

JUNE 2014



Thank you Walter, for being “a true public servant”.



Walter Huband and his wife Valerie, after a presentation to Walter on behalf of Suckley Parish for his fifty year service as Chairman of the Parish Council. Walter was presented with a painting of various scenes, representing social and working aspects of his life.

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

JUNE 2014

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Next Issue: First week in July 2014

Content for newsletter to be submitted 25th July 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 Neighbour 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: Freya Marskell - 07599 420230

Church: Wardens: Dr Anne M Lewis – 884552 / Liz Devenish - 884787

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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Special presentation to Councillor A Walter Huband

A total surprise for Cllr Walter Huband took place at 7.00 pm in Suckley Village Hall on Tuesday 27th May. The Clerk and Councillors of Suckley Parish Council had planned a special presentation to Walter to mark his 50 years as elected Chairman of the Council.

Mrs Rosemary Harward (a former Suckley Councillor – local author and artist) very generously agreed to paint a picture for Walter which depicted all the aspects of Suckley life he has been involved with during his life time as a resident of the Parish.

Walter follows a long family tradition of public service as a Mr Huband was Chairman of the first Suckley Parish Council when it was first formed in 1895 and Walter's father also served on the Parish Council before him.



Suckley Church and village hall, hops and 'Herefords', bell ringing and cricket - just some of Walter Huband's interests and passions that have been wonderfully captured by Rosemary Harward's painting, presented to Walter on behalf of Suckley Parish.

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Walter was born at Suckley Court in 1937 and has lived all his life in Suckley. He played both cricket and football for the village, organised village fetes and tugs of war and was the Chairman of Alfrick Young Farmers for many years. Starting at the age of 17 Walter has a record of bell ringing at Suckley Church for over 55 years. His family have over 100 years of being an employer in the Parish, and as a young man Walter used to go and pick up hop pickers to work in the hop fields. He also won many prizes for his hops.

In 1949 Walter's family sold 5 acres of their land to the Parish for a nominal sum to be used solely as a Playing Field for the benefit of the Parish. The Playing Field is a vital part of the community and has been the venue for many celebrations, including the 2012 Jubilee fete held there. It is also used by Suckley School and local sports clubs.

Walter has also continued to carry on the family record of supporting Suckley School, not only serving on the Board of Governors for 10 years, but also by recently making available the use of some of his land as a Forest School. This is a very popular activity for all the pupils who are extremely proud of it.

Other achievements include establishing the Old Quarry in Longley Green as a pleasant open space, supporting and developing a cohesive community by encouraging housing development in Longley Green and supporting the Damson Way housing scheme, thereby creating a car park facility for the Village Hall and local use. Woodland Road in Suckley suffered serious flooding in 2007 with some residents having to move out of their houses. Since that date Walter headed up the Parish Council campaign to put in place a Flood Relief Scheme, which was finally completed in 2011.

Walter has represented the Parish Council on the CALC area committee, Joint Councillors Area Forum and Suckley Charities. He has also served on the former Martley Rural District Council,

Walter's long service to the Suckley community was recognised by the Lord Lieutenant of Worcester when Walter was invited to meet the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh at Worcester Guildhall when they visited the City during the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in July 2012.



Parish Councillors who attended the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th May. From left to right: Andrew Grieve, Anne Lewis, John Green, Diana Taylor (Clerk to Parish Council), Walter Huband, Liz Devenish, Peter Whatley, Carol Luton, Barry Kearley, Pearl Griffiths.

District Councillors David Hughes and Anthony Warburton presented Walter with his painting, and both paid tribute to his quiet and diligent work for the Parish. "Suckley village is fortunate to have benefited from careful stewardship of Mr Huband these past 50 years" said Mr Hughes, adding "Walter has given voluntarily of his time on so many occasions for over a half a century to great effect in encouraging the parish community to flourish and grow over the years."

Parish Councillors past and present, former team mates from Mr Huband's village cricket and football teams and many well wishing Suckley residents stood to applaud Walter as – "a true public servant."

Minutes of the Suckley Parish Council Annual Meeting are printed towards the back of the newsletter.

