

# ***HALLMARK***



Brian Panter

## ***The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Magazine***

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# Welcome to the November edition of Hallmark

We've had quite a few changes in our council services recently:

The new surface of Main Road is very welcome and looks very good. Let's hope that the workmanship proves to be of good quality and it doesn't break up as soon as we get some hard frosts.

The new bin service has also started. I've understood what to do with all the different bins outside, but it's difficult trying to get organised in the kitchen. It's a right pain separating out the food waste from the general waste when you're trying to prepare and clear up food. However I'm pleased that they're collecting

glass - so swings and roundabouts I guess.

The Parish Council have passed me details of changes that the County Council have made to the Mobile Library Service. The County Council have cut back from 5 mobile libraries to 3 and so Lacey Green will only get one visit per month. See next page for times.

With Christmas coming up I asked a few of the local farm shops if they would like to give us an article. I got two responses which are on the centre page (with a splendid picture of pig and piglets).

The Christmas Church services will be held as usual even though we have no resident vicar - details on page 33.



I hope you all have a splendid Christmas, don't forget to send in your pictures!.

**Mike Piercy**  
**Editor**

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## World's biggest Coffee Morning

On Thursday, 19th September the Village Hall Coffee Morning was given over to fund raising for the Macmillan Cancer Support Fund. This annual event was very well supported. Coffee and biscuits were provided and there were stalls to browse for Bring and Buy, Cakes, Handbags,

Greeting cards, and a Tombola and Raffle. Many of the tombola and raffle prizes were donated and we are particularly grateful to the Black Horse for their prize.

The event raised £765, part of which came from generous donations from those unable to attend. We thank everyone who

came and supported the event and look forward to seeing you at next year's event! Don't forget you can join us for coffee every Thursday morning in the small meeting room of the Village Hall.

Thank you all again,

**Jill Baker, Joy Lawrence**

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## Lacey Green Singers

"Some enchanting evening"  
- an apt description for the latest offering from LGS in a delightful and entertaining performance.

Fiona's responsive band of singers, chorus and soloists rose admirably

to a varied and challenging task. Vitality, the essence that puts sparkle into a show was there in abundance. Good soloist voices then set the seal on this very pleasing musical occasion.

Congratulations to all ..... and the cakes were smashing too!!

**Brian Panter**

Thanks to Norman for his pictures



# What's On

**Sat 9 Nov 7pm**  
2nd World War Music  
St John's School

**Nov 28 - 30**  
LGP Dinner Theatre  
(see this page 9)

**Fri 29 Nov 2pm**  
Christmas Fayre  
St John's School

**Sat 30 Nov 11-4**  
Hearing Dogs for the Deaf  
Christmas Market  
see advert on page 28

**Sat 7 Dec 10-1**  
Church Xmas Fayre  
see page 33

**Wed 15 Jan 8pm**  
Horts Soc  
'Bee Keeping'  
Village Hall

**Mobile Library  
Service**  
Eastlands 11.30 to 11.55  
27 Nov, Fri 20 Dec, 22  
Jan, 19 Feb, 19 Mar,  
16 April

**Parish Council**  
2 Dec 7.30pm Lacey Green  
3 Feb 7.30pm Speen

## Past Times of Walters Ash and Naphill

On November 30th at Naphill Village Hall 11am - 5pm, Pam Smith is again exhibiting her 'Past Times' exhibition

Admission £3, children under 14 years free. Teas available. Proceeds for Naphill Village Hall.

## Sunday Market

Princes Risborough Sunday Markets are held on the third Sunday of the month from 10 am until 2pm in the High Street. Stalls sell mainly local food and crafts. Produce regularly on sale varies from month to month but usually includes local breads,

cakes, jams, cheese, pickles and meat raised in Stokenchurch. The next two Market days are 17th November and 15th December. For more details contact Jackie Gunn 07761582937 or [info@risboroughmarkets.co.uk](mailto:info@risboroughmarkets.co.uk)

LACEY GREEN PRODUCTIONS  
presents  
**"Holiday Snap"**  
A comedy by  
Michael Pertwee  
&  
John Chapman

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Play only - £8  
Friday & Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> November - Dinner theatre - £22.50  
Licenced bar for all performances  
8pm (doors open at 7.30pm)

Lacey Green Village Hall, Main Road, Lacey Green

**All profits will go to charity**

An amateur performance by arrangement with  
Samuel French Ltd

**LGP** Tickets - 01844 347518 & 01844 347818  
email - [info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk](mailto:info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk)



## Princes Risborough Tree of Light

Dedicate a light on Princes Risborough's Tree of Light

The Tree of Light in the gardens at the corner of New Road and Duke Street in Princes Risborough provides an opportunity to honour, remember or celebrate the life of someone special by sponsoring a light on the Tree.

The dedication ceremony will take place at 4.00 p.m. on Sunday 24 November. The names of those being remembered will be recorded on display boards close to the Tree of Light, and will be published in the Bucks Free Press.

Lights on the Tree will remain lit until the end of the year.

**All proceeds will be shared between the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home and Rotary charities. £4,000 was donated in 2012.**

Further information and sponsor forms are available from David Griggs on 01844 345554.

Sponsor forms are also available from the Princes Risborough Information Centre.

Organised by the Rotary Club of Princes Risborough (charity no. 288786).

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# Community Planning Group

## Post Office news

We have just heard from the Post Office authorities that the re-opening of the Lacey Green sub-post office has been postponed until 21 November. This is due to further electrical work required in Naphill, where the main Post Office branch is located. Hopefully there won't be any further hold up, but we can offer no guarantees.

## Lacey Green Stores

In the meantime, the stores functions as usual. Our new County Councillor, Carl Etholen, is the most recent and welcome addition to our volunteer workforce. We can always use fresh faces to help run the stores, so if you would like to give it a go yourself, please contact me.

### Action: - the reader

The store tends to stock goods that are in fairly regular demand, although we do sometimes manage to keep the odd rare breed. We don't have a lot of

space, and this places some restrictions on our purchasing activities. Also it is important that we avoid holding stock beyond its 'best by' date.

It would be useful to know what our customers would like us to have available. So if you have any particular likes and dislikes, please tell us (preferably by coming into the stores - although we will accept emails or phone calls). We do provide newspapers as long as they are requested in advance - so if you want to have your favourite journal kept for you, it can easily be arranged.

### Action: - the reader

## The book exchange

This operates in the lobby at the entrance to the stores, and seems to be going well - indeed, as I write this, I notice that there has been an influx of more books for you to choose from. The shelves are getting a little crowded, so you may have to hunt harder to find the reading gem that you are seeking.

## Little John and Robin Hood

Quite a few people use the footpath across the fields between Lacey Green and Loosley Row, and it provides a very pleasant walk.

However, recently I was slightly disconcerted to find that someone had taken a horse along this footpath - visible evidence included horseshoe imprints and a small pile of dung.

It isn't a bridleway, and in general horse riders are not expected to use footpaths, although the precise legal position is not entirely clear. I was pleased that I didn't meet a horse when I was on the path because there really would not have been room to pass.

## Tony Molesworth

Community Plan Steering Group

(01844 344975)

[molechem@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:molechem@yahoo.co.uk)

# Black Horse



Here we are October already; time flies past so quickly. We had our first beer festival in August, it was a great success. Friday was quiet and I wondered Oh Dear what are we doing here?

