

HALLMARK



The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Magazine

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Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Hallmark



Well January is behind us, just February to go before we can say that winter is over - at least it is a short month. I thought our cover picture shows the snowy weather at its best - thanks to John Tyler for supplying it. Thanks also to Margaret Gray for the two small pictures I have used on pages 3 and 5.

Looking at the diary I can see that everybody is waiting for March to come, it's going to be a very social month.

The events range from the History Group's retrospective exhibition, to the far flung horizons of the Astronomy talk (postponed from the snowbound Xmas).

Betty Tyler has decided to step down from organising the distribution of Hallmark. We need to find a replacement. It is only one day's work four times a year. Can you help? More details overleaf.

Mike Piercy

Letters

Greetings from Guyana!

If you remember back to the Spring 2010 issue I was appealing for support to get to Guyana. Well now I'm just finishing my fourth month here, and what a four months it's been! It certainly hasn't been easy, but I'm now starting to really enjoy it and I can't wait to get back in January and build on the relationships I've made and get involved more in the community.

My village Orealla, is a very quiet and remote place, it takes 5 hours to reach the local town, and this can't be done without missing school due to village boat times, so I have found the remoteness in terms of limited contact with friends very hard. My lack of reports has been down to the fact that I have only had Internet for a total of 3 hours in the past 4 months!

I'm spending Christmas in Tobago, with the other volunteers for some fun in the sun, as it's currently rainy season here so you can't go a day without at least one torrential downpour. It is still hot, however, and a 'cold' day is around 25-30 degrees. I laugh when kids in class complain of cold, my

response is - try living in England!

Teaching has been a massive challenge, and I would love to say that I enjoy it and have mastered it but that's far from the truth.

Naughty classes and my inexperience have been the main problem areas, as well as pure exhaustion after a solid 15 week term. There's a lot of paperwork too, but now I know the system I hope next term will be a lot easier.

It is very quiet here so usual daily routines involve a lot of 'liming' (chilling) in a hammock, and doing chores such as hand washing, which I strangely enjoy, but it helps that I get to do it in a river with an amazing view of Suriname across the water.

I also love cooking here, something I didn't do much of back home. Guyanese food tastes great, but is very unhealthy so I run a lot here, but running with a backdrop of jungle or a view of the river is a lot more enjoyable than down a road at home!

Some highlights of the past term include driving a tractor through the jungle, driving speedboats, swimming daily in the river, seeing wild monkeys and taking a boat trip

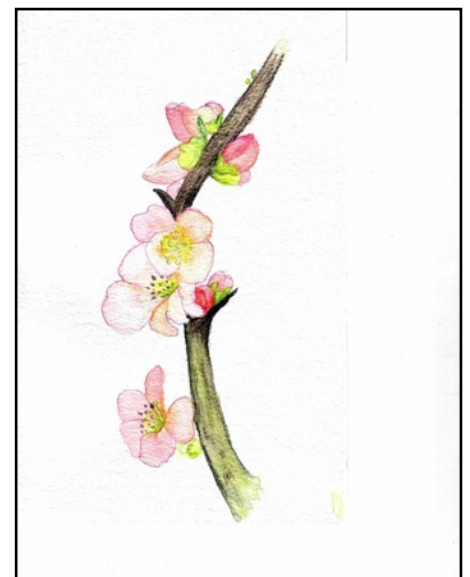
up river to do some fishing. I even caught the first catch of the day!

I can't believe I've been away for four months, in some aspects it seems forever, but in others it really has flown past.

Homesickness has been the biggest struggle, but now that I am developing better friendships here and adjusting to Amerindian life, homesickness is easing and I really am growing very fond of Orealla.

Thank you to all who supported me in getting here and hopefully I shall be in touch again soon, even though accessing email isn't exactly easy!

Lizzy Bedder



What's On

DATE AND TIME	EVENT
Saturday March 5 2pm Sunday March 6 10am	Village History Exhibition - see page 28
Tuesday March 8 8pm	Village Hall AGM. All welcome
Friday March 11 7.30pm	Ladies Indulgence evening. See advert on page 39
Saturday March 12. 2pm	WI Jumble Sale
Wednesday March 16	Horticultural Society AGM & Restoring Historic Gardens
Sunday March 20 7pm	Astronomy vs Astrology. See this page
Saturday March 26	Risboro Lacemakers Annual Day. See this page
Friday 7.30pm Feb 18, Mar 4 & 18, April 1, 15 & 29	Youth Club. Age 10 to 14ish
First Tuesday of the month at the Black Horse	Over 50s Pub lunch. Book with Yvonne Axe on 345216 or Bette Tyler 01844 344207
All events will take place at the Millennium Hall except where stated. See page 36 for the schedule of events at the Church	

'Risboro Lacemakers

are holding their annual lace day in the Village Hall on Saturday 26th March 2011.

There will be three traders present and you are invited to come and have a look round, see lace being made, and purchase goods (connected to lacemaking and craft work).

There will also be a raffle, proceeds of which will go to the Chiltern Air Ambulance.

Admission is 50p

Astronomy vs Astrology

This year's Astro Talk by Chris Dignan covers two topics for the price of one! "Astronomy vs Astrology" and "The Big Bang Machine" will be on Sunday 20 March at Lacey Green Village Hall.

Please arrive 6.45pm for 7pm start. Tea, coffee and other drinks included in the £5 ticket price (U-18s: £3).

To book your place, contact Val Brookhouse on 01844 344207
valbrookhouse@btinternet.com

Hallmark Delivery Organiser

Can you spare 1 day every 3 months?

We urgently require someone to take over from me to count out Hallmark, insert flyers and deliver them to the distributors.

The counting & inserting job takes about a day plus delivery to those who deliver to the houses, four times a year.

It makes a big contribution to village life, as well as the marvellous opportunity to meet people in the village, some of them perhaps for the first time. All very nice folk!

If you do think you can help, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Betty Tyler Tel 344606

Chairman's report



Welcome to the first edition of Hallmark for 2011. Hopefully you have all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break and are ready to embrace all that 2011 has to offer.

We all face a very difficult time ahead with rising fuel prices and the general cost of living increasing. Hopefully with all that the Villages have to offer we can find something to keep those winter and economy blues at bay!

As you are no doubt aware the severe weather recently has badly damaged our car park surface and we are currently trying to sort out a quick fix for it as a permanent solution would require serious investment that we sadly do not have. Hopefully by the time you read this we should have a useable, safe surface and then we can get the ball rolling on raising the much needed funds to do it properly. If anyone has any ideas on car park re-surfacing fund raising or available grants, please let us know as soon as you can.

We continue to receive excellent comments on the overall condition of The Village Hall and will endeavour with the help of all users to maintain the excellent facilities.

General bookings for The Village Hall have been in great demand for 2011 more than likely due to the economic advantages of a do it yourself party. As always if you know that you have an event coming up please book early to avoid any disappointment, dates are filling up very fast indeed!

We look forward to seeing you at the hall very soon.

Clive Hodgton
Millennium Hall
Chairman

Chiltern Society at work in Lacey Green



During Summer 2010, a team of volunteers from the Chiltern Society spent a day working on the footpaths in Lacey Green.

We repaired the damaged steps and added new ones on the path between Grubbins Lane and Highwood Bottom and repaired the stile off Highwood Bottom.

The Chiltern Society is a local charity which aims to conserve and protect the natural beauty, environment and heritage of the Chilterns. The Society's area includes 650 square miles across parts of four counties: Bucks, Beds, Herts and South Oxfordshire.

The Chiltern Society Rights of Way Group actively protects and restores open access land and public rights of way in the Chilterns — some 5,000 paths. It surveys every individual path and takes up irregularities with parish, district or county councils to preserve and enhance public rights.

The charity has over 6,500 members and organises weekly walks and cycle rides, as well as volunteer work parties to carry out footpath maintenance and other conservation projects.

We welcome new members - come and join people who love the Chilterns.

For details please contact The Chiltern Society, The White Hill Centre, White Hill, Chesam HP5 1AG tel 01494 771250

www.chilternsociety.org.uk



Horticultural Society: Over



We held the Pumpkin Supper in November, which appeared to go very well. The only adverse comment I heard was that the pudding bowls were not big enough, which must really be a compliment to the pudding makers. I am sure that many people joined me in going back for seconds and thirds, even.

The heaviest pumpkin was again entered by Liz Phillips. It took two strong men to carry it on a sack cloth "stretcher", and was far too heavy for our scales. A guestimate of the weight was 56lbs, but I am sure that was too low.

This pumpkin was clearly also the biggest, but as we like lots of winners, no one can win two classes with one entry. Therefore the biggest pumpkin was adjudged to be Connie Baker's entry. I thought I had a good chance of the prettiest, with my Turks Turban, until the Judges turned it over and saw the mice damage. This class was won by Doreen de Grey. The smallest entry was by Peter Pilkington, at 140 grammes. Lindsey Gosling entered the best decorated Pumpkin. Thank you to all of the entrants, and thanks to all those, mainly, but not exclusively, Committee members who organized the evening and did the catering. We had many compliments.