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SPOTLIGHT ON Men's Health

We all know that men are the first to complain when they are suffering from 'Man Flu', so why are they so reluctant to visit their GP even when they notice changes in their health? Common topics of concern range from hair loss, mid-life crisis and stress to diet & lifestyle, sexual health and prostate problems. Depression and mental health, cancer concerns, digestive problems, heart health and hernias are also areas of concern for many men.

On average, men visit their doctor only half as often as women. Reluctance to visit the doctor may be due to embarrassment, fear of the unknown, lack of time or simply not wanting to make a fuss. It is estimated that more than 100,000 men a year die prematurely so it is important to be aware of changes to your health and to see your GP immediately if you notice something that's not right.

Men's Health Week 2014 is led by the Men's Health Forum and runs from the 9th to 15th June. This year it will focus on health and work, including stress and unemployment.

For more information go to <http://www.menshealthforum.org.uk/mhw> or visit the NHS Choices Website <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/pages/topics.aspx>

BREAKING NEWS

Please visit www.knightwicksurgery.co.uk to find out how our online repeat medication ordering service is changing.

We are sorry to lose Janette Purcell, Practice Nurse from the surgery and wish her well in her future plans. Pam Saunder will join our Nursing Team from June.

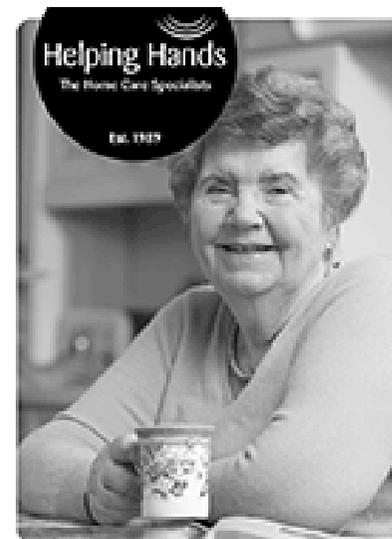
MENINGITIS C BOOSTER

In line with the updated vaccination schedule, children of 13 or 14 years, will now be offered a Meningitis C booster to protect against Meningitis and Septicaemia. This should be given at school. However, if you are not offered this at your educational establishment, or if you would prefer to have the booster at the surgery, please come along anytime between 8am and 6pm on Wednesday 6th August.

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to start October 2014. 21.5 hours per week as follows:
Monday & Tuesday 3pm-7pm, Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday 8am-5.30pm.
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For more information please contact Kate Parkinson on 01886 821279 or email kateparkinson@nhs.net

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



Do you need a Helping Hand?

If you are looking for an **alternative to residential care** or extra support for those everyday tasks that are becoming difficult for you or a loved one – then we're here to help - **from 30 minutes per week to Live-in Care.**

Our **Suckley care team** has been providing award winning quality home-care since 1989 and can help with: personal care, housekeeping, help getting around or even to provide a break to an existing family member or care-giver.



To find out how we can help you, call: 01905 401 958 or visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk

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Superfast Broadband – message from Harriett Baldwin MP

Harriett Baldwin, MP for West Worcestershire, continues to urge rural communities to register for superfast broadband. She recently commented, “The Superfast Worcestershire project will upgrade many more homes and businesses to fibre over the coming months and I look forward to celebrating the connection of other cabinets in my constituency.

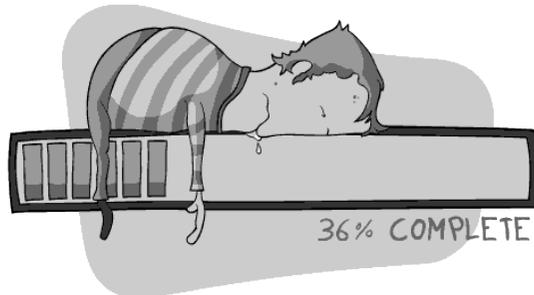
“I continue to urge local people to register their interest in superfast broadband by visiting the Superfast Worcestershire website and ensuring the project managers see where people need better connections most.”

When an area has gone ‘live’ people are able to order an upgrade from a wide range of internet service providers because the Openreach network is open to all fibre broadband suppliers on an open, wholesale, basis, thereby ensuring competitive prices for the Worcestershire residents and businesses.

