



March 2012

CATNEY NEWS

Dear Villagers,

This is a Rally Call for volunteers to help organise/run our village Fete which will be on the 14th July and will have the theme "Catney Olympics". Please come along and help – it is very satisfying and a real buzz to know you have helped organise a big village event that has gone well – so do come along to our first fete meeting on Friday 9th March at 7.30 pm. at the Village Hall and find out what is needed and where you can assist. There will be something for everyone to do, so don't think that you won't be needed – you will!!! If you can't come along but are happy to run a stall, or help with setting up during the previous week etc., contact Dave Cuthbert on e.mail cuthbert488@btinternet.com On the evening of the fete, there will be a Pig Roast and Barn Dance – so reserve your place as soon as we start selling tickets!

Sunday 4th March at 10 am. If you could possibly help with getting out the stalls to check them, please come to the rear of the Village Hall. Thank you.

On Wednesday 14th March we are holding our Annual General Meeting in the Village Hall at 8pm. We need you all to come along to this and show your support for the Residents Association – there will also be another chance to join and pay your subscriptions - £2 per person over 18. You will learn about what is going on in the Village, what stage we have reached with the Village Hall, what is proposed for the next year, and how you can join in if you wish to do so. There will be wine and nibbles after the meeting.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be celebrated in Catney on Sunday 27th May from 2.00 pm at the back of the Village Hall with a BBQ, music and celebratory fun. This is a change of date. If you are a member of the Residents Association, entry will be free for you and your children under 18 – we will have a list of villagers who are members. Non members will be charged entry. So please ensure you have paid your subs before this date – **YOU CAN JOIN BY COMPLETING THE FORM AT THE BACK OF THIS CATNEY NEWS!** Chris Cluley, Editor

SKITTLES AND FISH AND CHIP EVENING

This was a great night-well supported, although sadly we had to limit attendance due to the space taken by the alley and had to disappoint 15 people

This was particularly unfortunate as 6 people who had reserved tickets didn't turn up which cost nearly 40 pounds in profit. Highest ladies score of 16 was made by Claire Cartwright and 15 was the top lads score by Tony. Roger Tarr won the "killer" prize.

Thanks particularly to Peter Mole of Shirley Heath Tree Surgery for the loan of the alley and Gareth at the Spar shop for a couple of raffle prizes. Final figures have not yet been calculated but it looks like a profit of 172 pound has been made excluding the bar.

MOBILE LIBRARY IN CATNEY

The library will be in Lugtrout Lane (near Bransford Rise) Catherine-de-Barnes on Thursdays in 2012 on the following dates from 3.05 pm until 3.35 pm.

Please support this venture or we will lose it.

January 12th	May 17th	September 20th
February 2nd and 23rd	June 7th and 28th	October 11th
March 15th	July 19th	November 1st and 22nd
April 5th and 26th	August 9th and 30th	December 13th

FOR SALE

Evestaff Minipiano



47.5

Width **inches** (125cm)

15.75

Depth **inches** (40 cm)

33.75

Height **inches** (86 cm)

Ideal for child learning to play. Relatively small - does not 'take over' the room. Good condition.

Price:- £50 including stool

Tel: 0121 705 5053

FOR SALE

**TIMEMASTER EXERCISE BIKE,
HARDLY USED, EX JOHN LEWIS.**

COST £350 OFFERS PLEASE

0121 705 0219

SPEEDWATCH

Solihull Council will be doing a Hampton Lane Speedwatch in the village shortly to ascertain whether we need either a flashing sign or a speed limit. A member of the Residents Association will act as an observer to this exercise.

CATNEY CRICKET CLUB

The Cricket Club have commenced Indoor Nets at Aston University on Monday Nights and anyone interested would be welcome. Outside nets will commence in the village (behind the Boat pub) in April.

