



October 2013



Catherine-de-Barnes

CATNEY NEWS



Dear Villagers,

At the time of going to press, we were about to have our first Friday film night – I do hope many of you went along to support this event. If it was well attended the next one will be on the 25th October film to be chosen by yourselves. Please also support our Quiz Night on the 12th – a lot of hard work goes into these events, and if they have to be cancelled due to poor support, it is such a shame. We are also trying to raise money from the Quiz for the Residents Association, so that we can continue to produce the Catney News and anything else we may need to purchase for the village in the coming year.

All members of the Residents Association should have by now received their membership cards. If you are fully paid up for 2013, and haven't received your card, please let our secretary Frances Cook know.

Trick or treating with the children at the end of the month? Please remember that ideally the elderly in our village should not be visited unless they have specifically said it is OK or they are your children's grandparents!!

Thank you

Christine Cluley (Editor)

EVENTS COMING UP AT THE VILLAGE HALL

QUIZ NIGHT AND FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

12th October 2013 at 7.30 pm.

Proceeds this time for the Residents Association!
 Another fun evening of battling brain cells! Bring a team or we will put you in a one – everyone welcome.

Fish and chip supper at half time, included in ticket price.

Bar and Raffle

Tickets £8 per person Contact: Dave on 705 8037

Raffle prizes needed – if you would like to donate one please let Dave know.

**FRIDAY
 FILM
 NIGHT AT
 CATNEY**

MOBILE FLICKS
 Presents
**FILM TO BE CHOSEN
 BY YOU**
 FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER
 Doors 7pm Film 8pm
 Catherine-de-Barnes Village
 Hall
 Drinks available before the
 screening
*NEXT FILM NIGHT FRIDAY 29TH
 NOVEMBER 2013*

The film choice for October 2013 will be decided by you.
 Please email your film suggestion(s) to angela.mobileflicks@gmail.com by Monday 7th October.
 Please see village notice boards for announcement of the film

Tickets £4.00
 Tickets available from the Spar / angela.mobileflicks@gmail.com / on the door

 Find us on Facebook

The Cuckoo's Calling by Robert Galbraith

A book Review by John N Alderson

Perhaps very cleverly or perhaps one should say commercially, the author of this detective novel, Robert Galbraith, was revealed as the pseudonym of J K Rowling very shortly after publication, causing sales to increase very substantially. This is quite a sad but well know attitude in both artistic as well as literally circles, the name being all important.

However Robert Galbraith is not a bad story teller and it reviewed quite well before the not-very-well-kept-secret came out.

The story surrounds the death of a super model who seemingly commits suicide by jumping from the balcony of her very swish Mayfair apartment. Cormoran Strike is the rather sad detective with a complicated private life, no money, no home and of all things a prosthetic leg, all of which have some part to play in the story. He takes on a new secretary who also has a slightly complex personal life, and as Strike is hired by the brother of the dead super model, they set out to find the truth.

Many a detective novel is written in this format but Rowling from her personal experience of the very low and very high times in her life is able to draw us into aspects of life in London that is a little removed from the norm and her characters, as you might expect are quite well drawn.

The detective gets his man – or is it a woman? – but the route is interesting and clearly written by an imaginative story teller. This is not classic writing but it's very readable.

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For Sale

Pro-Idee Step Machine, hardly used. Useful for strengthening the legs and circulation £30.

Janet Parker. 0121 705 0219.

HISTORY CORNER

A couple of years ago, I included in the News, some of the reminiscences from Burt Jervis, who used to live in the Village in Bickenhill Lane. Burt now lives in Cyprus, but remembers fondly his time in Catney back in the 30's and 40's. I have now been given some more memories from Burt (enormous thanks to Julia Morris, sister of Derek Dixon) and I share some of them with you below:

"In Spring 1940/1941, my parents and I moved into 40 Bickenhill Lane which was a pair of semi-detached cottages on the corner of Back Lane, they were half timbered and along with Raymond Osbourne's cottage on the opposite corner of Back Lane, these were probably the oldest houses in Catney.

I think that north of Back Lane was technically in Meriden, so we had no piped water and our pump was between numbers 34 and 35 – which was a long walk for numbers 26 and 30 up at the Button factory. This was a large, 15m x 5m brick built wooden floored outhouse built to provide employment for the village, the main produce was horn macintosh buttons.

At this time, there is no doubt, that the centre of village life was the bar of the "Boat" run by Bert and Rosie Court. The bar had a stone floor of tiny black and white tiles, cast iron tables with stone/marble tops. it would be considered "rough" by today's standards. An open fireplace, piano and dartboard set the tone for darts nights and Saturday night sing songs. Remember, hob-nailed boots were the norm for lunch-time labourers. On the wall were photographs of the 1922 Catney football team, started by the Church school, which progressed to the Acocks Green League, the Suburban League and finally Solihull Town. In between the fireplace and the bar was a double bench seat which was a regular pitch for the elder Mr. Tarplin and later in the evening Mr. George Cotton. Both staunch members of the village. George, on Saturday nights used to park a wheelbarrow full of vegetables from his Oakfields garden in the porch for everybody to have for their Sunday dinner. I am not sure if payment was cash or pints!