By the time that you read this we will have had the January talk on The History of British Gardens, and the next event will be the AGM on 16th March, 8.00. The AGM is always quickly disposed of, 15 minutes max. I understand that all of the Committee Members are willing to continue. But we welcome new blood, with fresh ideas. Please volunteer. After the AGM we have our bi monthly talk. Sadly Mr Victor Scott, who is well known to many of us as an excellent speaker and lovely man, is unable to give his



scheduled talk, due to ill health. We have arranged instead for Mr Frank Parge, who works for the National Trust, to give an illustrated talk about Restoring Historic Gardens with Modern Technology, especially Hughenden and Waddesdon Manors.

We will be entering the Bucks Association of Horticultural Societies Spring Show on Saturday 16 April. As I have tried to explain before, the entry is one composite entry from the Society. Four items are required, with at least one of the items being Horticultural, and the remaining two or three, Domestic. We will contact those who have done well at our Show, but we know there are other people out there

who have produce that we could probably use. Please get in touch with me or any Committee member if you think you have something to contribute. More details at the AGM.

The Plant Stall will be held on National Mills Day, Sunday, 15 May from about 11.00. Please donate plants for sale, and come along to buy, or help for an hour.

The talk on 18 May will be on Old Tools by a speaker from the Waterperry Museum. Ladies, if you have anything old and of uncertain use in the garden, bring him along. We have a Garden Visit booked for the evening of 29 June, at Saunderton, and do please remember the 30th Anniversary Celebration on 9 July, in the afternoon at the Village Hall. There will be a Pig Roast, with alternatives for those who prefer them, and lots of lovely pud.

Membership is at it's highest for several years, but we would welcome more. I believe that there are people who are interested, but do not get around to attending our Meetings and events. Membership costs £3 per year, yes, per year, we have a talk in the Village Hall every other month at 8.00, free to Members, and various other events throughout the year. Come along and see what you are missing.

Terry Fendom, Chairman



On The Farm

In October I stated that until Christmas the farm would be on routine work and maintenance. I did not mention a freeze up. I cannot remember such a prolonged cold spell before Christmas in the last fifty years. Winter of 1962/3 was heavy drifting snow that lasted, but not before Christmas.

So much has changed since then. Then there were thirty milking cows, now there are over three hundred. Cows drink vast amounts of water so it has to be kept running. No winter shelter then and they lived in an open yard behind the farmhouse. All day kettles were boiled to keep water flowing. Now the winter quarters are an open-plan complex where every animal has an individual cubicle to sleep, helps herself to food and water and passageways are scraped clean daily. The walls are vented and the big doors for tractors are half-doors; this is because it is imperative to keep air flowing to prevent pneumonia. Therefore although the heat generated by the animals must help, it is still possible for water, particularly at taps and ball-valves to freeze. This cannot be allowed when there are 300 thirsty mouths to quench. Similar buildings house the bull, young stock, dry cows and calves. This time we did not get substantial drifting - when snow can keep blocking a door faster than it can be shovelled away, but it did become very icy and men and vehicles still had to get about. At the end of the day the men are exhausted, and know that by morning that extra work will need doing over again.

Keeping the road open

Fifty years ago those thirty cows were milked in a cowshed. The milk went through a cooler in the adjoining shed then into churns which were put on a stand outside be collected on a

small lorry. Our tractor, though small, could keep a way open to the farm. Gerald Bedford, who then lived at Naphill, would go home on the tractor. The council only cleared the road into the RAF camp, throwing up the snow across the Lacey Green road. Gerald needed to clear a way through it thus rescuing people stuck on the Lacey Green side. The bus route finished there anyway.

Things are very different now. The milk is collected in an articulated tanker. These are not good on hills anyway, and as it currently comes to us towards midnight, the roads were not only steep but often icy as fresh snow fell and froze. Richard, just as exhausted as everyone else, had the added pressure of waiting for a call from the tanker saying it was stuck. At that point he would have to take a tractor and tow it up the hill. The driver also has to take it back down the hills, which is treacherous.

Massive milking tank

In 1963 our first milking parlour was installed- and churns became a thing of the past. The milk was piped to a refrigerated tank. Both parlour and tank have been updated a number of times as the herd grew. That first tank was four feet square

and three feet high, and the herd was increased to 60 cows.

Last year Richard and John were mulling over a huge decision. The current tank held 10,000 litres. Every other day collection was mooted. We needed more capacity. How big should we go to? Eventually a new tank holding 25,000 litres was installed at a cost of £65,000, including milk cooling equipment incorporating a heat recovery system. At 9,000 litres a day production we were holding 18,000 litres when one snowy Saturday the tanker couldn't get to us. Next morning the milking took us to 22,500 litres held. After the snow plough went through we blocked Woodway and held traffic so the tanker had a clear run to pull up the hill on the wrong side of the road. The big tank and that driver saved the day. The alternative would have been to tip the milk away. Many farms are isolated, countryside. Milk could quickly become very scarce!

As Christmas Eve came it was hoped there would be nothing else extra to contend with, and at least that Dick, who looks after the calves, could go home early. What happened? Four cows had their calves. Well, Christmas is a time for new birth!



Black Horse



We are now in 2011 what will this bring? I think it may be a hard year for everybody but I am sure we will all put a brave face on it and all come out smiling. 2010 was a year of really mixed emotions some sad and some very happy ones.

I was very sad due to the passing of two of my very good friends and loyal customers. Joyce Stapley had been coming to me for 14 years.

She and her dear husband Stan never missed a Sunday lunch for 8 years, he then passed away and Joyce still came up whenever she could. She then got very poorly and passed away this December, I will miss her dearly.

Also Ted Rogers, again a very loyal and good friend, he painted me two pictures I will always treasure of the Black Horse and I will never forget him. My thoughts go to his wife Angela. Of course it was really sad to hear that Ivor Kelloway also died this December, he will be missed.

The good news is that we had a new arrival to the village, Paul and Gemma Kelloway had a baby daughter called Amellia. Of course she had to pick the worst day of the year due to snow etc to go into labour but that's our Gem, thank goodness for Tony's 4 x 4 to get her to Stoke Mandeville in time.

My daughter announced that she was pregnant again, that will be number 4 for me so that is something to look forward to in April. We also have had some lovely weddings: Nick and Catherine, and Toby and Pauline, they were both beautiful days.

What a new Years Eve it was! Great thank you to Pete Dell once again for doing the disco and for all the people for making it a great night. Not sure about the singing though on the karaoke.

The Christmas Quiz was also a great success it was packed helped on by the Hambye close gang. We raised a fair bit of money for the sports club.

I would like to give this time to say a great big thank you to all my loyal customers and staff and friends from Lacey Green for sticking by Ian and myself at the Black Horse at Lacey Green, without you we would not be here. Lets hope 2011 will be a good year for us all

Lynne and Ian

Loosley Row and Lacey Green WI

We were delighted to welcome to our Christmas lunch, our elderly, frail members, who can no longer attend regularly. Thank you to the relatives, friends and carers who made this possible - Phyllis Dell, Connie Baker and Joan Kelloway were all pleased to be with us to enjoy the fabulous meal cooked by the staff from the BLACK HORSE and the delightful singing of the children from St John's School.

Our AGM which was held in November resulted in an even larger committee to share the duties although the officers remain the same:-

President - Jean Gabbitas

Secretary - Rosemary Mortham

Treasurer - Kathleen Turner

The comfort of the upholstered chairs was appreciated by all who attended our January meeting where the speaker James Carter gave a most informative talk on the royal 'Four Georges'.

A most interesting programme of speakers have been booked for 2011 so if anybody is free on the second Tuesday of the month at 2pm we do invite you to attend to see if you would like to join us and become a member.

We will be providing tea for the History Group's Exhibition and the Windmill supporters and enjoying a coffee morning on Shrove Tuesday and most probably a summer outing and a theatre trip.

In the autumn several members attended the WI college at DENMAN where they were most impressed with the new facilities. Consequently two have signed up for courses and one has won the draw for a bursary of £50 to assist with the cost of her chosen course.

The monthly lunches at the Black Horse, initiated by the WI, continue to be popular so please book with Bette Tyler 344606 in good time.

Finally we hope to plan something special to celebrate the forthcoming ROYAL WEDDING!

Jean Gabbitas

Lacey Green Windmill

During 2010 we obtained our own electricity supply and the windmill was rewired with new lighting throughout. With the legislation of recent years, such work, especially for a timber building which is open to the public, has to be done by a professional electrician able to issue the necessary certificates for the work done.

The work was completed at the beginning of August, and has been done as unobtrusively as possible, but using armoured cable and using watertight fittings wherever possible. All lights are energy saving bulbs in enclosed fittings, with a total of 36 lamps only using 450 watts. The lighting is deliberately not too bright but it now extends to parts of the mill that were very dark before, particularly the interior of the cap (see photo).

