



MAY

CATNEY NEWS

2016

Dear Villagers,

We have had several seasons in April. Warm sunshine, gentle breezes, high winds, heavy rain, sleet and snow.

But despite this, the trees are wearing fresh green and may blossom blows across our gardens at the slightest excuse and our hearts are lifted with the promise of the summer that is to come. The days are almost here that will be our fond memories, that will keep our thoughts warm through winter.

Are you a poet? Could you write a poem about Catney Village? Catney past, present or future? Catney through the seasons? We would love to receive your poems and print the best in the News. No bad language or subjects unsuitable for family reading please!.

Christine Cluley, Editor.

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How to join the Catney Residents Association

Thank you very much to all those who have paid their annual fees and given donations, We are very grateful.. If you have forgotten to pay yours, this is the last month to join for this year. (it concerns us when we have a record that you paid last year and haven't renewed your membership – so if this is you, please come back to us!). Annual fees which are due now are £10 for a family of 4 or more over 16's living in the same house, £5 for a couple and £3 for a single membership. Under 16's are free if they live in the same house as paying members. Ensure you give us the names of all those who wish to join, the address, email address if you have one and a telephone number and put them in a sealed envelope, together with your cheque made payable to Catney Residents Association – leave it at the Spar shop for collection. You will receive a membership card to enable you to gain free entrance to at least one event per year (to be advised) and local discounts and you will be showing your valuable support for your village.

CATNEY EVENTS

Sunday 12th June



12:00 onwards

*Your family and friends are cordially invited
to the Catherine de Barnes garden party in
the grounds of the village hall to celebrate
the Queen's 90th birthday.*

How does it work?

It's simple. Invite your family and friends, create a feast of food for your party to enjoy on the day and join the other villagers on Sunday the 12th of June for one big picnic-party to mark this national event!

Whether you're a Royalist or not, bring your Sunday lunch outside for the day and join the rest of the village for a bit of fun in the sunshine (fingers crossed).

- There's no charge for attending
- Tables and chairs will be available, or you can bring your own picnic blankets/furniture
- Ice-creams will be on sale for the kids
- Licenced bar for the adults.

What else is going on?

Kids' games

Games will be organised throughout the afternoon to keep the kids entertained. Think sack-races, and silly contests and you won't be far off!

Crown Contest

If you've always suspected that you have royal blood and should be treated like a king or queen, then here's your chance to wear a crown for the day without being treated like the village idiot. Create your own crown for the event and you might be in for a prize. Not just for the kids either! It's only fair that every member of your family gets their own!

What's next?

To reserve your places at the event, please email or text your name, address, tel number and the approximate number in your party to us as soon as possible using the details below:

Email: secretary@catney.co.uk

Tel: 0776 850 2039



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF CARING FOR CATNEY

1986 - 2016

30th Anniversary of the Residents Association: 2nd July.

There will be free tea and cake event in the afternoon from 2 – 4 pm. For all members of the Association and their children with a nominal charge for non-members. We hope to have full information for you in our June edition.

Quiz Night

The Quiz night held on the 9th April was a great success enjoyed by the 50 people who attended. It was great to see some new faces as well as the 'old timers'. Thanks to all who supported the event whether you came, or donated prizes. The raffle made £69.50 and the total profit for the event was £350, going to the Hall Fund

Birmingham Airport



At last the CAA announced their decision relating to the Airports Airspace Proposal. Broadly, they supported the Airports proposed Option 6 as a permanent flight path for aircraft departing of to the south of the airport. However the Airport company were instructed to run further trials of Option 5 for all non-jet aircraft departing south with a view to try and minimise still further noise to Barston and areas of Balsall Common. These plans for these trials will be prepared shortly and the Airport Company have decided to invite community representatives from both areas to participate in any discussions with the CAA pertaining to Option 5 trials. Further info can be seen by viewing the Airport's website

M.S.A AT CATHERINE DE BARNES

If you haven't yet written your letter of objection please do so soon. The application hearing has again been put back until 18th May and it is not even certain if this date will be changed. If you need some help re the contents of your letters please let us know and we will try and help .

FUNDRAISING FOR THE VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Raising funds for the Village hall is easy when making online purchases. Websites such as Amazon and P and O are members of a scheme run by Easyfundraising whereby retailers who are members of the scheme donates a % of the sale to the Charity concerned. The Hall Fund can be found under Catherine de Barnes Village Hall on Easyfundraising's website . Please take a minute to register and donate while you spend.
Thank You **Hall Trustees**



VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Following the urgent boiler repairs last month tenders are out for the building works shown in last month's CN and we are also in the process of submitting bids for a grant to finance the works . You may have noticed some radical surgery has been undertaken in cutting back the vegetation at the side of the kitchen and the gable end has had some paint. Bookings are healthy and the Hall is now in a positive financial position in terms of day to day running costs. **Hall Trustees**

Follow us on Twitter

@CatneyResAssoc and the Village Hall is @catney_hall

After our excellent Social Media training in March, I am still not convinced that Twitter will be something I will look at daily and I certainly won't be "following" celebrities. But there is some useful information to be found if you follow organisations such as Solihull Updates, Solihull Council or Solihull Observer.

It could also be a powerful way to set up a local campaign if one is needed – but we need many "followers" to make that work.

If you want to give it a try, it is very simple to sign in to Twitter. Either ask the kids/grandkids OR:

Search for www.twitter.com

Choose the sign up option

Give a name and your email address

You will have to give a mobile phone number

Make sure you choose the highest level of privacy settings and there should be no risk to your personal information.

