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#### Welcome to the November edition

Autumn is here again, temperatures have plummeted and the annual war with our squirrels and the bird feeder is about to start. - so the cover picture seems particularly relevant. Thanks once again to Barry Chignell for his superb photo. (See bscimages.com)

Most of you will have seen that the Council have decided to close Bledlow tip. I was infuriated when I tried to participate in their "Consultation" process. Their web site explained that BCC already spend less than neighbouring councils on refuse processing sites and they say that the Bledlow tip is busy and popular. However the consultation process gave no option to object to their

decision, just a question of whether they should also close the tip at Burnham; a total waste of time.

The government have just approved the County Council plans to scrap the District Councils in Bucks and have a single unitary council. We can hope that removing one layer of bureaucracy will save money and improve services, but I think that councils these days are much more focused on cutting services rather than improving them. I suppose that I should be positive and hope for the best.

St John's School have just advertised for a new Head Teacher so hopefully there will be news of an appointment for our next edition of Hallmark.



Mike Piercy Editor

## LAŒEY ©REEN SINŒERS

Happy Autumn! The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is upon us, along with some fantastic leaf colours.

We've had a great autumn term so far at LGS. On Friday 12th October we held our slightly late summer concert "Lacey Green Goes Green". We arranged the School Hall in a more intimate way, with chairs in curved rows, bringing the audience and choir nearer, and decorated it with posies of beautiful flowers in autumnal hues. The songs we sang all had a nature theme. The choir sang a range of pieces, including All Things Bright and Beautiful by John Rutter, Rule the

World by Take That and Like a Singing Bird by Bob Chilcott. Carla Galvin performed Somewhere Over the Rainbow and a solo, and the altos sang What a Wonderful World. The concert was very well received by the audience and there was plenty of good chatter over the usual wonderful refreshments.

At the end of the concert we said a fond farewell to our Musical Director, Lucy Twaite. Lucy joined us a couple of years ago, bringing her energy and liveliness to our choir and leading us in some great music making. We all wish Lucy such good luck with her future and say a big thank you to her for all of her hard work.

I'm pleased to announce that Jack Insley has taken over as Musical Director. Jack has been involved in our concerts in

recent years as an instrumentalist and is now taking the conductor's baton. We have started learning pieces for our Christmas concert and we very much look forward to working with lack.

Our Christmas carol concert, with choir pieces and audience carols, will be on Sunday 2nd December, at 6pm in the Millennium Hall. Tickets for this concert are always in demand, so please email <a href="mailto:laceygreensingers@hotmail.com">laceygreensingers@hotmail.com</a> to book.

From all at LGS, have a happy autumn and we hope to see you at our Christmas concert for a good festive sing!

Billy Stott Chairman

#### What's On

#### Sat 17 Nov 10am

Church Christmas Fayre

29 Nov - Dec I LGP Dinner Theatre

24 - 25 Nov

Hearing Dogs Xmas Market

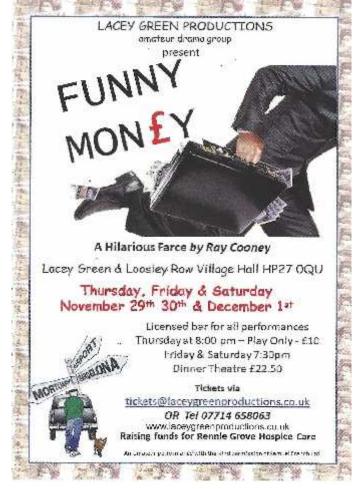
#### Sun 2 Dec 6pm

Christmas Carol Concert - Village Hall

#### Wed 16 Jan 8pm

Horts Soc - "Botanical Painting"

See page 27 for Church Christmas services





#### Christmas Fayre and Coffee Morning

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018 10:00 am -2:00pm



Lacey Green Millennium Hall Main Road, Lacey Green

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We are delighted to have been selected as one of the Co-op's local causes. This raises funds for charities when local people use the Co-op's shops or services. Please, please phone up or log into your Co-op account and select Windmill Under 5s as your local cause! We are raising much-needed funds to promote our "healthy foods, healthy bodies, healthy minds" initiative. We will use the funds to develop our outdoor space, get the children involved in growing plants and produce, and invest in new resources to promote exercise and emotional resilience.

#### **Emotional resilience**

We are hugely grateful to have been awarded a grant by the Rolland Callingham Foundation. This will help us set the foundations for "healthy minds"; building self-esteem and resilience by equipping children from a young age with strategies to meet modern life's challenging moments. We will use funds to develop our mindfulness programme, enabling us to purchase resources to share with Windmills' families and to train our staff team. A huge thank you to Zettie for all the mindfulness expertise she has so generously shared, and to Rachael for securing the grant.

## Extending our sessions

We are keen to stay relevant to local families and have long been asked whether we can offer longer sessions, which are particularly useful to working families and those doing a school run. We are really pleased to be in a position to offer two sessions per week to 3pm (Tuesdays and Wednesdays) from early November.

## Welcoming two year olds

We have also opened our doors to two year olds in response to requests from parents. The transition has been a smooth one, with the younger and older children mixing well together. The teaching team has done an amazing job of adapting the setting to meet the needs of the various ages; adapting the curriculum, finding stimulating activities for all age groups, and providing a quiet area for the younger children to retreat to if needed.

## Celebrating all things autumnal

The autumn term is always the quietest, once we have said a fond farewell to our school leavers. I've had the privilege of spending more time in the setting recently, and have loved seeing the older children taking charge and nurturing the new starters, all of whom have settled so well into life at Windmills.

The children have been enjoying plenty of time outside; kicking about in the autumn leaves, enjoying the refurbished pirate ship climbing frame, and collecting lots and lots of conkers! The children are so fortunate to be able to expend their energy on the neighbouring sports field and we are very

grateful to those volunteers from the Sports Club who work so hard to maintain it.

This half-term the children have been putting their culinary skills to good use; making (and sampling!) pumpkin soup, mixing ingredients, rolling out dough, cutting out gingerbread shapes and going wild with icing bags, to celebrate the story of The Gingerbread Man (see photo below).