But when Saturday came it all changed. The weather was kind some of the time but it also rained on us a few times. That didn't stop the bands playing and the BBQ going with people in the garden under umbrellas.

A big, big, thank you to John Jones who organised all the music, you're booked for next year John! The music was fantastic. Thanks to Ian for doing a BBQ all day and to all my staff who worked so hard.

We will be doing the beer festival every year now and hopefully it will get more popular each year it goes on.

Well done to the Aunt Sally team; thank you Ian and Lisa for all the hard work you have done trying to get a team every week.

A new season of dominoes and crib has started and we wish both teams all the best for the future.

We are now taking bookings for our Christmas menu so take a look and maybe give us a try.

Congratulations to Johnny and Steph Dell on the birth of Dexter.

Ian and I shut the pub for the first time in 18 years to go to Tilly and Kevin's wedding. We thought we had better shut as all our locals were going and we wouldn't have anybody in. We had been invited to the whole day and we were not going to miss that.

What a great day: the whole day was lovely and everybody enjoyed themselves. All the best for the future to you both. It is a strange feeling to see all your staff grow up, leave to go university, come back and then leave to get married. It make's me feel old. I now have a new group starting, Amy and Sam its a new era .

**Lynne**



A few reasons why I enjoy working with young children: The wonder of simple things like the bubbles we have in our early classes.



The enjoyment of watching the end of term "showing" in our 2.30pm music classes, slightly tempered by never quite knowing what may happen next. Pirates can be very scary!

The pleasure of seeing yourself as some of the children see you. Rebecca drew a picture of me. Tall, slim, and covered in gold glitter as she explained, her smiley face looking up at me. ( Not sure about the big head - maybe containing all my great thoughts!)

**Jenny**

# Lacey Green Productions

LGP has just helped Great Hampden Women's Institute to celebrate their 90th anniversary. We performed a new murder mystery for them in Great Hampden village hall and every member of the audience was sworn to secrecy about the details of the murder mystery before they were allowed to go home!

This is because we shall be performing this murder mystery again to help St John's School PTA to raise funds on March 1st 2014. Plus there will be performances for the Wycombe Hospital's Scannappeal in Gerrards Cross on February 22nd, and Radnage School PTA in their village hall on March 8th.

Great Hampden WI were kind enough to issue an invitation to us to celebrate their 100th anniversary in 10 years.

## Windmill WI

We had a lovely ramble around Speen led by two of our members at the end of July. It was a beautiful summer evening and we finished it off by having supper at the Black Horse - always enjoyable.

At the beginning of August a group of our members visited Frogmore at Windsor and the Saville Gardens. The flowers and gardens were beautiful and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our monthly meeting for August was Jane Dunsterville talking about Aspergers. We learnt some very interesting facts about this condition.

In the middle of August we had our 'Afternoon Tea Party with Bubbles' in the garden of Doreen Lett one of our members. The weather was perfect and the

However, as one of our members put it, due to the advancing years of some of our members, we shall need to write a murder mystery based in a care home!

And so to our annual dinner theatre.

Our play this year is "Holiday Snap" by Michael Pertwee and John Chapman, who also wrote some of the Brian Rix farces.

"Holiday Snap" is a very funny farce set in a timeshare in Portugal in the early 1990's. When the timeshare is double booked by two couples, who are both on illicit holidays, and the man trying to sort it all out is rendered almost blind by breaking his glasses, the stage is set for a riot of mistaken identities and chaos.

garden looked beautiful - a real English Cottage Garden. We started with champagne and then dined on delicious sandwiches, cakes and tea. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

September was our 26th birthday meeting. Our speaker was William French talking about his time as a butler to Royalty. This was a very interesting talk and we learnt a lot about the Royal Family and the Royal Yacht Britannia. We also saw many photos of the Royals on their famous yacht. We finished the evening with cheese, wine and birthday cake.

In September some members helped at the Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning. We ran the tombola which helped towards raising a wonderful total of £760.

So please make a note in your diaries for Thursday, Friday, Saturday November 28th, 29th and 30th at the Village Hall. There is a licensed bar for each performance. There will be free nibbles available with the Thursday night's performance and a dinner theatre for the Friday and Saturday performances.

For the latest on ticket availability please contact either 01844 347518 or 01844 347818.

As always, LGP will be donating the profits from this production to charity. If anybody knows of a worthwhile local charity looking for donations, we would be more than happy to consider it. Please contact either of the two numbers above or send an email to [info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk](mailto:info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk)

## Peter Brookhouse

Our October meeting was our AGM. Our President and Committee will stay the same. We also heard reports on our annual activities from Pat Richards (President) and Daphne Williams (Secretary). Stella Boll our Treasurer read out our financial statement for the year. After the business was concluded we had a delightful talk from a local trader from Wendover - No.2 Pound Street, about our British Cheeses. She really knew her subject and had brought lots of cheeses with her for us to sample and buy.

We had our bi-annual Jumble Sale in October which was well attended and by the time you read this article we will have organised the Village Quiz in the Village Hall which is always a success.

## Ann Bartlett

# District Council and HS2 News



The new Waste Service Contract is being implemented in the area and by now the new recyclable collections will have started - the official kick-off date was October 28th. A number of people have mentioned to me that the additional bins add to your storage needs, but hopefully this is more than outweighed by the fact that WDC now recycles a much wider range of materials, in response to residents' demands. Also, running a combined service with Chiltern District Council means that we are saving a considerable amount of taxpayers' money.

Great progress is being made with the new Sports and Leisure development at Handy Cross and construction has started on both the new running track at Little Marlow and the synthetic playing pitch at John Hampden school. These new facilities will free the land needed for the phased construction of the new main facility which is scheduled for completion in 2015.

The development of High Wycombe town centre is moving ahead, with Planning Inspectorate approval of the Masterplan and the recent release of detailed proposals for the new road system in the town.

This is intended to provide an additional route through the town centre which could eventually replace the Abbey Way flyover and allow the town centre to be 're-united'. Work is still underway to finalise which parts, if any, of the now partially-closed flyover can be re-opened following the technical evaluations of the structure.

**Mel Foster**

[mel\\_foster@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:mel_foster@wycombe.gov.uk)

01494 488905

## HS2 Update

A great deal has happened since the last edition of Hallmark, perhaps the most significant development being that as a result of continuous campaigning, barely a day goes by now without HS2 featuring in mainstream news bulletins and almost always this shows a growing and more credible sentiment against the project.

Members of the Speen Area Action Group continue to act on your behalf, representing the area at Action Alliance group meetings and have participated at the community forums which have recently been run (as a cynical 'box-ticking' exercise) by HS2 Ltd. The High Speed 2 Action Alliance have been active during the political party conference season and it is evident that there are key changes in attitude towards HS2 as a result of campaigning activity.

A Supreme Court appeal on a key Judicial Review took place before 7 Judges on October 15th and 16th and represents a key milestone in the fight against HS2. The court decision is expected in mid - late November and could require a Government re-think on their plans.

Many political and public figures are now openly opposing or questioning the scheme, including most recently Ed Balls who has said that there will be no 'blank cheque'

for HS2. With Alastair Darling, Peter Mandelson and others openly opposing HS2 it is likely that Labour will ultimately turn their back on this waste of resources, despite it originally coming from them.

