

HALLMARK

**THE LACEY GREEN &
LOOSLEY ROW MAGAZINE**



**"Fawn in the snow"
by Brian Panter**

OCTOBER 2009

NUMBER 212

ESTABLISHED 1970

Welcome to the Winter edition of Hallmark



This is the first edition of Hallmark that I have planned out from the start. You will notice that I have made a few changes in the layout of the content that should give more flexibility. It will probably take a few issues before I get it perfect – in the meantime please feel free to send me your feedback.

I intend to set a theme for each issue. This month's theme is inspired by the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the Sports Club.

Sport is vital to individuals to keep us healthy, and vital to the community where it brings people out of their homes to make new friends and gain a sense of belonging to the community. We have a wealth of different sports within the villages, ranging from walking and cycling, through the traditional team sports up to equestrianism.

The centre pages have a selection of articles on some of the local clubs. Others not covered in these reports include the gym, yoga, pilates and of course darts.

Congratulations to Paul Johnstone and Steve Bell from the Woodbyne Gym in the village. They are just back from completing the 'Barcelona Ironman' competition. Each competitor has to swim 2.5 miles, cycle for 112 miles and then run a full Marathon of 26.2 miles. They managed this incredible feat in 13 hours and 40 minutes.

Sarah Wiseman(nee Bradley) tells me that she has recently set up a group on Facebook called Lacey Green School, Buckinghamshire. If you would like to keep in touch with some old school mates sign up on her page and swap stories.

Christine McMurray tells me that Phyllis Dell would like to say thank you to all the friends and neighbours who have sent cards and kind wishes during her stay in hospital and at Cherry Trees nursing home.

All the reference and contact information that used to be on this front page has moved to the back page where you can still find it quickly.

✉ Mike Piercy, Malmsmead, Kiln Lane, Lacey Green, Bucks HP27 0PU (on right, just before pond)
☎ 01844 344021 Email editor@laceygreen.com

Christmas Events

Christmas Carol Concert

Sunday 13 December 6 pm at Lacey Green Village Hall:

Lacey Green Singers, Church & School Choirs

Tickets: £5.00 for adult

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies; Squash and Biscuits

Christmas Church Services

Sunday Dec.13th Christingle Service

Sunday Dec.20th at 6pm Candlelit Carol service

Thurs. Dec 24th. Crib Service at 3.30pm.

Thurs. Dec 24th Midnight Mass at 11.15pm.

Friday Dec.25th at 10 am. Christmas Day, Family Service.

Windmill Under 5s Xmas Play

Village Hall Dec 14

For the next issue in January I would like to invite articles on Arts and Crafts. So if you are involved with drama, dance, singing, music, painting, book clubs, writing, lace making, wood turning etc – please send me some words. Tell us about what you do, the organisations, the events, the people, or any other interesting topics. Submissions can range from a paragraph to a page – please try to include some photos or illustrations.

**Closing date for copy
is January17**

Chairman's Report



This is the first edition where we welcome Mike Piercy as the new Editor of this great magazine. Let's all hope you enjoy the job Mike and I look forward to all your fresh ideas and your little tweaks here and there. If anyone has any questions or articles please contact Mike.

Unbelievably our "New" Hall celebrated its 10th anniversary of opening in October and to mark the occasion properly we will be holding a Celebration Evening. In with this issue of Hallmark there should be a flyer explaining all, if it is missing call me and I will explain and sell you some tickets - 01844 343113.

The date for your diary is **Friday 4th December from 7:30**, it would have been nearer October but the hall is fairly booked up right through. The evening promises to be a fun, relaxed event with lots of current hall users showing us displays of what you can expect from the various clubs and societies who frequent our hall. The finale is a short video showing the transition from old to new. It shows parties in both halls and even the old hall being demolished and the new one built. We are of course planning refreshments and do hope you all can join us.

The new storage area is now decorated and the new cupboards will hopefully be fitted very soon!

The Youth Club is still going from strength to strength. They have a very busy programme of events to keep all the youngsters occupied as well as giving them the opportunity to meet up and just get together in a safe and happy place.

While on the subject of the Youth Club, my congratulations go to Joan Smith who recently received a community excellence award. I

know Joan and) her team have put in lots of hard work and deserve the recognition - Well done!

The Village Hall continues to remain fairly busy with all the local organisations throughout the week. If you're looking for a new hobby you may well find that it's available right on your doorstep. Alternatively if you would like to start a new group there are a few daytime slots still on offer.

Also, as you can imagine, in this trying economic time the "party season" bookings are still a little thin on the ground. So if you know anyone who is looking for a great venue, please let them know about us. If needed just point them in the direction of our website,

www.laceygreen.com where they will find all the details they need, or call Karen on 01844 343113.

Finally, I sincerely hope you all have a Merry Christmas and here's to a prosperous and happy new year for us all.

Clive Hodghton - Chairman

Don't miss.....

Horticultural Soc Pumpkin Supper

Wed 18 Nov (see page x)

Millennium Hall 10 Year Celebration

Dec 4th at 7.30pm

Annual Astronomy Talk

"Holidays in Space" by Chris Dignan, amateur astronomer.

Village Hall at 6.45pm for 7pm. Phone 01844 344207 for your ticket - £5

Sunday, December 20 (includes tea/coffee and wine)

Parish Council meetings

Mon Nov 2 at Speen and Mon Dec 7 at Lacey Green. Both 7.30pm

'Lacey Green Stores will be open every weekday, Monday to Friday, starting Monday 2 November. Hours will be 08.30 to 13.00'.



The Black Horse



It does not seem possible that it is nearly Christmas again - where does the time go. It didn't seem that long ago I was sweeping all the leaves away from the front of the pub and here we are again doing the same. As you get older for some reason time flies by sooooo much quicker.

Well dominoes and crib have now started, we have two teams and both of them trying to do their best for this year ,good luck to you both.

Also we have two dart teams this year, Tina MacDonald has arranged for a girlie team and I have a mixed team, so this will be played on a Thursday night in the Princes Risborough league. We ended Aunt Sally with the A team 4th and the B team 3rd. Well done and thank you all for supporting the Black Horse on Friday nights.

Breakfasts seem to be picking up nicely, why don't you come and try one of our full breakfasts. If you don't want the full breakfast just come in for a coffee and toast etc or just come in from the cold and have a coffee and a chat.

We are now taking bookings for our Christmas menu. This is being served from November to middle of January lunch time and evenings. We also do buffets and functions, also outside bars, so if you are planning a function in a hall or maybe your own home why don't you give us a ring and find out what we can do for you.

Remember quiz night last Sunday of every month 8pm start. It is free to play, come in and join the fun.

Have a very good Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year and a big thanks to all my staff without whom the Black Horse wouldn't be able to be here. Thanks to you all {p.s this doesn't mean you will get a wage increase}

Well done to Lisa, Joe and Magoo for retaining the village quiz trophy for another year, well done to you all. Also well done to the Aunt Sally team for winning the admiral tavern trophy again for the second year running. Congratulations to both teams.

Remember that the Black Horse features in the Good Pub guide and that we do 4 real ales which are changed every month.

Our Christmas menu and booking form can be found on the web site on the events page – see www.laceygreen.com/events

Lynne & Ian

Lacey Green Productions

“It Runs in the Family” by Ray Cooney

“A Rolls-Royce of a farce”

“My glasses steamed up with laughter”

Rehearsals are now well under way for this very funny farce which is our play for late November in the village hall. Set in a hospital just before Christmas, it was a great success in London's west end in the 1990's and will really get your Yuletide started with a bang.

At the time of writing all the tickets for our dinner theatre performances on Friday and Saturday, November 27th and 28th at 8pm are sold out but there may be cancellations so

it's always worth a call. There are tickets still available for our extra performance on Thursday, November 26th at 8pm – tickets are just £8. There will be our usual bar for this performance but, for practical reasons, we are unable to serve dinner.

Please reserve your tickets early by phoning either 01844 347518 or 01844 344207.

The charity for which we shall be raising money with “It Runs in the Family” is the Mary Dolly Foundation. This young, Bromley-based charity was founded in memory of Mary Dolly. She selflessly gave of her time and energy to help those who were less well off. Today the foundation helps and supports children and young people in need. This is done by providing one-to-one counselling in

schools plus providing play therapy, drama therapy and art therapy. The foundation also supports families through stressful times, in order to prevent the disintegration of the family unit. In addition, the Mary Dolly Foundation also aims to help elderly people who may be cut off from basic services and the community in which they live.

For the future, we are planning another of our enjoyable “themed evenings” in the village hall for a Saturday evening in the spring of 2010. For those of you who appeared as badgers, ferrets or weasels at our Wind in the Willows evening earlier this year, this will be another opportunity for you to show off your whacky dress sense.

Peter Brookhouse

Horticultural Society - Over The Garden Fence

With the barbeques despairingly packed away, September has given us the best weather of the summer, and the promise of a beautiful autumn.

The Annual Show was a great success with a near record of 229 entries. A remarkable feature was the age span of 92 years between the youngest and oldest winners. Connie Baker aged 101 and counting, carried off a rosette for her leeks while Ellie and Fern O'Shaughnessy, aged 9 and 10, easily won the Sunflower class with their gigantic plant.



