

CATNEY NEWS

SUNDAY EVENING BY CATNEY CANAL



SUNDAY EVENING BY CATNEY CANAL



MAY 2015

Dear Villagers,

Spring started well, with lovely sunny, warm days to lift our spirits and now frost is apparently on it's way back! But the occasional crying seagull overhead reminds us of beaches and possible holidays to come and we can look forward to the two Bank Holidays in May, at least for those of us lucky enough to be able to take advantage of them. Some suggestions for going out this month are in this edition.

Don't forget, if you take have any photos of Catney from the past or have Catney memories you can share, please let me have them.

Do come along and support our Quiz and Fish and Chip supper on the 23rd May in the Village Hall. Reserve your place with Dave on 705 8037. See Poster on page 2. Thank you.

Please let me have any articles or information for June's Catney News by 20th May. Christine Cluley (Editor)

Contacts: Secretary of the Residents Association: Frances on 0776 8502039 or secretary@catney.co.uk

Anything for the Catney News: Contact Chris at editor@catney.co.uk. Spar Shop/Hall Bookings: Gareth on 0121 705 6135

QUIZ NIGHT!

**SATURDAY
MAY 23RD
AT 7.30 PM**

TICKETS £8

FROM DAVE:

705 8037



BAR AND RAFFLE

With Fish and Chip Supper

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THIS!!!
EITHER BRING A TEAM WITH YOU OR WE CAN
PUT YOU IN ONE**

MORE EVENTS NEWS

Buttie Brunch Following the successful Buttie Breakfast held in February, the Trustees ran a Buttie Brunch (same as a Buttie Breakfast) on 11th April in the Hall . A little over 30 Residents treated themselves to a bacon or sausage buttie (cooked to order) and had a chat with a cup of tea/coffee or two. We raised £56 in donations which helped with the costs . We are hoping to run another one in September.

In the meantime we are holding a quiz night in May (see item in this issue), together with other events in July - Catney Day , a Bowling Night in October and the Xmas Party in December. Your support at these events would be much appreciated!!!

+++++

CATNEY CRICKET CLUB

' The Cricket has started at 'Catney @ with a loss on Saturday and a win on Sunday and further Friendlies next weekend before the league starts in May,we have started nets on Wednesday evening from 5.30 PM and any Villagers will be made welcome''

Eddie Hewitt



Cricket views from the canal

+++++

Bad News/Good News

First the bad news – a resident on Henwood Lane had their car broken into and an expensive toolbox was taken. The good news - we notified our email list of the theft and within hours we had reports of sightings of the box followed by the news that a public-spirited resident had found the box and carried it home for safe keeping. So the box and its owner were soon re-united. Thanks to the good-hearted and observant citizens involved and a tribute to the effectiveness of our e mail data-base.

WHAT'S ON IN SOLIHULL IN MAY:

Gardeners' Spring Fayre / Go Green

2ND May: Mell Square, Solihull, B91 3BG, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Fine and Local Food Fayre:

16th May: High Street, Solihull, B91 0NA, 9.00am - 5.00pm

Music in the Park: Brilliant Brass!

24th May: Malvern Park, B91 3DL, 2.00pm - 4.15pm



Airport News

There was a meeting of the Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee was held on Wednesday 22nd April which we attended.

Complaints

The Airport Company reported that absolute complaints on a year on year had increased by 113% and the number of people complaining was up by 95.4%. The significant increase in complaints it felt was largely due to the Airspace Change Process trials (changes in departure routes from Runway 15- to the South). During 2014 the most common concern was related to Noise (31.2% of complaints) an increase of 129% over the previous year, whilst off track complaints represented just under 16% of all complaints an increase of 36.5% over 2013. There was a 655% increase in complaints about Ground Noise in 2014 over 2013 which were largely contributable to the ongoing Engine Ground Running Trials which started in January 2014 and are still ongoing.

Complaints can be made in the following ways:-

- a) Via the noise section of the BA website www.birminghamairport.co.uk
- b) Email environmentteam@birminghamairport.co.uk
- c) By calling the dedicated Environmental Helpline on 0121 767 7433

Aviation/ Commercial Development

The Airport handled just under 10 million passengers in the last financial year ending 30th April.