At the time of writing, it is believed that up to 60 Conservative MPs may refuse to support the Government in a vote on the HS2 Paving Bill, showing that the message is beginning to get through - even though our own MP is still bound by Ministerial code and cannot openly challenge the Government.

With the Government admitting that costs are likely to be around £50 billion and many experts predicting that this could easily rise to £70 billion or more if precedents like HS1 & the Olympics are followed, it is becoming increasingly clear that this project does not make sense. However, the Government clings to its belief that this vanity project is worth doing, so it is critical that residents continue to help by pressing David Lidington on HS2 - bury him in emails and letters on the wider issues, not just the Chilterns.

Contact friends and relatives to ask them what they would rather have the country spend £50 billion on - wherever they live they will have a better idea than HS2 - and ask them to tell their MP what they think. The fight is not over.

For more information, visit <http://hs2aa.org/>, <http://www.51m.co.uk/> and <http://www.hs2.org.uk/>

**Mel Foster**

Chair, Speen Area Action Group  
01494 488670

# Horticultural Association



September saw our annual show where a record number of members exhibited an excellent selection of flowers, plants, vegetables and homemade produce. We had 254 entries from 47 entrants. 254 was the 2nd highest number of entries in our history, but 47 entrants was the highest we have ever had; the previous best was 41 in 2011. So an excellent show all round from our members! The day began in full sunshine and ended with those left packing up in a flash flood and thunderstorm with hailstones. Fortunately the weather was timed so that we got the best pick of the crops in before the rain began.

Norman Tyler once again recorded the event and you can see a selection of his photographs on the web site as well as some shown here. We missed our oldest member's exhibits and everyone wishes Connie a speedy recovery. We did however, increase our younger members' entries

threefold and thank them for their efforts. The photography section, selected by visitor's votes, was won by Joe Ramage with a photograph of 'Something in my Garden', probably one of the youngest photographers entering.

The next event for the society is our annual pumpkin super and social, which is already sold out. Unfortunately we are limited to the numbers of people we can seat in the hall and to the size of our cooking utensils, so apologies to anyone who was hoping to come along. At least this year we should have some good specimens for the weighing in and measuring as we have had a reasonably warm season. Not that the weather last year prevented some exceptionally large examples being weighed in!

Despite a late start the garden has pretty much caught up. The apples and plums are abundant this year and the tomatoes taste as if they have seen the sun. Already it is time to plant and plan for next year, so if you need any inspiration do come along to our talks. We have had an excellent range of subjects including a talk from a National Vegetable Society expert who is completely self-sufficient in salads and vegetables for the table. He brought along pots and



*The youngest winners*

examples of many different things and gave us tips for extending the growing season and ensuring that one can make the most of your plants. He was truly inspirational and we are now members of the National Vegetable Society.

We took part as a society in the Bucks Association of Horticultural Societies Autumn Show, held this year at Dagnall near Ivinghoe. Although we didn't do as well as we hoped it was a truly team effort with several members baking, growing and advising on the display of the exhibit. Afterwards we were offered some prize winning dahlias to try, so if anyone is interested in taking up this offer please contact Adam Heeley the Show Secretary. Next spring we will be hosting the show at the Millennium Hall.

Do come along to our next events. On January 15th we have a talk on Bee Keeping, so should learn more about these precious insects that we all need to ensure that pollination takes place. For the AGM on March 19th we have had a cancellation and are planning some alternative social activities! Keep in touch to find out.



*Show exhibits*

**Alison Shreeve**  
Chairman



# Windmill Under 5s

After a beautiful, sunny summer the children have returned to Windmills bursting with energy.

## Goodbyes

The 'Princesses and Wizards' party held at the end of the summer term was a success. The children enjoyed entertainment by the 'Magic Man', had pizza and all leavers received a gift and their folders of work. For parents and staff it was quite emotional, as expected!

At the end of the summer term 15 children moved up from Windmills to big school and we wish them all the best for the future! We hope that what they learned in the 'School Ready Sessions' during the summer term at Windmills will now come in handy.

## Autumn

This term Windmills had 10 children returning and 14 new joiners, quite a big number! The staff have been busy introducing the new children to Windmills and making sure they have settled in well. We still have an incredible team of staff looking after the children, and they are continually developing their skills. This term they are attending first aid and food hygiene courses, and Annie will continue to study towards her NVQ3 and Elise towards her Level 5 degree.

The theme at Windmills this half-term has been fairytales and the children have enjoyed 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'The Little Red Hen', and the staff have made some fabulous decorations. The children have made a camp, looked at the opposites big and little, played with porridge oats and made teddy bear shaped honey toast - this proved very popular.

They have also practised threading and are looking forward to painting leaves and a visit from a local farmer! A new mud kitchen has been created by the staff and the children love it! We are now just waiting for it to rain and the soil to turn into mud. All parents are advised to send in a set of spare clothes. This term parents have been encouraged to highlight their child's personal achievements at home or what we call WOW-moments, so that the children can share them, and the WOW-board at Windmills is filling up quickly. The children have made good use of the new kindle and the camera and video we were able to purchase last year thanks to the £500 grant Windmills was awarded, what a great way to introduce them to technology.

The next big event coming up at Windmills is the Halloween party that will be held on Wednesday the 23rd October. This event was very appreciated by the children last year and the final preparations are currently under way. Amongst other things the children can look forward to apple bobbing, musical statues, hot dogs, sweets and dancing, and of course wearing their Halloween costumes!

## Thanks

A big thank you has to go to all the parents who were on the committee or helped out in other ways last year, and dedicated time to help make Windmills the lovely place it is for the children. On the committee we are losing Kay who has been a fantastic Chair; she has been very involved and hands-on and organised a number of fundraising events and parties for the children.



Also, we are losing Alison, who has been a great Secretary and again very generous with her time; and we are losing our Vice Chair Sharon, who has been very involved and is a dab hand at making pancakes! Three further committee members; Sarah, Julia, and Catherine, who have all put a lot of work into making Windmills a great place for the children, are also moving on. We would like to send a big THANK YOU to all of them on behalf of Windmills. You will all be missed!

Thankfully, four experienced committee members are staying on and four excited parents have agreed to join the new committee. Furthermore, a number of parents have already expressed an interest in helping out in other ways, so that is a great start to the new term and the year ahead! If you would like your child to start Windmills before July 2015 we only have limited spaces available and it is recommended that you submit your child's application form as soon as possible.

**Johanna Young - Chair**

# Packing them in at the Pink!

Since opening in July, around the time of the last edition of Hallmark (coincidence? I think not!), we have been amazed – and thrilled – at the level of local excitement at having the Pink reopened. It's been fantastic to be able to welcome old friends of the pub – mentioning no names Maggie Robins! – and plenty of new faces.

At the heart of our aim for the pub is to make it a friendly, quality local, a great place to meet friends for a drink or to have a brilliant, well priced meal, and the feedback says that we are succeeding in our aim! Having such a fabulous summer meant that our garden, with its heated deck area, really came into its own, and now the nights are drawing in and the weather has started to do what we expect of it, we've lit the fires, pulled our new – and very beautiful – curtains and

are cosying down for the winter season. We've struck up a great relationship with the XT brewery in Long Crendon, and Russell and his guys have been supplying us with fabulous local brews including a truly delicious amber ale for Remembrance Sunday called Lest We Forget. We also had a massively busy Kop Hill Climb weekend when we were thrilled to be serving Kop Hill ale from the Chiltern Brewery.