Alison Shreeve again won the trophies for the highest number of points in the Vegetable section and in the Combined Produce sections, but it was pleasing to see many of the individual classes being won by people who had not been successful before. The Jubilee Cup, for the greatest number of points accumulated in all classes by an entrant who had not

previously won a trophy, went to Stella Boll.

Despite the summer weather, the Floral section was a riot of colour and won by Les Hazell for the seventh time, but he has been entering for some years!

Jill Langlois won a hotly contested Domestic section, with a first for her almond shortbread. The Marshall Cup for Fruit was won by Michael Hardy, who also took first in the New Season Jam class of the Domestic section with his Greengage Jam.

On a chilly, damp evening at the end of July, the Committee made their way around all 14 entries in the Hanging Basket competition, with the intention of producing a shortlist to be judged by Christine Townsend. We thought that they were all very nice in different ways, and could not eliminate any. So a couple of evenings later, in much better weather, Mrs Townsend very kindly viewed all of the baskets. The winner was Linda Taylor, with John and Jill Langlois second and Alison Shreeve third. Christine complimented all entrants, and agreed that all of the baskets were very good.

The Society entered the Bucks Association of Horticultural Societies Autumn show, and came up against quality competition. We did not win a prize, although Alison Shreeve's flower arrangement "A Psychedelic Explosion" was awarded Highly Commended. Our Domestic entry, comprising a plaited loaf, carrot and apple cake, cheese straws and a jar of greengage jam looked really good and I was disappointed that we did not quite achieve a place in the top three. We still struggle against specialists in the vegetable and fruit class, but overall we have

improved enormously since our first entry a year ago, and now need to find those extra half points.

Looking ahead, we have the Pumpkin Competition Supper Social on Wednesday 18 November, if you have a pumpkin of any size or shape, bring it along or just come for the supper and entertainment. Tickets £5, in advance please, to facilitate catering. Non Members welcome. We are confident of repeating last year's great success.

The meeting on 20 January is a talk by the very entertaining Doug Donaldson, entitled Sea to Sierra on his travels in the Americas looking for rare and unusual Cacti. In the interval we will have a tasting of members pickles and preserves with recipes, accompanied by cheese and biscuits and a glass of wine. There is no charge for this evening to Members. If you are not a member you are very welcome to attend for £1 on the door but we hope you will join the Society which is £3 per year.

Terry Fendom Chairman
01844 342636



On The Farm

How often do you use the weather as a topic of casual conversation? Maybe more than you realise. On the farm it is not in passing conversation that it is used. In fact rather the other way, it dictates to us what needs doing and what it will let us do. We are often at its mercy. In fact, if you do not co-operate with it, things will usually go wrong or at best be much more difficult. However well a farm is managed it is essential to make the best of what conditions are thrown at you. And boy, it is so fickle.

Last year when the crops looked so good, turned out to be one of the worst ever, with such a dull grey summer. This year the summer was much nicer. There was probably never a truer saying than 'make hay while the sun shines'. This equally applies to the harvest, because there is no telling how long good weather will last. If the grain comes in dry it saves a fortune in handling and the cost of drying, so while the weather holds every hour is precious and long hours are worked to push on while it is possible.

As it turned out it was a pretty good summer. The maize maze was able to open every day, there were a few grey days and a number of wet nights which make the paths slippery but we must be stalwart nation for people still came, suitably shod, umbrellas at the ready just in case of necessity, and there were a lot of lovely days as well. When the children went back to school we closed that and the harvest was all in, just in time for the Harvest Festival. One thing that John has to remember to do before the corn is all cut is to get the combine to stop and to collect enough from the big cutter bar

across the front before it is threshed to make two sheaves to put in the church for the service. Big problem if he should forget. Where to get some? You would think that someone else hadn't finished theirs yet, when you have been so industrious, but when you eventually stop and look around all the others have been just as hard at work getting theirs done too.

But the farming year never stops. Now the ground must be cultivated and planted to give next year's crops a good start before winter. The first thing to be harvested is oil seed rape and not surprisingly the first to be sown also. This has only been grown in recent years so there used to be a little more gap. We had to fix our wedding third week of September to accommodate this. These days I guess we would never have made it to the altar. Even then Dick wrote to John saying they had started drilling.

But back to 'the weather'. This year all seemed well and everything was planted for next year's crops. Then we had 'an Indian Summer'. Even better than the summer. While people were enjoying this bonus weather we were worrying about the dry ground. It was unlikely that things could grow in it. So much for a head start on winter. The glorious sunshine continued and our fears increased. What if the seeds had started to germinate and then dried out? They would almost certainly die. As I write this it has now rained and we will be watching anxiously to see if anything begins to grow. So the best laid plans of mice and men are once again at the mercy of the elements and we can only wait and see.

Meanwhile there have been many calves born, the cows enjoying the good weather. The milk has started going to a different dairy and so far so good. However, figures just published do not make encouraging reading. In the past year to date producers gross margins were -3p per litre, processors' gross margins soared to 22p per litre and retailers' gross margins took 19p per litre. Do you wonder that the producers are still quitting in droves? They just cannot carry on in this crazy situation as it stands. At least we can use our skill to mitigate the weather, but this? It's not just here, in Belgium, farmers are dumping milk on their fields and ploughing it in to protest. Any ideas what could be done here?

Joan West

Village Newcomers

Do you know of someone who has just moved into Lacey Green, Loosley Row or Speen?

The Lacey Green Community Planning Group would be pleased to welcome them to our community by delivering a Welcome Pack. It contains a lot of relevant information about local services and features.

Please contact

Christine Oliver (Speen)
at 01494 488570; or

Angela Agate
(Lacey Green/Loosley Row)
at 01844 273916 or

angelaagate@btinternet.com

District and County Council News



Road Patching Programme

This year's allocation for local patching has now been completed by the County Council. I think the work in Woodway and Little Lane has much improved the surface and safety on these roads. With winter approaching it remains important that individual potholes are reported to the helpline 'Highways on Call' 0845 230 2882.

NAG - Risborough Rural Neighbourhood Action Group

Following the recent public consultation, the priorities for the NAG have been reset. Speeding traffic and inconsiderate parking remain as actions with Anti Social Behaviour replacing concerns on Fly-tipping. Andrew Ralph and Lisa Roberts have responsibility for the villages; you may have seen Lisa recently in Speen Stores where she is holding a series of surgeries. If you would like similar surgeries for Lacey Green say, during shop opening times, then I am sure that Lisa would be happy to arrange. Her contact details are below.

The NAG group is still looking for volunteers to work with the Community Speed Watch equipment in Speen. Six are needed and we currently have four. Lisa is coordinating this so if you would like to join the group please contact her.

Lisa's email is Lisa.Roberts@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or can be contacted on 0845 8 505 505

Local Community Partnership Meetings

These are partnership meetings between the Risborough Area Parishes, District and County Councils where matters of common concern are discussed and hopefully actions agreed to improve delivery. The next meeting is scheduled for 25th November where the subject of Rural Public Transport is on the agenda. The opportunity to put questions directly to the members is included on the agenda so if you have an issue and would like to make a representation to the partnership then please contact Carole Burslem, our Area Coordinator on 01494 475380 or email cburslem@buckscc.gov.uk, and she will let you know what to do.

Coombe Hill Monument Appeal

The work to put together funding to restore this valuable memorial to the 151 men in Buckinghamshire that lost their lives during the Boer War is continuing. We are fortunate to have gained the support of the Lord Lieutenant and Major General Stuart Watson to help with the appeal. The objective is to replace the worn stones and to renew the inscriptions so that the memory to those who fought is not lost. If you would like to contribute or know of others that would like to help, please let the appeal coordinator Mark Bailey know. His contact details are:

Mark Bailey, Natural Environment Team Manager, Natural Environment Team Planning, Environment & Development Service, Buckinghamshire County Council, County Hall, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UY. Tel: 01296 382389 Email: mabailey@buckscc.gov.uk

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

In the summer's update I said I would let you have a report on the work of the Fire Authority. I certainly have been impressed with the service especially the dedication of the crews to their work. Interestingly rescue work related to traffic incidents now competes with fire as one of the prime responses for the service. With the M1, M25, M4 and M40 coming within the area this is probably no great surprise. Fire prevention is high on the priorities for the Fire Authority, if you have concerns about Home Fire Protection and would like some help then please give the Community Safety Team a call (01296 744477) or email hsc@bucksfire.gov.uk to book a **free** Home Fire Risk check under the Home Safety Check scheme. The smoke alarms that are fitted come with a ten year battery.

Community Fund

If you have a community project then please let me know and I will see if some funding can be arranged. If you have an issue with which I can help, please also let me know. As well as writing to my home address Canastel, Water Lane, Speen, HP27 0SW, I can be contacted by phone 01494 488315 or by email at progerson@buckscc.gov.uk

Paul Rogerson

District & County Councillor

Heavenly Bodies

As well as terrestrial fireworks around Bonfire Night, we are promised a pyrotechnic celestial display over the next few weeks.