Bill Murphy, BT managing director of next generation access said:

“Families will benefit, for example, by being able to use multiple bandwidth-hungry applications at the same time within one household. It will also enable people to work from home. New fibre services are set to transform the way businesses and consumers use the internet. Whatever you do online you can do more and do it faster with fibre broadband.”

More information on superfast broadband is available on <http://www.superfastworcestershire.com/home> or to register your interest as an individual or for business use, visit <http://www.superfastworcestershire.com/when-and-where>



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SUCKLEY

The advertisement features a central circular logo with a tree and birds, surrounded by the text "FLEDGLINGS NURSERY SCHOOL" and "ROOTS TO GROW WINGS TO FLY". There are also illustrations of butterflies in the top left and a photograph of the school building in the bottom right.

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A 'flying' start for Suckley children as a new venture opens in a stunning venue.

Freya Marskell is heading up Fledglings, an independently run, private, day nursery and pre-school for children aged 2 to 5 years. She has a BA (Hons) degree in Early Childhood and Early Years Teacher Status. Freya has managed the most outstanding Nursery School in Leeds for 3 years before moving back to Worcestershire and Leading the Pre School at RGS The Grange. Freya tells us about the plans for the Nursery.



Hop Kilns in Suckley. The safe and secure venue for Fledglings Nursery - and a beautiful location to learn and have fun.

Fledglings will provide high quality care and education, including healthy meals in a friendly, warm and welcoming environment, within the safe and sensational grounds of the Hop Kilns.

Fledglings Nursery School has recently under gone major renovation since it was

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Suckley and Alfrick pre – school, and has been restructured into 4 separately heated rooms, including a Nursery (2-3 years) and Kindergarten (3-4 years).

Open Mondays to Fridays from 8am to 6pm, Fledglings will offer home cooked meals, outdoor learning (including the edible garden) where it is intended that the children spend at least 1 day a week solely outside. The nursery will follow the Early Years foundation stage curriculum, and to plan effectively for each child's individual needs, the staff will observe the children through both adult led and child initiated activities, to ensure effective learning.

The aim at Fledglings is to provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment, enabling all of the children to become successful learners and confident to enter primary school.

With places available in September, Freya is holding free familiarisation sessions throughout August and until the end of June, will be reducing the registration fee by 50%.

Mother and baby groups £3 per session

Every Tuesday and Thursday 10-11.30am we welcome all mothers and their children (under 2 years) to come and play with us. There will be a wide range of activities available, story and singing time, along with tea and coffee.

Uniform

We will have a hard wearing unisex uniform, which will be appropriate for inside and outside, and can be purchased from the Nursery.

Links

At Fledglings, we aim to have a solid link with Suckley Primary School to ensure all children and parents are prepared and happy for their next big move to primary school.

For more information, please contact Freya Marskell on 07599 420230 or visit the website at www.fledglingsnurseryschool.co.uk



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Suckley Good Neighbour Scheme
Tel. 01886 840480

Celebrating our second anniversary this month (April), we extend our thanks to all our wonderful volunteers.

Our new website www.suckley.org.uk is now up and running and earlier this year, with one of our volunteers, was instrumental in potentially reuniting a Suckley family with other family members in Cornwall, who had lost touch over forty years.

So, remember, the SGNS is here for the community, during life's sunshine and showers..... Tel. no. 01886 840480.

Cycling in Suckley

Carol Boughton writes: Over two hundred cyclists took to our lanes recently and used the Village Hall as a feeding station, I was reminded of a cyclist who also used our lanes, over one hundred years ago.

You may have seen brown and white signs around our area. No, I am not referring to notices for the Parish Map, School or even Holloways but for the Elgar Route. Yes, we actually live on this route.

Now, I don't read, write, sing or play a note but I do enjoy listening to classical music. I got very excited to think that England's greatest composer, Sir Edward Elgar, (with apologies to devotees of Britten, Walton, Vaughan Williams et al) actually cycled past my house. That is until I realised that my house was built five years too late! Elgar and his wife rented Birchwood Lodge from 1898 to 1903 as a summer retreat to escape the hustle and bustle of Malvern. It was here, in a room overlooking the commanding view of the countryside towards Malvern and its hills, that Elgar completed much of "Caractacus", "Sea Pictures" and "The Dream of Gerontius". From the Lodge he wrote to his friend, Jaeger, "the trees are singing my music or I have sung theirs". Jaeger was depicted in the most famous of the Enigma Variations – Nimrod.