UK Border Force has agreed to install ten new E- Gates and preparations are ongoing to facilitate the installation of the new equipment. All UK passports will be biometric in 2016. Security queues remain good at 91.3% less than 10 minutes and 99.4% less than 20 minutes leading to an average dwell time in the departure lounge of 64 minutes

You may recall that the Airport Company announced , just over a year ago, its proposals for reorganising the Membership of The ACC which would have resulted in most Parish Councils and all the Community Groups either being taken off the main Committee into a sub group which would have meant the 20 communities would have been represented by 1 place on the main ACC , in our opinion and that of most other community organisations severely limiting the voice/influence of local people .As a result of the efforts of our local Councillor Bob Sleigh, MP Caroline Spelman and lobbying by the local Community groups the Airport have agreed to leave things as they are . However there are Communities impacted by airport activities that are not represented and some areas who have more than 1 representative . It has been agreed that a Steering Group will be established whose role will be to see how the ACC could be reshaped and widen representation , and be re-invigorated. We have expressed an interest to take part in this exercise and should learn shortly whether we have been successful. As an organisation we feel it vital that we take every opportunity to place the concerns/views of this Community at the forefront. We have also been successful in taking a Trustee position on the Community Trust Award Committee and group which meets twice a year to allocate the funds to organisations/groups seeking a grant from the Fund. The maximum grant being £3000. You may recall the Village Hall obtained a maximum grant 18 months ago for work on the Hall. The Airport Company donate monies each year to the fund and this is supplemented by fines made on aircraft operators for noisy aircraft

More information about the Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee can be found on the website www.ukaccs.infi/bham

+++++

Thank you to everyone who has passed on good wishes to the Residents Association Committee for the work they do.

We are very, very grateful for your support particularly from all who have paid their subscriptions to be members of the Residents Association and to those who have given additional donations.

We hope with your continued support to deal with any issues that Catney faces. If anyone would like to join the Committee, our next meeting will be on May 14th at 8 pm in the Gillott room in the Village Hall. We would love to see you.

+++++



AN INVITE TO HAMPTON EVENTS IN MAY

Hampton Society

May 4th: May Day Walk, 11am from the Fentham Hall.

In Hampton Church Hall:

May 9th: Ladies breakfast at 9 am. Come along ladies and make some new friends.

May 9th: 1 – 4 pm: Sale of jewellery and new clothes

In Hampton Church.

May 31st: 6.30 pm. A violin recital by Ruta Labutyte from Birmingham Conservatoire, with prayers and readings for a summer evening. Free entry – refreshments available in aid of the church.

HAMPTON FESTIVAL

Saturday 4 July - day ●

Village fete ● Vintage car rally ● Tea, cakes, hotdogs ● Children's fancy dress ● Sports activities ● Tennis Club final ● Hog roast ● all this as a start...

Saturday 4 July - early evening and beyond

● Live music with Miles Goodworth (involving children) ● Later: music from the 1950's onwards

Sunday 5 July

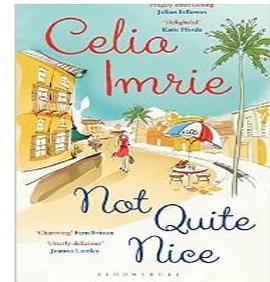
● Open air church service ● big lunch ● Scarecrow competition prizes

+++++ ++++++



Geoff Lord has taken this lovely photo of one of a pair of long tailed tits nesting in his garden.

NOT QUITE NICE A NOVEL BY Celia Imrie



A book review by John Alderson.

I have always been a great fan of Celia Imrie, as whatever part she plays she always seems about to do something more daring and mischievous. A splendid actress.

Her first novel, *Not Quite Nice*, is almost a reflection of herself in that you could easily see her playing Theresa the principle character, in her glimpse of life in the idyllic Bellevue-sur-Mer, a village just along the coast from Nice on the French Riviera.

Theresa is forced into early retirement, but faced with almost permanent baby-sitting her obnoxious grandchildren for her snob of a daughter, takes off on holiday to Bellevue-sur-Mer, decides on a whim to buy a place to live, and much to the consternation of her daughter moves to Provence.

Theresa now finds herself among a rather eccentric group of expats living out their lives among the bars, brasseries and sunshine of the sea side village. She finds herself involved, not only with these people but also their families, and there is almost more of an observation of family life in this story than just fun by the sea.

Celia Imrie is an excellent actress, not I would say a great author as this is not great writing, but it's not meant to be, is great fun and whilst a bit far far-fetched in parts is a very enjoyable read, with a predictable but satisfying ending. As Theresa is also depicted as a good cook we are offered a number of recipes to be tried during or after reading the book. An unusual bonus one might say.

John N Alderson

+++++

Day Boat Hire the Grand Union Canal from Copt Heath Wharf

For a different day out, why not hire one of our easy to drive narrowboats for a day or half day self drive cruise along the Grand Union Canal near Catherine de Barnes? This is a delightful stretch of lock free waterway which winds its way through leafy cuttings and farmer's fields away from the noise and bustle of road and motorway.

Or you can descend the impressive flight of five locks at Knowle and cruise through open countryside to Rowington or beyond. There are at least four good pubs for lunch if that is your pleasure! Learn more on our website:

<http://www.coptheathwharf.co.uk>