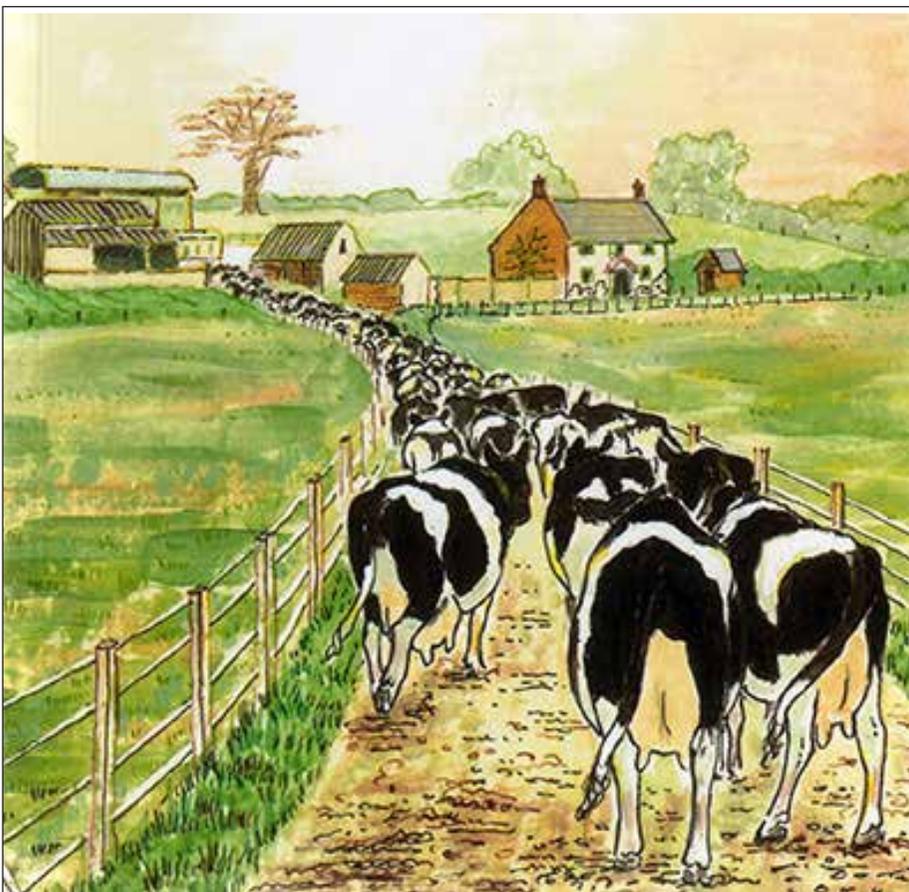


OCTOBER 2013

# SUCKLEY NEWSLETTER



## Morning has broken...



© Illustration by Rosemary Harward

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

OCTOBER 2013

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Next Issue: First week in December 2013

Content for newsletter to be submitted 22nd November 2013.

Suckley Post Office: Roger & Barbara Blackburn - 884201.

Shop Open: Mon – Fri 7.00am – 6.00pm, Sat 7.00am – 1.00pm

Post Office Open: Mon – Fri 9.00am – 5.30pm (till 1.00pm Weds)

Sat 9.00am – 12.30pm

Village websites – for up to date information on what is happening in the village as well as a list of businesses and trades: [www.suckleypo.co.uk](http://www.suckleypo.co.uk) & [www.suckley.net](http://www.suckley.net) or for Parish Council business [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish) (select Suckley from alphabetical listing).

Suckley Good Neighbourhood Scheme - 840480

Village Hall: Steve Boughton - 884210

Suckley School: Mr Matthew Meckin - 884283

Suckley & Alfrick Pre-School: Joanne Hall - 884766

Church: Wardens: Dr Anne M Lewis – 884552

Parish Clerk: Mrs Diana Taylor - 01684 569430

District Councillors: Mr D Hughes - 833049, Mr A Warburton - 832753

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## Morning has broken

*Jill Hammonds sings the praises of a local author, Rosemary Harward, who has produced an edited diary of a year in her life as a relief milker on a country estate.*

Once, this phrase was the title of one of my favourite hymns, now it is the title of one of my favourite books, written and illustrated by local author Rosemary Harward. Rosemary and Richard lived at Upper House, Suckley for many years before moving to Alfrick.

Rosemary has written a delightfully earthy diary description of her time as a relief milker on a large country estate. The joys and pitfalls of her struggle to work up to fourteen hours a day and deal with the varying dairy systems on each of the four farms make for great reading. She must have been superwoman, (sometimes disguised in cow manure!) to work as she did, and cope with her four children, home and garden, not to mention the dogs, cat, goat and even her daughter's pony.