Whilst living at Birchwood, Elgar was taught by the Squire, who owned the cottage, to cycle - a newly popular skill. The Squire felt it would provide a form of relief for Elgar whilst he was writing the orchestration for Gerontius and would increase the ranges of his long walks "straight out across country to think out my thoughts and to avoid everyone." At times, Elgar, who was self-taught, would find composing very frustrating and stressful and he relied heavily on the countryside to provide inspiration.

He spent many hours cycling great distances by himself or with family and friends around our area. His cycling maps can still be seen at the Elgar Birthplace Museum at Lower Broadheath and he meticulously coloured in his routes on these maps.

I wonder how many of the modern day cyclists realise that they are following in the tyre tracks of one of Worcestershire's famous sons.

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Please Slow Down

This is a heartfelt plea from horse rider Julie Bolton, asking road users to please slow down just a little bit.

The British Horse Society estimate that there are 3,000 road accidents each year involving horse and rider, about half of these occur on minor roads. Horses are big powerful animals that can easily get frightened and panic especially near fast moving traffic that is particularly close to them or on hearing sudden loud noises.



As all good drivers know, care and consideration should be taken when passing horses, especially on country lanes.

As a horse rider I would prefer not to ride on the road but have no choice, as there are no bridleways or off-road riding facilities near to me without doing at least some road work first.

This is a heartfelt plea asking road users to please slow down just a little bit. My horse and I got hit by a car in October last year in Suckley. I can't explain in words the sheer terror I felt that evening. I was catapulted from my horse on to the verge and my horse ran home, although physically we have both recovered, psychologically we have a long way to go. So please:

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- Always treat a horse as a potential hazard and drive slowly with caution past them.
- Slow down so you can stop suddenly if required.
- On narrow lanes please keep your speed down especially, on bends. You don't know what you may meet round the corner.
- Sometimes riders do need to ride two abreast on the road, if they are on a young or novice horse.

Horses are flight animals, if they get scared they will want to run away from perceived danger. They can be startled by flapping objects, noises, dogs barking, vehicles splashing through puddles etc. These can make a horse more difficult to control and cause them to shy suddenly, possibly into the path of traffic.

In return horse riders should be courteous, polite and thank all considerate drivers. Although, if we are trying to control our horse it may not always be possible to wave 'thank you', this doesn't mean that we don't appreciate your safe driving.

Thank you for taking time to read this and THANK YOU for slowing down.

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THANK YOU, Andrew and Alexandra

On Thursday May 1st Suckley Church was privileged to host the Worcester West Team of churches' farewell to Andrew and Alexandra, being their last service in our 'Benefice'. The Celtic style Communion Service was from Iona Abbey, and Andrew was assisted by David Sherwin who gave the address and appreciation, and also by his predecessor Bishop Michael Westall. It was lovely to see Michael and Punitha again, and they were joined by over 100 others with clergy from all over the Diocese and beyond.

How can one adequately say 'thank you' for 12 years of faithful and generous self-sacrificing ministry? The enthusiasm of the singing, the warmth of emotional support and the palpable fellowship said thank you in a beautiful way. The Community choir was joined by Alexandra's sister who sang a solo in Paul Inwood's 'You are the Center of my life' (Clare first sang this solo at their wedding 25 years ago this year!) THANK YOU, Andrew and Alexandra

The BIG CLEAN UP 2014!

If you are able to spare an hour or two one day in June or July (watch out for details... local weather conditions will determine exactly when!) please let a Suckley church warden know. We plan for there to be an outside team equipped with weeding forks and edgers as well as trimmers and chain saws, whilst others can be dusting and polishing and sorting within the church. It would be good if we could be looking smart and 'at our best' for... The History Society's field trip to Suckley Church on June 21st.... put the date in your diaries!

SPACE Project - a good news update.

At last after five years of discussion and planning the SPACE project has taken a leap forward. We have THREE very good items of news.

