

HALLMARK

THE LACEY GREEN & LOOSLEY ROW MAGAZINE



"Hunting for food"
by Brian Panter

AUGUST 2007

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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, churches and school, stories of local interest and entries for the Village Diary are always welcome. In addition, any suggestions for improving Hallmark.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Clive Hodgton (Chair), Rachel Panter (Vice-Chair), Lee Harte (Treasurer / Acting Sec.),
Karen Hodgton (Booking Sec.), Jill Baker, Stella Boll, Jane Brown, Ginnie Brudenell, Cathryn Davies,
Carole Knight, Betty Tyler & Norman Tyler

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

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**The Winter Hallmark will be published in November
- closing date for copy is October 17th**

Chairman's Report

August 2007



Welcome to the latest bumper edition of Hallmark. Summer seems to be eluding us this year but of course we should be very grateful that we are not suffering too badly from the dreadful floods that are ruining so many homes and businesses across the country.

Sadly for us, the weather affected the Strawberry Tea

this year and it was poorly attended in the School Hall. Everyone who came however enjoyed the afternoon regardless. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who worked so hard to keep the show on the road, so to speak!

A local lady has thankfully now come forward and has kindly offered to take on the role of Village Hall Secretary. We are always on the lookout for other new committee members and helpers, so if you are interested please contact us. We're a friendly bunch

and our meetings take place every two months for about an hour, so it's not that bad really.

I've noticed quite a few houses changing owners recently and warmly welcome any newcomers to the area. Thursday's Coffee Mornings (10-12) are a great place to meet up if you are new to the villages. Just pop in, introduce yourself and have a quick chat. What better way could you have to get to know us all at the hall, and also see what the hall has to offer you.

Our aim is, as always, to keep the hall in excellent condition and during the rest of the summer we intend to have the main hall floor re-polished, as well as some other interior decorating to keep up the usual high standards. The gardens are now looking lovely thanks to our new gardener and the repainted railings finish it off a

treat. The Hall is being used more and more, with bookings for 2007 exceeding all expectations.

Unfortunately, the Library has now closed in the hall, due to lack of use. We are promised, however, that the van service will resume in the car park – watch this space! The Post Office as usual continues to need your support to allow us all to keep it, or this will be lost too. Please keep an eye on the notice boards outside the hall and don't forget the list of users in Hallmark. There's lots to do and activities to keep everyone happy.

Have what's left of a great summer but, with the weather looking so grim, please remember to support the local activities throughout the village.

Clive Hodgton, Chairman, Village Hall

From the Editor(s)



This issue has plenty in addition to our valuable regular contributors:

We have until 8th September to take advantage of a unique opportunity to see an **interesting exhibition of the greatest possible local historic importance**. It relates to the restoration by volunteers led by **Christopher Wallace** of our windmill, the oldest smock mill and the third oldest of any kind in the UK and Ireland! Includes sound videos. See page 25.

St John's School and the related **Parents Association** have recently contributed a lot of excitement of many kinds for all ages. The **FA Cup Fayre** on Saturday 19th May was a great success, enjoyed by everyone of all ages who came, whether or not they were interested in football! See pages 22 and 23 for proof. Page 16 relates also to their successful **5K Fund Run**.

We have more than usual **Village Notices** on pages 3, 4 and 8, all of importance in various ways to people who live in or near our village. You could well be interested in some of them or know of someone who may be.

Nearby **Speen** has some enjoyable events we don't have and we, particularly with our large village hall, have some activities they don't. To get the best from our lives, we should both enjoy supporting each other's. Their **Festival** from 6th to 15th **September** has many enterprising well-run events, some of which need to be booked in advance. See page 20 for details.

Lacey Green Productions together with **The Command Performers** are very active. Their article on pages 7 & 8 informs us of coming shows of different kinds.

The new **village website**, www.laceygreen.com, has been registered and is being organized by our already very busy Village Hall Chairman. I can help but would love to hear from anyone who would be able and interested to help in any way. It will need a lot of interesting work, which can be done as time allows. We already have much information which can be compiled into a suitable form. In the meantime, a lot of interesting information can be found at www.pgdl.co.uk.

On page 42 is an exciting story of a brave local lady undergoing three breathtaking challenges to raise money for **two good causes in one** – rescuing pathetic dogs to train them to help deaf people. The location of **Hearing Dogs for Deaf People** is Wycombe side of The Rose & Crown on the A4010. To get to the new visitors entrance, turn into Haw Lane and it is on the right before Molins.

Any **toys** that you have finished with? If so, can you let Lynne at The Black Horse have them, please? She does a marvelous job in providing a place for the whole family to enjoy a meal and watch children play. See page 36.

Regarding my mention in the last edition of the suggestion to me that someone organize a **Village Feast or Meal** in the Village Hall, I did receive some very welcome offers of help (from two relative newcomers to our village) but I have to say I have received no bookings! Thus this suggestion must now die.

Village Notice Board

Collecting voluntary annual donations to Hallmark

Our voluntary deliverers of Hallmark will invite you to make a donation with this edition.

As a guide, printing and other expenses cost about £5 per annum per household



Your Village Hall Management Committee Needs You !

Treasurer required from next **AGM** (11 March 2008)

Reliable Village Hall Cleaner required immediately

For further information, contact Clive (Chairman) on 01844 343113
or Lee (Treasurer) on 01844 347789

WINDMILL ARTISTS ART SHOW

WITH ALL DAY BAR + BISTRO

Now in its sixth year, this pleasant popular occasion will take place as usual in the Village Hall on the second Saturday in November

10.30am - 4pm SATURDAY November 10th

Artists



Lacey Green and Loosley Row Tennis Club

are having a

TENNIS TOURNAMENT and FAMILY DAY

On Sunday 9th September

From 1pm, to start matches from 2pm.

*It cost £5 to enter on the day

*Bring your own food and cook it on our BBQ

*Bouncy Castle

LACEY GREEN SINGERS

We are urgently seeking an **ACCOMPANIST** to play with us at rehearsals and concerts. Do you enjoy playing the piano/keyboards?

Would you like the opportunity to play a wide range of music with an enthusiastic choir?

We are a friendly, easy-going group, who all sing purely because we enjoy it, and you would be much appreciated. The position might be suited to a local student or sixth former.

We will provide all your music and pay you a small allowance in recognition of your time. If you live reasonably locally but transport is a problem, we may be able to help.

MEN WANTED – ALL TYPES!

Our tenor and bass sections have been sadly depleted by the departure of several long-standing members. Our remaining gentlemen are feeling a little lonely and would very much welcome new or returning members to swell their ranks.

You do not need to have had any previous experience of formal singing or be able to read music. There are no auditions and we do plenty of “note-bashing” at rehearsals. All we ask is that you enjoy music and are able to sing in tune.

We rehearse at St John's School, Lacey Green at 8pm on Thursday evenings in term time, and we are currently working on “Joseph” for a concert on 27th October. We start the autumn term on 6 September, so why not come along and give us a try? If you think you might be interested or would like to find out more in the meantime, we would love to hear from you. Please call either Jane Brown (conductor) on 01844 346071 or Rosemary Mortham (chairman) on 01844 345863.

On the Farm

Congratulations to the WI for staging countrywide "The great milk debate". The nearest to us so far was at Speen on 26th April. Consumers, producers and retailers were invited to attend. The promotion for these read:- Did you know?: The total turnover of the British dairy industry is £6,000,000 per annum. Every year UK dairy farmers produce 10 billion pints of milk, over 400,000 tonnes of cheese and 135,000 tonnes of butter. In the UK there are 50,000 dairy farm workers and 34,000 people that work in the mil industry driving tankers, pasteurising milk, etc. The hedgerows created to divide pastures are important to the diversity of wildlife and create an ideal habitat for farmland birds. British dairy products are produced to world-leading standards of animal health, welfare and food safety. Milk and dairy products play a crucial role in a balanced diet, providing a rich source of calcium.

What are the problems? The decline of the dairy farming industry is a result of a number of factors, but particularly the low price of milk paid to farmers in contrast to rising retail prices. Last year over 900 dairy farmers left milk production, almost three every day.

