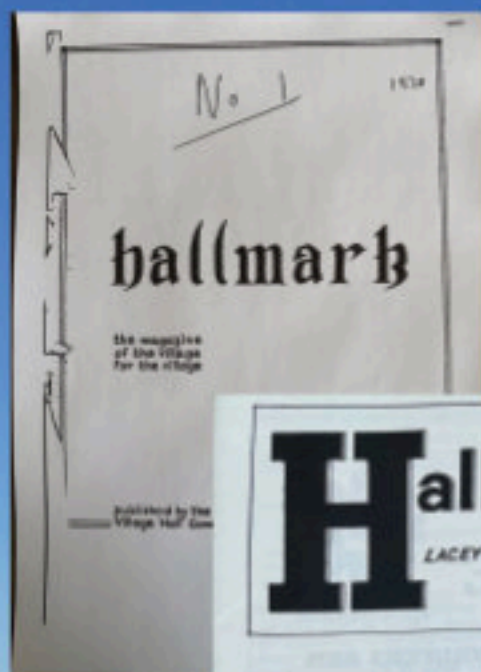


HALLMARK

The Lacey Green and
Loosley Row Magazine
Issue 276



HALLMARK

The Lacey Green and Loosley Row Magazine



1970 to
2025

November 2022

Issue 264

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Welcome to the June (final) edition

EDITOR Mike Piercy 01844 344021 mike.piercy@gmail.com

ADVERTISING Fiona Quilter-Wood. email hallmarkadverts@gmail.com 07809 624 864

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

Goodbye

Well this looks like being the final edition of Hallmark. I appealed for helpers in the December 2004 issue and stated my intention to resign in the March 2025 issue.

No one has come forward to take any significant part of the production task and so Hallmark will go into mothballs. If anyone wishes to revive it or transform it into a different entity fit for the online era, then it is yours to take and I will be happy to help you.

Thank You

I'd like to extend my thanks to all those who have supported Hallmark,

The editors and editorial assistants who wrote articles in the early days

The advertising coordinators who persuaded local firms to advertise in Hallmark and then did all the invoicing and money collection

The distributors who visited every house in the village, delivered the magazines and persuaded readers to make a donation towards the running costs.

The village societies, Stocken Farm, councillors, Church, Chris Dignan etc who have contributed regular articles

Village members who have corresponded with the editor through the Letters page, and expressed their views and opinions. 25 years ago this was the Facebook of the time and there were many letters from residents in each issue



Readers who have donated generously each year to our annual collection and have provided the funds to keep us afloat

Local advertisers who have part funded the costs of production

COFFEE MORNINGS

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

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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

Chair of School Governors Vacancy

St John's CE Primary School is looking for a new Chair of Governors to succeed the current chair who will shortly be stepping down after 17 years' service. This is a rewarding opportunity for someone who cares about children's education and would like to contribute to their local community. No specific skills are required, just a willingness to learn, an ability to listen and ask questions, and a commitment to upholding the Christian values of our highly successful village school.

The role is suitable to individuals over the age of 18 who are able to give a little of their time to this important role (approximately 25-30 hours per year, mostly outside of working hours).

If you are interested and would like to learn more please contact the school office at office@jlg.odbst.org or Caroline Gulliver, the current Chair of Governors, at cgulliver@jlg.odbst.org

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The Editor Reminisces

In 2008 the then editor of Hallmark, Norman Tyler, asked me if I would like to help him producing Hallmark. I agreed and spent the next year helping out until Norman finally retired in 2009.

This was in the day before desktop processing software and much of the process was done manually. We wrote up the articles in Word, printed them out, cut them to size and placed them on an outline sheet.

We used the printer in Princes Risborough opposite the station (now demolished). He assembled our scraps of paper, designed adverts for the advertisers and made the printing plates that controlled his massive old printer. There was no ability to change things around and no possibility of doing any printing in colour. To

differentiate the different issues he would print the cover page onto coloured card with black and white line drawings by local artists.

Most articles came by personal delivery by the author, a few were typed but most were hand written; email did not feature! Norman had a file of little humorous GIFs that Norman would use to fill any blank spaces between articles.

This continued when I took over the full editorship until the printer closed down and I was pushed into laying out the magazine myself on my computer. Originally I used Word but this was very limiting so I progressed to using Page Plus then Affinity Publisher.

The greatest change for the reader came when we started printing some pages in colour. We had to be very sparing with this as including a colour page was very expensive. The print industry has changed significantly over the years and now all pages are printed in colour at no extra cost.

I do miss the interaction with the printers. For many years I used PKInprint in High Wycombe who was very helpful, advised and corrected my mistakes. After he closed down I used a few other local printers and even tried using Internet based printers. Though they claimed to be English the printing was done in Germany and the support was done by a call centre in India - which was very fraught when we had a problem.

