



OCTOBER 2012

CATNEY NEWS

Dear Residents of Catney,

I am rather hoping that by the time you get this edition, we will be in the middle of a wonderful Indian summer, full of sunshine and gentle warmth. However, just in case you have had to switch the heating on, with apologies to all who love the winter (I don't!), LET'S HOPE THAT:

Winter is just cold enough to keep away the germs; ice melts by the morning and we can come to terms
With shops all full of Christmas in October

We don't mind the darkness and seeing artificial light; going to work by street lamp and coming home at night

Fireworks exploding each night in November

We can get some comfort from wearing big thick socks; waiting for that time in Spring when we forward all our clocks

And the shortest day comes quickly in December

We feel cheerier than we thought we would when New Year's Eve has gone, our Resolutions still intact we still keep battling on,

And it doesn't snow too much in January

We can dream of holidays and think of where we're going, and daffodils are peering out to see if it's worth growing.

And the days are lighter now in February

The sun comes out quite frequently and we can see Spring flowers; the kids are thinking chocolate eggs and we're thinking longer hours

And we've got away without a sneeze in March

Your Editor

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Quiz Night

There will be a quiz night with a Ploughmans and Bar on Saturday 13th October commencing at 7.30pm . Tickets are available from Sue Attwell on 0121 705 8338 at a cost of £5 each. All profits will go to The Village Hall Fund



Xmas Party

We have a date for your diary. Saturday 8th December commencing 7.30pm – Please look out for how to book in the November issue of the News



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Full details of the approved Bracey Nursery Planning application to build an hotel in Catherine de Barnes Lane, can be viewed on the SMBC website.

Your Residents Association is currently in contact with Solihull Council regarding its decision to shorten the opening times of the Refuse Centre.

We have also suggested the flashing speed sign be moved from its temporary position to a safer and more appropriate section of Hampton Lane.

Freebies

Used (weathered) Slabs - Assorted sizes but enough for a patio! - Free, must collect
Used (weathered) Slabs - Small pattered, some with feature circle enough for small patio - Free, must collect

For sale

1 x large black outdoor umbrella - £5
Epson Black Ink Cartridge (Code no: T013) - £1
Epson Colour Ink Cartridge (Code no: T014) - £1
1 lidded rattan box (approximately 18" square) - £3
1 x Roadside Triangle on stand - £1 (*Note: The Highway code now stipulates that all cars should have one of these*)
1 x Teach yourself Beginner's Spanish - contains 224 page course book and 90 minute CASSETTE - £2
1 x BBC course for beginners in Italian - contains 304 page course book and 3 C60 CASSETTES - £2
1 x desk blotter (approx 15" x 12") Maroon/grey - ideal for placing beneath computer to protect desk - £1
1 x Webcam - (Logitech QuickCam Communicate MP - True 1.3 megapixel sensor/Rightlight technology/Built-in mic with Rightsound technology) - Still in box - £5
1 x white shoe rack (approx. 15" high) holds 15 pairs - £2.50
1 x white shoe rack (approx. 15" high) holds 12 pairs - £2.50

All proceeds going to Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Contact: Jane Clancy (Tel: 0121 704 4346)

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Thinking about booking meals for Christmas?

Why not consider Longfellows or the Boat Inn – booking is now starting for these venues. Check out their websites.

The Boat: <http://www.chefandbrewer.com/pub/boat-inn-catherinedebarnes-solihull/p1485/>

Longfellows: long-fellows@btconnect.com

Bobbins, Books & Baking!

This time last year I was packing for my imminent move to Catherine-de-Barnes. I was negotiating with my boss to allow me to work from home, looking forward to spending more time with Dapper and the dogs, contemplating a relaxed life of muddy walks and country crafts. I never dreamed that within the year I'd be preparing for a wedding and expecting twins, my crochet hook and needlecase firmly parked under the coffee table!

One of the main reasons our members give for wanting to join *sew make believe* is having the impetus to craft. Many have children and/or demanding jobs, and with the best handcrafting will in the world, just never find the time or energy to get started. Even more find they seldom get an evening out to themselves, to bask in the relative sanity of a room full of similarly time-pressed crafters.

It's a great relief to me to know that I have a bank of experienced mothers AND crafters on hand to offer advice, inspiration and an understanding ear!

