurred each and every bridge until we reached Catherine de Barnes bridge. Now we were a group of hearty lads - all went into the services the year we left Lode Heath (1979 ) - but not one of us wanted to go back the way we had come. We all went back the road way we were so 'spooked'. I've often wondered if it was a group of mates messing about, although how they would have suspended a light over the water for so long, and particularly on the long dark stretch of canal between Damson Wood and Catney bridge begs the question. Perhaps it was marsh gas or something similar? I read years later that spectral lights are a warning to those who see them. I suppose I'll never know. I live in Madrid, Spain now, but lived with my Dad, Peter Talbot, for a few months after my mum, Betty, died in 2007; I went for a walk along that particular stretch of canal for

the first time in about 25 years - in daylight mind - and was stunned by the sheer beauty of the countryside. Happy days

## **USEFUL CONTACTS**

**Police : 0845 113 5000 Police (airport security only) 0121 712 6151**

**Solihull MBC: 0121 704 8000 or e-mail: [connectcc@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:connectcc@solihull.gov.uk)**

**Airport noise complaints: 0121 767 7433**

**Airport flight path complaints : 0121 712 6172 or e-mail [fppt@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:fppt@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk)**

**Emergency numbers: Gas: 0800 111 999 and Electricity: 0800 40 40 90.**

**Council services: [www.solihull.gov.uk/councilservices/index.htm](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/councilservices/index.htm)**

**Hall bookings: Gareth Thomas at the Spar Shop. Tel: 0121 705 6135**

**RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION : You can contact us by emailing Frances Cook at [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk) or for contributions to the Catney News, you can contact Chris Cluley at [editor@catney.co.uk](mailto:editor@catney.co.uk)**

**If you do not have email, please contact us on 0776 8502039 and leave a message or speak to a Committee member.**

**Committee members for 2012/2013 are: Dave Cuthbert, Roger Ball, Chris Boxall, Chris Cluley, Frances Cook, Ken Cluley**

**If you live in Catney, would you like to announce a special birthday or anniversary, a birth or a wedding in Catney News?  
- Tell us about it! Got a new neighbour? We will send them a card of welcome if you let us know.**

# CATNEY OLYMPICS FETE

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July Opening at 2.00pm

## CAN YOU HELP??

- Can you donate a cake/s, scones, muffins etc., for the refreshments?  
If so please indicate the type of thing you could provide:

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- Are you able to help man a stall ? Yes/ No
- Are you able to help set up the field during the evenings preceding the fete? Yes/No
- Are you able to help set up on the Saturday morning? Yes/No
- Are you supply a raffle/tombola prize? Yes/No
- Are you able to help put stalls etc away after the fete? Yes/No

Details of where and when to deliver donations will be given in early June in the Catney News

This form can also be completed on the website: [www.catney.co.uk](http://www.catney.co.uk) or leave a completed sheet at the Spar shop. **THANK YOU**

**Name**.....

**Tel No**..... **Email**.....