I particularly enjoyed her descriptions of the abundant wildlife and the beauty of the farms, in the early mornings, observed through her artistic eye. Her love of the cows shone, even through her struggle to milk them correctly as a relief milker. Then scraping down the slurry using uncooperative tractors, for the very different dairy managers was often amusing and, I'm sure, completely truthful!

Alison (thinly disguised Rosemary) gives us an honest, sometimes poignant account of her new life, coming to terms with the end of her marriage, then eventually her love for John (thinly disguised Richard). She tells us with refreshing candour the problems encountered along the way.

In my opinion the two sentences in the book which best sum up the total is on page 146 "... (I was) ... affected by the sale of my beloved house, and full of doubt and fear for the future. My life stratified like the soil, layered with sadness and happiness, anger and fulfillment."

I have always thought Rosemary to be a delightful, cultured, capable and knowledgeable lady, but now I realize that there is also huge strength within

her that has been a great pleasure to read about. Anyone who is even slightly interested in the countryside should buy this book. If you know Rosemary you absolutely must buy it.

PS How many authors are capable of such beautiful artwork? The cover (image on front of the newsletter) and the occasional sketches all done by her add greatly to the joy of the book.

Copies are available in the Alfrick Shop, or from the author – 01886 832289 – a bargain at £9.95!



© Illustration by Rosemary Harward

## Excerpt from Rosemary's book

*Wednesday, 5 December*

Another mind-blowing day with Bob at Owlneat (farm). He is in his fifties and has a reputation for having a mind of his own. We did not stop talking all day. He is extraordinarily efficient, dedicated and fanatical about his cows and his unit.

The milking parlour is bright, light, warm and clean. He has an elaborate system of tail-tagging so that one can see at a glance (once you have learnt it) at what stage a cow is in her lactation and, very nearly, her life. He had invented his own recording system and the charts and graphs for the life histories of the cows cover the walls of his cosy office.

He told me about himself, his marriage, his children and his career, which has been a varied one. He had a strong opinion of all the people on the estate. Some were good. He learned to milk when he was four, doesn't believe in music in the parlour because he likes to concentrate on the cows all of the time. He is absolutely convinced of many things, but open to suggestions, of course. He takes pleasure in his battles with John (the farm manager), which he says he wins, loves his work and says he is a really happy man.

*'I admit that, sometimes, when I come into the yard at night to check the cows and they take no notice of me – which means they accept me completely – then, well, I really love them.'*

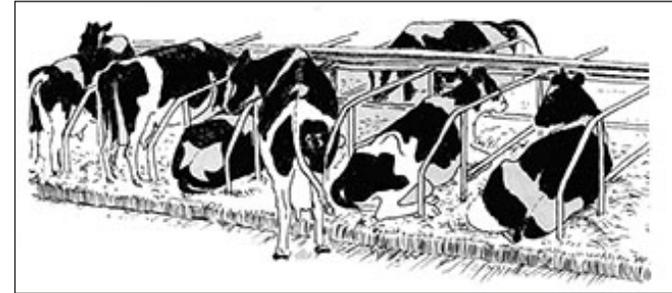
Bob has made a great many modifications to his parlour to improve it and, as well as obviously working hard, he enjoys a social life and is a member of the Lions Club, the Rotary Club and he organizes flag days for charity. It was not always easy to tell what he was saying as he smokes a pipe continually. Gripping firmly in the centre of his mouth with his teeth, little drops of spittle flew off as he talked.

He feels that my job is a man's job, but he conceded that in some ways a woman would be better. He did not explain how. He was very kind to me, praising my slurry scraping, and tactfully leaving me along while I was milking, or scraping, to get on with my bungling.

I was cautious about revealing some details of my own life as I see that this is a gossiping place, very similar to a village, and news spreads rapidly.

A cow went down with milk fever in the morning and had to be injected with a bottle of calcium. Another cow calved and had a given birth to a large Charolais-cross-Fresian calf by tea-time. I met Harold, the arable foreman, and Malcolm,

the calf rearer. I found out how to operate the pump to fill my van with petrol. I did not feel sleepy at lunchtime so I wandered round the yards behind Hazelwood, and I unblocked a gutter over the back door, and the drain in the corner which was clogged with old fat. By 6.45pm I was home and opening a tin of ravioli for my supper.



