

HALLMARK

The magazine for Lacey Green and Loosley Row



June 2024

Issue 270

Jonathan Hilder
PIERS PHOTO



HEARING CARE SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE

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Welcome to the June edition

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VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS Natasha on 07737 638718 laceygreenhall@gmail.com

We are now on our new schedule and will be aiming to publish magazines in the first week of September, December, March and June.

Following our appeal for assistance, Chris Boll has offered to distribute magazines in Lacey Green. Can deliverers please return empty bags to him at 7, Meadow Rise. Carl Pearce will continue to distribute magazines in Loosley Row; return bags to Well Cottage, Foundry Lane (opposite the forge).

The Windmill repair fundraising is coming along well. In June the Windmill committee will be arranging working parties to do the preparation and painting of the sails. See their website.

Thanks to Jonathan Hilder for the cover photo.

From the School Governors

At the end of the summer term St John's will be saying a couple of sad goodbyes.

Mrs Wilkinson has been supportive and inspirational to so many pupils over 25 years at St John's and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

Mr Newton is also departing to start an exciting new challenge as Headteacher at Millbrook School, High Wycombe. Ian joined us in April 2019 and, within (literally) hours, led the school through a highly successful SIAMS Inspection, thanks to some excellent preparatory work by existing school leaders. Within a year found himself leading the school through multiple lockdowns and all the challenges presented by Covid.

Ian, together with his strong team of dedicated staff, has ensured that St John's continues to be a highly

desirable school which not only strives for academic excellence but also, as outlined by Ian on p21, offers pupils many exciting learning experiences that enable them to achieve their full potential.

This was reflected in our successful Ofsted inspection in April 2022. Ian has also worked tirelessly to nurture the strong and effective relationship with St John's Church and to model and instil the values which are so important to St John's.

The governors are most grateful to Ian for his vision, dedication and hard work while at St John's. We will miss him and wish him and his family every success in the future. Finally, to thank Ian and bid him a fond farewell, the Parents Association is organising an afternoon of fun, games, music food and drink on Saturday 13 July. All members of our school community – past, present and future are welcome, so please do join us for 'Mr Newton's Last Rodeo'!

Parish Councillor for Loosley Row

Lacey Green Parish Council is looking for someone to be co-opted to represent the Loosley Row Ward as Tim Macgillivray will be leaving the Council in July due to his impending move to the West Country.

Tim has been very active since becoming a Parish Councillor in 2018. He has been involved with the Community Speedwatch programme for Lacey Green, Loosley Row

and Speen, and the annual litter collection in Lacey Green.

He also oversaw the repainting of the two bus shelters in Lacey Green, the installation of a new bench in Loosley Row, liaising with Gommers Forge for the gates at the Garden of Rest and many other Parish Council duties including contributions to Hallmark.



For full terms and conditions of eligibility to becoming a Parish Councillor and to discuss what it entails, please contact Frank Post, Parish Clerk at the Parish Council Office by email at clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk

Roger Craft – Vice Chair
Lacey Green Parish Council



SAVE THE DATE
19 OCTOBER 2025

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 BE 25 YEARS OLD!

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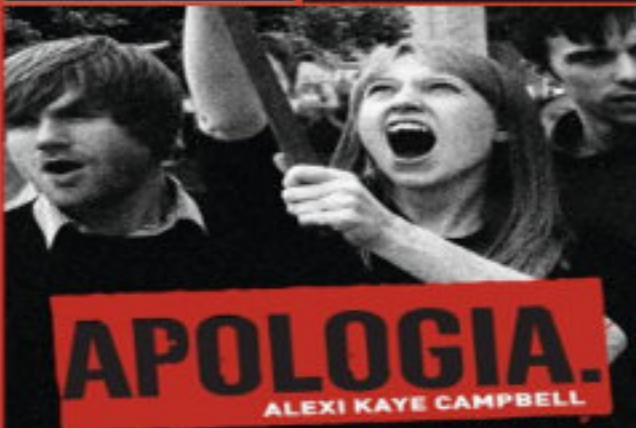


OPPOSITE NAPHILL
 VILLAGE HALL

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21 September
3:30 & 7:30
Lacey Green



APOLOGIA.
 ALEXI KAYE CAMPBELL

A disastrous family reunion is the occasion for a sharp and perceptive look at what has happened to 60s idealists and their children. An emotional play full of strained relationships, pain, blame and, possibly, regret.

Tickets available soon from
www.equusproductions.org /tickets



St John's Church
Summer Garden Party
 with musical entertainment
 & tea / cakes

Saturday 3 August 2024
3-5pm (doors open 2:30pm)
Lane Farm, Church Lane, Lacey Green

Tickets available in advance or on the day
 Adults £10 Children £5

See Canon Tony or Margaret Gray for more details



WHAT'S ON

June

- Sun June 9 D-Day landing 80th anniversary service in the Church
- Sun June 23 9am Sweet Pea Show in Village Hall
- Sun June 23 LG Convenience Store birthday celebration
- Sun June 30 12 noon Horses, Hounds, Heroes family day at Horse Trust

July

- Sat July 6 Sports Club Disco 6pm Saturday Night Fever see p7
- Sun July 7 2pm Jazz in the Park at Speen Playing Fields. Bring picnic.
- Sat July 13 Mr Newton's Last Rodeo, all alumni welcome at the school, food and drink
- Fri July 26 6pm Windmill Charity Event, see Windmill website

August/September

- Sat Aug 3 3pm Church Summer Garden Party see p4
- Sun Sept 1 9am Horts Club Autumn Show
- Sat Sept 21 3.30 & 7.30 Equus Productions - Apologia
- Sat Oct 19 Village Hall 25 year party

COFFEE MORNINGS

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

OVER-50s PUB LUNCH

Come to the monthly lunch on the first
 Tuesday of the month at the Black Horse.
 Even if you know nobody you will be
 welcome and can meet your neighbours.
 Contact Leigh on 345216

POST OFFICE

Village Hall: Monday & Thursday 9 - 12

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 your hedges and grass?

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LACEY GREEN WINDMILL

The windmill will open on Sundays and bank
 holidays until the end of September.

For more details see www.laceygreenwindmill.org.uk
 org.uk email: contact@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk



All our residents know the Lacey Green Windmill and many visit regularly. However we have another, less obvious, famous site in walking distance of Lacey Green – the Horse Trust in Slad Lane. I've not visited for many years so I thought it was high time to put that right, so on a lovely sunny afternoon I met with one of the directors, Jessica Tallman, who showed me around.

The Trust look after up to 140 equine residents on the site at any one time. 70% of these are retired service horses who have finished their working life and are now enjoying a relaxed life in the country. Many of these are gentle giants who have come from the military or police backgrounds,

though there is a sprinkling of horses from other walks of life, such as retirees from the Riding For The Disabled. At the other end of the size scale there are a couple of donkeys and many Shetland Ponies – who are a great hit with the kids – visitors can even groom the ponies on some Sundays.