What can consumers do to change the situation? Continue to drink milk and eat dairy products. Whole milk is only 3.5 fat, 96.5 fat free! Buy British dairy products. Remember the world-leading standards of British cheese and butter. Ask your local supermarket what it is doing to help secure the future of Britain's dairy farmers.

The debate at Speen was lively. Well done the W.I.

The supermarkets suddenly seem to feel the need to advertise themselves as the good guys. There is an excellent ad. for fresh local milk on the 'tele' at the moment and that must be really useful. After all ads. don't come cheap. But read between the lines and count the number of counties mentioned and note "small" dairy farmers are being helped. "Small" dairy farmers barely exist any more. Legislation and rising overheads have caught up with them and most of them have gone long ago. It is good that any left are being helped for they

certainly need it. We have opted to get bigger and I would like to say that we are running to stand still, but at present we are just not winning.

The sale of animals is an important part of farming. Our best beef animals go to Yorkshire to be slaughtered for Waitrose, The lesser quality to Mertha Tydfill for Tesco, There are no local abattoirs left. The lorries are sectioned to keep the animals steady, but it seems an awful long way to me. Should an animal die or be badly injured it is put down on the farm and taken to Cambridge for cremation. No, you can't just dig a six foot hole, although the cost of transport and cremation makes this idea tempting. It is absolutely alright to sell straight from the farm to another farmer. But to get a yardstick for the price, a livestock market is needed, and there are hardly any left. High Wycombe's is now a multi-story car park. Aylesbury's a cinema and car park, even the famous Banbury market has gone.

The only livestock market left for miles around is Thame, and this is under threat. It is situated in the town and it's lease expires in fifteen years. To implement more legislation it needs to expand and there just is not room. It needs to relocate. This will cost money but there is still some value in the lease if things could move more quickly. There is the opportunity to move to adjoin Thame Show ground. The facilities would benefit both. cattle handling and lorry parking for starters. Did I hear your ask "Thame Show?". Don't miss it on the third Thursday of September. On the Risborough Road as you approach Thame.

There has been much delay in getting planning for this move and time is getting very short. Thame market belongs to the farmers. It was the only way to keep it in business. We are fighting for it's very existence. If we get planning soon a wonderful centre of agricultural and rural activity could be established and what a bonus for Thame to keep it's reputation as a famous market town, not just another urban centre like all the others.

Date for your diary Thurs 20th Sept. Thame Show.

Joan West

Lacey Green Productions together with The Command Performers

"OH, WHAT A LOVELY WAR"

Rehearsals are already under way for our dinner theatre production of Joan Littlewood's musical

entertainment "Oh, what a lovely war". First performed in 1963, it is a theatrical chronicle of life on the western

front in world war one, told through the songs and documents of the period.

It is some time since we performed a play with music (remember Dracula Spectacula?). Rusty vocal chords are now being sharpened (and flattened) under the hammer of our music supremo, James Moorcroft. Plus we have a new director, Ian Gillett. Ian has wide experience of directing and performing and we look forward to having him shout at us rather than Val.

For "Oh, what a lovely war" we have a larger cast than normal and we are very fortunate to have attracted back into our combined group a number of former stalwarts. However, we still need more help backstage, so please don't be shy in coming forward to offer help.

Profits from "Oh what a lovely war" will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

Our dinner theatre performances will be in the Lacey Green Millennium Hall on Friday November 23rd and Saturday November 24th. Doors open at 7.30pm and the evening starts at 8pm with the serving of the two course dinner – a bar will, as usual, be available for wine, beers, soft drinks etc. The tickets for last year's November dinner theatre sold very quickly, so please ensure that you get your orders in as soon as possible.

Tickets for "Oh, what a lovely war" are priced at £12 if you are under the age of 15 and £17 for everybody else. They can be obtained by telephoning either 01844 347518 or 01844 344207.

And there's more There's never a dull moment with LGP and the Command Performers – we are already planning our next "Theatre at Home" production. This will be "An Inspector Calls" by J.B. Priestley and will start rehearsals in the autumn as part of our rolling programme of dramatic happenings in Lacey Green. So, if you don't fancy being musical with "Oh, what a lovely war", why not try joining us for "An Inspector Calls"?

And for the not too distant future How about a programme of comedy in minimalist theatre format – short plays and sketches to make you laugh and smile – coming to a venue near you shortly?

We are beginning to plan this now for next spring. So in the words of "Oh, what a lovely war" – **Your drama group needs you, enlist today**

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## **DESIGNER CLOTHES FROM FRANSA CLOTHING COMPANY (with a little help from Lacey Green Productions)**

"I've nothing to wear" – "I can't wear that again" – "That colour is so last year" – "They don't seem to make clothes that suit me any more" – how many other well worn expressions can you think about that could be an excuse to hold a clothing sale?

The Haddenham-based Fransa Clothing Company, very kindly donated a sample range of women's and children's designer tops, skirts, trousers, jackets etc and members of Lacey Green Productions booked the village Hall for a sale in early July.

With designer tops at only £3 and trousers and skirts for £5, shoppers were able to restock their entire wardrobes and to ask their husbands if they couldn't make do without that bit of hanging space over there. Children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews can also now be seen in the locality wearing the very latest from Bond Street at a mere fraction of the normal price. And they did it all for charity. The sale raised the magnificent amount of £950 for the Starlight Children's Foundation. Starlight brightens the lives of seriously and terminally ill children by granting wishes and by providing entertainment in hospitals throughout the UK.

Good luck to Starlight and a big thank you to Fransa.

## **WI ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ**

10<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 for 8pm

Make up a table of 4 for £5

COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN

And make this a truly village occasion

# Loosley Row and Lacey Green WI

Hello again. We continue to find our meetings both enjoyable and informative. In April, 11 of us went to a group meeting at West Wycombe, where we were entertained. Had a very good tea and became re-acquainted with some old friends. In May, on a much more serious note, we discussed the national resolution about the importance of keeping open our Community Hospitals. After some debate, the resolution was passed unanimously and our delegate to the Royal Albert Hall was instructed to vote accordingly.

We had a successful cake stall at the school's May Fair and, after making a donation to the school, had a tidy profit to swell our funds.

In June, Judith Aldridge, one of our talented members, gave us a flower arranging demonstration and lots of useful tips and in July, Mr Jamie Carter came to talk to us about Queen Mary. Jamie has been to us before and always gives a most interesting presentation. He will also be the Quiz Master again at our annual Village Quiz. I hope that you will all come (in teams of four) to support us at this event.

Our team came third in the Three Counties Quiz, which was slightly disappointing as we do like to win! Must do better next time.



**Con producing laughter while reading her card**

Also at our July meeting, we celebrated the 99th birthday of our oldest member, Connie Baker, with cake and a balloon with which she was delighted.



**After blowing out the candles (not 99!)**

**Photos by Val Webster**

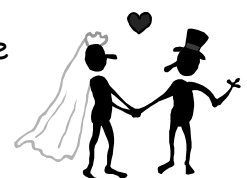
Congratulations Connie!

We have received an invitation for 25 people to visit the gardens of Highgrove in August. This has caused much excitement and is in the process of being arranged. More about this in the next edition.

See you at the Quiz.

**Doreen de Grey**

**Q:** Why did God create the man before he created the woman?



**A1:** The answer that men give: To give him the chance to enjoy Heaven on Earth for a few moments.

**A2:** The answer that women give: Everyone makes a draft first!



# Strawberry Tea IN SCHOOL HALL 24 June 2007



West Wycombe Band settled in well in the School Hall - and weren't too loud for their audience



It was very pleasant listening, chatting with friends old and new, enjoying strawberries & cream, with delicious home-made cakes

Sincere thanks to all those who so generously donated cakes for the Strawberry Tea; also to the friends who willingly gave up their Sunday to help in so many ways. We were most grateful to Mr De Wolf for allowing us to use the School hall and all the other facilities. Our thanks also to the Sports Club, who offered their club facilities should it have been a sunny day.