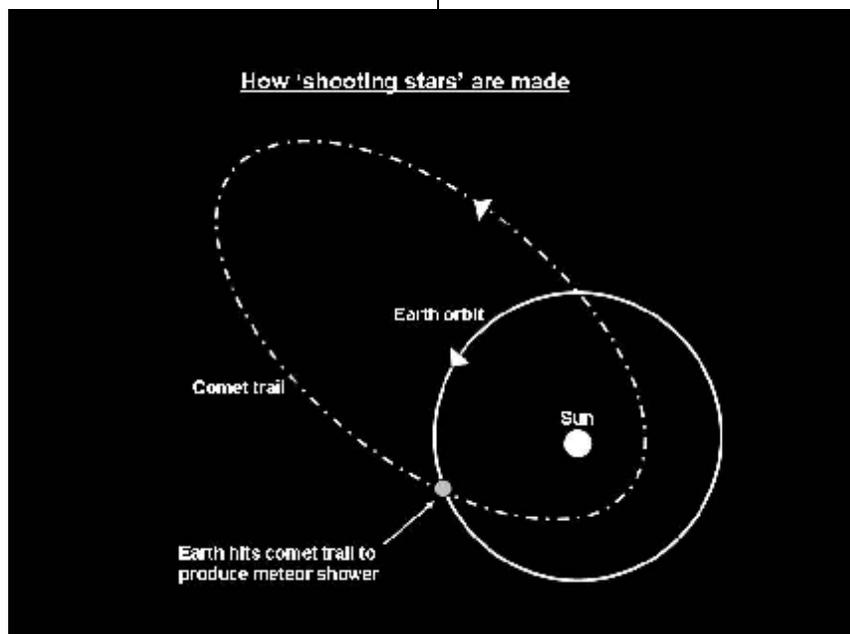
hitting our atmosphere. It's estimated that 100 million meteors are visible to the naked eye over the whole Earth during an average

when the Geminids arrive. These may come from an inactive comet, but doubt remains. Predictions by those who are meant to know about these things say that there could be up to 120 meteors per hour! To save your neck, put on a warm coat and tilt back on a sun-lounger for the most comfortable view.

As part of your build up to celebrations on New Year's Eve, you might want to pop outside to look at the full Moon at 7.20pm. If the skies are clear or the clouds part, the Moon should appear a little strange as its bottom edge should be missing. This is because the Moon has just dipped into the Earth's shadow to produce a very minor partial eclipse. We've not had a decent lunar eclipse for a while, and the next partially visible total lunar eclipse for us isn't until 21 December 2010. A fully visible total eclipse happens on 15 June 2011. So make the most of New Year's Eve!

And don't forget my annual astronomy talk, entitled "Holidays in Space", is in the Village Hall on Sunday, December 20th at 6.45pm for 7pm. Tickets are £5, which includes tea/coffee before the talk and wine afterwards. Please book your tickets by phoning Val Brookhouse on 01844 344207.

Chris Dignan



Sky-watchers may have noticed a flurry of 'shooting stars' in the last two weeks of October. This was the Orionid Meteor Shower. However, there are two more meteor showers which should be at their best in November and December as the Moon is not around to wash out the view.

The bullet-like flashes of light which we see in the sky and know as 'shooting stars', are in fact tiny dust particles which slam into the Earth's atmosphere at about 100,000mph as our planet whizzes around its orbit. It's rather like insects being splatted on a speeding car's windscreen. Before these 'meteors' meet their end in our skies, the particles were suspended in space as part of exhaust trails left by a passing comet which released them as it thawed on its approach to the Sun. A typical meteor is about 8mm wide and shows off its fiery finale 50-80 miles above us as it vaporises in the intense heat produced when

hitting our atmosphere. It's estimated that 100 million meteors are visible to the naked eye over the whole Earth during an average

24-hours. If the meteors are larger, they often produce a dramatic fireball which fades out. Those which land are called meteorites. Predictions of meteor showers are usually very accurate, because we know the orbit of most large comets, where they have left their exhaust trail and when the Earth is due to pass through them. The Orionids in October were caused by the trail of Halley's comet. These are called the Orionids because meteor showers are named after the star constellation – in this case Orion – from which the meteors appear to originate when we look at the night sky. The next big shower is on the night of 17-18 November when the Leonids (from Leo) left by comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle are due to light up the sky with about 20-40 visible per hour. Do look out for them a few nights either side of that date – the closer to midnight or afterwards the better. An even more impressive display is due to occur on the night of 13-14 December



Happy Wanderers



ANNUAL “AWAY DAYS”

Sunday 4 – Tue 6 October

The Cotswold Hills was the destination for forty three happy Happy Wanderers. After booking in to the Bear of Rodborough, Ron and Beryl Goodearl, who had organized the trip, led us on a walk over Rodborough Common.

The views over and beyond the river Severn were absolutely stunning. We all thoroughly enjoyed the walk, plenty of chatting and laughter. We finished the day with a delicious meal midst very friendly company.

Monday morning we motored to Kingscote, where two walks were planned. Beryl led the 2 mile one, whilst Ron led the 5.5 miles one.

The short walk started at a Meditation Centre, the grounds laid out in Japanese style. All so very peaceful & calm. We then wandered through the village to the lovely interesting little church, discovering that Edward Jenner, the pioneer of the smallpox inoculation, was buried there. We

returned to the local Pub, where Ron had ordered sandwiches for us and waited for the return of members from the long walk.

A call came through from Ron to report an accident to one of our members. After a short anxious wait, Beryl returned with Yvonne Axe who had slipped and unfortunately had suffered two fractures to the ankle of her right leg, so was taken off by husband Leigh to Tetbury hospital, returning with her leg in plaster. Leigh also had had problems with his right leg, possibly gout, so they were served with dinner in bed. I will leave you to imagine the scene!

Tuesday morning we motored to Westonbirt Arboretum, where we divided into two groups, each with an excellent guide, and were taken around the absolutely beautiful Arboretum for about one and a half hours. It was so very peaceful and the vast number of species of trees truly amazing.

Ron very kindly organized buggies for Yvonne and Leigh so they were able to enjoy the visit in comfort. We had lunch at the Arboretum before returning home. Those staying an extra night were given a guided walk by Ron around an area known as Silk Wood.



Our sincere thanks go to Beryl and Ron for arranging a most enjoyable and successful visit to a lovely part of the Cotswolds.

Bette Tyler



On 30th August

31 members of the Happy Wanderers set off from the Three Crowns pub in Askett on Bank Holiday Sunday.

The weather was cloudy but dry and the route was mainly flat but with many stiles which always slows progress. However, it did not suppress the high spirits and general banter which makes our monthly walks so enjoyable.



Unfortunately one of our members badly scraped his elbow on one of the stiles, so for only the second time in fifteen years we had to use our obligatory first aid kit. Our Secretary, being a fully trained nurse in her other life, applied a dressing. The patient is expected to live and did not need the 'kiss of life' despite the encouragement of his colleagues.

If you wish to join the Happy Wanderers just phone our Secretary, Liz Lewin, on 01844 294961 for details.

Roger Brudenell



Walking in Bucks

**More than 230
Buckinghamshire walks to
download and print FREE!**

There's no doubt about it, walking is good for you. It's good for your heart, it's good for your lungs, it's good for the muscle and bone growth of your children and it's good for your feeling of wellbeing! Strong scientific evidence now supports the many benefits to health of regular walking – it is recommended that we take at least 10,000 steps a day.

Studies show that walking can:

- Reduce the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduce high cholesterol
- Reduce body fat
- Enhance mental well being

Walking offers a great way to help kids get the active habit. If parents express excitement about the prospect of a walk in the countryside, they are more likely to transmit this feeling to their children. It's important to treat the walk as an exploration

or adventure and to go at the child's pace, no matter how often they want to stop and look at things; take treats to eat and plenty to drink; and head for some landmark that will appeal to them such as a castle, a playground, an ice cream van or a boating pond. If children experience walking as part of a fun activity they are more likely to want to go again.

So, how do you find out what is on offer? John Harris, a keen walker, got fed up with the lack of information on walks that were going on in the County. So, he decided that if he couldn't find what he was looking for – he had better create it! So www.walkinginbucks.co.uk came into being.

www.walkinginbucks.co.uk gives you all the information you need for the best walking in the County. Details of more than 230 walks to download and print free, details of all the Buckinghamshire walking groups, maps and walk books – plus loads more information.

So check out the website and get walking!

Windmill Under 5s



Before I fill you in on what has happened and what is due to happen at Windmills this Autumn Term, I should introduce myself. My name is Michelle Whiting and I am Chair of Windmills. Last year I was Co-Chair with Zoe Glenister but Zoe has stepped down and therefore it's now up to me to keep you updated.

Windmills welcomed two new members of staff this term, Carina Murray and Amanda Webb, as well as plenty of new children and they all have settled in well and are enjoying getting to know each other.

The term got off to a flying start with the topic of 'Autumn' and 'The Body'. This saw the children enjoying a seasonal walk, listening to stories, taking part in all sorts of activities and craft based on Autumn and even decorating a gingerbread man whilst naming the main parts of his body. They have made faces of themselves out of all sorts of bits and pieces for the birthday board.

Every day the children take part in story/circle time, outside learning, free-flow play, shapes and maths, as well as letter and colour of the week. They love experimenting with the interactive tray which can contain any number of exciting things including earth and string (as worms), jelly or coloured shaving

foam. If weather permits, a visit to the play park is still cause for great excitement and French lessons are always interesting!

The next half term will see further excitement as the children can have their photograph taken, learn about fireworks, Diwali and of course getting ready for the ever popular Christmas Play on 14th December, finishing the term with a party and visit from Santa on the 18th.