Sadly the other 30% of residents come from less happy backgrounds and have been rescued from awful condition and have been taken in by the Trust for respite and recovery. The Trust has 50 staff including in-house vets and equine behaviour professionals to help recovery.

The site has developed over the 50 years it has been in Speen and now has beautiful grounds, exercise and display areas, stables, museum and the all-important tea room in a beautiful listed barn. The site is open in the afternoons of Thursday to Sunday. You need to buy a ticket online in advance so check the website for details. It is a lovely place to take any visitors you may have this summer.

On Sunday June 30 the Trust will be holding their "Horses, Hounds and Heroes" event. There will be horse riding displays by the Cavalry and the Met Police, with side shows, live music, food stalls, and even a dog show. Do go along and support their work.

Mike Piercy

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Weekly Schedule of Activities

Every Monday	14.00	Short Mat Bowls Club	01844 345216
Every Monday	18.00	Karate	07540 531034
Every Tuesday	9.30 & 11.00	Yoga with Claire	07711 588214
1 st Tuesday of month	12.15	Over 50s Pub Lunch at Black Horse	01844 345216
Every Wednesday	Morning	Pilates with Rosie	07932 607116
Every Wed or Thurs (Apr - Sept)	Evening	Whiteleaf Bowmen	01628 528978
1 st Wednesday of month	19.45	Windmill WI	01494 562455
3 rd Wednesday of month	Morning	The Arts Society of West Wycombe	07885 232171
3 rd Wednesday of month	Evening	Horts Soc meeting	07894 393534
4 th Wednesday of month	14.00	U3A	07720 254963
Every Thursday	10.00	Coffee Morning	
Every Thursday	Morning	Upholstery classes with Heather	07954 176401
Every Friday	13.00	Pilates Beginners with Sarah	07903 118492
Alternate Fridays in term time	7.30	Youth Club	07737 638718
Last Sunday of the month	10.30	Happy Wanderers - Hall car park	01844 274961

LACEY GREEN SPORTS CLUB PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL SUMMER FUNDRAISER

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Village Spring Litter Clean

Just a note to thank the ladies, gentlemen, boys and girls who took the time to come on the litter pick on 16th March.

We had approximately 40 bags full of waste!! All the usual stuff plus a dumped car battery, duvet and single bed foam mattress!

My thanks go also to the unsung people like the Eades and Gordon Donkin for example, who spend their time collecting litter all year round.

But my special thanks go to Liz Patient whose help as been so invaluable in arranging this event over the last few years. Liz it wouldn't happen without you. Thanks so much!

Thanks to St John's School for hosting the event and also to the Village Hall for allowing us to leave the bags for collection there.

Let's keep the place tidy for the year. I know it is not the residents who make the mess in the first place - but without their goodwill and readiness to lend a hand the village would be a less happy place!

Next year's Spring event!

So, in regard to next year's event.....we will need a volunteer to help organise the event: simply put, to store and distribute the pickers' hi vis jackets, liaise with Bucks Council to provide bags and arrange the collection afterwards. A key element is also to be jolly and motivating!! If anyone is interested please get in touch with the parish council through the clerk to take things forward:

clerk@laceygreen-pc.org.uk



Tim Macgillivray

Easter at St John's



Our Palm Sunday service began with the Liturgy of the Palms in the Vicarage grounds followed by a solemn procession into Church in commemoration of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem for the final week of his earthly ministry.

Then followed the Liturgy of the Passion in which the sermon spot was devoted to a reading by three voices of the Passion of the Church according to Saint Mark.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday services in Holy Week took the form of the ancient Office of Compline together with a seasonal hymn and choir anthem. On the morning of Maundy Thursday, the Church hosted the respective end-of-term services for Speen C of E First School and St. John's C of E Academy. Our evening Church

service took the form of the Eucharist of the Last Supper followed by the Stripping of the Altar. On Good Friday afternoon the service was based on readings, anthems and hymns from the Royal School of Church Music publication "The Cross of Christ".

It is a long-standing tradition at St. John's Church that, after the Good Friday service we make our way outside for Good Friday prayers at the foot of the large wooden outdoor cross on the corner of Church Lane and Main Road.

On Easter morn, at 6.15am, a few of us joined a congregation of over fifty people from a variety of churches in the Princes Risborough area for the Churches Together in Risborough Easter sunrise service.

At around the same time the large wooden outdoor cross was being decorated with daffodils, which is another long-standing St. John's Easter season custom.

The ancient Easter ceremonies were incorporated into our 8am service and, at the commencement of our 10am Easter service, we were led by



Highland Pipers, father and son Andrew and Archie Cowie, to the outdoor cross for Easter prayers before being led by the Pipers back into Church for a very well-attended Easter Sung Communion.

Easter Day culminated for us with Festal Evensong led by the St. John's Church choir. This brought to a conclusion a most uplifting and fulfilling commemoration of Holy Week and Easter.

Tony Bundock

D-Day Landing Anniversary

To commemorate this important event in our country's history, the Lacey Green and Loosley Row Parish Council are planning and working on a special project with both St. John's Church of England Primary School and St. John's Parish Church.

The school will be holding a D-Day 80 year anniversary theme day on Monday 3rd June, when each class of pupils will work on either an art, drama or writing project, with a D-Day theme appropriate to their age.

On Thursday 6th June, the school will host an exhibition to parents, displaying some of the work prepared on the Monday.

This is planned to run from 2pm until 4pm. Members of the Parish Council will judge the children's work and the Parish Council are providing prizes to the winning entrant in each age group.

The Lacey Green Local History Group will also have a presence at the exhibition by displaying a selection of local photographs and perhaps some artefacts of Lacey Green and Loosley Row

during the Second World War period.

On Sunday June 9th it is planned to hold a special service in St. John's Church to commemorate the D-Day Landings. Examples of the pupils' work from their exhibition will be used to decorate the Church on this occasion.

Keith Bowler

Lacey Green Parish Council

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Happy Wanderers

The Happy Wanderers AGM, which is one of the important dates in our programme, was held at the Lacey Green Village Hall on Sunday March 24th. There were 26 members present which was very encouraging.

The Chairman, Roger Walker had previously announced that as he was moving away from the area, he would be stepping down from the role. Very fortunately for the Club, Chris Boll agreed to take on the role of Chairman. The secretary, Liz Lewin and the treasurer, Peter Clee were prepared to keep going in their roles for another year.

The rest of the business was quite straightforward and we ended the meeting with a drink and some lunch before some of us went on a local walk from Kiln Lane.



We would love to have some new members. I can recommend us as a very friendly and welcoming group who meet once a month on the 4th Sunday of the month.