What was extremely disappointing was the lack of support from the village, even allowing for the wet weather. We have been criticised by some that there is nothing organised in our village, yet when we plan an event hardly anyone turns up. Those of all ages who came enjoyed it – young children had fun playing outside, within hearing of the live tuneful music. All this for only £4 per person .

Is the Strawberry Tea another annual event that is going to "bite the dust" through lack of support? I sincerely hope not!

Betty Tyler

## Lacey Green Singers

10th June

### EVENING OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Jane Brown and her colleagues had put together a programme perfect for a summer evening. There were English Song a plenty, with a scattering of Welsh, Scots and Irish and two excursions to the USA. Composers ranged from Handel via Vaughan Williams and Elgar to Trad and Anon. Augmenting this were a couple of pieces of the spoken word and a brace of cellists. The warmth and enthusiasm of the choir and soloists gave us a delightful evening of gentle music rich in melody and romance.

Jane Brown must have reason to be pleased that the evening gave so much joy.

A member of the audience

My wife submits and I obey; she always lets me have her way.



# Loosley Row & Lacey Green Horticultural Society

## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

These articles have to be written a month before Hallmark drops through your letter box, so I can only speculate as to what the weather may be like when you read this. Since the last edition the weather has been a curious mixture of often chilly nights and warm and wet days. The lawns are in the best condition for years and flowers and vegetables are growing well, but seem to be a fortnight earlier than usual.

Whatever the growing conditions, I am sure that produce will be available for entry in the Annual Show on Saturday, 8 September, in the Millennium Village Hall. Schedules have been widely circulated, but if you need one please contact me. Newcomers are especially welcome, we have one or two each year, and as several new members have joined the Society recently, I hope that they will put something in. You do not have to be a member before the day. Just turn up, pay £2 to join, and 20p per exhibit, and you are in it to win it! It is a light hearted, friendly Show, and there is a Trophy for the best entrant who has not won before. Entries have to be set up between 1.30 and 2.30, after which the Hall is closed for Judging, and reopened to the public for the results at 4.00. There are classes for vegetables, fruit and flowers, cakes and bread, Cornish pasties, jams and chutneys. Something for everyone.

We had a super talk in May, by Jill Carey, on "Red Kites in the Chilterns". It was informative and

entertaining, with beautiful photographs. We had the largest gathering for some time for this talk.

Also in May, the visit to Victor Scotts garden was much enjoyed by the 20 that attended. From the road, it seemed that it might be a short visit, but the garden went back and back, a horticultural Tardis! Mr Scott showed us round, he is a very knowledgeable plantsman, and has many unusual plants, several of which he has collected personally in different parts of the world.

The Composting talk in June was well attended, despite the doubtful weather, which just about held good until we finished. Jill Grimble spoke about various methods of composting, and urged us to do as much as possible to save the planet. It was a good sociable evening, with some new faces present who were very welcome.

Hopefully, the Pumpkins are coming along. Plants were distributed at the May meeting, and they will be judged at our meeting on 14 November. The talk then will be by Bob Keating on "The Bailiwick of Guernsey and other Islands", which promises to be entertaining, and different. I am sure that there will be refreshments with a Pumpkin association. It seems a long way ahead, but please note your diary.

Before that, we have a talk in the Millennium Village Hall at 8.00 on Wednesday 19 September on "Clematis", by Mike Brown. Non members welcome.

**Terry Fendom, Chairman 01844 342636**



Jill Grimble speaking and answering questions about the practicalities of composting

# St John's Fund Run

The annual St John's Fund Run was held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April and attracted 95 runners this year.

Enormous credit must go to the St John's Parents Association for organizing the event, which as usual went smoothly. Having participated in and attended many races, the organization of the St John's Fund Run always holds up extremely well, and we are all fortunate that the team of volunteers put so much time and effort into the event.

The Run was 5 kilometres to the Pink & Lily and back. Impressive times were recorded by the first man & woman across the line with Matt Whiting finishing in 17 minutes 21 seconds and Joy Noad finishing in 20m50s. Those who run on treadmills may be interested to know that Matt averaged 17.29 kph whilst Joy averaged 14.4 kph.



**Matt breaking the tape & Joy checking her time.**

Finishing third was the fastest dad, Henry Edwardes-Evans in 17m55s and the fastest mum, Susan Jacobs, recorded 23m14s. Congratulations to both, as well as

to Mark Booth, who finished first in the under 18 category in 18m26s.



**Henry & Mark looking very comfortable (unfortunately Susan was clearly camera shy)**

Woodbyne Fitness Clinic was well represented, with 18 gym users participating this year. Our first finisher was Jack Baldwin, finishing in 20m17s, which is averaging just under 15kph – very impressive for a 14 year old.



**Runners streaming out of the school grounds**



The BBQ, Bar and prize giving rounded off the event and once again a big thank-you to all those involved in the work done behind the scenes.

The school would love to see all 95 runners return next year, and the challenge is there for many more of you to use this local event as a training goal and opportunity to support a very worthy cause.

**Paul Johnstone**

# The Windmill WI



The last three months have been busy ones for our members. The May meeting was our Resolution Meeting when we discussed and voted on the resolution to be put forward at the NFWI Annual General Meeting at the Albert Hall in London. This year it was our turn to send the Link Delegate to attend the Meeting and Mrs Pat Richards went along in June to represent us. She had a most enjoyable day witnessing a wonderful rendering of Jerusalem and feeling the strength of belonging to the largest women's organisation in the country.



**Mastering the art of Line Dancing!**

At our June meeting we were introduced to Line Dancing! We all enjoyed the evening, but found the hardest part was remembering the steps! During June we had two excellent excursions. The first was to Highgrove House, the private home of Prince Charles. We had been on the waiting list for tickets for over two years for this visit, but it was certainly worth the wait. We were taken on a conducted tour round the magnificent gardens where you were never sure what would be round the next corner. On the



**Cream teas in Bibury**

way home we stopped off in Bibury – a charming village where some members indulged in a cream tea.

Our second successful outing was to the Good Food Show at the NEC in Birmingham. This show also incorporated Gardeners' World and Good Homes so there was a great deal for everyone to see. In traditional Windmill WI style we were able to do a lot of tasting of food and wine! Our grateful thanks go to Pat Richards for organising such great outings.

**Photos by Daphne Williams**

The speaker at our July Meeting was Mr Christopher Clarke. Mr Clarke was proprietor of the jeweller's Hester Clarke in Princes Risborough before it closed and his talk was entitled *A Girl's Best Friend*. This was an insight into the story of diamonds – finding, cutting, polishing and wearing.

A week later found 28 members on our Summer Evening Ramble, which centred around Saunderton and Princes Risborough. We were extremely lucky with the weather – the evening was warm and sunny, the terrain was flat, the company amicable – all the ingredients for an enjoyable evening.

In August we will be celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> birthday! To mark the occasion, we are holding a Celebration Supper in the Village Hall with entertainment. Later on in the year, we have a talk on Working as a News Reader/Reporter on Radio and The Life and Work of Claude Monet.

Looking further ahead, please make a note of our next Jumble Sale – **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October**. If you have any jumble you wish to donate please bring it along to the Village Hall between 10am and 12 noon and then come back again at 2pm – you may find a treasure on the white elephant stall!

**Daphne Williams**

## A Wonderful Story

### - TO PASS ON TO YOUR CHOSEN FRIENDS

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole, which she carried across her neck.

One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection - and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After 2 years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself because the crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way to your house." The woman replied "Did you notice there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other side?" "That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them." "For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without your being the way you are, there would be no beauty to grace the house."



Each of us has our unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person as they are and look for the good in them.

SO, to all of my crackpot friends, have a great day and remember to smell the flowers on your side of the path!

AND send this to all of your cracked pot friends.

**Story provided by Ron Goodearl**

**Sketches by Bette Tyler**

## Speen Festival 2007

**THURSDAY 6 – SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER**

Speen has a local reputation for well-organised events, far superior to what you might expect from such a small population. I remember well their marvellous and informative *Leaves of Time* a few years ago, when half the village's children seemed to be in it! Some of the following events need to be pre-booked – these are marked **B**. They will be in the Speen Village Hall (marked **VH**), Speen Millennium Marquee (**MM**), Baptist Chapel (**BC**) or Ridgely's Field (**RF**): Further details are available from [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org) or Speen Stores.

