



JULY 2013

Dear Residents,

We are desperately in need of help on Catney Day. So far, no-one has come forward to assist with putting out stalls, helping on the bar and barbeque and all the 101 other things needed to run a day like this and we have one week left before the day. We cannot cancel at this stage. We are very concerned that no-one is actually prepared to give their support for what we are trying to do. The same few people are trying to do everything, which is very disheartening. Please volunteer a couple of hours of your time to show your support. We need help on Saturday 6th July from 10:00 am to help set up the barbeques and bar and at 12:00 noon to help set up the event, such as clearing up the back yard, putting up gazebos and stalls and other tasks. We also require second hand books in good condition. If we have no backing from Villagers, we will have to give the Village Hall back to St. Alphege Church for them to sell and wind up the Village Hall Committee, the Residents Association, and the Catney News as it is pointless trying to carry on unless we all pull together. The more people come forward, the less everyone has to do. Please don't assume others will volunteer and even if they do, the more the merrier! If you can help in any way, please email the Association or call Sue on 705 8338 with your name and number to find out what is needed and what you can do towards Catney Day, when we have a new Catney Flag to raise! We are also looking for a First Aider - can you help in the afternoon? Don't forget to make your sponge cake for the competition!

Thank you so much.

I hope everyone who will be on holiday in July and August will have a great time. Stay safe - we will be back in September (hopefully!).

Chris Cluley, Editor

CATNEY DAY

Sunday 7th JULY 12.30 to 5.30pm Village Hall

The event is to generate funds for the VILLAGE HALL FUND although entry is free

There will be a BBQ, Bar Tent, Live Music, Raffle, Games for the children, Childrens' Dance demonstration, Sponge making competition , Village flag raising ceremony which will be attended by the winners/runners up of the flag design competition and the new Mayor of Solihull.

We invite residents to participate by entering a home-made Victoria sponge cake in our ' Best Victoria Sponge Competition' recipe based on the Womens Institute guidelines using 7" or 8" tins .Entries to be delivered to the hall between 10.30am and 11.30 am on Sunday morning for judging at 12.00am There will be a prize for the winner which will be announced in the afternoon . We would like to sell/raffle the cakes made. Don't forget cake making is not an exclusively for the girls - boys can do it too! Have a bit of fun - make a sponge !

Tables for selling crafts, art, jewellery , pottery etc are available at £10 per table-please mail the Residents Association or call Sue on 705 8338 to reserve.The full AGENDA for the afternoon is on the next page.

Contact details as above

We are also looking for Raffle Prizes - if you can help please bring it along to the hall between 10.30 and 11.30 am on Sunday 7th July.

CATNEY FLAG

We have asked the children of George Fentham School to design a flag for our Village. We understand there is considerable interest. All the entries will be on display in the Hall on the 7th July and the winners/runners up of the Competition will receive a prize with the winner's design having been made into a flag which will be raised in the grounds of the Hall during the afternoon at 3 pm.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Solihull will be coming to present the winner of the flag and sponge competitions and be present at the flag raising event scheduled for 3.00pm - the party will be arriving at 2.45pm and destined to leave around 3.30pm

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Timetable for Catney Day Sunday 7th July

- 12.00 Event opens
- 12.15pm Judging of Victoria Sponge entries
- 2.00pm Childrens Dancing Demonstration
- 2.45pm Arrival and welcoming of Mayor and Mayoress of Solihull
- 3.00pm Presentation to winner of Victoria Sponge Competition followed by the presentation of prizes to winner and runners up of the Flag Design Competition.
This will be followed by the raising of the flag at the front of the Hall
- 5.30pm Event Closes

Live music will be played throughout the afternoon

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If you have had some work done recently, and were happy with it, we would love you to recommend that trader to us, so that we can compile a list for villagers to consider. Please only tell us if you have personally used the plumber, decorator, electrician, gardener, etc., and have found their work to be excellent.



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A BIG WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE TO OUR NEW RESIDENTS FIONA, KEITH AND SHANE BONSER, WHO HAVE RECENTLY MOVED INTO LUGTROUT LANE. WE HOPE YOU WILL BE VERY HAPPY IN CATHERINE-DE-BARNES!

Found May 27th- Bank Holiday Monday

Ladies wristwatch. Found in the cut-through between Oakfields Way and Hampton Lane.

Contact: Maggie at 21 Oakfields Way or ring 704 1375

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For Sale

Both Items hardly used

1. Silent Night Single electric Under Blanket. Guaranteed for 3 years from 8th February 2012. When new £29.99
Now: £15

2. Prolux Cylindrical Slow Cooker (capacity 35 litres, height 22 cm, diameter 22 cm) Guaranteed for one year from 29th October 2012. When new £12.99
Now: £7.99

If interested, please telephone 0121 705 7020

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WHAT'S ON AROUND THE AREA IN JULY and AUGUST?

Friday 12th and Sat 13th July, Midsummer Craft Fayre in Solihull High St. 9 - 5 pm

Sat 13th and Sunday 14th July. Dance Live Festival in Mell Square

Sat 20th July: Music in the Park 3. Pop Goes Solihull, 2pm to 5 pm in Tudor Grange Park, Live music from the bands of tomorrow.

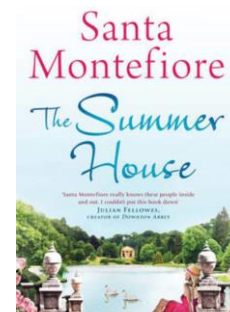
Thursday 25th July: Alice's Extraordinary Adventure - A live performance of Alice in Wonderland in Brueton Park or the Arts Centre if wet. The first 336 tickets sold are guaranteed a seat in the Theatre in this situation. Tickets £7 (£6 child) in advance from the Arts Centre, or £8 (£7 child) on gate. Running times 2 hours approx including interval.

