

APRIL 2014



Spring has arrived!



Looking a little sheepish, this lamb enjoys the spring sunshine. The fields around Suckley are full of the sounds of new life as spring gathers her flower petticoats ready to spread them across the countryside.

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

APRIL 2014

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Next Issue: First week in June 2014

Content for newsletter to be submitted 23rd May 2014.

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 & www.suckley.net or for Parish Council business www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish (select Suckley from alphabetical listing).

Suckley Good Neighbourhood Scheme - 840480 / www.suckley.org.uk

Village Hall: email suckleyvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk, Steve Boughton - 884210

Suckley School: Mr Matthew Mander 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

Playing Fields: Bookings & Pitches Mr & Mrs Luton – 884558

Skateboard Arena: Mr P Beaumont – 884550

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Memories

Jenny Taylor would like to share some of the memories and thoughts of Suckley she has heard recently.

‘The Church is like your mother, always there, some-times you need her, sometimes not but you always know she is there. You may not visit her all the time but she’s there when you need her or when she needs support.’

‘My mother used to polish those pews, my mother-in-law polished the brass and my mother said my father may as well have his bed down the Church as he spent so much time there.’

‘It is where my mother used to go for quiet and peace from a very busy household. It was her calling.’

Memories have come flooding back of the renowned fêtes when Suckley would be descended on from all over the Midlands for the Tug of War Competitions and the playing fields would be alive to the chatter of children running stalls, meeting celebrities who opened the fêtes, way before Alfrick started its show. Every one joined in the fund raising for the Church.

‘We used to walk to Sunday School, across the fields to get our stamp to stick on a card. When you got full attendance you were awarded a prize – a book of Bible Stories or Prayers.’ Some people still have theirs.

How Sunday mornings have changed for children now when they play football, go swimming, go out to lunch or even get dragged around the shops. Some Suckley memories are recorded in a thesis my brother Martin did for his degree, but it is not published yet. However, it was available at the History Display at the Flower Festival. Who do you think told me these memories?

- My grandfather helped build Suckley Church. He was bet a bottle of whisky he couldn’t swing around the weather vane on the top seven times. He did.
- My grandfather worked for Ranfords and they helped build the Church
- My family were labourers who worked on the Church when it was built.
- I used to help my father stoke the boilers at Suckley Church. My family donated a Churchwarden’s staff to the Church in memory of family in the

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Churchyard, in a grave with no headstone.

- I had to go to Church there three times on a Sunday.
- I learnt bell-ringing and my son got the rope around his neck and never went again.
- I remember a bell-ringer in his 80’s who died up there and had to be lowered down by the mountain rescue team.
- My grandfather was a carpenter when the church was built.

How many rectors do you remember? Favourite rectors were named but I won’t say whom. Not just remembering the Church, I was told of the circus animals that were moved to Hubands in the war to protect them. Monkeys got out and ate all the chickens. Lions, bears and elephants were also remembered. Mr Huband, the solicitor, is remembered taking a horse and cart to Suckley Station and eating a boiled egg for his breakfast on the way, as he was often late. Peas, potatoes and Bruff hop and blackcurrant machines were taken to the station and around the country by Bill Griffiths.

What memories, I could go on but what I want to emphasise is that these memories will be lost, like our Church as we know it now if we have the pews taken out, the aisle tiles and floor taken up, organ moved and no access for 38 weeks of the year, at least.

Those of you who have The Sphere will have seen I wrote the following but will repeat it here for those who did not see the article.

Suckley Church Re-Ordering

As the request for a Faculty for re-ordering has been sent to the DAC now, a file of the application will be found in the back of the Church.

Now is your time to have a look and raise any comments, write off to the DAC and let your opinion be heard. It shouldn’t be a fore-gone conclusion that this is the best for our lovely Victorian Church. The Victorian Society would OBJECT to the works as currently proposed on the grounds that, both through the loss of fittings from what is a currently a complete and coherent interior, and through the addition of new structures that would not complement the existing building, they would cause substantial harm to the importance of Suckley St. John as a nationally important building of special aesthetic and historical significance.



'As the Victorian Society has pointed out they were impressed with the quality and preservation of the Church. Designed by W.J. Hopkins in the Geometrical Decorated Gothic style, it is justly described in the Buildings of England volume on Worcestershire as Hopkin's most important surviving church after Hallow. The church is substantially as Hopkins left it, with an interior that is well-proportioned, strong and simple, though not without moments of elaborate decoration such as the richly detailed column capitals. The pews, though relatively plain, are attractive and apparently sound. Despite a popular misconception that Victorian church furnishings are ubiquitous, Victorian interiors as complete as that at St. John's Church are increasingly rare, and plans to reorder those that exist should be proceeded cautiously and sensitively.' (February 2013)

Let's hope our Grade 11 Listed Victorian Church will go on for ever as our mothers do. Not just in our memories but as it was built by our fore fathers (with the addition of a toilet and small kitchen, of course).

