

# HALLMARK

The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Magazine



MAY 2016

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# Welcome to the May edition of Hallmark

A reminder that with this issue we are collecting donations to support the printing of Hallmark and the maintenance of the Village Hall. Printing costs us around £7.50 per year per house.

Any donations will be welcome, either to your deliverer or put the donation in the envelope supplied and pop it through the door of Entertainment House. Cheques may be made out to Lacey Green & Loosely Row Village Hall.



It's been a great year for daffodils, they started very early when we had a warm spell, and have continued to flower for months. The front cover shows the Church's Easter Cross covered in daffodils to celebrate Christ's return.

A more secular celebration will take place on June 11 when we celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. I believe that there will

be street parties in Woodfield, Goodacres, Kiln Lane and Loosely Row. I hope you enjoy yourselves - send in your pictures for the next edition.

On page 5 we have an update on the Village Hall. We are very grateful that Clive and Karen have agreed to carry on doing their very valuable roles even though they are going through the upheaval of moving.

In David Lidington's article on page 31 he discusses the Princes Risborough Town Plan. Though we are outside the town area it will have a major impact on us - hopefully for the better.

**Mike Piercy**  
**Editor**

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I read in the latest Hallmark the letters concerning parking and driver psychology with interest. These comments are well and good; however, I believe an even bigger problem is that of SPEEDING.

With the help of a few willing volunteers who have turned out in all weathers, I have been co-ordinating a speed watch programme, in conjunction with Thames Valley Police, for almost a year now. The results have been most worrying, with speeds of up to 65 mph recorded (see page 27).

A basic observation is that upwards of 70% of the vehicles passing through the village are travelling in excess of the limit.

We intend to continue this programme during this year. However what is needed most right now is more volunteers. Each session lasts about an hour, so hopefully a few more villagers will be able to spare an hour here and there to help safeguard our residents and, particularly, the children.

I would like to invite those who are interested to contact me. I can then consult the dates and times we have with a view to

adding some much needed additional volunteer names to those few we have. I'm sure we all want to make this lovely village an even safer place to live.

This speeding problem has been documented in Hallmark previously with a call for volunteer help with a lack of response. I trust we can look forward to a more enthusiastic level of support for this continuing programme.

Thank you,

**Stan McCabe**  
**01844 690564**

# What's On

**Sun 15 May 11am**

National Mills Day with  
Horts Club stall

**Wed 18 May 8pm**

Horts Club Composting  
Demonstration

**Sun 19 June 10am**

Visit to Longstock Park  
Nursery Water Garden

**Sun 3 July**

Tennis Club BBQ

**Sat 25 June**

Vicarage Summer Fete

**Sun 10 July 5pm**

Horts Club Pig Roast  
see page 20

**Wed 20 July 8pm**

Horts Soc - Grow your  
own Roses

**25 June, 9 & 16 July**

Glow-worm Walks at Brush  
Hill with John Tyler see p11

**6 & 7 August**

Black Horse Beer Festival  
see p18

**Tennis Club**

Cardio tennis every  
Thursday from 5 May  
19.30, non members  
welcome

## Councillor Vacancy

A vacancy has come available  
at Lacey Green Parish Council  
for a Councillor.

To be eligible for this role you  
must be over 18 years of age, a  
qualifying citizen of the  
Commonwealth, the European  
Community or the Republic of  
Ireland, and an elector, occupy  
as owner or tenant any land or  
premises or have a principal  
place of work in or within 3  
miles of the parish boundaries.

For full terms and conditions  
of eligibility for office please  
contact the Parish Council  
Office. You do not need any  
formal qualifications to be a  
councillor; however, these  
are the attributes the council  
looks for in a councillor;

- A very good sense of humour  
and a lot of patience.
- A willingness to stand up and  
be counted.
- A desire and commitment to  
contribute to the local  
community.
- Ability and willingness to  
attend meetings of and on  
behalf of the council in the  
evening.

If you are interested in applying  
for this vacancy please contact  
the Parish Council office for  
more information on: 01844  
275912 or email  
[clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk)  
closing date for applications  
30<sup>th</sup> June 2016

## Loosley Row Street Party

Loosley Row residents  
committee are holding a  
residents' street party in  
commemoration of the  
Queen's 90th birthday, on  
Saturday 18th June in Lower  
Road.

The format will be same as  
the Jubilee Party in 2012, a  
'bring-your-own' picnic, tables  
and chairs, to spend the  
afternoon meeting and

celebrating with your  
neighbours and friends in the  
village.

Your street representative will  
be delivering a flyer with  
more information about the  
day's events soon. We look  
forward to seeing you on the  
day.

**Sarah Halliday**  
**01844 343251**

## Parish Council

16 May 7.00 Lacey Green  
14 July 7.30 Speen

## Mobile Library

Eastlands 11.30 to 11.55  
11 May, 8 June, 6 July

# Millennium Hall Update

Well, you missed the Village Hall AGM. The performing elephants and dancing girls went to waste. (Or perhaps that was me day dreaming).

A small audience heard the officers' reports. Karen (the Booking Secretary) sent the following report: The Village Hall continues to be very well used and offers plenty of variety for all ages. All evenings are now booked. The children's dance classes are now well established. This only leaves a Tuesday afternoon available with continuity. As I have mentioned before, if an organisation uses the hall once a month this prohibits the use of a group running on the other days, as commercial users require every week. A list of everyone using the hall is available in Hallmark. There is plenty of variety and the opportunity to start something new is still an option.

In 2015 we had 41 commercial bookings, slightly up on the year before. 2016 is looking very similar. We continue to receive many enquiries where the date has already gone and therefore I still recommend booking early to avoid disappointment! Email continues to be the most popular way to make an initial enquiry with people also being able to view the website. We have a lot of repeat users and many recommendations.

## Risborough Lacemakers report

The Risborough Lace Makers Group once again enjoyed a very successful Lace Day held in the Millennium Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> March. There was a very relaxed atmosphere with everyone busy either making Lace or working

Due to the success of the hall we are very fortunate that we are still able to offer the weekly coffee morning at no charge and the youth club at a greatly reduced rate. We continue to loan tables and chairs to other local organisations and both the Church and school have used our facilities when they have needed more room. This all helps to make the Village Hall a huge part of the community, making us all united.

As you are aware I will be moving away. Unfortunately I cannot say exactly when but if you are happy for me to continue in my role as booking secretary then I will be delighted to do so.

As always I would like to take this opportunity once again to thank all of the organisations for their continued support and co-operation with the day to day running of the hall.

Clive (the Chairman) gave an overview of the last year. The committee have arranged various improvements: the main hall floor has been resurfaced, the car park lighting improved, a ramp built to hold back the car park stones and improve the entrance, all smaller rooms and hallways have been repainted, overgrowing trees have been removed.

Clive discussed a couple of long term options for improvement - either surfacing the car park or installing a glass atrium.

On a show of hands the audience felt the car park was the most important target for future investment and that a stone surface is preferred to a tarmac surface.

Clive confirmed that although his plans are uncertain he is willing to continue as Chairman for another year.

Leigh (the Treasurer) gave the financial report. Though we could do with more income to fund the improvements, this year we broadly broke even. He suggested that villagers who make donations to Hallmark to support the Village Hall could use the envelopes included in Hallmark and sign to say that the Hall can claim back Gift Aid on their donations.

The Village Hall Committee are grateful to have received a donation of £1303.83 from the dormant Lacey Green and Loosley Row Residents Association. As it appears unlikely that the Residents Association will be re-activated in the foreseeable future, the Past Chairman of the Association concluded that it would make more sense to see these funds invested back in the village to the benefit of all residents, rather than remaining unused and earning a marginal interest rate in a savings account.

**Mike Piercy**

donation of £450 to the Chiltern Air Ambulance. This amount combined with donations from previous Lace Days makes a grand total of £4,000.

**Jill Baker**

# A visit to the Promised Land

I was watching Countryfile on the TV a couple of weeks ago and they had a report on how more young women are coming into farming. I realised that once again Lacey Green is leading the field as we have more than one lady farmer in the village.

Debbie Bartlett has been running Promised Land Farm with her grandfather for many years. She told me that she has wanted to be a farmer for as long as she could remember and has been helping on the farm all her life.