More information from Eddie Hewitt on ehewitt@europa-worldwide.com

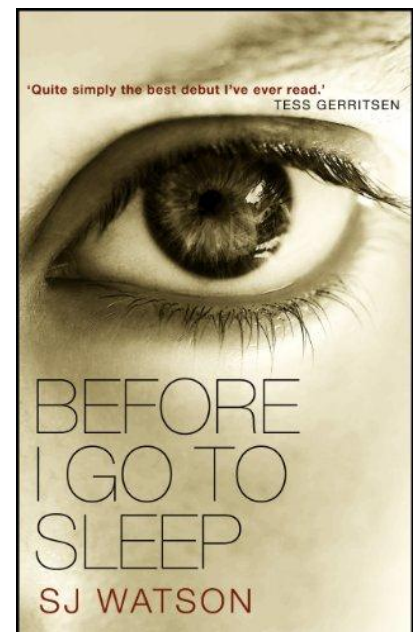
BOOK

Christine wakes every morning with no memory of her life since she was young. Sometimes she wakes thinking she is a child, sometimes as a young adult, but she does not know the man in the bed beside her, she does not recognise the room, the house, the photos placed around the mirror or what happened the day before. Who is the woman she sees in the mirror – she is 20 years older than she should be. Every day is a frightening experience of not knowing – of having to trust people she cannot remember meeting before – of having to accept what she relearns each day.

As her story unfolds, day by day, you live her nightmare with her, you want to warn her and save her from what you think might be coming— but you cannot.

This is a brilliant book which is also available as an ebook. I could not put it down.

Chris Cluley



We do need to save money – and the cost of printing the Catney News has increased. If you could possibly agree to taking the News by email instead of by hard copy via our volunteer delivery team – please contact Frances Cook and let her know. ALSO - Could all those who currently receive postal copies of the News agree to taking it by email if possible? This would save considerable postage costs. Thank you.

SPRING CAME TO CATNEY FEBRUARY 23RD FEBRUARY 2012

CLASSES AND CLUBS at CATNEY VILLAGE HALL
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Why not think about booking our Village Hall for your function? There are plenty of tables and chairs and a well equipped kitchen. The hall can hold up to 60 people. Fridays and Saturdays are the best days to book as there are classes normally held on the other days. To book - contact Gareth Thomas on 0121 705 6135 or gareth10637@hotmail.co.uk You might like to join one of the classes held there in the week.

Art Classes

There are currently three different groups of art classes.

- Monday Afternoons – contact Don Irving on 0121 705 9054 for details
- Tuesday Mornings – contact Penny Dixon on 0121 244 3569 for details
- Tuesday Evening – contact Graham Blaine on 0121 745 4967 for details

Bands

The following two bands use the hall for practice

- Birmingham Concert Band – every Monday evening
- Skyliners Big Band – every Thursday evening. Skyliners also have a recording session at the hall on Sunday 26 February.

Other organisations

Other regular bookings come from the VTTA Midlands Veteran Cyclists, who use the hall every two months for their meetings, Solihull Conservative Association and STAMPS for their rehearsals.

Children's parties

There is continuing interest from families in the village and further afield to use the hall for children's birthday and other parties on weekends.

Developments

In order to further promote use of the hall a website is being developed and this will include a calendar, enquiry form, details of the hire conditions and hire charges. There will be a link to the website from the Residents Association site. It has been many years the hire charges have been increased so these will be reviewed this year.

Before and during William the Conqueror's reign, the lands around Catney were held by one Almar for Turchil de Warwick – part of the manor of Longdone. From 1100, during the reign of Henry 1, the area was owned by Chetelberne of Ketelbarnus, who gave land on which to build a nunnery in the Henwood Lane area, then called Estwell.

The nunnery was dedicated to St. Margaret and the Benedictine nuns were given all tithes within the precinct of Solihull by Pope Gregory 1V. Afterwards the name of Estwell was discarded and the nunnery was called Heanwood.

By 1389 it was a house of about 56 nuns, the reigning monarch still being benefactor of the nunnery. As time passed however, the number of nuns dwindled to twelve.

Henry V¹¹¹ dissolved Heanwood as he did other monasteries and convents. What became of the poor creatures whose only known home was ruthlessly taken from them, we shall never know. The prioress, however, was granted a retirement annuity of £3. 6s 8d. Thus passed Heanwood nunnery, leaving us with Henwood Lane as a memorial.

[illegible]

Spring is coming. Work has been carried out on the Common; volunteers have been clearing overgrown areas (many thanks to everyone who has helped) and new features are appearing all the time as part of the continuous improvement programme between our Residents Association and Hampton Parish Council. It is hoped to have a couple of picnic tables and some other natural seating in place soon. Why not have a stroll and look for signs of spring. Bulbs have been planted on the Bickenhill Lane side and there is something new to find every time you visit. You can help with this improvement by going along to the next Catney Common clearance, due to be held on 31st March. Contact our Secretary, Frances to get times etc. Tools will be provided although you can obviously bring your own if you prefer and you will be made most welcome.