© Illustration by Rosemary Harward

## Would you like to be better able to save a life?

“Heart Start Suckley” Free Course in October

There is a growing interest in Suckley to better equip ourselves with basic resuscitation skills. Thanks to Chris and Jo from ‘HeartStart Defford’, who are prepared to offer their time, skills and equipment free of charge, we will set up a training course in Suckley (probably 2 or 3 hours), with refresher courses as needed. If there is enough interest we may be able to equip the village with a defibrillator and a team able to use that too.

The first course will be either in the daytime of Friday October 11th or the evening of Wednesday, October 30th, depending on what suits those who wish to come.

We can all of us benefit from being better equipped to deal with the emergency that we hope will never happen. If you would like to be informed of the resuscitation course in Suckley, or be involved in any way to make this happen, please let Anne Lewis know. 07957 388926 or [annelewis@doctors.org.uk](mailto:annelewis@doctors.org.uk)

*This has the support of both the Parish Council and the Suckley ‘Health and Wellbeing Group’ (part of the Suckley Community Plan)*

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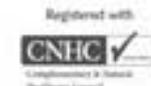
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## Suckley History Society discover the story of hops at Stocks Farm

*On a bright but changeable September Saturday, over 40 members and guests gathered in the Old Hop Kilns of this prominent Suckley farm to hear a fascinating presentation of the history of hop growing from Ali Capper.*



*Members and guests of the Suckley History Society gather at Stocks Farm to enjoy a presentation and tour of the farm*

Before the 15th century, ale was a sweet drink made of malt and flavoured with herbs. It was only after hops were introduced from Flanders into south east England and reached the Frome Valley in 1577 that beer production started in this area. Hops not only flavoured the beer but also helped to preserve it – so much so it could be shipped out to India for the East India Company troops as India Pale Ale (IPA). Until relatively recent times, beer was a safer drink than water as it had been boiled and with the industrial revolution, demand for beer grew to such an extent that by 1835, 4251 acres of hops were grown in the Bromyard area alone (in 2010 just 1300 acres were grown in all of Herefordshire and Worcestershire).

A hundred years ago, thousands of hop pickers would arrive from the Black Country, Wales and elsewhere to work in the hop yards. Local schools closed

and entire families would spend weeks picking and processing this valuable crop. Records show that in the 1920's Bishops Frome's normal population of 700 would swell to over 5000 at picking time. Colliers from Wales were employed stoking the coal fired hop kilns to dry the crop before it was packed into hop pockets, each weighing one and half hundredweight.

At the end of the hop harvest, the workers returned home to the industrial conurbations with apples, damsons, potatoes, bunches of hops for their chapel and church harvest festivals, sun tanned, fitter, and with extra money for the months ahead in their pockets. Newer varieties, automated hop picking machinery and improved growing techniques have since the 1950's eliminated the need for large gangs of pickers.



*It's that man again! Duncan Reynolds driving a self-propelled machine for harvesting 'hedgerow hops', the shorter variety of hops grown on the farm.*



*Once harvested, the hops are immediately taken to be processed.*



*The hops being fed into the Bruff Hop Picker.*

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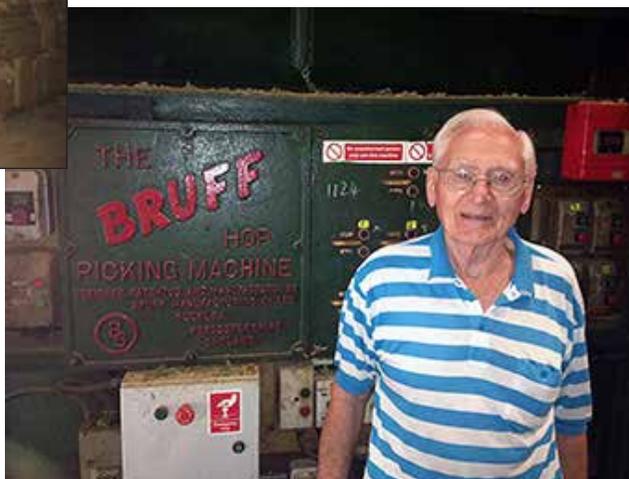
The Bruff Hop Picker was manufactured in Suckley (at what is now the Bruff Business Centre at Longley Green). It the most successful hop picking machine in England and sold all over the world. This machinery totally transformed the processing and bine cleaning stage of hop production. Stocks farm still has fully working and reconditioned Bruff machinery still doing a vital job after 50 years of service. Bruff machines can still be seen today working on hop farms as far afield as New Zealand and the USA.

Having set the scene, our hosts, the Capper family – Ali, husband Richard and father in law Mark - then lead the group, in the sunshine, on a farm tour through the apple orchards and hop yards to the hop drying barns where we saw the entire processing activity in full swing. The afternoon finished with a sociable afternoon cream tea in the Old Hop Kilns.