Hallmark was set up in 1970 by Ted Janes and the Village Hall Committee and has produced 274 issues.

The history of Hallmark can be followed by reading Joan West's Lacey Green History Wiki (see advert on page x) so I shall not repeat that here.

The aim was to keep people in the villages informed about what was happening, to publicise existing activities and to support new ones.

Communication methods have changed vastly in the past 10 years and the traditional village magazine has been replaced by online apps that give immediate information about forthcoming events, not waiting 3 months for the next issue. I speak to the editors of our neighbouring village magazines and I know they are all on the verge of collapse.

People are unwilling to take on editorial responsibilities and advertisers are reluctant to pay

for adverts that they can post on social media for free.

The magazine itself is not important, what matters is that we do still get out and participate in our community. We must still support activities at the Village Hall, the Sports Club, the Black Horse, the School and the Church. Otherwise we will fall back into the society of the Covid time where we all stayed in and just watched the television.

There have been 8 editors over the 55 years. They were:

1970 - 73 Michael Kent/ Ted Janes

1973 - 94 Ted Janes

1994 - 1995 Peter Trotter / Alison Needham

1995 - 1999 Pat Slade

1999 - 2004 Gordon Lennard

2004 - 2009 Norman Tyler

2009 - 2025 Mike Piercy



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:

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Clare Clements ★ www.childcaremalawi.org.uk
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Naphill Common

Naphill Common is the largest fully wooded common in the Chilterns, with an area of about 70 hectares (170 acres), lying between the villages of Naphill and Bradenham. Most of the Common belongs to the West Wycombe Estate, but a small portion is owned by the National Trust's Bradenham Estate. It contains many rare species and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, as well as being part of the Chilterns Special Area of Conservation and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Up to a century ago, it was grazed and so was open heathland containing a number of veteran trees, but today it is heavily wooded, mostly with self-seeded beech. These trees have grown too dense, so the Estate has a rolling plan to reduce their number to the recommended (by the Forestry Commission) 100 broadleaf trees per hectare. The Common was formerly described as a "juniper forest", but today only four specimens survive. We've taken cuttings and have planted nine saplings, eight of which are thriving.

Nature

The Common has six 'dew ponds', natural depressions that fill with rainwater, which they retain, being lined with the clay that forms the upper few metres of the soil. Such ponds naturally dry out during the summer (some completely) and refill during the winter and the flora and fauna that inhabit them have adapted to

this changing environment. The water is very pure and is a habitat for many species, including the Great Crested Newt.

The Common is home to over 80 species of birds, over 120 species of insects, over 200 species of plants and 400 species of fungi (all enumerated on our website), several of them locally and even nationally, rare.

Archaeology

The Common has a bank and ditch feature forming a D-shaped enclosure, typical of a 2,000-year-old Romano-British Farmstead, which would have contained a wooden roundhouse. There is a dew pond nearby, which would have been a useful water source.

At the 'bottom' (Bradenham end) of the Common are the mysterious 'Clumps' a series of ring-shaped banks on which were planted specimen trees, most not found elsewhere on the Common. It seems most likely that these were Victorian decorative features, added to enhance the grounds of Bradenham Manor.

Of more recent origin are the tank tracks, traces of which are still visible along the Common edge. During WW2 the former Broom & Wade factory in the centre of High Wycombe manufactured Churchill tanks which were (off) road tested on the Common.

Friends

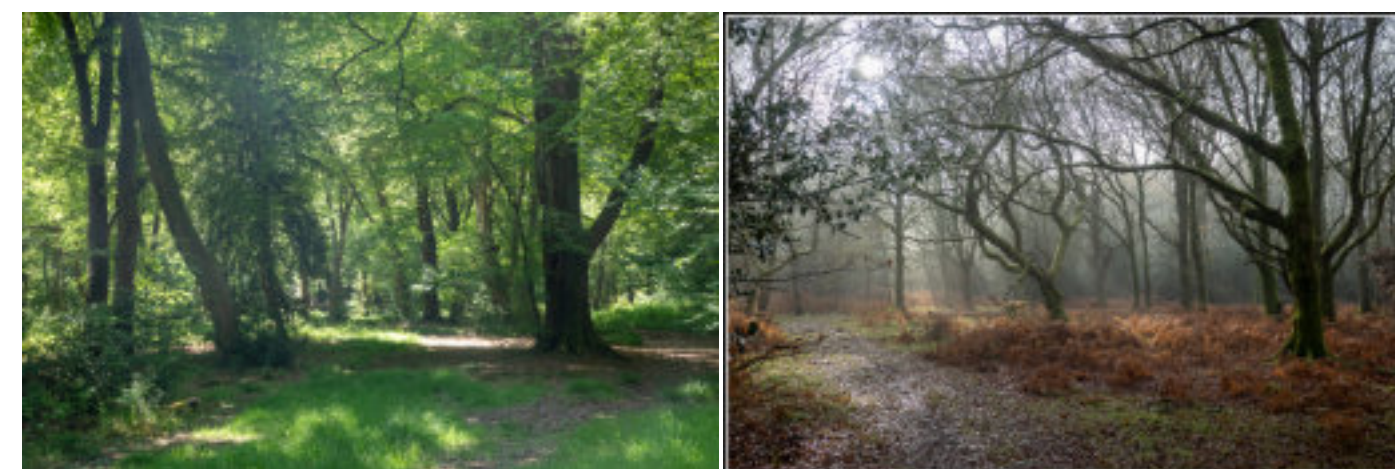
The Friends of Naphill Common was set up in 2008, with aims:

- To conserve and enhance the natural, historic and cultural heritage of the Common.
- To promote the understanding and enjoyment of the Common.
- To encourage community involvement in caring for and use of the Common.

We are the largest subscription organisation in Naphill, with nearly 100 members paying our £10 pa subscription (a real bargain). Our regular activities include two guided walks each month and two working parties each week, which keep footpaths open and maintain the ponds (during winter, once the amphibians have left) which would otherwise fill up and gradually vanish. There are also annual events such as bat walks, fungus walks, 'minibeast safaris' (for children of all ages) and history walks, all of which are free and open to all.

We would encourage you to come along and give some of our activities a try – full details along with (much) more information can be found on our web site: naphillcommon.org.uk

Chris Miller
Chairman – Friends
of Naphill Common



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Tennis Club

With the lighter evenings comes the summer league and we are off to a flying start with the mixed doubles team winning 8-0 against Princes Risborough. It's early in the season but we are feeling competitive having built strong and consistent teams the last few seasons.

The men's and ladies friendly singles tournaments are about to get underway which is always a good battle with a well-deserved winner.

The Gin and Fizz night was postponed and will now be combined with the fun tournament on the 28th June. There will be a social throughout the tournament during the day, and then into the evening

merriment at the beautifully refurbished Sports Club. Tickets will be available shortly- all welcome!

The big news is the construction of the long awaited Padel court. We would like to extend a thank you to the parish council for their generous grant towards this exciting project for local sport! At the time of writing the concrete lorries were arriving to complete the foundations for the court. For those of you who don't know about Padel it is the fastest growing sport in Europe, it is family friendly and can be easily played in groups with mixed abilities, it is played on a softer surface so kinder to joints! We are looking forward to welcoming our first players by June- visit



our website or follow us on facebook/Instagram for more information and to see the range of introductory offers!

Nicola Housby

Parish Council

Our Unitary Councillors were re-elected again this year and we look forward to working with them and your Parish Councillors remain with the same apart from one stand down and one retiree

We now have a vacancy for a councillor for the Loosley Row ward of our parish, and we would welcome any residents from Loosley Row to come forward and be co-opted onto the council

This is not an arduous task, we really are a friendly council and would make you feel most welcome

Councillor Jean Roberts from Lacey Green has taken up the position of Vice Chairman following the retirement of our Speen Councillor, Roger Craft

Roger Craft has been on the council for over 20 years and most of that time, he has served as Vice Chairman and was always a loyal councillor for the residents of Speen

He will be missed by both the residents and the council, as his input was invaluable

The council is still able to award grants for village activities and wellbeing. We awarded the Lacey Green & Loosley Row Sports Club some funding for their new Defibrillator and to the Friends of St Johns Church for the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Church

It has been noted by several residents now, that the verges are in need of some attention

We would encourage residents to report any verges that effect the visibility of the road to 'Fix My Street' on the Buckinghamshire Council Website, where the local area technician will drive around and have a look and arrange for verges to be cut if necessary, whilst at the same time the Parish Council will be notified and we chase up if necessary

We have recently had a request from a resident about the footpath that runs from either side of Church Lane between The Church and Hambye Close. We did visit the site and took some photos and put them on 'Fix My Street' and Buckinghamshire Council have been out and had a look and have agreed that the surface is too uneven and are going to rectify – one win !!

Thank you all for your support and we look forward to seeing you at any of our meetings should you have any concerns or wish to raise any issues

Cathryn Davies

Chair Lacey Green Parish
Council



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Windmill WI

Our first speaker of the year was John Tyler - Reading the Countryside. As always John gave us an excellent talk about our local landscapes and walks.

In March we had a talk from Bill Hamilton entitled Man on the Spot. A very interesting and entertaining evening. We all enjoyed our speaker Lee

Welsh last month who showed us the basics of Tai Chi.

A group of us went to Chenies Manor and saw the magnificent tulip display. We finished the trip with a delicious cream tea.

Phil and I went to the Bucks WI Annual Council Meeting. We had a very good day.