The fundraising focus for this year is to provide a new library for the children. The fundraising team have been busy meeting to plan a host of activities for both children and parents/carers. Pre-schools are self-funding and committee led, and therefore rely enormously on the generosity and good will of parents and the wider community to support them. So please keep an eye out for information on our events.

Children will enjoy dressing up in their scariest costumes for the Halloween based session on 23rd October and there will be the usual Car Boot sale in February so plenty of opportunity for cake/coffee and raffle ticket sales all to go to a good cause!

Come and get a taste for Windmills at St John's School Craft Morning on Saturday 14th November. Due to the great success last year there will once again be craft activities for the under 5's during the morning, where the children will have the opportunity to colour, stick and cut their way through numerous seasonal craft projects.

If you are considering a pre-school for your child call our administrator Paula Cunningham on 07502 198405 or email admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk to arrange a convenient time to visit.

We are now registering admissions for September 2010! All children at Windmills spend quality time with their key worker. Lunch club runs daily from 11.45-1.15pm. If you like the sound of what you have just read then take a look at our website www.windmillunder5s.co.uk to find out more and come and see our happy and friendly pre-school for yourself!

Michelle Whiting – Chair

WOULD YOU LIKE A FRIEND TO TALK TO?

If you spend many hours at home alone, and can't get out easily, you may want to give us a call. We run a Befriending Service for lonely older people, and can provide a friendly visitor every week.

Other helpful services include Toe Nail Cutting, in your own home, Handyman, and Painting & Decorating.

Or perhaps you are interested in volunteering? We would value your help for a range of roles. Please contact us.

Tel: 01296 431911

Age Concern
Buckinghamshire

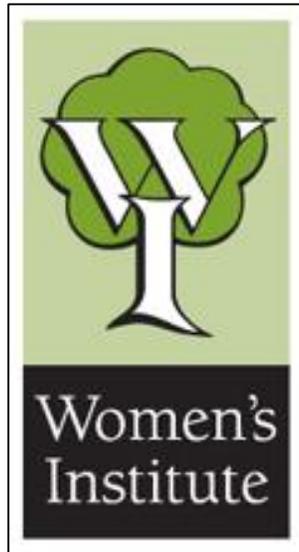
145 Meadowcroft, Aylesbury,
Bucks, HP19 9HH

www.ageconcernbucks.org.uk

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The Windmill WI



It doesn't seem possible that we are again heading towards another winter. However, we at The Windmill WI have had a good summer and autumn.



In August we enjoyed our Summer Supper held at the home of our President, Mrs Pat Richards. The committee took it a little easier this year by just preparing the desserts whilst The Black Horse supplied a fantastic main course for us.

At our monthly meeting in August the speaker, Edwin Rye told us how to keep colour in the garden throughout the winter. Mr Rye has become a firm favourite with us - so much so that we have already booked him again for next year!

Our meeting in September was our 22nd Birthday meeting, when we invited 2 members from each of the Institutes in our Group to join us for the evening. We were entertained by Mr Mick Casson who talked about his time as a Yeoman Warder and resident of the Tower of London. Mr Casson was a very humorous speaker and the evening was most enjoyable.

At the beginning of October we held our Annual General Meeting when our President, Secretary and Treasurer all reported on a very successful and entertaining year. The Committee and President, Mrs Pat Richards, were all elected back in office for another term. The business side of the evening was followed by social time with a cheese and wine buffet.

Also in October we held our biannual Jumble Sale which once again was well attended and very successful – we think we are getting well known in the 'Jumble World' for having good class jumble!



Don't forget – we meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall- do come and join us!

Daphne Williams



Sports Special – Football

As I nestled at the bar in one of Lacey Green's finest drinking establishments on a cold, 'snowed in' February evening, I notice a couple of my friends sitting at a table just round the corner. They're all wearing dirty football shirts, socks rolled down, shin pads out and a tired look on their faces. "Hello Tony, how's things? You



been playin' today?" I already knew the answer, but was intrigued on their story for today. As the conversation carries on, it seems to click that the guys in the area play 5 a side football around Aylesbury, Slough and the likes. We discuss the demise of 11 a side football in local villages, where pride is high and dedication seems foremost. 'Why don't we set up a football team' I say flippantly, desperate to find out if my idea had taken effect on the others. 'Why not, let's do it.' Maybe not the answer I was expecting...

It's now the middle of October; we're six games in with nine points on the board. We have a dedicated squad of 22, and are pushing for promotion in Division 5 of The High Wycombe Sunday Football

Combination League, where we are currently 4th on the board. We train regularly on Wednesday evenings, with the squad all up and ready for a tough regime at 7.30pm on the dot. The goals have arrived, the brand spanking new kit is ready to be worn, we have an appointed manager, Brett Hurley, the enthusiasm is high, and miraculously, have only lost 4 footballs to date. We revel in the fact that football has taken off in Lacey Green. Not because everybody gets to play a game of football, but because football has been big with youngsters in this area for years. Now after nearly a decade of football absence, Lacey Green FC is now back up and running again.

The start of the season has had its ups and downs. At Lacey Green Sports Field, the team has gelled, the tactics are in place, and everyone is just intent in making a place in the squad, getting on that field to play the first game of the season. We had arranged a friendly match against Naphill Men's FC at the end of August at The Crick, which brought a 2-1 victory. A convincing performance by all, which saw young Jamie Blackburn and Tom Bedder hit the net. A good way to start off the 2009-2010 campaign.

Our first opponents in the league on 6th September 2009 were Beech Tree FC. We've heard many rumours of teams who have played in this league, but as they were a new team, like us, we had no background or pre-match scrutiny. We knew we had to go out there and play our own game. With everyone high in confidence, we

stroll on Pitch 5 at The Rye, eyeing up our opponents with winning determination. The game kicks off, and suddenly we knew that this team wasn't going to be walked over. We were 1-0 down at half time, with an audacious lob from 45 yards out, leaving goalkeeper James Bartington stranded. With our heads held high, we battle on in the second half, changing tactics to accommodate a controlled side, and see if we could penetrate a well organised defence, and just nick one back. Not so. A 3-0 loss ensued. We played well to be fair. I don't think the result was the reason the team felt deflated, it was possibly the lack of a goal that bothered us the most.

The next week saw us up against The Beaconsfield Arms Zimstars. Once again, at The Rye. We've been lucky, the sun was shining again, and the team was high in self-belief that the 3 points was ours to be had. We start with a 4-5-1 formation. Our solid back four, Tony Shadbolt, Matt Collins, Lloyd Jones, and Steve Evans. James Taylor, Dan Lay and Henry Craven controlling the central midfield, with the quick pace of Ed Suggate and Phil Hardy down the wings to feed the aerial ability and pin point control of our lone striker, Luke Garvey. 0-0 at half time. We became increasingly aware that our opposition was a resilient one, but hopefully our fitness would be the demise of them. The game ended in a 5-2 victory, with a penalty turned down for unknown reasons, and an emphatic hat-trick for Dan Lay. 3 points on the board. All we can do now is carry on with these performances.

Sports Special – Football and Polo

With other wins against Booker FC and The Hour Glass FC of 2-1 and 3-1 respectively, an unfortunate, if not controversial 2-1 loss on the doorstep of Wooburn Falcons, and an unlucky 1st Round Cup exit against Division 4 side Villagers FC 2-0, we find ourselves with mixed emotions. Out of the cup, are we going up? It all seems too close to call at the time of the season. The team are beginning to grow stronger mentally and physically every week, new members are joining and are strengthening the squad no end. We've caught our first glimpses of Sunday league football, all that needs to be done is to stay focused and make sure we go out every week wanting those three points.

Lacey Green FC have had a good start to the season on reflection, but this team could not be created, maintained, or function without the efforts and hard work of others. Where do I start?! First, all the people at The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Sports Club, who have given their trust for us to

organise such a team. They have worked closely with us to ensure we get off to the best possible start. Second, a major thanks to our team sponsors for this year. Home Sponsors Duncan and Shakira at The Pink and Lily, and our Away Sponsors, Lynne, Tony and Ian at The Black Horse in Lacey Green have been phenomenal in their support for Lacey Green FC, and cannot be more appreciative of their financial, kind will and gestures so far this season.

We'd also like to thank the following people for their contributions. Henry Craven and Tony Shadbolt for using their experience and energies to get the football team in operation. Chris Oakford and Robert Dell for their work in getting the pitch marked out and sorted for us to play. Norman Tyler for the Hallmark advertising and other administrative work. Alice Hill for her amazing grounds-person work. Phil Starling for his photography, and collecting corner flags from another county just before our first home game was

about to kick off (!), Clive at The Entertainment House whose advice I can always count on. Alison Gayler for agreeing to wash the kit this season. I'm sorry if I've forgotten anyone, if I have, I'll buy you pint very soon.

If you require information email us at laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.uk. We need players, trainers, coaches, whatever you can bring to the team will be more than appreciated. We are also on Facebook under Lacey Green FC, , please visit www.football.mitoo.co.uk. We are under Berks and Bucks and in The High Wycombe Sunday Combination Section, Division 5.



Ben Foster

Polo



Polo has come to Lacey Green. Lacey Green has a polo club based at Widmer Farm where there are three full sized grounds. Matches started on May 9th and the tournament finals were played on Sept 27th; almost every weekend throughout the summer there has been play. Everyone is made welcome. There is no charge to watch and yet almost no one in the village seems to know about it. Polo is a very fast and exciting game to watch. The rules are complicated, but ignorance is no bar to enjoyment.