Firstly, the most important is that the Diocesan Advisory Committee (the Church of England's advisory planning committee) has recommended the proposals. This is the most difficult of the planning hurdles we have to cross, and means that the proposals will be submitted to the Chancellor of the Diocese for his approval, a process which may take up to 6 months to complete. Two forms of public notice

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that we are applying to the Consistory Court of the Diocese for permission to carry out the project have been placed one on the church door and the other on the SPACE notice board within the church. The plans and a complete copy of the 'Petition for Faculty' are all on the SPACE table at the back of church. The second news is that Worcestershire Changing Futures Fund have agreed to fund 3 days of professional support in each of two areas, "Fundraising" and "New ways of working", which will give us a much needed boost to our efforts at this stage.

Secondly, after our 2012 Open Meeting we approached the Victorian Society for their opinion of our plans at that stage and they raised a number of objections. We gave a lot of thought to each of these objections, as well as to the views of the many of you who were kind enough to express them, and as a result we made extensive changes to our plans to meet those views and objections. We are pleased to report that the Victorian Society has now welcomed the alterations we have made to the scheme and they are prepared to accept the loss of the majority of the pine pews in the nave. They request that a small number of the old pews be retained, perhaps around the font and/or in the side chapel, and this has been included in the final plans. They also comment "The tower screen, servery units and trolley cupboards in the north transept have been sensitively designed and will make a positive contribution to the church."

Thirdly, we now have the quantity surveyor's report, which gives us a good idea of just how much money we will need to raise, and how we will need to phase the project so that we can begin to actually start the work as soon as possible. Although it has seemed very hard work to reach this stage, the hard work actually begins now... raising the money! To begin with we will be approaching trusts and grant giving bodies, and looking for business sponsorship. Community fund raising will come a little later and you will be kept informed. We will not be doing anything until we have the money to do it. At this stage it is too soon to determine exactly when that will be.

Many thanks are due to the skills and perseverance of all those who contributed their professional and personal talents to produce the final 'Petition for Faculty' and who are now beaver away in the next phase of the SPACE project!

Liz Devenish (884787 or liz.devenish@virgin.net) and Anne Lewis (07957 388926 or annelewis@doctors.org.uk)

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Suckley Local History Society looks at life in the Asylum

Members and visitors heard a fascinating story of life at Barnsley Hall Asylum, Bromsgrove, through a child's eyes at our meeting on 24th April. That child was the chief engineer's son - Bill Holden of Suckley - a long time member of our History Society.

Bill described how he had spent the most wonderful and enjoyable first twenty years of his life at Barnsley Hall, which is now a lost world as it has been closed and redeveloped in recent years and the M42 now runs through the former farm estate.

The Barnsley Hall Asylum story started with the 1845 Act of Parliament which required all county councils to build asylums. Worcestershire first built Powick Hospital but by the end 19th century that asylum was full, so after some consideration it was decided to build an asylum near Bromsgrove in 1903 and create Barnsley Hall, which operated until it closed its doors in 1995.

During the almost 100 years of operation, the asylum expanded to house a thousand patients at its peak. There was also an 'Isolation Hospital' with capacity for forty beds and during WW2, the site also housed a separate military hospital.

The asylum design incorporated a central reception area with female wards on one side and male wards on the other, with miles of corridors, segregated exercise yards, a glorious chapel which could seat a thousand people, again female on one side and male on the other. There was a huge ballroom where social events and dances were regularly staged by the inmates and staff. The asylum had its own "state of the art" power plant which provided electricity and central heating for the entire site from a well run boiler room – it was indeed “.. a brave new world”.

Bill's father joined the hospital engineering staff in 1917 and rose to become the chief engineer with a large family house on the asylum estate. To maintain the technology and machinery required to service this large community, the asylum had a large engineering department with extensive and well equipped workshops which soon become a source of fascination for a young lad with an engineering bent.

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

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Bill enjoyed a wonderful relationship with his father who encouraged him to make things and the workshops were a source of entertainment for young Bill. He made a steam engine and progressed to making a canoe covering the wooden the frame with blackout material, which soon ripped causing the canoe to sink. Never daunted, Bill tried again but this time used the foundry facilities and learnt skills from staff and inmates, to make the keel of the canoe with cast aluminium. This experience and opportunity was perhaps the basis for Bill's later success in growing the successful Bromyard based engineering business which bears his name and he has worked with aluminium ever since.

