



November 2013



Catherine-de-Barnes

CATNEY NEWS



Dear Villagers,

The Residents Association will be purchasing another Christmas tree shortly for the village—we will be using the profits from our last quiz, but any donations towards the cost of purchase and erection of the tree would be very gratefully received as it will cost nearly £500. We will be having another Carol Singing session around the Tree at dusk – date to be announced in our December edition – so please come along and join us.

A draw of your membership card numbers will be made in November and the winner of the annual prize of an M & S voucher will be announced in the December issue.

For 2014, we have made the decision to produce only 6 editions of the Catney News in January, March, May, July, September and December. This is down to production and printing costs etc. There will just be a one page news-sheet on the other months. Subscriptions to the Residents Association are down again this year and we do not have the funds to continue with 11 full issues as we do now. However, I sincerely hope that you will help me to make the issues that we do produce, a worthwhile and interesting venture, by sending me articles and by getting involved by using the News to advertise local events etc. Thank you.

Christine Cluley (Editor)

CHECK YOUR BONFIRES THIS MONTH FOR HEDGEHOGS!!

This baby hedgehog was found a couple of years ago by one of my neighbours in her garden. It was distressed and exhausted as it was completely entangled in some pea netting. Fortunately after a nights rest in my cat carrier it tucked into a plate of cat food and we released it back into her garden, (having cleared the pea netting). After a few attempts I managed to get this photo before I let it go. If I was too close it would curl up into a ball and when I stood back it would slowly uncurl and then sprint off. It could move surprisingly quickly!

This is the only hedgehog I've seen in recent years and I gather hedgehog populations are declining. I get newsletters from the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species who with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society are doing research into this and providing information. They've produced an A-Z guide of Autumn tips on how to encourage and protect hedgehogs in your garden which I thought other residents might be interested in. It includes suggestions such as:

- Not making your whole garden too tidy, (not a problem I have with mine!) so that hedgehogs have leaf and log piles to hibernate in.
- Making sure there's small holes in fences for hedgehogs to go through as they need more than one garden to forage in.
- Checking before lighting bonfires or using strimmers.
- There's also plenty of activities and ideas on their web sites for getting children involved too.

<http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/pages/free-autumn-a-z-of-tips.html>

<http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>

Sally Clark

TAI CHI CLASS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

I was delighted to welcome at least 20 people to my free introductory Tai Chi class on Thursday September 12th. The class has now settled to a slightly more manageable number of 5-12 people each session. There's a mix of Catney residents and those coming from further away, with the person travelling the longest distance driving over from Redditch.

Anyone who would like to try Tai Chi is still very welcome to come along for a free first class. Do ring or email me if you have any queries.

Sally Tel: 07713 253 482 or Email: sallytaiji@gmail.com

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LET YOUR PETS ENJOY THEIR HOME COMFORTS WHILE YOU'RE AWAY.

I am available for visits to feed and care for your cats and small pets. Dogs may also be possible depending on their requirements. Very reasonable rates. Several years experience working as a veterinary nurse not to mention the menagerie of animals I've kept myself over the years!

Enquiries: Sally Tel: 0121 705 7818 or 07713 253 482 or email sallytaiji@gmail.com

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LONGFELLOWS RESTAURANT

Monday 4th November: Halloween/Bonfire Quiz Night. £12.50 per head to include a 2 course supper.

Thursday 21st November is "French Night" More details on website or outside restaurant.

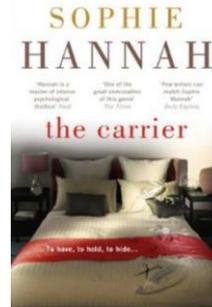
Now taking bookings for December and Christmas and New Year.

Gift vouchers available.

BOOK REVIEW By John Alderson

THE CARRIER

A psychological crime thriller by Sophie Hannah



I had to read this book twice before I felt competent to write a review. Sophie Hannah is well known to readers of psychological crime thrillers, but not to me, and having heard she has been selected to write an “Agatha Christie” novel in the current vogue of Estates of the dead inviting the living to continue the line, I thought I should buy The Carrier.