The description Polo Pony is a misnomer. Polo was originally played from ponies but the restriction on height (14 hands 2 inches) was removed after the First World War. All the best ponies are Argentinean bred, as are most of the best players.

Brian Panter

Sports Special – Whiteleaf Bowmen

BRACE THE BOW, NOCK AN ARROW, SHOOT AT A TARGET, AND SCORE A ROUND.

with the club, but it's having the correct basic training to shoot and safety instruction first.

find the missing arrows in the field. One member can be found at the field who is currently barracked at the air command HQ enjoying his sport.



The club is affiliated to the Grand National archery society, Buckinghamshire archery association and southern counties ASE, so the club has many visitors from the all over the county. One occasion two county coach assessors arrived to carry out a final assessment for a Level 1 Coaching certificate for the chairman Alan Hunt. All our coaching and archery leaders under go the necessary training supported by the above bodies.

The Whiteleaf bowmen are the local archery club

The Lacey Green youth group caught up with the archers at the village hall, to have an enjoyable fun evening shoot. Good to see 20 local young people and their leaders experiencing a long traditional sport in the community.

Readers may remember our Have-a-go session at the Lacey Green Maize - Maze. This event is run by our landlord; we ran two bosses on Saturday from 11:30 through to 16:00 for all to experience

The men from Speen had an evening ending with balloons on the targets for a fun shoot at the archery field, as did over 10 different groups from local area, like the Thame scouts, Lions club, Round Table, the opportunity for +240 participants to shoot this year supervised by our club archers.

The club has in addition run 3 very successful beginners courses this year having 46 participants taking an interest and/or take up the sport

The members have access to the field throughout the year, Club nights are Wednesdays and Thursday evenings, summertime at the field, wintertime in the excellent facilities of the village hall and Sunday's mornings at the field.

Groups also meet up during the week to enjoy shooting different types of bows, a number of members meeting up for social shoot and competitions. One family came to the field, while one club member was practicing, his wife and daughter could just sit and read a book. Until it was time to

Eight members of our club were present at the Bucks County Shoot. The tournament round was a York for Gents (6/4/2 dozen at 100/80/60 yards) or a Hereford for Ladies (6/4/2 dozen at 80/60/50 yards). The conditions were good on the day although the wind was a bit blustery and swirled somewhat at the target end but before you all think that this is the start of the normal archery excuses the club was very victorious. We walked away with all the senior county recurve trophies and the gents' barebow trophy.



Sports Special – Whiteleaf Bowmen & Rugby



Julie Morling collected the Ladies County Recurve Trophy

With Sam Fowler taking second place;

Justyn Fowler collected the Gents County Recurve Trophy;

Tim Skegg collected the Gents County Barebow Trophy;

Julie Morling, Sam Fowler, Justyn Fowler and Tony White collected the Team County Recurve Trophy.

The pictures here show just two of the trophies and silverware held by the club.

Jonathan Shales president of the club had been selected for the British field archery attending the World Games in Taipei. For those of you that have not been able to follow his progress there he came 8th and in case you are thinking it is that all remember it is 8th in the World.



Our congratulations again go to Jonathan Shales who not content with being the Gents British Field champion has now won the British Target championship that took place in Lilleshall (home of English archery) at the start of this

September. So congratulations Jon from all of your fellow Whiteleaf bowmen. I am sure Jonathan will be encouraging others in to put in for competitions.

The Chilterns has entertained the club going into its 44th anniversary of a sport of archery in the community. So for something next year, why not give it a go with some friends?

<http://www.whiteleafbowmen.org.uk>



Rugby

Risborough RFC was formed last year, the first new rugby club in Bucks for over 17 years. They announced their arrival to the rugby world by reaching the semi finals of last season's Bucks County Shield beating some stiff opposition on the way. They also competed well in a series of friendly matches, surprising a few of their better known neighbours!

This season Risborough RFC have joined the Berks, Bucks and Oxon North league in the second division and started well with a thumping 10-43 win away to Buckingham 3rds.

Risborough RFC currently plays their home matches at Risborough Secondary School in Merton Road. Fixture lists can be found in The Whip Inn or by emailing the address below. Winter training is on Thursday evenings at Halton RAF camp.

For more information on playing, social membership, fixtures, advertising and sponsorship please contact enquiries@risborough-rfc.com



Sports Special – Cricket

Not good enough. Not dedicated enough. Not consistent enough. That's my end of term report. Watching the 1st XI is like looking at a bunch of middle-aged dads playing cricket at the seaside with their children using a soft ball. Half the 1st XI would have been very lucky to get an occasional game in the 2nd XIs of the Wycombe League teams of 40 to 50 years ago. Reserve teams like Booker, Hampden, Kingshill, Penn & Tylers Green and Naphill - and Lacey Green - would have given a good account of themselves in the present 1st Division - and probably in the Premier.

Having said that, there is talent there - it's just not being used as it could and should be. I know it's easy to sit at the side and criticise and, of course, we all made mistakes. The difference is, we learned from them. We had to with around twenty ex-players known at the time as The Critics remarking none too quietly on our performances!

The 2nd's I can excuse. They rarely know until they are on the field what team they will have - or even if they will have a full team. Even so, they are much more entertaining than the 1st to watch and do give of their very best.

If you want to turn up at the ground for a little light exercise and a few drinks afterwards, that's fair enough. But if you want to win anything you have to be dedicated. Not easy, I know when the team changes from week to week.

And that's a big part of the problem. Too many won't, or are unable, to make themselves available every week - and some of the more useful players among them.

I know there are more distractions and possibly responsibilities than fifty years ago when our week-end sport was the highlight of the week for us. I've never been forgiven for missing my sister's wedding to play cricket. (Well, I ask you, which was most important?)

This is not a personal attack on any individual player - they are all good lads. But, I do passionately want to see them do their very best - if not for the pride of Lacey Green, at least for their own pride.

Well, I've had my say - over to you lads. I would just like to add that there is no truth in the rumour that the letters of my surname stand for Grumpy Old Man Moaning Eternally!

You'll be surprised to know that there are some things this year that have pleased me. Some of us former players feared at one time that the club would collapse as the older hard-working members faded away. Now I believe our fears were groundless. There is hope.

First, we have the young and delightful Stephanie Dell as club secretary (Pay me later, Steph) who I'm sure will come up with good ideas for fund-raising, etc. She recently coordinated the 60th anniversary of the ground hand-over aided by the committee and others.

Then there's her husband Johnno, thrust into the captaincy of the 2nd XI after the unfortunate injury that kept Simon Williams out virtually all the season. I thought Johnno did a fair job and was pleased to see that he didn't hesitate to ask advice of more experienced players when in doubt.

Next, Jake Dell. Only 15, but he showed he can defend his wicket and if you can do that the strokes and runs will come. You'll make a good off-spin bowler, Jake. Stick to it; don't let anyone tell you to bowl differently.

Will Carter. Another good lad, an enthusiastic fielder and will become a useful all-rounder. Knows how to handle a bat. His bowling needs polishing. Tries to bowl too fast, line and length first, Will.

Charlie Williams. The youngest of the trio of talented lads. At only 12 years old, Charlie already bowls a better line and length than some I could mention and he has the same in-swinging curve as his dad, Simon. I predict lots of wickets for Charlie. The batting will come when he's older.

And a word of praise for those veterans, Nigel, Phil and Tim's dad who turned out despite health problems to make up the 2nds. Well done.

I have no individual performance figures for the players but I think Dave Highgate topped the 1st XI and Derek Marshall the 2nd XI batting. I believe no-one took enough wickets worth mentioning. The 1st XI finished 7th in Div. 1, winning four matches, losing five with three winning draws, four losing draws and two games rained off.

The 2nd XI finished sixth in Div. 2, winning six matches, losing eight with two losing draws and two lost to rain.

Let's hope for a big improvement next year.

Geoff Gomme

Sports Special – Self Defence (DART)

In May 2008 a new self defence club started at St John's School on Monday evenings. Thus far it has attracted new students from Speen, Princes Risborough and High Wycombe - but no-one from Lacey Green or Loosley Row! The club also trains in Princes Risborough on Thursdays.



WHAT IS DART?

Defence Attack & Resolution Tactics (DART) is a Practical Karate system designed to develop and enhance the necessary survival skills to negate, survive and escape violence. The DART training method evolved from applying research in Sports Science, Psychology, and Violent Crime Statistics to traditional Karate techniques and training.

WHAT IS TRAINING LIKE?

DART classes are small, friendly and fun. The majority of our training involves paired exercises, and each team of students are coached at a pace appropriate to their own training needs.

DART takes a very traditional approach to Practical Karate training, close to karate before its export from Okinawa to Japan. The original karate suits were loose clothes the equivalent to our tracksuits, so we wear tracksuits and t shirts, like the pictures here. Just as the Okinawans translated Chinese terms into Okinawan, and the Japanese in turn modified Okinawan terms to suit themselves, we use English as our training language.