The project was by far the most expensive work we have carried out to the mill, but I am pleased to say that the Chiltern Society were able

to obtain a substantial grant towards the cost of the work. The grant also included the cost of certain other items, such as new notice boards for inside the windmill. They will be used for a new enlarged display showing the restoration work which was started 40 years ago this year.

During 2010 we had a total of 739 visitors inside the windmill, an average of 25 on each open afternoon. This is rather less than usual, but the weather was not in our favour again, with an early hot and dry spell and a late cold and wet spell. These are the two types of weather which stop people going out for a day.

Our committee is grateful to our volunteers who enable us to open the windmill, and if anybody would like further details on joining our team of wardens, I would be delighted to hear from them.

For 2011 we are changing our opening hours, by bringing them forward by half an hour. We will be open from 2 pm until 5 pm on Sundays and Bank Holiday

Mondays from the 1st May until 25th September. Admission will be £2 per adult, and £1 per child aged 5-15.

On Sunday 15th May we will hope to get the sails turning as our part of National Mills Weekend. This, as always, is dependent on suitable weather. On that day we will be open from 11 am to 5 pm. LR&LG Horticultural Society will again have their popular plant stall by the windmill, they will also be open from 11 am.

Michael Hardy

Honorary Secretary
Lacey Green Windmill Restoration
Committee
The Chiltern Society
Tel: 01844 275871
contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk
www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk



LGP



At the end of last October, LGP performed a murder mystery evening in Winslow. It was a great success. Written and performed by a small group of LGP members, "Bound to Die" was set in Winslow at the opening ceremony of the new High Speed Train. Didn't you know the new High Speed Train went to Winslow? LGP, as ever, is on the inside track and has the information before all others!

The organisers were the Winslow and District WI and they were delighted that the evening raised £1086 for their charity. They were also kind enough to donate £150 towards the LGP 2011 charities.

If you know of any other organisation that would like to have an entertainment for a fund raising evening for charity, LGP will be happy to provide it with "Bound To Die". We would, of course, alter the route of the train to match the venue!

At the end of November, LGP's annual dinner theatre was performed in the Village Hall. Neil Simon's "Rumours" was the play.

The audience numbers again exceeded all our expectations and the amount that we shall be giving to charity will, therefore, also exceed our normal amount. So, LGP would like to give a big thank you to all who came to see the play. If you didn't see it then these pictures do give a slight taster!

Our next production will be over the weekend of April 16th/17th (the weekend before Easter). The exact number and timing of the performance is still to be decided. Keep an eye out for posters with the ticket details, please.

"I Thought I Heard a Rustling" by Alan Plater is the play and it will be performed at "Chipko", Parslows Hillock.

Alan Plater CBE, whose death was announced last June, has written many plays and TV scripts, including Z Cars. "I Thought I Heard a Rustling" records what happens to Bill Robson, a Geordie ex-miner turned poet, when he is appointed writer-in-residence at Eastwood branch library.

The LGP member cast as Bill Robson is already watching old DVD's of "Lewis" and "When the boat comes in" to get a grip on the accent!



It is the sixth production in LGP's Theatre at Home series. Once again we are indebted to Ann Noel and Andrew Clark and Zettie and Adam Taylor for the loan of their home for this play.

We shall shortly be holding play readings for our November 2011 production. If you are interested in taking part, please contact any LGP member.

And STOP PRESS..... the LGP web site will shortly be up and running. Watch out for us online!

As always, we are keen to attract new people to our group and would love to hear if you are interested in taking part in any capacity. Please phone 01844 344207.

Peter Brookhouse





The long awaited cuts to Government Council Grants are now becoming a reality. The process of deciding how these will affect council spending is now under way.

There is a mixture of good and bad news. As you may know the Council's Revenue is made up basically of two parts: Revenue Support Grant (RSG) from Government and Council Tax from residents. For the **County Council** the bad news is that 14.3% is cut from the RSG and other grant support. The good news is that, providing council tax is set at 0% or below, then an additional 'one-off' payment of 2.5% against council tax will be made. This does mean that there is still an overall reduction in spending capacity as many grants have been withdrawn or rolled into the revenue settlement. The overall effect for this year for all grants looks to be a circa £14m reduction and with further cuts totaling £58m over the next three years, the Council will have to look hard for savings if it is to live within its means. A freeze on pay for both employees and members is already in force and a programme of

transformation based on efficiency savings, is in place.

Consultations on savings

Most service areas are facing reductions. For those major areas at risk: youth services; transport; and some adult social care services; proposals for fundamental change are being developed for their delivery. In order to take into account the public's views on their redesign, separate consultations are being carried out in addition to the consultations on libraries, day care services and transportation which are already underway.

Consultations are now published, focusing on four areas:

- Capital and revenue budget
- Transport - road safety, street lighting, buses
- Adult Social Care
- Youth Services

These consultations will take into account feedback already received through the 2010 Bucks Debate and give a further chance for residents to have their say on the proposals being made. The consultation documents are available on line at www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget. For those without access to the Internet please call 01296 395000 to get help.

Capital Funding increase

There is some good news for capital funding. Changes to the way the government calculate the sums due to each council mean, that for the first time in some years, the County Council will actually receive capital grant. For Bucks £31m will be paid for 2011/2012 allowing a substantial capital programme to be developed.

Wycombe District

For Wycombe District the overall considerations will be similar but because the split between Revenue Grant and Council Tax is different, the Minister for Local Government Eric Pickles, is still looking at ways to minimise the impact on the Districts. I believe the final figures will be made known at the end of January so until then District budget details are not available. It is however known that the provisional settlement sees a reduction in RSG of 15.8% in 2011/12 and a further 12% in 2012/13.

Fire Authority cuts

For the **Fire Authority** cuts in support grants have been made and plans are in place to reorganise the service to accommodate a reduced budget. These mostly concentrate on reducing the overheads by restructuring the administration so preserving the frontline delivery of emergency cover.

Winter road conditions

The recent severe **winter conditions** have again brought the County Council's ability to react into sharp focus not only with the way gritting and snow clearance is carried but also to deal with the aftermath over pot holes and drainage problems on country roads.

With regard to snow clearance I would like to thank the farmers who, due to a change in council policy, made plant available to help those areas not on ploughing routes. Their actions made conditions much easier for those normally left out.

Working with the Parish Council we have been able to install some more grit bins on those areas where

people have indicated problems exist. More are promised for next year as funding permits. With temperatures falling to record lows the aftermath has been, and continues to leave Council resources stretched to make timely repairs. I have been making officers aware of the dangerous situations that have occurred and asked that repairs are made. In particular I have locally highlighted New Road, Main Road and Woodway in Lacey Green and Kop Hill as high risk areas where vehicles swerve to avoid damage to their cars.

If you see any road defect please report it through the Transport for Buckinghamshire (formally Highways on Call) number 0845 230 2882 or email address tfb@buckscc.gov.uk.

District Council projects

On-going **District Council** projects such as the new Community Stadium for Wycombe Wanderers and Wasps linked to a Sports Village and the Council Housing Transfer to Red Kite, are high on the agenda.

Community Stadium

Consultation on where the new **Community Stadium** should be sited suggested that the only viable

site was on part of the Wycombe Air Park. This has rightly raised concerns about the impact on Green Belt/AONB land and whether or not there are 'very special circumstances' that would permit such a development to proceed. So far the Council and the Clubs have each committed £180,000 capital to the project and a recent meeting of the Council Scrutiny Commission has suggested that no firm decision should be made until compelling evidence that the Sporting, Business and Environmental cases clearly shows that the 'very special circumstances' exist.

Community Housing

The proposal to **transfer council housing** to Red Kite Community Housing, a new tenant-led local housing organisation, has progressed to the consultation phase with tenants and leaseholders. Following the completion of the consultation the District Council will decide whether to progress further with a ballot of tenants and leaseholders on the proposals.

If you would like to know more about this then please contact either the Council's project team on 01494 421627 or Solon, the independent tenant's advisor free on 0800 884 0800.

HS2

High Speed 2 remains a major concern. With the announcement of the preferred route through Wendover and Ellesborough Parishes the threat to our protected countryside remains high.

Wycombe District Council debated the issue recently and a letter has been sent asking the minister to explain the reasons why he feels it is in the national interest to proceed and when he will release the supporting business case. It is the view of the Council that without such evidence consultation on any part of the route carries very little credibility.

It should also be noted that the choice of route 3 does not mean that route 2.5 is removed from the table. It could be possible that failure on the first preferred route means that the original second choice, route 2.5 comes back into the frame.

If you have a concern about either council services my email address is progerson@buckscc.gov.uk and my telephone number 01494 488315. So if you would like to contact me, I will do what I can to help.

Paul Rogerson

District and County Councillor

2011 Census is coming

Sunday 27 March is census day. It's very important that everyone in the country completes a census questionnaire. Decisions about the allocation of millions of pounds of grants from central government to local authorities and health authorities depend directly on population estimates made by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) based on census data.

All census information can be found at www.census.gov.uk

Questionnaires will be delivered to every household by post, and to certain communal establishments by hand-delivery to, for example, the establishment manager for internal distribution with arrangements made by us for collection.

