



February 2012

CATNEY NEWS

Dear Villagers,

Please put the date of the Residents Association AGM on the 14th March at 8 pm, in your diaries and do your best to attend at the Village Hall.. . The AGM is the time to vote for your Residents Association Committee members (and to stand if you wish), to learn about what is happening in respect of the Village Hall and other matters of interest; to express your wishes as to what social events are held, for us to hear your concerns about what is going on in the village and surrounds, to learn about what your Committee has done for the village over the last year, to volunteer your help either to the Residents Association Committee or to the Village Hall Committee, and a chance to pay your subscriptions (and get your free family ticket to the Village Barbeque in May). Lastly, to have a drink of wine and some nibbles with other villagers!. Please show your support and come along. We need to know we have your backing and to be encouraged by your attendance. Thank you.

The March edition of the Catney News will be sent out to all villagers as it will include the paperwork you need to pay your subscriptions for this year. If you have not paid last year's – please send it with your 2012 subs, but please tell us this is what you are doing! Please help us by paying as soon as possible. Subscriptions were severely down last year and we need this small amount of money to help with Catney News printing costs which have increased since the News got bigger and also to assist the cost of non-fundraising events run by the Residents Association etc. Fund-raising events run by the Village Hall Committee who are a sub-committee of the Residents Association, give all the profits to the Village Hall Fund.

Chris Cluley, Editor

CATNEY VILLAGE EVENTS FOR 2012

Saturday 25th February: A Skittles and fish and chips evening. £6 per head, this will be a great opportunity to meet other villagers and have a good laugh while competing for the skittles prize for best team of mixed villagers. Please book individual places (not teams – we will put you into teams!!) by contacting Dave Parsons on 711 7706

Wednesday 14th March. Residents Association AGM at the Village Hall. 8 pm.

Saturday 26th May: We will be celebrating the Diamond Jubilee this year with a village barbeque in the week prior to the event, (so that we don't clash with Hampton-in-Arden's celebrations over the weekend itself. The barbeque, with music and celebrations, will be held behind the Village Hall (or in it if wet) and will be free to all villagers who have paid their subscriptions and are members of the Residents Association, plus their children. You will receive a personal entrance invitation for your family, once you have paid your 2012 subscription for each adult family member over 18 in your household. So please try and pay as soon as possible this year. There will also be an opportunity to pay at the AGM in March.. Thank you. I'm afraid there will be an entrance fee to the Barbeque for non RA members but this should be a very happy celebratory occasion for all ages, so please come and join in. More details in later editions.

Saturday 14th July Our Village Fete or "Catney Olympics" as it will be this year, promises to be a really fun day, so bring the children, enter the races and competitions, help run a stall and help with catering, make cakes etc., and please, please, if you are strong and fit, volunteer to help us put out the equipment and gather it up to put away afterwards. We need you!!! We want this to be one of our very best Village Fetes ever held. Contact anyone on the Committee to volunteer, so that we don't have to come and beg! Every volunteer will be gratefully welcomed and will be a valuable part of making the day successful. Thank you.

Saturday 14th July Evening: We will be having a Pig Roast followed by a Barn Dance with a caller in the Marquee. This was a very popular event a couple of years ago after our last Fete – so book early when we release full details!



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(Oakfields Way)

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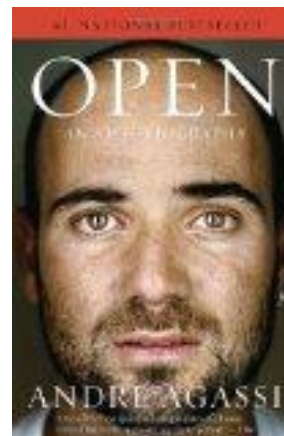
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CONTACT MAC on 0121 704 1585

BOOK

In “**OPEN**”, **Andre Agassi** tells the story of his life as a tennis player with all the joys and torments. Even if you are not particularly interested in tennis this is an absorbing book with fascinating insights into the game and the development and life of a professional player.



Agassi's father was determined to groom a champion and when Agassi was tiny his father hung Ping-Pong balls above his crib and encouraged him to hit them with a table tennis bat taped to his hand.

Frances Cook

By the age of seven Agassi was forced to hit hundreds of balls a day delivered by a machine adapted to deliver as many as 2,500 balls at speeds of up to 110 miles per hour. It is no wonder that Agassi claims to hate the game even though it became his life. This book is an easy read and leaves a lasting impression of the tribulations and rewards of life as professional sportsman.

Frances Cook

FOR SALE: Two staircase "baby gates" - metal - for sale, £10.00 the pair.

Please contact John on email: john.2.alderon@btconnect.com

FOUND ON HAMPTON LANE

At the beginning of January – a pair of glasses (spectacles)

If you think they may be yours please ring: 0780914 2793

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### Warren Pearl Coffee Morning

Pat and Graham would like to thank all who supported our coffee morning held before Christmas. We raised £180 which has been donated to Warren Pearl. Many thanks to Dot for her mince pies, cakes and help on the day.