We usually walk between 3-4 miles and finish at a pub for lunch! Please come along!

Liz Lewin
01844 274961

Tennis Club

We kicked off the season, in early April, with a very well-attended Open Day. This was a chance for new members to experience what is on offer at the club and meet existing members, many of whom came out of hibernation for what appeared to be the only day in April that it didn't rain! Numbers at the club have grown this year the tots tennis being particularly popular.

The Gin and Fizz night in early May was a little smaller than previous but as always proved to be a very enjoyable evening. We are looking forward to a summer BBQ and the ever-popular Christmas party later this year.

The winter leagues were very successful, seeing the men's team win division 5, the mixed team come second in division 6, and the ladies 5th in division 7. The summer season has got off to a flying start for the mixed doubles who are through to the quarter finals of the KO bronze cup and sitting top of division 6.

Coming up in 2024: We have a friendly mixed doubles tournament running on the 9th

June, the summer singles tournament final on the 22nd June (with drinks, nibbles and hopefully a BBQ). The men's team are heading out to La Manga again in October to work on their tans... sorry, tennis.

The big news is, after a couple of years of planning and fundraising, the toilet facility will

be built at the club this summer. Plans will be made to ensure minimal disruption to anyone using the club and Slad Lane.

If anyone is keen to get out on the courts and enjoy the sunshine please do get in with us.

Nicky Housby



The Black Horse

The year has got off to a good start and we have plenty more planned for the rest of Spring and into Summer as the weather gets warmer!

The Black Horse has hosted some fabulous events this year, beginning with celebrating Burns Night and Mother's Day! Thanks to all those who attended and got involved, hopefully we will have more soon!

We were sad to see our chef AJ leave earlier this year; we would like to thank him for all his hard work over the last two years and wish him all the best in his new

job and the future. We now have Heather in the kitchen who has already put her own spin on the menu and cooked up some lovely specials which are going down well with our regulars!

It is always a pleasure to have the company of the Over 50's Pub Lunch on the first Tuesday of the month. All are welcome so if you are interested in joining, please see the contact details at the back of the Hallmark.

Dominoes and Crib are doing well in the Spring league! Well done to them! If you are interested in getting involved,

please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are also looking for more teams and if any other pubs are interested in getting involved, please contact Lynne.

Looking to the year ahead we have lots of exciting things lined up. We are going to start doing food Monday lunch and evenings so book your table now! We are also looking at hosting monthly quizzes and a possibly a Beer Festival later in the summer!

The Black Horse Team



Holey News

There's a Hole in my Garden, Dear Tony,.....

It was in the early hours of 20th February, and following several days of very heavy rain, that it was discovered that a large hole had opened up in the Vicarage Garden just behind the garage.

In fact, it was the family dog Murphy who first found the hole when he was let out for a morning constitutional at around 5.30am just before dawn; then disappearing behind the garage.

The hole measured around five feet deep and five feet across; and finding the hole in the way that he did left Murphy with something of a sore back for quite a few days afterwards.

Recovering him from the mud at the bottom of the hole required a ladder and it was no wonder that he then ran back into the house at top speed.

Investigations by a geologist concluded that the hole may well have been a sinkhole but more likely the outcome of the collapse of an old disused well.

the hole with gravel so that it would continue to be porous. Meanwhile the garage was emptied just in case the hole suddenly became significantly bigger.

The hole was duly filled by way of one-ton bags of gravel - ten bags in fact. This remedial action took place on 27th March. Further geological investigations are planned in order to establish whether or not there is a possibility that the hole might again open up further down. The plan is then to add a layer of topsoil over the pit of gravel and to bring the garage back into use.

The prescribed solution was to fill

Tony Bundock



Did you know that the church has a box for One Can donations by the entrance.

Right now, vulnerable families and individuals living locally need your support more than ever. Demand is at the highest levels we've ever seen and with the continuing cost of living crisis, we fear it'll rise further. At present they are asking for:

Tinned meat meals	Peanut butter and honey
Tinned ham & corned beef (low salt)	Cooking oil (e.g. olive oil, 500ml)
Tinned fish (especially oily fish)	Cooking & pasta sauces
UHT milk	Tinned soup
Tinned potatoes and vegetables	Toilet roll
Tinned fruit	Toothpaste / shower gel / deodorant
Tea / instant coffee	Tampons
Healthy cereals (Weetabix or oats)	Nappies (sizes 5, 6, 7, 8 only)

If you are taking a walk down Church Lane, please have a look at our lovely new noticeboard hand crafted by Mike Eden. The birds on the top represent the 12 disciples.



Rotary Club Of Princes Risborough

We have had a busy and fun few weeks recently. Both the breakfast morning at the Red Lion Bradenham, and the curry evening, were popular, and the Ten Pin bowling night was as entertaining as ever. The Race Night at the Brushwood Suite, Wades Park, was fully booked and a great fundraiser.

In addition, our stall at the April Farmers' Market attracted considerable attention, with our "guess the number of ducks in the crate" competition, in aid of local charities, proving very successful. We have also welcomed 3 new members to the Club, bringing our membership to 62.

We are now focusing on our charity "Risborough Rotary Ramble" on July 7th (the first Sunday of the Town's Festival).

See rcpr.org.uk or email gpcard@gmail.com

Graeme Card



ChildCare Malawi is a local micro charity providing practical assistance for disadvantaged children in Malawi and ongoing support for their families. We send an annual consignment of good quality, nearly new items to Malawi for distribution free of charge and would be grateful for donations of:

- ★ Clothes for babies, children, teenagers and adults suitable for a warm climate (not woollens or coats)
- ★ Summer shoes, sandals and flip-flops for all ages
- ★ Bags, handbags and rucksacks
- ★ Simple toys and games (not requiring batteries)
- ★ Picture, story and reference books for primary school age groups
- ★ Towels and bedding (including duvets and blankets)
- ★ Reasonably new smartphones (unlocked)
- ★ Laptop computers and compact digital cameras in good working order
- ★ Wedding dresses and all bridal accessories

Clare Clements ★ www.childcaremalawi.org.uk
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St John's School

It is hard to believe that as I write this we are almost at the end of another academic year. Currently the Year 6 pupils are sitting their SATs. Reflecting back, I am proud of the achievements of our pupils and staff which have contributed to another successful year.

The Autumn Term was full of promise as we welcomed our new Reception intake for the very first time, as well as welcoming pupils from Speen to begin their KS2 education with us. We enjoyed our harvest festival in Church and continue to hold a regular collection for the Wycombe Food Hub. The term culminated in the now famous KS2 pantomime, adding a little fun to the serious business of the telling the story of the Nativity which was expertly delivered by KS1 and Reception.

The Spring term began with Y4,5 and 6 pupils attending the Young Voices Concert in Birmingham. I hope that giving the pupils the opportunity to sing as part of a massed choir in a packed arena will inspire some to pursue singing and develop a love of music beyond their time at school.