We ended the half-term with our customary Halloween party, where Windmills children welcome back those who have left for school, for a celebration of spooky games and tasty treats. A big thank you to Natasha for all her hard work organising the event and to those who helped out.

#### A new committee

Autumn is also the term in which we hold our Annual General Meeting and elect our committee for the coming year. We've had such amazing engagement from our committee this year and I'm grateful for the huge amount of .../continued



#### Windmill WI

On a hot July day 13 of us walked through the woods from Walters Ash to Downley, where we had a lovely lunch in the Le De Spencers Arms, then strolled back, fortunately in the shade.

Our speaker for our meeting in August was Jeff Rozelaar who talked about his book 'Bagels and Bacon'. Jeff was an excellent speaker and told us many stories about his life in the postwar East End. This month we also enjoyed our Summer Lunch at the Black Horse. Lynne prepared a beautiful spread and closed the pub for us.

In September we celebrated our 31st Birthday Meeting with wine and a birthday cake. Our speaker was Richard Smith, the Town Crier. Richard had been a Town Crier for 49 years; he gave us a very entertaining talk with lots of tales of his many experiences.

This month some of us spent a very enjoyable day at Greys Court near Henley. Greys Court is a National Trust Tudor house with beautiful gardens and a glorious wooded parkland.

Our October meeting started with our AGM. We then had a very interesting talk from Frances Benton about the history and legends of the pearl. Members were able to handle pearls of all shapes and sizes and then buy some. We also had our bi-annual **Jumble Sale in October which** was successful as usual. We worked hard in the morning sorting jumble, then had lunch at the Black Horse, then selling in the afternoon. It was a lovely day and we had a huge queue so had a very busy time.

We also hosted the Village Quiz, another successful evening which everyone enjoyed. We raised enough money to send £237 to the Village Hall and £70

to Jamie (the Quiz Master) for The Lighthouse Charity Trust. Our team came 3rd which pleased us all.

The following week 17 of us went to The Swan Theatre in High Wycombe to see Evita. This was a beautiful production of the story of Eva Peron which we all enjoyed. To finish a busy month some of us went to the Group Meeting at Naphill WI. The speaker was Andy Thomas from Lewes. Andy showed us many slides and talked about the incredible bonfire and firework celebrations held in Lewes every November 5th.

As you can see we have had a very busy, enjoyable time, if you would like to join us we meet at Lacey Green Village Hall the first Wednesday of the month at 7.45pm, you would be very welcome.

**Ann Bartlett** 

#### Windmill Under 5s continued

time that they give so freely. As a charity, we literally couldn't run without them. We were very sorry to say goodbye to members whose children have gone off to school, and who have given many years of dedicated service. I'm also pleased that so many of our members are staying on, and am pleased to welcome new faces all geared up for another exciting year.

I'll be staying on the Management Committee, but handing over the Chairperson reins to the super-competent Rachael, who has contributed a massive amount this year and is greatly committed to our preschool.

This year as Chairperson has given me an insight into how much effort goes into keeping a preschool afloat, and has reinforced how proud I am of Windmills and how fortunate we are to have the support of an amazing teaching team, efficient and cheerful administrator, engaged committee and dedicated wider parent body

and local community, who together give boundless time and energy to support the preschool. Thank you.

Please get in touch. If you'd like your child to join us, please call Natalie on 07502 198 405 or email

admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk. You can also visit our website www.windmillunder5s.co.uk or connect with us on social media www.facebook.com/windmillunder5s.

Laura Chapman



## SO, WHO REMEMBERS THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE IN CHURCH LANE?

In 1972 Allied Breweries sold The Crown Public House in Church Lane to Joyce & Co builders, who subsequently demolished the property and built three attached houses on the site, now called 1, 2 and 3 Crown Cottages. This ended a long history as one of the village's original beer shops, later a public house, which played such an important and interesting role in the development and life of the village.

The origins of the property are unknown but there is little doubt that it was one of the original cottages in Church Lane. The first reasonably hard evidence appears in the Boyce Map dated 1812 which shows a property in the same location as The Crown and both the 1818 Lord Cavendish Map and the 1823 Princes Risborough Enclosure Act confirm this.

It appears most likely that The Crown opened as a beer shop as a direct result of the 1830 Beer Act which made it easy and cheap for rate payers to open beer shops in their houses.

In 1831 the brewers, Weller & Co of Amersham, purchased the property and during the 1830s they enlarged it to become a public house rather than just a beer shop. In those utopian beer shop days residents took their beer jugs to the beer shop to be filled with beer and then they returned home to drink it at leisure!

In the 1840s the site measured about 30 poles and consisted of the original old house with outbuildings, a cellar, a pigsty, a privy, a new addition to the house and a yard. Adjoining it were a land barn, a large pigsty and stables belonging to John Hawes of Church Cottage together with a common pond.

Weller & Co recruited many tenants over the years but it is intriguing that during the 141-year history of The Crown two tenants – initially Henry and Sarah Parslow (1869 – 1916) and then Lawrence and Emily Brown (1916 – 1972) ran The Crown for over 100 years between them

During its life both as both a beer shop and a public house The Crown was a beer only premises – in line with the requirements of the 1830 Beer Act - with the barrels of beer kept cool in the cellar and served by hand without the use of a pump.

For some unknown reason The Crown never applied for a full license to sell all forms of alcohol as did most other beer houses.

Like most public houses it played an important role in the village social, cultural and economic life. For example, it is known that before water was piped into the village it provided the children from the village school with drinking water and in later years it provided the Lacey Green & Loosley Row Cricket Club teams with match teas and after match refreshments! The final tenants were Emily Brown and her son Wilfred.

I am currently writing a history of the Crown Public House and I am particularly interested in information on Henry & Sarah Parslow and Lawrence & Emily Brown. If anyone has any interesting old photographs, relevant legal documents or amusing or interesting reminiscences (that you can tell me about that is!) please let me know on 01844 343276 – I will be delighted to hear from you!