**STRICTLY COME DANCING**

Classes (Ballroom and Latin)

**Tuesdays – St. Helens Church Hall**

St. Helens Road (off Buryfield Road, Solihull, B91 2DA)

7.15 pm – 8.15 pm Beginners £5.00    8.15 pm – 9.15 pm Intermediates £5.00

**Wednesdays – St. Helens Church Hall**

St. Helens Road (off Buryfield Road, Solihull, B91 2DA)

8.15 pm – 9.15 pm Intermediates £5.00

**Thursdays – Dorridge Methodist Church**

Mill Lane, Dorridge, Solihull D93 8NY

7.30 pm – 8.30 pm Beginners and Intermediates £5.00

**Monthly Saturday Social Dances at**

Dickens Heath Village Hall

Details: Tony and Christine Hunnisett Members I.D.T.A. Phone/Fax: 01564 779267

Mobile: 07901 816233 Email: [tony@dancextras.co.uk](mailto:tony@dancextras.co.uk) Web: [www.Dancextras.co.uk](http://www.Dancextras.co.uk)**TOWN PLANNING & DESIGN SERVICES**

30 Oakfields Way

Please contact: Keith Fleetwood MRTPI (Chartered Town Planner)

Tel: 0121 705 7061 and 07792 221937



Lots of people enjoyed the Barn dance held after our Summer Fete in 2010. Perhaps you might like to get in practice for the Barn dance we are holding this year?

The Folk Annexe Folk Dance Club (now in it's 40<sup>th</sup> year) covers Folk Dance, Country Dance, Barn Dance and Ceilidh and meets at the Methodist Church Hall, Main Road, Meriden on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evenings From September to mid-July. 8.15 pm to 10.15 pm. Admission is only £2 and that includes refreshments. No charge for first visit! Everyone welcome, beginners or expert. Contact Kim Smith on 0121 747 8132.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY 2011

Although it seems an age away now, our Christmas Party was very successful. Excellent food, good fun with excellent quizzes, and super entertainment in the form of the Catney Players and their five minute version of Cinderella. Thank you to everyone who assisted in any way and made the evening a good one!



## PLANNING

The Solihull Draft Local Plan is now open for consultation (up until 5 March 2012). It is available online at [www.solihull.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/ldf) Bedtime reading for those with iPods - at 178 pages of PDF.

## MEMORIES

Do any of you know anything about the Button factory that used to be in the village in Bickenhill Lane? We have had an enquiry and would love to hear from you if you have information we can pass on.





Dave Robinson who now lives in Rutland has sent us this information – thank you Dave.

*Hi, I used to live in Oakfields Way in the 60's and 70's. Attached are two photo's that may be of interest, from the late 60's early 70's. The football team was Catney Rovers a C-de-B based team that as far as I recall didn't play in any league but trained on Saturday mornings and played matches on an ad hoc basis. The other photo must be some sort of sports day at Catney school I'm at the front on the right so as I'm just 49 now I would suspect it about circa 1968/9.*

**Scott says on Solihull Online:** *Lived at 165 Lugtrout Lane from around 1970 to 1976. Does anyone remember ELO practicing in the "Mausoleum" on the corner of Lugtrout and Field lanes? I was about 4 or 5, playing cricket with my mum, dad and little sister when we were chased by a bloodhound. I can remember a chap with a perm, big sunglasses and a Brummie accent apologising - it was Geoff Lynn. Now a big ELO fan. Didn't know who he was at the time.*

## **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COMMON**

Have a look on the Catney web site and see what we did in December at <http://www.catney.co.uk/#/catney-common/4556730063>. As you can see the improvement is considerable. However, hopefully at the time of the News going to press, the next working party will have cleared the path down to the stile and we can now consider what planting might be effective.

**Future working party dates:**

**Sat 25<sup>th</sup> February and Sat 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Chris Boxall**

Please go along and help - tools and equipment will be provided by the Council, but feel free to bring your own if you wish – the Common is a lovely place to walk and will be even better this year due to the efforts made by those on the working party. CC

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CLASSES AND CLUBS

There will be full details of all classes being held at Catney Village Hall in the March edition as Gareth is preparing this for us.

If you would be interested in travelling to Hampton-in-Arden Church hall, here are the current classes.

Mondays - Learn to draw – 2.30 – 4 pm. 6 – 8 pm. Puppy and Dog training.

Tuesdays: 10 – 12 pm Painting class and 1 – 3 pm Painting for pleasure.

Wednesday: 10.45 – 12 noon Keep Fit Class.

3rd Wednesday in Month – Gardening Club 7 – 9.45 pm

Thursday 7 pm. Team Midland Cycling – April until August

1st Sunday in Month - Annexe workshop for very experienced folk dancers 7 pm.

No beginners.

Youth clubs are held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month from 7 – 9 pm.

Further information on these can be obtained from me on 07969 102187 on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday afternoon or by email: chris.cluley1@gmail.com

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 March. 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 February 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.

Please remember, you can receive the Catney News by email in colour – probably a much better way of viewing the photographs which may be unclear in black and white. Contact Frances Cook to receive the News by email.