The Suckley Local History Society's next event is a talk by the popular speaker Louise Manning on Medieval Tales of the Worcestershire – Herefordshire Border Country on **Thursday 17th October** at 7.30pm in Suckley Village Hall. Guests are always welcome – non member fee just £4.



*The final product, the hops pressed and wrapped in hessian, stamped and numbered ready for sale.*



*Peter Hudson, who used to work for the Bruff Manufacturing Co, and was part of the team that installed this machine in the early '60s at Stocks Farm. Peter worked for the company for 37½ years.*

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## Suckley School News

*New term, new faces, new look... Headmaster Mr Matthew Meckin updates us on all developments and 'additions' happening at the school.*

It gives me great pleasure to be able to update the community on Suckley School's new start to the term. Firstly, I would like to welcome our twelve new reception children who have started the year brilliantly. They benefit from superb local pre-school and nursery provision, which is then backed up by a really thorough induction programme in the summer term with us.

We now have 80 children at the school, which continues the upward trend of the school's success in recent years. The community have really got behind and supported their local school, which is of course meaning great benefits for our young people. This summer saw the completion of large scale building project for a new classroom, cloakrooms and library. The results are stunning and the children are buzzing about their new spaces. It means that our village school can grow to around 90 children and secure its viability in the long term. We do not want to lose the small school ethos, so we feel that this is now the perfect size for our school.

As the school grows, the staff team increases with it, so we can commit to the low child to adult ratios. May I welcome to new teachers to the school – Mr Kitchen and Mrs Stone who are teaching in key stage 2. Additionally, we have three new teaching assistants, Mr Hughes, Mrs Williams and Miss Jackson. They have all settled quickly and are providing much spark and energy to the school. We continue with our 'real life curriculum' with the children. We make the learning as purposeful and meaningful as possible with the practising of relevant life skills. Each class works in teams towards an end event or product. Class 3 (year 5 and 6) are becoming inventors this term as they work to come up with their own product to pitch for investment at an invention convention! Class 1 and 2 (year 1 to 4) are focusing on Bollywood and India. They will be creating their own movie trailer, learning about India, creating their own dance and cooking food for a fantastic end of term festival. Reception class are already enjoying their 'under the sea' topic.

Our SATs result were the best ever in summer term and I wish year 6 all the

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best at high school, we will miss them greatly. This new term sees the school focusing on PE/Sport and ICT across the school. We have just had the delivery of 50 new tablets that the children will use to extend their ICT skills. Furthermore, we have a physical educational specialist working with us to create exciting new opportunities for children in the sporting arena.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to come and see the school. Our doors are always open to the community. Our open morning this year will be on Monday 11th November 2013.

### Handel's Messiah from Scratch - all for a good cause.

You are probably familiar with Handel's Messiah and will have probably heard bits of it in your life (most probably the Hallelujah Chorus). Community choirs around the parish are practising and polishing their performance of Messiah before all coming together to present to an audience at Suckley Church on Saturday, 9th November. Monies raised from the performance will go to Suckley Church and Acorns Children's Hopice.

You could join in too! Under the enthusiastic baton of David Kemp (Deputy Head of QE School, Bromyard) this is an opportunity for you to join in the rehearsal and experience the whole work – learning in one afternoon. The rehearsal lasts for a couple of hours, then there is a break ... and then the whole thing is presented to an audience of well-wishers in the evening.

It is a fun thing to do and it is always exciting to be part of a large choir, especially of volunteers. There are copies of the book music available so all you need to bring is your voice! It is open to ALL - those who know Messiah well and those who don't!

Tickets (£8 for both performers and audience) available from Liz Devenish, Red Castle, Suckley Worcs WR6 5DN, email [liz.devenish@virgin.net](mailto:liz.devenish@virgin.net)  
Mobile 07929001563, Home 01886884787

Tickets for evening performance will also be available on the door.

### Superfast broadband – Suckley's *still* in the slow lane

*Unlike the school, which is looking to the future, interest in improving broadband for future generations in the village is sadly lacking. Parish Councillor, Peter Whatley, explains why parts of Suckley could lose out in the superfast broadband upgrade - unless YOU act now (costs nothing!).*

On September 2nd, Worcestershire County Council announced their draft plans for superfast broadband rollout to rural areas of the county.