This is very mature writing, with a number of twists and turns of plot and a suitably ambiguous title, which I found difficult to understand until the very end.....and even then? Gaby Struthers, a very successful business woman, is delayed overnight in Germany and in a somewhat bizarre series of events finds she has to share an appalling hotel bedroom with – to her – an equally appalling and frightened young woman, Lauren Cookson.

Lauren blurts out that she knows of an innocent man who is about to go to prison for a murder he did not commit. More bizarrely, but all part of the plot, Lauren names the murderer as Tim Breary who Gaby knows as the love of her life, and that the victim is Tim’s wife Francine and that Tim has confessed to the murder, but he will not disclose why! The police, and particularly the lead detective, have their own very involved issues to deal with whilst trying to unravel the complicated threads of the plot.

If you are someone who likes to work out the plots of this type of novel and declare “whodunit” by chapter five, I suggest you will have your work cut out and you won’t want to be thinking of half a dozen other things at the same time.

Absorbing, clever and worth reading.

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DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS A TINY TOTS GROUP FOR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND CARERS OF UNDER FIVES HELD IN HAMPTON PARISH CHURCH ON A FRIDAY AFTERNOON IN TERM-TIME BETWEEN 2 AND 3 PM? DON’T FEEL ISOLATED, COME ALONG, MEET OTHERS AND HAVE A COFFEE OR TEA, WHILE YOUR UNDER FIVES PLAY– A DIFFERENT TOPIC IS DISCUSSED EACH WEEK (SEE BELOW) - AND THERE ARE OUTINGS TO PLACES OF INTEREST TO YOUR CHILD. YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO GO ALONG.

NOVEMBER: 8TH – BONFIRE NIGHT
22ND – DOCTORS

15TH: - VICARS
29TH: POLICE OFFICERS



Here is a photograph of Pete Peters and supporters drinking a cup of coffee at the biggest coffee morning In the world In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Pete holds these coffee mornings every year and has raised thousands of pounds. This year raised £350.

Many thanks goes to The Boat Inn, Catherine de Barnes who host the event, all volunteer helpers and everyone who came and donated generously.

Regards
Janet Parker

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News from the Airport

The construction work on our runway extension is progressing well. We are now carrying out works around the South end of the runway and undertaking the final resurfacing of the full length of the runway. You may notice in the next few months:

- A reduction of flights in the night due to runway closures
- An increase in vehicles and equipment on the airfield at night
- Small changes to the approach path of aircraft to the North of the airport

**Tom Redfern Environmental
Relations Executive**

What's on around Catney in November?

2nd November: Tudor Grange Firework Display. From 5.30 pm.

3rd November: All Souls Service at 6.30 pm – Hampton Parish Church. Names of those whom we love and see no more will be read out.

5th November: The Beeches, Hampton in Arden, Firework Display with ale, mulled wine, toffee apples and chestnuts. Ticket includes a burger or hotdog - BBQ from 6pm. Fireworks from 7.30 pm. Entry £6 or free with Restaurant reservations.

The Beeches would also like to kindly ask that if you live close then please try to come by taxi or walk this is a very popular event on the beeches calendar and parking will be very limited

10th November: Remembrance Service in Catney Village Church at 10 am.

20th to 23rd November at 7.30 pm: The Hampton Players at Fentham Hall, Marsh Lane, Hampton in Arden present: *"The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of A Christmas Carol"*. Tickets from the Corner Shop, Hampton, Hampton Wines, or Hampton Players 01675 442432.

December 13: **'Christmas Echoes'** An evening of festive memories, past and present packed with fun, frivolity and 'sing-a-long' carols by candlelight. Friday 13th December at 7.30 p.m. The Fentham Hall. Ticket Price £8.00 each includes mince pie/angel cake.

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NEWS FROM CATNEY CRICKET CLUB



Catherine de Barnes Cricket Club

As you know from last month, Our First X1 won Division 1 of the Cotswold Hills League and next Year will be playing in the Premier League, Subsequently the Second X1 got promotion and will be in the 3rd Division next season,

We held our presentation evening at Longfellows on Friday night and i must say the food was excellent and we had a very good evening celebrating our Double Promotion,

We are now starting to look for New players to boost the numbers for next Season and any villager will be made welcome. Details of our Winter nets will be available shortly.