Bill entertained the History Society with anecdotes and stories of life at Barnsley Hall and told us of many positive outcomes for the inmates and we got a clear sense of the warm father and son relationship he enjoyed in the asylum's engineering department. The group rounded off the evening with our customary chat, wine and nibbles.

The next few meetings are going to be outside visits, with a guided history tour of our local Suckley Church starting at 2.30pm on Saturday 21st June and an exclusive private tour of the National trust owned Brockhampton Hall on Thursday 17th July. Our planned May visit to Halesend house has been rescheduled to a date to be announced later in the year. Members and guests are always welcome – further details from Andrew Grieve – 01886 884795

The Newsletter and You

Many in the village have told us how much they enjoy reading the Suckley Newsletter and we would like to thank all of the contributors to the newsletter over the past three and a half years.

To keep the newsletter relevant and fresh, we would welcome any suggestions as to what you would like to read in the newsletter. Whether it is about gardening, childcare, walking, local businesses, folklore, music, clubs, memories of Suckley, why Suckley is a special place to live, what annoys you about living in Suckley or if you know of someone in the village who is doing 'something amazing' or trying to raise money for charity, then please get in touch. We will be delighted to include your story, long or short - so please, pick up the phone and give Hilary a call 884355. Thank you.

FREE Newsletter to Suckley Residents

Suckley Church

Our vicar, Andrew Bullock has retired, but the services in Suckley Church will carry on in the same pattern as before, thanks to the fact that we are part of the 'West Worcester Rural Team (WWRT) of churches' with David Sherwin as our team rector. He and the rest of the team, backed up by several local 'retired' ministers (I think a vicar's retirement is a very active one!) will make sure that the service pattern will continue, with the added interest of meeting new people leading the services.

Here are the services June and July

Sunday June 1st 11.00am All Age Service (a lively more informal service)

Sunday June 8th 6.00pm An Iona Evening service (a said service with a Celtic flavour)

Wednesday June 11th 10.00am A small said service of Holy Communion

Sunday June 15th 11.00am we go to Alfrick Church for their All Age service

Sunday June 22nd 11.00am Family Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday June 29th 11.00am the whole WWRT meets for Family Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday July 6th 11.00am All Age Service (a lively more informal service)

Sunday July 13th 6.00pm A special service for Sea Sunday

Wednesday July 16th 10.00am A small said service of Holy Communion

Sunday July 20th 11.00am we go to Alfrick Church for their All Age service

Sunday July 27th 11.00am Family Communion (Common Worship)

Remember to put the History Society's visit to the church in your diary... Saturday June 21st starting at 2.30pm.... our church has some very interesting features, come and find out what!

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.wwrt.org.uk

Elderflower Cordial - a seasonal recipe with very local ingredients.

Among the many hedgerows around Suckley at this time of year, elderflowers are bursting into flower and are the main (free!) ingredient in a delicious, aromatic cordial. I have made this cordial for about 8 years and still have never managed to make enough to last through the summer.

The elderflower heads are best picked in the morning and should be white and frothy, with no wee beasties hiding in the flowers. If you are not sure what an elderflower looks like, consult a reference book or check online. The recipe below is from *The River Cottage Cookbook* by Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. The cordial will keep in the fridge for several weeks, but if you wish to keep it for much longer - up to a year - you will need to add tartaric acid and sterilise the bottles. For me, this recipe usually fills a wine bottle and a half.

INGREDIENTS	
20-30 freshly picked heads of elderflower,	up to 200ml freshly squeezed lemon juice (2-5 lemons, depending on juiciness)
zest of 2 lemons and 1 orange	tartaric acid (optional) available online
up to 1.5kg granulated or caster sugar	

METHOD

Shake any insects off the elderflowers, then place them in bowl with the lemon & orange zest and pour over enough just boiled water to cover them completely (about 1½ - 2 litres). Cover and leave for at least 4 hours (or overnight) until cold.