The questionnaire may be completed and returned by post, or else completed securely on-line

The census telephone help line will be active from 4 March to respond to any request for help - which may include pointers to multilingual guidance booklets or accessibility aids such as large-print or braille questionnaires, easy-read versions, text relay and British Sign Language resources, or a request for a member of census field staff to visit personally to give assistance with completion

Tel 07801 331477



Grit bins

Recently, we were able to get three new grit bins provided in the Parish; one in Lower Road, one in Greenlands and one above the Old Plow in Speen. They have certainly proved useful – the one in Loosley Row has already been emptied and refilled three times! Bucks County Council will refill when it can.

For those that may not be aware, it is essential that grit bins be in a location approved by BCC, otherwise they probably won't get refilled.

Planning issues.

The Parish Council is one of the statutory consultees with regard to planning applications within the Parish. Others are the neighbours of the site for which the planning application has been submitted, but the planning authority tends to take a rather limited view of what constitutes a neighbour. If you are either side, you will probably be consulted, but someone across the road is unlikely to be asked.

The Parish Council has but limited say. There is the Village Design Statement and we will try to use this more extensively in future.

However, there was a rather disturbing comment recently by the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol to the effect that the VDS didn't have much credibility because of the limited consultation process during its compilation. We intend to find out more.

The timing of planning applications is random. For the benefit of interested parishioners, we usually identify new applications on the agenda for Council meetings. Applications that arrive too late for inclusion on the agenda will be discussed, but the public won't be informed in advance.

You are advised to look at the WDC website for up to date information about all applications

Affordable Housing

There has been no progress at all. It is now several years since the Rural Housing Trust carried out its survey and concluded that there was a need for six 'affordable' houses in each of Lacey Green/Loosley Row and Speen.

We identified several potential exception sites where such houses might be located, but most of them have been found unsuitable. The ones that were suitable were those where the landowners simply weren't prepared to sell.

One solution would be to require developments on substantial areas of land to include some affordable housing, or indeed any other facility of benefit to the community.

It would also help if planning were less focussed on piecemeal individual applications, but looked at a selected area, and endeavoured to formulate constructive development for that area including facilities other than housing, so that the whole community gained something.

Perhaps the latest government proposals for giving parishes a greater say in planning matters will help.

Providing 'affordable' houses, or smaller houses in general, is fraught with difficulties. These include the shortage of building land, the existence of the 'green belt' or other similar constraints, and the greater profit that can be made from building larger houses.

There is also the potential unpopularity of such developments with some residents, which can result in political mayhem such as that seen in one of our neighbouring parishes.

The problem of litter

On walking round the area recently, I have noticed just how much litter is scattered around the place. It looks awful but we can all do something about it.

When you do go for a walk locally, carry a suitable bag and pick up any litter. It would make a tremendous difference to the appearance of the Parish.

There is a theory, that if a place is visibly neat and tidy, then people tend not to scatter their rubbish in quite so casual a way. At least, one would like to think so.

Cllr Tony Molesworth

Windmill under 5s



The Autumn term went well at Windmills with lots of fun had by all. The children had a fabulous pirate themed week, following the installation of a pirate ship play frame in the garden and of course they all put on their best scary costumes for Halloween - I've never seen such cute ghosts and ghouls!

The term ended with a wonderful nativity play at the Millennium Hall, all the children took part and their carol singing was fantastic. Pre-school made the most of the snow in December by bringing tubs of it

inside for messy play time! On the last day of term the children attended the Christmas party; Funky Monkey entertained them with games, music and dancing and there was a visit from Father Christmas. After lunch we all had to rush home as the snow came down thick and fast!

The Spring term has just started and the new children are settling in well and making friends quickly. Topics for this term include nursery rhymes and traditional stories. The children will also be getting out in the garden this Spring with a special growing week, to include planting vegetables and flowers.

Outside play is a big part of Windmills day and over the Christmas holidays a canopy was installed (funded by Buckinghamshire County Council) to ensure the children can get some fresh air whatever the weather. The term will draw to a close with Easter crafts and activities.

Sadly the building has been the target of some vandalism over the last few months, the worst being the damage to the main door and windows. A big thank you to the Sports Club for responding so quickly and rectifying these problems with little disruption to the pre-school.

Myself, Sarah Uhart and Lauren Palmer took on the role of Chair from Michelle Whiting back in October and with a keen committee supporting us and Paula's excellent administration this will hopefully be another successful year for Windmills.

Windmills is a popular pre-school and places are filled quickly each term, so if you have a toddler approaching pre-school age please contact Paula Cunningham on 07502 198405 to arrange a visit. Early reservations are recommended.

Sarah Uhart



Sunday 28th November Coleshill and Winchmore Hill and Tibet



of meeting a group of inquisitive and friendly Llamas and Alpacas. We could well have been in Tibet except for the sight of Penn church spire in the distance and the Coleshill windmill.

The morning ended in the comfort of the Red Lion, enjoying our lunch and chat over a well earned drink.

After a miserable week of cold weather we were fortunate to wake up to a crisp sunny morning for our monthly walk.

Twenty stalwart members arrived at the centre of Coleshill village and parked at the Red Lion pub. Before setting off we booked lunch ready for our return and most of us chose good English roast beef with horseradish sauce.

We realised the weather was very cold when we noticed the ducks standing and not swimming on the village pond. We started confidently towards Winchmore Hill but someone had moved the footpath and grown a hedge since our reconnaissance a few days earlier. However we were soon back on course and arrived at the village green.

This is a beautiful part of the Chilterns and is a mixture of grassland and woodland. The area is well kept up with many good Chiltern Society gates that in the last few years have replaced dangerous stiles.

Nowadays we carefully plan two walks so that on the day people can elect to go on the longer or smaller circuit. It was such a beautiful day that, after an hour most walkers continued on the longer walk while the others returned to the Red Lion by a shorter route.

In fact we all arrived back at a similar time because the smaller group had the wonderful experience





Wednesday November 11: Pulpit Wood

To our surprise and delight we saw a Roman snail *helix pomatia* on the ground. These snails are thought to have been imported by the Romans as a delicacy. Their shells are 5cms wide and they can live up to ten years. Their mating habits are fascinating; after circling each other for some time they raise the soles of their feet and join in an embrace. Roman snails are now rare and the Chiltern Hills is one of few areas of

the country where they are to be found.

As we returned across the grassy slopes we passed some fine examples of cattle but no one could recognise the breed.

We are so fortunate to live in the beautiful Chiltern countryside.

Ursula Glyn-Jones arranges Wednesday morning informal walks starting at the Millennium Hall at 10.30. a.m. On this particular Wednesday the weather was sunny and crisp, so the group jumped in their cars and drove to Pulpit Wood which is owned by the National Trust.

A gentle climb led us to the top of the ridge from where we could see the steaming cooling towers of Didcot power station eighteen miles away. We then turned up to the top of Pulpit Hill and through the woods eventually arriving at the boundary of the Chequers estate.



Sunday 31st October

The walk was based on the village of Aldbury, located just to the north of Wendover. We met on the village green, set off past the village church and walked across fields towards Tring Station and on to the Grand Union Canal. We then walked along the canal towpath to Cow Roast Lock, then turned north across fields and through woods back to Aldbury. The walk was just under 5 miles in length.

Angela Agate



Sports Club

Many Hallmark readers may not be aware that the Lacey Green & Loosley Row sports ground and club house are privately owned and are managed by a team of volunteers from the local community. As it is not a council-run facility it receives no financial help from the parish or district councils. All the facilities are paid for and maintained by subs from the sports sections (Cricket, Football & Tennis), contributions from Windmills Pre-School (who hire the clubhouse Mon-Fri mornings in term time) and fundraising events organised by the sports club committee and members.

Vandalism

Recently the sports club was vandalised, the windows at the front of the clubhouse were smashed (possibly with an air gun) and although the police were informed the perpetrators have still not been caught. At considerable expense the windows have now been replaced, but the cost of replacing them has left a large hole in the sports clubs coffers. I can only hope the person or people who committed this mindless act of vandalism are proud of themselves, not only did it have an effect on finances of the club (that the committee and members work so hard to raise) but it also effected the children who attend the pre-school.

The windows were boarded up for weeks while they were waiting to be replaced. I would like to thank Lynne and Ian and the team at the Black Horse who kindly held their Christmas Quiz in aid of the sports club windows fund and raised £160 towards the cost of the replacement windows.

Thank yous

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who contribute to the successful running of the Lacey Green & Loosley Row Sports Club. Firstly I would like to thank the Committee for their continued hard work throughout the year (David Highgate, Robert Dell, Stephanie Dell, Miles Cunningham, Ben Forster, Jonathan Dell, Ian & Bridged Ward).

I would like to thank Nigel Kelloway, Chris Oakford, Dave Saunders and David Highgate for the painstaking ground work they undertake throughout the year to insure the playing surface is in good condition, they mow and roll the grass, paint the lines, cut the hedges and treat and weed the field keeping the surface safe and looking good for the sportsmen who use it every week.