Saturday 3rd August: 7.30 pm Organ concert at Hampton church - tickets from the Corner shop in Hampton.

Thursday 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August - Fun for all the family in Mell Square from 11-3pm with entertainment and rides.

BOOK REVIEW BY JOHN ALDERSON

SUMMER HOUSE by Santa Montefiore.



This is the second of numerous books written by Mrs. Montefiore which I have read, and there are many similarities, particularly of style, with “The House by the Sea”.

The Summer House is definitely about a family lifestyle, which most of us would find alien and many might feel disappeared after the First World War. The names she gives to her characters and the settings in which they are placed, appear old-fashioned and the whole story has a rather Agatha Christie feel about it in some ways.

It is a very pleasing read, with a romantic plot which is a little forced at times, by the predictable attitudes of her characters to changing situations. In fact, I did not find the characters drawn as finely as they might have been.

An impeccable butler, a farmer whose farming seems to consist of an occasional ride on “his tractor”, and a dragon of mother-in-law who suddenly is the only one who can see the wood from the trees, peopled a story, which is centred on an other person entirely – an orphaned and attractive young woman- in a manner which I did find very convincing.

Perhaps romantic novels are not entirely to my taste, but this is a pleasant and readable book for the summer and I’m sure her fans, of whom I know there to be many, will find it very enjoyable.

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Looking for somewhere to take your under 8’s when the weather isn’t so good or somewhere local to hold their birthday party? Haystacks Play Barn is only down the road in Old Lode Lane, at Dunstan farm. They do party packages for 4 – 8 year olds and for 1 – 3 year olds, both at under £10 per child. Open from 9 am to 6 pm every day except Christmas Day and New Year Day, normal admission is £4 for 1-3 year olds and £4.50 for 4-8 year olds. Adult admission (sadly, I presume just to watch!) is 50p. www.haystacksplaybarn.co.uk They have a little farm shop to the side selling all manner of tasty things.

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Besides our own lovely Common down Bickenhill Lane, for a pleasant walk, have you tried a walk around the Arboretum at Hampton? It can be reached through the wood at the back of the Sports field and has picnic facilities.

HISTORY CORNER – Catney

On 21st June 1960, it was the 21st anniversary of the school and a service to mark this was held in the school quadrangle – to include ex head-teachers, old scholars and parents.

A programme of events included : A ribbon dance, poems by the Infants and Juniors, Folk dances such as the Portland Fancy and choral poems.

In 1962, the local postmaster in the village in 1962 defined Catherine de Barnes as a “happy village”.

On the 19th June 1965 there was a piece in the local paper stating that the school grounds had been getting out of hand. A group of some 20 parents and pupils cleared the ground to the side of the playground to enable more space. It is noted that the thing most in demand was “pop” as it was a very hot day!

On the 3rd June 1967 more than £100 was raised (quite a lot in those days) for the church and school at the village fete. This was held in Henwood Lane. It was reported that the villagers were shrugging off doubts about the future of the two room school. From 76 pupils, there were now only 46. All the villagers rallied round to support the fete and raise the much needed money.

The school had one big room divided by moveable screens, together with a temporary classroom, Meals were eaten at their desks and the children had to go into the cloakroom if it was wet outside, while the hall was prepared for meals.

The school had wanted to have an extension – a new hall for PE and mid-day meals. However, this was not thought practical at the time, despite assurances from Councillor Leslie Coombes who said there was no question of the school being closed in the immediate future.

Apologies that Residents Asssocation membership cards are not yet ready due to time constraints and printing facilities – we hope to get them to you before September. Catney Day is free entry, so please come along.

Dog Rescue and Welfare Centre Planning Application

Grateful thanks to all who responded to our electronic survey or phoned with their opinions on this planning application. About 160 residents were invited by e mail to respond to the survey and 65 responses were received which is a good proportion. Opinions about the proposed Dogs Home are mixed but almost everyone (98% of the replies) confirmed that the Catherine-de-Barnes community is important to them and they value the greenbelt land around us, and 55% think the greenbelt site is not an appropriate location for the development. Overall, 18% are in favour of the proposed centre, 48% against and 34% undecided. 48% of respondents think that noise from the dogs would be a nuisance and 41% are concerned about safety and the increased traffic, while roughly 20% are not sure on these issues.

Quite a large number of respondents (77%) would be willing to attend a public meeting about the home so we have arranged to have a meeting in Catney Village Hall on Tuesday July 16th at 7:30 pm and I hope that many of you will come to express your opinions and discuss the issue. As your Residents' Association, we want to respond to Solihull Council on this Planning Application and are keen to accurately reflect the views of residents when we do so.

Frances Cook

We would like to put a table and seating on the Common. This needs to fit in with the rural environment and the seating should enable anyone sitting on it to see all around. The difference between what we would like and what can be afforded is quite significant. Would anyone like to sponsor the purchase on behalf of a loved one or on behalf of a local company? Ideally, we would like something a bit different, but rustic. The seating and table would have to be fixed to the ground and we presume that if we provide a picnic facility, then a waste bin would also be required, all at an additional expense.

Please let us know if you could help with this expense/ sponsorship or perhaps know someone who is a skilful wood carver who would be prepared to make something for us on a budget or as an advertising piece!.

IN MEMORIAM: We would like to send our sincere sympathy to Kathleen and the family of John Thompson who passed away recently. John and his wife Kathleen, of Lugtrout Lane, have always been active members of the Catney community and we are eternally grateful for the support John gave in his lifetime.

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

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 interest to put in the September issue; please let me have all copy by 20th August. There will not be an August edition.

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