Strain the liquid through muslin, a clean cotton cloth or a jelly bag, gently squeezing to extract all the juice. Measure the amount of liquid and pour it into a saucepan. To every 500ml of liquid, add 350g of sugar, 50ml of lemon juice and a heaped teaspoon of tartaric acid if you are using it. Heat gently to dissolve the sugar, stirring occasionally. Bring to a gentle simmer and skim off any scum. Then turn off heat, let the cordial cool, and strain once again through muslin, a clean cotton cloth or a jelly bag.

Pour the cordial through a funnel into clean bottles, filling to within about 2-3cm from the top. Seal the bottles (screw tops or corks are best). Or you could freeze the cordial in ice cube trays. To serve, dilute to taste with ice-cold water - at least 5:1 water to cordial.

NOTE: The cordial will be slightly cloudy and not clear like shop bought elderflower cordials - but it will taste better because you made it. Hilary Pitt

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

...	<p>Suckley Soirée - 18th July 2014 7.00pm</p> <p>In aid of Suckley Church, Suckley Pre School and the SPACE project, all villagers are invited to a summer drinks and nibbles event held at the Hop Kilns, Suckley (by kind permission of Ursula Mason).</p> <p>Entrance is by paper donation and silent auction will be held with unusual and special items on offer.</p>
...	<p>Village Hall - a Survey for its future</p> <p>It has been a long time coming but, hopefully, by the time you get this newsletter, you should have received a Village Hall Survey. There are spare copies in the Village Hall.</p> <p>We really would appreciate your thoughts and comments so please spare a few minutes of your time to complete the survey. After all, the Hall is kept, in trust, for ALL the residents of Suckley. We, as trustees, need to know what you think about the Hall, whether it still has a place in the community and, if so, what activities you would like to see taking place.</p>
...	<p>Suckley History Society</p> <p>The society visits St John the Baptist Church for a guided history tour of our local Suckley Church starting at 2.30pm on Saturday 21st June and an exclusive private tour of the National trust owned Brockhampton Hall on Thursday 17th July.</p> <p>Further information from Andrew Grieve on 884795 or Margaret Davies 884301.</p>

Local Services:	
<p>Mobile Library Timetable 2014</p> <p>Fridays only at Suckley - Cross Keys 11.20 - 11.40 Suckley School - 11.45 - 12.10 Longley Green Post Office 12.20 - 1.00</p>	<p>Dates: 6th & 27th JUNE / 18th JULY.</p> <p>Enquiries about this service should be made to Malvern Library, Graham Road Malvern. Telephone 01905 822722, or email malvernmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk</p>

The Jim Cairns Memorial Golf Day 20th July 2014

Jim, (fomer landlord of the Cross Keys, Suckley Knowl) loved his golf and was a member of Upper Sapey Golf Club. So since Jim's untimely demise on July 21st 2011, a memorial golf day has been arranged as close to this date so that regulars of the Cross Keys who are golfers, and many others who aren't, meet for breakfast at Sapey Golf Club. Then the golfers, with other regulars as caddies, enjoy 18 holes with a champagne toast at Jim's commemorative bench at the 9th Hole.

After the game, it's back to the Cross Keys for presentation of prizes, food and more drinks to celebrate the memory of our friend, landlord, and fellow golfer who is greatly missed. Even if golf is not your game, all are welcome to join us at the Cross Keys in the afternoon.

Suckley's own iPad is able to save lives.

Thanks to generous grants from the British Heart Foundation, Suckley Parish Council and Malvern Hills District Council, Suckley is now equipped with an iPad that everyone can use if they need to!

iPAD stands for Intelligent Public Access Defibrillator, and ours is kept on the wall of the school where anyone can access if it is needed. This defibrillator is designed for use by people with minimal training, and 'tells you what to do'. Local health professionals and all those who have been through the HeartStart training know how to use the defibrillator, which is designed to be 'foolproof' so that anyone could be 'brave enough' to use it... Of course EVERYONE needs to know that we have a defibrillator available, so pass the message on. If YOU are prepared to use it, then YOU could save a life.

Suckley has an ongoing training plan for those who would like to keep their Emergency First Aid skills up to scratch, and there will be a third HeartStart course again shortly.