Jenny Taylor and friends of Suckley Church.

Taking account of saving and budgeting for the future

Mark Trevethan moved from Devon into the village just after Christmas. He is married with two children and they are "loving their new life here and have settled in really well". Mark has found Suckley folk to be very friendly and welcoming. Like many in the village, he runs his own business from home - a tax and accounts practise. Here he gives us a summary of the 2014 Budget.

The Chancellor delivered his speech on the 19th March 2014. Outside the cancellation of a fuel duty rise in September and the reduction on alcohol duty, what were the main announcements and what were some of the less publicised aspects of his budget?

Pensions

Most focus was on the pension changes so what is changing? From March 27, the Government will introduce arrangements to give savers greater access to their pensions. Savers whose total pension savings amount to £30,000 – rather than £18,000 – will be able to take the entirety as cash ("trivial commutation"). This will be taxed at marginal rates. Savers with larger amounts in pension savings will be able to take up to three pensions worth £10,000 each as cash, rather than two worth £2,000. Savers who use "income drawdown" will be allowed to take larger sums as income. This is likely to be several thousand pounds extra a year from each £100,000 in savings.

An individual will need just £12,000 of secured pension income from other sources to make unlimited withdrawals through "flexible drawdown". When can I make full withdrawal? The temporary reforms introduced next Thursday will fade away in April 2015, when savers will be able to access the entirety of their pension at any time after age 55, subject to income tax at marginal rates on three-quarters of the money. The ability to take the whole pension as one lump of income would mean someone with a £100,000 pension could take £25,000 tax-free and then withdraw the remaining £75,000 to spend or invest as they saw fit. The £75,000 would be treated as income for that tax year, pushing the individual into the higher-rate tax band for the year.

Will I be able to withdraw more slowly to limit tax? The alternative will be to take the money in annual lump sums. This might mean keeping the money

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invested in the stock market and going into "income drawdown". From April 2015, there will be no cap on the amount of money that savers can withdraw from this arrangement, so income can be varied to stay within the basic rate tax or even nil-rate threshold for the year if desired.

Will I still be able to buy an annuity? Yes. Those who want to guarantee an income for life will still be able to purchase an annuity. The difference is that they will now do so on their own terms, rather than effectively being pushed down this route due to the restrictions on accessing small pots and the high costs and caps on income drawdown.

It is worth noting that these new pension rules could result in the unwary ending up with a large tax bill from the withdrawal of monies from their pension so care should be taken and professional advice sought.

Savings

Isa - The total amount that savers can shield from tax in the current tax year is £11,520, but this limit will increase in July to £15,000. At the same time, the unequal treatment of cash and investments within Isas will be abolished. This means you can invest any amount in each type of ISA (Cash or equity) up to the £15,000 limit and all interest is tax free.

New Pensioner Bond, paying "market-leading" rates, available from January to over-65s, with possible rates of 2.8% for one-year bond and 4% for three-year bond - up to £10,000 to be saved in each bond

Tax allowances

The 10p savings tax rate will be abolished. This will affect few people as it only applied if the non savings income(eg pensions and earnings) has not already used up the £2790 band above the personal allowance.

In April 2015 personal allowances will increase to £10500. The 40% threshold with increase to £41,865 from April 2014 but this will mean that more people will be pulled into higher rate tax. A further 1% increase of the 40% threshold will commence in April 2015 to £42,285.

Less well known changes are as follows:

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<p>Simon Murray Vivian Malvern Massage & Bodywork</p> <p>Massage therapy to Ease those pains & strains Release that tension Help you let go of your concerns Simply relax, enjoy & celebrate</p> <p>Call me to just talk or to arrange an appointment for a person-centred massage in my Malvern Link therapy room 07811 537345 simonmurrayvivian.com</p> <p>Professionally Trained & Qualified MASSAGE TRAINING INSTITUTE</p> <p>Registered with CNHC Complementary & Natural Healthcare Council</p> <p>Member of FHT Federation of Holistic Therapists</p>	<p>Chimney Sweep</p> <p>Andy Johnson</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Certificate issued- Weekend/Evening sweeps available- Traditional brush/Power sweep <p>01886 821933/ 07798 790913</p> <p>ICS REGISTERED MEMBER www.instituteofchimneysweeps.co.uk</p>  <p>FIRE KILLS YOU CAN PREVENT IT</p>

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From 2015/16 £1000 of the personal allowance will be able to be transferred between spouses and civil partners as long as they are both basic rate tax payers. This could save £200 in tax.

