

Southery Village Voice



www.village-voice.org

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September 2020

COVID-19

I am sure that you are all still aware of the latest guidance for COVID-19 and the relaxation of restrictions that are taking place. However, please remember that the latest guidance is available from the NHS and government websites:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Church News

We commemorated VJ Day by making a small display in the church porch and holding a special service at which Southern men who died in the Second World War, including those involved in the Far East, either as prisoners or who fought for freedom, were remembered.

We are now holding regular services, wearing masks and socially distanced. Please see church notice board for times of services.

Harvest Festival is on Sunday 27th September at 10am. All welcome. We shall again be doing a display in the church porch.

I know it is only September but if you would like to fill a Shoe Box to be sent to the very poor of Eastern Europe, either a child or an elderly person, for Christmas, please contact me for a leaflet explaining what to put in the box. I have to collect the boxes by the beginning of November so that they can be transported over land and arrive by Christmas.

Keep safe and well.



After much consideration I have decided that I will not be holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning and Bingo on Friday 25th September due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation. In my mind a coffee morning is where friends meet and have a chat and socialise.

This is not possible at the moment. Sorry. Perhaps when things get better I can arrange something then. If anyone would like to donate to MacMillan, I would be pleased to send donations to them. Beryl.



I have been advised by the British Legion that there will be no house to house collection, or face to face collection this year due to Coronavirus. I will be able to get wreaths and crosses, so if your organisation wishes to have a wreath please let me know as soon as possible so that I can arrange the order. Discussions are on going to see if collecting boxes for premises are permissible. Beryl

Editor comment:

I hope that you are all keeping well and it is good to have greater relaxation of the COVID-19 restrictions which are allowing us to return to a more normal life. We are looking for some additional volunteers to help distribute the newsletter once we are back in paper-based circulation. If you would be interested in helping out then please send an email to me at the address below and we will be in contact.

The village voice can be contacted by Email: contact@village-voice.org or through our website www.village-voice.org

Public Notices

Dog Fouling – Playing Field

Please could all dog walkers ensure that dog fouling is collected and disposed of in the provided bins at the edge of the field. The Parish Council has noted that the amount of dog waste is not acceptable and puts the health and children and our contractors who cut the grass at risk.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Notice to all parents of teenage children, please could you ensure that you have spoken to your children about the distress that anti-social behaviour can cause to other residents and how their behaviour might impact others. There have been continued damage to the old football hut on the playing field which ultimately is at the village's expense through the Parish Council precept/Council tax. This is not acceptable and we have had to

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Swish

Swish are happy to announce that the Panto is on (subject to Government guidance)
Auditions will be 17th September at 7.30pm and 20th September at 4.30pm, at the Village Hall.

Performance dates are January 14th - 16th 2021.

Keep your eyes open to hear what we will be performing!
Follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SwishSouthery/>

Dates for the diary

16th October – Bingo
14th November – Swish Ball(TBC)
30th November – Xmas Bus Trip to Norwich
8th & 10th December – Santa Visits
Swish phone: 07983 162684 or find us on Facebook.



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Southery Village Hall



Tuesdays – Auction – Entries by 2:30pm with Auction at 6:30pm
Thursdays – Youth Club every 2nd and 4th of the month 7-9pm
Friday – Bingo – 7:30pm

History of Southery

My name is Geoff Bonnett, son of Ernie and Mary Bonnett, originally from Little London (now Feltwell Road). My mum was the daughter for Fred and Sarah Galloway, also from Little London, and this story is about her husband Fred and his father Isaac Galloway. Isaac lived next door to Fred in Little London and their contribution to the church is worth recollecting. Isaac and his father ran a smithy in the late 1800's located in the yard at Little London and primarily made iron wheel treads for wooden horse drawn cartwheels and 'hodding' spades for digging and clearing dykes. These wooden spades with metal tips can be seen today in Kings Lynn museum.

The Galloway family were dedicated to the church. St Mary's was built in 1858 to replace to the old church, also St Mary's, built in the middle ages and now in a state of disrepair. It still stands in ruins as a monument to all the villagers that lived through its lifetime. Isaac was committed to improvements to the new church and one of his first jobs was to manufacture in his smithy the iron railings that currently border the church. These were believed to have been forged and erected at the turn of the century and still stand today. As a young lad I remember working with Fred when the railings needed painting – a painstaking task but we did it as by now Isaac had passed on.

Isaac's second major task also executed, we believe, at the turn of the century and was to forge the wrought iron gates up the steps to the altar. A plaque is sited on the step to commemorate Isaac's contribution and the gates remain there today. It is reported in family history that not finished with his efforts Isaac then planned his most difficult feat. He decided in the 1920s that the church needed a weather cock. His problem was nearly 200 ft of a mostly steep sided steeple, no modern tools and he was in his 50's and therefore not a young man for such a project. Nonetheless he set about the task of planning and surveying how to achieve his ambition. Family stories tell of Isaac deciding to ascend the steeple using long wooden stack ladders tied together with rope and somehow elevated. We don't know how many were needed but with the height from ground to the top it was a considerable number and with no safety harnesses apart from the ropes which he apparently used to support himself it was to be a truly daring feat. The family story goes that he first had to understand how to fix the weather cock and therefore how to forge it at the blacksmiths.

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This was achieved by climbing the spire and after several weeks Isaac and Fred were ready to mount the weather cock. They choose this to be Isaac's sixtieth birthday as a way to celebrate both his age milestone and the installing of the vein. It must have been some task. However, it was successfully completed and the weather cock you see today was the result of his work with the help of Fred.

Isaac died in 1947 which ironically is the year I was born. Fred died at a much younger age than his dad in 1959. Mum remained a dedicated churchgoer for the rest of her life before she passed on in 2010 aged 90. Sadly, this arm of the Galloway church commitment passed on with mums' death. However, Galloway is a household name in Southerly and I am sure that within it the level of commitment shown by Fred and Isaac lives on.



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Darker evenings

It is that time of the year again when we start seeing the evenings and mornings getting darker. At the end of October, we will be shifting back to GMT and entering the dark months. With schools reopening and the evenings still warm enough for the children to be outside, we face the annual problem of visibility as darkness comes. Last year there were several reported instances in the village of children riding bikes without lights in the dark and other not being visible enough when crossing roads etc.

Please ensure that as the evenings draw in that extra care is taken to ensure that you are wearing visible clothing and that bikes have lights that work.

The Village Voice is currently speaking to one of our sponsor companies about the provision of reflective wrist straps for kids in the village to help make sure that there is good visibility as we enter the autumn and winter months.

If you are a parent and think that this would be a good idea for our village then please email **contact@village-voice** and let us know that you would be interested in receiving wrist straps and the number, you might require. If we have a clear indication that there is a strong demand within the village then we will work out a way to make wrist straps available. If you have other ideas for making sure our village is safe during these months, then please email us your suggestions.

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