- 6, 7 & 8** *Three Cheers for Mrs Butler!* Musical theatre. 7.30pm. **MM B**
- 8 & 9** *Photographic Competition & Exhibition.* 2-5pm **VH**
- 9** *Arts, Crafts, Health & Beauty in Action.* 10-4pm **MM**
- 10** *Jack Milner's Comedy Workshop.* Learn how to make people laugh. 8pm. **MM B**
- 11** *Music for a Summer Evening.* 8.30pm. **BC B**
- 12** *Jazz Night – Rodgers and Hart.* Martin Hart Quintet with Lynn Garner. 7.30pm **MM B**
- 13** *Wildlife Watch & BBQ* with Wycombe Rangers. 4-8.30pm **VH/MM B**
- 14** *Quiz Night.* Popular quiz. 7.45pm. **MM B**
- 15** *Teatro Unfortunato.* 10.30-11.30am. **MM B**
- 15** *Speen Bile Park Challenge.* 2.30pm. **RF B**
- 15** *Cabaret Supper* The musical finale. 7.30pm **MM B**

## Parish Council Comments

The May elections have been and gone and we are pleased to report that the Parish Council has some new council members and that we are sorry to see some councillors go.

**Don White** stood down as **Chairman of the Parish Council** and as a Parish Councillor for Speen. Don had been on the Parish Council since 1979 and served us all well as Chairman from 1984. An excellent achievement, serving **28 years as Councillor and 23 of these years as Chairman**. I am sure all parishioners wish him well and thank him for his service.

**George Crombie MBE**, our Clerk, also handed in his notice to coincide with the elections. George again has served us well, he was the **Clerk to the Parish Council for 31 years** and again I am sure all our parishioners wish him well and thank him for his service.

At our May meeting, both Don and George were presented with gifts to show our appreciation and thanks for their tireless work on the Parish Council.

**Peter Pilkington** also stood down at the May elections, and again we thank him for all his efforts for the time he was on the Parish Council. Peter is still on the Management Working Group for the Lacey Green Garden of Rest, for which the Parish Council has now taken over official ownership from the Methodist Chapel.

I am sure that you as parishioners would wish to join us in wishing Don, George and Peter well, and thanking them most sincerely for all their efforts, time and hard work. They have carried out their duties over many, many years and have served both of us well.

Two new members have joined the Parish Council. **Councillor Mrs Rita Ahmed**, put herself forward for election; however, as there was not an election this time, she was accepted onto the Council at our May meeting. Councillor Mrs Ahmed is a Lacey Green villager and is keen to support the village in future developments

**Councillor Roger Clarke** was co-opted onto the Parish Council at our July meeting. Councillor Clarke is a resident of Speen and now makes the representations complete, He is an active member of this community and we look forward to his input.

We were also fortunate in finding a **new Clerk to the Council, Sue Griffiths**, a resident of nearby Whiteleaf has joined us. Sue has a wealth of experience. She is at present, as has been for several years, Town Clerk to Princes Risborough Town Council, and Clerk to

Longwick Parish Council. We all look forward to working with Sue, and thank her for coming forward.

And to our remaining Councillors, **Councillor Roger Craft** from Speen has accepted the role of **Vice Chairman** and I have accepted the role as **Chairman**.

**Councillors Dennis Claydon, Tony Molesworth and Mrs Miv Hughes**, along with our new members, Councillors Mrs Ahmed and Clarke, continue to work tirelessly representing the Parish Council on various committees through out the district. We are all taking on responsibilities to the best of our abilities in looking after the interests of the Parish.

We have several ongoing issues and projects within the Parish. We are at present having '**Entrance Gates**' erected at both ends of Lacey Green. These hopefully will make motorists more aware of the St John's School and 30mph speed limit within the village. We are in the process of **upgrading the Parish Playground** in the grounds of the Sports Club. Our aim is to install some new play equipment, to resurface/repair the surfaces around the existing equipment, and to spruce up existing equipment. We are at present repairing the fencing surrounding the play area and have employed the services of a contractor to empty the refuse on a regular basis. We would ask those that use this area to ensure that all litter is place in the bin, as the contractor will empty the bin but will not collect rubbish left anywhere else around the play area. We will keep you updated with news of the playground, in the hope that this will encourage more people from the village to use it.

We, as your Parish Council, would be pleased to see parishioners at any of our meetings, although we do not hold one in August, our next meeting will be in September, where we now have a **Public Forum** for 10 minutes at the beginning of our meetings, for any members of the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the agenda for that meeting. The agendas are on all the Parish Notice Boards. You will be most welcome to stay and observe for the rest of the meeting. Should anyone wish to read the minutes of past meetings, these are now out for public viewing in Princes Risborough Library during their normal opening hours

Finally I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their support and trust that we all live up to the expectations of parish.

**Cathryn Davies**  
**Chairman, Lacey Green Parish Council**

# School's FA Cup Fayre 2007



**Over 70 children were involved in the 5-a-side tournament!**

The organisers of St John's School's May Fayre of Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May must have experienced something of a sinking feeling when they discovered that their chosen date was the same as that on which football's FA Cup returned to Wembley for an eagerly-awaited showdown between Manchester United and Chelsea. So it was rewarding to see how all involved embraced the theme and made the event such a success.

From the children's delightful drawings in the programme, to the 5-a-side tournament outside and the real thing on a big screen inside, there was no escaping the beautiful game. However, the afternoon wasn't entirely one-track. The fun started with Maypole dancing and included circus skills, celebrity animals, tombolas and a guess-the-teddy's-name contest. By the time the final whistle blew, £1,900 had been raised



**Football-supporting face painting**



**Mrs Hirst had trained the Maypole dancing superbly**



**Busy bar and BBQ**



**Children enjoyed the bouncy castle & Windmill ride-on toys**



**A rare sight – no customers on the Horts' stand!**



**Getting close to Celebrity Animals**



**Coconut Shy**



**Having fun on stilts in the Circus Skills tent**



**Giant Connect 4**



# Happy Wanderers Walking Club

## GREAT MISSENDEN & LITTLE KINGSHILL AREA Sun 29 April

On a cool, but bright Sunday morning, 31 members of the walking club and 5 dogs commenced the April walk through the old village of Great Missenden, passing the church and then on across the meadows, pausing on the wooden bridge to view Missenden Abbey. We continued up to Little Kingshill, where the footpath led us through the gardens of The Full Moon public house. It was before opening time so we still had 31 members on the other side!

On through woodland paths, where bluebells and other wild flowers were in abundance, we proceeded through a large equestrian centre and farm, where one of the attractions was a young foal with its mother. Back down Angling Wood with views across to Great Missenden in the distance. Gypsy House, the home of the late Roald Dahl could later be seen across the fields.

The walk ended in the High Street, where some members chose to have lunch at The Cross Keys and were delighted to meet up there with Betty & Norman Tyler, along with Ken Templeman. The walk was led by Phyl Bloomfield and I.

**Rita Probert**



**Enjoying what the doctors prescribe**



**Rewarding ourselves with a rest, welcome meal, drink, chat and smiles**

## SUMMER SOLSTICE WALK Wed 13 June

For several years it has been the custom of the Happy Wanderers Walking Club to celebrate the Summer Solstice with an evening walk followed by supper at a local hostelry. This year was no exception and Ron and Beryl Goodearl arranged a walk around Wendover starting and finishing at the Marquis of Granby.

The walk took us around the Weston Turville reservoir, where there were sailing dinghies and fishermen enjoying the late evening sun. We passed some well tended allotments with a wide variety of produce and wonderful display of early sweet peas. Our return to the pub took us through typical Chiltern fields and woodland.

We were fortunate that the traditional English Summer weather of cloud and warm showers started just as we returned to our starting point. Ron & Beryl had planned the evening perfectly and as we removed our walking boots the heavens opened. Few things in life compare with a walk in our English countryside followed by a glass of ale and a well cooked meal, served in such pleasant surroundings.