If the plans go ahead, Suckley will be split into three areas for broadband speeds. The eastern side of the parish will receive full superfast coverage of up to 24 Megabits per second (Mb). In the southwestern part (Damson Way, White House areas and part of Longley Green), some premises will get 24Mb coverage, while the rest will limp along with just 2Mb. That will also be the top speed for all of the northern part of the parish (Suckley Knowl, Suckley Green). BT describes that speed as "poor" on their own websites! It is certainly not fast enough for children to do the online homework exercises now part of every school's curriculum, nor to work from home efficiently.

The main reason the rollout has been split in this way is lack of expressed demand. Too few residents have bothered to register interest for either this proposed service or the alternative Airband service. **There is no commitment if you register, but it does get the parish a few notches higher on the priority list.** Remember, even if you aren't interested in broadband, the next buyer of your house almost certainly will be!

There is still time to influence the broadband rollout plan. **Please, for the good of all parish residents, register your interest NOW.** You can do it directly at this web address:

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/researchweb/broadband/fasterbroadband\\_residents.htm](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/researchweb/broadband/fasterbroadband_residents.htm)

Alternatively, send an e-mail asking to be registered with your name and address (including postcode) to me at [suckleypc-pw@live.co.uk](mailto:suckleypc-pw@live.co.uk)

**What's on, what's happening in and around Suckley**

...	<b>Bring and Share Harvest Lunch</b> at Suckley Church 6th October at 12.00pm. See Suckley Church Services for more details
...	<b>Suckley History Society - next meet</b> A talk by the popular speaker Louise Manning on Medieval Tales of the Worcestershire – Herefordshire Border Country on Thursday 17th October at 7.30pm in Suckley Village Hall. Guests are always welcome – non member fee just £4.
...	<b>Village Supper Evening held in Suckley Village Hall</b> This is being held on Saturday, 26th October so please book this date in your diaries.
...	<b>Handel's Messiah (from Scratch)</b> - 9th November - see opposite page and article in newsletter.
...	<b>Christmas Fayre at Suckley Village Hall 7th December 2.00pm - 4.00pm.</b> More details in next newsletter.
...	<b>Suckley Village Hall - Cakes and Puddings evening</b> - postponed - now held on 25th January 2014. Watch out for details.
...	<b>SPACE Project</b> If you have any questions or would like to share your thoughts on the proposed re-ordering of the church, please do not hesitate to contact:  Liz Devenish. Chairman, the SPACE project. email <a href="mailto:liz.devenish@virgin.net">liz.devenish@virgin.net</a> Mobile 07929001563, Home 01886884787

**Local Services:**

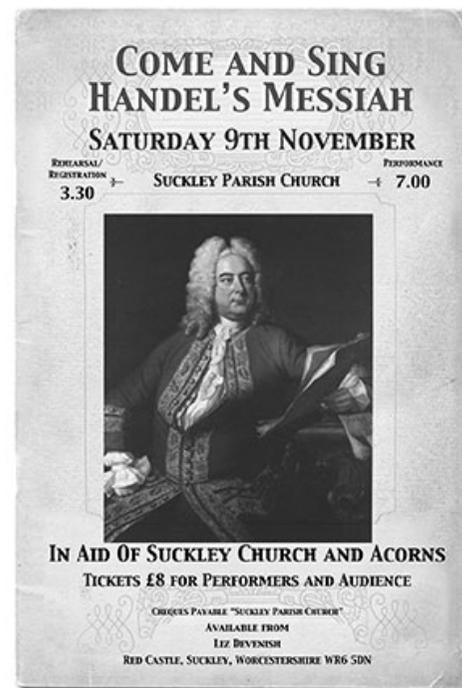
**Mobile Library Timetable 2013**

**Please note change of location and new times :**

Fridays only at  
Suckley - Cross Keys 11.20 - 11.40  
Suckley School - 11.45 - 12.10  
Longley Green Post Office 12.20 - 1.00

**Dates:** 18th October, 8th and 29th November.

Enquiries about this service should be made to Malvern Library, Graham Road Malvern or telephone 01905 822722, or email [malvernmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:malvernmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk)



*Join either as a member of the choir or be part of the audience in this exhilarating opportunity to enjoy Handel's Messiah. Held in Suckley Church (which has wonderful acoustics), funds raised are to be shared between the Church and Acorns.*

*See newsletter article "Handel's Messiah from Scratch - all for a good cause."*

**Bid to save traditional orchards in the parish**

Malvern County Council is preparing a bid for the Lottery Heritage funding to conserve and restore existing traditional orchards. Over 60% of traditional orchards have been lost in the past 60 years across Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, which puts into perspective just how significant our remaining orchards are. Although many are being lost to development many more are simply neglected because there is no commercial value in the fruit, or because there are not the skills or man power needed locally to keep them productive. MCC are looking for old orchards which need management, with a view to bringing them back into fruit production, making them more accessible to the local community and improving their wildlife value. To do this they want to find local volunteers willing to be trained in orchard skills and to bring them together with orchard owners who need help.