We had a talk on how to prevent scams followed by a very amusing talk by the Rev. Simon Chapman - A Life in Uniform. This was followed by Cllr Mimi Harker who spoke on 'My journey - everything in heels!'

Ann Bartlett

Rotary Club of



Princes Risborough

Readers of previous articles will recall that our Club comprises a group of lively, fun-loving men and women focussed on giving back to the community whilst having a good time.

We have also emphasised our commitment to making a positive impact in the local community through a variety of projects in support of individuals and organizations both locally and further afield.

To do so we organize a range of fundraising activities which, over the past 10 years, have raised over £300,000.

In addition to raising money to donate to needy causes, our members are actively involved in supporting a number of local facilities including schools; providing libraries, outside classrooms, sensory gardens, play areas, annual Art and Chess competitions and school Interact Clubs etc.

Furthermore, many of us play leading roles in local institutions, including the award-winning day-care centre in Princes Risborough princescentre.org.uk, for which we played a major role in its establishment. We also have assisted with a second Centre in Bourne End; the PR Youth Club, the Saunderton Lodge Refuge Hostel, the Bucks Young Carers, Blood Bikes, OneCan Trust and a number of others.

We also enjoy a close relationship with the PR Town Council (PRTC), 3 of whose councillors are also Club members. We support it with helping to close roads for the Town's Remembrance Day, the Town Festival events and for the Christmas Lights switch-on.

As part of this year's Town Festival (6th-12th July) we're holding the "Rotary Ramble" in Wades Park on 6th July. This will be a family event, including a number of walks in the

countryside around the Town (beginning/ending in Wades Park), a Barbecue, a Children's chocolate hunt and "Tea in The Tent" in aid of the Shelterbox Charity (shelterbox.org).

We support the PRTC's Farmers' Markets, the 2nd this year being on the 21st of June in the King George V field.

If you want to be part this, and consider joining us, visit our website and come to one of our Monday evening meetings at the Whiteleaf Golf Club to see if it might interest you.

If you know of causes that would benefit from our support, or you would like to donate to our Charity, please use the contact details below. You can contact us at: rcpr.org.uk or call David White on 07787 750889, or email: david@dhwhite.plus.com

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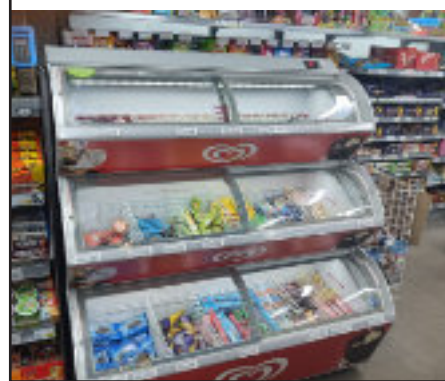
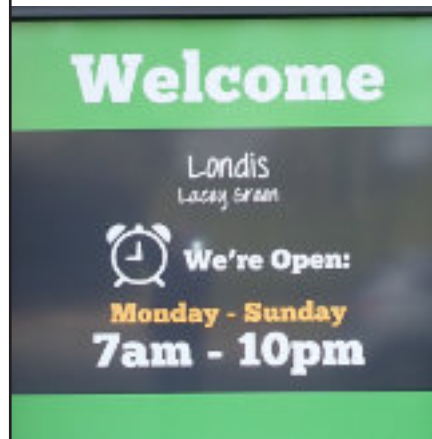
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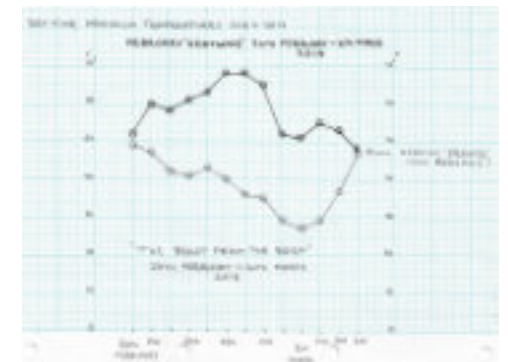
Weather Readings

I started doing weather readings in 1990 using a Stevenson screen and a rain gauge to record temperature, humidity and rainfall. The screen and the rain gauge have been located in the same place for now 35 years to provide a consistency of readings.

The readings are collected daily at about an average time of 5.00 p.m. and all the results are recorded on graph paper (all analog here).

I thought that Hallmark readers would be interested in the highs and lows over the years and especially for temperature and rainfall and I have collated this information in a tabular form as follows:

- Highest daily temperature: 102* F (19/7/2022)
- Lowest daily temperature: 12* F (10/2/1991)
- Highest daily rainfall : 67.1 mm (2.64ins) (23/9/1992)
- Wettest year : 1062.6 mm (41.83ins) 2024
- Driest year : 570.7 mm (22.47ins) 1996
- Warmest year: (overall night and day average): 53.3°F (2022)
- Coldest year : (overall night and day average): 47.91°F (1996)



2018 - The beast from the East

I also have a Negretti and Zambra barograph which charts atmospheric pressure and as with the other readings, I have a full 35 year record.