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#### On the Farm

As we roll into autumn we can reflect on how the summer has gone. What affected us most was of course the summer drought. It brought the grain harvest forward by a couple of weeks but the yield was about average, the roots having got down into moist soil after the wet spring. The maize harvest was at least two weeks early, but only produced about 75% of the usual yield. It was a luxury not to have to dry a single load of grain, a huge saving in cost and effort there. But we did find out the hard way that we had kept our 21-year-old combine one year too many, brought home to us by various costly and frustrating breakdowns.

Also frustrating are the results of this year's TB testing, with "inconclusives". Not only do we have to do the same arduous task again every month until all clear, but even more worrying is the fact that no stock can leave the farm until then. We usually sell calves in the autumn for other farmers to rear. Inability to do so will mean more animals will be eating into our already tight conserved forage crops. Our next test is in mid-November so fingers crossed for that one.

Most of the feed we buy and grain that we sell has gone up over 30% this summer. Grain stocks are tight due to the drought not only in the UK but right across Europe. There are also other variables such as currency. China and the USA are having a little trading spat. Some Central European grain has had trouble getting to port; much of it is moved by barge but the river waters being so low has been causing difficulties. It is rumoured that Russia also has had a small harvest. In recent years it has

been a large exporter of grain, but may halt this to protect their domestic market. This could possibly put wheat up another 15 to 20%. If they do there will be a scrabble to replace the supply.

Earlier in the summer we had a poorly cow suffering from photosensitivity, which is unusual. This is thought to be caused by the cow having eaten a poisonous plant, which makes her sensitive to sunlight. Only the white, nonpigmented, skin is affected, causing the skin to flake off, the black parts remaining normal. She has since recovered by staying out of direct sunlight.

Some of the plants poisonous to cows would be: acorns, yew, bracken, wild arum, St John's Wort, laurel, foxgloves, rhododendrons and deadly nightshade. Cows will usually leave them well alone, but they do get a bit keener on hedgerow browsing when grass is in tight supply. All apart from elder - nothing seems to give a cow greater pleasure than to tuck into elder leaves out of the hedge at any time of the year.

Brexit requires the UK to have a new agricultural policy set out in an agricultural bill. There seems to be very little in it about food production and much about environmental enhancement, with farming subsidies being replaced by payments for public good. Currently there are many farms scarcely profitable without support, so UK food production may be reduced. In 2017 the UK produced 60% of the food consumed so it is very reliant on trade to maintain its food supplies. The UK imported 46 billion pounds worth of food, drink and feed and exported 22 billion pounds worth, so we must hope that we do get some good trade deals, relying as we do on other countries to feed us.

In early October I went on my annual farm study trip for three days to southern Dorset. The land on the hills off the cliffs there is poorer than here and its even more windy, though not as cold in winter, so interesting to learn how it was farmed. However, I think I'd still stick with Lacey Green, where we understand the peculiarities of our patch.

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## **Horticultural Society**

We have finally had a really good soaking of rain for the garden, but in spite of the wonderful long hot summer the Annual Produce Show demonstrated the skill and enthusiasm of Loosley Row and Lacey Green gardeners. After the difficult spring weather which made finding exhibits difficult for the early show, I had feared a similar effect for the September show as the summer progressed.

However all 3 judges of the horticultural exhibits were thrilled with the amount and the standard of the exhibits at the show. They are all very experienced and judge at many of the village shows in Bucks. They thought that we managed to put on one of the best in the area this year, so well done everyone, whether you won a prize or not, your contribution was very much appreciated. Having anything to exhibit was an achievement this year!

Many of our younger children again took part in the show, both with baking and growing. We are delighted to say that we are beginning to develop good links with St. John's Primary School gardening club. The organiser of the after school club retired in the summer and there will be a new leader taking charge of the club.

Over the summer some of our society members helped to water and weed the school garden. We were rewarded with an invitation to eat soup made from the garden produce and very good it was too! Well done to all the teachers, children and parents who produced the vegetables and the soup. We look forward to being able to help out again in any way we can, including providing seeds for the school and the play school.

Our next big event is the Pumpkin Supper and Social, but this will probably be over by the time you read this. In January we are having a very active session on Botanical Drawing, followed by a Bat talk in March. All dates will be in Hallmark and information about past and forthcoming events are also on the village web site. Do think about attending one of our evenings, even if you are not a member you are very welcome to come along.





#### **Alison Shreeve**







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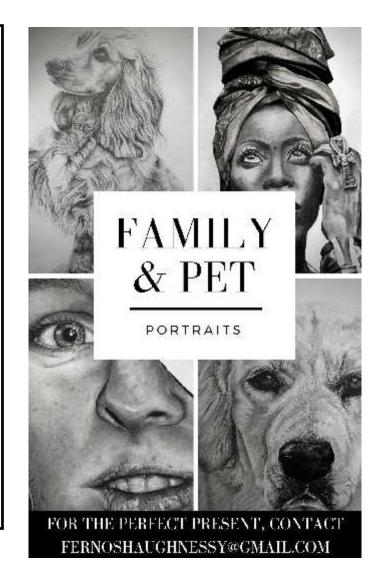
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## **Lacey Green Productions**

For our next Dinner Theatre on Nov 29 to Dec 1, LGP will be performing Ray Cooney's hilarious farce, "Funny Money" which ran for over two years in London's West End in the 1990s and was also made into a Hollywood film. Ray Cooney has been described as the master of farce.

Funny Money - "On his birthday, Henry Perkins comes home from the office with somebody else's briefcase, which just happens to be full of £50 notes! He tries to persuade his wife, Jean, that they should flee the country but the arrival of their dinner guests, two police officers, a taxi driver and an international criminal, cause untold chaos".

Get ready for an incredibly fast-moving romp.

At the Thursday evening performance, nibbles will be provided for our guests. The Friday and Saturday evenings are the dinner performances with a two course dinner. There will be a bar for all three evenings. What better way to spend a fun evening and an ideal start to the build up to the Christmas festivities.

Proceeds from "Funny Money" are being donated to Rennie Grove Hospice Care and St Mary's Church, Aylesbury Community Christmas Lunch.

Tickets are available through tickets@laceygreenproductions.co.uk or by phoning 07714 658063. Details of the evening performances and LGP are on our website;

www.laceygreenproductions.co.uk.