Upcoming workshops: **October 10th** - sit 'n' sew **October 24th** - felt flowers (tbc) **November: 7th** - sit 'n' sew with Christmas Prep Swap **November 21st** - ribbon corsages **December: 5th** - sit 'n' sew **December 19th** - Christmas party

Contact Caroline for details: fairynuff27@hotmail.com, or visit www.sewmakebelieve.co.uk

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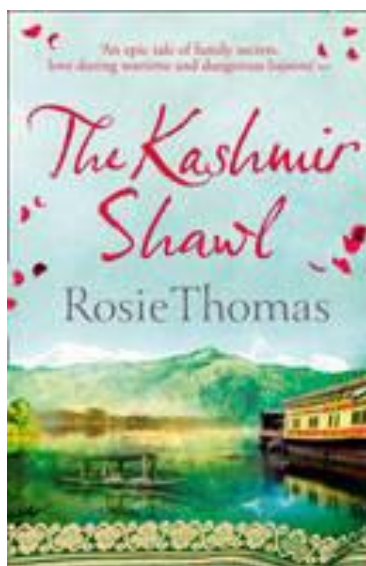
Brand New Drama and Dance school

'The Arts' is a brand new drama and dance school for age's 6-16years, opening in Catherine De Barnes. Classes will start on Saturday 6th October with the first class completely free to all students. With a drama taster class at 9.30am -11.00am and dance taster class following at 11.00am -12.00pm, students are welcome to stay for both classes for no cost. The classes will be held at The Village Hall, Catherine De Barnes.

'The Arts' will strive to offer its students a fun way of learning about drama and dance, 'we don't want students to feel like they are coming to school, but can assure parents that their children will learn a great number of valuable life skills, from confidence building to team work'(Katie Jones BA Hons ,PGCE, Artistic director). 'The Arts' classes will work towards a variety of performances over the coming year. All classes will be taught by experienced and qualified teachers with up to date CRB checks. For more information you can contact 'The Arts' on 07716342702/07738546218 or at artsclasses@hotmail.co.uk, and to book your free trial place, or Katie Jones on Katie_jones_8@hotmail.com

Book Review

The Kashmir Shawl (available as an ebook and paperback)



Rosie Thomas has no doubt called upon her own travels to write this book, set in Wales and India. Mair Ellis clears out her father's house after his death, she finds an exquisite antique shawl, painstakingly hand-embroidered and worth a fortune. Wrapped with it are a lock of a child's hair and a crumpled black-and-white photograph. Mair traces her grandparents' roots back to India and Kashmir, and is inspired to travel there herself to unlock the secrets of the past. It is a journey that will throw her into the path of unrest, tragedy and drama that will change her own life forever. We also follow the story of Nerys and Evan Ellis, Mair's grandparents, who have left Wales to be missionaries in the remote and isolated province of Ladakh, India. This is the 1930's and India is still under British rule. Nerys is feeling dissatisfied with her hard life as the wife of an emotionally inhibited but dedicated missionary and having just lost a baby, is feeling low. As winter approaches, an aristocratic English couple, Myrtle and Archie McMinn, sweep Nerys away from her husband and down to the lakeside town of Srinagar. There, Nerys is caught up in a world of dancing and gossip, luxury and ease - a million miles from her life as a preacher's wife. When Rainer Stamm, an enigmatic mountaineer (and magician) determined to conquer the Himalayas, comes into her life, she is tempted. Yet all the time the drums of war draw nearer, and life will soon change beyond measure. This is a nice book to settle down with on a cold evening, I got a tiny bit confused with the two stories, which run side by side and I preferred the story of Nerys to that of her granddaughter. This may have been because I was reading the story in short bursts, but any confusion didn't last, and I would recommend it if you have the time to sit down and read it in long sessions. Rosie Thomas writes well and is capable of good descriptive narrative.

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George Fentham School PTA are doing a pantomime on 14th and 15th December called "Sleeping Beauty Goes Back To The Future". It is to raise money for the school to get a new playground and has a cast of parents from the school with some of the school children in it also.

The Venue is The Fentham Hall in Hampton in Arden.

Tickets are £10 each. Children's tickets include a drink and a packet of crisps. The shows will be on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm and Saturday 15th December at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from Laura on 07725552551, georgefenthampta.co.uk, the Corner Shop in Hampton, Naughty Nicks and Hampton Post Office.

