

# CATNEY NEWS



Dear Villagers,

Autumn seemed to come a bit early in that there were leaves on the ground from the end of August. But at the time of writing in late September, the majority of leaves have hung on for dear life and I for one am hoping that we will have a little more warm sunny weather or even an Indian Summer before the end of October.

Do get any contributions to our November issue to me by the 20<sup>th</sup> October, and thank you so much to everyone who has contributed to this issue.

Apologies for the Christmas advertising – I know that it is still 11 weeks away, but we want to get these events into your diaries!

However, there are plenty of other things in this edition for you to support and enjoy before Christmas arrives!

Chris Cluley,  
Editor.

*Hello*  
**October**

I believe  
this  
beautiful  
month  
will bring  
us more  
love,  
happiness,  
good health,  
prosperity  
and blessings.



Catney Residents  
Association

You can now follow “Catney Village Hall” on Twitter  
(@catneyA) Our website is : [www.catney.co.uk](http://www.catney.co.uk)

Contacts: Secretary of the Residents Association: Frances  
on 0776 8502039 or [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk)

Anything for the Catney News: Contact Chris at  
[cluleychris8@outlook.com](mailto:cluleychris8@outlook.com) **Note: new email address**

Spar Shop/Hall Bookings: Gareth on 0121 705 6135

## NEWS FROM YOUR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

*The Residents' Association EGM last week was well attended. Dave Cuthbert gave a presentation on the proposed Parish Boundary change and a question and answer session followed. After discussion a show of hands indicated that the majority of those present were in favour of continuing the boundary change process. Now we are now seeking signatures to a petition which will trigger a Community Governance Review by SMBC.*

*The petition can be signed at the Spar shop and volunteers are going door-to-door collecting signatures*

*If you haven't yet had an opportunity to sign please let Frances know and we will arrange to call.*

**Thank you.**

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## GAELIC SPORT

Paírc na hÉireann which literally translates to 'Park of Ireland' has been established on Catherine de Barnes Lane in Bickenhill since 1986. It is the County Grounds for the Warwickshire Gaelic Athletics Association (GAA) and provides pitches and facilities for the 15 clubs that form part of our County. Our aim as Warwickshire GAA is to support and develop Gaelic football, Hurling, Ladies Football and Camogie at all ages. We have over 3000 members across the County along with the thousands around the UK and Ireland who travel to play at our grounds, during our season which runs from March to October. We are especially proud of the underage set up we have to introduce young people to the sport, many of which are not of Irish descent and this is a brand new sport for them and their families. At Senior level we have very successful Gaelic football and Hurling teams, in fact our Warwickshire Hurling team won the Lory Meagher Cup in June 2017 and were able to play in the national stadium Paírc an Chrócaigh (Croke Park) in Dublin. With the new developments for a relief road in the area it's important that we are able to maintain and protect the strides we have made as an organisation and continuing to develop Gaelic Games, which for many who have moved from Ireland, is a link to their home place. Thanks to all those who have and continue to support our efforts to remain in this community.

**Tara Tolan**

**Warwickshire Press Officer**

# CAROLS AROUND THE CATNEY CHRISTMAS TREE



**THIS YEAR OUR CAROL SINGING WILL BE  
ON  
SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 5.30 PM.**

DO PLEASE JOIN US TO SING SOME WELL LOVED CAROLS BY THE LIGHT OF OUR TREE (ALL ARE WELCOME; BRING YOUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND YOURSELVES – CAROL SHEETS ARE PROVIDED)

THERE WILL BE FREE REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL AFTER THE SINGING. IF THE WEATHER IS BAD, WE WILL SING IN THE HALL.

SO PLEASE TRY AND FINISH THE SHOPPING EARLY THAT DAY AND COME AND JOIN US. BRING LANTERNS IF YOU HAVE THEM OR TORCHES. PLEASE HELP US MAKE THIS THE BIGGEST SING EVER FOR THIS EVENT!!!