If you are an orchard owner, or used to work in one or interested in being a volunteer, please contact Diana Taylor, Clerk to the Parish Council for more information on the bid and proposed project. Her details are: 01684 569430 E-mail: [dtaylorsuckley@msn.com](mailto:dtaylorsuckley@msn.com)

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## A volunteer's view of the Elgar Birthplace Museum



Every Monday afternoon I go to volunteer some time at the Elgar Birthplace Museum in Lower Broadheath. I have been volunteering here for over two years now and it is a privilege to be part of the lovely team of almost 50 volunteers at the birthplace of one of Britain's best loved composers, Sir Edward Elgar.

My three hour 'shift' begins at 2:00pm, welcoming visitors in the Elgar Centre reception area. I take admissions, hand out audio guides and explain the layout of the buildings. I help serve visitors in the Museum shop where we sell everything from CDs to tea towels and even chocolate pianos! Volunteering has given me an opportunity to learn new skills and introductory training is always given if you're a little unsure of using a till. I was no 'Elgar expert' when I began but soon found myself developing a deeper knowledge of the great man working in the Birthplace environment. There are always experts to ask however if ever someone poses a particularly tricky question!

I have a change of scenery around 12:00pm and go down to the 19th century Birthplace Cottage where Elgar was born in 1857. It is a charming building,

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full of letters, pictures, furniture and personal possessions which reveal the man behind the music. I greet visitors and answer any questions they might have. Enthusiastic visitors come from across the globe and all over the country and so it often makes for an interesting afternoon. The cottage garden is my favourite part of the Museum – I love looking at the roses and Elgar's thatched summerhouse. A bronze statue of Elgar sits at the bottom of the garden on a bench, looking out to his beloved Malvern Hills, and people love to sit next to him to take a photo or two!

The Museum has a full events programme every year and I like to help where I can by serving refreshments and assisting with the organisation of events. I have even been able to offer my own skills in the past to the Museum by ringing hand bells in a special 2010 Elgar Festival.



*Edward Elgar, photographed in 1931 by Herbert Lambert. (National Portrait Gallery)*

The Museum welcomes volunteers of all ages, whether you are a gap year student, working or retired and they would love to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering. If you can offer a few hours to the Museum – even just half a day a fortnight – would be a great help in supporting the only museum dedicated to our county's most famous composer.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering at the Elgar Birthplace Museum, please contact Rachael Whyte on 01905 333224 or by email: [birthplace@elgarmuseum.org](mailto:birthplace@elgarmuseum.org).

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## We're looking for hidden talent

With Rosemary's excerpt from her book, and with the excellent contributions from other parishioners to past newsletters, we are certain there are other residents in Suckley who have a "hidden talent" i.e. musical, craft, woodworking or carving, flower arranging, writing etc. or a passion for a particular hobby or charity even, or have become somewhat of an expert in their field.

It would be a pleasure to "shine a light" on your talents - please, don't be shy, get in touch at [suckleynews@gmail.com](mailto:suckleynews@gmail.com) or call Hilary on 884355.

Our next issue is looking at the present public houses and past 'drinking dens' of Suckley and the surrounding areas. Do you have any memories or knowledge of Suckley's past socialising habits or locations? We would very much appreciate getting in touch with us and help fill in our knowledge gaps. Thank you!

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OCTOBER 2013

## SPACE Project Interior Consultation

3rd – 6th October 2013

### *Eating, Seating, Storage and Worship!*

The SPACE Project is continuing the process of consultation, with the Suckley community and congregation, on the vision for the future of our church and we have arranged for a display of “Eating, Seating, Storage and (obviously) Worship” options in the Church during the first week of October.

This is a great opportunity to view the alternatives for the layout of the kitchen and toilet facilities, the siting of storage and to see (and sit on!) the various seating and chair designs being considered. You can visit the church at any time during the day to see the display and try out the chairs. Your view is important to us and there will be feedback forms available so please take the opportunity to complete one. We are trying to ensure that we gather feedback from a good cross section of our community, so don't forget to add your name and address, otherwise your valuable opinion will be wasted!

A good time to come along will be on the Sunday 6th October when others will be there and you can talk through your thoughts together, because Suckley has its Harvest Festival All Age service at 11.00, followed by a ‘Bring and Share’ lunch at 12.00. All are welcome, or come along after the service for the lunch or just to see the display. For the lunch, bring along anything you like that can be shared with others (plates, cutlery etc will be provided).