Our sports teams continued to excel, with the boys winning their football league for the third consecutive season and our netballers again competitive in their matches.

Without the Upper School running sports events, I've been grateful for the contribution by our staff in stepping up to ensure that our pupils are still given the opportunities to represent the school at sport.

Our younger pupils were also successful, winning the inaugural KS1 five-a-side festival. Our girls football team continues to shine, improving with each game and claiming some notable victories.

Our curriculum continues to develop, and pupils have been given additional experiences. Highlights includes Hazard Alley (Y6) to learn about keeping safe and 'citizenship', Y5 have visited Dorset for a 3-day residential, (see photo below) with Year 3/4 attending Verulanium Roman Site. Reception and KS1 have trips planned to College Lake and Wooley Firs Nature reserve.

Our links with the community continue to be as strong as ever with pupils supporting the litter picks and encouraging their own parents to park sensibly and not leave their engines idling – I suspect this message may take longer to sink in but rest assured the message continues to be shared!

Finally our church school ethos remains the backbone and a guiding light over everything we do as a school, for that my eternal thanks must go to Reverend Tony and the rest of the clergy team.



For school updates, and to see what the pupils are getting up to, please follow us on Twitter and Instagram @stjohnscebucks

Ian Newton
Headmaster

(Editor's note: I was sad to hear that Ian is moving on to another school. He has done a great job over the past 5 years and will be sorely missed)



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(wash, glass cleaner, hoover, upholstery cleaned, interior plastics/leather cleaned)
- Standard wash + for cars with pet hair: £70
(wash, glass cleaner, hoover, upholstery cleaned, interior plastics/leather cleaned)
- Polish (regular) £125 this includes the standard wash +
- Protective polish (lasts at least a year but up to two years) £250 including the standard wash +

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Contact me, Josie on Josiechestnutt2@gmail.com Mobile number:07749 061470

Meet your councillors



A couple of weeks before Easter our councillors held a 'surgery' in Lacey Green Village Hall so I went along to meet them. We are in the Ridgeway West ward of Buckinghamshire Council and three councillors have been elected for our ward. They will be running 4 surgeries this year. Today the surgery was being run by Councillor Shade Adoh and Councillor Robert Carington.

They did not hold a surgery in Lacey Green last year and as it was still early in the year, word had not got around as much as they would like and very few residents attended. We agreed that more publicity will be needed for the next meeting in Lacey Green at the end of November. I was told that though they are happy to discuss any topic, people come to the face to face meetings to discuss the more complex and delicate issues.

Each councillor has specific responsibilities within the Council. Councillor Adoh speaks on equality and diversity. She is also on the Council's select committee for adult and social care and the select committee for children and education. She also sits on the Fire Authority

executive. Councillor Carington is Vice Chairman of the Transport, Environment and Climate select committee as well as sits on the Audit and Governance Select Committee and the Standards Committees. Both of them have full time jobs outside the council and both have families to look after. They must have very full diaries!

Councillor Adoh has been a councillor since 2015 and has been through the merger of the old District and County Councils into the unitary authority. We discussed projects that the councillors have worked on in our ward.

They talked about the role of the North West Chiltern Community Board and the funding it can bring to local charities and good causes. If you look at their website you can find some examples of local projects that they have carried out.

If you are associated with a local organisation who are trying to raise money then the Community Board should be one of your first contacts.

They can provide grants of up to £1,000 for small projects, or contributory funding of up to £15,000 for larger projects.

Mike Piercy



Arriva have announced the potential closures of both High Wycombe and Aylesbury bus depots effectively pulling out of the region.

This would have a profoundly negative impact on local passengers reliant on a service. Rest assured your elected councillors and MP's are working behind the scenes to minimise any reductions to our local bus services.

Robert Carington

Taking Care of our Landscape



Linnet

The linnet is a small finch of scrub and farmland that feeds on seeds. Linnet males have brown backs, grey heads, and pink foreheads and chests. Females are paler and streaky. In winter, they may form large flocks with other seed-eating birds.



Corn Bunting

The corn bunting is a sparrow-sized, streaky brown bird with a thick bill. It can be found in hedgerows and on farmland, feeding on seeds and insects. Look for male corn buntings singing from the top of bushes – although it sounds just like a set of jangling keys!

The Chilterns National Landscape is a living, working landscape, which has been shaped by people for centuries – nearly two-thirds of the Chilterns is farmland and over one-fifth is wooded.

Chilterns National Landscape hosts a major partnership project in the Central Chilterns that concentrates on connecting people to their local landscape, enhancing and protecting wildlife and heritage, and encouraging volunteering.

Chalk, Cherries and Chairs is an ambitious Landscape Partnership Scheme, primarily funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Amongst many other activities, Chalk, Cherries and Chairs encourages farmers and landowners to work together to aid nature's recovery across boundaries.

We support the Central Chilterns Farmer Cluster which helps farmers to understand the wildlife and habitats on their land and link their conservation efforts with those of other local farmers. The Cluster includes Stocken Farm in Lacey Green. Our volunteers have been surveying birds on three farms within the Cluster as part of a wider project to build a picture of our local wildlife.

This has been coupled with the installation of around 80 owl boxes and supporting farmers with winter supplementary bird food over the last five winters, which has been a massive boost for farmland bird numbers.

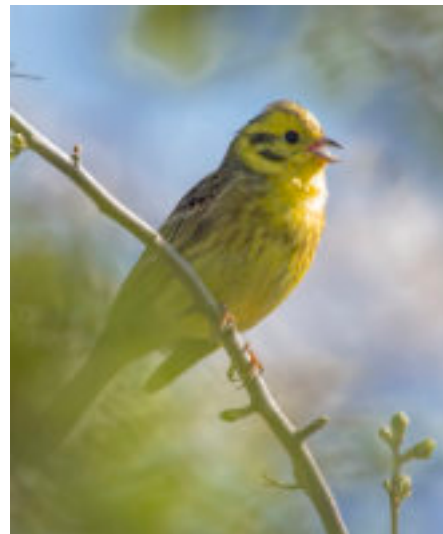
Thanks to these efforts, if you take a walk around Stocken Farm today, you might spot traditional farmland species like corn bunting, yellowhammer, linnet, chaffinch and skylark – just some of the birds that have been counted among the 72 species recorded in the area by the Chalk, Cherries and Chairs Scheme.

Text by Helen Walsh of CCC and photos by Roy Macdonald



Skylark

A typical bird of farmland and grassland, look out for male skylarks rising above the grasses and crops to sing their famous songs. These complex song-flights can last for up to an hour! Skylarks are not showy in their plumage, however, with a streaky brown body and a crest.