On VE night, it was the Boat piano that was carried to Pagetts field on the corner of Henwood Lane for the sing song celebrations round the bonfire. The bonfire was an enormous heap of brushwood provided by convenient timber felling operations in Barbers Coppice and was still going well at 4 pm the following afternoon.

Memories from Burt Jervis (continued)

At the back of the Boat was a very large crown bowling green, which I never saw used as such, even though it was well tended by George Sheasby. Instead it was a play area for young children while their parents were having a drink. The last time I saw it, it was the rear car park.

Just to complete the picture, I understand the old "Boat" which was burnt down was down by the side lane and there was a wooden footbridge for barges to tie up outside Oak Farm and cross over. I think the new "Boat" was built around 1925.

Once upon a time the Common must have been at the centre of the "Village", but cutting the canal severed Lugtrout Lane, which pre-dates the canal, from it's original course past the Dell, across Bickenhill Lane to Friday Lane. Therefore the crossing of Bickenhill Lane was, possibly, the centre crossroads. The canal also severed the lane which ran down Field Lane, across Lugtrout Lane, between Hampton Coppice and Woodhouse Farm, past Castle Hills to the Coventry Road.

Tribute must be paid at this point to the Tarplin family in the building up of Catney and the employment provided for local labour.

Burt Jervis.

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A REMINDER THAT IF YOU SEE ANYTHING WORRYING IN RESPECT OF FLIGHT PATHS, FLIGHT NOISE ETC., PLEASE CONTACT THE AIRPORT. A MEMBER OF THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE NORMALLY ATTENDS AIRPORT MEETINGS.

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Have you any Christmas memories of Catney? Did you go to school in Catney – were you in a Nativity play? do you have any photos?

Please contact the Editor

What's on around Catney in October?

Friday 4th October: 9 – 5pm Farmers Market – Solihull High Street.

Sunday 6th October: Harvest Festival at 11 am – Hampton Parish Church.

Wednesday 16th October: Malcolm Stent and Friends at Solihull Arts Complex.

Saturday and Sunday October 19-20: The Annual Arts, Crafts & Photography Exhibition will be held on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th October 2013, in Fentham Hall, Marsh Lane, Hampton in Arden. Entrance is £1, and the exhibition will be open from 10 am until 5 pm on both days. Refreshments can be purchased - lunches, delicious cakes, coffee and tea. More details can be obtained from Mr D Griffiths, tel 01675 442240.

Tuesday 29th October: Autumn Watch (All ages) Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull, B91 3EN Go on a sensory walk round the park whilst hunting for signs of autumn. Search for berries, take some bark rubbings and create a natural collage. £4.50 per person, £3.50 for Warwickshire Wildlife Trust members. To book your place call 0121 704 0768, parents must accompany 2-7 year olds.

Wednesday 30th October: The Nutcracker. Ballet Theatre UK. Solihull Arts Complex.

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CATNEY CRICKET CLUB

At the last Residents Association meeting, we were joined by Eddie Hewitt, from Catney Cricket Club who meet behind the Boat pub. Eddie is very keen for the Club to be more involved in Village Activities and next month we will have some details about the history of the club, future matches and events etc. He would love any men interested in joining the club to contact him. Anyone over 14 can join. Nets are held first before the new season starts and now that the first X1 have reached the Premier Division of the Cotswold Hills Cricket League, good players are very welcome as well as beginners. We are hoping to have Village matches between the Village and the CCC, and perhaps if we have enough interest, a women's team and a senior team could be formed. More news on this next month.



Catherine de Barnes
Cricket Club



CATNEY CANOE CLUB

Solihull Canoe Club is based on the Grand Union Canal in the village of Catherine-de-Barnes. There is a public footpath to the right at the farside of the humpback bridge and the Boathouse is at the end where it merges with the towpath. We meet every Saturday afternoon between 2 pm and 4 pm throughout the year.

The Club is a registered charity with the aim of encouraging people to try Canoeing and Kayaking; as well as promoting the sports of flat water and wildwater racing. We are affiliated with the British Canoe Union (BCU) and have BCU qualified and trained coaches.

The club has links with various schools, and youth organisations in order to encourage people to take part in, and enjoy canoeing. We have approximately a hundred members, of which around a third of these are under the age of eighteen.

Beginners are most welcome to come along for a "taster" sessions. If you would like to come along for a taster course we would be delighted to see you. The courses will run for four consecutive Sundays starting at 10:00hrs. Each session will last about 1.5 hours and the total taster course cost will be £30. To confirm that you wish to have a go, please contact us. . The club has boats, paddles and buoyancy aids, which new and prospective members may use.

No special clothing is required; sweatshirt and tracksuit bottoms worn with a pair of light trainers or plimsolls are adequate. Paddlers should bring a cagoule in case of poor weather, a towel and a complete change of clothing.

If you enjoy paddling at Solihull Canoe Club, then membership is £35 for Juniors and £45 for Adults for the year up until 31st May. For family membership it is £95 for a family of three, £110 for four and £125 for five or more. Persons who join post 1st Dec 2013 should be eligible for a 50% reduced rate.

You will then be able to paddle at Solihull Canoe Club during the year with no additional payments.

Contact us: Geoff Barber 0843 289 5272 (standard rate) Please note: this number redirects to a landline & you will hear music instead of a ringing tone

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 interest to put in the November issue; please let me have all copy by 20th October.

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