Over thirty Wanderers took part in the walk and stayed on to enjoy the meal, which is a wonderful celebration of the companionship that we have. In addition, a small number of members who were unable to walk joined the others for the meal. Since the Happy Wanderers was formed fifteen years ago, the group has become a little older and some of our members are not quite so agile but it is important for everyone to have the opportunity to share the companionship of the group.

Apparently the Health Service has recently commissioned a study on the value of walking and fitness, only to find that walking is a very good exercise! In fact, they are going to ask doctors to recommend walking as part of the patients' recovery and life style. We could have saved them a lot of money by their researchers joining one of our walks to see the general well being of our members and joining us for a chat in the pub afterwards.

**Ronnie & Liz Lewin**

## LITTLE MISSENDEN, LITTLE KINGSHILL & HOLMER GREEN Sun 24 June

Only five people turned up for the 24 June walk. Unusual but not totally unknown. It had been wet for a few days and certainly the conditions were not the most inviting. However, although it was extremely wet underfoot, and

going along crop field paths meant that everything below waist level tended to get soaked, it was otherwise pleasant weather.

We started in Little Missenden, going through a field, bypassing the centre of the village, then along the road towards Little Kingshill. We reached the furthest point at Afreks Farm after missing the correct path and walking though someone's private road (proving that you should reconnoitre the route in the same direction that you intend to travel!). A sharp left turn led us up through the woods to emerge in Holmer Green. The path then took

us past an extended house-building plot, with a small diversion to avoid passing through the dining room, going onwards towards Mop End. Finally, a long downhill stretch back to the start.

We had originally booked places for twelve at the Full Moon in Little Kingshill, but they didn't seem to mind that there were only two of us for lunch.

**Tony Molesworth**

Photos by Ron Goodearl

## Christopher Wallace and Lacey Green Windmill

- A SPECIAL EXHIBITION ONLY OPEN UNTIL 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER



In the August 2006 issue of Hallmark you would have read my obituary to Christopher Wallis, the man who led the restoration of the windmill from its start in 1971. Until the 8th of September you can visit a comprehensive exhibition on Christopher's life and work. It is called "**CELEBRATION of a life, CONSERVATION of our heritage, INSPIRATION for the future**" and is at the Environment Centre on Holywell Mead in High Wycombe (from London Rd in Beaconsfield direction, turn right into Bassetsbury Lane. After passing Bassetsbury Manor, turn right and park at the end of the road - very near). They aim to be open from 11am to 4pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and 2.30 - 4.30 on Sundays. However, it can be advisable to phone them on 01494 511585 to check that they will be open on a particular day. Their web site is [www.ecobuzz.org.uk](http://www.ecobuzz.org.uk)

Just a reminder that the windmill will be open from 2.30 to 5.30 every Sunday until the 30th of September, and on Bank Holiday Monday 27th August.

The wet weather, particularly on Sundays, has not encouraged our normal number of visitors this year. We were unable to fit the sail cloths for National Mills Sunday on the 13th May. However, there was enough wind to turn the sails for most of the afternoon without any cloths.

We have opened for a number of special visits this year, including a tour by 62 members of the Mills Section of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings. During a Monday morning we had a total of 96 children from Year 3 and 4 of St John's School. We have also

had visits from the Science Group of Maidenhead U3A, and the Chiltern Women's Graduate Association.

Also remember that you can also see more about the windmill at: website [www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk](http://www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk)

**Michael G Hardy, Honorary Secretary**  
**Lacey Green Windmill Restoration Committee**  
**The Chiltern Society**

E-mail: [laceygreenmill@btinternet.com](mailto:laceygreenmill@btinternet.com)

Telephone no for Windmill enquiries: 01844 275871

## Letters to the Editor

### RED KITES v SMALL BIRDS

Ginny Brudenell's plea in the last edition not to feed kites is sound. Admirable though this re-introduction of this attractive bird was, the numbers now need to be managed. Up to two dozen kites are not uncommonly seen over friendly gardens and this is unbalanced when you take into account the needs of crows, magpies and buzzards. When the kite was indigenous and numerous, human detritus was plentiful and the bird was an amenity in dealing with it. Today there is not enough carrion to support large numbers if the other species are to make a living. Kites should not be garden birds.

**Brian Panter**

### BONFIRES – HAVE A NICE DAY

Please be considerate towards neighbours. Have bonfires at dusk – then it upsets no-one

**Someone who had her day's washing spoilt!**

# Lacey Green & Loosley Row Sports & Social Club

## CRICKET SECTION

I began my last report by posing the question 'Is it raining?'. At the time we were enjoying some lovely April weather. I realise now that I shouldn't have tempted the Fates and I do apologise to all those who have had their holidays and week-ends away spoiled since the cricket started. Four matches out of eleven have been completely washed out so far this season - and judging by the doom-laden weather forecast for this summer more will probably go.

There is not a great deal to report on the cricket front so far. The 1st XI went out of the Village KO Cup without playing a match. In the first round, Aston Clinton failed to raise a team and in the second it was the Green's turn to scratch. In the league, things are not much better - two matches won out of seven and three losing draws. There is much room for improvement.

I'm pleased to see Skipper Bob batting at the top of the order. It's all very well giving everybody a chance of a knock, but you must put your best men in early enough to give the team a good start. Unfortunately, when Bob and Dave Highgate go the rest of the batting is far too inconsistent.

Something I would like to see in both teams is more attacking field placing - especially round the opening batsmen - and when a new batsman comes in.

The 2nd XI have won one match against Frieth so far. They also had a winning draw versus Flackwell Heath. Their other matches have either been lost or washed out. They do have a problem taking the field with a full eleven, which is a great shame - it must be very disheartening. However, they seem to keep cheerful, despite the setbacks. One day, maybe, we shall discover a surplus of home-grown talent in the village.

If I may finish on a personal note, Mr Editor? I would like to thank my relations and my friends for all their help and offers of help, since I was unexpectedly rushed into hospital. I have been quite overwhelmed. My thanks.

**Geoff Gomme**

## TENNIS CLUB

To all of you who thought that we had faded away, this essentially was true. With committee members diminishing and club membership declining, the future of the Tennis Club was looking bleak to say the least!

However, with a new committee on board and the help of a few long standing loyal members, we have grouped together to give the courts a new lease of life. By the time you read this, the weeds should be cleared, conifers trimmed, fences mended and locks will have been put on the gates to reduce littering and to encourage non-members to join if they want to play. Alongside general maintenance, the club hopes to renovate the courts to improve the playing facilities.

To encourage new membership, we have dramatically reduced the membership fees - now only £50 for a family membership (or adult £30, child £20 or £10 for under age 10). We have started holding club nights for adult members on a Thursday evening from 7.30pm, and plan to have a family morning during the school holidays on a Tuesday from 10am, when all ages will be encouraged to come down and play. It has been great to see the children having coaching on a Saturday by a new coach, who the children seem to really like and the cricketers seem to appreciate too!!

The club has played in the Aylesbury league again this year - in Ladies, Mens and Mixed Leagues. There have been varied results so far but the season is far from over. We look forward to having a larger squad to choose from next year.

I think we would all agree that we have a great facility here and it would be wonderful to see it thrive, not just for our pleasure but for the next generation too. Tennis is a great sport for enjoying with family or friends at whatever level, and with the playground and open space around the courts, something that can be enjoyed by all the family together. As well as giving our children a fantastic hobby, it is somewhere safe for them to go in the village, especially as they head into teenage years!

If you would like to join or require more information, please call **Linda Malden** on **01844 275296**.

**Tania Hird, Co Chair**

Tennis was originally played without racquets. Players hit the ball over the net with the palms of their hands!





A laugh is a smile that burst  
Mary Waldrop

A wrinkle should merely  
indicate where smiles have been

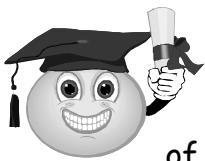
Mark Twain

She used to diet on any kind of food she  
could lay her hands on

Arthur 'Bugs' Baer



It takes two good women to  
make a good husband - and the  
first one is his mother



An elementary school  
teacher sends this note to  
all parents on the first day  
of school:



"If you promise not to believe  
everything your child says  
happens at school, I will promise  
not to believe everything your child says  
happens at home."

