

HALLMARK

The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Magazine



Irises by Stella Boll

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Welcome to the May edition of Hallmark

Just a quick reminder that with this issue we are collecting donations to support the printing of Hallmark and the maintenance of the Village Hall. Printing costs us around £7.50 per year per house; any donations will be welcome, either to your deliverer or put the donation in the envelope supplied and pop it through the door of Entertainment House.

I'd like to thank Helen Cliff who has managed the distributions for the past couple of years. Unfortunately she has not been well recently and has had to step down. Jane Brown has kindly agreed to take over the role.

Last month we had the Village Hall AGM where we looked at the year past, the year ahead, and reviewed the financial accounts. Our thanks to Adrian Huntley from Taxassist Accountants who kindly audits for us without charge.

As you will see from Karen's abridged report below, bookings have been going well.

We have had an active maintenance programme all year, but now we face the big job of resurfacing the floor and renovating the worn areas. Unfortunately this means that we will have to close the hall for 5



days starting May 28 to allow this work to take place.

Mike Piercy
Editor

Millennium Hall Booking Sec's report

The Village Hall continues to be very well used and offers plenty of variety for all ages. All evenings are now booked. We have new classes running on a Monday morning (mindfulness) and Thursday afternoon is now booked for ballet and tap classes (the lady will be using a separate floor that she will supply for the tap). This only leaves a Tuesday afternoon available with continuity.

As I have mentioned before, if an organisation uses the hall once a month, this prohibits the use by a group running on the same weekday for the other 3 weeks of the month; commercial users require access every week.

There is plenty of variety of activities on offer and there is an opportunity for everyone to start something new.

In 2014 we had 39 commercial bookings, lower than in previous years. I predict that 2015 will be similar. Weddings and parties are not as popular. I believe that this is due to hotels offering excellent value for money and running the whole event. That said we receive many enquiries where the date has already gone and therefore I still recommend booking early to avoid disappointment!

E-Mail continues to be the most popular way to make an initial enquiry with people also being able to view the website. We have a lot of repeat users and many recommendations.

The 'deep' clean has been booked for June 13th/14th. The carpet will be fitted in the hallway and meeting room (once it has been chosen!) after this date.

Due to the success of the hall we are very fortunate that we are able to offer the weekly coffee morning at no charge and the youth club at a greatly reduced rate.

We continue to loan tables and chairs to other local organisations and both the church and school have used our facilities when they have needed more room. This all helps to make the Village Hall a huge part of the community, making us all united. As always I would like to take this opportunity once again to thank all of the organisations for their continued support and co-operation with the day to day running of the hall.

If anyone requires any further help or information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Karen Hodgton

What's On

Sun 10 May 11am

National Mills Day. Horts Club stall at windmill

Wed 20 May 8pm

Horts Club
"Growing Organic"

Tues 26 May 10pm

Star gazing - see page 26

28 May - 2 June

Village Hall closed

Sun 7 June

Sports Club Funday

Sun 14 June

Tennis club BBQ see p22

Sun 21 June 9.45am

Horts Club visit to RHS
Hyde Hall gardens

Sun 28 June 1pm

Polo at Widmer Feeds in aid of The Princes Centre

Wed 15 July

Horts Club
Butterfly conservation

Mobile Library

Eastlands 11.30 to 11.55
13 May, 10 June,
8 July, 5 August

Parish Council

18 May 7.30 pm - AGM
Lacey Green Hall.
6 July 7.30 pm
Speen Village Hall

Events at St John's Church

Sun 10th May 11.30 to 2pm **Teddy Bears' picnic and Maypole dancing** in the Vicarage Garden. Bring your picnic (and teddy bears of course).
Strawberries and cream, tea and coffee provided. Try the Kindergym equipment, music, craft and juggling equipment. Prizes for oldest teddy and best dressed teddy. Adults and children can all have a go at dancing round the maypole. No charge but contributions to St Johns Church. All welcome

Sat 6th June In the afternoon try flower arranging for yourself under the guidance of Margaret Gray.
Evening: **Progressive Supper**

Sat 27th June **Church Fete** in the Vicarage Garden

Sun 28th June **Strawberry Tea** in the Vicarage Garden

17th/18th/19th July **Flower Festival - 100 years of Wedding Dresses** The History Group will hold an Exhibition of Wedding Dresses in the main church. Upstairs, there will be a display of past local weddings. Visitors will also be able to see copies of the Parish Registers of Weddings from 1852.
Refreshments will be supplied by The Windmill WI who are celebrating 100 years of the WI.
St John's Church Junior Choir will sing a concert of wedding music on the Saturday evening. The 17th will be a Preview night by invitation.



SAVE THE DATE

Windmills and The Sports Club present

SUMMER FUNDAY

Sunday 7th June

Lacey Green Sports Club

To raise funds for the Sports Club Roof

YOU ONLY DIE ONCE

TALK, PLAN, LIVE

National Dying Matters Awareness Week

Free
Event

18th – 24th May 2015

What's on this week in Princes Risborough?

Monday 18 May

10.00 – 13.30 hrs St Mary's Chapter House
Dead-inspired Art Exhibition

*Let's talk
about it*

14.00 – 16.00 hrs Icknield Court Fremantle Trust Care Home
What it means to die, how to prepare for it. (Downstairs foyer)

19.00 – 20.30 hrs Icknield Court Fremantle Trust Care Home
Families facing the end of life (Downstairs foyer)
Making, updating, and storing your Will (Upstairs lounge)

Tuesday 19 May

14.00 – 16.00 hrs Princes Risborough Library, High Street
Organising your financial and legal affairs

Wednesday 20 May

12.00 – 14.00 hrs Costa Coffee, High Street

Death Café – Have coffee, tea & cake and discuss how to make the most of our (finite) lives

14.30 hrs George and Dragon Bus Stop, High Street

The 'Last Bus' – Community Bus ride to Aylesbury Vale Natural Burial Meadow, Owlswick

Thursday 21 May

14.00 – 16.00 hrs Princes Risborough Library, High Street

Why does God allow suffering? A Christian perspective

19.00 – 20.30 hrs K. Y. Green Funeral Directors, Market Square

What would you like to happen at the end of your life? What would you like your doctor to do?

LGP Murder Mystery - "The Phar-Phetched Phantom".

To be performed on Saturday and Sunday, August 15th and 16th
and served with afternoon tea!

Watch out for posters advertising the event. Tickets will be available
from June 1st from the LGP website or phone 01844 344207.

POLO

Remember that there are Polo
matches most weekends in the
Widmer farm fields.

Visit
www.laceygreenpoloclub.com
for details.

Lacey Green litter

For several years now, we have been out around the village every month picking up litter as a way of getting some fresh air and exercise, and to keep our village tidy.

We have been utterly horrified by the amount of rubbish thrown on the pavements and in the hedgerows – often coming back from our trips with a whole garden trolley full of drink cans, glass bottles, sweet wrappers, and even a fly-tipped artificial Christmas tree. Such litter can harm wildlife as well as spoiling views in our beautiful neighbourhood.

We are aware that some of the rubbish is dumped from cars just passing through, and not by locals but we can all do our bit to

pick it up (taking necessary precautions to protect hands). The scenes in some parts of the village would make any nature-lover weep. The clear-up could be a full-time occupation.

One thing really bothers us – although there are now signs around the village about clearing up after your dog and not leaving the mess on the ground, we are constantly finding that dog-owners leave bags of the stuff in trees and hedges. There is little point in bagging your dog's mess only to hang the non-biodegradable plastic bag on a branch in the hedge. One tree in Church Lane looked like a tree with baubles on it - it had so many of these bags on it. Take it home and bin it.