After school she went to Moulton College of Agriculture and studied for a Diploma in Agriculture. She did note ruefully that she was the only woman on the course! After qualifying she returned and took on the full-time farmer role. Now that her grandfather is in his late seventies she does the majority of the farming work, with some assistance from her partner Matt.

Promised Land Farm is the second largest farm in the parish; 100 acres located on the slopes to the west of Lacey Green. Debbie's grandfather came from a farming family in Walters Ash and bought the farm 50 or so years ago.

They stopped producing milk in 2001 and since then have concentrated on rearing cattle for beef. They currently have 45 breeding cattle, one bull and all the young stock they are rearing for sale. When Debbie was 21 she came into a little money; instead of buying a car or other luxury, the money went on buying cows to start a small herd of pedigree short horn cattle. As well as the short horns they have Aberdeen Angus, Limousin, British Blues and Charolais.

Most of the cattle are sold at Thame Market whilst still young, but some are kept all the way through from birth to slaughter. Some of these are sold through K&B in Princes Risborough - especially the Aberdeen Angus which are apparently the tastiest of the breeds.

Debbie and Matt also breed ducks and chickens for sale as egg layers. This brings in some extra money whilst the cattle are growing.

Promised Land Farm is a traditional farm. Though not certified as organic, no fertilizers are used on the land and the cows spend the vast majority of their time out in the fields.

The farm has a lovely old fashioned feel as you come into the yard, with a boar grunting away in one corner, cockerels crowing continuously, donkeys leaning over the sides of their pens and chickens wandering everywhere pecking away. Apparently there are also some goats and some pigs tucked away around the side.

Debbie described the farming day to me. Even though they do not do any milking they have to care for the stock 24 hours a day every day of the year. For most of the year all the various animals have to be rounded up and brought into the yard to feed each day and be checked over for any problems. The fields all need tending and maintaining, and in the summer there is silaging to be done. Only in late summer does life become quieter when the grass in the fields is lush and the cows can be left out to feed themselves.

As well as this frightening work load, Debbie and Matt have a 3 year old daughter and another baby is due in the summer. Needless to say they do not have much time to go out socialising, but Debbie did say that social media is very good for keeping up with her other farmer friends and giving information and mutual support.

It must be a really hard working life, but if you love the countryside, wildlife and animals, want to be your own boss and can put up with the ups and downs of English weather then it can be very rewarding. Certainly Debbie and Matt appear to be very happy with it and it's great that they are keeping traditional farming alive in our village.



**Mike Piercy**



# Pink and Lily



Quizzes and Competitions up at The Pink – honestly, no Bull!!

While back in the day Olivia Newton-John wanted us all to ‘Get Physical’, from the 3rd of May, The Pink and Lily is getting quizzical! We’ve listened to feedback and have decided to introduce a monthly quiz, for teams of 4 on the first Tuesday of the month.

There will be five rounds of ten questions, some with a local bias – and including a dreaded picture round! Kicking off at 8pm, with an entry fee of £10 per team with the winner taking the pot, it’s mainly a bit of fun

–with a bit of beer thrown in! Each quiz will include a bonus question with a free pint or glass of Prosecco for the team that gets it right.

On a further competitive note, as The Pink is lucky enough to be one of the very few pubs in the country to have the ancient pub game Ringing the Bull, we’ve decided to make a meal of it.

The second Monday of every month will see a competitive Ringing the Bull league starting – so head straight to the Brooke Bar to start practising as May 9th isn’t that far off.

Copies of the rules are freely available behind the bar, and, obviously, will be very strictly adhered to. No bull!

As we sail into summer, the Pink has got plenty of other exciting events planned. While invitations to Buck House can be hard to come by, luckily for all Lacey Greeners there’s an easier birthday invitation closer to home.

The Pink and Lily have decided to mark our monarch’s special day with a garden party featuring the best of British – so expect local beer, locally sourced meat on the barbie and Pimms galore!

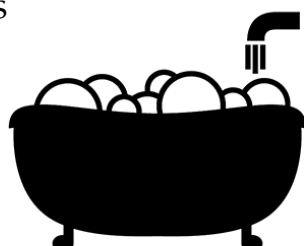
As Rodney the landlord says “Celebrating Her Majesty’s birthday has been something we’ve been thinking about and planning for a long time. A garden party seemed to encapsulate the quintessential qualities of Her Majesty – elegant and poised - but being a Kiwi, I had to bring a barbie into it!” So Sunday June 12th will see the barbecue in full swing, with the garden decorated and Pimms and beer flowing.

We’re also planning a return of our popular movie nights, so keep your eyes peeled for posters as we get closer to the warmer weather. Hampers, blankets, fizz and your favourite movies under the stars – there’s no finer way to celebrate summer.

To register for The Pink’s pub quiz, Ringing the Bull or just to book a table, please call Rodney or Hannah on 01494 489857.

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# Wildlife Notes

As I'm writing this, the first bumblebees of the year have just stirred from hibernation and are feeding hungrily on the newly open willow catkins. By the time you're reading it many of them will have started to build their nests, perhaps in an abandoned mouse burrow, an old bird's nest or a space under your garden shed. All of last year's males and workers will have died off in the winter, leaving only the large queens to launch the next generation.

For an insect, the queen bumblebee is a wonderfully devoted mother who thinks nothing of visiting several thousand flowers each day in order to build up a store of food for herself and her brood. She collects pollen and nectar and mixes them to make a dollop of paste known as 'bee bread', on which she lays a batch of sausage-shaped eggs, each a fraction of the size of a grain of rice. She then coats them in wax produced from her own body to form a nursery. She uses more wax, skilfully shaped with her jaws, to make a little pot roughly the size and shape of a small hazelnut, which she fills with nectar.

For the next week or more she will have to stay on her nursery, like a bird on a nest, keeping her eggs warm by shivering her wing muscles to generate heat. Throughout this time she will rely on the little pot of nectar, strategically positioned within easy reach so that she can feed without leaving her clutch of eggs.

Once the eggs hatch she will feed the young larvae until they are old enough to become adults, leave home and get a job, gathering food, doing the housework and looking after her while she concentrates on the task of

churning out eggs for the rest of her life. She will never leave the nest again and by the time she dies in the autumn she will have produced a few hundred workers and, towards the end of the season, a handful of males and the queens that will replace her next year.

For many of us the sight and the friendly buzz of the first queen bumblebee of the year is a welcome sign that summer is just around the corner. But there is much more to bumblebees than just looking cuddly because, along with honey bees and indeed bees in general, they play a vital role in pollinating a huge range of plants. This includes both the wildflowers that we enjoy in our hedgerows and meadows and the ones that we grow for food in our gardens, vegetable plots, orchards and fields.

Sadly bumblebees are becoming rarer as they struggle to cope with the changes that are taking place in our countryside. For one thing there has been a huge decline in the habitats that they need to feed and nest: for example in less than a century we have lost 97% of the wildflower meadows that once provided such rich feeding grounds for bumblebees and many other flower-loving creatures.

At the same time bumblebees are under threat from the pesticides that we use to protect our crops from pests. One type known as neonicotinoids (or 'neonics' to their friends) are particularly worrying because they are designed to be absorbed by the plant and to travel right through it, some ending up in pollen which is then collected by bees and taken back to the nest to feed their young. Even at very low doses

these chemicals are lethal to bees, and for those that aren't killed outright neonics can reduce their ability to navigate and to gather food properly, causing the whole nest to perish.

Fortunately for bees the use of at least some of these neonics was banned throughout the EU in 2013, but that ban is now being reviewed. Our government, bless it, overturned the ban in parts of the UK last year and, given its feeble track record on environmental issues, may well do so again this year unless enough people feel sufficiently strongly to object. If you would like to know more about neonics, their impact on bees and what you can do about it, a good starting point is the Pesticide Action Network UK website ([www.bees.pan-uk.org](http://www.bees.pan-uk.org)).

As for the loss of habitat, there are plenty of easy, practical things that we can all do to encourage bumblebees, for example by choosing bee-friendly plants for our gardens. The Bumblebee Conservation Trust website ([www.bumblebeeconservation.org](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org)) has plenty of helpful suggestions, and even a tool that lets you see how bee-friendly your garden is already and how you could make it even better for wildlife.