[illegible]

Would you be interested in taking over as Editor of the Catney News? Due to other commitments, I am finding it increasingly difficult to continue, but obviously, I will carry on until a replacement can be found. Please get in touch or let the Committee know at the AGM.

Chris Cluley

A WALK FROM CATNEY TO MARSTON GREEN

- 10A Grand Union Canal** From the towpath at Henwood Wharf, proceed northwards on towpath (canal on left); bear R off towpath onto track at wooden chicken house to Catherine-de-Barnes
- 11A Catherine-de-Barnes** TR to roundabout and follow Solihull Road; cross stile at farthest corner of Hampton Lane Farm; follow muddy track round to the R to stile by gate: TL, following hedge to top of field; TL and follow hedge (on right) - to Catherine-de-Barnes Lane; TR and X to stile after 90 paces; bear L to hedge corner and TR across the field approximately parallel to hedge on L - to stile to left of Gaelic football (rugby) posts' follow hedge alongside football ground; just past pavilion (footbridge down on R), TL across narrow field to steps leading down to footbridge; bear R diagonally across field towards area of thicker vegetation (about 3/4 way up right hand field boundary) - to stile by gate; follow hedge on L and make for stile to R of Castle Hills Farm (12A) (8km/5m).
- 12A Castle Hills Farm** Go round to R of farm building and follow track down to footbridge - follow hedge on L to stile where path is enclosed between fence and hedge; TL at Damson Parkway; X dual carriageway and take road (signposted Elmdon Church/Public Bridleway) between Land Rover Works and Golf Range/Restaurant, after Land Rover fence TL into Elmdon Park (13).
- 13 Elmdon Park** Walk up hill approximately parallel with road, towards old gnarled sweet chestnut tree; continue beyond to beacon and follow line of trees to exit road from car park; at junction of tracks continue straight ahead; TL along track with Elmdon Grange on R; follow path through woodland fringe planted area to housing; cross Victor Road and Rangoon Road to A45 Coventry Road and enter Birmingham, X at crossing and TR; TL between cottages (Tiger Island Cottages) (11km/6.8m) to Birmingham International Airport boundary fence (14).
- 14 Birmingham International Airport** Follow fence with Hatchford Brook Golf Course on left; continue round to end of runway and head for bridge under railway (13.3km/8.2m) for the continuation of the walk northwards.
- 15 Marston Green** For those wishing to pick up a bus at Marston Green Station, cross over Hatchford Brook and continue up the hill, back into Solihull, to Elmdon Lane; TL, cross over footbridge to bus stops (15) (14km/8.7m).

TR = Turn right X = Cross TL = Turn Left

Marston Green to Solihull Bus Routes 71,72,73,75,670,673. Centro Hotline 0121200 2700

COURTESY OF HEART OF ENGLAND WAY ASSOCIATION LONG DISTANCE PATH GROUP



Our 32 feet long narrowboats are available for day or half-day hire for parties of up to 10 people. We also do personalised holidays and flexible short breaks. Tel: 0121 704 4464 E.mail: info@coptheathwharf.co.uk



Catney Residents Association

Over a year ago, following the last church service being held there, the Residents Association began our fight to save Catney Church building from being sold. We wanted it to remain as a Village Hall for the use of the Village of Catney and as part of this endeavour, we managed to get its inclusion on the Council's Local List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. We thought you might like to see the reasoning behind their decision to include it.

"This imposing building is of significant local importance and interest in the streetscene. That it is the work of an architect of regional and national note adds to its importance. It clearly has historical interest in terms of its design and materials. In design, materials and detailing it is impressive in both an immediately local and Borough-wide context. Its domestic scale and signature chimneystacks were clearly intended to create a building acknowledging vernacular building and striving to respect the scale of the small village.

The building is clearly of sufficient architectural and historic interest to justify its inclusion on the Council's Local List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest"

As most of you know, we continue our plan to keep the building for the village, with the formation of a secondary committee who will initially raise funds specifically for the purpose of costs that will be involved.. We hope to be able to update you on this project at our AGM. We thank all of you for your continued support and ask that you try and attend any functions held in the coming year.