Please help to keep our village clean, be responsible with your waste and don't act as if you couldn't give a sh*t. Thank you.

Laila & Pippa King

Dear Dog Owners



I've lived in Lacey Green for nearly eight years and am the owner of three (slightly mad and far from perfect) dogs. The village is a great place to live. The main reason we moved here is to get away from the hustle, bustle and grime of London where I was born and have worked as a police officer for many years.

Unfortunately, in recent weeks, both I and others have noticed that someone is allowing their dog(s) to poo on the pavements and paths around the village and then not clearing it up. There is NO EXCUSE for this irresponsible and disgusting behaviour.

Probably the same as many of you, I seem to find 'poo bags' in every item of clothing I own, just in case ! It's not the dog at fault – it's the owner. Whether you have dogs, young children, or not, I hope you'll agree that this is unacceptable.

I'm never quite off duty and am determined (with your help) to stop this as soon as possible.

To this end, I and some of the other patrons of the Black Horse pub have been handing out leaflets and I've put up posters locally.

If you have any information to help stamp this out, please feel free to contact me direct (rajandsam@hotmail.co.uk or 07799 657496) and I will take the relevant action.

In the meantime, as Shaw Taylor said (for those of you old enough to remember), "Keep 'em peeled" !

Many thanks,

Raj (and dogs)

Windmills Under 5s

It has been another busy and exciting term for everyone at Windmills, with the children learning about the many celebrations and festivities that have occurred over the last few months.

Back in February, Sarah Wernham kindly helped with making pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. In March we baked cakes, made crafts and all pulled funny faces for Red Nose Week, and raised over £50 for this very good cause. Then just before the end of term we had our Easter Party, where we enjoyed lots of party games, dancing, craft activities, biscuit decorating and hotdogs, and all went home very happy but exhausted! Thank you to all of the parents and staff who helped at the party, and particularly to Kristina Black, who made some beautiful Easter card templates for the children to decorate.

As a community run pre-school we rely on the enthusiasm and generosity of our parents to enhance the pre-school environment. This enthusiasm was highlighted this term by Lizzy Davies, who organized a fantastic science morning for us, where the children enjoyed making a bubbling volcano out of baking powder and vinegar. Lizzy then showed them how to make a bigger volcano using Coke and Mentos, and taught them about gas through physical activity. It was an action packed morning but great fun. Thank you so much Lizzy!

We have also been very lucky to have been donated several wooden pallets by Jon Catchpole, and thanks to the talents of local resident, Stan McCabe, these have been turned into a fantastic mud



kitchen for the children to play with outside. The mud kitchen has been a long-term dream of our supervisor, Angela, and so a huge thank you go to both Jon and Stan for making this a reality. If anyone has any old kitchen pots, pans or utensils that could be used to further enhance this new equipment we will happily take them off your hands.

Thanks also go to Gary Davies and his father, who have helped with a spring-time spruce up of our shed, and to Clare Rogers for cleaning our rugs.

This term we have been fortunate enough to be awarded two grants from Bucks County Council. These have enabled us to implement an online learning journal system for the children at Windmills, which I can only describe as Facebook for preschools! I am sure that many of the parents will agree with me when I say that this system has given us a much better insight into the lives that our children lead at Windmills, and that like me they are enjoying the regular updates of the wonderful and imaginative array of activities that the staff organize. We have also been able to purchase some temporary fencing panels, which will enable us to make use of a larger outdoor

area, and I am sure that they will prove invaluable over the coming term. Thank you to Paula for all of your hard work in securing this funding.

As always, the success of Windmills is entirely due to our wonderful staff, and this term we are pleased to be welcoming two new pre-school support assistants to our team. Lisa Ashdown and Joel Read will join us after the Easter break. Lisa has been on the pre-school committee for several years, and also frequently helped out as a parent volunteer. We are delighted that she has decided to join us on a permanent basis. Joel is the owner and Head Coach of Risborough Rangers FC in the Community. He has had a lot of experience of working with children of all ages and is very enthusiastic and motivated. We are looking forward to utilising his sporting skills over the coming term! Unfortunately, this good news is tinged with the sad news that we will be saying farewell to Elise at the end of this term. After four years at Windmills Elise will be leaving to take up a full time position at a local school. Good luck from everyone at Windmills!

**Victoria Geenes
Chair**

6th-20th September
SPEEN FESTIVAL 2015

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

10-12 September 2015



ALL ABOARD FOR SPEEN FESTIVAL 2015

Speen Festival returns this year with the successes of 2013 but distant memories. You might remember the first Speen Festival run in 2001? This was based on a festival founded by Speen villagers Martin and Marjorie Stockley in 1999 to celebrate the passing of the Millennium. Since then, Speen has managed to put on a Festival biennially; perhaps you saw *Three Cheers for Mrs Butler* in 2007, *Honk* in 2009, *The Dreaming* in 2011, or *Grease* in 2013? These Community theatre shows have always started our Festival which now runs for a full 2 weeks, with a fabulous range of musical, artistic, literary, creative and adventurous endeavours for all age groups. Put 6-20th September 2015 in your diaries now!

Finding a show for the Speen Festival, if you don't have time to write one yourself, is a challenge in itself, for our venue is quaint, the cast varied in age and experience and rehearsal time sporadic. This year we happened upon a musical of *The Railway Children*, first produced at the Sevenoaks Playhouse in December 2005 based on the novel by E. Nesbit. Many are familiar with the book, the iconic

film and many may have seen the recent stage adaptation set on real station platforms in Waterloo and Kings Cross (in which a young Speen resident is currently appearing). We may not be able to offer you a real steam train, or another HS2 mock-up equivalent, but we are confident that Speen and its environs, collectively, will assist in finding props, costumes and tunnels to satisfy all. We will be holding two afternoon **prop-making workshops** on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July for ages 12 plus, including adults, so do come along. Speen's "Great Green Dragon Breathing Fire" will, no doubt, be a triumph of community theatre, thanks to the massive voluntary efforts of many. Performances will be 10-12 September.

Every year the children at St John's Combined School, Lacey Green, and other local schools combine with those from Speen C of E School to enjoy an early taste of Speen Festival through SpeenSchoolFest! which, this summer, runs from Monday 22nd June-Thursday 25 June. The creative masterminds behind the Festival will be conjuring up a fusion of artistic endeavour: Indian Bharata Natyam dance will be

choreographed to music from the BBC Ten Pieces project, inspiring parallel art and creative writing activities, and local young musicians and school orchestras will combine to launch the Festival in a celebratory concert. This is creative collaboration at its best for primary school children who are happy to give anything a go!

Planning activities are really getting underway for a full and varied programme for 6-20th September. A flyer will be produced in the coming months, but in the meantime do look out for more information on our website www.speenfestival.org where you can sign up for our newsletter, alternatively LIKE us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter @SpeenFestival

We are very grateful to West Wycombe Decoration and Fine Arts who are supporting SpeenSchoolFest! this year and to Lacey Green Parish Council and many other local organisations and businesses who faithfully support our voluntary endeavours. If you want to sponsor, advertise, or take part in any way just get in touch! director@speenfestival.org

www.speenfestival.org

Horticultural Society

The Horticultural Society enjoys a good range of speakers and social activities throughout the year. We welcome new members, just come along to one of our activities and speak to one of the committee or contact John Burnett, membership secretary on 01844 345216.

We have just taken part in a competition with other horticultural societies in Bucks, the BAHS Spring Show held this year at Kimble. We entered two domestic items and two horticultural items. Thanks go to David and Joy Lawrence for their Crown of Thorns, to Stella Boll for her meringues and John and Laura for baking. Thanks also to Marcia and Chris Boll for support. Competition is very tough with keen and very experienced horticultural experts. We managed to hold our own however and the pictures with this article show a sample of what we, as a society, entered.