Then choose who to “follow”.

And that's it!

Frances Cook

Mindfulness & Meditation classes.

Guided teaching sessions start on

Tuesday May 10th 2016 7:15 – 8:15 at Catherine-de-Barnes Village Hall, Hampton Lane B91 2TJ.

£7.00 a session on an 8 week programme.

Classes will be delivered by a fully qualified Holistic Therapist who is also a Mindfulness and Meditation Practitioner.

Mindfulness can help us to respond to life's pressures in a calmer manner that benefits our heart, mind, and body.

Places are limited so please contact Tina to reserve your place or call for more information

07957 881437 tinagabby@hotmail.co.uk

BOOK REVIEW by John Alderton

CAREER OF EVIL

A novel by Robert Galbraith.



This is the third novel by J K Rowling writing as Robert Galbraith, featuring the large, rather dishevelled and partially disabled detective, Cormoran Strike. It is a story with a fair bit of violence and grisly detail, but is also a physiological thriller, which I think makes it the best of the three.

Robin Ellacott, Strike's secretary receives a gruesome package containing a severed leg, which Strike realises is an attempt to destroy him and his business and also recognises that there are three possible suspects all capable of such an atrocity. But which is it?

This is a fast moving thriller with the characters, and their thinking, being very well explored leaving the reader unsure on one or two counts until the very end. The author also allows us to learn more about Robin and the strange relationship between Robin, her fiancé Mathew and of course Strike. We are also offered a little more detail of their personal histories, which all bodes well I think for a least one Strike novel a year.

It all makes for a very good tale: but then I am a fan.



One of two Muntjac deer seen outside back door of Duncan and Jane, of Boat cottage.

CATNEY CRICKET CLUB (Back of the Boat pub)

With the weather starting to improve we are active down the ground getting ready for the Season , Outdoor nets start next Wednesday around 5.30 PM and all are welcome, We are also commencing Junior Cricket on a Friday Afternoon from 4PM for under 9 Years old if anyone has children that might be interested please contact me for more details.

The Club is always looking for members Playing or Social to get involved in the running of the Club and if anyone is interested please contact me,

Best Regards

Eddie Hewitt , 0121 373 9104



YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,



I went to the school at the village hall, when I went there in approx 1953 I had the same teacher Mrs Hammond who had taught my father George Parker and his brothers and Sisters when they were at the school, I went to Lode Heath at 11 in approx 1958, then moved to Coventry. I lived in Bickenhill Lane and the shed in our garden was supposed to have been a button factory. Can anyone tell me anything about this?.

Editor's note: We published an article some time ago which gave details of the Button Factory. I will search for it and put it in the next Catney News. But more information is very welcome.

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Hampton in Arden Parish Church (Church of England) will be having an Open Weekend on the 18th and 19th May. There will be a chance to look around this beautiful Grade 1 listed church, with displays and refreshments and an opportunity to find out more about the life of the church and what goes on. You are very welcome to come along – look out for posters in Hampton and Catney.

Church Services at Catney Village Hall

Services conducted by the Old Roman Catholic Church at the village hall are held on the last Sunday in the month. In response to requests received, services will now take place at 10.30 am in the morning rather than in the afternoon .

Reverend Glyn Shipton
Old Catholic Church

Current Residents Association Committee members: Dave Cuthbert, Frances Cook, Chris Cluley, Ken Cluley and Annette Scott.

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You can now follow “Catney Village Hall” on Twitter on (@catney_hall) and Catney Residents Association on (@CatneyResidentsAssoc)

Contacts: Secretary of the Residents Association: Frances on 0776 8502039 or secretary@catney.co.uk

Anything for the Catney News: Contact Chris at CatneyRA@outlook.com or leave her a message on 01675 442728

Spar Shop/Hall Bookings: Gareth on 0121 705 6135 or 07796268012

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Where to take the children without travelling far :

Sheldon Country Park

Off Church Road, Sheldon, behind St. Giles Church.



Situated on the very edge of the city, the land has escaped development and has become a haven for wildlife.

The Parks Ranger Service is based at Old Rectory Farm, a 17th Century dairy farm, which is situated on the main entrance to the park.

Old Rectory Farm has been fully restored and operates as a demonstration farm, showing city dwellers traditional methods of farming. animals kept at the farm include Jersey cattle, pigs, goats, ponies, ducks, chickens and geese.

The farm is open to visitors every day throughout the year and admission is free.

There is also a children's playground, picnic areas and a cafe.

Haystacks Play Barn

Dunstan Farm, Old Damson Lane, Solihull

Haystacks Play Barn is a small but fun activity centre that is located only 5 minutes away from Birmingham International Airport, so it is within easy reach from a number of areas.

There are a number of different activities to keep the kids amused here, including a farm themed play frame, enclosed in safety netting, which has different challenges to negotiate.

Lots of squishy colourful fun, with some interactive noises thrown in too! There is even a smaller play frame for the little ones.

During term time, the centre offers different Activity Mornings Monday to Friday, which include 'Create and Play' on Tuesdays and Play Doh Play Day on Thursdays. All the activity mornings are included in the admission price, except for Mondays.

They also have 2 different party packages, one for kids aged between 1 and 3 years old, the other for kids aged between 4 and 8 years old. You have the option of renting the whole venue privately for the parties too



Dunstan Farm, Old Damson Lane

Solihull, B92 9ED

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E: info@haystacksplaybarn.co.uk