Finally, just to say that I shall be doing Glow-worm Walks at Brush Hill again this year on 25th June, 9th July and 16th July (adults £5.00, children £2.50). If you would like to know more or to book a place please contact me on 07814392335, e-mail [johnclarketyler@gmail.com](mailto:johnclarketyler@gmail.com) or visit my website, [www.johntyler.co.uk](http://www.johntyler.co.uk).

**John Tyler**

# Lacey Green Productions

Since the LGP dinner theatre last November, we have been busy rehearsing and performing our latest murder mystery entertainment "The Pharaoh's Phantom". We had performed this in the summer of last year on a small scale, but just a few weeks ago we performed to much larger audiences in Great Missenden and Princes Risborough.

The Missenden performance was for the Wycombe Hospitals Scanner Appeal and the evening raised a magnificent £860 for their funds. Our murder mystery was well received and most of the tables managed to get some way towards working out who the guilty party was.

In Princes Risborough, we were performing for the local U3A society and their members also produced some interesting conclusions with regards to the

## Windmill WI

Our first meeting of the year was in February when we had Sue Benwell talking about Norman Wisdom. Over the years Sue has written several celebrity profile features for magazines including Norman Wisdom. She gave us a very clear insight into Norman's early years.

In March we had former BBC journalist Bill Hamilton as our speaker. Bill enjoyed 50 years working as a journalist and broadcaster. He worked in Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs and was a Special Correspondent with the BBC Television News. This was a very interesting and entertaining talk.

identity of the murderer. The U3A have given LGP a cheque for £200 to pass on to our 2016 charities.

So far our charities for this year will be the Kidney Unit at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford and the St Mary's Church, Aylesbury free Christmas lunch appeal. We are looking for another charity as well, so if anybody has suggestions, please make them known to any of our members.

I can confirm that, with the help of our audiences, LGP has raised over £60,000 for charities in the last 33 years. Well done all!

We are just beginning to plan for our dinner theatre at the end of November this year. A final decision on the play or plays to be presented will be taken in June, but at this stage, it looks as though we shall have some one-act plays for you with possibly some musical interludes.

Also in March we enjoyed another profitable Jumble Sale, with Tombola and Cake Stall and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Four of us went to Liston Hall in Marlow for our Group Meeting. The speaker was Graham Horne on 'Walking across England from Coast to Coast'. This was a very interesting talk with lots of beautiful photos. We also won the competition for a birthday card for the Queen which will be sent to Buckingham Palace.

Our April speaker was Roger Fagg on 'The Story of the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway'. This was a very interesting talk about our local railway.

There will be a play reading of likely plays on Sunday, June 12th. Please come along if you are interested – ask a member for the venue or phone 01844 344207.

And, believe it or not, we have some bookings for March 2017 already confirmed. Yes, LGP will be on tour again. This time to Great Hampden and to Winslow for two murder mystery performances to the local WI groups.

Please remember that we are always wanting new members to join us whether for acting, backstage or front of house. We would love to hear from you – please make contact either through our website [www.laceygreenproductions.co.uk](http://www.laceygreenproductions.co.uk) or by phoning 01844 344207.

**Peter Brookhouse**

We enjoyed a lovely day out at Bletchley Park. Sixteen of us boarded the coach to Bletchley Park and after a welcomed cup of coffee we explored all the huts and the Mansion. We also visited the Museum where we saw the Enigma Machines.

On the 21st April we are having a Coffee Morning to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. It starts at 10 am all are welcome.

Our next meeting is on the 4th May at 7.45 pm when we are having our Resolutions Meeting and a Quiz. You will be very welcome.

**Ann Bartlett**



# On The Farm

Spring is the time of year when we apply fertilizer to the crops. All the fields have their soil analysed and from this we know the status of the potash, phosphate and nitrogen levels and also the ph. (acidity) of the soil.

Most of the Chiltern land will occasionally need applications of chalk to raise the ph. level. It has to be above 6 for crops to do well and for the other fertilizers to work at their optimum. We can usually keep the potash and phosphate levels correct with applications of farmyard manure and slurry from the cattle yards.

Nitrogen we do have to apply. There is some in slurry and farmyard manure. Some of the grassland has red clover in the swards which produces nitrogen nodules on its roots which then helps the grass to grow. We are also growing lucerne which fixes its own nitrogen.

But we do have to apply additional nitrogen to the other crops. We buy either urea, ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulphate which contains sulphur of which most plants need a certain amount to thrive.

This used not to be needed here and it is thought that there was enough drifting from the fallout of Didcot Power Station which is now closed. Our agronomist recommends what should be applied, always adhering to the legal requirements laid down in DEFRA's book RB209, and always taking into account the previous cropping, the current crop's requirements and the analysed results.

Nationally British land is graded from 1 down to 4. Here, we are grade 3. Left to its own devices it would grow very little, poor grasses and eventually reverting to rough scrub and then certain trees. To work it for farming and gardening it has to be nurtured.

The old village gardens have a big advantage, having had the domestic waste dug into them for years, but new ones will know they need help. Nitrogen is expensive. For that reason alone we only apply what is necessary, but also if we applied too much the crops would be adversely effected.

The wheat would look lush but then collapse and barley would become unsaleable for malting. They have been called "artificial" fertilizers, but potash, phosphate, nitrogen, sulphur and chalk are all naturally occurring substances so I'm not sure what is really so artificial about them just because they can be bought in a bag.

We will be anxiously waiting for the results of a second T.T. test in early May. We had 7 'inconclusives' in the first one. If they test inconclusive again they will be treated as if they had T.B. and the whole herd will have to be tested every sixty days until we have had two clear tests.

We are hoping for a good result as testing is not only time consuming and expensive but until we have two clear tests, restrictions would prevent us selling any other animals to other farmers. There have been T.B. problems in the Chesham area which is alarming as we think cattle to the east of us are clear.

Another problem we have encountered this year is Neospora. This causes abortion in the cows and it is believed to come from ingesting oocysts shed by infected dogs on their grazing or on grass made into silage.

Whilst on the subject of dogs, please keep them under control near sheep. A friend had nearly twenty lambs killed overnight by a dog less than 5 miles from Lacey Green.

Milk prices remain a huge problem for us, with prices down from 32p/litre two years ago to 20p now. The cost of production is in the high 20's, so things will have to change before long.

Despite the problems Spring is here which always lifts the spirits. As soon as the ground has dried enough after the Winter so that it won't get all poached up and there is enough grass, the cows will be turned out.

To see them so full of excitement is an uplifting moment for a farmer. His cows are full of the joys of Spring, less work load with them out, the fences have been checked and as they gallop off across the meadow just keep your fingers crossed that they will actually stop when they reach the fence for in this mood they are quite capable of jumping over it, inelegant though it might seem.

**Joan West**

# Happy Wanderers Old and New

The AGM in February marked the 25th Anniversary of our club started by Ted Janes in September 1991. We gave a toast to him and the continued success of the Happy Wanderers.

The first walk was down Main road led by Ted and his wife Jean.



Windmill. We crossed the main road and went down the path to the old tractor, which is also celebrating its 25th birthday.

We returned home very happy and very puffed with every expectation of another year of wonderful walks



You may well see that some of the people in this early photograph also appear in this year's group picture which says something for the success of the Club.

As is traditional the AGM only lasted for a few minutes but sufficient to thank the outgoing Chairman, Ian Goodearl and welcome the new Chairman David Cliff, no time is wasted before having the raffle, a picnic lunch and a glass of wine before a short amble to help down the food.

The walk started at the Millennium Hall and headed down Kiln Lane and round to the



in the Chiltern Hills and a long weekend on the Dorset Jurassic coast.

**Ronnie and Liz Lewin**



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## 26th January Walk

The weather was wet and windy and the going soft and muddy, but seven intrepid Happy Wanderers met at the public car park by the village hall in Butler's Cross. The walk of just on five miles took in part of the Aylesbury Ring path, Ellesborough Golf Course, the woods below Coombe Hill, the grounds of Chequers, part of the Ridgeway Church, Whorley Wood and Ellesborough Church before picking up the Aylesbury Ring again.

Thankfully the weather gradually improved as we went along. It is worth mentioning that there are new explanation boards on the gates at each end of Whorley Wood denoting a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Apparently, the box wood is the largest in the country and well worth a short walk up towards Coombe Hill from Ellesborough Church to see it.