Our next talk on 20th May will be very interesting; coming from a local enterprise. George Bennett of Sandy Lane Farm will be talking about growing organic. We hope to also have a selection of George's produce on sale as well. These talks are designed for general interest, even if you don't intend to grow organically yourself; we all learn something new. If you are interested in vegetable growing particularly we also have an opportunity to visit the garden of John Branham, a keen advocate of the National Vegetable Society and marvellous grower, not only of exhibition vegetables, but all year round tasty eating.

If you would like to go please note that you will have to arrange your own transport, but members will probably have spaces in cars. This is an evening visit, 6.30 on 24th June to John's garden in Wingrave. Please contact a member of the committee as we also need to let them know numbers. There is no charge for this visit; the society will make a donation to the NVS.

Before this in June we have a trip to Hyde Hall in Essex. This is an RHS garden with an interesting history. Check it out on the Internet and if you would like to join us you will need to be a member of the society. Places can be reserved and membership if you need it can be obtained from John Burnett as above. Places are strictly limited. The coach leaves from the Village Hall at 9.45 on Sunday 21st June; last chance to book, subject to availability is June 7th please.

Each year we have a hanging basket competition, but this year it is more open and is simply a container. This leaves possibilities wide open, so if you are growing anything in a container now is your chance to enter it into this fun competition! Judging is in July (date to be finalised at time of going to press). More information about the competition can be found on the village web site. The more imaginative among you will realise that some innovative possibilities arise from a container which has no limitations in size or shape, so why not have a go!



Now is also the time to think about the annual village Horticultural Show on the first Saturday in September. Think about having a go, you never know what you might achieve! There are plenty of categories to enter, including domestic items, jams, jellies, bread and cakes as well as flowers, vegetables, a miniature garden in a seed tray and a photography section with two categories.

We hope to see you soon at one of our activities and wish you a good growing season.

Alison Shreeve



On The Farm

Spring has had a job to arrive, but at last it is here. The grass, wheat and rape wake up and turn a darker green and before long the trees will begin to come out. Look out for which is earliest the oak or the ash.

It is a busy time on the farm. The T.B. test (now annual) was all clear again. Always an anxious time so a great relief. Once again the cattle have been vaccinated against IBR, BVD and leptospirosis and the young cattle also for lung worm. They are nearly ready to go out but before they can we have to check fencing. Some we know will need replacing. The grass will also need fertilizing. By mid May at least half of them should be out.

The EU abolished milk quotas on April 1 this year. The UK has not been restricted for some years as the country kept under quota. Other countries have been over their quota for years, in particular The Netherlands, Ireland and Italy. Those over were charged a superlevy by EU. Milk prices are in free fall. Quota going can only bring more onto the market, adding to the problems. Never have we known such price differences in the UK. There are different contracts farmers can have but it is difficult to change from them. With a supermarket aligned contract Tesco, Sainsbury, Waitrose and M & S have been paying 31-34p litre all winter. Arla, 1/3 of the UK market, has been 24p down from 33p last year. First Milk, another 1/3 are down around 20p litre and with delayed payments their situation is very serious and a number of

producers may be forced to sell up. The average cost of production is around 29p litre. At these prices dairy farming cannot continue for long. Some costs have come down but only 1 or 2p.

Richard is one of a group of nationwide farmers that compare costs of production. Recently they met in North Wales and Cheshire. Farmers are good at talking and open about their costs which helps to achieve best practice. In June the European Dairy Farmers Conference is in Germany, which should be fascinating to see how farming has developed since Germany was unified.

Many farmers rely on subsidy payments to make ends meet. This year a new scheme was agreed in Brussels. The scheme has many new rules and we are trying to get to grips with them. The UK decided the whole application should be online. This February Richard was at the NFU conference in Birmingham when the Rural Payments Agency was very confident that it was online. Recently DEFRA announced that the website cannot deliver, so it is all back to a totally paper system. In the past the RPA has been so poor at delivering payments that they have been fined many millions by the EU.

Back home to the crops. Slurry and farmyard manure have been spread and hopefully by May our maize (for silage) will be planted. Wheat planted last autumn has come well through the winter. Oil seed rape should soon be in flower.

You may have noticed what looks like a poly-tunnel in the rape near Princes Risborough. This is for doing research into bee activity in the rape. It is a crop they love and will go miles for. The honey is very pale and sets very hard.

Cereal prices are in the doldrums and only just covering costs. Beef is not much better. It is unusual for so many sectors to feel the pinch at the same time.

In March we ran two visits for the newly formed 'Children's Outdoor Club'. With ages ranging from about 5 years it was difficult to pitch a meeting at the right level. We were impressed by some of the questions they asked and the interest they showed.

In May we have a party of Chinese dairy farmers coming to visit.

In the Summer Charlotte is going to be running small group visits around the farm in an effort to raise funds for a World Challenge trip she hopes to do. For more details contact Charlotte on 07923433115.

It looks like the maze will not run again this year. It needs a fair bit of input to prepare and it needs two day to day managers to pretty much run the operation. They need a car and are needed from 9.30am to 6.30pm every day throughout the school summer holidays. Maybe we can get it together for next year.

Joan West

Black Horse

I am sitting here with a glass of prosecco in my hand and the sun is shining down. What a lovely few days we have all had. The garden is mown and the play area is up and running for all the children; new bark is down and new trees planted, so we are set for the summer.



The Black Horse beer festival is booked for the weekend of August 22nd and 23rd. John Jones is once again providing us with music on the Saturday which is fantastic, as you all know if you have been before. BBQ and pizzas and plenty of real ales and ciders. Open all day and late into the evening. Sunday will be jazz music and BBQ or if weather is not good normal menu and once again real ales and ciders all day. Please try and support us, come and hear the different musicians on the Saturday {it's a must} and the jazz on the Sunday

This year Easter was one of the best ones in a long time. Not sure why but the weather was

nice and people were enjoying the garden. My staff did an Easter egg challenge (pictured above) they were so good I thought I would share it with you all.

Dom and crib season has now finished. Well done to the Black Lion for winning the league and to the Whip for coming runners up. Aunt Sally starts first week in May, come and watch on a Friday night. And a big well done to my darts team for this season.

In November I had someone come to me for work - a young girl by the name of Beth. She has worked for me till April and I want to say well done, she filled

in so well. She has now left and has gone back to Magaluf for the summer {surely there is more talent and excitement in Lacey Green} anyway she has now left. We will miss you Beth but we will look forward to you coming back in the autumn.

I am also losing Hannah and Kirsty this summer and again they have been two girls I have had the pleasure of working with. I wish them both good luck in their new ventures and I will miss them. Hope you all have a good summer come in and join us for a drink.

Lynne

Princes Risborough Police Office Closure

From the 1st of April 2015 the front counter at Princes Risborough Police Office will close. The decision to make the closure is due to the running costs, the lack of people using the facility and plus the recent changes in technology and document processing which has negated the need for a person to

attend a police station, e.g. driving and vehicle documents can be checked instantly at the roadside which has resulted in a dramatic drop in producers being issued.

High Wycombe or Aylesbury will be the nearest stations where a counter service will still operate.

If you have a general enquiry then please contact the police via the non emergency number which is 101. The number is monitored 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year.

Deane Andrew

Lacey Green Productions

The new LGP Murder Mystery entertainment has been written! It will be performed over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, August 15th and 16th. The “guilty” suspects are all lined up and the murderer has been chosen. Just look at the photo of the suspects – all trying to put the blame onto somebody else!