- Maximum pressure: 1048mb (27/1/1992)
- Minimum pressure: 955mb (2/11/2023) Storm Ciaran

An interesting area of analysis is mid-May, the visitation of the four Ice Saints — St.Mamertus (11th May), St.Pancras (12th May), St. Servatius (13th May) and St. Boniface of Tarsus (14th May).

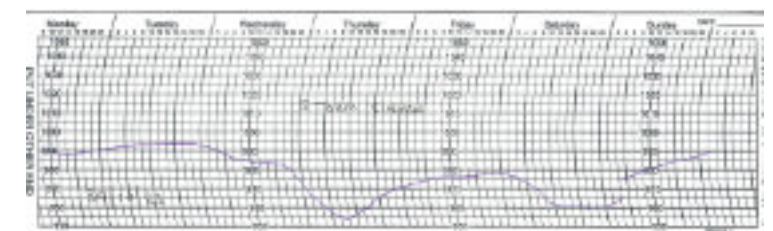
These dates in mid-May are feared by gardeners and farmers as a late frost can decimate any tender crops and indeed the more superstitious will delay sowing such crops until after the Saints have gone.

From my records 1995,1996, 2005, 2010,2012, 2019, 2020, and 2021 air frosts were recorded but other years also saw a noticeable dip in night time temperatures. In 2000 and 2017 however the Ice Saints were on holiday as the night time temperature in those years remained over 50* F



Stevenson's Screen

Martin Walters



2023 - Storm Ciaran

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And for anyone* with a landline telephone, Gigaclear offers Home Phone, its digital phone service, with packages starting at only £5 per month – and no monthly line rental charges. And you can keep your existing telephone number!

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*Please note: we do not recommend you purchase home phone if you are reliant on your landline due to disability or accessibility requirements and do not have alternative means to contact emergency services in the event of a power outage.

St John's Church

EASTER SERVICES

We enjoyed all our Easter services this year.

We started our 10am Palm Sunday service by the free-standing cross on the corner of Main Road and Church Lane. We again gathered there for the climax to our 2pm Good Friday service, as well as for the start of our 10am service on Easter Sunday, for which the cross was again amply decorated with daffodils many of which were from local gardens. (see photo below).

Luckily the weather was fine for all of these outdoor occasions, and we were pleased that we were joined by a very friendly four pawed congregational member for the service on Easter morning.

Other services in the course of Holy Week included the Night Office of Compline on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and on Maundy Thursday the Eucharist of the Last Supper.

On Good Friday we joined the Churches Together morning service at 11am in Princes Risborough Market Square.

Easter Sunday was especially busy with the Churches Together 6am sunrise service on Whiteleaf Hill, our 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service, our main Easter service at 10am which was very well attended indeed, and Festal Evensong at 4pm.



EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA

The Easter Eggstravaganza on Good Friday was very busy. Lizzy Davies entertained us with more egg based science experiments.

Did you know that if you balance books on top of 4 egg shells, they will take the weight of over 50 books!



The children also enjoyed making beautiful patterns using chromatography techniques

The children made miniature gardens to take home, as well as indulging in much creativity with paint and glue!

Hot cross buns went down well, and the Easter tombola was as popular as last year!

I set a hard challenge for the Easter Egg Hunt – the children had to find the letters on the eggs to make a phrase, which was "Jesus Lives". They managed it and got their chocolate reward. The younger children rushed round madly finding Peter Rabbits' carrots to earn their treat.

I love putting on these events as the adults all join in with the fun, and the creativity. Thank you to all who came as helpers or who threw themselves into it on the day!

Look out for the Autumn Extravaganza!!

HALLMARK

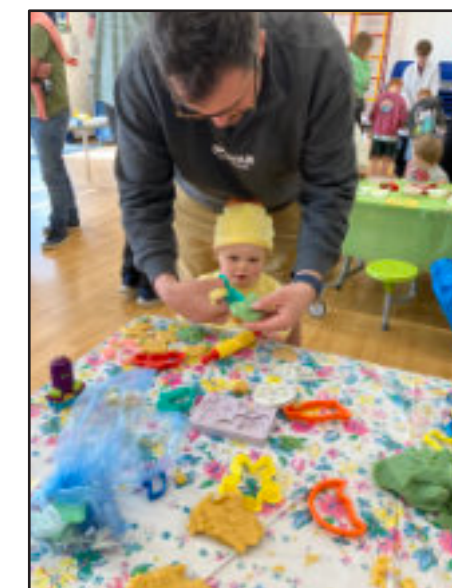
One of the first memories of arriving in Lacey Green 35 years ago was a neighbour arriving on the doorstep with a copy of Hallmark. Alongside a memory of Dick at The Whip giving us a take-away on china plates with cutlery as we hadn't been able to unpack yet and the three children were desperate for sustenance!!