**David Cliff**



# TWENTY THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW

Hallmark readers may be interested to learn a bit about the history of their church. This, together with the history of the Baptist Chapel in Loosley Row and the Methodist Chapel in Lacey Green, is the main focus of the work of the History Group this year, and The History Exhibition this year will be on places of worship in Lacey Green and Loosley Row. It will be held in St. John's Church over the Remembrance Weekend of 12th and 13th of November.

1. The church was built between 1823 and 1825. The funds were contributed largely from the local aristocracy who were encouraged to contribute towards a place of worship for the local population who were thought to be largely heathen.
2. The chancel was designed by J. P. Seddon, the architect of the Vicarage and erected in 1871. During its building it fell down, and it has never been entirely satisfactory ever since. In more recent years, it was found to be leaking water since the chancel was falling away from the nave.
3. After erection of the chancel some of the bricks behind the altar were black. The then vicar did not like this, so the vergers took some brick dust and painted them over in red.
4. Up until the 1960s, the Easter collection was given as a present to the Vicar, and was known as "The Easter Offerings". After that the Vicar's stipend was significantly increased by a generous gift by Lady Bateman of Grymsdyke.
5. Rev. Steward had a choir of entirely boys and men. The boys were encouraged to attend so that they could play with his extensive model railway, housed in the attic of the Vicarage.
6. Rev. Robson built the tennis court on the site which is now called Hambye Close to provide therapy for his wife. It was built to a very high standard with a sprung floor, and was so good that Wimbledon competitors practised on it.
7. The Vicarage garage was the meeting place for the scout troop, and the far wall was once decorated with a painting by Mosh Saunders.
8. Up to the mid 1900s ladies always wore best clothes and hats to church. Men always removed their headgear, and pegs were provided where they could be hung.
9. There is a plaque in the vestry recording the thanks of the Troops of 21st Division for the use of the church during World War One.
10. One of the roles of the Churchwardens was to keep order in the church. This was especially necessary at Midnight Mass, when many of the congregation had come straight from the Crown pub over the road.
11. At Harvest Festival the church used to be so full that the seats in the balcony were full, and extra chairs had to be placed in the aisle.
12. The windows in the main part of the church display a very early form of double glazing.
13. Up to the 1950s, girls who were being confirmed used to wear white muslin veils over their heads.
14. During the 2nd World War, the Home Guard attended church on Armistice Day and were seated at the back. This was considered an insult and from then they were sat at the front.
15. On the 150th Anniversary of the church on July 6th 1975, new doors were dedicated by the Bishop of Grantham.
16. In the time of Rev. Steward, St. John's was very high church, and a gong was sounded on several occasions during the communion service.
17. In the time of Stanley Keene, the grave mounds were flattened to allow the graveyard to be mowed. Prior to that it had been scythed twice a year.
18. School children attended church on Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. They were given the rest of the day off.
19. The metal railings around graves were removed in the 2nd World War to help the war effort. The tall pine trees in front of the vicarage were also cut back to allow small aircraft to take off from the airstrip behind the school.
20. There are 37 different varieties of trees or shrubs in the churchyard.

If you would like to know more, a full History of St. John's Church and the Baptist Chapel will appear soon on the website. The History of the Methodist chapel was completed last year by Dennis Claydon, shortly before he died.

**Rosemary Mortham**  
**(Secretary to the History Group)**

# Black Horse Spring Wake-Up

Watch this space in the next few weeks. The Black Horse is having a spring wake-up. We are having new signage, new windows and a paint job outside. We are also having a new car park, and new electrics inside the pub.

Some of these jobs are really needed and we have waited a long time for them to be done. We might have to close on the odd day but look on the board outside for news.

After long chats and discussions Ian and I have now signed a new tenancy for another 5 years. Hopefully we will both be up to doing all 5 years as we are now both in our pensionable years, even though we don't feel it (I do on a Monday morning).

Well done to the Whip on their domino and crib team winning the league this year, well deserved. Well done to my domino and crib team, but we need to get better,

maybe a lot better, but they are always there, they never let me down. Also well done to Tony's team who came third this year.

Well done to my darts teams. Rob and his merry men for trying and trying and trying, and Diane's for improving so much this year. They still have to be the champions for the longest ever match. Aunt Sally will start in May on a Friday night.

Our **BEER FESTIVAL is SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST AND SUNDAY 7TH AUGUST** [my birthday).

On the Saturday we have music in the garden from lunchtime, supplied by John Jones and guests. Mozzarella Nation Pizzas, bar snacks and BBQ in the evening.

On the Sunday we have music in the garden supplied by Rumbold and BBQ 3 till 7pm. Lunchtime as normal.



Make a date, put it in your diaries, and come and enjoy the beer.

We now have a marquee in the garden permanently so if anybody would like a party or event please let us know. Let's hope we have a nice summer to be able to use it.

The play area has been updated, we now have a new playhouse and tunnels etc. for the children; it is also fenced off so they cannot run away, so you can feel rested while having a drink or a bite to eat. Have a really good summer.

**Lynne**

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We are all pleased to be back at Kindergym and Melody Minors after our Easter break, staff, children and especially parents.

Here are a few exciting layouts to look forward to – the large trampoline with golf will be out for 4 weeks, we will be learning



different rolls, including log rolls,

and developing our hand to eye co-ordination skills by rolling balls down our technically named “gadget” into the tunnel amongst other contraptions, and practising our balancing and climbing skills on the various trestles, stepping stones & balance beams.

In the last 2 weeks we will be going fishing with our magnetic fishing rods.

We are hoping to run workshops throughout the Summer holidays, and are planning to run another “Imagination Station” workshop in my garden.



Please contact me or Gabby if you have any specific requests.

We had great fun with “The Gruffalo” last July – in fact, the Gruffalo went missing after the workshop and only re-emerged amongst the daffodils in March, none the worse for wear after a spin in the washing machine!

**kindergymjenny@gmail.com**

# Horticultural Society

At last spring is here! A few nice days in the garden and the growing juices are beginning to flow! Now is the time to get everything going and plan for the autumn show.

Before that, the society has lots to offer and to help you get going. On May 15th, in conjunction with National Mills Day and courtesy of Windmill Farm we are delighted to offer our annual plant sale, with something for everyone.

If you are looking for vegetables, annuals and fruit do come along and see what we have to offer. If you have any spare cuttings, or seedlings we would be happy to receive them. All proceeds go to the society and help to subsidise the activities of the society.

On Sunday 10th July we are celebrating our 35th anniversary and would like to invite everyone in the village to join us. We will be having a pig roast with quiz and activities. Do come and join us. Tickets cost £10 and are available from John Burnett/Laura Chapman on

01844 345750, or ask any member of the committee.

The event runs from 5.00 to 9.00pm and everyone is welcome. We expect it to be a lively social evening with some excellent food and entertainment.

Other forthcoming activities for the society include a practical lesson on composting, essential to help the environment, cut the cost of gardening and maintain the fertility of your soil. Other talks include advice on growing roses and creating wonderful flowering hanging baskets for brightening up your winter days.

Of course our big event of the year is the annual plant and produce show on Saturday 3rd September. The schedule is included with this edition of Hallmark and there is something for everyone. Be daring and have a go!

There are classes for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers, baking and cooking and photography. If you don't want to enter but just to have a look at



the results, the village hall is open from 4.00 - 4.45pm for viewing and visitors are welcome.

Our AGM included a wonderful insight into South African game reserves with a presentation from Stan McCabe. We were entertained with beautiful photographs of wildlife and transported to an experience that most of us can only dream of. Thank you Stan and family for sharing this with us.

We also had a competition for pot grown bulbs which was won with a sunny spring display of daffodils grown by Stella Boll (pictured). Thank you to everyone who entered, it's not easy to have things in full bloom on a specific day, but our members managed it.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings or events. You can visit for one event or join for the year. Please see the village website for further details.





# Windmill Under 5s

The spring term was busy and exciting for everyone at Windmills, with the children learning about the many celebrations and festivities that have occurred over the last few months.

Back in February, the children enjoyed making (and eating) pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, learning about Chinese New Year and making crafts and cards for Valentines Day and Mother's Day.