Coming up, we're pleased to announce, that due to customer pressure, the Pink will be open on Christmas Day. We'll be ready to welcome walkers with a drink from midday, and because of demand, we'll be serving a fabulous Christmas lunch, booking essential!

Head Chef Carl is passionate about locally sourced food – most of our meat travels no further than



Haddenham, and he even uses the lavender we grow in the garden to scent our crème brûlée! Having recently launched our new autumn menu, Carl, who works all his menus around what's in season, is looking to find a source of local game. 'One of the best things about this time of the year is being able to create delicious dishes with game – so if anyone knows of a cracking local source, I'm game if they are!

**Alice Hill - Landlady**

**PINK  
&  
LILY**

The recently reopened Pink & Lily has gone back to its roots as a friendly, quality local – muddy boots, muddy families and muddy dogs welcome.

With a stunning new menu and a range of local and real ales on tap, The Pink looks forward to welcoming all comers!

**PINK ROAD, LACEY GREEN, HP27 0RJ**

**Tel. 01494 489857**

# Cricket Club

All in all this was a pretty good year for cricket at Lacey Green. Despite a wedding and stag do (Congratulations Kevin and Tilly), we still managed to field two teams for every game this season.

The 2nd XI, led by Tim Page, finished strongly, winning their last 8 games in a row. They were unlucky to end up in 2nd place, 3 points behind Bradenham, and would surely have won the division had they not had two games rained off.

The 1st XI finished in 4th position with some good wins along the way. After reporting in the last edition of Hallmark that we didn't score enough runs, the criticism was answered with some of the highest scores that I can remember.

The highest score of the season ended in defeat, with a below strength team managing to score 256 runs, but were unable to defend it on Knotty Green's postage stamp ground. Congratulations go to Mark Janes, who smashed 101, including a cheeky reverse sweep for four that drew cheers from his team mates and two fingers from the bowler.

Mark won Most Improved Player at the end of season dinner. This prize will be hotly contested next year with Will Carter also scoring his first 50 this year, and Charlie Williams and Akaash Khan showing a great deal of potential.

1st XI player of the year was awarded to David Highgate, who was also the Club's highest run scorer, with 419 runs at an average of 29.9.

Leading wicket taker was Luke Weston with 29 wickets at an average of 13, and Roger Whipp was 2nd XI player of the year with 303 runs and 23 wickets.

**Luke Weston**

## A SURFEIT OF SENIOR MOMENTS

When you've reached your ripest years  
And your footsteps tend to veer  
Until your progress down the street resembles tacking.  
When buttons prove elusive  
To fingers growing useless  
And the daily round revolves around the plumbing.  
When shop staff fail to speak up  
And you feel the need to turn up  
The volume button on the television.  
Your hearing aid's mislaid  
Your glasses too have strayed  
And your teeth are none too firmly in position.

When someone says "You've told me"  
As you launch into a story  
And the tone implies quite clearly "Several times."  
It would seem you've undergone  
What is now politely known  
As another of those bloody senior moments.  
But such jargon words apart  
They still mean tedious old fart.  
What the hell, it isn't that important.  
Because what matters in the end  
Is the steadfast love of friends  
And shared laughter to shrug off those senior moments.

**Brian Panter**



# Ten Mile menu

The business offers the missing convenience factor to shopping locally, order online (from organic veg boxes to a wide selection of meat, including locally shot game) and have your shopping delivered for free at your convenience.

The quality of the produce is fantastic, for example you'll only find traditional and rare breed meat on the menu, much of which comes from farms you'll no doubt of heard of.

The big news is that by mid-October, the 'Ten Mile Christmas Shop' will be live, offering you a one-stop shop to cater for an amazing and very local, Chilterns Christmas. There will be a broad range of festive food to choose from, including very special Copas traditional turkeys.

Once ordered through the site, all of your shopping for the festive period will be delivered free of charge on either the 23rd or 24th December.

To find out more about our new online supermarket that champions local produce, visit [www.tenmilemenu.co.uk](http://www.tenmilemenu.co.uk).

## Introducing Ten Mile Menu - a new way to get your regular fix of great local produce.

Based in neighbouring Speen, Ten Mile Menu is a new online supermarket for quality-led, independent local food producers. Similar in principle to Ocado but with a local twist, all food sold on the website is produced and delivered within the Chiltern area.

Established in January 2013, the business has already won 'Best Online Retailer' for Bucks & Oxon in the Muddy Stiletto awards, and in September its founder, Steven Sidhu, was delighted to be named 'Food & Drink Hero 2013' at the very glitzy Buckinghamshire & Berkshire Life Food & Drink Awards.

**Ten Mile Steve**

**07967 328 455**

## "It's not as easy as Monty Don says..."

My companion was leaning on his garden fork surveying an immaculate allotment plot which he had just dug over at the end of the growing season. Michael is the senior allotment owner at the allotments at the bottom of Westlands. He explained that he is retired and able to devote the time required to keep on top of a large plot and



keep it weed free and flourishing. He was very proud of his plot and told me that the mixture of clay and chalk soil could be made into good productive earth once a good bit of compost is incorporated.

He recounted stories of many enthusiastic people over the years who had taken over a plot, full of enthusiasm and then had wilted over the gardening year, unable to find the time and commitment to convert a previously overgrown plot into a productive garden. "Too many people see Monty Don on the television turning over some lovely crumbly weed-free soil and think it looks easy. They change their minds when they realise that they have to dig up each entire weed root rather than just pulling off the shoots above the ground."

Looking around I could see half a dozen plots which were being loved and full of plants; however the majority of the plots had lost the battle against the weeds and wild bushes and are overgrown.

# Pickels Farm

Pickels farm is a family run small holding situated on the Lee Road, near Princes Risborough, just along from the golf club. Our farm started 6-7 years ago as a hobby for a gentleman who sadly passed just over a year ago, with most the animals introduced to the farm as pets or gifts for his wife. Many of these pets are still happily grazing our land but as things developed and animals bred we decided to take things a step further and we now find ourselves with a great little farm shop that is just over 4 years old, living on in memory of a great man.

We have a passionate and regular customer base, who we would like to think of more as friends and we certainly take pride in bringing 'proper pork' to the area with our own hand reared, free range, happy pigs, lambs and deer; not to mention the donkeys, wallabies and rheas, which are all visible from the shop and along the footpaths surrounding the farm.

Our Pigs are the Berkshire, Middle-white and Gloucestershire Old Spot traditional breeds. Dawn, Alice and Marilyn gave us an impressive 40 piglets between them in the last couple of weeks and it's a joy seeing so many young running round. We also have a friendly herd of Jacobs sheep with a very boisterous Ram called Tyrone, who in hindsight should have been named Tyson! We are also proud of our established herd of Red and Fallow deer on



our farm which provides some fantastic venison and are an absolute pleasure to watch in the fields.

With Christmas upon us and in hindsight of 4 years of fantastic business in the festive season, there's bad weather on the horizon but plenty to do and so much available to make for a fantastic Christmas. Don't forget Pickels farm for your Christmas trees, holly reeves and even festive gifts and decorations!

Pickels farm shop with parking on site is open from 9.30-5pm Weds/Thurs/Fri and 9.30-1pm Saturday.