Tickets are priced at £10 for the Thursday performance and £22.50 for the dinner theatre on Friday and Saturday.

#### **Future plans**

We have many exiting plans for the future and want to ensure you are all aware of what we have in store for you all:

• Drama Training/workshops

will be run by professionals and open to anyone interested in coming along. We are considering the themes but could include stage movement, stage fights or any other topic connected with how we entertain our audiences. Look out for the publicity on our website and posters which will provide relevant information.

• Theatre at Home

plays are being revived with a production in the spring of 2019. These plays provide an opportunity to be entertained in the comfortable and intimate setting of one of our members' homes with a play that hopefully stretches the audiences' mind and imagination.

• The Plumstone Cowboy

a Murder Mystery, was performed in the summer of 2018 and was a great success. We are delighted to be able to repeat these performances for local charities to help them raise funds. If you would like a performance for your charity please contact us as we are very keen to help.

#### Thank you

Finally a big thank you to everyone involved in LGP who make our events successful. We would also like to say how much we appreciate everyone who supports us by coming along to the various productions. This support means we can continue to donate money to local and national charities.

If you know of anyone who wants to get involved with an amateur dramatic group we would love to hear from them and can offer a variety of opportunities including fun - what more does anyone want!

Finally we look forward to seeing many of you at one of the productions of "Funny Money"-don't forget to get your tickets soon.





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#### Wildlife Notes

It is now six years since I first reported the arrival of the ash dieback fungus in Britain. Since then it has been marching steadily across the country and now it has reached Loosley Row and Lacey Green. It is hard to spot an infected tree at this time of year when most have lost their leaves, and even when they are in full leaf the signs are quite subtle at first, but if you go out next spring and scan enough ashes in the woods and hedges around the villages you will soon spot the telltale dead twigs poking out of the top of a leafy crown. At first these may be just a few inches tall but as time goes by the roots of the fungus, invisible inside the tree, will work their way down the twigs and branches, killing them as they go.

There are similarities between this outbreak and the Dutch elm disease that struck about fifty years ago, wiping out at least 25 million elms. Both are caused by a fungus, both are thought to have come from Asia (Dutch elm disease gets its name from the Dutch scientists who first identified it) and both attack just one type of tree. But one difference between them is the way in which their spores travel from tree to tree. Dutch elm disease is carried by beetles that

seek out elms and burrow under the bark, infecting the tree as they go. The beetles are quite picky and don't waste their time on trees smaller than about the thickness of your leg, so the suckers that shoot up from the base of a dead elm can at least grow back into a small tree before being struck again. The ash dieback fungus on the other hand is much more of a free spirit. If you search carefully under ashes at this time of year you will find pinhead-sized 'toadstools' springing up from last year's fallen leaf stalks (the photo gives you an idea of just how small they are: the elephant-like thing on the left is my thumb). These will be shedding countless thousands of spores into the wind, to go off in search of new trees to infect. They enter through the growing leaves and because they do not depend on an insect to carry them they can attack a tree of any size. Saplings can be killed off in just one year, but older trees will put up more of a fight and take longer to succumb.

It is likely that the death toll nationally will again run into the tens of millions and it will be a sorry sight to see so many of our ash trees disappear from the countryside. For thousands of years their light, straight-grained

> wood has provided us with arrows, spears (in fact the very name ash comes from the Anglo-Saxon for spear), scythe handles, hockey sticks, cricket stumps, snooker cues and oars. It is also one of the best woods for burning; a traditional poem

listing the virtues and drawbacks of different firewoods ends with these lines:

'But ash logs, all smooth and grey, burn them green or old;

Buy up all that come your way they're worth their weight in gold.'

Although the decline of the ash is sad there are a few slightly more positive aspects to the story. Firstly it could have been even worse, because ash is in some ways less important for wildlife than say oak or willow, which both support a far richer variety of insects and other creatures and whose loss would have had a much greater impact. Secondly ash is often known as 'the forester's weed' because of the speed at which it can reclaim and dominate patches of woodland that have been freshly cleared of trees, whether by people or by storms. So by culling the ash the fungus may help to open up our woods and encourage a more diverse community of trees, shrubs and ground plants. Thirdly, at least in the short term there will be an abundance of dead trees (provided that the Health & Safety squad don't tidy them all away), creating a wonderful habitat for all sorts of insects, which will in turn provide a feast for woodpeckers, while the dead trees themselves will be ideal sites for the woodpeckers to carve out their nests. So, as often happens in nature, there will be winners and losers. And finally, the loss is unlikely to be total: with luck a few naturally resistant ones will survive and in time allow the ash to return. It will be interested to see how this story unfolds over the coming years.



John Tyler

## **Drama in the Barn** - the continuing history of Lacey Green Productions

After the success of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' LGP began a tradition of performing musical drama in the barn at Stocken Farm by kind permission of owners John and Joan West. The concept, planning, casting and rehearsal of music and dancing took so much time that these were only staged every two years.

Before the last weeks of rehearsals, it became a challenge for a group of willing people to clean out the barn to make it suitable to house people, despite the occasional farm smells outside. The rats were on the move again!

In 1984, the scenery for 'The Wizard of Oz', particularly the Yellow Brick Road, needed painting. Various left-overs were offered, including gloss paint (unsuitable). All colours when mixed together became a muddy brown. Large quantities of white paint had to be bought.

A hot spell during the summer of 1986 saw children dressed as weasels and ferrets roasting inside furry costumes in 'Toad of Toad Hall'.

'Alice' was performed in 1988. Highly imaginative costumes and backcloths were designed for the varied scenes that this production required. It included a prominent resident of Loosley Row dressed as a caterpillar. This year it was unseasonably cold which caused the French horn to play out of tune. A heater had to be placed near the small orchestra. Two girls in blue

dresses took turns to play the lead role (see photo).

During one show, a lot of mooing could be heard from a nearby barn because the cows had been separated from the bull. These sound effects did not synchronise with the action on stage. In desperation, Val Brookhouse went to tell them to be quiet. It seemed to work.