Unfailingly throughout our time in the village Hallmark has kept us in touch with what is going on in our community and introduced us to people and groups we would never have heard of. In a time when we don't pass each on the street so much, (unless you have a dog) I think it is an even more important point of connection.

I would like to say a personal thank you to all the people past and present who have been involved in putting this together, especially Mike Piercy, who has always been good-humoured about my mistakes or late entries!!

I do hope someone can spare the time to continue this invaluable community service

Jenny Stothard



200th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN’S CHURCH



Lacey Green, Loosley Row and Speen

Sat 28th June to Sun 6th July

A Parish Event. Everyone welcome.



HISTORY EXHIBITION

Provided by members of the History Group

Tuesday 1st July. Conducted Tours at 11 am and 2.30 pm

Friday 4th July. Church open from 10 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 4 pm There will also be a conducted tour at 7 pm. Discover more about the history of St John’s Church and the local community and see the lovely flowers.

FLOWERS ARRANGEMENTS

Provided by Margaret Gray and her team

Flower arrangements reflecting the history of the church may be viewed on Friday 4th July from 10 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 4 pm, or after any church service or the Organ Concert.

Volunteers to help with the arrangements would be much appreciated, and should contact Margaret Gray on 074700 34086 or email migray1979@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES

SONGS OF PRAISE

Sun. 29th. June 3 pm

All village organisation have been asked to choose a hymn or song.

Everyone welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Thurs. 3rd. July at 7.30.p.m.

The Big Day. The Bishop will be joining us.Followed by refreshments

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Sun 6th July 10am

Fun service for all the family, followed by a celebration picnic in the Vicarage garden (or School if wet), with entertainer, garden games, celebration cake and bubbles. All welcome

SCHOOL PAGEANT

St John’s School through the ages. “A walk Through Time”, presented by the children of St. John’s School. Walks will start from the School pedestrian entrance Wednesday Jul 2nd at 10 am, 11 am, 12 noon and 2.00 pm.

Tickets available from Jenny Stothard (07754 518034) kindergymjenny@gmail.com Free to parents of children at St Johns - otherwise £5 for adults, accompanying children free. Everyone will need a ticket.

Refreshments will be served in the Vicarage garden between 9.00.a.m. and 3.00.p.m. Donations welcome.

BEATING THE BOUNDS

Walk all or part of the 11 mile circumference of the Parish.

Sat 28th June. Do as many (or few) sections as you like. Shortcuts are available

	Start	Finish	Distance	Depart
1	St John’s Church	Repair Barn	2.9m	9.30
2	Repair Barn	Pink & Lily	1.9m	11.00
3	Pink & Lily	Speen Church	1.9m	12.30
4	Speen Church	Gommes Forge	4m	2.15

Sign up by email at stjohnschurchlaceygreen.com or speak to Marian or Vince at the Church.

Image below by Gary Watson with kind permission from St Martin in the fields



CELEBRATORY SUNDAY

The end of a week of celebrations

A fun service in church at 10 am, followed by a celebratory picnic from 12 noon to 4 pm in Vicarage Garden (in the School if wet).

Parking in school. Bring your own food, blanket blanket or table and chairs. We will provide tea, coffee treats and Ice cream parlour.

At 1.30 pm “Fred the Shed” will entertain the children with a 30 minute magic show. Afterwards he will stroll amongst the guests with close up magic. This will amaze you and be lots of fun for all.

3.pm Celebration cake and bubbles will be served.

COMMEMORATION STONES

Everyone, adults and children will have the chance to paint a stone, that will be placed around the churchyard of St John’s Church.

The stones will be available from St John’s school, Speen school, St John’s church and Lacey Green village shop at a cost of £1, from 7th June. They need to be returned to one of those venues before Friday 20th June.

Three of the most outstanding stones will win £10 each. They will be distributed round the churchyard so everyone can enjoy them.

Don’t forget to clearly fix a sticker on with your name and phone number so you can be entered into the competition.

For further information kindergymjenny@gmail.com

TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

A chance to remember someone dear to you, or who has been a faithful member of St. John’s Church in the past

Margaret Gray migray1979@gmail.com can provide labels to be attached to the tree with your message, and perhaps a photograph. The tree will be placed in the church porch

Donations would be appreciated.

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Mrs T

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Mrs K

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Lacey Green Windmill

The Lacey Green Windmill Committee would like to personally thank the Editors of Hallmark for their support over the years and we are sad this is the last publication of the local magazine. Thanks to Mike Piercy, Editor for his hard work and sorry no one has come forward to take on the role.