**Pickels Farm, Lee Road, Saunderton Lee, Princes Risborough, HP27 9NU Tel: 07789 015 049**

E-Mail: [Vikki@Pickelsfarm.co.uk](mailto:Vikki@Pickelsfarm.co.uk)

## Allotments

I spoke with Pam Dell who is the Secretary of the Allotment Society and she told me that 13 of the plots are allocated and paid for, but not all of these are being actively maintained.

Pam explained that the Allotment Society was formed in 1926 when 20 villagers clubbed together and bought the 2.75 acres of land for the sum of £20. The original register lists the names and it is easy to see the familiar surnames of the long standing village families who bought in. Each of the owners got a large official share certificate to prove their ownership. These shares have been passed down the family tree as the original owners have died. Pam has records of who owns the certificates now though record has been lost of a couple of certificates, perhaps they're in a tin box in your loft! Unfortunately the shares can only be sold for their original £1 face value so there is no fortune awaiting.

Some of the share holders do actually run the plots themselves but the majority of allotments are

leased out for a nominal annual charge. Pam explained that the Society has not been actively marketing the unlet plots as they are very overgrown and will need a lot of remedial work before they could be brought into cultivation. So it sounds like if you are a retired person with plenty of time and with a couple of strong young sons to clear the plot - then it could be the Horts Show prize table for you!

**Mike Piercy**



# The Way We Were

It was a historic and most memorably enjoyable day in our village hall when our village history group had their second Open Meeting. Some people travelled quite a distance to see the displays and meet people. There was much chatting and joking in the hall from beginning to end of the afternoon.

The day started for the public around 1pm in the smaller room near the entrance, where Joan West had put together most of a Family Tree display on view. Visitors, unfamiliar as well as familiar to current residents, studied the family tree displays with keen interest all afternoon.

Around 2pm in the main room, Rosemary Mortham introduced the day.

Members of the History group – Rita Probert, Joyce Walker, Doug Tilbury, Dennis Claydon and Gordon May - had put together a brief history of their memories of when they were children around the 1940s. They had walked round the villages recording their memories of what was there back then. There were fewer houses and roads. Houses had been extended, road and house names changed. Roads had sometimes been just tracks.



Leigh Axe had edited the recordings and added photographs, some modern and some substitutes to keep it visual. He admits he probably got some houses in the wrong place.

It was presented on a big screen, first covering the east side of Lacey Green's Main Road from the Whip pub to Slad Lane, with commentary by ex-resident John Brandon from his memories, then the west side of the road.

There were plenty of photos of previous residents and classes of up to 30 schoolchildren, with and without their teachers. The audience of at least 60 sat with their eyes pinned to the screen. There were plenty of smiles.

Around 3.00pm visitors chose tea, coffee and home-made cakes, taking them to nearby tables and

sat devouring them, with plenty of chat. The raffle was then run.

At 3.50pm another presentation on Loosley Row by Rita Probert and Joyce Walker was observed with interest.

Then 6 minutes of Pink Road shots, with information provided by Daphne and Edwin Williams.

Thanks must go to everyone mentioned and to Rosemary Mortham, the project leader, for all the work & time they've put into collecting and displaying the information, photos and facts. Pictures of the event are on [www.laceygreen.com](http://www.laceygreen.com). There is talk of the presentation (with corrections) being available online, fingers crossed.

**Norman Tyler**



# On The Farm

Mid October and as the weather turns more autumnal we can reflect on the past summer. Largely we have had a good period of weather. Generally dry for harvest, with warmth in June and July to improve the grain quality. Quite the reverse of last year!

That's the good news. However, because of the poor planting conditions last autumn, together with the low quality of the seed corn, Britain has had a wheat harvest well down on average. The bad news for us is that world supply is looking abundant. This has led to a price drop in the region of 25%.

Ironically this is less than last year when the wheat was much poorer quality. The local mill to whom we send much of ours, last year bought a big percentage of their requirements from Germany and Canada. This year they can find more good quality locally. One more example that we are not just an island but very much part of a world market!

On the plus side this will help the cows. With wheat prices coming down, reduced animal feed costs

will be good for us. Milk prices are currently higher so we hope for a reasonable winter. The cows have been calving at quite a rate. We currently have about eighty on calf milk powder. This is mixed twice a day and put into individual clean buckets. The challenge is to get them to put their head down to drink (their instinct is to put their head up to the udder). They will suck your milky fingers and with luck you can lead them down. They are not always obliging so it is a job to be done by someone with the patience of a saint. You just get fond of them and then they move on to dry food, but more will be born to challenge you.

The new young cows (heifers) having had their first calf are being brought into the herd for milking. This too can be a testing job, again calling for patience. Quite a few will kick the milking units off as soon as you are not looking, or kick you, or even turn around so the herdsman will find that instead of looking at her udder he is looking at her head. It is surprising however, how quickly they settle into the routine. At this time of the year though, there are always

more waiting in the wings, waiting for their first calf to be born. Must seem a strange time for them!

Last autumn we were unable to plant winter oilseed rape so had to plant spring rape. This is not our choice as it does not yield as well. The result was that instead of starting harvest with it, it was the last to bring in. We were extremely lucky as on the day we cut the very last field at Naphill there was a weather phenomenon that I have noticed numerous times before. We had a torrential storm in Lacey Green, with wind, hailstones, the lot. It didn't last long. I saw a loaded trailer go down the drive and thought it would be drenched, and we really don't want that. When I commiserated with Richard he said that they had had no rain. There was a line somewhere across the road from Walters Ash to Lacey Green, dry on their side, wet on ours. Other farmers were not so lucky and fared far worse, as hailstones shattered the rape pods and up to 80% of their crop was lost. A reminder that farmers should never count their chickens before they hatch!

The maize harvest is imminent. It comes later than everything else. We are just waiting for some dry weather to avoid bringing much mud onto the roads. It had a very slow start due to the exceptionally cold spring but the hot weather has helped. It looks quite acceptable now.

The farm is getting ready for its winter routine. Maybe you are all getting organised for Christmas. I guess that is what I had better think about soon too. Hope you all have a lovely one.

**Joan West**



# Happy Wanderers

The Happy Wanderers' walk on the 28th July was preceded by a period of fine, settled weather which boded well. However, on the day showers were forecast and the weather conditions were variable. At least the ground was dry and the sun shone brightly as 17 members assembled at the National Trust car park in Cookham. Ahead of us were 5 miles of varying terrain over and around Winter Hill. The walk leader Peter Clee and his wife Jo explained the route to be taken, including a shorter walk of 3 miles for those who preferred a more gentle stroll.

The walk took us on to the Golf course initially, with some quite busy fairways to be negotiated. This was followed by some open countryside

at which point the short walk members left us to take a more direct route back to the car park. The rest of us pressed on around Winter Hill and on to a long, gradual descent with magnificent views over the Thames valley to Hedsor and beyond. The route then followed the Thames path, past the Bounty Public House and finally back through the golf course to the start point. Just as we reached our cars the first heavy shower arrived. Good timing!

Some of us adjourned to the Crown hotel for a welcome lunch over which it was generally agreed that it had been a most enjoyable walk.

## Peter and Joe Clark



Our walk on Sunday 25th August was led by Ron Collins and Neil Cooper. We met in the road leading to Saunderton Station and our numbers were somewhat smaller than usual - not sure whether that was due to the holiday season, the fact that Ron tends to incorporate a number of steep hills into his walks, or the somewhat poor weather forecast! In any event the stalwarts made off in cloudy conditions with a bit of drizzle, hoping for improvement as the walk progressed.