In March we baked cakes, hunted for treasure, scrambled over obstacles and shimmied with Timmy in a Sports Relief dance-a-thon. Then just before the end of term we had our Easter Party, where we enjoyed lots of party games, dancing, craft activities, biscuit decorating and hotdogs, and all went home very happy but exhausted! Thank you to all of the parents and staff who helped at the party, and particularly to Liz Paradiso who organized this brilliant event. Thank you also to Alpa Boll, Nell Rigg and Natasha Kann for hosting coffee mornings for the mums and younger siblings over the last term.

We have also enjoyed sharing our favourite books for World Book Day, reading the story "Giraffes Can't Dance", learning

about different kinds of music, and practising our letter sounds and counting.

This half term our theme is "Our Village", and the staff have many activities and walks planned for the children, hopefully the weather will be kind and you will see the children out and about!

Just before Mother's Day we held a very enjoyable pottery painting evening for the parents. Vicky Scoble from Pot-tastic was on hand with helpful hints and tips to ensure that everyone went home with a creation to be proud of. It was a great evening and a lovely chance for some of the mums to catch up and enjoy a glass of wine or two!

The new term has also meant some new faces have joined the preschool – a big welcome to you all, and we hope that you enjoy your time with us at Windmills. This means that the pre-school is once again full, and literally buzzing with happy children who are enthusiastic and keen to learn. It is no surprise that the waiting list is also filling up fast and this is



testament to the fabulous job that the staff; Angela, Louisa, Lucy, Annie, Keeley, Joel, Lisa and Paula, do in making Windmills a fun and successful environment for our children. Thank you to you all for your hard work and commitment.

Looking forward to the next term, the staff will no doubt be busy preparing our school leavers for the future that lies ahead in "big school", as well as enjoying exploring the outdoor area and practicing for sports day. We will also be looking forward to our annual family barbeque on 26th June. If you would like your child to join Windmills, we would recommend that you contact Paula as soon as possible, and she will advise you of the most up to date information about our waiting list.

**Victoria Geenes  
Chair**



# Tennis Club

With Easter being early this year, our annual cheese and wine event was delayed by a couple of weeks till after the holidays. It was a beneficial move, as we sold 80 tickets, 30 more than last year! Everyone enjoyed catching up and in between the chatter and laughs, Simon Patient organised a fun and entertaining wine tasting competition and quiz.



Some of the questions had some classic answers such as “what do you call someone who has a fear of wine?”- wrong!! Guests were also asked to describe the game of tennis as though it were a fine wine –“deucy”, “a gentle smooth approach with a great punch and easy follow through”, “a lob of Sauternes followed by a smooth drop shot of Margaux” and “flowing with gooseberry, smashing a Shiraz, passing each glass, velvet flowing from the thrust.....”

Competition was intense and in the end Clare Ince was declared the winner. Congratulations, also to the 8 members who were successful in the Wimbledon ballot.

All in all, the evening was a great success, raising a record amount

money for the club. Special thanks in particular to Liz, Jude and Caroline who spent hours planning, setting up and clearing up. We are so lucky to have plenty of willing volunteers who go the extra mile to ensure we have memorable social events.

## Team News

As followers of the Premier League will know, bottom at Christmas normally ends in tears at the end of the season. We feared for the worst, propping up the bottom of division 7, but the festive break gave us fresh impetus. Cannons were dusted down and realigned and we won 4 matches, drew 1 and lost 1, giving us a mid-table finish. Well done to our Scottish warrior Hugh Edwards, who captained the side and also to Graeme Aitken, Olly Eades, Peter Morris and Paddy Woods-Ballard.

We enter the summer season with a spring in our step and have ladies’ and men’s teams plus a new mixed doubles side.

## Tennis Activities

Outside of the teams, we have plenty to offer members and non-members. Junior coaching continues on Saturday mornings, we have our family BBQ on 3rd July and we also have rusty rackets sessions and cardio tennis which will both be open to non-members to try out.

The Times newspaper in February highlighted that clubs

are the key to a happy old age. “Being a regular member of a social group such as a tennis club can help you to live longer, and feel better.” So now is your chance to come along to a cardio session and enjoy a high energy work out. No tennis experience or equipment necessary. Cardio will be every Thursday (excluding half-term) commencing 5th May from 19.30 to 20.30 and will cost £7 a session.

If you would just like to come down and try out our new facilities, we will be opening the courts on Saturday May 14th from 10am to 2pm, as part of the Lawn Tennis Association’s “Great British Tennis Weekend”. You will be able to practise against a ball machine, have a game of tennis and chat to members of the club. If you enjoy the experience there will also be special discounts to new members.

Finally, you can make it a full day of tennis on 14th May by popping down to the Eden Centre at around 3pm to see a trophy which is over a metre tall and wide and weighs over 100 kg. What is it? The Davis Cup of course! As the dimensions imply, it is one of the largest sporting trophies in the world and Wycombe is part of its nationwide tour of celebrations. Well done Great Britain!

**Nigel Glenister**







**Verge maintenance**

Summer is approaching (we hope), the daffodils are out and the grass is growing.

The Parish Council was pleased with the first season of powers delegated to us from Bucks County Council.

With the help of the Princes Risborough Maintenance Team, we have had the verges that are under our control cut more often than previously when Bucks County Council had control. Also our street signage has been cleaned and tidied up and the villages look better for it.

We are now able to control random advertising on verges and we have put this to use in tidying up some verges where advertising boards have been placed without permission, again making our villages tidier and a more pleasant place to live or drive through.

The council currently has vacancies for 2 councillors and we would welcome requests for details from anyone thinking of joining. The work and time given freely is not arduous; monthly meetings and answering emails. Further information can be obtained from our clerk and details are advertised on page 3.

**Bus shelters**

As many of you will have noticed, our bush shelters have taken a hit. The one opposite RAF Strike Command blew down in a very strong wind. This

should be replaced very soon, we have now agreed on a replacement, so a bright new shelter is winging its way to us.

The bus shelter beside St Johns School, had a to-do with a car. We have nearly completed our paperwork with the insurance company and hope to be in a position very soon to order a replacement.

Anyone who has been affected by the lack of bus shelters, we apologise, but we are doing our best and hope to have both replaced very soon.

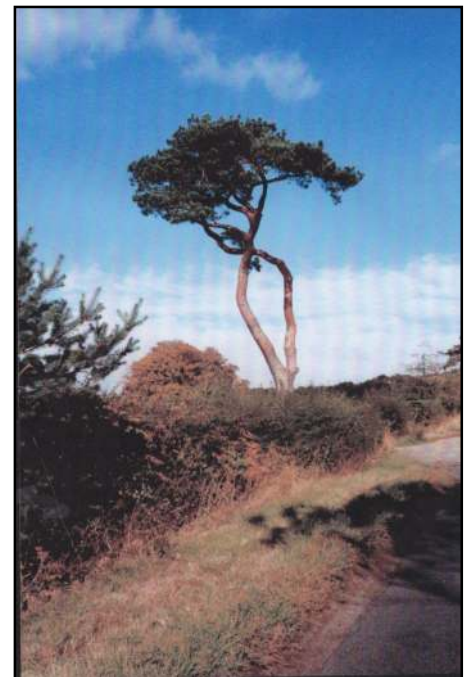
**Speeding**

We are positively supporting the community speed watch in the village. As you will read in other articles in the magazine, speeding is commonplace along Main Road. From the data received it would appear to be mostly excessive, with the exception of between school dropping off and picking up times. However this is the only time we have parking and two way traffic problems in the village.

We have yet to come to a conclusive idea or means of balancing these two problems, if anyone has any constructive ideas, or is willing to give up a few hours to monitor, we would be pleased to hear from you.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the spring and summer and remember that much of the peacefulness and pleasantness of the village is brought about by volunteers. I thank you all for your help and I hope that more villagers come forward and help with the various voluntary enterprises in the village

**Cathryn Davies  
Chairman**



**Pink Road Trees**

The conifer trees along Pink Road have been felled.

The distinctive older one shown in the picture succumbed to the recent storms, and afterwards the remaining trees including the more recently planted ones have disappeared.

**Chris Boll**

# District Council News



There is much activity in the town hall in creating the master plan for the future development of the wider Wycombe district. This will be submitted to the central government early next year and it will be the template and guideline for all development in the district.

The new sports centre, bus station and Waitrose are all open at last and with much acclaim. The old sports centre will have permanently disappeared from view by the time you read this, to make way for an office block and a hotel.