Inheritance tax to be waived for members of emergency services who give their lives in job.

Capital gains tax- from April 2014, the CGT private residence relief final period exemption is to reduce from 36 months to 18 months. This is aimed at reducing the incentive for those with more than one home to exploit and will result in more CGT payable on any gain on the sale of the second home. In short this will mean a larger CGT bill if selling a second home.

Business tax

The capital allowances were increased and extended which will be a benefit to businesses making capital investments in plant and machinery. Energy cost help for businesses will also help with fixed overhead costs.

If you would like to discuss the impact of the 2014 Budget on your finances and tax position, then please contact me, Mark Trevethan (ATT) at mark@completetaxreturns.com or call me on 884461.



HAPPY EASTER



You could be a life saver.

Thanks to grants made possible by our Parish Council, our District Councillor Paul Tuthill, and a generous grant from the British Heart Foundation, Suckley awaits delivery of its own defibrillator. It will have permanent home the wall of Suckley School contained within a special housing.

Last year, 26 volunteers attended a Heart Start course in Suckley and another course is being held for the village this Spring. If you would like to attend this training course (in simple straightforward immediate first aid, including how to use the defibrillator) then please contact Anne Lewis on 884552 or 07957 388926 or email annelewis@doctors.org.uk

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

...	<p>Coffee morning - Saturday, 17th May, 2014 from 10 – 12 noon in the Village Hall.</p> <p>Come and join us for a cuppa and some homemade cake amongst friends and neighbours. Also catch up with the latest from local groups.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you.</p>
...	<p>Art group</p> <p>We have spent the winter months painting various subjects depending on our interests. Come to the Coffee morning on 17th May where you will be able to see some of our work.</p> <p>We shall be spending the summer months concentrating on our entries for the Alfrick Show. We now know what the classes are so we have plenty to think about.</p> <p>Might be interested in joining us? Just pop into the Village Hall on a Monday afternoon between 2 – 4 p.m. and have a chat with us and see what we get up to!</p>
...	<p>Suckley History Society</p> <p>The Society's 2014 programme is underway and on 24th April, the topic is "Life in a lunatic asylum - a child's view of Barnsley Hall Asylum, Bromsgrove".</p> <p>Meetings start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and non-members are very welcome (£4 charge on the door). Further information from Andrew Grieve on 884795 or Margaret Davies 884301</p>

Welcome to Jim Gunn and family, Jamie and Hannah, new owners of the Nelson Inn. Jim will be in next issue of the newsletter, letting us know of his plans, food and drink wise, and how he hopes to make the Nelson a thriving and popular place for locals and visitors alike.

Local Services:

Mobile Library Timetable 2014

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: 4th & 25th APRIL / 16th MAY.
 Enquiries about this service should be made to Malvern Library, Graham Road Malvern. Telephone 01905 822722, or email malvernmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk

Horsin' around for your entertainment - all in aid of charity

Do you like music of a wide variety or going to a show? Do you like horses? Or do you just want to see a show that will raise the roof and blow your socks off? Well then look no further!

On the 18th and 19th April at The Conquest Theatre there is a show that will capture you mind, heart and ears. Come and join "Horsin' Around, A Night of Musicality" for a night of pure entertainment and help up raise money for a local charity close to our hearts: Penny Ha'Penny Horse and Pony Rescue (RCN:1126507). As well as fantastic acts we also have a raffle with some very special and unique prizes. With the help of local talents such as Polly Edwards, Hot Feet, Sway Dance, Georgina Tabberer; it truly is a night not to be missed.

Some people may ask why we are putting on a show for horses and there is one simple answer. When you rescue a horse from neglect or abuse it isn't just a simple act of saving a horse, it's saving a life. Sue who runs the charity had been personally doing this for more than thirty years and registered as a charity in 2008 since then Sue has done this for over 150 horses.

We are organising this Charity Show because we know how expensive horses can be and how much hard work is involved; from Farrier to hay and straw to Vet and then rent for the land where you keep them. Can you imagine having to personally look after over 100 horses let alone be able to afford it? I honestly think Sue is one amazing lady and deserves all the help in the world.

So please come and join us at The Conquest Theatre on the 18th or 19th April at 7pm for a night full of song and dance and help us save a life. Tickets can be bought from the Conquests Box Office 01885 488575 or www.conquest-theatre.co.uk

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From Spider To Spade

Carol Boughton is gearing up for a productive and bountiful year in her garden, with hopefully some time to sit back and enjoy the fruits of her labours.