The walk which was planned to be some 5.5 miles or 8.5 km long was in contrast to many in the Chilterns as it was very open and took us

along the wide Saunderton Valley to Saunderton Lee near Lodge Hill and then up to the Bledlow Ridge road. The intention was to make our way down to Radnage Church and then to climb back up to Bledlow Ridge. However, the leader gave the group the choice of the extra mile or so or shortening the walk. Our stalwarts were no longer stalwarts and decided that the call of Sunday lunch was too great and opted for the reduced mileage. Despite the abridged version it was a pleasant walk with good company and we didn't get wet. What more could one ask.

## Ron Collins



On Sunday 29th September, 21 Happy Wanderers went to college Lake at Bullbourne, near Tring.

This is a nature reserve and has a two mile walk around the lake perimeter, with some stunning views. The weather was fine and quite warm. Apart from the

scenery, there is old farm machinery plus other attractions to be seen. It was a most enjoyable hour and a half. The walk was led by Roger Walker and followed up in the rear by Ian Goodearl.

## Ian Goodearl





# St John's School Parents Association



## School meals

We have enjoyed a busy start back to term with the highlight for the children being the new school hot meals. We are delighted by the success of the new hot school lunch service at St John's. The parents, children and staff have all embraced the new system and we are astounded by the numbers of meals booked every week. We are now on average serving 150 meals every day which has exceeded all of our expectations.

One of the most delightful consequences of the service is seeing how excited the children are when they arrive in the dining room. We have all been impressed by the way they have embraced the service with enthusiasm, and without exception they are polite and very well behaved in the queue.

Their table manners are exemplary and the efficient way they cope, with everything from the decision making to the clearing of their plates and helping those around them has helped to make this project worthwhile.

A special thank you to the children of year 6 and Mrs Thomas who have worked out a rota system to provide help to the children in key stage one. We could not run the

service without the support of the parent helpers, teachers, midday supervisors and particularly Karen Lyon in the kitchen. Thanks also to Marc Maslin and his team from the kitchens at Princes Risborough Upper School, who produce and deliver the food to us every morning.

## On that note – a plea

In order to continue to offer this service effectively and efficiently we do need regular additional volunteer help.

This is a lovely way to get involved with the school community; it is good fun and a fulfilling experience. Ideally we need two volunteer helpers per day from 11.45 to 13.45. If we are able to secure help from a pool of twenty or thirty people we will only need to cover one or two lunches per month each.

If you would like to become involved please call or email Kate Collet-Fenson, the parent lunch project co-ordinator on 07970 547999 or email [colletfenson@gmail.com](mailto:colletfenson@gmail.com).

## Harvest Festival

We have also held our annual Harvest Festival Church Service, where the children are invited to bring in non-perishable goods. These were gratefully received by local charities in Princes Risborough and Saunderton.

Our Parents Association has now held its AGM. Karen Hodgton has stepped down from Chairman after three years and many more helping the PA, she will be sadly missed. We welcome our new Chairman Jodi Sangster and Heather Breed remains as treasurer.

This term we have already held a successful family Barn Dance. A great time was had by everyone who supported Louise Brooks-Usher and her team – thank you.

The school gardening club won two prizes at the barn dance for the funniest veg - runner beans and for a bowls of fruit - grapes.

By the time this goes to print the children will have enjoyed their end of half term disco. This is always a popular evening for the children to put on their party clothes!

## Christmas is coming

The run up to Christmas again promises to be a busy one with our annual Christmas Fayre on Friday 29th November. Everyone is welcome to attend from 2pm in the school hall. This a highlight for the children who get to meet Father Christmas, buy family presents in the "secret room", play games and enjoy tombolas, raffles, the toy and book stall, as well as lots of crafts and refreshments for the adults!

If anyone has surplus homemade Jams & Chutneys we would always welcome these for our craft table. Please drop into school office during school hours – thank you!

Hopefully the children will still have enough energy left to perform the much anticipated Christmas plays before they all break up for a well earned break.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Julia Spittles**

Parents Association Secretary

# Linking Lacey Through Knitting

I moved into the village in May 2013 and am delighted to be here. I have been very lucky having met many people; I was invited to the Woodfield street party not long after moving into the village. I have met others through circuit training at Woodbyne and local friends. We regularly meet at the Whip or the Pink and Lily for a social evening and obviously a glass of wine.

Now onto the reason for the article in Hallmark! I am a midwife by profession and work in a large maternity unit, as well as being involved in a charity, [midwives@Ethiopia](mailto:midwives@Ethiopia). Six midwives from across England and Wales embarked on a new adventure in February 2012 and set up the charity with the aim of helping to reduce the number of women and babies dying in childbirth in Ethiopia; we do this through education. Sadly the number of women who die due to complications in childbirth is over 600 per 100,000 births compared to 12 in the UK.

We have key midwifery partners in Ethiopia who we work closely with and this is an important part of our success. They bring so much to the charity and ensure we are culturally aware and teach Ethiopian midwifery rather than UK midwifery - this is very important.

We visit Ethiopia twice a year to provide training for midwives and



also Health Extension Workers (HEWs); these are local women who receive basic health education, and care for women having babies at home or in local health posts. (Photo bottom left)

The training for HEWs runs over 2 days and we teach about 60-80 during each course. They love the training and the fact we spend time teaching them in a very interactive way. We also provide each of them with a basic delivery kit to ensure the women they are caring for have a clean and therefore safer birth. The contents of the kits are sourced locally and we make them up in the evenings once we have finished the teaching.

The training for midwives is longer and we run this with midwifery lecturers from the regional colleges and universities. The course we run for lecturers is 2 days and the midwives then join for 3-4 days. The course is a mixture of lectures and hands on



practical sessions and we do an assessment to determine how much they have learned during the course.

You can see from the photo above that the teaching is done in small groups using teaching aids such as dolls, medical models, knitted



wombs and red material; these items are used for illustration and practical hands-on emergency skills training.

So we come to the reason for the title of the article, are there any keen knitters out there who would like to knit for [midwives@Ethiopia](mailto:midwives@Ethiopia). We use knitted wombs (photo above) as part of our teaching to teach midwives practical skills on how to manage an emergency situation and therefore reduce the chance of women dying because of a haemorrhage. We also give one to every midwife who attends the training, so they can train their colleagues and students. Over the course of a year this equates to approximately 100 wombs.

We do not have time to do this as well as running the charity and producing teaching materials. The midwives see these teaching aids as very valuable and we are sure they make a real difference to learning, and therefore reducing the likelihood of women dying during childbirth.

If you would like to help we would be very grateful. I have a pattern and if you need wool I can provide this; I frequent the local charity shops which are a great source of wool. Thank you for reading about my story and in advance for anyone willing to help. My email is [jane.herve@googlemail.com](mailto:jane.herve@googlemail.com) or phone 07714658063.

# Wildlife Notes

Well the good news is that the ash dieback disease that I wrote about in an earlier issue has not yet reached us. This time last year the threat to ash trees was splashed across virtually every newspaper and news programme, but the media tend to have very short attention spans when it comes to environmental stories and now it rarely gets a mention, perhaps giving the impression that the problem has gone away. Sadly it hasn't and the number of infected sites across the country has almost doubled in the past year, reaching nearly six hundred, including two which are little more than twenty miles away: a short hop for a wind-borne fungal spore.