In 1990, Lionel Bart's 'Blitz' was the largest show with 70 people in the cast which included many children. The performances were over two weekends and included a matinee. Over many weeks that year, Joan West directed delivery lorries to Stocken Farm by saying, "Follow the signs to 'BLITZ'" (see photo on opposite page).

In 1992, the 'Ragged Child' told the moving story of Lord Shaftsbury's influence on education in Victorian London. The costumes for this part of the show showed the large cast of poor children dressed in ragged brown clothing to reflect the plight of the city during the cholera outbreak.

'Sweeny Todd' was performed in 1994 with more songs, dances and a lot of humour, as customers of the notorious barber were handed to Mrs Lovett to be made into pies. An ingenious technical device was built so that as a 'victim' sat in a chair, it tipped its occupant in a backward somersault. Backstage people waited to catch the latest ingredient for the pies.



Natasha Gilchrist and Brian Panter

The first night of the show was a special preview performance for invited friends of John and Joan West. It was a strange sight as they arrived dressed in formal evening attire, making their contribution to charity.

'Dazzle', performed in 1996, was the last big show staged in the barn. As fire regulations became stricter, and because permission could only be obtained within days of the event, it became too difficult to use the barn for more shows. The era of large musicals in the barn came to an end. Lacey Green Productions moved to the old village hall until the new Millennium Village Hall became available.

There is a lot more to tell in the 'millennium' years but, for now, tickets are still available for the Dinner Theatre at the end of November. Come and see our latest hilarious farce by Ray Clooney; 'Funny Money'.

Helen Cliff with thanks to Joan West and Val and Peter Brookhouse.

#### **Church Choir News**

On Sunday 23rd September the Choir were proud to present their concert entitled "Love Is in the Air". The preparations for both the musical program and the 'posh tea' were well rewarded. We opened to a full house on a beautiful sunny September afternoon.

It was an opportunity for the choir to showcase the many capable talents of its members in a surprisingly different setting. The stage was set, the tables were beautifully laid for the 'posh tea' and the sandwiches and cakes were arranged in mouth-watering temptation on their own separate table.

Choir members delighted the audience with a variety of love songs, both moving and humorous, in solo performances and duets from musical stage shows and films, together with hit single love songs, made famous by well know singers across the musical spectrum. Also included were a few favourite hymns themed on God's love for us all.

The young choir did themselves proud, their clear and beautiful voices entertaining with solos, duets and group performances. The audience was also entertained to a mother and son duet from Cher and Tom Mole, with piano accompaniment from dad, Gavin.

The smiling faces and enthusiastic applause of the audience as each performer stepped down from the stage told its own story, with a final concluding round of applause to raise the roof.



Our thanks go to Cher, our Organist and Musical Director, for her encouragement and arranging our choir rehearsals. To Gavin Mole, who so ably supported us with his empathetic beautiful piano accompaniments at rehearsals and on the day. To Rosemary Mortham, our Choir Director who organised and directed us in producing all that was necessary for a wonderful concert. Finally our thanks to a wonderful audience from whom we have since been pleased to

receive many comments of appreciation and enjoyment.

The choir are now looking forward to rehearsing for the Advent Calendar.

For more details contact Rosemary Mortham 01844 345863 or Cher Mole 01844 342303



Sheltering in the Underground in 'Blitz'

### St John's Church Christmas events

#### Advent Sunday - 2nd December

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am All Age Toy Service with Salvation Army speaker

3.00pm Advent Carol Service

(n.b. this year's 6pm CTR service is at St. Dunstan's)

#### Advent 2 - 9th December

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am Parish Communion with Junior Church

#### Advent 3 - 16th December

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion with Junior Church

3.30pm Christingle Service - in aid of Children's Society

#### Advent 4 - 23rd December

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am Parish Communion

6.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

#### Christmas Eve

3.30pm Crib Service

11.15pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity

#### Christmas Day

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am Parish Communion with Carols

#### St. John the Evangelist - Thursday 27th December

9.30am Holy Communion followed by drinks and cake

#### Christmas 1 – 30th December

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am Parish Communion

#### The Epiphany – Sunday 6th January

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.00am Parish Eucharist of the Epiphany

#### **REGULAR SERVICES**

#### Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (1662) every Sunday

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

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

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

#### **Tuesday**

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

#### Wednesday

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

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

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#### Pink and Lily - Festive Fun and Seasonal Cheer

After a spectacular summer – and for once we can't complain about the weather – the nights are getting darker, the fires are lit (including the new log burner in the dining room!), the first frost is on the horizon and dare we mention the C word is drawing closer! And here at The Pink we're in the mood for a party!

As I write it's definitely the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness and our new autumn menu reflects the seasonal change. Game has come into its own on this menu; all of our game is locally sourced – as indeed is as much of our menu as we can.

Slow cooked lamb shanks served with a creamy thyme mash are flying out of the kitchen, not to mention our 'Three Little Pigs' local sausage selection! They won't blow your house down – but they'll definitely blow your socks off!

We're all about comfort food at the minute with a great selection of new burgers including a wonderful buttermilk chicken burger. And the cosy theme extends to the non-meat eaters too with a selection of options including a melt in the mouth onion tart, and mushroom arancini among the delights on offer!

Our famous beer battered fish and chips is a hardy perennial – and have I not mentioned the puddings? Or the pie of the week? There's so much to tantalise your tasetebuds, it's a menu of old favourites and new dishes that are bound to hit the spot.

Whether we like it or not Christmas is just around the corner and bookings are coming in thick and fast. Why not let The Pink take the strain of the main event and leave everything to us on the big day itself – including the washing up! Our Christmas Day menu is luxurious enough to make the meal really special but includes all the traditional elements that Granny will expect!

Call 01494 489857 for details – all you'll need to bring is your family and a big grin – we'll be waiting for you with a big gin!

If you're organizing a party this Christmas our party menu is 'cracking' (see what I did there!) value at 3 courses for £30 and 2 for £25 – with all the bits to make your party go with a bang included! Don't delay as we're filling up fast for festive fun!