The focus now is very much on the development of the plan for Princes Risborough which will see it double in size with over 2,000 new homes. The appeal will be heard soon for a planning consent for the proposal to build over 200 houses on the old Molins site in Saunderton. Both of these large projects will impact on the vehicle movements through Loosley Row and Lacey Green.

With this in mind, a group of volunteers have been busy recording the speed of traffic through Lacey Green and the preliminary results show that the majority of cars are travelling at above 30 mph. *(The detailed figures shown on the next page show that only 27% of traffic is travelling at over 35 mph ... Ed)*

The statistics are necessary to get to the next stage before deciding on the appropriate measures to address the problem.

Similar statistics are emerging from the team in Speen so this is a problem in all the surrounding villages that needs to be fixed before an accident occurs.

On a more positive note, I am pleased to confirm that the application for a grant from the WDC Community Infrastructure Levy fund by the Art House Pavilion in Lacey Green of £20,000 has been successful.

This is a grant towards the cost of the renovation of a barn for an extension of the excellent arts projects already running.

Most of the houses in Lacey Green have had the benefit of reasonably fast broadband for a while. I am optimistic that the few remaining few properties on the outskirts of the village along with all of those in Speen should be fortunate to receive their upgrade within the foreseeable future. It is not widely understood that the faster fibre connected broadband upgrades have been organised and part funded by Wycombe District Council.

What projects would you like to see next in your village?

## **Graham Peart**

Councillor for Lacey Green, Speen and the Hampdens

01494 488327

[graham.peart@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:graham.peart@wycombe.gov.uk)

## **Art House Pavilion, Lacey Green**

The following text is taken from the WDC web site by the Editor .....

This project will involve the conversion of a barn at Grymsdyke Farm, Lacey Green to a public art pavilion which will exhibit work by the Royal College of Art and other local artists, fabricators and contributors within the local area. The pavilion will be located on a circular walk within Lacey Green.

A CIL allocation of £20,000 is recommended as this is an innovative employment, educational, cultural and recreational project delivered in collaboration with local suppliers and the Royal College of Art who are part funding the project and will be responsible for maintenance. As this is primarily a private led scheme a legal agreement will be put in place to ensure the funds are repaid if the property is sold.

# Community Planning Group

## Lacey Green Stores

Coffee is now available in the Stores at 90p on weekday mornings, except between 10.00 and 12.00 on Thursdays. There is a choice of about five different varieties. We also welcome our latest volunteer - Majella Robinson, who lives in Loosley Row.

## The Welcome Pack

I haven't placed one of these for some time, and it is to be hoped that nobody has been missed.

What we need is for neighbours of new arrivals to let me know when there is a new arrival. It would be very helpful if someone living in each road could nominate themselves as an informant. If you can do this please let me know.

## Princes Risborough Town Plan

Technically, this has little to do with us, except for possibly using Shootacre Lane (partly within the Parish boundary) as a relief road to bypass the town centre.

There is however likely to be an impact from increased traffic flow, some of which is likely to find its way through Lacey Green.

## Speeding and a spot of controversy.

Speed limits and their enforcement seem to be very much in the news these days. What is interesting is the figures obtained during 8 days in August/September 2015 by a MVAS (Movable Vehicle Activated Sign).

This device shows the speed of an approaching vehicle if above a predetermined level, typically 33 mph in a 30 limit area. It also logs the data so that a comprehensive record is available.

The results were:

Total vehicles	13,215	%
Not speeding	3,908	30
30 - 35	5,640	43
35 - 40	2,574	19
40 - 45	818	6
45 - 50	211	2
50 - 55	49	
55 - 60	13	
60 - 65	2	
65 - 90	0	

What is your reaction to these figures, and what do you suggest might be done about it?

How do you judge whether a speed limit is effective? It should ensure a minimal accident rate,

but my view is that it must also show that the majority of motorists do not exceed the prescribed limit. I am not sure what makes for a majority but I would suggest at least 90 per cent. My thoughts are that since the majority of motorists (70 per cent) exceed the 30 limit, then the speed limit in Lacey Green is a partial failure. Clearly there are some nut cases, especially the two maniacs found to be doing 65 mph, but I suspect that such people will ignore any speed limit.

It may be worth noting that the speed limit was 40 mph until a few years ago. If the trial had been carried out at that time, 92 per cent of motorists would have not exceeded the limit. Is there a case for raising the limit, other than adjacent to St John's school? This has been done elsewhere, notably in Naphill some years ago.

For what it is worth, I have seen other figures that show a general reduction in speed at times when children are entering or leaving St John's school.

**Tony Molesworth**

Community Plan Steering Group  
(01844 344975)  
[molechem@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:molechem@yahoo.co.uk)

# A note from Loosley Row Cemetery

We have recently been provided with new wheelie bins which have been placed just inside the gates. Can we please ask that anyone visiting the cemetery and needing to discard green waste and rubbish put it in the new bins as we are trying to tidy up

the unsightly compost/waste area.

Also just a reminder to anyone requesting a plot in the cemetery, contact should be made with Mr Nigel Anderson or me, Sheila Coles to check space

and availability as some plots are reserved in advance.

Many Thanks

Nigel Anderson - 01844347646

Sheila Coles - 01844346058



# The MP's view of the Risborough Plan

Wycombe District Council is pressing forward with plans for significant new housing in Princes Risborough. We've yet to see all the details, but on the basis of my recent discussions with council officers we're looking at perhaps 2,000 to 2,500 homes on the west side of the town between Wades Park and the Lower Icknield Way.

A Neighbourhood Plan is likely to go out to an examination in public by an independent planning inspector in the second half of 2016. If the inspector approves the overall plan, developers could be putting in applications for specific planning permissions in 2017.

I shall do all I can to ensure that the views of my constituents are represented to the officers and councillors in Wycombe responsible for planning decisions.

I also have views of my own. I've lived in Risborough for nearly 25 years and represent Saunderton and Bledlow as well as Lacey Green.

It seems to me that some significant development in the town is inevitable. If the Council is going to be able to defend refusing speculative planning applications, it needs to show that it has an effective plan to meet housing demand. Risborough is one of the few parts of Wycombe District that isn't Green Belt or AONB.

I have said to the Council that I think that they should plan development with a number of essential objectives in mind.

First, new housing and public services should be integrated with the rest of the town. I want housing growth to bring new life to the High Street. That means making it easy for people to move between the new homes and the shops.

Second, we should be looking to develop Risborough as a business location, so that we get new jobs as well as new homes. I was pleased to learn that Wycombe Council is looking at how to improve the attractiveness of the Princes Estate off Summerleys Road.

Third, the Council should plan infrastructure alongside residential development. Their current thinking is to plan to divert the A4010 away from the town centre and onto a new road that would run on the Longwick side of the new development and rejoin the existing route near Woodway. This would affect the edge of Lacey Green parish west of the Wycombe Road. I'm talking to residents in that area about how to ensure their interests and opinions are represented.

**David Lidington MP**

## Tribute to Denis Croucher 6/6/24 to 14/11/16

Denis was born in Kent and joined the RAF aged 17 ¼ the earliest he could do so and trained as a Navigator. He saw active service in the Far East, India and Burma being demobilised in 1947.

He then joined B.O.A.C. as a Navigator until 1949 when he re-joined the RAF and retired in 1976 as a Group Captain.

In 1973 Denis moved to Lacey Green with wife Gwen and daughters Beverley and Rosalind.

He was very active in Lacey Green joining many organisations - the Horticultural Society (on committee for 8 Years and Chairman for 1 year) Walking Club, Windmill Warden, Residents Association, Conservative Association and local Music and Fine Art societies.

In 2012 he moved to Cockermouth, Cumbria to be near his family. He remained active joining U3A and a walking group.

His health deteriorated in 2015 with several weeks in Cockermouth Community Hospital. At his request he returned to his home and passed away in less than a week.

Denis was a very good friend to us and we like many others miss him.

**Babette & Peter Green**

# County Council News



Buckinghamshire County Council have agreed to waive any fees normally associated with street parties organised on this day. Here is a link to Street Parties on the Highway where an application form can be downloaded.

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport/more/events-on-the-highway/street-parties-on-the-highway/>

The Chief Executive of Bucks County Council Mr. Chris Williams retired on 31st March after 15 years in post. Mr. Neil Gibson is currently the interim CEO.