As a traditional Karate system we practice many of the techniques that more sporting styles have dropped. We train at all ranges standing up and also practice on the ground, using throwing and grappling techniques as well as striking and evasive techniques. Our simple approach is designed to work for men, women and older children - and you don't have to be fit to begin with. In addition to physical skills we also teach students the mental and verbal skills that will help them avoid and escape trouble. When students are ready, volunteers can choose to develop their skills further using advanced body armour for protection.



Words and photographs can only present a limited picture of what training with DART is like, so you may find that watching a class, or trying a class, will help you decide if our approach is right for you. The first class is always free, so contact us using the details at the back of the Hallmark magazine!

RECENT CLUB EVENTS

In June the club welcomed students and instructors from across the country to train with our guest instructor, American martial artist Professor Rick Clark. Later in the same month a number of the students travelled north with Coach John Titchen to teach self defence to a Tae kwon Do club in Southwell, Nottinghamshire. In August a number of the students took part in an all-styles martial arts training day in Bracknell to raise money for the National Autistic Society.

INSTRUCTOR

Coach John Titchen spent part of his childhood growing up in Lacey Green, and is an active member of the infamous Lacey Green Productions drama group. He is well known in the international martial arts community, having been a regular columnist for Traditional Karate Magazine for a number of years and is author of the acclaimed book *Heian Flow System: effective karate kata bunkai*. He is now a regular columnist for the internationally respected martial arts publication *Jissen*.

JOHN TITCHEN

Lead Instructor DART

Sports Special – Tennis



Alongside the Lacey Green and Loosley Row Sports Club playing field is situated the three all-weather courts of the tennis club. Although these courts may be used only by current members of the tennis club, the annual subscription is the best value around. Younger tennis players can currently join the club for £15 for a year's membership. Adult membership (over-18) costs £40 and family membership is currently £65.

The club is ideal for beginners or people who simply have not picked up a tennis racket for years and would like to play tennis with like minded people. Many members also arrange coaching which is available in groups or one-to-one with the coaches.

During 2009, the tennis club held 3 Sunday afternoon 'fun' tournaments in May, July and September. They were arranged as friendly doubles for senior and junior players arranged to suit the number available giving everyone a chance to play 3 or 4 sets throughout the afternoon.

With tea and cakes available to sustain energy levels, only the rain showers at the July event threatened to dampen spirits. Fortunately, most showers soon passed over Lacey Green and thanks to the newly painted surfaces, the courts quickly dried.

The weather at the September tournament was fine and sunny

enabling uninterrupted play for everyone there.

Each tournament was concluded with the award of chocolates to the juniors and sparkling wine to the seniors winning the most games/sets.

In the 2009 Wilson Aylesbury and District tennis League, Lacey Green and Loosley Row tennis club entered Ladies, Men's and Mixed Doubles teams. The Mixed doubles were particularly outstanding having won every match played and winning an impressive total of 40 sets with only 8 against. They will advance up a division next year but will be competing against stronger competition. The Ladies team finished mid-table in their division. The Men's team will continue to develop next season. Enough said!

Apart from the tournaments and competition, a significant number of the tennis club members attended the Sports and Social Club 60th Birthday celebrations on 5th September. With around 120 people in attendance, it was a great night with a very impressive professional band that we all enjoyed dancing to on the 'grass-effect dance floor' in the marquee with plenty of food, wine and beer in the Sports Club. There was a great atmosphere too with the cricketers, footballers and other revellers. All in all, it was a really enjoyable party.

Looking forward, no doubt a few tennis die-hards will continue to play through autumn and winter. Some of us will surely need the practice for next season. Anyone thinking about playing tennis in the village should check-out our membership which costs much less than other tennis clubs in the area.

Ian Ward – Chairman



Sports Special – Karate



Aylesbury Vale Seido Karate

'Technique before Strength, Spirit before Technique'

Aylesbury Vale Seido Karate first opened its doors to adults at the Lacey Green Village Hall in January 2001. Nearly 9 years on we are an established karate club for adults and children training every Monday evening.

The goal of Seido Karate is the physical, mental and spiritual development of each student. Training is tailored to the individual, although carried out within a supportive group environment. All that is asked is that each student gives his or her 100% at all times.

Seido Karate was founded in 1976 by Kaicho Tadashi Nakamura. Kaicho Nakamura began his karate training in 1953, under Master Masutatsu Oyama, and became the youngest in Japan to receive a black belt in Kyokushinkai-kan.

He went on to earn his seventh dan and assume duties as chief instructor at the Kyokushinkai Honbu in Tokyo. In 1966, he was selected by Master Oyama as the best one to assume the challenge of bringing the true spirit of karate to New York. In 1976, Nakamura respectfully withdrew from Kyokushinkai.

He founded Seido Karate in 1976 and has built it into an organisation with more than 50 affiliated dojos around the world. Its New York Honbu (headquarters) is one of the largest schools in the world. Nakamura has crystallised his ideals and beliefs into a philosophy of living that has given strength and inspiration to thousands of students around the world.

His innovative teaching methods offer a step by step program to strengthen the mind, body, and spirit - an approach that makes Karate available to men, women and children of all ages and abilities.



Our Chief Instructor in the UK is 6th Dan Jun Shihan Roger Thyer-Jones who has been teaching Seido karate in the High Wycombe area since 1985.

Our main priority is in making karate-do accessible to all. For some this will mean fitness, others spiritual development, and others purely self-defence. Seido karate stresses above all the philosophy that karate should teach 'Technique before Strength, Spirit before Technique'.

If you train with us, you will undoubtedly become stronger and develop sound karate technique, but most of all, Seido aims to build a strength of spirit and attitude towards karate, and life.

This 'non-quitting' spirit is a modern interpretation of the bushido (martial way) of the Japanese samurai.

Seido provides a structured environment for learning karate. The discipline and etiquette of a Japanese-based martial art creates a serious and respectful atmosphere in the dojo, and yet there is a close friendship and support between students, which is the essence of the Aylesbury Vale dojo.

If you feel you would like to visit us on a Monday evening: Children (aged 6 – 15) train from 6.30pm – 7.30pm and adults from 7.30pm – 9pm. Please come and join in and give it a go - or simply watch a class.



We look forward to having you along. Visit our website to find out more:

www.seido.org.uk/aylesbury_vale.htm

or contact Stephen Fincham
on 07540 531034.

The Loosley Row and Lacey Green Women's Institute

The summer and autumn events have really lived up to our expectations!

The August theatre trip to the Wycombe Swan was delightful. We left the pouring rain outside and were thrilled and delighted by the talented performance of over 200 local young people in the musical "Crazy For You", which they had prepared and rehearsed in only ten days flowing the end of school term!!

The visit to Millett's Garden Centre near Abingdon was a revelation! – farm shop, animal petting arena, pick-your-own fruit and veg, craft shop and the tea room. We explored, spent and finally ate our cream tea. All on a super sunny afternoon.



Our September Open Meeting was a fashion show of Edinburgh Woollen Mill garments. It was well attended and our members modelled the garments, looking most elegant as they paraded along the catwalk. Several members, using their discount tokens, travelled to the shop a few days later and purchased their chosen garments.



October was a busy month for we had three events. Firstly a talk by Mrs Lilwall-Smith entitled "Things Japanese". Secondly the Group Meeting and thirdly organising the Village Quiz.

Mrs Lilwall-Smith held us in rapt attention as she recounted her experience in Japan. However not many of us fancied travelling there as she said it normally involves nude bathing; often mixed sex!!

The Group Meeting at Lane End included a gorgeous tea and an outstanding talk and demonstration "Colour in the Winter Garden". This was given by a familiar person: - the Wendover gardener who now

has a weekly stall at Princes Risborough Thursday Market.

The Village Quiz which we organise to support our Village Hall was well attended with some organisations entering more than one team. Congratulations to the Black Horse who won for the second year running.

As we approach our AGM in November we hope to elect a committee who will keep these great meetings continuing into 2010.

Remember we meet on the second Thursday of the month at 2.0pm: new members are welcome.

Jean Gabbitas



News from St. John's Church



YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE STUDY GROUP

From mid-September, younger people from age 11+ will meet to have their own study group DURING main worship in our church. They will be with their parents then go into groups for discussion and learning, joining us again for the Communion towards the completion of our service.

A BEREAVEMENT FORUM

This will begin in September and the Church will be open the first Monday in each month from 2pm till 4pm. Come to drink tea or coffee, eat cake, and talk about memories or whatever you would like.

A QUIET REFLECTIVE STYLE OF WORSHIP

In the midst of today's noise and bustle, Denise and others will provide a service for those who need to find stillness. It will be a quieter, less wordy service with some music from other traditions ie. Taize, Iona, or maybe Contemplative Fire! The third Sunday of every month at 6pm.

APPOINTMENT AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The new Rector, Rev. David Williams from Andover has taken up his new position from September. We would like to welcome him, his wife and family, and to wish them many years of health and happiness in this beautiful area.

LIVING FAITH

Come and join us at St. John's, enjoy our Church life and be blessed. Be part of a Bigger Picture..... LIVING FAITH.

What is LIVING FAITH? It is a palette of colours designed for Spirituality in our varied and diverse churches across the Oxford Diocese.

Living Faith offers a touchstone to remind us of all the values we try to live by and the directions we need to take if we are to be true followers of Jesus in the 21st Century.

The Big Picture has priorities, vision, values, and purpose. The vision is the transformation of human life under God. The values are contemplative, creative, continuous, and accountable. The purpose is joining with God and making a difference in the world.