Yellowhammer

Yellowhammers perch on top of bushes singing – their song follows the rhythm, 'a little bit of bread and no cheese'. They favour woodland edges, hedgerows and farmland, and feed on seeds and insects.

The male yellowhammer is a small, bright yellow bird with a streaky brown back. Females are streaky brown.

Youth Club

Lacey Green, Loosley Row and Speen Youth Club started back after the Easter break with another wonderful term filled with fun and excitement!

We are still welcoming lots of new members; with the Youth Club being a really popular social event for our local youngsters with over 40 attendees from Year 6 - Year 9 every session!

We meet fortnightly, for just £3 a session, at the Millennium Hall, 7:30pm-9pm. All children Year 6 onwards, who live in Lacey Green, Loosley Row or Speen are welcome to attend; as well as those who attended St John's School. The dates are also available on the Lacey Green Website.

We have recently had a session at Fun Splash at Risborough Springs, with Tag Rugby and Laser Tag lined up for later in the summer term. Hopefully with the weather getting better, we can do more outside activities!

This term we have had 2 young adults helping as part of their D of E award. Thank you to Martha Rigg and Rose Symmons for their time and support so far this year.

We will return for the Autumn term on Friday 6th September, where we will be inviting the next group of year 6 pupils from Lacey Green, Speen, Loosely Row and those that attend St John's School.

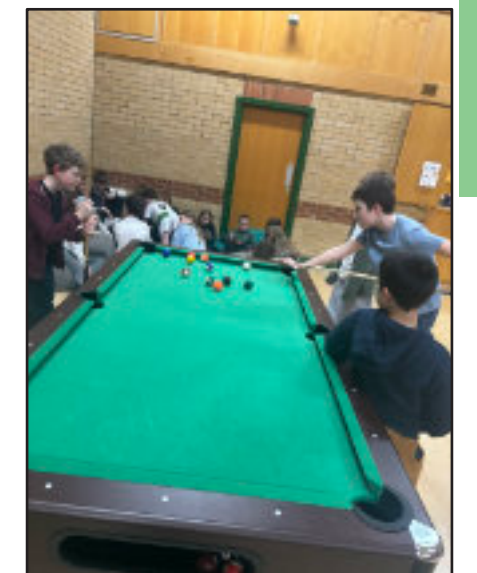
As with all volunteer run organisations, we are always looking for helpers and volunteers who would like to join us; or any locals that may have particular skills or hobbies that they would like to share with our young people. So, if this is you...please do get in touch!

Thank you so much to all the parents who have been helping out so far this term and last term. Without these helpers we would not be able to offer this fabulous club to our youngsters.

If you would like more information about the LLS Youth Club, please visit the Lacey Green website www.laceygreen.com or email directly to natashakann@gmail.com

Natasha Kann

Youth Club Leader



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Horticultural Society

The Horticultural Society held its Spring Show in March and the benches were a riot of colour. Well done to everyone who took part. The children's entries were, as usual, very inventive and amusing. The adults too displayed skills from baking, to crafts and of course, gardening. There are a couple of pictures here, but full results and more photographs are available on the village website.

We also had our AGM in March, with a very popular talk from Simon Bolton: Badger's Garden. A fascinating insight into a new, local, commercial horticultural venture. Anyone who has eaten Simon's salads will know just how delicious they are – literally as good as they look!

Also at the AGM we were told that our Treasurer, John Burnett, and Membership secretary, Laura Chapman, are stepping down in 2025. John and Laura have been a mainstay of the society for over 20 years and now feel that it is someone else's turn to help out. They will of course be part of the society in future, but are exhausted having given so much over the years.

However, we are now faced with a position that many societies and clubs are facing – vacancies on the committee which mean that unless we replace them, the society will fold. We have prided ourselves on being a friendly group ready to try out new ideas for social activities based around a love of gardens, the natural

world and the produce we grow and eat. We maintain traditions of sharing our knowledge and enthusiasm for growing through the two shows we hold each year.

These traditions are likely to die out and this is in an era which has seen a rise in the popularity of shows such as the Chelsea Flower Show, Hampton Court and Tatton Park. Big commercial ventures with thousands of visitors each year. Gardening programmes proliferate on the TV and lockdown saw a rise in interest in gardening and growing your own food.

It will be a sad day if we have to stop our activities next year for want of a few hours of help with organising and running the society. The committee meet one evening every other month and it is always a social event. The other months are the Wednesday evening talks, garden visits, and additional practical workshops sometimes at weekends. We have grown new traditions, as well as preserving older ones and it would be a sad loss to our villages if we can't continue. So please have a think about the skills you have and might like to share with us. Or perhaps you know someone who, with a little encouragement, would enjoy a role on the committee of the LR & LG Horticultural Society.

Alison Shreeve

Chair LRLGHS



Article

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Lacey Green Convenience Stores

In the last edition of Hallmark we met Gumma who runs the Convenience Stores with the assistance of Priya and Harman. She has been telling me of the improvements that they have been making recently.

After a long wait for a network connection, you can now buy National Lottery tickets - see the photo below right.

You can now drop off parcels for collection and dispatch by the Evri couriers.

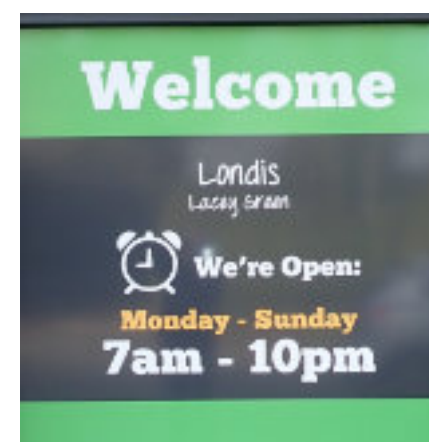
There's a new stationery area for



a new freezer with a wide selection of ice creams.

Looking forward to August we will see the arrival of a full-size Costa Coffee machine, improving the quality of your morning caffeine hit.

The big news is that the shop is now almost one year old. Gumma is planning to hold a Birthday Event on June 23 and will be providing hot Indian snacks for all comers – even for those of you who are not yet shop regulars.



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The New Tree for the Millennium Hall

If you have visited the hall recently you might have noticed a new tub with a young tree in it sitting in the centre of the outside seating area. This tree was bought by the Loosley Row and Lacey Green Horticultural Society and we hope it will grace the entrance for a good few years to come.

The tree is Sorbus Cashmiriana. It is a rowan, but as the name suggests, it originates from the Western Himalayas, including the Kashmir Region of Northern India.

It was selected because it doesn't grow to more than 20 feet and has several decorative qualities. In the spring it has white blossom tinged with pink. The leaf petioles (stalks) are red in colour and the leaves a soft greyish green. When the berries ripen they are white rather than orange or red like our native rowan trees. These persist for a reasonable time into the winter after the leaves have fallen.