The title of the show is “The Phar-Phetched Phantom”. The cast has been sworn to secrecy. Of course, you could try bribery to find out the name of the guilty one, but with a murderer about, we don’t recommend it.

The action of “The Phar-Phetched Phantom” takes place in 2025 and with a ghost, a medium, several dogs and peacocks – what can possibly go wrong! As is customary with LGP’s murder mysteries, the audience will have their brains teased to uncover the guilty party. And there will be incredible prizes!

The performances will take place in the afternoon and tea will be served while the audience tries to puzzle out whodunit. The



venue is 67 Manor Park Avenue in Princes Risborough and, if the weather is fine, we may even perform in the open air.

Tickets will soon be available and full details will appear on posters and at our website www.laceygreenproductions.co.uk

LGP is delighted to confirm that, earlier this year, we donated the proceeds from our dinner theatre last November to our charities. We sent £1,000 each to The Princes Centre and to Helen and Douglas House. There was also a smaller donation to the St Mary’s Church in Aylesbury’s Free Christmas

Lunch. With these donations, our donations now total now just over £57,644. Once again a big “thank you” to our audiences for helping us to raise this amount.

In addition to writing and performing our new murder mystery, LGP members are also gearing up for their 2015 dinner theatre production in November in the Village Hall. So now is a good time to join us and take part in any capacity. Please call 01844 344207 or visit our website.

Peter Brookhouse

Risboro Lacemakers

Risboro Lacemakers held their 10th Annual Lace Day in the Village Hall in March and everyone attending had a very enjoyable day. A very good sign is that all the tickets for the 2016 planned Lace Day were sold during the afternoon. To celebrate it being the 10th Lace Day, two celebration cakes were enjoyed.

These cakes were cut by the oldest participant aged 92 yrs, and the youngest a teenager.

As a result of the day we were able to send £450 to the Chiltern Air Ambulance,

Jill Baker



Meet the Parish Council Chairman



When I went to the launch of the First Responder vehicle (see page 30) I bumped into Cathryn Davies who was attending in her role as Chairman of the Parish Council. I realised that I knew little about the Parish Council so a week later I went to her offices in Widmer Farm to see Cathryn and learn more.

Cathryn explained that the role of the Parish Council is to represent the interests of our three villages in council matters and to give advice on local issues to the District and County councils. For instance all planning applications are sent to the Parish Council and one of the councillors is tasked to review each application and comment. Parish Councillors also sit on local forums and consultative bodies to represent us.

Recently the County Council has delegated some maintenance tasks (and budget) to parish councils and they are now responsible for grass cuttings within the 30 mph zone and maintenance of signage.

Our Parish Council has got together with Princes Risborough Town Council to do these tasks, and you will occasionally see Risboro Town council vehicles working in the village.

The Parish Council is also responsible for the upkeep of local ponds, the children's play area on the sports field and the Garden of Rest at the Methodist Chapel site.

When the Chapel was demolished there was considerable uncertainty about the future of the burial ground; eventually the Parish Council stepped in and bought the site for the village at a nominal cost. There is a general shortage of grave space so it will benefit those villagers who in future wish to be buried in a non-denominational grave yard.

The parish is quite wide-ranging stretching from Kop Hill in the north to Hemley Hill on the other side of the A4010, to Smalldean Lane and Greenwood opposite the RAF base, plus the whole of Speen.

There are normally 5 councillors representing Lacey Green and Loosley Row with a further 2 councillors representing Speen.

The Council is due for election this month, however as only 6 people stood they have all been elected without a vote. There is still one vacancy, so if you are interested contact Cathryn as they may decide to co-opt an additional councillor to fill the vacancy.

Cathryn herself has been Chairman of the Council for 8 years and some of the other councillors have been in post for many years and know all the history of the village development.

I asked Cathryn what her motivation is to be on the Parish Council. She told me that she likes to be in a position where she can work for the village and put something back into the local community.

Cathryn is a very busy person with many other interests. The majority of her time is spent working with her family on the various local business they have based at Widmer Farm.

Many of us pet owners will be aware of the Widmer Feeds pet shop which is a massive warehouse catering for the needs of all pets from gerbils through to horses. They also sell small animals, some fish and birds and chickens. Cathryn is keen to make the place attractive for kids to visit and is planning a pat-a-pet area.

Though she no longer rides herself, she is very involved with her two daughters running the livery yard and equestrian training school on the Widmer farm site. They also host the Lacey Green Polo Club who have competitive matches on her fields every weekend throughout the summer.

See the Parish Council website at www.laceygreen-pc.co.uk for more details.

Mike Piercy

A Space P



Cramped music lessons in unsympathetic classrooms will soon be a thing of the past at St John's. An innovative architecture project is under way to design and build an imaginative new music pavilion providing a dedicated home for music lessons.

The project is based at Grymsdyke Farm. The pavilion will not be built by conventional builders but by a community of architecture students based at the farm. These are architects who want to get hands-on with the fabrication and building process rather than being constrained to paper based designs.

Clementine Blakemore (pictured right) is the project designer and the pavilion is her final design thesis for the Royal College of Art, where she is completing her Masters in Architecture.

She has been working on the project for the past 9 months, creating the design, sourcing all the materials needed for construction.

The building is an imaginative wooden structure built with an interlocking lattice of tapered timber members. The design reflects this area's history in wood working and local tile making.

The intricate timber shapes have been designed on the computer

and have been manufactured by a massive computer driven cutting bed (CNC router). When I visited Grymsdyke Farm at Easter the timbers that will form the building were all laid out on this 3-metre long cutting bed and the saw was whizzing away, darting all over the place, cutting intricate mortice and tenon joints - completely unattended.

The building will be carried out in stages. During Easter all the timbers were cut and prepared ready for construction. During the May half-term break the building shell will then be erected. Initially it will be roofed with black weatherboarding but Clem is working with a traditional tile making company in Chesham to see if they can manufacture tiles specifically designed for the pavilion.

At first the building will be open to the air but can be used for concerts and events. During the following year the building will be fitted out inside and will then be used as a music classroom and small studio. Some parents with relevant skills and interests are participating and working with the designer on aspects such as acoustic properties and textiles.



Carrying the side wall into place



Assembled lattice pieces

You may not know that Grymsdyke Farm is an architectural research and fabrication centre. The farm provides a communal centre where practitioners and students can experiment with materials and design.

The centre was founded and is led by the architect and educator Dr Guan Lee from the Royal College of Art. As well as the CNC milling machine described above, the centre also has 3D printing, ceramics kilns and a robotic arm from the car industry.

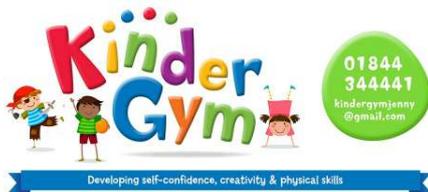
They host visiting groups of students from various architectural

colleges who need access to this type of workshop to build their projects. They also have a speciality in creative uses of Lacey Green clay to form unusual structures.

If you are interested in reading more try www.grymsdykefarm.com, <http://wrkshp.org/lacey-green/> and www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/architecture-design-blog/2014/aug/08/clay-robotics-architecture-chilterns-farm



Mike Piercy *Clem discussing the build*



We are now back at Kindergym, having had a lovely week of Easter workshop activities. I was very impressed with the concentration displayed during our egg and spoon races, and like to think that Kindergym prepares children for all aspects of school life even these significant sports day events.

See if you can spot the child who is cheating in the photo! Her Mum spotted it- I didn't!

We have welcomed lots of new children and have handed out the certificates for those who have achieved our Bronze, Silver or Gold Certificates, by completing the relevant milestones. To obtain each certificate the child must achieve proficiency in several different skill sets.