City life - millions of people being lonely  
together

Henry David Thoreau

Politics is not a bad profession. If you  
succeed, there are many rewards; if you  
fail, you can always write a book.

Ronald Reagan, quoted in The New York Times

Even if we study to old age we shall not  
finish learning

Chinese proverb

# District and County Council News

## Village Services

As many of you will be aware, the Methodist Chapel application for Change of Use from 'Community' to 'Housing' was heard by the Development Control Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> June. The outcome was a decision "to defer for Planning Obligation". This means that, subject to Wycombe District Council coming to an agreement with the applicant for a proportionate sum to accommodate the change, the land will be released for housing. It also means that the District Council will be undertaking a further study, paid for by the planning obligation, to assess the needs of community and to see whether these can be met on the alternative land as identified by the applicant. In this case the alternative land is the Millennium Village Hall site that was identified by the applicant as land capable for providing the facilities for supporting the needs of the community.

The Parish Council and the Community Planning Group contested the decision who argued that the loss of the land would mean that the return of Village Services to the Village would be better placed on the Methodist Chapel site. I supported this view at Committee but, faced with substantial costs should the decision be appealed and lost, the Committee voted 6 in favour, 3 against and with 3 abstentions, to vote in favour of the officers' recommendation.

I must say I am disappointed that the work of both the Parish Council and the Community Planning Group seems to have been given less weight than that undertaken by the applicant. However we are where we are and the village must now take this opportunity, through the District's Survey, to set out what services it would wish to see provided in the village. It is vital that those wishing to see improvements in services take part in whatever meetings are to be held and return the inevitable questionnaire that will be issued. This really is the last chance to gain any improvements in village services such as the shop, library, permanent post office, health centre etc.

## Culverton Cross Roads

This is the local safety scheme aimed at addressing the collision issues at the Woodway/A4010 junction. The scheme, which involves the provision of a right turn lane for northbound traffic and the realignment of both sides of the road, has undergone extensive consultation. My last report indicated that the Works would commence in July 2007, with preliminary works being undertaken in June 2007.

Unfortunately, the land issues have taken longer to resolve as there have been extensive negotiations about the accommodation works to be put in place prior to the commencement of any works. The Land Owners and BCC now seem to have reached agreement about the way forward and it is now anticipated that the land will be available to start work by September 2007. This will allow the preliminary works such as service diversions and fencing to commence in September, with the main road construction works commencing in September/October 2007.

During the work time, there will be temporary traffic management arrangements in place to safeguard the workforce and the traveling public. Whilst the works are carried out, Upper Icknield Way will be closed from A4010 to Shootacre Lane and there will be temporary traffic lights on the A4010 during off peak periods. If you need further information please contact Tanveer Ghani on 01296 387119.

## Village Entry Treatments

The proposal to provide Oak Feature 'Gates' in Woodway and Main Road to mark the entries to Loosley Row and Lacey Green has been confirmed by the Tranquil Steering Group. Problems with design approval by the Dept for Transport have now been overcome and installation work should be complete by September 2007.

## Community Leaders Fund Grants

I am pleased to say that both Councils have agreed funding for Community Projects again for this year. If you are a member of a group that would benefit from a grant of circa £300 then please let me know and I will put your project forward for consideration.

**Paul Rogerson**  
**Wycombe District and Bucks County**  
**Councillor**  
**01494 488315**

Like all great travellers, I have  
seen more than I remember  
and remember more than I've  
seen

Benjamin Disraeli, quoted on BBC  
Radio 4



# Lacey Green Community Plan

We missed an entry in the last Hallmark, although fortunately there was little news. There still isn't a great deal. The Steering Group has acquired two new members – Rita Dey (who is also now a Parish Councillor), and Tina Zychowicz, who represents the Windmill Under 5s playgroup and the St Johns' School Parents Association. Unfortunately, we will be losing David Howarth from Speen, since he is moving away from the district.

Slow progress is being made with the writing of the Parish Plan. Apart from the fairly obvious components such as dealing with the community's likes and dislikes, we are hoping to include a section looking at the long term future to see what might affect us in 35 years time. There are many trends – government legislation, social changes and the effects of climate change, just to mention three causes. Some things will affect other parts of the country rather more than Lacey Green, and what we will try to do is to consider what effects there will be in our Parish. Once the Plan is in a reasonably tidy state we will publish it as a draft, and

hold a public meeting to present it to the community for consultation.

Turning to the matter of the **Methodist Chapel site** redevelopment, the District Council did not reject the application by Mr. Parker but have deferred the decision pending a planning obligation. This involves the Council examining the practicability of providing the facilities complex including a shop on another site.

Finally, Wycombe District Council finally approved the Lacey Green and Loosley Row Village Design Statement earlier this year, after a long period of consideration. It is a valuable document since it provides supplementary planning guidance, and will help protect against undesirable development. It is available on [www.wycombe.gov.uk](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk). Go to: planning/supplementary planning/village design statements and look under Lacey Green. You should also be able to see a copy in the local information office in Princes Risborough.

**Tony Molesworth**

# Around Our Local Pubs



Once again, it is time to put pen to paper for the Hallmark. I am sat here thinking to myself what I have got to tell that has happened in the last few months. Congratulations to Johnny and Steph on their wedding and all our best wishes are with them both. Also congratulations go to Becky for

driving her driving test – everyone at Lacey Green beware. Unfortunately, our bar billiards table has now gone. The Company that supplied it to me has gone bust and they wanted £900 for it. As I had had it for the past 10 years, I didn't think it was worth keeping. At least, we left as top of the Division. Congratulations to the Whipdoms and crib teams for winning the League.

We are putting a dart board up where the bar billiards table used to be and, in the winter, will start a ladies' team on a Wednesday night, so if anybody is interested please let me know. We entered a tug-of-war team at the Naphill Village Fete. I am pleased to say my team did its best and came last, I think, but what an effort – well done, boys.

If anybody has any toys they are getting rid of and think they are suitable for the pub's play area, I would be very grateful, as many of the toys are stolen or get broken. I try every year to replace them but it is a never-ending battle.

Please don't forget we are now open all day Friday, Saturday and Sundays. Quiz night last Sunday of the month. Sunday roasts £7.75 two course. Children under 8 free. Outside events catered for – just give us a ring. And last of all, we have taken our first Christmas booking, so if you feel you would like to book early and get the date you want, please give us a ring.

The "No smoking" is now installed and working well. We have a covered area outside with electricity and have put a large umbrella outside the front, with the appropriate ashtrays for those who require it. As a non-smoker for a year, I find it helpful me as I now can't smell the smoke and the whole pub smells so much better - but they say people like me are the worst complainers. I am sure it will work so much better in our favour for the people who come to the pub for a meal or just a drink, who have never smoked or hate the smokey atmosphere. Maybe we will see some new faces.

Lynne Comley

## Windmill Under 5s

By the time you read this we will all be on our summer holidays and, after such a busy summer term, the children and us Mums are certainly ready for it!

We are currently without a Supervisor, as Rachel, being a RAF wife, left us when her husband was promoted and posted away. Denia, our experienced Deputy, has agreed to step into the Supervisor role temporarily and we hope to have a replacement by September. We are very lucky at Windmill Under 5's to have strong experienced staff and to have a fantastic committee, most of whom still have children within Windmills so are staying on next year. We are also in the fortunate position to have a great team of parents and carers who have worked so hard over the last term to raise funds and generally join in with the day to day running of the Pre-School. Thank you all.

This last half term, our themes were based around the books *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and *Opposites* by Mick Inkpen. Activities were then based on



the books and included days of the week, counting, symmetry, the life cycle of a caterpillar and lots of opposites. We also had Fathers Day, with lovely cards created together with a glittery paperweight/pen holder for a gift for that special Dad or Granddad. Our new outside surface has proved invaluable, especially with the inclement weather when we could dash out in between showers, and it has also enabled the children "free flow" between outside and indoor activities.

