



CATNEY NEWS JUNE 2014

Hi Everyone,

As we move into the summer months, no doubt you will be taking photos of holidays, events and outings. If you have any good photos of events in the Catney area, please send them in. We are also asking that if you see any interesting wildlife in your garden, please send a photo in to us.

Skittles Night was a tremendous success as well as extremely enjoyable event . We raised £352.55, with £148 being donated to The Village Hall Fund and the rest to the Residents Association who sponsored the event Thanks to all those who donated raffle prizes and who helped set up, during the evening and clear up the following morning.

It is hoped that vital work needed on the Village Hall will begin soon. Please remember that we will always need your support to help us raise the necessary funds to ensure continued maintenance, any improvements and to pay for everyday utilities. We cannot do this without you.

Chris Cluley
Editor

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Village Clear Up: I am sad to report that only 4 people turned up to tidy up the area at the back of the Hall, and they were from the Residents Association Committee who did a good job, but it's most disappointing that not even an hour can be spared in our busy lives . **Dave Cuthbert.**

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Catney Day has been put back 1 week to **Saturday 20th September** as the Barn Dance caller we have put on notice cannot be with us on the 13th (as advised in the May edition).

We are hoping to hold an afternoon BBQ with games, bar, raffles etc., followed by an evening Barn Dance – more news in July – but **please put the date in your diary.**

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Best Dressed Scarecrow Event - so far only 3 expressions of interest - please join in!!!



Can you make a scarecrow dressed as a farmer? Your scarecrow would need to be exhibited in your front garden from Sunday 6th September for a week. They will be judged during Friday 12th/Saturday 13th) with the prize for the best dressed farmer scarecrow presented on Catney Day on the 20th September. The scarecrows will be judged by a real live farmer!

If you are interested in taking part please contact the Association by phone/email **0776 8502039**/secretary@catney.co.uk to express your interest in order that we can establish whether to go ahead with the event

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Planning application re 161 Lugtrout Lane. Dave Cuthbert has asked Cllr Robert Sleight to look into the history of this application based on the correspondence the Association received from Julian Crook back in April. We have no information as at this time

WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!



A PEACOCK IN THE GARDEN AT 61 HAMPTON LANE.



DUCKS HAVING A VISIT TO THE POND AT 97 HAMPTON LANE

A reminder :

Birmingham Airport has commenced trials of flight path options 5 and 6. If you are aware of excessive noise or unusual flight paths please contact the airport and let them know.

You can do this by calling the Environmental Helpline on 0121 767 7433 or by email at environmentteam@birminghamairport.co.uk

HELP!



Jane Clancy would like your help please. Bees (she thinks they are bees and not wasps) have made their home in a bird box in her garden by her front door.

She would like advice as to what to do and at the time of printing, had not heard anything from the Beekeeping Association.

Do any of you keep bees or are knowledgeable as to what Jane should do?

Please contact her on: jane.clancy1@btinternet.com

Does any of you know the name of this moth - found by Jane Clancy? You can see how large it is against her hand! Please contact the Secretary, contact number given on the last page - or email me, the Editor.

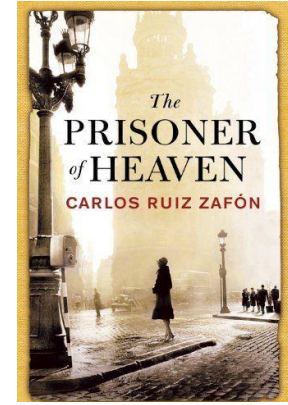


BOOK REVIEW

THE PRISONER OF HEAVEN

A novel by Carlos Ruiz Zafon – translated from the Spanish by Lucia Graves.

A Book Review by John Alderson.



This is the third book of a trilogy and set in the literary universe of the Cemetery of Forgotten Books, narrated by the principle character, Daniel Sempere, and follows *The Shadow of the Wind* and *The Angels Game*.

I feel fortunate to have read all three in their written order but they do stand alone and I cannot recommend Carlos Ruiz Zafon too highly. These are true Gothic novels, all containing humour, politics, horror and romance all tied into the geography and history of Barcelona's Old City.

Daniel Sempere now grown up and married, works in his father's bookshop with his older friend Fermin Romero de Torres on whom this third novel really centres. The story, set in the mid nineteen fifties, also deals with a much earlier time of imprisonment for Fermin, the horror of his experiences there and his association with a fellow prisoner being cruelly used by an evil prison governor and who helps Fermin to escape.

The characters particularly the minor ones are beautifully crafted and amongst the horror there is also a great deal of humour in the dialogue. Fermin's life is then followed literally very skilfully, linking well with the history of Franco and Spain of that time.