For example the Bronze certificate includes:

- Climbing: the child can turn around on a trestle
- Hand to eye co-ordination: the child can put hoops on a cone
- Aerobic: the child can jump on two feet
- Balancing: the child can walk on a plank
- Social: the child can take turns (well mostly!!)

The children are quite rightly very proud of these, as you can see.

We hope everyone has fun at Kindergym. We certainly do, but we hope we provide support and all the relevant equipment for each child to develop their confidence, learning to attempt things they are not so good at, as well as improve in the areas that they are comfortable with.



Jenny Stothard

Tennis Club

It is nice to be writing this article in the evening sunshine of early April. What a difference the extra hour makes! Men's evening tennis has now commenced and runs from 6.30pm every Monday in April and then 7pm from May to early September. The ladies play on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am, and Friday afternoons at 1.30pm with plans to start an evening session as well. Junior tennis coaching continues on a Saturday morning at 9.45am for the under tens and 10.30am for the over tens.

We were very pleased to have our new shed erected in early March. This was 50% funded by Bucks Lawn Tennis Association and gives us a much needed storage area for our equipment. Assistance with the painting of the shed proved very popular amongst our junior members! Anthony, Duncan, and Scott spent a couple hours applying a "Wimbledon green" shade, to make the shed look very smart. It was fantastic to have the juniors involved in our maintenance projects.

The new shed marks the start of our transformation. We have now appointed Chiltern Contractors to resurface and re-fence court 1 and re-fence part of court 2. This together with the resurfacing of Court 2 around 2 years ago, will give the club the best facilities it has had in over 25 years.

I am also pleased to say that Richard West has very kindly agreed to rent us a small portion of his field off Slad Lane next to the courts. We have recently submitted a planning application

to change the use of the land so that members can park their cars next to the courts. Members will then be able to access the courts via a new gate at the back of court 2, and if approved, this will be a major improvement for the club going forward.

To finance this expenditure, it is pleasing to note that our membership income continues to grow and our fund raising activities have also been a major boost. In addition, we have been successful in our application to become a Community Amateur Sports Club. This has major tax reliefs for the Club, the major one being the ability to claim gift aid on voluntary donations.

We knew that in order to carry out this level of expenditure we would need the financial help of our members, and gift aid was a trick we couldn't miss. So far, we have members willing to donate £6,750 which with gift aid turns into over £8,400! Thank you so much to our loyal members, who share the same vision as that of the Committee.

Our Summer BBQ will be on Sunday 14th June and is open to non-members as well. Tickets cost £25 for a family ticket, £10 for an adult ticket and £5 for a junior ticket. This includes free junior coaching, full BBQ lunch and ice cream. There will also be a bouncy castle and a friendly adult competition in the afternoon. If you would like a ticket please email: laceygreentennis@gmail.com.

Finally, if you would like to join the tennis club, application forms can be downloaded by typing "LTA Lacey Green" into Google and then by clicking on "how to join". Juniors are welcome to join on their own and membership is just £25 for the under tens and £35 for 11-24 year olds in full time education.

I look forward to a great summer of tennis!

Nigel Glenister



Windmill WI

Our first meeting for 2015 was in February and our speaker was Nazma Khan talking about Herbal Medicines and Complementary Therapies. This was a very interesting talk and we learnt a lot about the different herbs used in medicines.

Our March speaker was Sandra Hurst who told us about her experiences when taking bibles to China.

Also in March we had one of our bi-annual jumble sales. This is always an enjoyable event. We have a very good cake stall and a tombola which is very popular. We spent the morning sorting and setting up tables, had a good lunch at the Black Horse, then a busy afternoon selling and then cleared up the village hall. This event raises money for us to have good speakers at our meetings.

At the end of March a few of us went to the Group Meeting at Naphill Village Hall. Naphill WI

was the host institute. After all the reports were read we were entertained by The Lamphouse Singers. They were a local group of singers who were very good, we all thoroughly enjoyed them.

The Millennium Hall Committee have agreed to an installation of a Defibrillator at the Village Hall and to start our April meeting members of the village were invited to join us and we had a South Central Ambulance man giving us training and advice on the use of the Defibrillator. The talk was very concise and at the end we all felt we had the knowledge to use the Defibrillator.

We then had our normal meeting and our speaker was John Pearson whose talk was entitled 'Blessed are the Cheesemakers'. John had worked for many years for a well known retailer and he kept us amused with the things that customers said about products and also their complaints. He had dealt mainly with bread, milk and

cheese and we learnt a lot about these foods. His talk finished with us sampling different cheeses. This was a very entertaining talk.

On the 22nd April there is a BFWI Annual Council Meeting at the Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury. Some of our members are attending, one of the Guest Speakers is Jo Fairley co-founder of Green & Black's organic chocolate.

This year is the 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WI so we are having lots of celebrations.

In June there is a party at Waddesdon Manor and in July we are joining with St. John's Church when they are having a Flower Festival.

There are lots of other things to look forward to, so why not join your local WI? We meet on the 1st Wednesday in the month at the Village Hall at 7.45 pm - you would be very welcome.

Anne Bartlett

A Corner of a Foreign Field

As the centenary of the death of celebrated First World War poet, Rupert Brooke, approaches on April 23rd, a pub in rural Buckinghamshire is preparing to mark the death of probably its most famous regular! At a time of national events, such as last year's poppies at the Tower of London, local pub, The Pink and Lily, has a very special connection with one of the 'Great War' poets.

The Pink and Lily was a favourite haunt of Rupert Brooke, whose most famous work, 'The Soldier', regularly appears in lists of the nations top ten favourite poems.

Best known for the lines, 'If I should die, think only this of me/That there's some corner of a foreign field/That is, forever, England', Rupert Brooke, along with some famous friends, including Virginia Woolf, used to stop off at this historic pub whilst walking through the beautiful Chiltern scenery surrounding it.

Commemorated at the pub with a wood panelled bar covered in photos of the poet and his friends and known, in memoriam as 'The Brooke Bar', Rupert Brooke even went as far as to compose a poem praising the pub! This verse, again framed and hung on the wall in

the Brooke Bar, describes the poet and his portrait painter friend, Jacques Raverat: 'Never came there to the Pink/Two such men as we I think/Never came there to the Lily/Two such men so richly silly'.

Rupert Brooke sailed with the British Expeditionary Force but died ironically from an infected mosquito bite without firing a single shot. Jody Johnson, landlady at The Pink, said 'Rupert Brooke's legacy lives on at his favourite pub, The Pink and Lily.'

Lara O'Connor

School Outdoor Club

It was a chilly late March morning. A group of children assembled outside the gates. Neither they nor their accompanying parents could wait to see inside the mysterious compound. They had heard the rumours; one of the parents lived on the perimeter. She had told of strange noises, mysterious coming and goings in the night. And now they were all going to SEE INSIDE . HOW EXCITING ...As the hour chimed, a mysterious, dashing figure opened the gate.

It was Richard West, accompanied by his daughter Charlotte! They gave us a most interesting tour of Stocken Farm. Everyone loved it, and he repeated it for 30 more of us a week later. We learned that cows need to keep giving birth to produce milk (of course I knew that !), and that wireless pedometers hooked up to a computer can tell you when a mummy cow is ready to be... ahem....wellRichard glossed over that bit with a slightly discernible twinkle in his eye.

This was the inaugural event of the new Outdoor Club. The inspiration was my 6 year old daughter, pupil at the school, who I felt needed to be rescued from Ipads, Ipods, minion rush, pacman, my little pony, DVDs, Netflix kids, and a 52 inch flat screen TV. It's not as though my own childhood was all jumping down from a hayrick and spitfiring through alpine meadows pursued by Julie Andrews. But we *were* freer to come and go then...