Eddie Hewitt - Chairman

CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKE RECIPE
(tongue in cheek)
Courtesy of Liz Nye

Ingredients:

1 cup water 2 cups dried fruit 1 cup brown sugar 1 tsp salt 8 oz nuts
4 large eggs 1 tsp baking soda 1 cup flour Juice of one lemon
1 cup butter 1 bottle whisky

Method: Sample the whisky to check for quality

Take a large bowl. Check the whisky again. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add one tsp sugar and beat again. Make sure the whisky is still okay. Cry another tup. Turn off the mixerer. Break two eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in he dried fruit. Mix on the turner.

If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers, pry it lose with a drewscriver.

Sample the whisky to check for tonsistency.

Next sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who cares?

Check the whisky again.

Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table.

Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find. Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350 degrees.

Don't forget to beat off the turner. Throw the bowl out of the window, check the whisky again and go to bed.

Courtesy of Mr. W. McAskie.

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Wanted: Christmas tips and ideas, pictures of Catney in Winter, Christmas memories in Catney, School Life in Catney around Christmas, photos of Christmas services held in the Church, or anything else that will help to make the December edition of the Catney News a really good seasonal edition.

Thank you. Chris Cluley – Editor.

Remembrance Sunday – 10th November at 10.45 am in the Village Church



Every year on Remembrance Sunday, our Village Hall reverts back to it's origins and becomes our Village Church again for a Remembrance Day service.

Pete and Steve remind us of why we hold a Remembrance Service each year.

At 11 o'clock on the 11th of November 1918 the fighting in the "Great War" (later known as the First World War) stopped and hostilities ceased. This was an armistice – a cease fire – and "the guns fell silent". In 1919 a Peace Treaty was signed and the war was over.

In honour of all those who had died, a Remembrance Day was held in Britain and the Empire every year on the 11th of November and at 11 o'clock there was a two minute silence. The maroons went off at the police stations, factory hooters sounded and all activities ceased. People in the streets and shops stopped and stood still and schools held a special assembly in the hall. The national service held at The Cenatoph in London was attended by the King and thousands of people from all walks of life.

Thousands of war memorials were built in towns and villages – Birmingham has a Hall of Memory – and Catney has a most unusual war memorial which is used on very special occasions; the memorial is the baptismal font. On the brass plate surrounding the bowl are the names of the seventeen men who died with one more name on the brass water jug. A further six names have been added to the lid of our font of the men who died in the Second World War.

Every Remembrance Sunday, the font is brought to the front of the chancel and during the service the names are read out prior to the two minute silence.

"They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn: At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them"

We will be remembering them in the Village Church and Hall (next to the Boat Inn on Hampton Lane) on Sunday 10th November at 10.45 am and we hope that you will come and honour those from this village and across the world who died and are still dying for us all.

Remembrance Sunday – Why not stop wherever you are and whatever you are doing for the two minutes silence at 11 am?

Steve Wallis and Pete Peters.

Catney Common Update & Working Parties

Working party dates: Saturdays of 30th November, 25th January and 22nd March. All from 10 am to 12 noon.

The extended wet period last year which extended well into this last Spring precluded any working parties on The Common last Winter. For a considerable length of time the path beyond the board walk was under water. I had been interested to see how the clearance that previous working parties had made would affect plant growth. A considerable number of wild plant species have put in an appearance with more light entering following the reduction of the canopy. Examples are Campion, Bind Weed, Cow Slip and various Willow Herb variants. A few stems of Wood Millet have been identified. This is interesting because it shows that this is an area of old woodland. There are of course copious amounts of nettle but bramble is much reduced.

It has been possible, just, to continue the mowing of the Meadow, courtesy of Rob Walker of Oak Farm **with funding from Hampton Parish Council**. The meadow is now in much better condition with much of the tuffet grass removed. Next year the grass-cutting regime will be changed. The emphasis will be to create a meadow complete with meadow plants. These will be left to grow untrimmed until the Autumn. A number of access paths will be cut to limit damage to meadow plants.

Our Council has been doing its bit in strimming the public right of way that runs through The Common. This is especially noticeable on the path towards the style. Indeed, they have continued to maintain the footpath at the top of the canal embankment for some distance.

No grand clearance is planned for 2014. However, there is considerable scope for tidying up deadfall and pulling nettles. To this effect three working parties will be run over the Winter. These have been scheduled for the Saturdays of 30th November, 25th January and 22nd March. All from 10 am to 12 noon. Please come and help keep your Common pristine. Tools will be provided but bringing your own gloves, saws and cutters is always good.