What is it about gardeners that make them, like Robert the Bruce's famed spider, keep trying repeatedly despite setbacks and frustrations? As Alan Titmarsh says "realistic gardeners must enjoy the travelling hopefully aspect of gardening, rather than the arrival that, when it comes, can sometimes be a bit of an anti-climax".

It was not so long ago that we were being told that climate change would necessitate gardeners planting drought resistant or Mediterranean plants. Having followed this advice, we have endured, by and large, extremely wet and cold summers. Instead of our mini-pampas swaying elegantly in the light breezes, we have been left with soggy grasses and unhappy, struggling sun-loving plants. Certainly, my garden would have been more suited to bog-loving plants! The garden is my domain. The only interest my husband has in it is when I, by some lucky chance, manage to produce something edible. He proudly tells anyone who will listen that he has spent forty odd years developing the degree of ignorance he now enjoys. So, no help there. I do, however, have two canine "helpers" who set about digging and pruning with unbounded enthusiasm but, sadly, not being at all discriminatory. They also find the strawberry cage irresistible as a trampoline.

My garden is not the easiest to work as it is solid red clay and, despite striving to improve the texture, it is an uphill task and one which is likely to be ongoing forever. Gardening magazines optimistically state that clay is very nutritious but I find that few plants enjoy having cold, wet roots or being encased in what amounts to concrete during dry spells. At such times, a sledge hammer is the most appropriate tool.

At least roses do well in clay soil so I have a large rose garden, but at a price. Apart from the cost of each bush, they are high maintenance and need a lot of tender, loving care. Feeding, pruning and dead heading take up a great deal of time and how am I rewarded? Greenfly and the dreaded black spot. It is comforting to know that even the professional growers have these problems too. I also laughingly have a small orchard. Sounds grand but it consists of five fruit

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trees jammed together. The greengage has never produced more than eight fruits and the wasps get to them before I do. Although wild damsons thrive in our area, my damson tree doesn't seem to know that and grudgingly produces a miniscule harvest. My two Bramley apple trees lurch from branch breaking generosity to a few pitted, miserable specimens in bad years and the Mirabelle plum is still trying to make up its mind whether to live or give up. I enjoy growing vegetables and soft fruit. There is something satisfying about eating home grown produce. Our very wet weather, however, caused the onions to rot in the ground, the courgettes drowned and other seeds found it too cold to germinate whilst the strawberries just turned to mush. All is not lost, however, as the thirsty plants like rhubarb, raspberries and runner beans thrived in the waterlogged conditions.

It might be an uphill struggle to establish many of the plants I choose, but weeds need no help whatsoever. They thrive in large and varied quantities and are prize specimens. Indeed, they would take first prize in any show if there were classes for weeds. Removing them is akin to a tug-of-war contest with the National team, so tenacious they can be in clay soil. As Eeyore, A.A. Milne's donkey in "Winnie-the-Pooh" remarks "weeds are flowers too, when you get to know them." Flowers they may be, but, why are they always in the wrong place? I am the first person to admire a field of buttercups but why do they choose to rampage through my borders? I am fascinated by the fragile beauty of a bindweed trumpet, but, does the plant, in its bid to climb ever higher, have to strangle everything in its path?

We, as gardeners are exhorted to make room in the garden for wildlife and not to have too tidy a garden. No problem in my garden – it is never too tidy! I have a designated patch of nettles for the butterfly eggs and, coincidentally, other nettles that shouldn't be around at all, a bug box – never really investigated as I'm not too keen on bugs and two ponds joined by a rill. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly new ponds are populated by everything from frogs to water boatmen. Where do they all come from? I have a large dry stone wall which is home to toads, bank voles and the occasional nest of blue tits to say nothing of an assortment of creepy crawlies. The garden hedges provide shelter for numerous birds who take full advantage of the bounty left out for them on the bird table.

I feel I have done my best for the wildlife so, how grateful are they? Birds and wasps eat my fruit, and butterflies lay their eggs on my brassicas so that their

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caterpillars have a good food source (so, what about those nettles?). The wood pigeons, in their stupidity, (they are not the brightest of birds) have wrecked my thatched summer house roof in a bid to build nests out of what is a very brittle and unsuitable nesting material and the local heron has breakfasted on all my goldfish.