Contact: Liz Devenish on 07929001563/01886884787 or email [liz.devenish@virgin.net](mailto:liz.devenish@virgin.net)



*Above are some examples of seating and storage ideas other churches have adopted.*

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## Suckley Church

### Suckley Services for October and November

**Sun October 6th** at 11am All Age Harvest Festival (a lively informal service followed by a **Bring and Share Harvest lunch** in church, to which all are invited). Please bring any (non perishable) Harvest Gifts to church any time over the w/e. they will be given to the Worcester Food Bank to share.

**Sun October 13th** at 6pm Evening Prayer (A quiet contemplative service).

**Weds October 16th** at 10.00am, a traditional said Communion Service

**Sun October 20th** We go to Alfrick for their 11am All Age Service..

**Sun October 27th** at 11am Family Communion (a traditional communion service where all are welcome).

**Sun November 3rd** at 11am All Age (a lively informal service).

**Sun November 10th** (Remembrance Sunday) Leigh has the 11am Family Communion and Parade Service, Suckley has a 6pm Remembrance Service (a traditional evening Remembrance service).

**Sun November 17th** We go to Alfrick for their 11am All Age Service (a lively informal service).

**Sun November 24th** at 11am Family Communion (a traditional communion Service when all ages are welcome).

**Remember to put Suckley's Christmas Fair in your Diaries on Saturday December 7th from 2pm to 4pm in the Village Hall. All the fun of the Fair, with Father Christmas in his Grotto.**

Don't forget to enjoy Suckley Church's own Facebook Page ([www.facebook.com/suckleychurch](http://www.facebook.com/suckleychurch)). You can enjoy the photos even if you don't have a Facebook account.

## Scrumptious recipe for autumn's abundance.

### Damson Curd - from Tilda Swabey

*Lemon curd is a classic but there are all sorts of other fruits you can use and with the damsons falling off the trees, this is a fantastic, easy way to capture that wonderful autumn flavour and gorgeous colour. Adapted from Nigella Lawson's cranberry curd recipe, it's delicious on toast or crumpets, in yoghurt or porridge or use it to sandwich a cake - yum!*

Makes 2 jars

Cooking time: 25 - 35+ mins

INGREDIENTS
450g damsons
250 - 275 caster sugar
70g butter
3 eggs + 1 yolk

1. Place the damsons with a splash of water in a saucepan, bring to the boil then reduce heat to simmer for 10 minutes. Remove from the heat and strain through a nylon sieve into a bowl. Rub the remaining pulp through the sieve with a spoon, scraping the thick goodies from the underside of the sieve. Discard the exhausted pulp and stones.
2. Pour the sieved damson purée into a double boiler (or a Pyrex bowl on top of a pan of simmering water) and add the sugar and butter, stirring until melted.
3. Remove the bowl from on top of the saucepan and add the beaten egg, stirring well as you do so to avoid egg lumps. Put the bowl back above the simmering water and stir until it thickens; this could take at least 15 – 25 mins, if not longer. If in doubt, spoon some on to a saucer to see how it cools as it will thicken up as it chills.
4. Once it has thickened, decant into two sterilised jam jars (wash in soapy water then heat in an oven at 180C for 10 mins), cool and store in the fridge for up to 3 weeks.



## SPOTLIGHT ON - Emis Web and Summary Care Record

On 15th October 2013, we will be changing our existing computerized patient record system to a version called Emis Web. This is the upgrade to our present system, which is no longer being developed and will be gradually phased out. All the information we hold about you on our current system will be transferred to this new version. We will check each step of the conversion process to ensure that information is transferred accurately and correctly. Your records and the way we safeguard them will continue to be protected as before, by the Data Protection Act and our own Information Governance protocols. There may be some disruption to our appointment schedules at change over time but we will keep you informed throughout the process.

This new system will allow improved sharing of information between Health Care providers through the provision of patient Summary Care Records (SCR). The SCR is an electronic record that holds three critical pieces of information about you – Medications you are on, Allergies and Adverse reactions to medicines. This information could be vital if you require emergency treatment or treatment elsewhere when the GP surgery is closed. The SCR can only be accessed by NHS Healthcare staff and your consent is sought and recorded every time. An audit trail is created each time your SCR is accessed and access is monitored by Privacy Officers. You can find out more information by calling the helpline on 0300 123 3020 or visiting [www.nhsCareRecords.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsCareRecords.nhs.uk)

**You can find out more information by calling the helpline on 0300 123 3020 or visiting [www.nhsCareRecords.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsCareRecords.nhs.uk)**

**The Care Quality Commission** is making inspections of GP Practices in this area. When they visit a practice, the inspectors seek the opinions of patients, visitors and staff about the services provided. This means that you could be questioned about the care you receive at Knightwick, the way we deliver services and how we keep you informed about relevant issues. We receive 48hrs notice of an inspection and we will advertise the date in the waiting room.