So the bad news is that it seems almost inevitable that at some point ash dieback will arrive and affect many, if not all, of our local ash trees, along with the wildlife that they support. But harmful as it might be this is just the most recent in a long list of changes that our countryside has seen. Looking back just two hundred years our hedgerows and woods would have been dotted with towering elms untroubled by Dutch elm disease, our squirrels would have been native reds rather than imported American greys, no one would even have heard of muntjac deer or edible dormice, and horse chestnuts wouldn't yet have arrived (so if you wanted to play conkers you had to make do with snail shells).

More recently, within just one lifetime, our wildlife has continued to change, with species arriving, disappearing and reappearing. In the Seventies clouds of several thousand chattering starlings were a common sight flying over our fields at this time of year, as they poured in to escape the harsher weather in Europe. If you put your Christmas turkey carcass out on

Boxing Day you knew that a roving horde of starlings would have it picked clean within a couple of days. Since then starling numbers have plummeted (partly perhaps because insecticides have killed off one of their favourite foods, the daddy longlegs, which also used to appear in swarms in the autumn) and the carcass will probably stay there until the foxes or rats find it. Similarly, as soon as you topped up your garden bird-feeder a large, noisy flock of house sparrows would immediately turn up to empty it for you, but now they are just as rare as starlings.

But of course not all modern changes have been for the worse. We can now enjoy seeing re-introduced red kites, with their impressive five- or six-foot wingspan, soaring and gliding over the village again for the first time in generations.

No one can have failed to notice the return of the red kite (even if some don't welcome it), but there is another bird which has crept back almost unnoticed within the last ten years or so, and has done it entirely under its own steam. Not so long ago your best hope of

seeing a raven was to travel to



the rugged coasts of Wales, Scotland or Cornwall, to the wilds of Dartmoor and Exmoor or - for the less adventurous - to the Tower of London. But now you need go no further than the Pink Road. Although it could be mistaken for a crow, you can recognize a raven by its much larger size, its diamond-shaped tail and the fact that it often flies much higher than crows and rooks, usually alone or in pairs. But most characteristic of all is its call, a deep 'cronk' which makes the crow's 'caw' sound positively effeminate. Since Celtic times the raven has been respected for its intelligence (the Norse god Odin for example employed two of them to travel the globe and report back to him so that, even before Twitter, he could keep up with what was going on in the world). Now, after an absence of many years, there are reckoned to be at least ten pairs of ravens nesting in the Chilterns, including one within a mile of the Pink & Lily. It's well worth keeping an eye, and an ear, open for them when you're out walking.

So the arrival of ash dieback may be the latest change in our countryside but it certainly won't be the last. It is almost impossible to predict what changes are still to come, but let's just hope that someone reading this in fifty years' time won't have to ask what a starling, a sparrow or an ash tree looked like.

**John Tyler**

# St John's Church



Our Harvest celebrations were excellent this year! The flower team had done a wonderful job decorating the Church and we had our usual Communion Service on the Sunday morning with the children (and adults) bringing baskets of produce. After the service we went to the School Hall for a Bring and Share lunch with approximately 40 people enjoying a lovely array of food. We were joined by Rev Nick Molony and his wife Beryl. After lunch Graham King led an auction of the Harvest produce raising in excess of £200.

Rev Nick had taken the 10am Service and had talked about a project he had been involved with in Kimberley in South Africa. He had visited there last Autumn and told of the real poverty and unemployment there. It was decided to give half of the proceeds of this auction to this charity.

In the evening we had a Harvest Thanksgiving service where baskets of seeds, roots and vegetables, flowers, harvests of the fields and fruits were presented. A lovely service with the traditional Harvest hymns was very much enjoyed by all who attended.

## Advent and Xmas dates for the diary:

**Sunday November 10th**  
10am Remembrance Service.

**Sunday November 17th**  
10am A Presentation of Gifts for Children to the Salvation Army, and a talk from a SA member.

**Thursday November 21st**  
10am Christ the King.  
6pm Team Confirmation with the Bishop of Buckingham.

**Sunday December 1st**  
6pm Advent Carol Concert - conducted.

**Saturday December 7th**  
Christmas Fayre - in the Village Hall from 10am till 1pm. Usual stalls plus some new ones, plenty of refreshments too. Come and support us and buy those extra Christmas presents. Plenty of Christmas Cheer and Ho Ho Ho !

**Sunday December 8th**  
10am Service with Archdeacon Karen Gorham.

**Sunday December 22nd**  
10am service with Bishop Alan Wilson.  
6pm Nine Lessons and Carols Service.

**Tuesday December 24th**  
3.30pm Crib Service.  
11.15pm Midnight Service.

**Christmas Day Dec 25th**  
10am All-age Sung Communion

**Business as usual.** We have had some exceptional visiting Clergy to conduct our services during the Interregnum, and we do thank them sincerely for their time, and for being so interesting, sincere, and friendly.

## Regular Services at St. John's Church

### SUNDAY

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

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

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

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

NOTE - Evensong will be held ONLY at key points during the Church year.

### TUESDAY

9.30am. Communion Service in Lady Chapel at St. John's. This is a quiet time for peace and reflection of your own Spiritual journey.

2.00pm Toddler Praise - Toddlers meet Tuesday afternoons **during term time.** Dads and Grandparents are very welcome.

### WEDNESDAY

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

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

On the last Sunday in the month our 11 - 15 year olds are welcome to attend 'LATER' from 6-8 pm at Jim and Gill Taylor's house in 26 Summerleys Road, PR Fun, laughter, food, making friends, crazy games, being there!



If you do not know who our Police and Crime Commissioner is, or what he does, there will be a public meeting on 27th November at 19.00 at Wycombe Guildhall where you can meet him and 'hear about policing and crime in your area'.

If you need to contact the police the non-emergency number is 101. For emergencies dial 999.

## Children's Playground

For some time we have been looking for a long term solution to the potential trip hazard presented by the gaps in-between the black rubber tiles that make up the safety surface in the children's playground. We were faced with having to lift and dispose of the old tiles and lay an entirely new rubber surface. This process would be expensive and environmentally wasteful.

We are pleased that a local firm provided a solution which retains the existing rubber tiles and by laying synthetic grass sheeting over them, like a carpet, provides an attractive and safe surface

under our climbing frame and swings.

To complete our work on the playground this year we are replacing the worn out seats on the swings. Our plans have attracted the interest of Carl Etholen, our County Councillor, who has generously offered to make a contribution from his Community Leadership Fund to help us improve these facilities for the children of Lacey Green.

## Bus Shelters

This year it was decided that it was time to refurbish our bus shelters and in the Spring we carried out minor repairs where necessary and repainted four of the shelters. There are five bus shelters in the parish: one in Speen, one opposite the RAF base at Bradenham, a modern shelter at the village hall and, my two favourites, the metal shelters at the Whip and the School.

These two are unique. They were commissioned by the Parish Council to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in 2002 and designed and built locally by Geoff and Graham

Baker at the forge in Loosely Row. I think that the shape of these shelters resembles the tents at a medieval pageant and, to me, they represent the spirit of the Festival of Britain and the optimism that we felt in 1952 at the time of the Queen's Coronation. Graham Baker denies any historical pretention, he said that they just came up with a design that would work! Their design certainly works and it is a good example of their craft skills in welding, casting and wrought ironwork.