Somehow, as a gardener and also a lover of the creatures who use my garden, I have to create a balance. I love to watch the birds and butterflies and I feel privileged that the beautiful heron should land in my garden even if it was at the expense of my fish. I have even found myself apologising to the odd disgruntled frog when I have made it homeless whilst enthusiastically attacking a long standing patch of weeds.

Wildlife is one thing but we are also plagued by numerous pests and diseases that can wreak havoc in the garden and greenhouse. Everything from aphids, woolly or otherwise, codling moth, flea beetles, lily weevils, carrot root fly and so the list goes on. Even if these are tiny and somewhat specific to certain plants, we are all familiar with slugs and snails with their voracious appetites and ability to decimate a border of young plants overnight. My dogs frequently bring a present of a snail indoors for me. I try not to be unappreciative but the offering is soon evicted. Then there are the numerous diseases like botrytis, powdery mildew, club root, rust, wilt and this list is every bit as long as the pest list. Should we deal with them organically, use chemicals or merely just hope they go away?

So, why this fascination with the frustrating activity of gardening? Is it the fresh air, exercise, need to produce food, need to be creative or is it merely in the genes? I don't know.

One thing is certain, gardeners are a hopelessly optimistic bunch – they have to be. My ultimate dream is to sit in my beautiful weed free garden, but that is unlikely to happen. Everyone has to have a dream, but, as frustrated a gardener as I am, in truth, I enjoy being at one with the beauty of nature and in the fresh air. How can anyone fail to marvel at the delicacy and colours of myriad flower species or watch in awe as an insignificant brown seed gradually produces first a shoot and then develops into a plant. There is nothing like the sun on your back, a robin at your feet, butterflies fluttering around and the gentle hum of insects competing with the bird song.

I am with that historic spider. Now, where did I leave my spade?

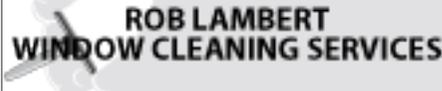
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And all our volunteers are CRB checked, carrying with them a photo-identity card.

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Suckley Church SPACE project.... The plans have been submitted

England is blessed with large numbers of historic churches. Leigh Church has many remarkable features and is therefore listed by English Heritage as Grade 1. Unfortunately this did not prevent their recent theft of the lead from the roof.

Suckley Church is Grade 2 listed and represents a fine example of a Victorian church building with its 4 Kempe stained glass windows, each "signed" with Kempe's characteristic wheat sheaf (do look for this on each window), its beautiful floral stone corbels, the fine oak pews in the Chancel and the Nicholson organ. It tells the story of an earlier church life too in the 12th century font, the 14th century preaching cross, Easter sepulchre and piscine; and its 15th century churchwardens' chest. The church has been almost untouched from the time it was built in 1878-9 even to the extent that it has no running water, toilets, or refreshment facilities! This lack would not have mattered when the church was built and folk walked a short way from their homes to the church; but these days when the church welcomes over 150 guests to a christening, funeral or concert and many will have travelled miles, the lack of toilet facilities is a problem; not only for them but for many elderly folk who have had to stop coming to church because of that. Old prostates and weak bladders are more a feature of the 21st than the 19th century.

Grade 2 listing and a beautiful Victorian church do not pay for its upkeep and Suckley church needs considerable funding each year to stay open. Dwindling numbers of regular worshippers in our country churches have led to many closures. In the last 40 years 27 churches in Worcestershire have been made redundant (seven in the WR6 postcode area alone). Unfortunately closure of a church does not then mean that it remains to be enjoyed as a fine example of Victorian architecture. Knightwick church was a similarly Grade 2 listed beautiful Victorian church that had to close for financial reasons; it has now lost its listing and been converted to a house. 1 in 5 redundant churches is demolished, even those Grade 1 listed.

Churches have to balance their heritage with the fact that they have to remain as a living presence in their community. The Bishop of Worcester reminds us that "we believe that the church exists to serve those who are not – or not yet – its members". It has to be inclusive and not exclusive. It has to be open to be used by the community at large and not just a few, and it has to be used for more than an average of one hour per week. It also has to be able to pay the cost of its upkeep and be able to raise the money required for essential repairs. Grants and trusts to whom Suckley will need to turn within the next 30 years for repairs

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to the main structure and the roof will be looking for signs that the church is community focused, outgoing and likely to survive, before choosing to support Suckley over many other churches with similar needs

Four years ago the Parochial Church Council of Suckley church realistically faced the future and began to consider all the various options for “re-ordering”, a technical term for renewal of some of the internal structure of the church. The aim of this was not only to provide modern toilets, running water, effective heating and refreshment facilities for the church, but also to make the church more inclusive for use by the community. In particular the adjacent school, an “Ofsted outstanding” Academy, urgently needs a large space for assembly, dance, drama and PE, and also room for pre and post school wrap around care. We grasped this opportunity of welcoming young children and families to use our church. We also realised that the financial viability of the church would depend on outside income such as the £8000 per annum guaranteed by the DofE for the school use of the church.