Windmill Restoration

We remain very grateful for all the work to restore the windmill over 50 years ago. If Christopher Wallace and his team of volunteers had not worked so hard and been so innovative we would not have a Windmill in Lacey Green today.

When you visit the windmill please take time to look at the detailed Information Boards, produced by Michael Hardy who has been involved with the windmill for many years. Much of this work has been recorded in editions of Hallmark to ensure the local community was kept informed of the work being undertaken.

Photo below by Mike Beckley

Repairs

The windmill is looking fantastic after the recent work and we were pleased that the planned work was completed by the time we opened at the beginning of April. There is more work to be done and please look out for calls for volunteers if you fancy helping out with painting, maintenance or other more specialist jobs.

We are delighted with the stocks, sails, new fantail, door and winding gear. Lightning conductor cabling has been fitted which is very sensible given the location of the windmill, this will all be connected over the summer. If you haven't visited yet we would love to see you, we are open every Sunday 2-5pm and Bank Holiday Mondays.

Other news

We have hosted a number of group visits recently and these remain very popular.

The Chiltern Society's Heritage & Culture Festival visit in May 2025 was well received and we had many visitors over National Mills Weekend, an annual event across the UK.

Celebration event

The April celebration event in the LG&LR Village Hall was a great success, 80 people came along for a night of fun and dancing. Madeleine Smith and The Chinnor Troubadours, a local Ceilidh band were fabulous and helped make the evening. We are still finalising the amount raised on the night but it is approximately £1650 which will go towards the maintenance of the windmill. Thank you to everyone who came along, volunteers on the night, John & Laura Burnett for the lovely Chilli and to those who generously donated raffle prizes.

We will be holding another Ceilidh at the end of November 2025, same place and Ceilidh Band. Tickets will go on sale in August 2025 and will be advertised locally. In the meantime if you are interested please contact Jane on the email below, we have already sold tickets!

Supporters always welcome, if you have any spare time and want to volunteer please get in touch with Jane by email: jane@laceygreenwindmill.org.uk



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Hope you are all well from the Black Horse!

Thanks to all those who came in over the spring period and supported their local pub. We are currently halfway through May and have just finished getting the garden ready for the Summer!

Our food times are now lunches Tuesday to Sunday 12-2:30pm and evenings Tuesday to Saturday 6-8:30pm. We have plenty of specials on the boards so make sure you come in to try

some of our new dishes out! We are going to be launching a new menu soon for the Summer so keep an eye out for this.

We have plenty of events planned over the next couple of months, so keep an eye on our Facebook Page for the latest news.

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.

The Crib and Domino Team are having a great season again. Well done to them! If you are interested in getting involved, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Lynne.

Lastly, thank you to Mike for running the Hallmark over the years, well done for all your hard work! Hopefully someone will take it on in the future!

The Black Horse Team

Happy Wanderers

A very pleasant walk was led by Jane Herve on Sunday 23rd February.

We started from Naphill and headed towards Hughenden Manor, before reaching the De Spencers Arms on Downley Common for the all-important lunch. This pub can be highly recommended.

The AGM was held at the village hall on 23rd March, the usual walk after this was cancelled due to a sudden downpour.

Our walks are normally on Sunday mornings once a month and are typically 3 to 4 miles long, usually starting in Lacey Green or a nearby location, and followed by an optional pub lunch.

Lifts can be arranged if needed.

New members are welcome, if you contact our secretary Liz Lewin you can be added to the list of future walk notifications. Her e mail is relewin@btinternet.com.

We should like to thank Mike Piercy for editing Hallmark for many years, as he is now retiring and nobody else has as yet offered to take over it sadly looks like this issue will be the final one.

A great loss to our villages after so many years.

Chris Boll

Sports Club

It has been a fantastic Spring here at Lacey Green & Loosley Row Sports and Social Club. We are seeing some groundbreaking developments with the patio now finished and the Padel Court making great progress (hopefully nearly complete now!). We have lots of exciting things happening at the club this Summer and we can't wait to tell you more.

One of our most noticeable improvements over the last year, which was noted at our AGM, has been the improvements to the Clubhouse with the new patio, bifold doors and the decorating of the clubhouse. Thank you to our grounds team and sponsors for all your help so far: Tom, Jamie & Chris Oakford, Tony Comley, Rob Henry, Country Supplies, CCBS, PA Spittles Landscapes Ltd, Camcrete, Grant & Stone, Hawes, Stocken Farm, Surebuild and Simpatico, Paul Coombes, Apollo Trade Window Store Ltd. Dell Bros, Chris Dell, Kev and Hayden Kelloway, Chris Male, Phil Dell, Kenny Woodward and all the members and committee members who made it all possible!