As the Catney News is being sent to all villagers this month, with an additional sheet for your completion and return with your subscriptions, we thought we would advise those who are thinking about joining, of the voluntary duties undertaken by the Residents Association Committee. We are always glad to get new Committee members if you would be interested..

We monitor planning in the village and surrounds to ensure it does not encroach on green belt or look out of place in it's surroundings.

We look at environmental issues, e.g. working with Hampton in Arden Parish council to improve the Common, getting footpaths cleared, any dangerous trees or overgrown areas that are causing problems etc. This also involves attending regular meetings at the airport and monitoring flight paths and fall-out emissions.

We look at street lighting, speeding through the village, and improvements that are not only needed, but would add to the ambience and overall appearance of the village.

We attend any necessary meetings that enable us to put forward your views and assist the village in general.

We produce the Catney News each month and have our own website to help with communication between villagers.

We organise functions throughout the year to bring villagers together.

We liaise with Council representatives and local councillors who attend our regular committee meetings, to get their backing and help with problems or planned improvements.

We hope this will encourage your support and look forward to you joining us.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Police : 0845 113 5000 Police (airport security only) 0121 712 6151

Solihull MBC: 0121 704 8000 or e-mail : connectcc@solihull.gov.uk

Airport noise complaints: 0121 767 7433

Airport flight path complaints : 0121 712 6172 or e-mail fppt@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Emergency numbers: Gas: 0800 111 999 and Electricity: 0800 40 40 90.

Council services: www.solihull.gov.uk/councilservices/index.htm

Hall bookings: Gareth Thomas at the Spar Shop. Tel: 0121 705 6135

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION : You can contact us by emailing Frances Cook at secretary@catney.co.uk or for contributions to the Catney News, you can contact Chris Cluley at editor@catney.co.uk If you do not have email, please contact us on 0776 8502039 and leave a message or speak to a Committee member.

Residents Association Committee Members 2011/2012

Ken Cluley, Frances Cook, Chris Cluley, Dave Cuthbert

Chris Boxall, Roger Ball

The next newsletter will be in April. Your contributions to the Catney News are always very welcome and should be sent to the email address above or handed in to the Spar shop by 20th March marked for the attention of Chris Cluley – Editor, Catney News. If you have any memories of Catney you wish to share with us and you would like these collected or typed up for you, please let us know. We would also like book reviews, recommendations for local tradespeople and local restaurants, interesting websites and all articles of interest to Catney villagers. If you have any good ideas for content that you would like to see in the Catney News please let me know – Thank you.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SHEET AT THE BACK OF THIS EDITION OF CATNEY NEWS, TEAR IT OFF AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR SUBSCRIPTION OF £2 PER PERSON OVER 18 IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD, IN AN ENVELOPE TO THE SPAR SHOP OR TO ONE OF THE ADDRESSES ON THE REAR OF THE SHEET.

PLEASE PUT ON THE ENVELOPE: CATNEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

**MEMBERSHIP OF CATNEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION APRIL 2012
TO APRIL 2013. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £2 EACH**

NAMES OF PEOPLE REQUIRING MEMBERSHIP: (18 and over)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

ADDRESS:

.....

.....

.....

TELEPHONE NO:

E.MAIL :

**Please return this form with the appropriate subscription amount in
an enveloped marked : “Catney Residents Association Membership”
to the Spar shop or to one of the addresses overleaf.**

**WE ARE NOT INCREASING SUBSCRIPTIONS THIS YEAR – BUT WOULD VERY
MUCH APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL DONATION YOU COULD POSSIBLY
SPARE. THANK YOU**



**PLEASE TAKE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FORM AND MONEY OR
CHEQUE TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES OR THE SPAR
SHOP.**

Janet Parker - 8 Catherines Close

Dave Cuthbert - 9 Oakfields Way

Steve Wallis – 40 Hampton Lane

Ken Cluley – 453 Lugtrout Lane

Chris Boxall – 395 Lugtrout Lane

Jo Arnold – 228 Henwood Lane

Russell Hogg – The Willow, Bickenhill Lane

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR FORM AND SUBSCRIPTION AMOUNT AND
ANY DONATION YOU MAY WISH TO GIVE BY 1ST MAY 2012.
THANK YOU.**