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**Our Church of England Remembrance Service this year will be in the Village Hall which will become St. Catherine's Church again for the occasion on Sunday 12th November starting at 10.45am. Do join us to remember all those who gave their lives in both world wars and those who are continuing to try to bring peace to war torn lands.**

**Please remember to bring a poppy for the act of Remembrance.**



## Catney Common

A very successful work party was held on Sunday morning September 10<sup>th</sup> when a total of eight people came along to work. Three new members of the group were especially welcome; they helped us to fell a number of dead trees and rotten branches. We also cleared an area of brambles and nettles where new trees will be planted this winter, dug in some native daffodil bulbs and cleared a few areas on the common to sow wild flower seeds. Thank you to everyone who came, you made a huge difference.

We are waiting anxiously for the essential mowing to be done on the open common, it is hoped next month. In October we shall be putting up bird boxes, strimming the paths and continuing to tackle the holly and brambles, so please come and help if you can **on Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am.**

Our application for some new trees along the woodland path has been approved. They will be delivered during the winter, ready for planting. Solihull ecologist, Adam Noon, came along to assess our bid. It was his first visit to the Common. He gave useful advice on future management and also suggested planting a small Hazel spinney on the left hand side of the path. This has been included in our request for Airport Trees. Hazel is good for wild life and should help to reduce the brambles and nettles which would be a big help!

We hope to invite Adam to meet us next spring to discuss future plans for the Common and how to maintain it. If we can arrange a date we will let everyone know. We hope you enjoy Catney Common, it is much visited. Perhaps next year we could hold a village picnic there? "Bring your shears and share your beers" was the slogan suggested by the workers last Sunday!!

### Friends of Catney Common



Sunday morning work on the common and Meadow Cranesbill in flower.



Sunflowers grown from seed in Catney by Jane Clancy



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## **CATNEY CRICKET CLUB**

The Cricket club had a difficult Season with the departure of a number of first teamers before a ball was bowled then 2 break-ins which made big dents in our already shaky Financial position, Both teams got relegated and to cap it all our Chairman has resigned,

You would think with all the above happening the Club would be a depressing place but with a lot of enthusiasm from those left and our ability to still get 2 Teams out each Saturday we go into the Winter in a bad position but not yet beaten,

We as always start looking for players from 11 years old up to 50, in addition sponsors for Next Season and anyone who is interested in getting involved with Cricket and especially Catney Cricket from helping on the Ground to Umpiring to Teas, everyone will be welcome,

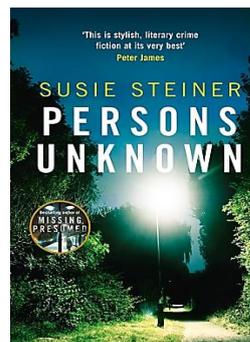
If you can help please contact Eddie Hewitt on 0121 373 9104 or Mobile 07826 465805.

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# PERSONS UNKNOWN

A NOVEL BY Susie Steiner

A Book Review by John Alderson



In May last year, I reviewed Susan Steiner's second novel, but her first based around DS Manon Bradshaw. In this book, Manon has returned to Hinchingsbrooke in Cambridgeshire after a disillusioned spell with the Met in London, is now five months pregnant, by IV and no father.

She has also adopted a fifteen year old black son, Fly, and is accompanied by her sister Ellie and her son, Solly.

Manon finds everything has changed at her old police station, she is no longer in the position she was and finds herself side-lined on the investigation of a man stabbed to death. Everything changes again when CCTV from the murder scene shows Manon's son Fly, walking past the scene, following which he is arrested as a prime suspect.

The victim is shown to be Jon-Oliver Ross a wealthy City type whose company is involved with the "entertainment" of wealthy overseas clients.

The story develops well, with Manon working on her own with occasional inside help to try to prove Fly to be innocent, which isn't helped by Fly refusing to say why he was there and where he was going.

This is another excellent story but the author introduces the major social theme of the integration of black youths in a majority white society and their treatment by the police in particular. It's all very well handled in another very well written story.

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**Could Denise Hancock please contact Jennie re Pilates on 07860 139680**

Someone called Denise Hancock from Catherine de Barnes contacted me to ask if she could come to my Pilates class on a Tuesday evening together with her two daughters.