With regard to fund raising: In June, Windmills were fortunate to be offered the proceeds from the Murder Mystery staged by the Quaintwood Players at the Village Hall. Thank you to everyone who came and the Quaintwood Players for their generosity. We currently have designer clothes to sell, so please watch the notice boards in the village and we hope to put this money towards more ride on toys for the children.

Onto more social events; at the end of June we had a mum's night out at the Black Horse. All conversations were able to be finished as the children with all their

distractions were safely tucked up in bed. We have also had two "out of school" events this term, both blessed with NO rain, thank goodness!. The first was our trip to see *Thomas the Tank Engine* at Bucks Railway Centre in Quinton. It was a blustery day and we all got to ride in Thomas' carriages, meet the Fat Controller and some of Thomas' pals. We also rode on the miniature steam railway, with its half mile track complete with level crossing and tunnel – a firm favourite with parents and children! Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July was our Family BBQ and we even had the sun join in! The atmosphere was lovely, food plentiful, the bouncy castle finally arrived, and the children and parents were able to relax and enjoy the day.

Our Sports Day will again take place on the last day of term, which is after the copy deadline, but I'm sure lots of fun will be had by everyone! Following the Sports Day,

we will all settle down to a Teddy Bear's picnic on the field, so hopefully the weather will once again be kind.

Even through the long summer holidays we plan to meet every Wednesday for a picnic and get together at various local venues. The great atmosphere and friendships between the children and parents/carers make these days great events and much anticipated. Hopefully we'll get some sun by then!

Finally, good luck to our 12 children who are leaving to go to 'big school'. For those returning and our new starters, we look forward to the autumn term with great excitement as there will be lots of new topics, games and events and a new Supervisor.

**Tina Zychowicz, Chair**

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## Financial Planning

Let's get serious. Most of us realise we need life assurance. We can see that, in the event of death, the sum assured can be used to repay a mortgage or provide capital for a spouse to use as income, etc, etc.

However time and time again, we don't die - we linger. We have the heart attack, the stroke, cancer but we recover and may get better. The trouble is as you haven't died, the life assurance doesn't pay out.

So you go back to work, change your diet, do more exercise but in the back of your mind, as you know you had the heart attack at work, going back there rekindles unpleasant memories.

Some years ago now in South Africa, a new type of insurance was developed called critical illness cover. As the name suggests, it pays out on the diagnosis of a critical illness – like a heart attack, stroke, etc. Since then, UK life assurance companies now offer critical illness policies.

Now it is interesting to note some claim figures from leading insurers who offer critical illness cover. For example, heart attack, the predominated male illness. The average age at claim was.....47! Yes 47 years of age. Furthermore, the average number of months in force before the claim was 57 months!

For females, the average age at claim for breast cancer was 45! Again average months in force before the claim was 57 months! Cancer accounts for about 57% of all critical illness claims, 35% of cases diagnosed on people under age 65.

Imagine having critical illness cover and you had to claim. The sum assured could repay the mortgage or any other loans, or be used for basic necessities or just making life easier. If it was at work where you had the heart attack, would you really like to go back there?

On a similar subject, I came across information about incapacity benefit. You know, this is where you cannot work due to an accident or disability. In order to claim this state benefit there is a 48 page document to complete – 48 pages! And when you have completed it, the state incapacity benefit and statutory sick pay has been set for the year 2006/2007 at £70.05 per week.

Total amount paid in year one is £3,642.60. For many of us it would be difficult to live on £3,642.60. Again there are income protection type plans from leading insurers which guarantee to pay out a percentage of your salary if you are unable to carry out your occupation due to illness or disability.

Admittedly, talking about heart attacks, cancer and incapacity is not as exciting as your buy to let portfolio. However without considering potential health issues, your ability to earn a salary could be reduced.

If this happens, investments designed for the longer term would have to be cashed – worth thinking about?

**Steve Wilkinson**





# News from St John's Church

(Rector – the Reverend Denise Critchell)

Serving the village communities of Lacey Green, Loosley Row, and Speen.

The Progressive Supper was a really successful event. Great fun was had by all – first course at one venue, then main course somewhere else with a new set of guests, then back to the Vicarage for desserts! Delicious food and friendly people made June 23<sup>rd</sup> a memorable evening for the fun and fellowship we had. Roll on the next one.

The Picnic Ball – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July was a joint fundraiser for St John's School and St John's Church. The Committee worked very hard and the result was an enjoyable evening with a Champagne reception and fantastic band. For all the fun and laughter we give thanks for the love and care of all those who worked hard to make it a success – and raise funds (much needed) for our precious local Church.

Confirmations took place at St Dunstan's Church on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July - three adults from St. John's, Lacey Green were confirmed. There were twenty-three in all confirmed from the team churches and it was a splendid occasion, presided over by the Bishop of Buckingham.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July was the leavers' service (and end of year) – for both Speen and St. John's. Speen's year two's move into year three at St. John's – apart from those destined for elsewhere. Our congratulations to all those who are moving on, and especially year six, who were presented with their leavers' Bibles from St John's Church. Not a dry eye in the place! May God bless all of you as you move on. This service was followed by the traditional Governors and Staff Cream Tea in the Vicarage at 3.30pm.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July saw Stephanie Lambley and Jonathan Dell made one in marriage. A truly joyous celebration.

Lighthouse week followed – a very busy and extraordinary time for children and adults who worked together to make it such a successful event.

## Regular Services at St John's church

### SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion(1662) 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
10.00am All age family Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July was an open invitation to the Vicarage garden after Church – a case of bring your own picnic.....if it didn't rain.....but rainbows can look very pretty!

## Forthcoming events

There will be some Impromptu cream teas in the Vicarage garden during August, so please watch the Notice Board outside Church.

August begins with a Choir holiday month, so no Choral evensong on the first Sunday. Baptisms continue during August, and weddings are being held in September and October.

The new facility – The Toilet – is 'in situ' and now functioning! Another 1<sup>st</sup> for St. John's. I am sure it must be a great relief to all concerned!

HARVEST IS EARLY THIS YEAR - SO PLEASE NOTE IT IN YOUR DIARY:- 23<sup>rd</sup> September for the 10.00am service followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch in St. John's school hall – a time for fellowship and celebration for all is safely gathered in.

Look at this .... what? **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** ... a Christmas Market in the Millenium Hall. Wow! with cheeses and pies and cakes like a real market. Excellent! Put this date in your diary.

Advance notice for Remembrance Sunday ..... **November 11<sup>th</sup>**.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The usual Service Times are listed for your convenience. As you can see, we have not been slacking. God is good to us and continues to bless us. However we are struggling a little financially, and would value your prayers as well as your consideration in giving financially to keep your local Church going – with our continued love and prayers and blessings for you.

10.00am Parish Communion 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (&5<sup>th</sup>) Sundays  
6.00pm Choral Evensong 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month

Junior Church at 10.00am – all services other than 1<sup>st</sup>, held in upper room.  
Details from Jenny King – 01844-343910

## TUESDAY

9.30am. Communion Service in Lady Chapel at St John's.  
2.00pm Toddler Praise – Tuesday afternoons during term time.

## WEDNESDAY

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

Full details of services and more information about St John's Church is published in the monthly Parish Magazine 'Viewpoint' and displayed on the notice board outside church.

We look forward to meeting you in our lovely church – you are always welcome – come and be blessed.

**June Brazier**

# Exciting events on our doorstep!

## HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE CELEBRATES ITS 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR

Originally launched at Crufts in 1982, Hearing Dogs select dogs mostly from rescue centres and train them to respond to everyday sounds around the home, such as the alarm clock, doorbell, baby monitor and smoke alarm.

I have been an active volunteer for the charity over the last four years and I am passionate about the fantastic job these dogs do. I decided to do something a bit special to help raise funds and awareness in this, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, I left a perfectly good aircraft at 13,500ft, attached to an able instructor. A skydive is something I have wanted to do for many years and I was not disappointed! What an exhilarating experience. I'm sure it won't be the last time. My breath was whipped away when we first left the plane and the air is cold, but what a rush. It was so exciting that it never even crossed my mind how fast I was falling or even that I was indeed falling - I was flying. When the canopy was deployed, I was dragged back upwards and then ... just floating over the Oxfordshire countryside. I'm sure half of the county must have heard me whooping away at the top of my voice. Coming into land is not at all scary as the ground is not rushing toward you and it really is just a step down.