Our most colourful bus shelter is remote from the village; it is the one opposite the RAF base at Bradenham. It has a white interior with a seat in cyan and a ceiling painted in grey which matches the uniforms of the neighbours. I don't know who was originally responsible for the colour scheme but it is cheerful and we have decided to keep it the same.

To contact the Parish Council please visit our website <http://www.laceygreen-pc.org.uk/>

**John Sherlock**



# Heavenly Bodies

Welcome to the start of the new winter viewing schedule: featuring early evening romance, must-see drama after the 9 o'clock watershed, and a Christmas special.

As the sky darkens in the late afternoon, it will begin to reveal the second brightest object in the night sky after the Moon. A large, sparkling white 'star' low in the south-western sky.

This is our 'sister' planet Venus, named after the Roman goddess of love. It grows more prominent during the second half of November and early December as it drifts further away from the Sun as we see it.

Do wait until the Sun has set before trying to spot the planet, which will be difficult to miss at dusk because it will be very bright. In fact, Venus gets so bright, it can cast shadows on a dark, moonless night. And every year, some people (who haven't read Hallmark) mistake it for a UFO.

A thin crescent Moon lends a helping hand on **November 6th** and **December 5th** when it hangs

above the planet to create a wonderful spectacle.

It's hard to imagine when looking at such a serene sight that Venus, about the same size as Earth, is on a par with Dante's "Inferno". This seething rock is the hottest place in our Solar System at almost 500°C, is covered in extinct volcanoes, craters and lava flows, has an atmosphere mostly of carbon dioxide, rains sulphuric acid and the air pressure is 92 times greater than Earth's (the same as 1km underneath the ocean).

But be sure to see Venus before the second half of December when it begins to drift back towards the Sun and gets lost in the twilight glow.

Just after 9pm during November, Jupiter rises above the eastern horizon and climbs steadily throughout the night. Earth is catching up with the gas giant as they both circle the Sun, until Jupiter reaches 'opposition' (when it will be closest to us) on **January 6th**.

So it will be fairly low in the eastern sky at about 10-11pm during November, becoming higher at the same time in December, January and February.

It's in the constellation of Gemini – up and left of the famous constellation of Orion (see sky map). Jupiter will also be bright, and binoculars (10x magnification) will show its four large moons. I took the picture of Jupiter inset on the sky map last winter.

While Jupiter ascends the skies, the so-called "Comet of the Century" continues to hurtle towards the Sun at a current speed of 79,000mph. Comet ISON recently passed within the orbit of Mars and is due to swing around our star on November 28th.

If it survives this sizzling encounter (at a re-estimated 825,000mph!), it may become bright enough in our early morning skies to see with the naked eye from the first part of December, during part of the night over Christmas, and throughout the night in January.

Predictions are very difficult as comets are so unstable – some reports in October said Comet ISON has lost some brightness, but that it should survive its slingshot around the Sun.

At the time of writing, NASA's website was closed during the US' "shutdown" but there are other reliable sites to visit, including: [www.isoncampaign.org](http://www.isoncampaign.org) and [www.mattastro.com/ison/](http://www.mattastro.com/ison/).

Looking at the night sky this winter might even be better than watching the telly.

**Chris Dignan**



Organisation	Meetings	Contact	Phone	Email address
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Full walk last Sun of the month 10.30	Ronnie Lewin	274961	relewin@btinternet.com
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Short walk (2-3 miles) 2nd Wed 10.30	Linda Taylor	345261	
Horticultural Society	3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov. 8pm	Alison Shreeve		a.shreeve1@btinternet.com
Kinder Gym & Melody Minors	Baby to 5 years. Fridays during term. After school classes for up to Year 3	Jenny Stothard Gabby Kenny	344441 07793 80745	jennystothard@btinternet.com
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time	Denise Kinnard		lukeden2@hotmail.co.uk
Lacey Green Productions	Theatre, drama, and sometimes food			info@laceygreenproductions.co.uk
Windmill Under 5s	Mon-Fri 9.00-12.00 or 1.30 if your child stays for lunch	Paula Cunningham	07502 198405	admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk
Windmill WI (evenings)	1st Wed of month except Jan. 7.45pm	Daphne Willash	01494 562455	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District USA	4th Wed afternoon of the month	Margaret Graham	01494 630713	Margaret@margaret-graham.com
Youth Club	Alternate Fridays - see laceygreen.com web site for details 7.30pm	Joan Smith	342322	joansmith38@googlemail.com
Over 50s Pub Lunch Club	Black Horse. First Tuesday of the month	Betty Tyler Yvonne Axe	344606 345216	
Short Mat Bowls Club	Monday 2pm	Leigh Axe	345216	leigh@laceygreen.com
LG Sports Club Secretary		Stephanie Dell	07768 831196	steph.dell@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Cricket		Jonathan Dell	07786 386912	
LG Sports Club - Tennis		Ian Ward	345567	ian.ward21@tiscali.co.uk
LG Sports Club - Football		Ben Foster	344906	laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.uk
Karate	Monday evenings	Stephen Fincham	07540 531034	stevfincham@sky.com
Whiteleaf Bowmen	Wed, Thu & Fri evenings, Apr to Sep	Brenda Cordwell, Sec	01494 485037	www.whiteleafbowmen.org.uk
Pilates Classes	Tuesday mornings	Sue Croxford	346656	susancroxford@gmail.com
Wycombe District Council		Mel Foster	01494 488905	mel_foster@wycombe.gov.uk
Bucks County Council		Paul Rogerson	01494 488315	progerson@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Pat Richards	345452	
LG Community Planning Group		Tony Molesworth	344975	molechem@yahoo.co.uk
Scouts (Naphill & Hughenden)		Peter Byerley	01494 565955	peter.byerley@capgemini.com
Parish Council		Susanne Griffiths	275912	sue@princesrisborough.com
LG Post Office	Currently closed			
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2 to 5 pm May to September	Michael Hardy	275871	contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk
Millennium Hall		Clive Hodgton	343113	clive@laceygreen.com
Millennium Hall bookings		Karen Hodgton	274254	karen@laceygreen.com
The Black Horse	Quiz night last Sunday of every month at 8pm	Lynne Comley	345195	lynnecomley@btconnect.com
Police		Andy Ralph	101	

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

Our aim is to mirror the mark that the Village Hall makes upon our community, to publish the activities of all Village organisations, and to provide a forum so that the rights, the wrongs, the well-being of village life can be aired.

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

### **HALLMARK EDITOR**

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### **ADVERTISING MANAGER**

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

### **VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS**

Clive or Karen on 01844 274254 (answering service)

### **LACEY GREEN POST OFFICE**

Currently closed

### **LACEY GREEN STORES**

Village Hall 8.30 am - 1pm every week day

### **COFFEE MORNINGS**

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

### **THE FOOT CLINIC**

Chiropody services with Cathy Maynard. Tel 274521 Tuesdays by appointment

### **VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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

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

### **LACEY GREEN WINDMILL**

Lacey Green Windmill will reopen on May 4th 2014.

Email: [contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk](mailto:contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk) Phone: 01844 275871

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**CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE FEBRUARY EDITION  
JANUARY 17th 2014**