I would like to thank Lynne and Ian and the team at the Black Horse for providing the Tea's for cricket every week (saving the wives from having to do it, phew!!!!!!).

I would also like to thank all the people who helped with the successful fundraising event back in September, Duncan Palmer for printing the marketing material and tickets, Jim from TyreTeam for sponsoring the dance-floor, Jo Jones for the catering, Tim Page for carving the pig and beer duties, Lloyd Attridge for the electrics, Robert Dell and the rest of the committee for working the bars and organising the event and finally, the 120+ local people who supported the event by buying a ticket! It was a fantastic evening and a great success (sorry I have missed anyone).

Your sports club needs you

We are actively looking for new members to play Cricket, football and tennis, alternatively you can become a social member for just £5 per person, per year and enjoy the sports from a seated position in the clubhouse with glass in hand. The Clubhouse bar is open most Saturday afternoons during the cricket season. Please come and join us. For more information on joining a team or becoming a social member email steph.dell@btinternet.com or call the relevant sports section representative in the list on p41.

Stephanie Dell
Secretary

Windmill Artists

On November 6th Windmill Artists held their annual Exhibition in the Village Hall which once again was deemed a great success judging by the comments in the Visitors Book, which were much appreciated.

Friday night is when all the heavy work takes place setting up the Hall and then dismantling again on Saturday after the show.

Thank you team and other village friends who work so hard in this respect.

Windmill Artists was formed 9 years ago with the majority of the founder members still exhibiting.

As the space available is so limited artists are accepted on an invitation only basis and it cannot therefore be run as an unlimited event.

As usual the All Day Bistro organised and run by Rachel Panter and the Brookhouse family was a great success, proving to be as popular as ever.

Many thanks to all who supported us and we look forward to seeing you in 2011.

Lacey Green Singers Carol



They had to bring in more chairs to seat all the supporters and even turned some away, at the Carol Concert by Lacey Green Singers and St John's CofE Combined School at the village hall on Sunday 5th December. It started at 6pm and was followed by mince pies and mulled wine or fruit juice, plenty of chatting and joking, finishing around 8pm.

As with previous concerts by the Singers and the School, everyone enjoyed the atmosphere as well as the music. Parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters of the participating schoolchildren helped to swell the audience, of course.

The Singers also had their usual keen supporters, including our Norman! The cold weather and freezing walking surfaces didn't seem to put people off. The age ranged from the youngest of children to our very well-known 102-year-old lady villager.

The range of Christmas music from 15th Century through to the 20th century meant there was something for everyone. There was even a couple of collaborations between the 2 choirs. Apart from the Singers and the schoolchildren, the congregation also got to their feet to sing some of the carols. The conducting of all people was done extremely well by Fiona Putnam.

The piano accompanists were Thelma Malpas for the Singers and Sam Laughton for the school.

All those who put so much into the evening deserve our gratitude for our time so well spent!

With thanks to Norman Tyler for both the photographs and the write-up which I have added to.

Fran Hall



Windmill WI

On behalf of our members I would like to wish all the readers of Hallmark a very Happy New Year.

As usual we ended the year with our Christmas party which was well attended. Lynne and her staff from the Black Horse did all the hard work and provided us with a super meal. Thank you Lynne. The meal was followed by entertainment given by member, Trish Treasure and member's husband, Tim Colsell. Thanks to you both. During the evening we held a draw for two bursaries which are to be spent by the winners on an educational or recreational course. The luck recipients this year were Bette Tyler and Mary Hazleton.

At our November and December meetings we asked members to bring items needed by the Fire and Emergency Support Service in their specially adapted vehicles. These vehicles attend incidents at the request of the Fire Service where there has been a domestic fire, flood, explosion or similar and provide a whole range of assistance to families in what could be difficult and challenging situations. We are pleased that we were able to donate a whole range of items to this worthy cause.

The speaker at our November meeting, Mrs Jill Fraser was excellent.

Her talk, called 'More Tea Less Vicar', was a very amusing account of how to survive in an English Country Vicarage when you're not the Vicar! First and foremost a wife and mum, Jill trained as a nurse at St Thomas's Hospital, London and the University of North Carolina. Whilst in America she started writing as a reporter for Woman's Hour on Radio 4, and Newsround and Breakfast Time for BBC1. Since having children she has worked as a reporter for 'Heart of the Country'. For a number of years she and her family have lived in an Old Vicarage and amongst other village commitments runs the Sunday School and hosts the Village Fete! Jill was a very able speaker and we were all disappointed when her talk ended – a sign of a good speaker!

A date for your diary! **SATURDAY, 12 MARCH** – our Spring **Jumble Sale** at the Village Hall. If you have any jumble you wish to donate please bring it along to the hall between 10am and 12 noon and then come back again at 2pm and see if you can find any bargains!

Next year we have several good speakers booked on a diverse range of subjects – photography, the theatre, the CID, and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson to name just a few so why don't you come and join us – we meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Daphne Williams



Lacey Green Stores update

Do continue to support the shop. It has now been going for 18 months, and we believe that it has been reasonably successful. The shop isn't big enough, of course, and we would dearly love to find larger premises, but there are obstacles to be overcome.

We have signed up to the 'making local food work' campaign 18 that is promoted by the Plunkett Foundation.

The idea is to be able to stock more local food, which we think may be welcomed by customers. It may involve throwing out the brown sauce and other items that are clearly not the most popular!

To help find out more about what you would like, a questionnaire is enclosed with Hallmark. Do fill this in and let us have it back – you get a chance to win a prize of local food.

Volunteers are still needed to help run the shop. If you can spare a couple of hours or more every now and again, please let us know. Contact Tony Molesworth or Angela Roberts.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

If you would like to have a newspaper on any weekday, we can get this for you, but do please order it in advance.

The History Group presents: AN EXHIBITION OF VILLAGE HISTORY At St John's School Lacey Green

On Saturday 5th March from 2pm to 5pm

- Grand Opening Ceremony
- Film shows of previous village events
- Interactive slide show - "A walk around the village"
- Displays of maps and photographs
- Tea and cakes from the WI

And Sunday 6th March from 10am to 3pm

- Traditional songs and dancing
- Bygone clothes Fashion Show
- Display of woodworking & agricultural tools
- Exhibits from the forge
- Traditional lunch on sale - try a 'Bacon Badger'

This programme is provisional - see www.laceygreen.com for latest details



ADMISSION

£2 each day

or £3 for both days

Children under 12 FREE

Advance booking required

CAN YOU HELP?

Please contact Rosemary Mortham on 01844 345863

If you have any items of interest which could be put on show on the Sunday, especially old clothes.

(We will take great care of them)

Also if you can help us to staff this event, either with the displays, catering or demonstrations, please get in touch.

Sports Club: Cricket Section

Bowling

I'm on my favourite hobby-horse again. Reviewing last season's averages; as I said in the last issue both team's batting is very good - some of it quite exceptional.

Averages in the thirties and forties should give us an advantage over any other team and bring us many more victories than it does. Looking back at the 1950s the highest average I could find was 34 - and that by an exceptional and determined batsman. (I won't mention his name as he is very shy!).

In contrast the bowling figures bear no resemblance to that era. Then, the average, taken over 1st and 2nd XIs was around seven to nine runs per wicket. Now it is up into the twenties - even thirties. And don't tell me the batting was worse then - very few gave their wicket away without a fight.

So, it's the bowling that needs to improve. Good, tight accurate bowling and fielders crowding the batsman would put us up with the best. Do that, and there's no reason why the 1st XI shouldn't be up in the Premier Division where any Lacey Green team belongs.

Relegation

The 1st XI, by dint of finishing fourth last season, should compete again in the 1st Division. That's providing there isn't a complete shake-up of the leagues.

The 2nd XI, after finishing bottom of Division Two, are doomed to go into Division Three. That is, of course, unless the League compilers, in their wisdom, decide otherwise. It wouldn't be a bad thing to drop down for I'm sure with some useful players back from their travels they could go straight back up.

Support

But success for both teams depends on as many as possible turning out as regularly as they can. Only a very few played in all the matches last season. This makes it very difficult for team selection and for the team-captains to remember in what position the players bat or where they are best in the field. I know some have other commitments and that can't be helped, but I do hope that everyone will do their best to make themselves available as often as possible.

Another thing I'd like to see, is more people coming to the ground to support the teams or just have a drink and natter in the pavilion after the match. It's a nice place to be on a warm sunny afternoon (I can't guarantee which day that will be this year!)

Incidentally, I had a text message from our oldest supporter, Ms Connie Baker at Xmas. She says, at nearly one-hundred and three, she is looking **forward** to the new season!

Too often I seem to be the bearer of sad news. I'm afraid I have more:

Ivor Kelloway

As World War 11 drew to a close, the then cricket secretary, Frank Chilton Esq., heard that a very good cricketer was stationed at Bomber Command (as it was then called.)

He jumped on to his bike and raced to the camp and had soon signed Ivor. He learned that he hailed from Somerset and had played good class cricket there. So Ivor came to play for Lacey Green, a valuable member of the team for many years.