Next it was Chris Dignan's turn. Equally public spirited, Chris insisted on coming despite the fact that his young son was being operated on. He greatly intrigued the kids with his statistics.....did you know that if the sun was the size of a grain of sand, the nearest star in the Milky Way would be 18 miles away, the furthest as far away as the moon? We also saw the International Space Station pass overhead, and wondered what the astronauts were doing inside. And we saw Jupiter, Venus and the constellations.

Then it was the turn of multi-talented Tracey and Ian Chitson, parents of Fable. We met up in the Hampden Arms garden (graciously lent to us by Louise the landlady, parent of Evie, who sold the refreshments in aid of the school). We went to find sticks....the woods were alive with the sounds of ...stick finding! Then with a bit of magical help we turned them into wands. And then we were disappointed when we couldn't postpone bed time using them.

Finally, most recently, Paul Green from the Risborough Countryside Group gave us a truly fascinating prehistory tour of Whiteleaf Hill, and let the kids handle Roman things he had excavated.

A small fee per child per event raises money for the school. It all adds up. Sincere thanks to all who have helped and those about to help; I shall thank them retrospectively in the next article.

Don't miss our fundraiser astronomy hour on May 26th, (falling back to the 28th if it rains) hosted by Chris Dignan and open to all folks of all ages and their friends. Please all come, watch out for posters around the village. Chris is bringing a telescope and Saturn will be up. After contemplating the size of space, your cares will shrink to the size of a grain of sand, and if you've got kids they'll love it; in fact, it'll be a bigger blast than Apollo V!

Ed Mueller

St John's School Parents Association Outdoor Club

Presents "An Hour Of Star Gazing" led by Chris Dignan

Naphill Village Hall Playing Fields 26th May 10pm

Falling Back To 28th May 10pm if it is cloudy on the 26th

Open to all ages (and bring your neighbours and friends), including those with no connection to the school or the village.

£3 per person. Except adults accompanying children go free. In aid of the school.

Come and look at Saturn through Chris' telescope!

Just turn up with your £3 or if you would like to register in advance, email outdoorclubhp27@gmail.com, and we can tell you if the event is on or not on the day

Solar Eclipse - March 20



We last met in August 1999 to observe the Solar Eclipse, so when the astronomers told us that this would happen again on Friday 20th March at Lacey Green with over 80 percent of the Sun covered we decided to celebrate this event again.

By eight o'clock in the morning the telescopes were set up and we repeated the event of sixteen years ago. It is remarkable that the astronomers could tell us precisely when the Eclipse would happen hundreds of years before, but the forecasters could not tell us what the weather would be like in even one hour's time.

As the moment approached we gathered around the telescope and a dozen spectators put on their special glasses. The maximum eclipse was at 9.31 am but at Lacey Green we could not

see the Eclipse due to the clouds. The sceptics among us were already in the warm seeing the Eclipse by courtesy of the BBC.

The hardened scientists continued to keep watch and to our delight at 10.10 the partial Sun peeped through the clouds. Everyone shouted with joy and our glasses were charged with champagne.

We went back indoors, ate our eggs and bacon, drank our coffee and of course penciled a date in our diaries for the 12th August 2027.

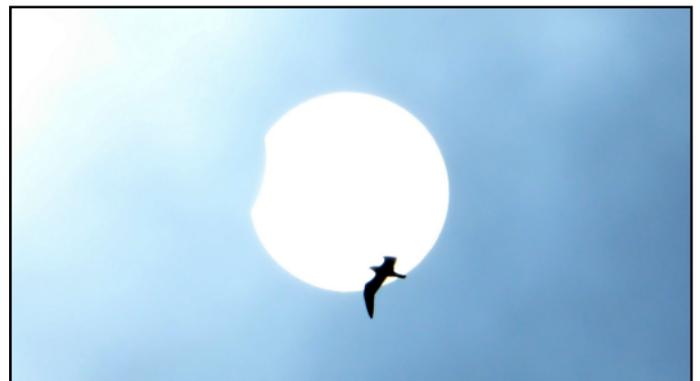
Text Ronnie and Liz Lewin

Photographs by Andrew and Jane Brown



Andrew Brown told me "The eclipse pictures only captured the shape of the latter stage of the eclipse once the clouds started to thin. I did however snap the Red Kite observing our gathering!"

Editor



Happy Wanderers



Sunday January 25th

Sixteen of us from The Happy Wanderers Club set off from The Gate pub in Bryants Bottom to complete a circular walk of approximately three and a half miles. The walk was not difficult but did take in a couple of short, steep climbs.

We were fortunate that it was not too muddy. We climbed from the road, up through Piggotts Wood and then turned into the wood. That took us along the top of the valley so we had some pleasant views over the valley and of North Dean and the edge of Speen.

We reached Speen climbing, gently through Spring Coppice

Woods, then through the fields and across the road (with lots of snowdrops at the crossing point) and up to the top of Denner Hill.

We had very pleasant weather and again had lovely views across from the other side of the valley. We continued along the top of Denner Hill and dropped down through the fields to finish up with lunch at The Gate.

Edie & Johnny Radford

AGM 2015

The AGM of the Happy Wanderers took place at the Millennium Hall at Lacey Green on Sunday 22nd February.

Members met before the start of the AGM to look at pictures of the ten Chiltern walks during the year and the weekend away to the Cambridge area.

The AGM was a joyful occasion when the business was promptly conducted by our Chairman Ian Goodearl.



It is encouraging to note that we have a membership of around fifty, including several new people together with our mascot Badger.

The AGM over, the members brought out their sandwiches and over a glass of wine the traditional raffle was held in aid of the Air Ambulance Association, who provide a valuable service to walkers in the Chiltern Hills.

The morning finished with a local walk to celebrate the beautiful area in which we live.

Ronnie and Liz Lewin

Princes Trust fund raising

Since the last update, the trustees have been able to view the detailed plans of the Princes Centre buildings. The best place for siting a wheelchair lift so as to access all three levels of the building would involve resiting the kiln, and the transfer of other services located in that area. This would involve further investigations and expense.

Therefore it has been decided, for the time being, to proceed only with the insulation, and replacement of the large windows in the Peter Robinson

room. Fresh quotations are being sought. We will work towards achieving other major projects prioritising them according to urgency.

As a result of their fundraising efforts, the staff have funded the installation of two sets of double patio doors in the Lower Hall which has improved the temperature in that area.

The Risborough Cares Charity, without which this Centre would have been hard-pressed to survive, has now achieved its

purpose and is in the process of being closed. It was established in 2000, to try and prevent the closure of the Day Centre. The trustees would like to extend a huge thank you to all the people and local organisations who contributed to this charity over the years. As a result of their generosity the trustees were able to channel many thousands of pounds to help the Day Centre keep functioning over the last 15 years.

Maggie Wooster

Community First Aid

This month there have been two local developments to improve emergency cover for medical emergencies, especially heart failure.

Mobile First Responders

On 10th April at Saunderton Golf Club, Risboro Garage handed over a new vehicle to be used by the Community First Responders.



Princes Risborough have 8 Community First Responders who work on a rota basis to provide vital around the clock life-saving skills, such as the use of the automated external defibrillator (AED). They provide early and often vital intervention for patients suffering life-threatening emergencies in the immediate vicinity of where they live or work (including LG & LR).

The Princes Risborough team currently share 5 life-saving equipment kits to answer emergency calls in Princes Risborough and surrounding villages. The potential for them to arrive on scene before an ambulance, especially in rural areas, is vital in providing immediate life-saving treatment. These extra minutes do help to save lives.