For further information and/or to sign up to any training, please contact Anne Lewis on 884552, 07957 388926, email: annelewis@doctors.org.uk, or tell Roger and Barbara at the Post Office.

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SUCKLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD ON 27th May 2014 at Suckley Village Hall

This year the Annual Parish Meeting followed a Special Presentation to Cllr Walter Huband to mark his 50th year of service to the community as elected Chairman of Suckley Parish Council. Dist Cllrs David Hughes and Anthony Warburton presented him with a specially commissioned painting by Mrs Rosemary Harward.

Three pupils from Suckley school gave a powerpoint presentation to the meeting covering all the activities they enjoyed in their Forest School, the land for which Cllr Huband had made available to the school. The pupils thanked Cllr Huband for his generosity and presented him with a carved mallet made from one of the tree branches in the Forest School. Cllr Liz Devenish reported that the school was flourishing, with pupil numbers now standing at 85 – the maximum possible the school could take in. A new Head Teacher – Mrs Sheila Marshall - would be starting in September.

The District Councillors David Hughes and Anthony Warburton reported that despite cuts the District Council had managed to keep a balanced budget and retain core services. Further cost reductions were still being worked through. The South West Worcestershire Development Plan had passed through its first phase of inspection, but the Inspector still wanted housing up to 28,00 across the three areas of Malvern Hills, Worcester City and Wychavon. The new recycling system was proving to be a great success, as was the new civic enforcement of car parking which had improved footfall for local traders. Dist Cllr Warburton stressed the importance of Parish Councils and their links to the grass roots of the area. Both he and David Hughes were available to help out with any problems residents might have.

The Chairman's report which covered the work of the Parish Council over the previous 12 months was circulated to all present.

Sarah Ransome Williams from West Mercia Police gave an analysis of crime figures which stood at 11, compared to 12 in the same period 2012/13. The team were now working out of Worcester which meant that patrol coverage was much better.

Cllr Andrew Grieve reported that the Community Group had hoped to erect a war memorial as 2014 was the centenary year of the First World War, but this plan did not appear to be of interest to the community. However, the poppy planting project was well under way, with Suckley School pupils receiving poppy seeds, and seeds being planted in front of the Village Hall.

Cllr Anne Lewis was pleased to inform everyone that we now had a defibrillator, sited at

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Suckley School, thanks to funding from Co Cllr Paul Tuthill, the British Heart Foundation and the Parish Council. 36 people had now been trained in basic defib and first aid skills.

Mr Richard Harward reported on the work of the Footpath Wardens over the year. The footpath problems at Tundridge were being looked at by the Countryside Department. He and Peter Markins had spent some time clearing windblown trees lying across the tracks.

Cllr Andrew Grieve reported that the reformed History Society now had 33 members with meetings once a month. Non members were always welcome to attend. The next meeting would be on 21st June with a tour of Suckley Church and its history. On 17th July a private preview of Brockhampton Hall had been arranged. Worcester University was seeking material for its World War I project. If anyone had articles of interest, they would be pleased to see them.

Cllr Carol Luton reported that a rather wet year had wiped out the football for the latter part of the season. The Playing Fields were still experiencing some vandalism, so bollards had been ordered and the Committee were considering installing CCTV. The Committee were looking at an ambitious plan for replacing the play equipment and refurbishing the play area. This could cost up to £45K and was based on the very successful layout in Rushwick Parish. Thanks were due to Cllr John Green for his weekly risk assessment inspections and general maintenance work. Also to Duncan Reynolds of DJR Services.

Mr Steve Boughton reported on behalf of the Hill Trust/Village Hall Committee. The past 12 months had shown a very small improvement with a wide range of activities and groups using the hall. Over 200 cyclists had recently used the hall as a rest stop. However, this was not enough to maintain the fabric of the building. The Committee were launching a survey to find out from local people what they wanted from the hall, as a number of events had failed to bring out enough numbers. This survey would be going out to everyone in the Parish.

The Chairman – Cllr Walter Huband – thanked the Parish Councillors for their support over the past year, with special thanks to the Clerk – Diana Taylor – for all her hard work. The meeting was then closed, and everyone enjoyed joining Walter and Councillors for a glass of wine and nibbles at the end of the evening.

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