The tree will be underplanted with bedding and bulbs, so that we maintain some interest at a lower level as well!

The photograph was taken by Leigh Axe and shows Alison Shreeve, John Burnett, Laura Chapman and Adam Heeley.



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Windmill WI

For our first meeting of the year our speaker was Rosemary Mortham demonstrating lace making. Rosemary brought lots of samples with her and some of our members had a go at simple lace making. It was a very interesting talk.

In March we had Ken and June Brazier talking to us about 'Managing a Pilgrim Hostel in Spain'. This was a very good talk with lots of slides and descriptions of the people who stayed in the hostels.

We held our first Jumble Sale of the year in March when we had lots of helpers but not so much jumble. After lunch at the pub we had a busy afternoon selling and we were very pleased with the result.

At the end of the month 15 of us caught the bus to Aylesbury to the Waterside Theatre where we saw Calendar Girls. An excellent performance which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Our monthly meeting for April was Dave Brown. He gave us a very interesting talk on the history of the RAF High Wycombe and the Sir Arthur 'Bomber' Harris Room. We are hoping to visit this room sometime in the summer.

In April Daphne and I went to the Annual Council Meeting in Aylesbury. This was a very full day when we met lots of other WI ladies. The speakers were excellent, including Helen Fry who has written many books on the social history of the Second World War. Her talk focused on Women In Intelligence which was most interesting.

At the end of April we hosted the Village Quiz which, as usual was a fun evening. There were 19 teams and the U3A came out winners.

In May we had our Resolution Meeting where we discuss and vote on the resolution which will be put to members at the National Federation of Women's Institutes' Annual Meeting at the Albert Hall in June. After all the serious stuff we had drinks and nibbles and had a Beetle Drive!

We meet at the Village Hall on the first Wednesday in the month (except January) at 7.45pm. If you would like to come and join us you would receive a warm welcome. We have lots of interesting speakers and outings.

Ann Bartlett

Village Quiz

We were delighted with the turnout for the Village Quiz which we held in April. There were 19 tables and we would like to thank all the organisations who entered

a team and those who gave raffle prizes. The High Wycombe U3A took home the winner's trophy! We were very pleased to be able to give £80 to the Lighthouse

Holiday Club (the Question Master's 'fee') and £230 to Lacey Green Village Hall Funds.

The Windmill WI

History Group

Members of the Group would like to thank everyone who attended our recent Memory Lane Exhibition. It was a very enjoyable weekend, and as usual we learnt such a lot from those who came.

Next year, we shall be joining in the celebrations for the 200th Anniversary of St. John's Church, and are already preparing a display. There will be a week of celebrations at the beginning of July 2025, and it is hoped that the whole village, including the school, will take part. If you have any ideas, please contact Rosemary Mortham.

Sadly, we shall no longer be holding regular meetings. Our

members are all getting older, and suffering from various health issues. However, we shall still be replying to any email enquiries which are received by the Village Website. We do receive quite a number of these, from all over the world.

Joan West will continue to work on her WIKI site, which anyone can access. If you haven't already looked at this, please do. She will be happy to hear from anyone who can supply information, and particularly those who have moved to the village, on what attracted them to come here. You can find this on www.laceygreenhistory.com and see p35.

Recently, Laurence Rostron has been helping her with some very old documents about the village, so there is more to come.

There is now a fairly large History Archive from our work over the years, which is housed in a locked metal cabinet in the Village Hall. Our hope is that this will be available for any villager who would like to take up history research in the future.

We hope that this is not the end, and will continue to help whenever we can.

Rosemary Mortham
(Secretary Village History Group)

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On the Farm

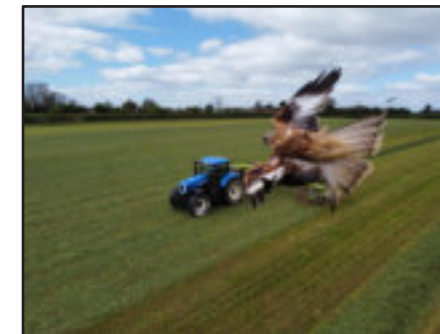
The extremely wet winter weather is still having its effect on farmers in the region. On average we have had an inch of rain per week since mid-October. With breaks in the weather allowing frantic periods of work to get overdue tasks done. Spring cereals were planted later than most would have liked for optimal yields, these crops replacing the planned autumn planted crops that never got planted or failed to get established. Our maize has been planted in mid-May when we are usually aiming for the last week of April, this will push the harvest date back a bit. But good planting conditions should allow the crop to get off to a good start.

The cows have been turned out a month later as we waited for the grazing fields to dry enough not to be instantly churned up by their feet. We operate a hybrid system where the cows have top up feed indoors and also graze so we are more flexible.

There are many farmers, more to the west of the U.K. that rely on grass only in the spring. With the cold wet weather in March and April these cows have not milked well, which has reduced the U.K.'s spring flush of milk. This is when the country peaks in milk production, and the milk price is often reduced. In the middle of May the U.K. were producing 44.13 million litres of milk per day which is 903,000 litres less per day than last year, 2.4% down on long term average.

Arla announced this spring it is planning a new cheese plant in Devon, making mozzarella. Cheese making helps with the spring flush. Milk supply is finely balanced. The USA is 1% down in milk production which will probably lead to milk prices rising later this year.

Winter crops of wheat do not look good here, but also across Northern Europe and Russia (a major exporter) which will result in a smaller 2024 harvest and putting pressure on wheat prices, something we will probably notice in food prices next year.



We did the first cut of grass for silage on 20th April, hopefully 2nd cut will be around a month later. If we can cut the grass before it goes to seed, the silage we make will be high in protein and highly digestible so the cows produce more milk from it, hopefully resulting in us needing to feed less of the expensive concentrates. See the photo above for a red kite's view of silaging and the photo below of grass being picked up in a field called 'Wathams'. (if you walk the footpath between Westlands and Church Lane you will recognise it).



The picture below shows maize being planted in a field we call 'Moseley' in Naphill. Maize seed has got very expensive, now costing towards £100 acre, so you can't afford to make mistakes, or plant it in the wrong conditions.



On a positive note our herd has now been declared free of Bovine Tuberculosis (TB). We have tested all the cows 5 times in the last year, some have been culled but we have now had 2 clear tests, so a big relief.

However we are a closed herd, which means we do not buy cows in, so the initial TB infection probably came from infected wildlife in the area, making it highly likely to return. We try to mitigate against this but, with cattle now going out to graze, it becomes very difficult.

Construction has started of our new grain store. Hopefully this will be ready for this year's harvest. Our old grain barn is over 40 years old, it has been a subject of conversation during our Red Tractor Audits and is no longer really fit for purpose. The walls, being made of metal, are becoming weak with fatigue and the roof is not high enough to tip modern trailers so its replacement should be a big improvement. It will also be easier to clean and so keep insect and rodent free.