I explained that my 7 pm class is now full but that I would contact her when my 6 pm class opens but I've lost her number. I hope this reaches you Denise

Jenny

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**A member of the Craft and Chat Group, Jane, with the magnificent and colourful quilt she has created using knitting and crochet.**

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# A message from Highways England

I am writing to advise you that we have launched an online feedback tool to gather insight from our customers on our proposals to improve M42 junction 6.

The preferred route for the scheme has recently been [announced](#) and we are now welcoming views from our customers. These will be considered and, where appropriate, taken into account in the scheme design, which is now in development.

You can access the tool from the following link:

[https://m42junction6.commonplace.is/?utm\\_source=stakeholder%202](https://m42junction6.commonplace.is/?utm_source=stakeholder%202)

This tool allows the local community to share their views about our scheme. It will run until Friday 13 October 2017.

We would welcome your support to help us publicise this wider by sharing the link through your communications channels, such as on your website and via Facebook, Twitter, newsletters or e-newsletters, etc.. We want to raise awareness of this tool so as many people as possible have the opportunity to share their views. This will provide us with valuable insight to inform our detailed design.

I have also attached a GIF we have produced, which you may wish to tweet or share through your social media channels. We have shortened the URL to make it more Twitter-friendly:

<https://goo.gl/iXy8df> A suggested message to accompany the link is: 'Have your say on plans to improve M42 junction 6.'

We will be tweeting from our Highways England account (@HighwaysWMIDS) should you wish to re-tweet.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

## **M42 Junction 6 Project Team**

Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN

Tel: 0300 123 5000

Email: [m42junction6@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:m42junction6@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Web: [www.highways.gov.uk/m42-j6](http://www.highways.gov.uk/m42-j6)



# Catney Christmas Craft Fair November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017,



11.00a.m. to 3.30p.m.

Catherine de Barnes Village Hall



Following our very successful first Christmas Craft Fair last year, we have decided to take a chance and make it an annual event, so put this date in your dairies. The event was hard work, but everyone thought was good fun, and it brought in quite a few visitors, and raised funds for the village hall. Once again, we are looking for local people with talents of all sorts to rent tables to sell their wares. The Catney Craft Group will have a table selling a variety of Christmas decorations, stocking fillers, small gifts and homemade jam. Other tables will include, stained glass, pottery, jewellery, fabrics, knitwear, and cosmetics. We will be looking for village support to supply home baking for the tea stall, which was very important in raising the revenue, it's possible some people just came for a browse, some tea and a chat!

As the space in the village hall is limited please indicate your interest before the end of September as tables will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Tables are £10 for a large one [6foot] or £5 for a small one [3foot]

Those who wish to rent a table please contact Liz Boxall on 0121 705 7531 or email at [liz@boxall.info](mailto:liz@boxall.info)

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**Hampton in Arden Parish church** are delighted to announce that Revd Stuart Dimes will be the next incumbent of Hampton in Arden, Bickenhill and Barston churches. . Stuart is a priest of longstanding service in the Church of England Birmingham with a wide experience, most recently as vicar of St Anne's West Heath.

His licencing service will be at Hampton Church on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

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## **Look Good Feel Better...beauty treat for cancer patients**

LGFB is the make up industries charity aiming to give women from teens to retirees a chance to join a beauty workshop. You will be given a gorgeous bag of top name make up and cleansers, a demonstration on how to apply them, draw on eyebrows if there is hair loss, and just generally "feel better".

Tea coffee and biscuits on arrival and friendly volunteers from the make-up industry to give advice.....what's not to like!? Groups vary from approximately 6....16 and everyone has a chance to chat and exchange tips and stories . Workshops are held at Solihull Hospital Education Centre once a month on a Wednesday afternoon, if you are interested please ring Margaret Averill on 01214245306

# SOLIHULL MUSIC SCHOOL

25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

OPEN

DAY

11:00 - 3:00



THE **BEST** MUSIC SCHOOL  
IN THE WEST MIDLANDS

COME AND SEE WHY!