It's a very good cause and a lot of work has gone into it. There is a poster in the Spar shop with all the details on too.

There will be a full size Tardis and a professional live band.

Please go along and give your support.

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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

Airport noise complaints: 0121 767 7433

Airport flight path complaints : 0121 712 6172 or e-mail 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

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 or for contributions to the Catney News or for the Catney Cookbook, you can contact Chris Cluley at 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.

Residents Association Committee: Dave Cuthbert, Roger Ball, Frances Cook, Chris Cluley and Ken Cluley.

What's on in Solihull during October?

A Taste of Solihull – 5th to 7th October.

There will be a fusion of food, music and entertainment from around the world. The fun begins on Friday the 5th October in Mell Square, Solihull Town Centre and continues through to Sunday 7th October. During this exciting culinary event, why not explore the food markets on Solihull's bustling High Street? The markets will be selling a myriad of food and drink, from Italian breads and chilli chocolate to local homegrown produce. In Mell Square's live Demo kitchen chefs from over 20 restaurants will be taking to the stage, showcasing their skills and latest dishes, whilst offering the audience mini tasters to tickle the taste buds. Take this opportunity to ask the top chefs your culinary questions or maybe even volunteer to have a go! Adding extra spice to the gastronomic delights, there will also be themed music and dance performances representing the regional cuisine.

Henry Blofeld – Shaken Not Stirred. 11th October at Solihull Arts Complex

Henry Blofeld is one of the world's best loved cricket commentators. During his aristocratic youth he displayed exceptional cricketing skills but after a near-fatal accident took up sports journalism. In his descriptive performances on BBC Radio 4s Test Match Special the bubbly, boisterous world of 'Blowers' knows no full stops! His one-man idiosyncratic shows sell out with stories about Ian Fleming and Noel Coward bringing the house down.

Barnstormers Comedy – 20th October Solihull Arts Complex

Each month a compere will introduce three acts from the London Comedy Circuit. Box Office will know names nearer the time (or check Barnstormers website.) One of the best kept secrets in town providing great comedians at local prices. Many comics are Comedy Store regulars and Barnstormers pride themselves on finding the funniest, smartest and silliest comedians (& surprise guests too!) Expect possible strong language/content/humour. Age 18+

Dirty Dancing – 26th and 27th October, Solihull Arts Complex

An Evening of Dirty Dancing... A marvellous tribute show featuring the great songs and memorable dancing on this feel good night out. This Stage Acts Entertainments show is a sellout sensation and their sexy song and dance routines feature a dynamic cast of West End performers. Join the party atmosphere and get swept away on a wave of nostalgia with songs such as 'Do You Love Me?'... 'Big Girls Don't Cry'... 'Wipeout'... and 'Hungry Eyes'.

**Are you about to hold an event locally and would like to advertise with us?
It's free, so let us know.**

Tell us about special birthdays, anniversaries, weddings etc, relating to people who live in the village, and we will congratulate them in our next edition. Also, if you would like to announce the birth of your baby, or a new grandchild – as long as you live in the village – that's fine.

Do you know of anyone new to the Village? Let us know and we will send them a welcome card.

I am thinking about producing a Catney Cookbook to raise funds. Have you got a good recipe you would like to share?. I need at least 30 and we are still short by some way, so please send me your favourite recipe as soon as possible. Thank you to those villagers who have sent me recipes so far. I would like it to be available in November. Ideas of what you would like to read about in your Catney News are always welcome. Would anyone like to do a book review for the November edition? I would really appreciate articles of interest to put in the November issue; please let me have all copy by 20th October. Thank you.

Gareth at the Spar shop will pass anything on to me for the Catney News/Cook Book or you email me on editor@catney.co.uk

Remember, that if you are receiving this copy of the Catney News in black and white, it will not do justice to any colour photos. If you have an email address, and would like to receive your copy in colour, please let Frances Cook know and she will be pleased to send it out to you by this method.



**Chris Cluley
Editor**

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Have you joined the website of the Boat Inn?

<http://www.chefandbrewer.com/pub/boat-inn-catherinedebarnes-solihull/p1485/>

They will send you a regular e.newsletter with offers – at the moment they are offering a 25% discount to current members. Their new email address is: email@comms.chefandbrewer.com