Want to know more? Leaflets are available in the church, and there is a notice on the Board. Or ask Rev. Denise, or members of your PCC.

The PCC had a very enjoyable, interesting 'awayday' where we discussed the issues of a Living Faith and how we could implement this into our Church life and to the greater community. Arch Deacon Karen led the day as our Mentor.

THE HARVEST SUPPER

was very well attended and extremely enjoyable. As well as sharing delicious food in the beautifully decorated church, warmed by the glowing ambience of candle light, the evening had a monastic atmosphere as the choir entertained us and encouraged us to join in the singing.

JUNIOR CHOIR MEMBERS

are now being recruited – please see Amy asap before Simon Cowell discovers you.

FUTURE DIARY DATES

And now for something extra special....This Christmas we plan to light up St. John's!!

We will have a special prayer tree IN the Church where you can place your heartfelt prayer,and...a tree lit up OUTSIDE ... a prayer tree for Christmas to light up the Church. To buy a light, we would appreciate a donation of at least £2, but you can pay much more if you wish, and you may purchase more than one light! Pat and Marjorie have all the details – please light up a bulb or two, and all before the end of November. Imagine how fantastic that will look!

Nov. 29th . Advent Sunday. 10 am. service.

NEW TOYS please. How wonderful to choose a toy for a child who might otherwise not receive one. Please bring a new toy to this service – encourage your child to participate in this kind deed. The Salvation Army will collect and distribute them to children in need. In your giving you are truly blessed.

Sunday Dec.13th Christingle Service where we learn that Christ encircles the whole world with his Love. Oranges and raisins and candles and red ribbons. If you do not know what that means, please come along and enjoy finding out.

Sunday Dec.20th at 6pm Candlelit Carol service – bring your best voice and arrive early to ensure you have a seat.

Thurs. Dec 24th. Crib Service at 3.30pm & Midnight Mass 11.15pm.

Friday Dec.25th at 10 am. Christmas Day, Family Service.

June Brazier

Village history group - October 2009

We would like to thank everyone who has taken an interest in our Website history@laceygreen.com. We know that we have received an impressive number of "hits", and feel encouraged to continue with our efforts.

Look out for the following subjects, which are almost complete, and should appear on the website soon:-

The lost hamlet of Coombs:
Did you know that there was once a small hamlet just off the present footpath over the Grubbins between Lacey Green and Loosley Row? Find out who lived there, and why they moved away.

The history of Vine Cottage:
Hopefully this will be the first of many accounts of local houses. If you know the history of your own home, please let us know.

The next edition of Hallmark will focus on "The Arts and Music". This appears to have always been a very musical village, thanks in large part to the talents of two local families – the Dells and the Saunders. Joan West already has a lot of information about this pre the Second World War. If you have anything which might be added to her work, please contact me on the e-mail address above.

Work is still ongoing on the life of Lady Bateman and her contribution to the village. We are also still adding to the histories of the local places of worship, some family histories and the memories of past pupils at the school.

Who would think there would be so much to know about our villages?

With Christmas fast approaching, group members have been reminiscing about the way they and their parents celebrated the festive season, which we would like to

share with the readers of Hallmark. We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas.

**Joan, Dennis, Douglas,
Gordon, Rita, Norman, Lee
and Rosemary.**

CHRISTMAS PAST

In the past, Christmas was a much smaller family time when most people would have one or perhaps two days off work.

Winters were colder, and there was often deep snow. In 1947, snow blocked the Pink Road, and people walked on top off the hedges. The village was cut off, as snow ploughs only came as far as Bomber Command. Children built snowmen, played snowballs, and made slides on the ice. The more adventurous tried to walk across the frozen ponds, and inevitably some fell in.

In spite of wearing many layers of clothes (long johns for the men, liberty bodices for women and vests for everyone), villagers were permanently cold. Chilblains were common on toes and even fingers. Heating in the school was from one tortoise stove.

There was no gas or electricity, no central heating, double glazing or cavity wall insulation. Window panes would be decorated with beautiful "Jack Frost" patterns. For families who could afford the fuel the kitchen range provided a comfortable warmth. For the poor, especially widows with children, the Princes Risborough Charities used the rental income from the Parish Pools land to provide a hundredweight of coal at Christmas.

Decorations were simple; perhaps some paper chains made at school, or some twisted crepe paper. Only a few had a Christmas tree with

small candles clipped onto the branches. It must have been quite a fire hazard.

Holly and ivy were used to decorate churches, chapels and larger public buildings.

The "midnight service" was an important occasion, since the vicar and local landowners expected everyone to go to church. The service actually began at midnight. Younger men would go straight from the pub, where they might have enjoyed a glass of whisky as a special treat. In those days, the churchwardens might have been called upon to exercise their power to evict the more rowdy element!

Traditional carols were sung like "The Holly and the Ivy" and "Good King Wenceslas". Children in the school and the chapels performed Nativity Plays. They would also go around the houses singing carols like "I saw three ships" and "Here we come a wassailing". The lovely crib in the church was gradually collected starting with Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. Mosh Saunders made the stable.

After the service Father Christmas might leave a present or two, often handmade, wooden sledges were popular for boys, or dolls for girls. Long socks might be filled with an apple or orange or some nuts. Chestnuts would be roasted over the fire the next day.

On Christmas Day, the fire would be lit in the rarely used front room. The whole family would gather there, amusing themselves playing board or card games, listening to the accumulator powered wireless or the wind up gramophone.

Christmas dinner was eaten at lunch time. It was usually a roast cockerel or piece of pork, accompanied by potatoes, carrots

and Brussels. If the meat was too large to be cooked at home, it would be taken to the bakehouse where Mr Janes would cook it in the bread oven. (The bakehouse stood at the end of Goodacres Lane, where Valletta has now been built.). Cooked meat could be carried home in a handcart. In our grandparents' time, children enjoyed the special delicacy of pig's trotters and chicken's feet. They were also given a piece of batter type pudding to fill them up before the meal.

A plum pudding was boiled in a cloth, sometimes in the copper in the washhouse. Bottles of wine were not known, but everyone made their own home made wine from such things as elderberries and dandelions. These varied greatly in quality and alcoholic content. Port and stout were also popular. Chapel goers had often "signed the pledge", so there would have been no imbibing in their homes.

Tea consisted of cold meats or brawn, cheese served with bread and butter, chutney and celery, followed by Christmas Cake and Mince Pies, and a cup of tea. Blancmange and jelly were popular with children.

In our farming community, the run up to Christmas was a busy time with plucking and trussing of chicken, and more recently turkeys, to be done. Even on Christmas Day animals had to be fed and cows milked. Everyday life was hard, but throughout the 20th century conditions were improving fast, so most people were happy and content with their lives. Things are so different today. Looking back it seems to us that we have lived in two different worlds. What will Christmas be like for our children and grandchildren?

Financial Planning

Doesn't it go on and on? For many months there has been article after article and TV news about MP's expenses. However whatever you think about the situation there is a greater financial scandal which has been overlooked.

The issue which will last for generations to come is state and public sector pensions. The figures for Government debt are understated due to the huge amount of "off -balance sheet" debt not included. "Unofficial debts" make a vast difference to the amount owed. Examples include, Government guaranteed debts of Network Rail, expected costs of nuclear decommissioning and unfunded public sector and state pensions.

The official debt stood at less than 43% of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) after the nationalisation of Northern Rock but total liabilities were in fact 129%.

This cost of servicing the official debt alone is forecast to rise from £30.8bn a year in 2008/9 to £50bn by 2013/14.

But of course the biggest liability of all is state and public sector pensions. Everyone is living longer and there are less people working to support those who are retired. By 2050, the dependency ratio is predicted to fall from three people working to one retired person, to one worker for every one retired.

The big problem with Government pensions is that they are totally unfunded and paid for by current tax payers. A bit like an open cash till-money comes from taxes and Nation Insurance and is immediately paid out.

As recent press reports confirm that in the private sector, companies have been closing down guaranteed final salary pension schemes and it looks like the same may have to happen eventually with public sector schemes, although this would be a political hot potato.

Did you know however that an MP accrues a civil servants pension at twice the speed of an ordinary civil servant meaning an MP need work just 20 years to get the maximum 50% of final salary plus 3x the pension as a tax free lump sum?

It gets worse depending on your political view. The touchy subject about MP's second home expense allowances. Generously they are added to their final salaries to calculate their lucrative index-linked pensions.

However there are three MP positions that provide an incredible pension offer. The Prime Minister, Chancellor and Speaker of the House of Commons do not require even 20 years service to get the maximum pension.

It is estimated that Tony Blair and Gordon Brown's pension funds would have a value of £4-£5m on the open market. All at a time when the ordinary taxpayer has a cap of £1.75m on his pension fund before facing tax charges.

MP anyone?

Steve Wilkinson

Community Plan

The Parish Plan has now been completed (less photographs that we hope to include later) and can be seen on the new Parish website at www.laceygreenparishcouncil.org. Do have a look at this and let us have your comments.

The shop pilot project that started in July has been going well and the facility has been welcomed both by residents and visitors to the village. Our volunteers also seem to have quite enjoyed their experience to date. As a result of success so far, it has been decided to open the shop every weekday from 08.30 to 13.00, starting on Monday 2 November. Not only will this provide a daily service to the village, but will enable us to stock a greater range of goods and to have regular deliveries of the staples much in demand.