Carlos Ruiz Zafon is to me a literary craftsman of the highest order and the books in this trilogy are well worth reading.

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GARDENER WANTED

Dave Lusty is looking for a gardener for a small area around his commercial premises in the Tyseley area. If you would be interested please call him on 07813 092211

MEMBERSHIP CARDS FOR MEMBERS OF THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WILL BE WITH YOU SHORTLY.

If you have forgotten to renew your annual membership or are new to Catney Village and would like to show your support, we will accept payment up to the 10th June – put your payment in an envelope with your address, email and telephone number and the names of those over 16 in your household who wish to join. Leave the envelope at the Spar Shop, where it will be collected.

- £3 for Single membership**
- £5 for a Couple/Two people living at the same address**
- £10 for a Family of 4 or more living at the same address**

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Sign for the Village Hall

We are looking for someone with artistic carpentry skills who could make a wooden sign for the Hall.- we intend moving the notice board and want to put a sign with the name of the Hall over the top of it – if you can help please drop us a mail or call **0776 8502039**

Would you be interested in joining the Hampton in Arden Gardening Club? They are looking for new members. Talks, discussions, projects and garden visits. They meet on the evening of the 3rd Wednesday in the month at Hampton Church Hall. For more details please contact: or just go along.

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CATNEY CRICKET CLUB: Following last seasons promotion for both Teams this season has started disappointingly with 3 defeats for the First X1 in the Premier League and 2 defeats for the 2nds the main reason being the loss of players from last year which has left us short of numbers, We also need players for our Sunday friendly side so anyone looking to play Cricker please come to our Wednesday nets from 5.30 pm or call me on 0121 373 9104. **Eddie Hewitt, Chairman**

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

Committee Members: Dave Cuthbert, Ken Cluley, Chris Cluley, Annette Scott, Sue Attwell, Frances Cook.

Tom Rogers from Solihull Council attended our last Residents Association meeting. We were able to put various issues regarding the Village to him and even if he could not personally help, he is able to pass on our requests/concerns to the people who can.

Matters discussed.

- Field Lane is on a list for resurfacing, but it could be 3 years before this is done. The landowners would have to be contacted about cutting back trees and bushes.
- Hampton Lane, through Catney village, is being resurfaced this weekend.
- The condition of Berry Hall Lane is under consideration (partly because of the farm and workers who use the lane). New drains are a possibility.
- Lugtrout Lane –the persistent water leaks are initially the responsibility of Severn Trent water.
- Hampton Lane pavement has been swept.

Points raised by the committee:

- The pavement on Hampton Lane as it approaches the Village is still too narrow.
- Have all of the road drains on Hampton Lane been cleared?
- Are our street lights bulbs all being replaced with energy saving bulbs?
- The bush on Lugtrout Lane, just after Appletree Close, has been trimmed but not enough as the streetlight is still obscured.
- What kind of planters would be allowed if we try again on this project?

If you have any concerns regarding roads, hedgegrows, lighting or anything else within the village that comes under the Council's environment umbrella, please let us know and we will ensure Tom knows about it.

In addition, Tom reported that wildflower seeds were spread on an area of Catney Common (about 10 m²). The plan is to cut the grass in this area only in the Autumn. Very wet conditions may have prevented the seeds from germinating so another sowing may take place later.

CHORISTERS

Hampton Church are looking for new members for their Youth choir. Children need to be 7 years up to 16 years and they sing at special services and some weddings. If you would be interested, can sing in tune and would enjoy being part of a lively group, please contact Mr Kim Rawson, Director of Music on kim.rawson@btinternet.com.

If you are aged 16 upwards to any age (and can sing in tune) you are very welcome to join the adult choir who sing at 11 am and 6.30 pm on Sundays, special services and weddings and funerals. They also visit other churches to sing occasionally. It does not matter if you cannot read music, but must be able to attend choir practices on Friday evenings. Kim would love to hear from you.

For the many friends and happy memories Pat Buller had while living in Catney, her Charitable Trust has donated £1,000 in her memory to the Village Hall Fund as a thank you.

The money will be put to very good use and we are very grateful to Pat's family for this generous gift.

I would really appreciate articles of interest to put in the **July** issue; please let me have all copy by **20th June**. For contributions to the Catney News, you can contact me at editor@catney.co.uk.

Please let Frances Cook have your email address if you would like to receive the Catney News by this method in colour and so that we can contact you on Village issues. You can contact us by emailing Frances Cook at secretary@catney.co.uk or If you do not have email, please contact us on 0776 8502039 and leave a message. Or please speak to a Committee member.

Chris Cluley. Editor.