## DISPENSARY OPENING HOURS

**From 1st August 2013, the Dispensary will be CLOSED to patients between 12.30pm – 2.30pm.** You can still collect pre-ordered medication from Reception between these times.

## Vaccination Update

Flu season is here again and we are running a variety of flu clinics from walk-in sessions to bookable flu clinics. Please phone to book your appointment if you think you may be eligible for an immunisation.

Shingles vaccine is also available for those born between 1st Sept. 1942 and 1st Sept. 1943, 2nd Sept. 1933 and 1st Sept. 1934.

The full A4 version of this Newsletter is available at the Surgery. It will also be available on our own dedicated website – [www.knightwicksurgery.co.uk](http://www.knightwicksurgery.co.uk) and on the local Clifton on Teme website at [www.temetriangle.net](http://www.temetriangle.net) - courtesy of Bernadette Higgins.

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## News from Suckley Parish Council Meeting Held on 9th September 2013

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR** - County Councillor Paul Tuthill reported that the County Council was aiming to reduce costs by £20 - £30M per year by reducing the number of full time employees, including senior managers, and vacating the number of buildings being used. The Council would then focus on core services – education, infrastructure, broadband provision, and looking after vulnerable people. The Parish Councillors raised (yet again) the ongoing question of parents having to pay £540 per child to transport their children to school, especially now that pupils would have to stay on at school/college after 16, and may be up to the age of 18. For children in Suckley, the only secondary school available was Dysons – there was no other choice of state school allowed. Co Tuthill said he would look into this matter, but he doubted that the policy would be changed.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** - Dist Cllr Anthony Warburton reported that the South Worcestershire Development Plan would be looked at again in October. This meant that effectively MHDC is recorded by Central Government as not having a plan, which makes areas of land, especially “gap” land vulnerable to planning development. The bias is towards approving development in the absence of an approved plan.

**FOOTPATH WARDENS** - Richard Harward reported that the Footpaths Wardens were on top of the job. If anyone has any problems, could they please contact him. Two major footpath bridges had been put in place in the Parish recently.

**SPEEDING ISSUES** - The Clerk reported that the upgrade to the VAS camera had been completed. The camera had been positioned in Leigh & Bransford parish, and was showing up some interesting data. The camera was now at the Bruff in Longley Green. The T junction signs in Suckley Green were now in place.

**COMMUNITY GROUP/PLAN** - 14 names have now been put forward for training in basic first aid/Heart Start training linked to the defibrillator. Co Cllr Tuthill offered to match fund from his parish budget to aid the purchase of the defibrillator. The Parish Council decided unanimously to provide £700 from the Community budget. Together with matched funding, this would enable us to

have enough money to buy the defibrillator and start the training scheme. If you would like to get involved in this scheme and the free basic training, please contact Cllr Anne Lewis on 01886 884552.

**BROADBAND IMPROVEMENT** - Cllr Peter Whatley raised the issue of the Worcestershire roll-out of superfast broadband with Co Cllr Tuthill. There was a complete lack of information as to what download speeds would actually be available in different areas of the County. Co Cllr Tuthill confirmed that the plan was for the roll-out to be completed by 2015. He and other Councillors were still waiting for detailed information as to what would be available and this should be published very soon.

**SUCKLEY SCHOOL** - Cllr Liz Devenish reported that the new classroom had now been completed and was looking very good. The school now had four classrooms. Two new teachers had started work at the school and the pupil roll was now 80 – the highest ever.

**LOCAL POLICE** - Crime figures for Suckley - July – 1 ASB, 1 Assault, 2 vehicle crimes. August – 1 ASB.

**RISK ASSESSMENT** - Following on from a tree survey (required by the Parish Council’s insurance company) two trees have now been removed - an ash tree in the Playing Fields and a goat willow in the Quarry.

DIANA TAYLOR, Clerk to Suckley Parish Council  
9, Lambourne Avenue, Malvern WR14 1NL  
Tel: 01684 569430 E-mail: dtaylorsuckley@msn.com

Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 11th November 2013** at 7.00 pm in Suckley Village Hall. There is always time at the beginning of the meeting for parishioners to make a short address to the Councillors for discussions in the meeting.