Chris Boxall

DON'T SPEED THROUGH CATNEY

Dear Catney Residents,

Further to the email below regarding proposed speed limits on local roads in the Barston/Catherine de Barnes/Balsall Common area, I can confirm that our recommendations were considered at the Transport & Highways Cabinet Decision Session last week.

The full report and its appendices can now be viewed at <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/akssolihull/users/public/admin/kab86.pl?edname=ed6212&cmte=&meet=&arc=8>

Having considered the diverse feedback received during the consultation process it was agreed that 27 of the proposals would be implemented and lower limits readvertised on the remaining 8 lengths of road. It is anticipated that all agreed speed limit changes in this area will be introduced in the New Year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or feedback.

Regards,

Jodie Robins (nee Lee)

jrobins@solihull.gov.uk

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Christmas Gift Ideas :

- **A weekend away - Fill a large envelope with clues to where they are going.**
- **A large cotton wool snowball filled with small items depending on person's interests or a selection of beauty/grooming items.**
- **Retro Slushi machine**
- **A miniature garden with bonsai trees.**
- **Digital measuring jug for that budding chef.**
- **Indoor allotment with assorted seeds.**
- **IMusic Pillow**

Make your own Christmas placemats – use favourite seasonal photos or make a collage and laminate them.

FOR SALE:

BUN TRAINER (B//NEW IN BOX) FOR BUNS,HIPS AND THIGHS (RRP£69) £20.BOX A LITTLE FADED, BUT WOULD MAKE AN IDEAL GIFT.

FLOOD LAMP.IDEAL FOR BOYS ROOM,DESK/STUDY(B/NEW) THOUGH BOX A LITTLE FADED. COST £40. WOULD LIKE £15 IDEAL GIFT

HALOGEN COOKER/HEALTH OVEN.EASY COOK 727 DELUXE.BRAND NEW/UNUSED.COST ORIGINALLY £70. ALLOWS YOU TO BAKE,ROAST,GRILL,DRY FRY AND TOAST. COMES WITH INSTRUCTIONAL DVD WITH RECIPES ETC.UNBOXED.£30

11 JIGSAWS(1=300, 2=550 AND 8 X500) CHOCOLATE BOX SCENES, ANIMALS, HISTORIC. HOPEFULLY ALL COMPLETE. £10

18 JIGSAWS FROM 750 PIECES-1500 GOOD CONDITION £25 WILL KEEP YOU OCCUPIED THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS!

SOAP AND GLORY HOLDALL WITH 9 ITEMS.BRAND NEW WITH TAGS.RRP £60.WOULD LIKE £35 PLEASE

RACHEL HALE CAT JIGSAW-SEALED 1000 PIECE, RRP £14 WOULD LIKE £5

CONTACT MANDY ON 705 1733 9-12 MIDDAY OR AFTER 5PM. I AM AWAY FROM 12TH-17TH NOVEMBER

Young People of Catney/Mums/Dads/Carers: Do you know about the Double decker Youth Bus in Hampton in Arden – known as the Skylark? It is in the Sports Ground at Hampton **during term-time** and you are very welcome to go along and use the excellent facilities and meet others or pop in for a tea/coffee/squash to see what is going on.

Saturday morning "drop-in" 11am-1pm. All welcome including little ones and their parents/carers.

Wednesday evening Skylark Club for:

Juniors: 6.30 pm - 7.45 pm School Years 4, 5 and 6

Seniors: 7.45pm -9 pm School years 7-11

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION :

You can contact us by emailing Frances Cook at secretary@catney.co.uk or for contributions to the Catney News, you can contact Christine 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, Frances Cook, Chris Cluley, Ken Cluley, Sue Attwell and Annette Scott.

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

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

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FOR THE CATNEY NEWS:

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. About to hold an event locally? Let us know. Do you know of anyone new to the Village? Tell us and we will send them a welcome card.

If you would like to promote your business by offering villagers a discount – please contact me.

Ideas of what you would like to read about in your Catney News are always welcome. I would really appreciate articles of seasonal interest to put in the December issue; please let me have all copy by 20th November.

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.

Chris Cluley