A top-class batsmen and a superb slip-fielder - some of his catches would have graced any class of cricket.

What Frank didn't know at the time was that not only had he gained a cricketer but a future son-in-law, for Ivor eventually married his daughter, Joan. Together they had three sons, Terry, Ian and Nigel (all talented cricketers) and a daughter, Anne. To them we offer our condolences at this sad time. Ivor died just before Xmas after a long illness.

But Ivor didn't just play cricket. He was very active in the community. When the bar was set up in the pavilion he organised and ran it for several years. He also acted as clerk to Stokenchurch Parish Council.

His greatest achievement (in my view) was from his role as a P.T.I. (physical training instructor) in the R.A.F. He took up a post in that capacity at Princes Risborough Secondary school and worked his way up to become headmaster at Micklefield school in High Wycombe, aided by his wife Joan as secretary.

He will be missed.

Margaret Samuels

A good friend of mine, Keith Samuels, who played for us some years ago, lost his wife, again just before Xmas, the saddest time. Margaret was a lovely lady with a smile for everyone despite many years of illness. Our condolences to Keith and the family.

Geoff Gomme



Ryan Maguire

Welcome one and all to this February article from your local village football team. I would like to wish everyone a belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New year

The conditions of winter has certainly taken its toll on the village, as I heard trade was low and getting to work proved to be a nightmare. As you can imagine, the football had come to a standstill. From 24th November to 6th January, no training or games had taken place. The freeze proved to be too dangerous to have a runaround. Although our Christmas break was longer than we first thought, we certainly felt what we had missed in our first training session back.

First defeat

Continuing the start of our second season our undefeated status has unfortunately been broken, and to rub salt into the wound, with results that certainly don't comply with the clubs character. After the last article, we suffered our first defeat at the hands of Beech Tree, which against them, is always a bitter pill to swallow. After missing a hatful of chances and another solid performance from the side, the ball just wouldn't hit the back of the net.

We lost 3-2, but again, a performance you couldn't fault.

That result shook us, but we're never the team to lie low. A 5-1 comprehensive victory against Longwick FC prepared us for possibly our toughest opponents of the year, away at Aylesbury Cosmo in the "Three Counties Cup" who were flying high in their own right.

Victory at Aylesbury

Flying high in their own right, they would definitely test our skills to the maximum; a prestigious cup was for the taking. As predicted, the game did prove to be one to watch, nearly

a carbon copy of our 2-2 draw against Happy Union Reserves in the cup last season. Fantastic saves, woodwork rattled, with some audacious shots to keep both goalkeepers working hard. The midfield proved to be the definitive factor in this fixture, and a cracking 20 yard finish from Dan Lay gave us the 1-0 win to progress into the next round.

The title slips away?

Although we were sky-high after this result, our grip on conquering the league has seemed to slip away just a tiny bit. A closely fought 4-3 defeat and a 7-3 slaughtering at the hands of top of the table Sunters Wood and strong contenders Real Marlow respectively was not what we had in store. More frustrating, both games were 6 pointers.

We realise that the title contention is tighter than ever before, five teams could easily be promoted after nearly half the season eroded. After losing three games already, it is imperative we lose no more.

On the positive side, a 6-1 thorough display versus The Bird in Hand at Risborough (Athletico Bird) in the second round of The Challenge Cup saw us progress to play none other than Happy Union Reserves



Tony Shadbolt

Football Section

in the Third Round, a chance for revenge after last years cup exit.

Three Counties Cup

We also achieved a great result against AFC Padbury in the Third Round of the 'Three Counties Cup', after this fixture was postponed three times over the Christmas period. With a 3-2 victory, this saw Ryan Maguire still scoring strong to add another two to his impressive tally. In turn, we played Wycombe Wanderers Supporters Club (WWSC) Reserves in the fourth round, an enticing game which saw a 6-5 win. Real Milan of the Slough league in Round 5.

Club House repaired

In other news, the football club was distressed to discover the vandalism that was inflicted on the Sports Club. As I went down to paint the lines, I had to question the point of what I had witnessed. I still can't believe that the mindless act of smashing windows still occurs in such a humble community, and Lacey Green is surely the last place I would think these actions would happen. I also hear that this wasn't an isolated incident.

I was over the moon to hear that all the money raised in The Christmas Quiz at The Black Horse this year went towards The Sports Club to help pay for the damaged caused, £160 that will definitely help the cause. These acts of kind generosity really do make the difference, kind regards to Ian, Lynne and Tony at The Black Horse once again.

Fitness is the key

On a lighter note, we're pleased to announce that we'll be taking our training sessions to a more intense level from the start of this year. We have now obtained the services of Paul Johnstone at Woodbyne Fitness Club, after a

generous offer to introduce the team to the gym. A mandatory attendance once a month for circuit training will certainly put the team through their paces, a one and a half hour session to test our fitness levels and improve the overall vigour.

The one factor we have noticed in our short time in the league is that fitness is the key feature in playing a higher level against our ever improving opponents. The team doesn't know it yet, but I will certainly be organising a few charity 10k runs over the summer to make sure we keep in check for the next campaign...

Thanks to sponsors

Our continued thanks to our team sponsors for this year. Duncan and Shakira at The Pink and Lily, and Lynne, Ian and Tony at The Black Horse in Lacey Green have been phenomenal in their support for Lacey Green FC. We cannot be more appreciative of their financial, kind will and gestures for last season, and am delighted of your sustained support for our second season.

Join us!

If you require information regarding Lacey Green FC, or if you wish to sign up to our regular score updates every Sunday, please email us at laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.uk.

We need trainers, coaches; whatever you can bring to the team will be more than appreciated.

We are also on Facebook under Lacey Green FC, so you can have up to date news surrounding the clubs players and supporters. More results and league tables can be found at www.football.mitoo.co.uk. We are also in The Bucks Free Press every Friday under the sports section, which gives a round up of all the action in the High Wycombe Sunday Combination.

Lacey Green FC would like to send their utmost thanks to all their supporters, and wish that 2011 for everyone will be as successful as we hope ours to be.

Ben Foster



Matty Gayler

Sports Club: Tennis section



Despite the extremely cold weather throughout the winter months, a few intrepid souls have braved the frost and chill of the windswept courts to play tennis with those like-minded!

The regular coaching sessions have continued on Saturday mornings with Steve Bell the coach requiring Arctic layers to be worn as tennis clothing!

The tennis club has three priorities for the forthcoming year.

First, we need to create more opportunities for the children and youth players to have access to the facilities. The emphasis will be establishing the necessary link with schools in the area to help facilitate tennis development within

Education and then provide the opportunity to play regularly and be coached at the tennis club. More information on this will be provided as and when the necessary funding and agreements are arranged.

The second priority is to develop opportunities for regular players to meet and practise with each other to develop the skills and confidence for district and county match competitions.

The club will again enter teams in the Aylesbury and District Tennis League and compete in the Mens Division 6, Ladies Division 7 and Mixed Division 5. Each team requires 4 players and we can use different players provided they are club members. Matches will commence in May so all budding

natch players should join in the raining and practice sessions to be arranged.

Our third priority is to encourage new members and for all existing members to become British Tennis Members (free to club members) to enable the club to gain the best possible allocation of Wimbledon tickets.

With its Lawn Tennis Association membership, the club also has access to resources and support to help further develop tennis in the community.

Check out the LTA web-site at <http://www.lta.org.uk>

New members are always welcome, all ages and any standard.

Please contact the tennis club by email

lglr_tennisclub@btinternet.com or phone Ian on 01844 345567 or Linda on 01844 275296

Ian Ward

St Johns School

As we welcome in the Spring Term, and hopefully some milder weather, it's time to look back on some of the events of the last half term.

St John`s had a very successful Christmas Fayre on December 3rd. Santa`s visit is always a very popular event with the children, and this year they could enjoy some new stalls, such as the "Rock Shop" for all the keen geologists. We are delighted that we managed to raise a fantastic £2200, which is due to all the hard work given from parents who helped organise, set up and run stalls on the day. Thank you also to the parents, relatives and friends who visited and supported the Fayre during the afternoon.

The Christmas productions were extremely enjoyable. As usual, the children and staff put in an enormous amount of hard work to make them a great success!

As we looked forward to our end of term Carol Service, the last day ended abruptly at midday due to a very rapid and heavy snowfall, experienced in Lacey Green, and beyond! As the excited children were collected safely for their Christmas holidays, the school orchestra finished their planned performance to a diminishing audience! Returning back to school this term however, the children were pleased to be able to perform the carols and songs they had

prepared, at our "start of term service" on the 10th January.

The Spring Term promises a full amount of fundraising and activity at St John`s, as we look forward to a Salsa and Latin night on the 4th February, the School Disco on the 18th February, a Ladies Indulgence evening on the 11th March and the very popular Barn Dance on the 2nd April.

Projects for the refurbishment of the middle school playground, with an outdoor stage area and amphitheatre continue to be supported this year.