New Year always brings something different – and this year we're getting on our glad rags for a black tie bash! Tables are strictly limited – and at £50 per head including a glass of fizz per guest and a bottle of wine per couple, this is one that you'd be mad to miss out on. The food will be fantastic, the wine will be wonderful, the beer definitely brilliant, the gin generous and the atmosphere electric!

Where else could you possibly prefer to be this festive season than at your local country pub, the practically perfect Pink! Remember, use it or lose it!

Landlady Shirley Abbott The Pink & Lily 01494 489857

## WINDMILL W.I. MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We had our MacMillan Coffee Morning in September and this was huge success raising the incredible sum of £1,800. Our thanks go to all our members and husbands who worked so hard. Also thanks to Lynne at the Black Horse, Buckmoorend Farm Shop and the Sewing Shop in Princes Risborough for the raffle prizes they donated. Thanks to everyone who came and supported us. We certainly could not have achieved such a great total without you all!



## **Happy Wanderers**

#### August 26 walk

After weeks of hot, sunny weather, the Happy Wanderers woke to grey skies with a light drizzle by the time the group met at Le De Spencers Arms on Downley Common, so that waterproofs and umbrellas became the order of the day.

18 members and a dog set off towards Naphill Woods on a forest loop that would take us back to the pub after some four miles. Unfortunately, the rain became heavy and persistent and the conditions underfoot less than ideal. The paths all began to look alike as the conditions worsened and the skies darkened, and we had to retrace our steps on one occasion. A couple of people slipped and one unfortunately required some first aid – probably the first time that the first aid kit had ever been used.

The group eventually made it back to the pub, somewhat wet and dishevelled, to be greeted by the members who chose not to walk (perhaps the wiser ones on the day) and a warm welcome and good food from the hosts.

Tales of mishaps perhaps tested our resolve to label us as *Happy Wanderers* with various suggestions on how this report could be written.

Despite being bedraggled, the spirit can be summed up by one member who said she had not had so much fun in a long time!

#### **David and Helen Cliff**

#### July 29 walk

After the hottest and most settled period of weather in living memory, it was a great shock to be confronted with a more traditional summer's day of cloud, rain and wind just in time for our monthly walk. The weather prompted several members to ring in with various reasons for not turning out.

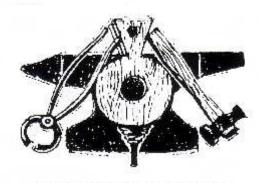
In the event six stalwart walkers assembled in the car park at the Spade Oak public house near Bourne End. The rain had turned to drizzle as we set off crossing over the railway line between Marlow and Bourne End and continuing on to the Thames river bank towards Marlow. On a fine day the scenery would have been stunning but facing the wind and rain tested our mettle. As we approached the Marlow rugby club the path took us back over the railway line and afforded us some cover on a wooded path alongside a large gravel lake often used for waterskiing. Needless to say there were no skiers today.

The wooded path gave way to more open countryside and we passed Westhorpe House, recent home to one of the Spice Girls group, but now being extensively rebuilt.

By now the weather had brightened up slightly and the drizzle had died away. A long open track took us to the village of Little Marlow with its picturesque cottages, hostelries and a fine church. Definitely a place to enjoy sightseeing on a good day. After leaving the village a track took us across several fields and finally into another wooded area with a path around a lake, which was designated as a nature reserve. A short cut across a field brought us back to the Spade Oak. By now several non-walking members had joined us and we all enjoyed a traditional Sunday meal at the pub.

#### **Peter Clee**





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#### **Parish Council**

Another couple of months has passed since the last Hallmark and now it's nearly Christmas, we are not sure where the year has gone!

We have our annual estimates meeting in November/
December to estimate the precept that we will submit to WDC. If any organisations within the parish require extra funding, please contact our clerk with your requirements, (email details at the end of this article) and we will do our best to help.

We are very lucky within the parish, most of the organisations seem to be self sufficient with their own fund-raising efforts – well done all of you.

You may have noticed that we have included a loose flyer in this issue to ask for help with the speed camera within the village, in the hope that you might put it on your kitchen notice board to consider later, rather than read the magazine and forget about it.

We do have motorists speeding through the village, we do have the occasional accident, mainly due to speeding through the village, we do have the means to prove the speeding through the village - we just do not have the helpers to move the unit around the village to the predetermined poles or to help download the information stored within the unit. This will prove to the police and the County Council that we do need some help with speed reduction expertise within the village.

The revamped playground in the Sports Field is still proving very popular with the village children. We are hoping to replace the log climbing unit next year, as it has now nearly reached the end of its life, some of the logs are beginning to split and some of the steel work will need replacing in the near future.

If you or your children have any recommendations for the replacement, we would be pleased to hear from you – after all, it is your playground, for you to use, so please get in touch with your ideas.

We hope you have noticed the 'Returning Tommy' and 'Nurse' that the Parish Council purchased and have put on the corners of Eastlands and Westlands. These signs remember all those from our village and surrounding villages who fought and worked to keep our country safe.

The signs will stay in situ as requested by the Royal British Legion, until the end of the year, when they will be moved to the War Memorial in the Garden of Rest for their lifetime.

A poppy wreath will be laid at both the Garden of Rest War Memorial and at the Memorial Stone at the entrance to the Burial Ground in Loosley Row on Remembrance Sunday to remember those who gave their lives from our two villages.

We are still looking for someone to stand up and become a Parish Councillor from Lacey Green village, we have hopefully recruited a villager from Loosley Row, but desperately need one from Lacey Green. We are not alone in asking for help, there are pleas in the local paper each week for councillors in the surrounding villages. There must be someone out there who wants to put back into the village, and help others have some of the pleasure they have had in living in this beautiful village.

We have a meeting once a month for 2 hrs ish in either Lacey Green or Speen, tea and biscuits (dunking permitted) are provided. We discuss housing plans that have been submitted, the impact of local actions on our residents (for example the closing of the Bledlow Recycling Centre) and draft appropriate replies; discuss any health and safety issues raised about playgrounds, benches or bus shelters. It is not an arduous task. but worthwhile to keep our villages tidy and safe.

We would welcome any comments from you the villagers, about anything that affects you, either by popping into any of our meetings, or emailing the councillors or the clerk at clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk

We would love to hear from you, sometimes we wonder where you all are!