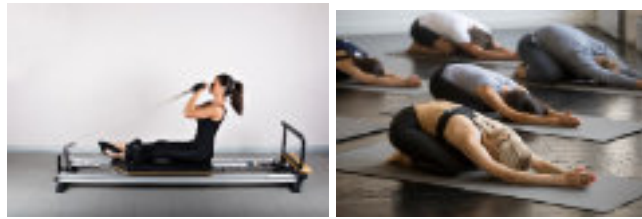
We will soon be planting up some areas to be left for nature as part of our Mid-Tier Agreement. These are field corners and less productive areas of the farm. We are planting 3 plots of nectar flowers and several areas to provide bird food next winter, that should provide food in the hungry months for various farmland birds. See p18.

We have some hedge planting planned in for next year. We have done the first bird survey this spring, still with good numbers recorded despite not being the kindest of weather on the day. We will be doing another one shortly and a butterfly survey is being conducted throughout the summer so lots of things are happening!

Richard West

Speen Pilates

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Fitness can be fun



The media feeds us a string of messages about how we should take more exercise and become fitter. Many of us have joined a gym in the past and have had the lonely experience of battling away on exercise machines getting utterly bored. Doing it on your own can be very dispiriting and it's hard to find the motivation to keep going.

The alternative is to go to group classes. These are much more social and if you've got a good group leader can be lots of fun. The exercises and movements vary each time so it's not so boring, and you can make new friends after the class and get support from them. However it can be difficult to find a class that fits in with your schedule and needs. Also the cost can build up, classes normally cost around £11 per session and the experts recommend that we do at least two sessions per week to maintain our fitness.

Following a recommendation from a Hallmark reader I visited the Prestwood Gym & Fitness Centre and met with Luke Askew, the Manager. The centre is only 10 minutes drive from Lacey Green and is open from dawn till late 7 days a week. Luke explained to me that he is trying to set up a hybrid model where they have a fully equipped gym for those who want to use the machines but also have a wide

range of classes with multiple classes every day.

His target audience is Seniors and many of the weekday classes are tailored for older people and a slower pace; though the gym does put on basic strength courses where an experienced trainer leads a small group through a range of exercises on the machines.

Most classes take place in the purpose built studio. These include Tai Chi, Pilates, Yoga, Aerobics, and Zumba. The good news is that once you have paid the membership fee, (less than £10 per week) all the classes are free, and you can go as often as you wish.

The gym staff are all mature adults trained and qualified to assist members, many of them have been at the centre for over 10 years. One of them is qualified to work with members who have been referred to the centre by their GP for specific remedial or recovery exercises, and the others are

qualified personal trainers.

The centre is a charity community facility not a commercial organisation. The land is owned by the Prestwood Sports & Leisure Association, and the centre is run by a not-for-profit charitable organisation who also run many other leisure centres. The team pride themselves on supporting the local community and get involved with charitable events based at the centre.

There are no long contracts, just 30 days notice, so give it a try and see if it suits you.

Mike Piercy



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Sports Club

So far we are having an exciting start to the year at the sports club. As I am writing, we have just played the first week of cricket to kick off the season. Unfortunately the second team lost at home, however we had a lovely day of sunshine and the bar was open so a couple of drinks were consumed! On the upside our first team won away at Bradenham.

As the cricket season gets underway if you are interested in getting involved, we are always looking for more players, scorers and spectators. Please check the website for more information.

Our amazing volunteer grounds team have been hard at work getting the sports field back in shape after the long winter, with the mowers receiving some much needed maintenance too! Many hours of work goes into making the field ready and looking great for cricket and other summer activities.

We have had the Sports Club AGM. Thank you to all our current committee for staying on for next year as well as a couple of newcomers, it is great to have

such a strong group giving their time to running and improving the club. We discussed lots of plans and ideas for the future of the club and we can't wait to share more with you soon!

There has been some new work started at the club with some new bi-fold doors being installed. Thank you to Apollo Trade Window Store Ltd. and Dell Bros for your work on the installation. The next step will be redoing the patio area at the front of the club. This would not have been possible without the great fundraising we had last year, which means that we can afford improvements such as these and we can keep enhancing the club to look even better.

Our big summer fundraiser will be Saturday Night Fever and will take place on 6th July. It is certain to be a great event so if you are interested please see the advert on p7. Thanks to our sponsors The Black Horse, Country Supplies, Tyre Team and P.A. Spittles Landscapes. We look forward to seeing you there!

Make sure you are following our Facebook page and Website for all

Windmill

replacing the stocks; the 2 large pieces of wood holding the sails. There are some very clever people out there!

The Committee are planning a number of fundraising events which will be held in the Village Hall; these will be posted on the Village Hall Noticeboard, LGW website, Facebook and the LG&LR Website. Please look out for these dates as we would love to see lots of people; they will be fun events and a great way to get together with friends.

The Windmill is open every Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays until the end of September and we have had many visitors which is brilliant. We have a Windmill Quiz for children which is proving very popular and the children always keep the Wardens busy with their questions! As I



the latest information about this and other events that we have planned. We are hoping to show some sporting events later in the season after cricket as well as a Bingo Night.

There have already been bookings this year for hiring the clubhouse including School Cricket Tournament and WI Ploughmans. We've hosted a range of successful parties and celebrations. If you are interested in hiring the club please see more details on our website (www.lgrsc.co.uk).

The Sports Club Committee

always say if you haven't visited this wonderful historic building we would love to see you, it's amazing how many of us don't visit local attractions on our doorstep. If you know anyone who would like to become a Warden please ask them to get in touch with Jane.

We will keep you updated with the work, please check our website laceygreenwindmill.org.uk as we will post information here. If you want to be involved in our fundraising efforts we would be pleased to hear from you.

Supporters always welcome, if you have any spare time and want to volunteer please get in touch with Jane by email.

Jane Herve

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- Printer setup, configuration, diagnostics
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- Small business system upgrades/refresh



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About 10 years ago after bumping into a chap I used to work with, who suggested I came over to look at Workaid in Chesham to see what they were doing. I signed up as a volunteer for one afternoon a week.

The aim of Workaid is to provide tools and equipment for vocational projects in Africa. To teach young people skills and to empower them to make a sustainable living or set up their own small businesses. Projects may include woodworking, tailoring and sewing, plumbing, engineering and vehicle maintenance.

The tools are all donated to Workaid by the public who have a shed or workshop to clear out, moving house or following a bereavement. Everything from woodworking tools, hand tools through to sewing machines, knitting machines and haberdashery. Equipment is then cleaned and serviced, packed in relevant kits, loaded into containers and exported to Africa where local agents supervise the allocation.

Any surplus or non-suitable equipment is sold either through our "Charity shop with a difference" or on eBay to raise funds to pay for the containers and workshop running costs.