T: 01675 443456  
SOLIHULLMUSICSCOOLCOUK



**Seniors tennis** involves getting adults back on court in the afternoon for some physical and social stimulation . We are providing free sessions for up to 6 weeks for people to try tennis at Hampton tennis club on Friday afternoons from 1.30-3.00 pm

Please contact ian poole [ianpoole23@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ianpoole23@yahoo.co.uk)

## OVER 60'S TABLE TENNIS GROUP

If you have played table tennis in your youth and would like a bit of exercise, why not come along to the Scout Hut, Diddington Lane, Hampton in Arden, any Thursday afternoon between 2 pm and 4 pm. We will even lend you a bat and when you are exhausted will sit you down for a cup of tea!

Any enquiries to Ann Smith 01675 442181

# **A Little Library for Little People**

**Hampton-in-Arden now has its very own 'Little Free Library' located outside George Fentham School pick-up gate, next to the allotments on Fentham Road.**

**The idea came from a group of local mums who wanted to swap books that their children no longer read. Essentially, it's a small local book exchange. This one in Hampton will be used primarily by the children living in and around the village.**

**It will provide them with an unending source of books – they are the main beneficiaries and contributors to the initiative! The school has already been a great support – and children have donated hundreds of buttons to help decorate the boxes. The Grand Opening took place in July before the end of term with a special ribbon-cutting. Parents, carers, teachers and children enjoyed an ice-cream and took home a balloon sculpture to celebrate the launch of this new community resource.**

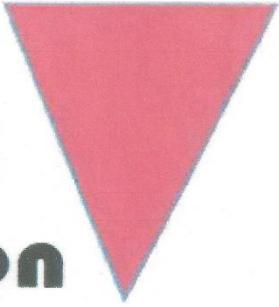
**The main Hampton-in-Arden library is also supportive and both 'big' and 'little' library will circulate information about each other's activities to help inspire young readers now and in the future.**

**There are two boxes; one smaller one with 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' design, which is for books aimed at nursery to year 2 children – and a larger 'Harry Potter' themed box for books aimed at junior year children.**

**The Little Library is always open – children's books can be dropped off or taken away at any time – the new bench also provides a place to sit down and read too. It's a resource that belongs to the whole village and hopefully it will bring a little more joy, a little more connection and a whole lot more books to our community!**

**This type of book exchange is widespread in US, with growing popularity elsewhere - there are now over 50,000 spread over 70 countries. They operate on a basis of trust, with people taking and leaving books freely. There are many all over the UK and two in Birmingham – this would be the first in Solihull. Funding for the project came from The George Fentham Charitable Trust and from lots of well-wishers via Crowdfunding. Find out more about little libraries here: [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org). Our village Little Library is registered with this organisation (Charter number 53693) and is now part of the global group of little libraries – and features on the worldwide map alongside libraries located in other countries, including China, India, South Korea and Ghana. Take a look on the map here: [www.littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/)**

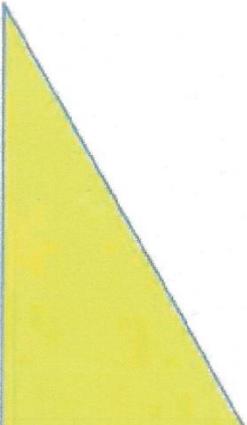
**To keep up to date with the Hampton Little Free Library, please 'Like' the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/LFLHampton/](http://www.facebook.com/LFLHampton/)**



**Annual  
Exhibition**

**Art, Craft  
Photography**

**Fentham Hall  
Hampton in Arden**



**Art for Sale  
Demonstrator  
Refreshments**

**10am to 5pm  
October 21-22**

**Enquiries : [edgriff@uwclub.net](mailto:edgriff@uwclub.net)**

**HAMPTON SINGERS INVITE YOU TO**

**“A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES”**

**AT FENTHAM HALL, HAMPTON IN ARDEN**

**SPECIAL GUEST : MEZZO SOPRANO: GAYNOR KEEBLE**

**SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER AT 7.30 PM**

**TICKETS £12 (Under 16's Free)**

**Available from: Choir members, Hampton Corner Shop, online or  
at the door.**

**Website: [www.hamptonsingers.org](http://www.hamptonsingers.org)**