#### **Cathryn Davies**



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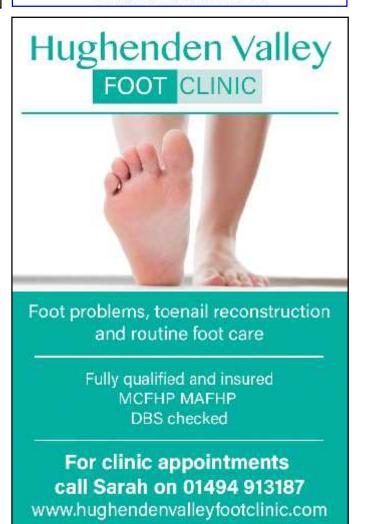
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## Thoughts from Westminster



British farming is facing the most far reaching reforms for nearly half a century. In recent meetings, at the County Show in August and more recently with the local NFU at their Aylesbury office, I've been listening to the views of farmers and land managers about their hopes and fears for the future.

Inside the European Union, we've been part of its Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). That's meant not only paying significant sums of taxpayers' money in farm subsidies but also structuring those payments in particular ways and following various regulations applying to farms throughout the FUL

Now, with our departure from the EU a few months away, the government is planning changes to be phased in over the years ahead. Subsidies will continue, but will be linked in future much more directly to farmers providing public benefits such as looking after the environment, public access or making fields available to absorb floodwater in winter and spring.

Farming and conservation have always been intimately linked. Our traditional hedgerows were planted in order to contain livestock. Sheep grazing on the Chiltern hillsides stopped scrub from growing and maintained the ecology of chalk grasslands.

While some businesses, especially the big arable farms, would be able to compete in the market without any subsidy, there's a lot of farmland, particularly in upland areas, which is much less profitable. There, without some kind of subsidy, farms would soon go out

of business and those landscapes would rapidly change.

If I look beyond the next few years during which the new system of farm support will come in, there are some big questions to all of us as a country about the future of farming.

Do we want subsidies, even if paid in return for public goods, to continue at their present level? There's a case for saying that we should switch resources from agriculture to education or health or transport. But would we be willing to accept the closure of farm businesses that would follow, and the knock-on impact on the landscape and the wider rural economy?

Should we import more foodfrom countries like Brazil, Australia, Thailand and the USA? Food would be cheaper: I can see a lot of families wanting this. But at the cost of driving our own farmers to the wall and losing the food security that comes from home production?

What do you think?

#### **David Lidington MP**

#### **Black Horse**

It seems to come so quickly, each issue of Hallmark, I sometimes have to take a week to think what did I put in last time, maybe it is my age. Well, old staff have fledged their wings, new staff have arrived and we are all coping okay.

I still need week end and evenings bar staff, so if you have previous experience and you are 18 or over and can do evenings and weekends let me know please. Crib and doms season is now underway and we have two Monday night teams here if anybody fancies to join. We have darts on a Thursday night and they are looking for players as well.

Christmas bookings are going really well, we are doing our Christmas menu from November into January. There is no change to our New Years Eve, same as normal with children's disco from 6 till 8.30 p.m. then music till late.

Thank you everybody for your support throughout the years. Without my friends and loyal customers I would not of had the pleasure of running THE BLACK HORSE for 23 years A BIG THANK YOU. And a very big thank you to all my staff old and new and of course grumpy chef, without him this pub would not be serving the food we do, he has now been supporting me for 19 years thank you Ian. HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL



Traditionally, the end of August was always slightly dreaded by the men, as this marked the end of our seasonal tennis evenings. It always felt like a long time until the following April when daylight permitted playing again! Now with the new floodlights, we play continuously all through the year on Monday nights, and what a joy they have been.

To celebrate our new lights, we held a special opening evening on Friday 14th September. With the sun setting over the Sports Club, we hosted a BBQ and bar, and the switch on was kindly performed by Lynne Comley and Steph Dell. There is always a slight worry that something will go wrong, but I am pleased to say everything went according to plan and afterwards we were rewarded with our men's final between Paddy Woods-Ballard and Paul Quartermaine. Congratulations to Paddy who won the Bradley Cup for the second year running.

Aided with a couple of fire pits, the party continued well into the small hours thanks to Mike and Jackie's generosity with their wine. Walking back, some members were rather grateful for the support of the court fencing to aid their staggering!

#### **Junior Tennis Nights**

To avoid the inevitable clash with football and rugby on Sunday mornings, we have moved junior coaching to Thursday nights. The elevens and under are from 5.15pm-6.00pm and the twelves and over: 6.15pm-7.15pm.

Members will have the benefit of both our coaches Libby and Justin for these sessions under the lights.

If you have a child who is interested in playing, please bring them down. They are very welcome to come and try first without being a member and if they like it, membership is very reasonable. For the remainder of the year to 31st March, children over 7 together with a parent hitter can both join for just £15 and for children who are 12 and over, the cost is just £12.50. Please see our website for further details and other membership offers.

## What else has been happening?

The ladies have been battling out on court for the singles championship and there were some epic battles with some matches lasting over 4 hours! Well done to Anita Thorn who won the Ebbles Cup by narrowly defeating Philippa Lane. The feedback from both of the singles championships has been very positive with members enjoying the competitive format.

In late September, the men had a successful trip to La Manga, Spain and this gave us some useful practice for the winter league matches. Unfortunately, our new mixed doubles tournament, the Cummins Cup, had to be postponed due to terrible weather on 14th October. This will be played during November.

Our next big social night is on Friday 30th November for the Christmas dinner at the Black Horse. Many thanks to Lynne for her support of the club and in particular for her sponsorship. We are always on the lookout for further sponsorship and if you would like to help the club please do get in touch.

Finally, if you have read this article and are thinking of joining us, I'd remind you that playing tennis is one of the best ways to exercise, especially as it helps to produce strong bones and muscles, as well as providing a moderate cardiovascular workout.

#### Nigel Glenister











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### **Royal Air Force Centenary**

The Royal Air Force was formed 100 years ago last April, by a merger of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service.