Sharon Wilkes

(PA secretary) 23



Despite the huge amount of snow that fell during the festive season, we have to report an excellent attendance at **all** our Christmas Services. As well as our usual friendly faces, we had many visitors who joined us, and thoroughly enjoyed all there was on offer.

Rev Denise had many positive comments including a letter from a visiting family at the Christmas day Service. This excerpt follows on from news that last year was not a particularly good one for them, however...."The family would like to thank you again, and the choir. John said the service was better than the turkey and the presents ...we send you all our very best wishes."

There was a welcoming, reverent atmosphere as one entered the Church, almost as though **we** were coming to worship the baby Jesus in the manger. We were of course celebrating the birth of Christ which happened over two thousand years ago. The Christmas Story renews our faith and deepens our belief no matter how many times we hear it.

It is magical for little children coming to act out the drama as a shepherd or a wise man, or part of the Holy family. This year, those parents must have felt very proud to observe the solemnity and skill with which their children portrayed the tableau to show all present what had occurred in Bethlehem so long ago.

The Candlelit Carol Service is always special, and the snowy conditions made it even more poignant this year.

So many complimentary comments were heard in praise of the choir – they really are excellent. They always add an extra dimension to any service, whether it be part of the congregational singing or a special anthem from them or – even more courageous – a solo! I can only say they are greatly appreciated and worth their weight in gold.

Well done all those who contribute to our beautiful church, whether it be flower arranging, music- the organist - welcoming and distributing books, refreshments, lighting, sound, polishing brasses, toy area, and generally keeping the wheels oiled. And especially, thanks to our Church wardens Pat and Marjorie, and of course Rev. Denise.

Moving on - A new year – New Year's Resolutions already abandoned?

Why not start again and make yours a determined effort to attend and make more friends at St. John's. We have refreshments served after the 10 am service and it is a good time to meet and chat with others. Discover what's on.

Before Christmas we had a rather good jumble sale – great fun and leaning a little towards the Antiques Road Show. And also the FUN QUIZ in November which was very well attended, stretched our brains on a Friday night, provided us with a delicious two course supper (No it wasn't a Ploughman's) and my team came second beaten by two points only by those clever ladies in the WI

Both events not only lift the community spirit but were good fund raisers, much needed to fund the smooth running of our Church.

Regular Services at St. John's church.

SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion(1662) 1st, 2nd, & 4th. Sundays

10.00am **All age Worship - Communion** 1st Sunday of the month.

10.00am **Parish Communion** 2nd, 3rd, 4th, (&5th) Sundays

6.00pm Choral Evensong 1st Sunday in the month

Junior Church at 10.00am – all services other than 1st, held in upper room.

Sarah and Jonathan are moving to a new home, and whilst we will miss them and remember them in our prayers, we need some more volunteers for Junior Church. Please see Rev. Denise to offer your services.

TUESDAY

9.30am. Communion Service in Lady Chapel at St. John's.

2.15pm Toddler Praise – Toddlers meet Tuesday afternoons during term time. Dads and Grandparents are very welcome.

WEDNESDAY

10.30.am Team Communion Service at Chapter House, St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough.

Full details of services and more information about St. John's church are published in the monthly Parish Magazine 'Viewpoint' and displayed on the notice board outside church. Please check those reference points for any further details.

If you know of anyone who would also like to receive Holy Communion at home, or would like a home visit, please contact Rev. Denise on 347741.

Church

Young Peoples Bible Study Group.

Young people from age 11+ will meet to have their own study group DURING main worship in our church.

SPLASH after school Club. Every Monday at 3.15 with Melissa Stone and Rev. James Tomkins.

Retreat.

To find more time with God, to rediscover His Peace....

Offa House do have retreats for Individuals, and the web site is : www.offahouseretreat.co.uk

Future dates for your diary....

On the evening of Sunday 13th February, come and celebrate the renewal of your marriage vows at 6pm. Renew your commitment to each other in a prayerful, beautiful environment, then share CHAMPAGNE and CAKE to make it an even more memorable occasion. Please inform Rev. Denise beforehand to add a personal touch. Tel 347741 or visit the web site "a Church near you". And the next day is..... St. Valentine's day, of course.

Lent

As part of Living Faith, and an opportunity to grow in faith and understand the bible better, sign up at the back of the Church for the Lent Course.

After Shrove Tuesday and the cooking of pancakes, we enter into **Lent.**

The Lent Course begins Monday 7th of March and continues for six weeks on Monday evenings 21st, 28th, April 4th, 11th, and 18th.

Sessions will be either in the Vicarage or Church depending on numbers – 7.45pm for coffee and a prompt start at 8pm.

CONTENT – from the Cover to cover Lent Course "PREPARED FOR A PURPOSE" by Trevor J. Partridge.

The six studies encourage us to explore how the Holy Spirit energises, invigorates, directs and empowers us to lead abundant lives prepared for His purpose as partners in His Ministry.

This is a wonderful opportunity to study and discuss with others during the forty days of Lent building up our own resources from the Holy Spirit. When Jesus came to earth as a man He experienced our human weakness and frailty but was empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry out God's plan. Likewise, we can experience that empowering energy flowing from God's presence to fulfil our own potential - "We are on a Mission from God".

Do sign up, come and join us , all Christian denominations are welcome to share this time.

Contact Rev .Denise 01844-347741. or web site " A Church near you"

Home Study

We already have three excellent Home Study groups.

Virginia Goode leads a group at Walter's Ash at the home of Rebecca and Trevor London, and they will welcome any new members.

Dave and Marge Williams host a group on Thursday evenings, and a Ladies group on Monday Afternoons. Support and friendships grow in these groups as understanding and awareness of God's word is made known.

Future dates. And Easter Services.

Sunday April 3rd. MOTHERING Sunday. This used to be the day when servants were allowed to return to their mother church and also visit their families. Today , it is a time when Mothers everywhere are shown extra appreciation.

PALM Sunday 17th April. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and palm leaves were strewn along to way, and all people greeted Him joyously.

MAUNDY Thursday 21st April 8.00pm Lord's Supper and the stripping of the altars and Church.

GOOD FRIDAY 22nd April 10.30. Family Worship. 2.00pm until 300.pm hour of Meditation.

EASTER RESURRECTION COMMUNION this year with BISHOP ALLEN from Buckingham. At 9.55 am, meet in Church then out to that Beautiful Cross of daffodils on the main road to begin an uplifting service.

Do come and join us and be blessed.

June Brazier



Heavenly Bodies

Have you seen a star in recent weeks? Even the hint of a glimpse of a tantalising dot in the sky, apart from a snow flake, would have been an achievement in itself among those claustrophobic clouds. But that just means we'll more fully appreciate those clandestine celestial jewels when crystal clear nights return! And when they do, we'll be able to see two gas giants, an ice giant, Earth's 'twin', the continued splendour of Orion (see last issue), and the reassuring presence of the spring constellations.

Earth is now leaving the giant gas ball Jupiter in its wake, after we overtook the big fella on our smaller 'inside lap' of the Solar System on September 21st last year. So February is your last, best chance to see the King of the Planets which appears after sunset, low in the south-west. It's the brightest blob out there, and very easy to spot. For a wondrous sight, look for the white sliver of the crescent Moon on the evening of February 6 from 6pm in the same direction, and you'll see Jupiter to its left. Below and to the right of

Jupiter will be the icy giant Uranus, visible in binoculars. Fear not, Jupiter will return later this year.

Also in February, early-risers will be dazzled by an intense light, low in the south-east. This is Venus, about the same size as Earth, which is visible between 6.30-7am just before the Sun pops up over the horizon.

So that leaves the remaining gas giant, and many people's favourite – Saturn – which is double the distance of Jupiter from us. Earth is now catching up with the 'ringed wonder' which begins to be visible during the more civilised hours of the evening. Saturn now has the backdrop of the constellation of Virgo. A good way to locate it is to find the distinctive outline of the stars in the Leo constellation, especially the back-to-front "?" question-mark, or sickle on its right. At the bottom of the question-mark is the brighter star Regulus. Spot this and find the bright star way over to the left and lower, Spica in Virgo. Using the diagram shown here, you'll be able to track down Saturn which is easily visible with

