

NEWSLETTER FROM SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL December 2017

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Friday 26th January—H.S. Cheese & Wine

Wednesday 7th February—Time to Talk

Saturday 17th February—Community Market

Saturday 24th February—Quiz & Curry Night

*Welcome to the Winter Edition of our Quarterly
Newsletter.*

Seasons Greetings to all parishioners from Souldern Parish Councillors, we hope that you all had a peaceful and Happy Christmas and New Year. As a village we have plenty going on in the new year and being planned for later in the year, so please get involved where you feel inclined.

Parish Council Meetings

Please remember that Parish Council meetings are open to all residents. These will be held in the Village Hall, starting at 7.30p.m on the following dates;

Thursday 18th January

22nd March / 24th May AGM

26th July / 27th September

22nd November

We also hold meetings every other month to discuss any local planning applications. These are open to all residents.

These are held in the Village Hall, and start at 7.30 p.m on the following dates;

Thursday 15th February

19th April / 28th June

23rd August / 25th October

Souldern Parish Council contact details are:

Chairman: Nick Oakhill - 01869 345784

Clerk: Cathy Fleet - 01869 347000

Email: clerktosouldernparishcouncil@gmail.com

Don't forget to check the website for updates and other village information www.souldern.org

Souldern Changing rooms

Its now been a year since the Football Club disbanded, which has given the council time to reflect on the future use of the changing rooms. One suggestion that is being put forward is to create a reading room at that end of the Village hall building, with an external entrance to provide toilet facilities for those using the playground. A more detailed explanation and drawings are available to view on the notice board in the centre of the village and on the village website. One of the key benefits of doing this alteration would be to give safe central storage for the archive documents currently being held in various lofts and studies throughout the village. These are many and varied, but will cover the history of our village dating back hundreds of years. We ask you to make your thoughts known either by emailing admin@souldern.org or by making contact with a member of the parish council. If you have any alternative ideas these would also be very much appreciated.

Souldern Social

During December two village events were held in the hall.

The **Time to Talk** group enjoyed a wonderful **Christmas lunch** once again supplied by Wrightons of Fritwell. Time to Talk meet on the first Wednesday of each month for coffee, cake and a chat and this is open to anyone that happens to be at home or at a loose end on those days, so please do come along and join us.

Then on the 17th December young children from the village, together with their parents and grandparents, were entertained for two hours by the wonderful 'Mrs Marvel' (Ami) at the annual **Christmas Party**. The children enjoyed a host of activities from a magic/Punch and Judy show to being able to stroke a fluffy grey rabbit. There was a special visit from Father Christmas and each child enjoyed receiving a gift. None of this would have

been possible without the generous donations from the PC and the Souldern United Charities.

Thank you to Anne Large and her team of helpers, especially Elizabeth Grundy and Katie Gambrell as without their help and support the party would not have taken place.

The Summer Solstice group are starting to get wound up for the return to the mildly sloping gradient that is the **Wacky Races** track. Upgrades to the start are being planned which should act as a turbo charger for those that are brave enough to give it a go!!

The date has been set for Saturday June 23rd, the Final format is still a work in progress but the team expect to host a launch evening sometime in March. More details will be publicised on this when they become available.

Souldern Playground

Thank you to all those who supported the fundraising effort in the autumn, funds are now available to renew the fence that surrounds the playground and repair the train. The old fence is sadly being held together on a wing and a prayer!!! Once the fencing has been purchased you should expect to see weekend work parties setting to with the installation.

It is hoped that this work should be complete before Easter. Anyone wishing to join the playground team please contact Lucy Matthews via email lucymatthews@souldern.org

Church and Chapel

Christmas brought a variety of services and events to the fore which were very well attended and enjoyed by many. In particular the candle lit carol service led by the choir was a huge success. The church was full with families and children all taking part and enjoying the festivities and refreshments that followed afterwards. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this such a joyous occasion.

Family Church and Sunday School welcome all children to a time of crafts, songs and teaching on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month—please do join us.

As part of the fundraising efforts to finance the proposed improvements to the church a Curry & Quiz Night is being held on 24th February in the village hall. If you would like to sponsor some advertising or buy tickets please contact Barbara for details (345931)

Souldern WW1 and WW2 research project

A growing group of volunteers in the village are pulling together research on the villagers who died in the First and Second World Wars. November this year marks the 100th year since the armistice when the guns fell silent at 1100 on 11th November 1918. The aim is to produce a book or booklet from the combined research at some point over the summer. Anyone interested in joining the project should

email Charles Noble on charlesnoble@souldern.org who will put you in touch with the broader group and allocate you an individual to research.

Horticultural Society

The Horticultural Society's Cheese and Wine Evening will be held on Friday 26th January 2018 at 7.00pm in the village hall. Tickets will soon be available to purchase from Philip Mander, and will include two glasses of Wine and a Cheese buffet. Additional wine will be available to purchase on the night. There will be the opportunity to take out or renew membership of the society and to receive information about the annual Flower and Produce Show, to be held in August. This year several changes have been made to the show Schedule with some classes being removed and new ones added. Therefore, in order to give you plenty of time to prepare, please come along and pick up a leaflet providing details of these changes. We look forward to seeing you

Defibrillator

The possibility of obtaining a defibrillator for the village has been discussed at recent Parish Council meetings. We have now arranged for Ian Jones who is a paramedic and Community Defibrillation Officer for South Central Ambulance Service to attend the next meeting, on **Thursday 18th January**. He will give a presentation and demonstrate an automated external defibrillator, and answer any question from villagers. Please come along and find out more. The presentation will begin at **7.00 pm**, (before the main Council meeting) in the village hall.

Souldern Community Market is back!

Starting February 17th 9:30-12:30 in the Village Hall and continuing on the 3rd Saturday of each month a bigger and better market returns, including fresh, locally sourced produce and preserves, bread, cakes and savouries, gifts, cards and services and of course breakfast. Sharing a cup of coffee/tea and a bacon/sausage butty provide the ideal opportunity to meet up with friends for a chat. Do please come along and show your support.

3 Parishes Magazine

It is proposed that the 3 Parishes magazine form a Community Interest Company, that it will be delivered to every household in the villages of Ardley, Fritwell and Souldern free of charge and any profits will be divided equally between the villages for community purposes. So far, Ardley has one representative willing to serve on the committee, Fritwell 2 and so we really need someone to represent Souldern. Are there any volunteers please? We will also need some extra volunteers to distribute the magazine please. If anyone is interested in being involved in any way please either contact Barbara (345931) or email editor@3parishes.co.uk