I do feel that I have at least something of a family connection with the RAF through my eldest cousin Colin, who followed his father into the RAF and it became for him his life's career. Since moving back to the south of England after 20 years in Leeds, I have become re-acquainted with Colin and his wife Ioan who live at Sonning where he has served for many years as churchwarden at St. Andrew's Parish Church. Colin has occasion to visit RAF High Wycombe from time to time in his role with the RAF Benevolent Fund.

The first Commanding Officer of the Royal Flying Corps, was Colonel Frederick Sykes. In 1912 he was looking for an appropriate motto for the new service which he hoped would produce a strong esprit de corps. A discussion between two of his junior officers resulted in the suggestion of this line from Sir Henry Rider Haggard's book "People of the Mist", Per Ardua Ad Astra. Sykes liked this and he forwarded it to the War Office who then submitted it to the King who approved its adoption.

There is some scholarly debate over the precise meaning and translation of this phrase but the definitive interpretation is "Through Adversity to the Stars" or, as some prefer, "Through Struggles to the Stars". Per Ardua Ad Astra is a motto peculiar to the RAF and it has been made famous by the heroic and courageous deeds of RAF personnel over the years, not least in the course of the Battle of Britain in WW II.

Earlier this year, I watched a series wartime generation through of Channel 4 programmes in which model aircraft enthusiasts from the UK and Germany recreated with their working models some of the epic events of the Battle of Britain.

Military historians concur that that the outcome of the Battle of Britain was hugely significant to how the pattern of the Second World War took shape and ultimately led to Allied victory over the Nazi regime. Hence Sir Winston Churchill's famous words concerning the Battle of Britain which he first used upon his exit from the Battle of Britain Bunker at RAF Uxbridge on 16th August 1940 after visiting No. 11 **Group RAF Operations Room** during a day of battle. Churchill told Major General Hastings Ismay, "Don't speak to me, I have never been so moved".

Then, after several minutes of silence, Churchill spoke the words which formed the basis of the historic and inspirational speech that he made in the House of Commons four days later. In 1954. Ismav told a publisher that he was in a car with Churchill as he rehearsed his speech which originally contained the words "never in the history of mankind have so many owed so much to so few". Ismay said "What about Jesus and his disciples?" Ismay recalls that Churchill thanked him warmly and changed the text to "never in the field of human conflict", that famous phrase and speech which of course came to be known as part of the body of his greatest and most stirring rhetoric.

Perhaps many of my generation will have been introduced to the heroism of the RAF pilots of the

having seen the 1956 biographical movie "Reach for the Sky", which won a BAFTA as Best British Film of 1956. The actor Kenneth More played the part of the gifted maverick RAF pilot Douglas Bader.

The film tells how Bader joined the RAF in 1928 as a cadet and was chosen in 1930 to be among the pilots for a public aerial exhibition. According to the film, Bader ignored warnings not to indulge in low flying aerobatics, and consequently crashed his plane. Both of Bader's legs had to be amputated to save his life.

Astonishingly, Bader managed to talk himself back into the RAF and was put in charge of a squadron of Canadian pilots, dispirited after an unsuccessful campaign in France. Under Bader's leadership, they re-built their morale and fought very effectively in the Battle of Britain.

In the care of the Headingley Branch of the Royal Air Force Association is a painting by A. G. Teesdale of a Hurricane Fighter plane which, in my time at Leeds Minster, the members would bring to church each year for their annual Battle of Britain Sunday commemorative service. There is an inscription at the bottom of the painting:

"Sunward I've climbed, on Laughter Silvered wings,

And chased the Rushing Clouds, Where Eagle never flew,

And touched the hand of God"

**Tony Bundock** 

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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
Speen & North Dean Toddlers	Tuesday 9.30 Chapel Hall, Speen Church in term time	Rachael McComish		Speennorthdeantoddlers@gmai l.com
LG Singers	Thursday evenings in term time at St John's School	Denise Kinnard		laceygreensingers@hotmail.
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	Natalie Jane	07502 198405	admin@windmillunder5s.co.uk
Windmill WI (evenings)	1st Wed of month except Jan. 7.45 pm	Daphne Willash	01494 562455	daphne.willash@btinternet.com
High Wycombe & District U3A	4th Wed afternoon of the month	Theresa Hehir	01494 881170	hehirt@hotmail.com
Youth Club	Alternate Fridays - see laceygreen.com web site for details 7.30 pm	Leigh Axe	345216	leigh@laceygreen.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 and evenings	Sue Croxford	346656	susancroxford@gmail.com
Wycombe District Council		Graham Peart	01494 488327	graham_peart@wycombe.go v.uk
Bucks County Council		Carl Etholen	01494 564771	cetholenn@buckscc.gov.uk
St John's Church		Pat Richards	345452	richardsp44@btinternet.com
LG Community Planning Group				
Scouts (Naphill & Hughenden)		Peter Byerley	01494 565955	peter.byerley@capgemini.com
Parish Council		Frank Post		clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk
LG Post Office	Thursday 9 am to 12 noon			
LG Windmill	Sundays & Bank holidays 2 to 5 pm April to September	Michael Hardy	275871	contact@laceygreenwindmill.or g.uk
Millennium Hall		Clive Hodghton	343113	clive@laceygreen.com
Millennium Hall bookings		Karen Hodghton	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 <a href="https://www.laceygreen.com">www.laceygreen.com</a>, which also has breaking news and many additional articles & photos.

#### HALLMARK EDITOR

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

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Karen O'Shaughnessy, Jacaranda, Main Road Lacey Green, HP27 0QH (near old Baptist Chapel) 01844 275908 Email karenadvertisinginhallmark@gmail.com

#### VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

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#### LACEY GREEN WINDMILL 2019 OPENING TIMES

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Bank Holiday Monday Open Days: 22nd April, 6th May, 27th May, 26th August. (all 2pm - 5pm).

For National Mills Weekend: Open on Sat 11th May (2pm - 5pm) & Sun 12th May (11am - 5pm).

Admission Charges for 2019: Adult £2.50, Child (5 to 15) £1.00. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

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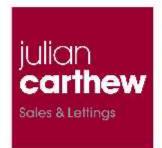
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