However it's was never going to be easy to bring everyone in the community on board with the idea that their church could not remain for ever a Victorian museum piece for use by the few, and that we would have to sacrifice something to gain more. Therefore in 2009 we set about investigating the views of the community with a series of meetings with other interested parties and representatives of community groups. Open meetings, to which everyone in the village was invited, were held in June 2011 and November 2012. Flyers outlining our proposals have been sent on several occasions to every household. Regular articles have been written for the Suckley Newsletter and the Sphere. Meetings for all those involved with the church in its widest sense were held in June 2012 and May 2013. An extensive interview survey was undertaken of all those who attended the November 2012 meeting to hear the views of all who were there, especially those not all able to give their opinion at the time; and we found that of the 83% surveyed, 70% were in favour, 22% against. Of those who had some link with the church, 81% were in favour and 12% were against.

In February 2013 consultation with the Victorian Society produced useful feedback. They were not supportive of the mezzanine floor projecting from the tower arch, and did not like the use of the north transept as a store, or the presence of a cleaners' cupboard and COSHH store in the nave. They also were not in favour of the removal of the pine pews in the nave. All their views were given serious consideration and our plans have been radically altered in response to them as well as to the views of the local community. Except for the removal

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of the lesser quality and deteriorating pine pews (not the fine oak pews in the Chancel) we have accommodated all their objections. It was not going to be possible to provide the recommended under floor heating, a space for use by the church for more flexible worship or for use by the school without removal of the nave pews. We decided to replace them with at least 10 stackable high quality oak pews with additional stackable wooden chairs for larger gatherings. We expected that the Victorian Society would object to almost anything that altered the original Victorian church, but we also appreciated the need for the church to remain structurally intact in the future to be financially viable, to remain open, to be used by all and not the few.

As a result in March 2014 the church submitted their very detailed plans to the churches planning authority the Diocesan Advisory Committee. This is an 83 page document, which can be seen on the table beneath the SPACE notice board in the church or viewed on line with the following link:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/5zowbpz2vbnbkpk/PDF%20of%20Suckley%20Faculty%20Petition%20Mar%202014.pdf>

Those who are working to support this Reordering/ SPACE project are not a group who just want to ‘rip out the pews’, but a widely representative group of Suckley residents who deeply appreciate the heritage value of our church and its central role in village life and want to ensure that it remains to be appreciated by future generations. We hope that as many of you as possible will take this opportunity of looking at the detailed plans for the church which balance the heritage values of the church with the needs of the church and its community in the 21st century.

So where do we go from here. Firstly, of course, we await planning permission before we do anything. But also we need to fund all of this. So Fundraising starts once we have the go ahead from the DAC. Initially we will be raising funds from trusts and grants, but at least 10% needs to come from the community. So you will be hearing of our ideas for this in the not to distant future. Without the money we will not be able to do anything. It is likely that it will take a long time to raise the £300,000 needed for this project, so we may well need to phase the project. If you would like to help with fundraising , do please get in touch .

Liz Devenish (Churchwarden and Chairman SPACE project) 01886 884787, 07929 001563, liz.devenish@virgin.net

Anne Lewis (Churchwarden and Vice-Chairman SPACE project) 01886 884552, 07957 388926, annelewis@doctors.org.uk

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Suckley Church

The Easter services in Suckley, and other 'Easter Specials' are:

Sun 6th April 11.00am All Age (a lively more informal service, with a baptism).

Sun 13th April is Palm Sunday. The donkeys set off from Dingle Road triangle at 10.15am to go to the All Age service at Leigh Church. The Suckley Service will be a quiet Common Worship service at 6pm.

Weds 16th April 7.30pm will be a traditional Holy Communion Service in Suckley

Good Friday 18th 10.00am All Age (a lively more informal service. Note the earlier start!) in Suckley.

Saturday 19th April 8.00pm The Community Choir will be singing Stainer's Crucifixion in Leigh Church... what a treat!

Sunday 20th April is Easter Day, at 11.00am there is a service of Holy Communion (Common Worship style) in Suckley.

Sunday 27th April we go to Leigh Church for Andrew and Alexandra's last Sunday, with lunch in Leigh church afterwards.