On 21st April this year we saw the Queen celebrate her 90th birthday. However, on Her Majesty's official birthday, to coordinate with national events taking place on 12 June,

At the time of going to press, Rachael Shimmin OBE has been announced as the new Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire County Council. Corporate Director for Children and Adults' Services at Durham County

Council since 2012, Rachael is responsible for a revenue budget of over £800m and a team of over 3,000 people. Rachael was awarded an OBE for services to social care in 2014.

Prior to taking on the joint portfolio of children and adults' services, Rachael was director for a range of services including adult care, community safety, health, culture and libraries, gypsy and travellers, and community engagement. Rachael will take up the post later in the year having had her appointment ratified by the full Council.

As part of the Capital Maintenance Programme for 2016/17 the programme is split between Local Roads (generally Unclassified Roads) and Strategic Roads. *continued opposite...*

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# Sports Club News

As the football season draws to a close, our volunteer groundsmen are getting the pitch ready for the cricket season. They are busy rolling the pitch, mowing and strimming the outfield and getting everything ready for what we hope will be a dry summer.

Last year, after ten years of continuous fundraising, the sports club committee and members were able to make a significant investment in the club house, securing the future of the facility for the community. The sports ground and club house are privately owned and are managed by a team of volunteers from the local community. As it is not council-run facility it receives no financial help from the council. 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.

This year we have a calendar of events to help us rebuild our reserves and continue to invest in a better facility for our community.

To support us you can attend one of our fundraising social events:

## Friday Night club

After the success of last year our "Friday Night club" will start again on Friday 10th June. The bar will be open from 5.30pm, please pop down and enjoy the sunshine (hopefully) in a beautiful setting and relax with a drink at the bar while the children play.

## Prosecco and Pottery Evening

A Pot-Tastic evening of painting pottery with a sparkly twist to be held in May (keep an eye on Facebook or at the club house for details).

## End of Summer Event

Its back.... our end of year summer extravaganza - Music, Marquee, Food & Dancing. September 13 - tickets and further info will be available soon...

We have lots of other events in the pipeline please follow us on Facebook or look out for posters at the club.

## Follow us on Facebook

### Lacey Green and Loosley Row Sports Club

You can also support the club by joining as a playing or a social member.

We are actively looking for new members to play cricket, football and tennis.

If you are not a member of any of the sporting sections, you can become a social member. Over the summer months cricket is played every Saturday from 1.30pm and the bar is open in the afternoon and on a Friday evening from 5.30pm. Football is played from September to April and tennis all year round. Social membership is only £5 and it's a great place to meet, watch sport and enjoy a drink in the sunshine (if you are lucky). If you would like to become a member or renew a social membership please contact me on [steph@soundmarketingpractice.co.uk](mailto:steph@soundmarketingpractice.co.uk) (07768 831196).

## Stephanie Dell

Chairperson LG & LR Sports Club

.....*County Council continued*

The Local Road Scheme for the area has now been assessed, and I am delighted to report that the full length of Studridge Lane in Speen will have a micro surfacing dressing. The preparatory work will be scheduled sometime between June and August, with the headline treatment between July to October.

On to education; on 18th April, almost 87% of parents applying for a primary school place for their

child in Buckinghamshire were offered their first preference.

This year there were 6,385 primary school applications from Buckinghamshire residents - 22 more than this time last year. Of these, 5,538 were offered first preference. Those who didn't get any of their preferred schools equated to 3%, a drop from last year's figure of 4.95%.

If there are any matters relating to Buckinghamshire County Council that you would like to raise, please

don't hesitate to contact me either via email

[cetholen@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:cetholen@buckscc.gov.uk) or by telephone 01494 564771 and if you would like a person to person meeting with me, I will happily come and see you.

## Carl Etholen

Councillor for the Ridgeway West Division - Bucks County Council

Chairman of the North West Chilterns Local Area Forum



# The Cycle of Life



Since moving to Lacey Green in the Autumn of 2014, I have again taken up cycling after a gap of almost 40 years. As a Civil Servant in the late 1970s, I used to cycle daily to work from Chingford to Gants Hill in Ilford which was a trip of around 5 miles each way.

That was a time in my life when I was probably as fit as I have ever been. Then I acquired a Yamaha motorcycle (I still have a full motorcycle licence though it is at least 30 years since I last rode a motorcycle) and later on my first car. So I am afraid my fitness levels have never been the same since I gave up my old pushbike!

My new bike, now about 15 months old, is what is known as a “hybrid”; that is to say somewhere between a racing bike and a mountain bike. Actually it isn't all that different to the bike I had all those years ago; except that there are a lot more gears on modern bicycles than my old bike with its three Sturmey Archer gears.

Of course, I don't have any hope whatsoever that I can get back to the kind of fitness levels I enjoyed when I was in my late twenties; though it would be nice to be able to race past other cyclists from time to time instead of the other way round!

I have found that being a cyclist in rural Buckinghamshire makes one much more aware of other users of the road apart from car drivers.

On a typical cycle journey, I meet up with a surprising number of other cyclists, with people riding horses which is usually in groups of two or more, with walkers, and with joggers. I find that people engaged in these kinds of slow moving traffic greet each other in a way that just isn't possible in a car. My own experience has been that by far the majority of car drivers are very polite and careful as they pass cyclists, horse riders, walkers, and joggers.

In fact, the principal hazard for a cyclist, and perhaps for those riding horses too I guess, are the potholes most of which are close to the kerb. Even those which have been filled in are best avoided on a bike, if spotted in time that is. There are some quite big and deep ones in places on some of the quieter roads which can be really quite treacherous on a bicycle, especially when cycling after dark.

Apart from being able to enjoy the fresh air, cycling around and between our villages also gives a different perspective on some of our local wildlife. Lots of pheasants cross the road in front of a cyclist at a much more leisurely pace than would be possible in front of a motor vehicle. I see plenty of squirrels and lots of birds; with the distinctive cry of the red kite very often being heard even when the birds are hidden from sight above the trees. The Muntjac deer seem less timid when a

cyclist passes; possibly because they don't see or hear us until we are very close. Very occasionally I have spotted badgers and some of our other indigenous British mammals.

In fact, I gather that people such as myself are classed as “Mamils”; which is an acronym that means “Middle Aged Men In Lycra”. I checked the definition on the Internet and read that a “Mamil” is a “middle aged man who rides a racing bicycle for leisure, wearing professional style body-hugging bicycle jerseys and bicycle shorts”. It's a fair cop!

If you have seen the musical “The Lion King”, either on stage or as the Walt Disney animated movie, you will know of Elton John's song “The Circle of Life”. This reflects on a spiritual dimension to life with the turning of the seasons and the inevitable changes which life brings; and indeed on the cycle of life and death which is intrinsic to the natural world.

Once the cyclist gets away from the main roads, he or she finds cycling to be a very peaceful way to travel; with its own opportunities to reflect and ponder the beauty of the natural world, and to simply enjoy a slower pace of travel along the road of life. There are many other ways to do that, or course, but cycling has turned out to be good for me.

**Tony Bundock**  
**Vicar of St. John's**

# St John's Church

Leading up to the Easter celebrations we had a very well attended Mothering Sunday service. The ukulele band from St John's School joined us, with other pupils and families from the School and they were accompanied by a large number of 'volunteer children' who played percussion instruments.

Following the service, all enjoyed cakes decorated by the children under the guidance of Rosemary Mortham. All in all this was a delightful service!

On each day of Easter week there was a Compline Service in the evenings and on Maundy Thursday the service was preceded by an Agape Supper in the Upper Room which was very well attended.

On Good Friday, following the 'Last Hour' service the Cross was erected in Church Lane.

The Easter Saturday Liturgy was another lovely service and once again cake and wine were

enjoyed with the fellowship after the service.

Easter Sunday morning witnessed the Cross beautifully decorated with daffodils (as shown on the front cover) and three services were celebrated on that day.

Thanks must go to all who participated in any way and of course to Canon Tony for leading us.

We now look forward to several fund raising events namely:

June 19th **Open Gardens** in Hets Orchard and Kiln Lane from 2pm - 6pm. Teas in the Village Hall.

June 25th **Summer Fete** in the Vicarage Garden

Look out for further advertising!