I took the sky-dive at Hinton airfield near Bicester. This challenge was the first of three I am taking on this year.



**Karen (far right) walking away after landing**

The next is a walk on hot coals on Aug 25<sup>th</sup> at the Hearing Dog Headquarters here in Saunderton. You could see it by pre-booking on 01844 348136.

The final challenge, which is a real personal one for me as I am a claustrophobe, is to swim with sharks in September at The Blue Planet Aquarium in Cheshire, where I am expected to remain under water for over half an hour!

You can sponsor me safely on line at:

<http://www.justgiving.com/KarenLawe>

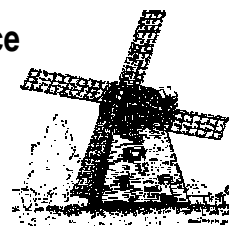
or by cheque made payable to "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People" and marked clearly on the back "monies to sponsor Karen Lawes Challenges", sent to Hannah Philips, Events Organiser, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, The Grange, Wycombe Rd, Saunderton, Princes Risborough, HP27 9NS.

**Karen Lawe**

# What's Happening in Lacey Green & Loosley Row ?

**A LIST OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES to which you are welcome. Others take place but are subject, for example, to membership for which there is a waiting list**

**All events at Lacey Green & Loosley Row Millennium Hall unless otherwise specified**



| <b>WHO in alphabetical order</b>                                                       | <b>WHEN, WHERE if not in Millennium Hall, and OTHER DETAILS</b>                                               | <b>CONTACT</b>  | <b>01844 *</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Adult Learning – Furniture Restoration                                                 | Thu mornings, term time                                                                                       | Bucks office    | 0845 - 0454040 |
| Happy Wanderers' Walking Club<br>- normal walk (5-6 miles)<br>- short walk (2-3 miles) | 10.30am. Starting place informed on previous walk<br>2nd Wed. 10.30am, Millennium Hall car park               | Ronnie Lewin    | 274961         |
| Horticultural Society                                                                  | 3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov. 8pm                                                                  | Terry Fendom    | 342636         |
| Jazzercise – exercises with lively music & company                                     | Tue evenings                                                                                                  | Sue Morris      | 01494 813968   |
| Jingle Tots                                                                            | Baby to 5 years. Songs, action rhymes, musical instruments, refreshments, playtime. Fridays during term time. | Jenny Stothard  | 344441         |
| Karate                                                                                 | Mon evenings                                                                                                  | Richard Peace   | 07768 – 896078 |
| Kinder Gym                                                                             | Pre-school Gym Classes. Fridays during term time                                                              | Jenny Stothard  | 344441         |
| Lacey Green Productions                                                                | Various kinds of theatre, some with delicious food                                                            | Val Brookhouse  | 344207         |
| Lacey Green & Loosley Row Sports & Social Club                                         | Various activities                                                                                            | Jane Oakford    | 346295         |
| Lacey Green Singers                                                                    | Thu evenings, term time                                                                                       | Jane Brown      | 346071         |
| Lacey Green Windmill #                                                                 | Open Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays<br>2.30-5.30pm beginning May – end Sep. See below.                      | Michael Hardy   | 343560         |
| Loosley Row & Lacey Green WI                                                           | 2nd Thu, except Aug. 2pm                                                                                      | Jill Baker      | 275442         |
| Pilates Classes                                                                        | Tue mornings                                                                                                  | Sue Keeling     | 346656         |
| U3A                                                                                    | 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed afternoon of month                                                                        | Roger Smith     | 01494 484182   |
| Whiteleaf Bowmen                                                                       | Wed, Thu & Fri evenings, Apr to Sep                                                                           | Dave Evans      | 01494 538235   |
| Windmill Under 5's Playgroup                                                           | Mon-Fri 9.15-11.45am, lunch club 11.45am-1.15pm<br>At Sports & Social Club (next to St John's School).        | Tina Zychowicz  | 344959         |
| Windmill WI                                                                            | 1st Wed of month. 7.45pm                                                                                      | Stella Boll     | 347268         |
| Yoga Group                                                                             | Mon mornings during term time                                                                                 | Annie Silverman | 343643         |
| 81st Over 60's Club                                                                    | 1st Tue of month. 2pm                                                                                         | Carol Knight    | 343093         |

\* Except where shown otherwise

**# LACEY GREEN WINDMILL** is the oldest smock mill in the country and still has its original wooden machinery from the mid 17th century. Since 1971 it has been restored to working order by members of The Chiltern Society. Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children.

**LACEY GREEN MAIZE MAZE** is open while the school is on Summer Holiday. Car park accessed from Slad Lane.

All events at Lacey Green Village Hall unless otherwise specified. Includes some at Speen and North Dean.

See also page 20 for information on Speen Festival.

|        |                                                                           |               |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Aug 26 | Happy Wanderers' normal walk #                                            | 10.30am       |
| Sep 4  | 81st Over 60's Club (1st Tue of month)                                    | 2pm           |
| Sep 5  | Windmill WI (1st Wed of month)                                            | 7.45pm        |
| Sep 6  | Speen Festival until 15th. See p20 for details. Some events to be booked. |               |
| Sep 8  | Annual Show of Horticultural Society. Set up 1.30-2.30pm                  | 4pm           |
| Sep 9  | Tennis Club's Tennis Tournament & Family Day (see page 4)                 | 1pm           |
| Sep 12 | Happy Wanderers' short walk (2nd Wed, Village Hall car park)              | 10.30am       |
| Sep 13 | Loosley Row & Lacey Green WI (2nd Thu, except Aug)                        | 2pm           |
| Sep 18 | Parish Council Meeting at Speen Village Hall *                            | 7.30pm        |
| Sep 19 | Horticultural Society (3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov)           | 8pm           |
| Oct 2  | 81st Over 60's Club (1st Tue of month)                                    | 2pm           |
| Oct 3  | Windmill WI (1st Wed of month)                                            | 7.45pm        |
| Oct 6  | Windmill WI Jumble Sale. Bring jumble 10am-12 noon.                       | 2pm           |
| Oct 8  | Parish Council Meeting at Lacey Green Village Hall *                      | 7.30pm        |
| Oct 10 | Happy Wanderers' short walk (2nd Wed, Village Hall car park)              | 10.30am       |
| Oct 10 | WI Annual Village Quiz                                                    | 7.30 for 8pm  |
| Oct 11 | Loosley Row & Lacey Green WI (2nd Thu, except Aug)                        | 2pm           |
| Oct 28 | Happy Wanderers' normal walk #                                            | 10.30am       |
| Nov 6  | 81st Over 60's Club (1st Tue of month)                                    | 2pm           |
| Nov 6  | Parish Council Meeting at Speen Village Hall *                            | 7.30pm        |
| Nov 7  | Windmill WI (1st Wed of month)                                            | 7.45pm        |
| Nov 8  | Loosley Row & Lacey Green WI (2nd Thu, except Aug)                        | 2pm           |
| Nov 10 | Windmill Artists' Art Show with all day bar & Bistro                      | 10.30am – 4pm |
| Nov 14 | Happy Wanderers' short walk (2nd Wed, Village Hall car park)              | 10.30am       |
| Nov 14 | Horticultural Society (3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov)           | 8pm           |
| Nov 23 |                                                                           |               |
|        | & 24 Dinner Theatre by LG Productions with The Command Performers         | 7.30 for 8pm  |



\* Members of the public are always welcome to attend these meetings

# Starting place informed on previous walk - usually within 1/2 hour's motoring of village

### SOME LATER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY including in Speen & North Dean

Lacey Green Maize Maze will remain open during the school Summer Holiday. Times and other details from 01844 347435

**CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE WINTER EDITION**  
**October 17th 2007**

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