Mike Piercy

Millennium Hall Defibrillator

Lacey Green is the second location to have a Public Access Defibrillator available as part of the project to bring more of these life saving devices into rural areas. On April 1 South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) staff gave a talk on how and when to use the device which is now available to the general public.

If treatment to stabilise a patient's heart is provided quickly then the patient has a much improved chance of making a full recovery. "We want to give people in trouble an increased chance of survival", SCAS said. "The defibrillator installed at the Hall is the same as the units that are supplied to the SCAS teams. The units are easy to use and, through an audio function, take the user through a series of steps to ensure that the correct help is given. This includes how to prepare the patient, when to 'shock' the patient and when to give CPR."

The Defibrillator is quickly and easily accessible by anyone to use. It is housed in a green cabinet at the side of the Millennium Hall. (see photo top right).

In a 999 emergency, the Ambulance operator will direct the caller to the Defibrillator location and advise how to use the machine up to the time medical assistance arrives. Please take a few minutes to ensure that you know where to go as in an emergency, minutes lost could mean a great deal.

If you would like to help with the project or become one of the growing team of First Responders then please give SCAS a call on **01869 365 000** or email paulrogerson1@btinternet.com



What to do

A heart stopping does not necessarily mean old age. In March 2012, a very fit young Arsenal footballer collapsed on the field. He wasn't saved by the consultant in the crowd or his trainer but by the girl in the office using a defibrillator. Think also of a toddler falling in the garden paddling pool.

Simple to use - Every second counts

After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone's chance of survival.

The most important thing is to call 999 and start CPR. If you're on your own, don't interrupt the CPR but, when you can, send someone else to make the call.

When you call 999, the operator can tell you the access code to the defibrillator at the Village Hall. Don't delay or interrupt chest compressions to get it, send someone else.

If you are not trained in CPR, do chest compressions until help arrives. For adults, place the heel of your hand in the middle of their chest. Put your other hand on top of the first with your fingers interlaced. Compress the chest by 2 inches.

It's normal to feel pops and snaps when you first begin chest compressions - DON'T STOP! You're not going to make the victim worse.

Leigh Axe

St John's Church



Easter at St John's

We had a wonderful week of Easter Services with Compline said each evening along with the Choir adding their music and voices to the lovely services. On Tuesday an Agape Supper took place in the Upper Room before Compline, which was attended by some 30 people and it was a great time of fellowship. On Good Friday, following the Last Hour, the wooden Cross was erected on the corner of Church Lane. On Easter Eve we had the Easter Liturgy service and this was followed by a celebration with Simnel Cake and wine. On Sunday morning the Cross had, as usual, been decorated by a parishioner who provides the daffodils each year and for which we are truly grateful. Our Easter Sunday service began at the Cross with prayers and hymns before processing to the Church for the main service.

Our Choir sang beautifully throughout the week, the Church was decorated wonderfully and thanks to everyone who contributed to the celebrations in any way!

Pat Rushmere

Your Parish Church

Both for theological reasons and for historical reasons, the Church of England seeks to be a "via media", a middle way, trying to embrace the best of the insights of historic Christendom both Catholic and Reformed, as well as maintaining a visible presence in every parish and community.

This means that we seek to be an inclusive church and that we are fully committed to working with those of other Christian denominations, and indeed with those of other historic world faiths where this serves the greater good of wider society.

For me this means that being a local church requires us to offer the best that we can to God in our worship. It means building community within and across the family of the church, and it means looking outwards to the wider parish and wider society in order to serve God's loving purposes in the world which he has created.

In all three of these elements of being a local church we would want to say that we are seeking to proclaim the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ, both in our words and in our deeds. So I find it to be a helpful mnemonic to think of all this in terms of the three "Cs" – "communion" with God, "community" with each other, "communication" with the wider world.

As what might be termed a "manifesto" for mission and ministry, this means for me that we are here to work in partnership with others, whoever they may be, in serving our three villages of Lacey Green, Loosley

Row, and Speen; and playing a full part in local community life.

It means that, as a Church, we aim to offer a generous welcome and gracious hospitality to everyone. And it means that we are seeking to serve our local community and the wider parish both through our life of prayer for our local community and for those who live here; and also in practical outreach and pastoral care. So there can never be any question of a local parish church congregation such as St. John's ever being a "holy huddle", simply preoccupied with our own affairs. We do indeed aspire to be visibly and actively at the heart of the life of our local community, both individually and collectively.

My wife Pat and I have been most delighted to have received such a warm welcome to St. John's, and from the wider community, since our arrival here last October.

On a personal level, I am most encouraged by so many things about our local parish church; and not least the strength of our music tradition, the active engagement in work with children and young people, the sound gender balance within our congregation, the robust management of our church finances, our strong relationships with our two church schools, and our positive approach to being a member church of the Risborough Team Ministry.

I do feel that there is so much for which we can celebrate and be thankful, and so much to look forward to in the years to come.

Tony Bundock
Vicar of St. John's

Community Planning Group

Lacey Green Stores

The store has been operating now for over 5 years, and is still going well. We believe that it is valued by residents, although we would welcome a greater number of customers.

It is run by a dedicated team of volunteers and we would like to have more of them, in order to spread the workload better, and perhaps to enable the opening hours to be extended. Please support this village facility by becoming a volunteer yourself. Even a couple of hours occasionally is very useful and takes less than 0.3 percent of your time!

Click and collect

Last November, the Bucks Library Service started the first pilot scheme in the county enabling

members of the library to order books on-line. The books are delivered to Lacey Green Stores on Monday morning, and are available for collection, and subsequent return.

It's free provided you are 65 or over and the book is available from any Bucks library. On the library website you can search for particular titles, authors or subjects, and also check your previous borrowings. This last facility is quite useful and may stop you reading something for the fourth time!

You can get on to the website at home, or if you are not connected to the Internet, you can come into the Stores and do it there. The shop volunteer will be able to help, if necessary.

Welcome Pack

We try to ensure that anyone moving into the Parish from outside receives a Welcome Pack. A slight problem is knowing when someone has moved in, and we would ask all Hallmark readers to keep an eye out for newcomers, and to let us know as soon as possible.

One of the things included in the pack is a list of businesses in the Parish, and it is quite surprising just how many there are. Quite a number of them are one man/woman bands, operating out of private homes, and there is a substantial collection of small businesses in Woodway.

Tony Molesworth

(01844 344975)

molechem@yahoo.co.uk

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MOTORS
AND
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HOUSEHOLD
HOLIDAY
TRAVEL

Heavenly Bodies

"There is not, perhaps, another object in the heavens that presents us with such a variety of extraordinary phenomena as the planet Saturn: a magnificent globe." So wrote Sir William Herschel, discoverer of Uranus, in 1805. My chosen words 200 years later when I saw Saturn through a telescope were: "Wow! Look at that!" I was on my own, unfortunately, so those words never made it into a compendium of great quotes. It was just after midnight, two days after Christmas Day, with a festive temperature of -2 degs C. I shall never forget that moment which launched me into the fascinating world of astronomy. I wanted to know how big the planet was, how far away it was, why does it have rings...?

Well, the chance to see Saturn with the naked eye, as well as a telescope, is with us. Thankfully, it is warmer than my first introduction. The ringed jewel will be at its closest to Earth this year on **23 May** (still almost 1 billion miles away) and is best seen in May and June. It stays fairly low in the sky, and can be spotted near the top of the three stars which form the head of Scorpius (see diagram). On the evening of 1

June, our Moon will sit just to the left of the planet, making it easy to find. To the naked eye, Saturn looks like a fairly bright, yellow-ish 'star'. When Galileo first saw Saturn in the early 1600s, his meagre telescope showed two fuzzy 'blobs' either side of the planet, which he thought must be two moons. However, it wasn't long before Christiaan Huygens – and his superior telescope – resolved the blobs into the ring system.