I volunteer in the "heavy" machine workshop where we service and repair larger machines such as woodworking and engineering machines, compressors, air tools etc. I also do maintenance and safety on the charity's own workshop machinery.

I work with an amazing bunch of people who have worked in different industries and have retired but have so much experience and skills to offer. We also have a Duke of Edinburgh award volunteer. Not only do I feel a huge satisfaction doing a great job training people in Africa but I've made some really good friends there.



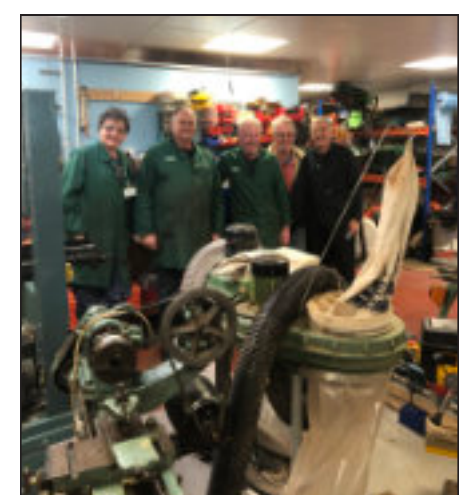
Installing machinery in Uganda

Volunteers are welcome from all the community, retired people from every discipline who have something to offer, skilled or unskilled, people with learning difficulties or recovering from illness or injuries. There are two shifts a day and the charity even provide free tea and biscuits!

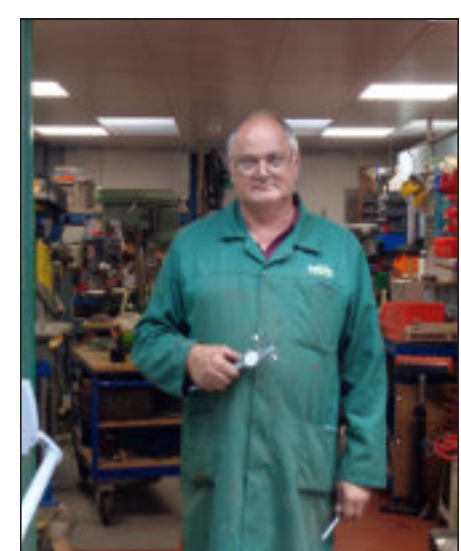
Workaid are always looking for more donations of tools, sewing machines etc. So if you are looking to do some worthwhile volunteering or have a tools donation please contact the office. 01494 775220

John Burnett

Workaid is a charity based in Chesham, founded in 1986, empowering young people in Africa (and the UK) to help themselves by developing the skills and knowledge needed to find gainful employment or start their own business. We do this by refurbishing donated tools to a high standard and shipping them to training centres and self-help organisations in Africa. Our Chesham workshop operates with a community of dedicated volunteers who bring a wealth of skills and abilities to refurbishing donated tools and equipment.



heavy machinery crew



John Burnett

Volunteering

Interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities and finding something that you are passionate about?

We have volunteer openings in a variety of roles so why not get in touch?

Explore in more detail on workaid.org/volunteer or scan the QR code.



Useful local numbers

Local		National	
Bucks Council	0300 131 6000	Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Councillor Etholen	07810 442617	Water Emergency	0800 3169800
PR Community Bus	07941 963097	Electricity Emergency	0800 404090
PR Information Centre	01844 274795	Power Cuts	105
PR Library	01296 382415	NHS Direct	111
Brownies (Naphill)	01494565571	Police non-emergency	101
Scouts (Naphill)	01494 565955	Childline	0800 1111
Hughenden Doctors	01494 562189	Samaritans	116 123
Cross Keys Doctors	01844 344488	Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Unity Health Doctors	01844 344281	Citizens Advice	0808 2787938
Sprinz & Nash Vets	01844 345655	Consumer Advice	0808 2231133
Womens Aid	01494 461367	The Arts Society West Wycombe	07885 232171
Equus drama group	07809 624864		
Sports Club	07768 831196	VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Clive Hodgton (Chair) Jane Hervé (Secretary) Leigh Axe (Treasurer) Natasha Kann (Booking Sec.) Yvonne Axe, Vivien Sheehan, Pam Bowell, Cathryn Davies, Fiona Quilter-Wood	
Tennis Club	01844 342771		
Parish Council	07495 300626		
Black Horse Pub	01844 345195		

Defibrillator

Remember that there is a defibrillator unit mounted on the outside wall of the Hall near the kitchen door. In case of a cardiac emergency dial 999 and the operator will talk you through how to use it. It requires no previous training.

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

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

Printed by Hartgraph Ltd 01628 810 523

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE SEPTEMBER EDITION

August 15th 2024



DISCOVER LACEY GREEN HISTORY WIKI
Connecting the People, Places and Social History of Lacey Green's past

FREE TO USE WEBSITE www.LaceyGreenHistory.com

CREATED BY JOAN WEST Follow on Facebook Lacey Green History Wiki

including the work of many local history researchers

Intrigued by the past around us? Explore Lacey Green, Loosley Row, Speen, Local Parishes and Hamlets

Welcome to "Lacey Green History Wiki", it is a place to explore Lacey Green of the past: the people, the places and the events that shaped our history.

My name is Joan West and local history research is my passion. For over 50 years I have enjoyed investigating local history and putting it together like a jigsaw. It is an ever-evolving picture.... And growing media wiki! Rather than keep it all to myself I wanted to share with others, who I hope will be as curious and intrigued as I have been.

In this wiki, local people, places and events are recorded and linked so that it is possible to trace back through their stories.

For me it all began in 1971 when I hoped to discover the history of Stocken Farm, my husband's family home. Dennis Claydon was already working on the local history here. Dennis and I spent many hours in the Local Records Office, sharing our discoveries. In 1970 the village magazine Hallmark was launched providing more general information and in particular research by Miles Marshall and Rita Probert.

In 2008 the Local History Group was formed when Dennis Claydon and I declined to write a local book knowing that once printed it could not include any new information that came to light. It was decided to put that information on a website.

In this wiki I am putting information from all these sources so that all those people, places and events can be linked to tell their stories, with as many photographs as possible.

So, now you are here, to get started scroll down the indexes below and click on a page. Organised by:

- Properties
- People
- "Social Snapshots" in Decades
- Roads or Locations
- Amenities
- Organisations

Once you are on a page, people, places and events tell their own story, and are linked together where possible

Please have fun and explore! www.LaceyGreenHistory.com

Follow us on Facebook: "Lacey Green History Wiki"

Do you have information to add to the wiki? Please email LaceyGreenHistoryWiki@gmail.com



A person with short blonde hair is seen from the back, looking at a computer monitor. The monitor displays a grid of bright, glowing squares. The background is dark, and the overall scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the monitor's display.

SEE BETTER

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