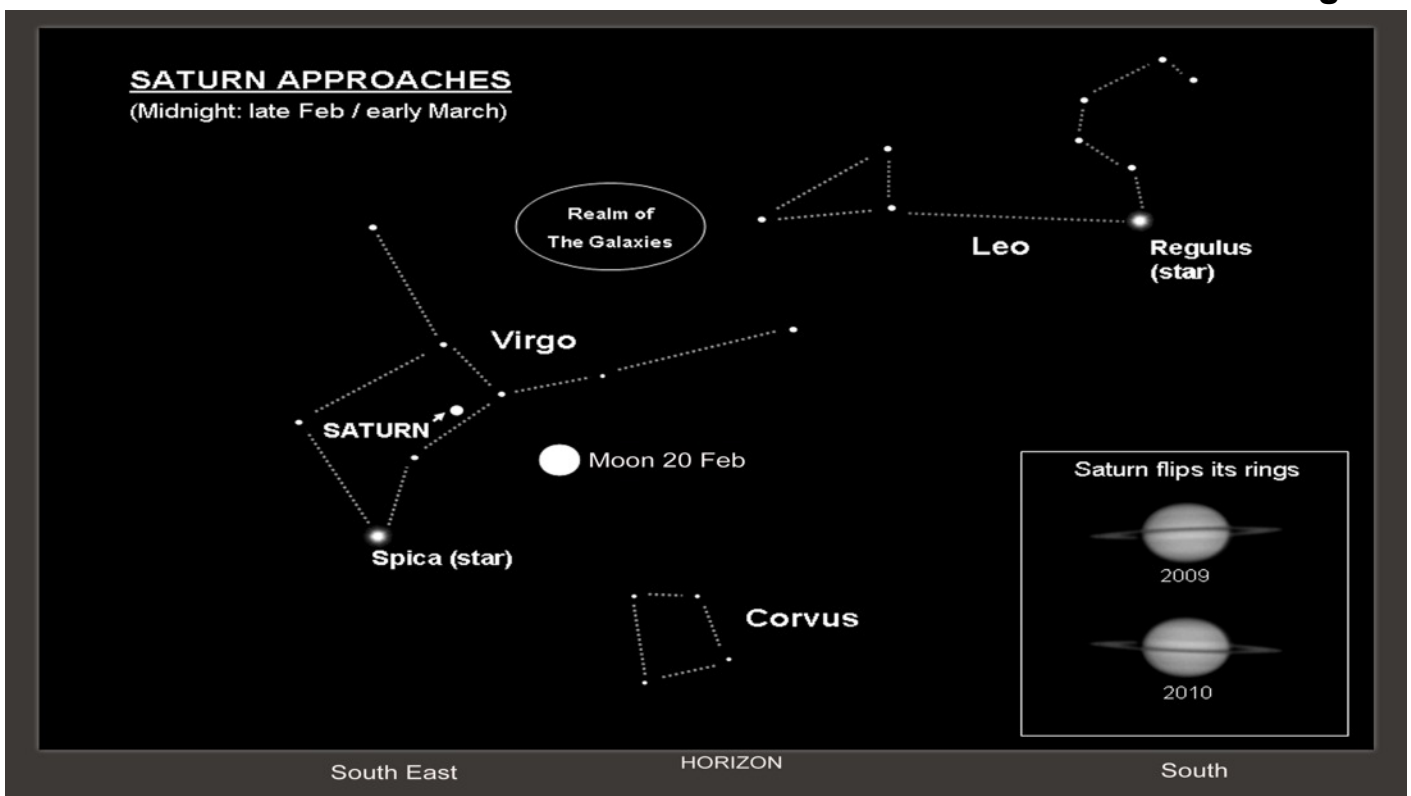
the naked eye. The Moon sits close to the planet and Spica on February 20th to form a triangle. Saturn gets its closest to Earth for the year on April 4, when it will be 800 million miles away.

Our view of Saturn for the past few years has been looking up to its south pole. As the geometry of the Solar System unwound, Saturn became level and so the rings were edge-on to us for a while. Last year, the rings "flipped" downwards as Saturn began to point its north pole towards us. The north pole will continue to lean more and more towards us, thus opening up the rings even further to put on their magnificent display. In 15 years' time, the rings will return to be edge-on to us again, and the process will continue.

So here's to clear skies! Watch out for a lunar eclipse in June – details in next issue.

This year's Astro Talk by Chris Dignan, postponed from December, will take place on Sunday March 20th from 6.45pm at Lacey Green Village Hall

Chris Dignan



<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email address</u>
Associations				
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Short walk (2-3 miles) 2nd Wed 10.30	Ronnie Lewin	274961	relewin@btinternet.com
Horticultural Society	3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.	Terry Fendom	342636	terry.fendom@btinternet.com
Jingle Tots & Kinder Gym	Baby to 5 years. Music, play & gym.	Jenny Stothard	344441	jennystothard@btinternet.com
LR&LG WI (afternoon)	2nd Thursday except August. 2pm	Jean Gabbitas	346469	
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time	Fran Hall	01494 562842	fran.hall865@mod.uk
Lacey Green Productions	Theatre, drama, and sometimes food	Val Brookhouse	344207	valbrookhouse@btinternet.com
Windmill Under 5s	Mon-Fri 9.00-12.00 or 1.30 if your child	Sarah Uhart	07951 485436	admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk
Windmill WI (evenings)	1st Wed of month except Jan. 7.45pm	Stella Boll	347268	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District U3A	4th Wed afternoon of the month	Ted Chapman	01494 563034	
Youth Club	Alternate Fridays: Nov 12, Dec 16	Joan Smith	342322	joansmith38@googlemail.com
Ove 50s Pub Lunch Club	Black Horse. First Tuesday of the month	Betty Tyler	344606 345216	
Short Mat Bowls Club	Monday 2pm	Leigh Axe	345216	leigh@laceygreen.com
Sports				
LG Sports Club Secretary		Stephanie Dell	07768 831196	steph.dell@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Cricket		Jonathan Dell	07786 386912	
LG Sports Club - Tennis		Ian Ward	345567	ian.ward21@tiscali.co.uk
LG Sports Club - Football		Ben Foster	344906	laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.uk
Jazzercise	Tuesday evenings	Sue Morris	01494 813968	info@jazzsue.cp.uk
Karate	Monday evenings	Stephen Fincham	07540 531034	stevefincham@sky.com
Whiteleaf Bowmen	Wed, Thu & Fri evenings, Apr to Sep	Brenda Cordwell, Sec	01494 485037	www.whiteleafbowmen.org.uk
DART Self Defence	Tues 7-9pm in Hall.	John Titchen	07810 568656	jwt.dart@gmail.com
Pilates Classes	Tuesday mornings	Sue Croxford	346656	ncroxford@ashleyhouseplc.com
Yoga Group	Mon mornings during term time	Annie Silverman	343643	annies_yoga@hotmail.com
Others				
Bucks CC & WDC		Paul Rogerson	01494 488315	progerson@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Denise Critchell	347741	
LG Community Planning Group		Tony Molesworth	344975	molechem@yahoo.co.uk
Police		Andy Ralph	0845 505 505	
Parish Council		Susanne Griffiths	342685	clerk@laceygreenparishcouncil.org.uk
LG Post Office	9am - 12 noon Mondays and Thursdays	George Crombie		gcrombie.greathampden@ukonline.co.uk
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2 to 5	Michael Hardy	275871	contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk
Millennium Hall		Clive Hodghton	343113	clive@laceygreen.com
Millenium Hall bookings		Karen Hodghton	274254	karen@laceygreen.com
The Black Horse	Quiz night last Sunday of every month at	Lynne Comley	345195	lynnecomley@btconnect.com

Local Information

Hallmark is published quarterly by the Lacey Green & Loosley Row Millennium Hall Management Committee, although opinions expressed in comment or contribution do not necessarily represent the collective view of that committee.

Our aim is to mirror the mark that the Village Hall makes upon our community, to publish the activities of all Village organisations, and to provide a forum so that the rights, the wrongs, the well-being of village life can be aired. News from all the Village clubs, societies, church and school, stories of local interest and entries for the Village

Diary are always welcome. In addition, any suggestions for improving Hallmark.

A version of this printed Hallmark may be found on our website www.laceygreen.com, which also has breaking news and many additional articles & photos of local interest.

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Chris Baker, "Woodpeckers", Kiln Lane, Lacey Green, Bucks HP27 0PT
(past the pond on the left) 01844 275442

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Clive or Karen on 01844 274254 (answering service)

LACEY GREEN POST OFFICE

is open in Village Hall 9 am-12 noon Mondays & Thursdays for all services except Vehicle Road Fund Licences.

LACEY GREEN STORES

open in Village Hall 8.30 am-1 pm every week day

COFFEE MORNINGS

Held in Village Hall 10am-12 noon Thursdays.
Friendly chatting with tea or coffee & biscuit

THE FOOT CLINIC

Chiropody services with Cathy Maynard. Tel 274521
Tuesdays at the Village Hall by appointment

MOBILE LIBRARY will be at the Village Hall alternate Wednesdays from 12 noon to 1 pm.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Clive Hodgton (Chair)

Rachel Panter (Vice-Chair),
Sue D'Arcy (Secretary),
Yvonne Axe (Treasurer),
Karen Hodgton (Booking Sec.),
Chris Baker,
Jill Baker,
Stella Boll,
Jane Brown,
Ginnie Brudenell,
Cathryn Davies,
Bette Tyler &
Norman Tyler

LACEY GREEN WINDMILL

In 2011 the windmill will be open from 2 pm to 5 pm on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from Sunday 1st May to Sunday 25th September. Admission is £2 per adult, and £1 per child aged from 5 to 15. Since 1971 it has been restored to working order by members of The Chiltern Society. Please park in Pink Road and walk up path to the mill. For further details see www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk

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