**Pat Richards**  
**Churchwarden**

## Regular Services at St. John's Church

### SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (1662) every Sunday

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

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

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

### TUESDAY

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

### WEDNESDAY

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

School Assemblies during term time are held on Friday mornings 9.15 am at St. John's and 10.00 am at Speen.



We are looking for someone to revive the Toddler Praise session. If you would like to help (possibly with others) please speak to Pat Richards.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or would like a home visit, please contact churchwardens Mrs Pat Richards on 01844 345452 or Mr Dick Field on 01494 562231.

Please do come and experience the warm welcome in our lovely Church.



# Heavenly Bodies

We're often told how huge the Sun is, and how small the planets are in comparison. But it's not very often that we can see this for ourselves and truly appreciate what is going on.

On Monday **May 9**, the Solar System stages an event to show us its astonishing scale – the Transit of Mercury. On that day, our smallest planet will glide across the face of the Sun as seen from our vantage point on Earth (12.12pm - 7.40pm BST).

The pair will dramatically show the difference in dimensions. Our Sun, a star, is almost one million miles wide, compared to the little planet which is only slightly larger than our Moon. We are 93 million miles from the Sun, and Mercury will be 51 million miles from us. When viewed, the silhouetted planet will appear as a tiny black dot which would fit in a line across the Sun 150 times.

Mercury transits don't happen frequently – about once every seven years and are not always visible from the UK. However, never look at the Sun directly with the naked eye, sunglasses or binoculars. Special filters are needed to block out most of the Sun's glare and heat which would otherwise cause serious and irreparable eye damage.

The diagram on this page shows how the scene will look and the relative sizes of the planet and our star, as well as how Venus appeared when it transited the Sun in 2004 and 2012.

The media and Internet will provide images and videos of the event, so it will be worth

searching them out. When you do, imagine fleeting Mercury hurtling through space at 112,000 mph (our fastest planet at twice Earth's speed), taking just 88 days to go around the Sun. Then imagine daytime temperatures of 450°C (and a "day" on Mercury lasts 59 Earth-days) with a 600° temperature drop to settle at -170°C at night. The view from Mercury would show the Sun three-times larger than it appears to us on Earth.

All that happens during our daytime, but when it gets dark look out for meteors fizzing across the sky, especially overnight on **May 5-6** when the Eta Aquariid meteor shower peaks without the Moon diluting the darkness.

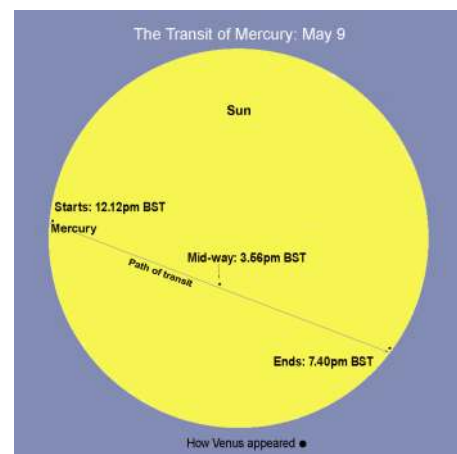
As for the other planets, this is a great time of year. Mighty Jupiter in Leo remains the brightest dot in the southern sky at nightfall until it fades away in July, while Mars and Saturn reach their nearest point to Earth this year.

They can both be seen easily with the naked eye low in the southern sky when it gets dark (see diagram). Mars is closest to us at the end of May when it will

be 46 million miles away, while Saturn to its left, is at its closest point on June 3 at 837 million miles away. The Moon will guide you to them on **May 22**, **June 18** and **July 15** when it lies above Saturn.

Finally, look out for the Moon Illusion on the evening of **July 19** when our silvery satellite will appear "huge" thanks to an optical illusion which isn't entirely understood by those in the know. This is different to a so-called supermoon which involves a full Moon being nearer Earth.

**Chris Dignan**



Organisation	Meetings	Contact	Phone	Email address
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Full walk last Sun of the month 10.30	Ronnie Lewin	274961	relewin@btinternet.com
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Short walk (2-3 miles) 2nd Wed 10.30	Linda Taylor	345261	
Horticultural Society	3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov. 8 pm	Alison Shreeve		a.shreeve1@btinternet.com
Kinder Gym & Melody Minors	Baby to 5 years. Fridays during term. After school classes for up to Year 3	Jenny Stothard Gabby Kenny	344441 07793 80745	jennystothard@btinternet.com
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time	Denise Kinnard		laceygreensingers@hotmail.co.uk
Lacey Green Productions	Theatre, drama, and sometimes food			info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk
Windmill Under 5s	Mon-Fri 9.00-12.00 or 1.30 if your child stays for lunch	Paula Cunningham	07502 198405	admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk
Windmill WI (evenings)	1st Wed of month except Jan. 7.45 pm	Daphne Willash	01494 562455	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District U3A	4th Wed afternoon of the month	Theresa Hehir	01494 881170	hehirt@hotmail.com
Youth Club	Alternate Fridays - see laceygreen.com web site for details 7.30 pm	Joan Smith	342322	joansmith38@googlemail.com
Over 50s Pub Lunch Club	Black Horse. First Tuesday of the month	Betty Tyler Yvonne Axe	344606 345216	
Short Mat Bowls Club	Monday 2 pm	Leigh Axe	345216	leigh@laceygreen.com
LG Sports Club Secretary		Stephanie Dell	07768 831196	steph.dell@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Cricket		Jonathan Dell	07786 386912	
LG Sports Club - Tennis		Nigel Glenister	342771	ne.glenister@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Football		Ben Foster	344906	laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.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
Pilates Classes	Tuesday mornings	Sue Croxford	346656	susancroxford@gmail.com
Wycombe District Council		Graham Peart	01494 488327	graham_peart@wycombe.gov.uk
Bucks County Council		Carl Etholen	01494 564771	cetholenn@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Pat Richards	345452	
LG Community Planning Group		Tony Molesworth	344975	molechem@yahoo.co.uk
Scouts (Naphill & Hughenden)		Peter Byerley	01494 565955	peter.byerley@capgemini.com
Parish Council		Susanne Griffiths	275912	sue@princesrisborough.com
LG Post Office	Monday and Thursday 9 am to 12 noon			
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2 to 5 pm April to September	Michael Hardy	275871	contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk
Millennium Hall		Clive Hodgton	343113	clive@laceygreen.com
Millennium Hall bookings		Karen Hodgton	274254	karen@laceygreen.com
The Black Horse	Quiz night last Sunday of every month at 8pm	Lynne Comley	345195	lynnecomley@btconnect.com
Police		Andy Ralph	101	



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.

We welcome news from all the Village clubs, societies, church and school, stories of local interest and entries for the Village Diary. A version of this printed Hallmark may be found on our website [www.laceygreen.com](http://www.laceygreen.com), which also has breaking news and many additional articles & photos.

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(past the pond on the left) 01844 275442 Email ckbakerland@gmail.com

### **VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS**

Clive or Karen on 01844 274254 (answering service)

#### **LACEY GREEN POST OFFICE**

Open Monday and Thursday 9.00 to 12.00

#### **LACEY GREEN STORES**

Village Hall 9.00 am - 12 Noon 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 by appointment

#### **VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

##### **Clive Hodghton (Chair)**

Sue D'Arcy (Secretary),  
Leigh Axe (Treasurer),  
Karen Hodghton (Booking Sec.),  
Chris Baker, Yvonne Axe,  
Stella Boll, Jane Brown,  
Cathryn Davies,  
Ginnie Brudenell,  
Jill Gosling

### **LACEY GREEN WINDMILL**

In 2016, Lacey Green Windmill will be open from 2 pm to 5 pm on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from Easter Sunday 27th March to Sunday 25th September.

Bank Holiday Monday Open Days: 28th Mar, 2 May, 30 May, 29 Aug. (all 2pm - 5pm).

For National Mills Weekend: Open on Sat 14th May (2pm - 5pm) & Sun 15th May (11am - 5pm).

Admission Charges for 2016: Adult £2.50, Child (5 to 15) £1.00. All children must be accompanied.

For further details about visiting the mill, such as access, facilities, location, and travelling. See [www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk](http://www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk) or telephone Michael or Betty Hardy on 01844 275871.

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**CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE AUGUST EDITION**  
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