Thursday 1st May 7.30pm in Suckley Church, Iona Holy Communion. Andrew and Alexandra's last service. All are welcome, as we express our gratitude to them for their 12 years of ministry with us, and commission them for their next phase of life after retiring from Parish Ministry. Refreshments after the service. Please send/give any messages for AandA, and any contributions to their presentation to one of the churchwardens.

Sunday 4th May 11.00am All Age (a lively more informal service)

Sunday 11th May 6.00pm a quiet traditional service of Evening Prayer

Weds 14th May 10.00am a small said service of Holy Communion

Sunday 18th May 11.00am we go to Alfrick Church for their All Age service

Sunday 25th May 11.00am Family Communion (Common Worship)

Please keep Suckley Church in your prayers as it continues to be your village church in the 'Interregnum' (the time between Andrew's leaving and his successor being appointed). This time may well last a year or two. Suckley, Leigh and Alfrick churches are part of the Worcester West Rural Team and our needs will be looked after by Rev David Sherwin, Rev Adrian Graesser and several other ministers. If you have any queries related to Suckley Church please contact your churchwardens:

Anne Lewis (884552, 07957 388926, annelewis@doctors.org.uk)

Liz Devenish (884787, 07929 001563, liz.devenish@virgin.net)

Useful information can be found too via the following links:

www.suckleyspace.org.uk, www.facebook.com/suckleychurch, www.wvrt.org.uk

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

APRIL 2014

Pineapple Tarte Tatin

Serves 4 people

This exotic version of a French classic contains the spice star anise. The spice was first introduced to Europe at the end of the sixteenth century. Coppery-brown in colour, it is composed of a cluster of pointed seed pods (between 5 to 10) radiating out like petals of a flower. It is not related to our aniseed spice and is much used in Asian cooking being one of the spices used in Chinese Five Spice. You can find it in most supermarkets or specialist spice shops and is best used whole. It complements the pineapple's sweetness and adds a slight liquorice flavour but is not overpowering.

INGREDIENTS	
1 medium sized pineapple	2 vanilla pods
2 star anise	1 tbsp butter
4oz/110g granulated sugar	A circle of ready rolled puff pastry, ¾-1in/2-2.5cm larger in diameter than the dish, to a thickness of ¼in/3mm thick.
4-5 peppercorns	
Coconut ice cream to serve	

METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/gas mark 6.
2. Peel the pineapple with a sharp knife. Slice off the flesh in finger thick slices, cutting from top to bottom to make rectangles. Throw away the core.
3. Cut the pineapple slices in squares no bigger than 3x3in/7x7cm. Put them in a saucepan with the star anise, 1 tbsp sugar, and the peppercorns. Split the vanilla pods, scrape out the seeds and add to the pan along with the pod.
4. Add water to cover. Bring to the boil, reduce the heat and simmer very gently for 10 minutes, or until soft. Leave to cool in the pan.
5. Now make the caramel. Put the rest of the sugar in a 9½in/24cm ovenproof frying pan over a low heat. As the sugar begins to melt, shake the pan to distribute the heat (don't stir it). When it has completely melted and is an amber colour, add the butter and stir until melted. Remove the pan from the heat. Lift the pineapple slices out of the pan and lay the slices over the caramel, overlapping. Pop the circle of pastry on top, gently pushing in the edges.
6. Put the pan on a baking sheet and bake for about 25-30 minutes until golden and puffed. Cool in the pan for a few minutes.
7. Place a plate over the pan and quickly but **carefully**, flip the pan over so that the tarte tatin is on the plate, fruit side up. Serve with coconut ice cream. (You can also reduce the poaching liquid to a syrup for pouring over the tarte.)

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SURGERY NEWS - ISSUE 18
APRIL/MAY 2014



SPOTLIGHT ON Foreign Travel

When you book your holiday you should:

- Check if you need any vaccinations
- Follow the travel vaccinations link on this website to the fit-for-travel advice site
- Think about getting vaccinated 8 WEEKS before you are due to travel
- Fill in and submit a travel form available from Reception or on our website
- Book an appointment at least 6 weeks before you travel and a week after submitting your form
- First appointments need to be for 20 minutes per person
- If you attend the appointment as a family or couple, please allow 20 minutes for the first person + 10 mins for each other family member
- Your first appointment will be an opportunity to receive travel advice, work out a vaccination schedule and start your travel jobs

If you have less than 6 – 8 weeks you must:

- Still fill in a form
- Allow at least 2 working days for your form to be processed
- Book a 20 minute appointment as soon as possible
- Be aware that vaccines given outside of the recommended timescale may not be effective

We are now on Twitter & Facebook. Why not follow us?