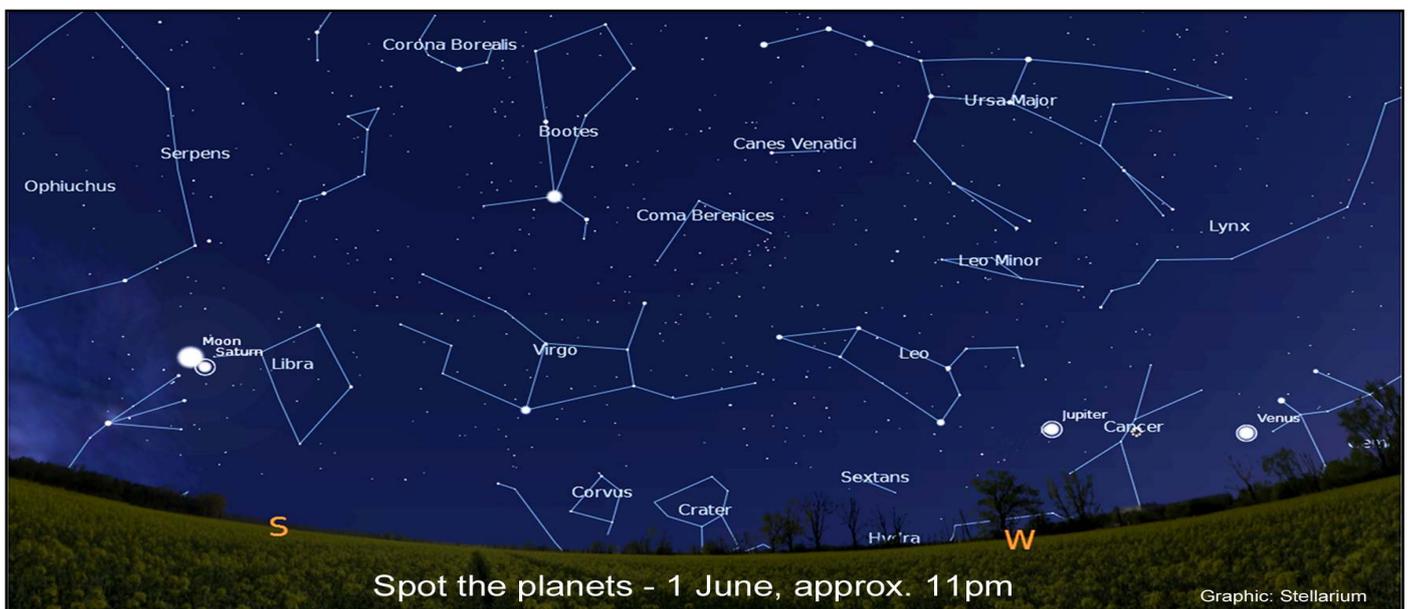
You need just a modest telescope to see the rings properly, and the gap between them known as the Cassini Division. Saturn is a gas (mainly hydrogen) giant, and is the only planet that would float in water, if you could find an ocean large enough to put it in. Its rings consist of millions of orbiting ice chunks, which are thought to be the remnants of a small moon torn apart by Saturn's gravity. The rings brighten on **23 May** when the Sun's light falls on them directly rather than at an angle.

The next two most spectacular planets are also still visible. Jupiter, the second brightest of our planets, appears to be chasing the brightest, Venus, across the sky (although of course Jupiter is

hundreds of millions of miles further away from us than nearby Venus). Watch them shortly after sunset throughout June and see the King of the Planets eventually catch up with the Goddess of Love at the end of the month. They then gracefully and gradually part from each other's company. Also look out for the thin crescent Moon acting as cosmic 'gooseberry' on the **19 and 20 June** when it glides underneath the two planets. Before all that, the crescent Moon can be seen beneath Venus on **21 May**, and then Jupiter two evenings later. It all promises to be quite a sight, and I sincerely hope at least one of them gives you the "Wow factor"!

In aid of St John's CofE Combined School, Lacey Green, I'll be holding a sky-gazing session at the field by Naphill Village Hall, Main Road, on Tuesday **26th May** from 10pm-11.15pm (if weather bad, postponed to 28 May). I'll bring a telescope to let people view Saturn etc. Adults and accompanied children are invited - £3 per adult, children go free. All proceeds go to school funds.

Chris Dignan



Organisation	Meetings	Contact	Phone	Email address
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Full walk last Sun of the month 10.30	Ronnie Lewin	274961	relewin@btinternet.com
Happy Wanderers Walking Club	Short walk (2-3 miles) 2nd Wed 10.30	Linda Taylor	345261	
Horticultural Society	3rd Wed of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov. 8 pm	Alison Shreeve		a.shreeve1@btinternet.com
Kinder Gym & Melody Minors	Baby to 5 years. Fridays during term. After school classes for up to Year 3	Jenny Stothard Gabby Kenny	344441 07793 80745	jennystothard@btinternet.com
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time	Denise Kinnard		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. 7.45 pm	Daphne Willash	01494 562455	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District U3A	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 7.30 pm	Joan Smith	342322	joansmith38@googlemail.com
Over 50s Pub Lunch Club	Black Horse. First Tuesday of the month	Betty Tyler Yvonne Axe	344606 345216	
Short Mat Bowls Club	Monday 2 pm	Leigh Axe	345216	leigh@laceygreen.com
LG Sports Club Secretary		Stephanie Dell	07768 831196	steph.dell@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Cricket		Jonathan Dell	07786 386912	
LG Sports Club - Tennis		Nigel Glenister	342771	ne.glenister@btinternet.com
LG Sports Club - Football		Ben Foster	344906	laceygreenfc@hotmail.co.uk
Karate	Monday evenings	Stephen Fincham	07540 531034	stevefincham@sky.com
Whiteleaf Bowmen	Wed, Thu & Fri evenings, Apr to Sep	Brenda Cordwell, Sec	01494 485037	www.whiteleafbowmen.org.uk
Pilates Classes	Tuesday mornings	Sue Croxford	346656	susancroxford@gmail.com
Wycombe District Council		TBA		
Bucks County Council		Carl Etholen	01494 564771	cetholenn@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Pat Richards	345452	
LG Community Planning Group		Tony Molesworth	344975	molechem@yahoo.co.uk
Scouts (Naphill & Hughenden)		Peter Byerley	01494 565955	peter.byerley@capgemini.com
Parish Council		Susanne Griffiths	275912	sue@princesrisborough.com
LG Post Office	Monday and Thursday 9 am to 12 noon			
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2 to 5 pm 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, which also has breaking news and many additional articles & photos.

HALLMARK EDITOR

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VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Clive or Karen on 01844 274254 (answering service)

LACEY GREEN POST OFFICE

Open Monday and Thursday 9.00 to 12.00

LACEY GREEN STORES

Village Hall 9.00 am - 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)

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

LACEY GREEN WINDMILL

In 2015 Lacey Green Windmill will be open from 2 pm to 5 pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays from Sunday 3rd May to Sunday 27th September. Admission is £2 per adult and £1 per child aged from 5 to 15. For further information see www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk or telephone Michael or Betty Hardy on 01844 275871.

For National Mills Weekend, the windmill will be open on Saturday 9th May (2 pm to 5 pm) and Sunday 10th May (11 am to 5 pm). On Sunday the Village's Horticultural Society will also have their Plant and Produce stall by the windmill, which will also open at 11 am.

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CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE AUGUST EDITION

July 17th 2015