We would welcome feedback from you. If you have already used the shop, let us know what you think. We obviously cannot stock every item that might conceivably be required, but we will try to accommodate your needs as far as

possible. So if there are things that you would like us to stock, do tell us.

If you haven't yet been into the shop, do take a look. We do welcome visitors, especially if they buy something! We would like to add some more volunteers to the team. So if you have a couple of hours or more that you can put in to help run the shop, please let us have your name etc.

The Youth Club is going well and has proved to be very popular. There is no doubt that it has become a valuable asset to the village. Congratulations to Joan Smith, who set the project in motion, and the team headed by Leigh Axe that has been running the club.

The Steering Group that has been responsible for the community plan has become rather depleted in numbers, and we would like some more people to come forward and join the group. Ideally, we would like representatives from other village organisations or businesses, but anyone with a strong interest in

wanting to do something for the community will be welcome. It is not too onerous. We now have a regular group meeting every two months, and if you merely turned up at every other group meeting, that itself would be a useful if minimal contribution.

There is one further appeal. We try to deliver a 'welcome pack' to every new resident that moves into the Parish (however, we do exclude anyone that has simply moved down the road, as it were). It is quite hard to keep track of movements, and we need information from you telling us if you are aware of new arrivals. We hope that we haven't missed anyone out, but I wouldn't like to guarantee it. So if any new resident has missed out, please accept my apologies.

Tony Molesworth

Community Plan Steering Group

(01844 344975)

molechem@yahoo.co.uk

Chiltern Society at work in Longwick and Lacey Green

On the 16th July, 2009 a team of volunteers from the Chiltern Society spent a day working on the footpaths in Longwick and Lacey Green. We rearranged a stile near Windmill Farm, repaired and cleared undergrowth from signposts near Hunters Lodge and Chadwell Cottage and other general footpath maintenance work in the area.

The Chiltern Society is a local charity which aims to conserve and protect the natural beauty,



environment and heritage of the Chilterns. The Society's area includes 650 square miles across parts of four counties: Bucks, Beds, Herts and South Oxfordshire. The Chiltern Society Rights of Way Group actively protects and restores open access land and public rights of way in the Chilterns — some 5,000 paths. It surveys every

individual path and takes up irregularities with parish, district or county councils to preserve and enhance public rights.

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

We welcome new members - come and join people who love the Chilterns. For more details contact The Chiltern Society, The White Hill Centre, White Hill, Chesham HP5 1AG tel 01494 771250
www.chilternsociety.org.uk

Parish Council Comments



Most of you are aware that the Parish Council took over the Methodist Burial Ground, now renamed the Lacey Green Garden of Rest. An access road has just been built to provide ready access to the site for a hearse, as well as pedestrians. Some work on the site itself has also been carried out, but reseeded of the area at the lower end of the ground together with some other improvements has still to be completed. Full details of the Garden of Rest can be found on the 'services' page of the Parish Website that has just been installed.

For those readers with internet access, log on to www.laceygreenparishcouncil.org.uk The website provides information about the Parish, to a large extent complementing the existing websites for Lacey Green and Speen. Any suggestions or comments will be welcome. Some minor errors may have been included, so if you detect any, please advise us using the 'contact' page.

Included on the 'publications' page are the Village Design Statement and the Parish Plan. If you have not seen these documents elsewhere, do look at them. The former document does include a major glitch, which we have not been able to correct. The map showing the areas in green 'open countryside & other spaces in and around the villages' has unfortunately deleted a strip of the village including the Whip! This was quite unintentional, and is simply a reproduction error that remains to be put right.

The Parish Plan is complete, but minus photographs which should be included in the first update of the document.

The preferred supplier for the playground refurbishment has been chosen, and the last details are being finalised before the order goes in and work can commence. This means the playground will be inaccessible for a few days while work is being done, because of Health and Safety measures which have to be put in place. We hope to have the work completed before Christmas, and that the new equipment will have a wider appeal to the children who use it. The people who bring the children will be able to sit and watch them as they play and explore.

Tony Molesworth

Thinking of fostering?

In Buckinghamshire there is a shortage of foster carers. More are needed so that children and young people in care can be placed closer to their community and maintain vital links with family and friends.

We are looking for people with a spare room, along with the skills and experience to meet the needs of the children and young people - no formal qualifications needed.

We need carers from a wide range of backgrounds and life experience who can provide a safe, warm environment. You can apply to foster regardless of your age, marital status, sexuality or residential status.

Foster carers receive professional support and will be provided with an allowance to cover the needs of the child or young person in your care.

If you would like more information regarding fostering a child or young person, please call the Buckinghamshire Family Placement Recruitment Team on 01296 382 555 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering

Village organisations meeting schedule and contact list. At the Millennium Hall unless specified

Organisation	Meetings	Contact	Phone	Email address
Associations				
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Short walk (2-3 miles) 2nd Wed. 10.30am,	Ronnie Lewin	274961	relewin@btinternet.com
Horticultural Society	3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov. 8pm	Terry Fendom	342636	leigh@laceygreen.com
Jingle Tots & Kinder Gym	Baby to 5 years. Music, play & gym. Fridays during term	Jenny Stothard	344441	jennystothard@btinternet.com
LR&LG WI (afternoon)	2nd Thursday except August. 2pm	Jean Gabbitas	346469	
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time	Fran Hall	01494 562240	fran.hall865@mod.uk
Lacey Green Productions	Theatre, drama, and sometimes food	Val Brookhouse	344207	valbrookhouse@btinternet.com
81 st Over 60s Club	1st Thu of month except Jan & Aug 2pm	Carole Knight	273293	
Windmill Under 5s	Mon-Fri 9.15-11.45am, lunch club 11.45am-1.15pm	Paula Cunningham	07502 198405	admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk
Windmill WI	1st Wed of month except Jan. 7.45pm	Stella Boll	347268	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District U3A	4th Wed afternoon of the month	Roger Smith	01494 562554	
Youth Club		Joan Smith	342322	joansmith38@googlemail.com
Sports				
LG Sports Club Secretary		Jane Oakford	346295	
LG Sports Club - Cricket		Geoff Gomme	01494 563612	
LG Sports Club - Tennis		Ian Ward	01844 345567	
LG Sports Club - Football		Ben Foster	344906	
Jazzercise	Tuesday evenings	Sue Morris	01494 813968	info@jazzsue.cp.uk
Karate	Monday evenings	Stephen Fincham	07540 531034	
Whiteleaf Bowmen	Wed, Thu & Fri evenings, Apr to Sep	Brenda Cordwell, Sec	01494 485037	www.whiteleafbowmen.org.uk
DART Self Defence	Mon 7-9pm at St John's CE School	Dr John Titchen	07810 568656	jwt.dart@gmail.com
Pilates Classes	Tuesday mornings	Sue Croxford	346656	ncroxford@ashleyhouseplc.com
Yoga Group	Mon mornings during term time	Annie Silverman	343643	annies_yoga@hotmail.com
Others				
Bucks CC & WDC		Paul Rogerson	01494 488315	progerson@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Denise Critchell	347741	
LG Community Planning Group		Tony Molesworth	344975	molechem@yahoo.co.uk
Parish Council		Cathryn Davies	344765	cathy@laceygreen.com
LG Post Office	9am-12 noon Mondays & Thursdays	George Crombie		gcrombie.greathampden@ukonline.co.uk
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2:30 to 5:30 in summer	Michael Hardy	343560	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
The Whip		Nick Smith	344060	info@whipinn.co.uk

Hallmark

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

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

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

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

☎ Clive or Karen on 01844 274254 (answering service)

EDITOR

✉ Mike Piercy, Malmsmead, Kiln Lane, Lacey Green, Bucks HP27 0PU (on right, just before pond)
☎ 01844 344021 Email editor@laceygreen.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

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

LACEY GREEN POST OFFICE is open in Village Hall 9am-12 noon Mondays & Thursdays for all services except Vehicle Road Fund Licences.	CHURCH SERVICES: SUNDAYS 8.00am: Holy Communion (1662) 1 st , 2 nd , & 4 th . Sundays 10.00am: All age Worship - Communion 1 st Sun of month 10.00am: Parish Communion 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , (&5 th) Sundays 6.00pm: Choral Evensong 1 st Sunday in the month
LACEY GREEN STORES are open in Village Hall 8.30am-1pm every day	Tues 9.30am: Communion Service - St Johns Lady Chapel Tues 2.00pm in term time: Toddler Praise –21 toddlers meet Tuesday afternoons during term time. Dads and Grandparents are also very welcome.
COFFEE MORNINGS held in Village Hall 10am-12 noon Thursdays. Friendly chatting with tea or coffee & biscuit	Wed 10.30.am: Team Communion Service at St. Mary's church, Princes Risborough
MOBILE LIBRARY will be at the Village Hall alternate Mondays 10-11am.	Rector – the Reverend Denise Critchell. Tel. 347741.

LACEY GREEN WINDMILL In 2010 the windmill will be open from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from Sunday 2nd May to Sunday 26th September. Last admission is at 5 pm, and admission is £1.50 per adult, 75p per child under 16. It 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. Please park in Pink Road and walk up path to the mill.

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE SPRING EDITION

January 17th 2010

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