INCREASE IN PRESCRIPTION CHARGES - from the first of April 2014, prescription charges will rise to £8.05 per item. Pre-payment certificates remain unchanged at £29.10 for three months or £104 for 12 months.

Easter Opening Hours Closed: 8pm Thursday 17th April Re-open: 8am Tuesday 22nd April. If you require medical advice outside these times, please ring 111

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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

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

APRIL 2014

THE CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS OF SUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

INVITE YOU TO THE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

ON TUESDAY 27th MAY 2014 AT 7.00 pm
SUCKLEY VILLAGE HALL

Come along and meet your Parish Councillors
Here is a chance to put your point of view to the Parish Council !

Agenda items include:

County & District Councillors Reports – Chairman's Annual Report
Community Group - Local Trust & Charity Reports
Suckley School – Report & Presentation by the pupils
Suckley Playing Fields – West Mercia Police - Footpaths in the Parish
Suckley Village Hall - Parochial Church Council

Enjoy a glass of wine/fruit juice with nibbles
All residents are very welcome



Rather damp Suckley School pupils planting poppy seeds in the Forest School grounds - they are already involved in a school project for the centenary of the First World War. Let's hope that the poppies flower in August! Photograph supplied by Diana Taylor.

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

APRIL 2014

NEWS FROM SUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10th MARCH 2014

County Councillor - County Councillor Paul Tuthill reported to the Council. The Consultation on subsidised Bus Services revealed that these were used mainly by young and older people, all of whom did not wish services to be withdrawn. Some extra funding had now been made available, and the two County Councils – Hereford and Worcestershire – were now looking into more detail about the best way of planning routes. The proposals for the reduction in fire stations/engines had now been modified, with five stations/engines now being closed. The County Council budget had now been agreed with £30M reduction. However, his discretionary Parish Council budget was still in place. The refurbished Malvern Link Station would have a grand opening on Friday 14th March. Parking charges had been reduced to £1 per day. A start had been made on road widening along the Southern Link Road by the Ketch, with most of this work being done overnight to minimise disruption to traffic. No money was yet available for the widening of the Carrington Bridge, but he was hopeful that Central Government would be considering this in the next financial year.

Community Group – Defibrillator - Cllr A Lewis reported that she was waiting to receive a letter from the British Heart Foundation confirming that we had been successful in our grant application. She had been given a verbal assurance that this was the case. This means that the Parish Council would only have to pay £400 towards the cost of the defibrillator, with the remaining £300 of Co Cllr Tuthill's grant of £700 and funding from the Parish Council could go towards the special box to store it in. The Council agreed that it would be a good idea to put a notice in the Playing Fields as to the location of the defibrillator (on the outside wall of Suckley School).

Community Group – First World War Centenary 2014

The Clerk reported that she had now received the packets of poppy seeds from Morrisons (free of charge). Suckley School was keen to get the pupils involved in a planting project, and had already organised a trip to France linked to the First World War centenary. The Council decided not to go ahead with a war memorial as there did not appear to be sufficient interest within the Parish for doing this. However, the Suckley History Society are planning an exhibition of photographs and profiles of those who had served in the First World War to be held in the village hall – date yet to be fixed.

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Playing Fields - Cllr P Tuthill had agreed to provide £2,000 from his Parish Council budget towards the cost of replacing play equipment and services at the Playing Fields, with this sum being match funded by the Parish Council. Cllr C Luton was looking into what equipment would be available for the funding we now had. Cllr J Green reported that a vehicle had been driven onto the pitch and demolished a post, which would need replacing. The Council decided that installing security cameras was now becoming essential and Cllr C Luton agreed to look into the cost of these cameras.

Highways - Following on from the last Council meeting, Co Cllr P Tuthill, Gerry Brienza (County Highways), Cllr J Green and our Lengthsman inspected all the highways complaints in the Parish. As a result, a large number of issues have now been resolved, with landowners being informed of their responsibilities for ditch/drainage clearance.

Local Police - The Clerk had not received a Crime Report for January/February. However, the Council was informed by a parishioner present at the meeting that she had had £6,000 worth of saddles and bridles stolen in January, which she had reported to the Police. Another theft had also taken place in Alfrick (oil and tools). The Council expressed concern that this information had not been reported to them. The Clerk would be writing to the Area Police Officer.

Annual Parish Meeting

Suckley Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 27th May. Pupils from Suckley School will be giving a presentation, along with other organisations and charity/Trusts. The Parish Council will also be outlining what has happened over the past 12 months together with plans for the future. Drinks and nibbles will be available at the end of the meeting – all parishioners are welcome to attend.

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 19th May 2014 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 discussion in the meeting.