Mower Repairs

The history of the Sports Club is complex but one of the main things that makes us unique is that we are funded primarily by the members of the club. We do not receive any annual income from the councils or the government.

We do receive a small amount of money from the Parish Council to fund specific items and projects but this is ONLY by applying for grants. Everything that has to be done to maintain the club and grounds or purchased is funded through section subscriptions and fundraising. This includes everything from insurance and health and safety through to the maintenance of the tractor and the mowing of the grass.

The upkeep of the grounds is completed by volunteers who give up their time to maintain the only open space the village has.

The cost of maintaining the tractor and the grass cutting equipment is considerable especially when it comes to replacing the equipment once it reaches the end of its life. This puts considerable stress on the finances of the club which generally only breaks even on general income and expenses.

The gang mowers that actually cut the grass have reached the end of their life and so we have been exploring ways to raise funds to replace them. Without the gang mowers we are unable to cut the grass and therefore the Sports Club will end up like a wasteland. The cost to replace these even for a second hand set is in excess of £12k. A new set would be in excess of £20k!

We have applied for and been granted a self matching grant from Sport England which will enable us to replace the gang mowers. Sports England will grant us £6,000 ONLY if we raise the equivalent through crowd funding but we only have a very limited time to raise these funds - ONLY 10 WEEKS!

We will be launching the crowd funding page to start this project in July with a view to complete by the end of September. We NEED the VILLAGE to support and get behind this project so they can continue to enjoy the neat open space at the Sports Club.

Please keep an eye on Facebook and the Village notice boards for more information on the launch of this exciting project and fundraising activities which we will be running.

Get involved

As mentioned before, the Sports Club is mainly run by a small group of villagers so please do support us while we embark on this challenging project. If you would like to find out more or would like to support us please do get in contact. Why not get involved in your village!

If we as a village don't get behind village organisations and activities then these will slowly disappear!

Summer Events

We have a full summer of events planned with the bar now open on selected Friday and Saturday evenings if you fancy a drink and in addition to this some BBQs, Bingo and a Cream Tea, with dates to be announced soon! Our annual Summer Disco is on the 25th July with tickets on sale now. Make sure you are following our Facebook page for all the latest information or keep an eye on the sports club and village notice boards. There are other fundraisers in the pipeline with the other sections of the sports club so make sure you look out for information on our website (www.lglrsc.co.uk)

We have seen an increase in bookings for the club and hope to see this interest continue throughout the year. If you are interested in hiring the hall for any event please don't hesitate to get in touch at lglrsportsclub@gmail.com. We can host parties with or without a bar, or even be a meeting place for events and clubs!

Once again a big thank you to everyone who has joined us at the club or volunteered over the last year, without you we would not have a Sports Club.

We would like to extend our thanks and best wishes to Mike for all he has done for The Hallmark. We hope that someone will step forward so this important village communication can continue.

All the best,

The Sports Club Committee

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Heavenly Bodies

The Earth has completed 20 orbits around the Sun since the first 'Heavenly Bodies' article appeared in 'Hallmark' back in 2005. We've come a long way since then, literally – about 11.7 billion miles in total, travelling at 67,100 miles per hour.

In this column, we've covered many astronomical events over that time, including eclipses, meteor showers, planetary line-ups and the beautiful star constellations which change with the seasons.

We'll now look at what June has in store. Firstly, the longest day or Summer Solstice will be on June 21st. Although the nights don't get truly dark at this time of year, there are still some impressive highlights we can spot in the night sky.

The Full 'Strawberry' Moon will shine brightly on June 11th and is a little different this time. The Moon will be the lowest in the sky for almost 19 years and the lowest Full Moon until 2043, staying unusually close to the horizon.

On June 1st and June 30th, the Moon points you to Mars (see graphic) as the Red Planet gradually fades into the horizon before its return in just over two years' time. You can watch them a few days before and after these dates to see how the Moon moves each night, catching up with Mars and then leaving it behind. When you look at the reddish glowing pinpoint of Mars, you'll be seeing a planet half the size of Earth but at 178 million miles away.

On both the above dates (best to view just after 10pm when the skies darken), the Moon will look surprisingly similar. It will be a classic crescent Moon on the 1st as it starts its orbit around Earth, will be Full on the 11th, then a New Moon (i.e. blocked out by the glare of the Sun) and then returns to the same crescent shape on the 30th.

Throughout June, the spring constellations led by Leo and Virgo begin to give way to the summer constellations of Hercules, Cygnus and Lyra. The well-known 'summer triangle' of stars (Vega, Deneb and Altair) returns to our skies, acting as a

pointer to various constellations, nebulae and the centre of our own Galaxy (look up 'summer triangle' online).

If you have binoculars, whether modern, old or small, do look at the constellations (e.g. those mentioned above and Corona Borealis) through them as the star colours become richer and many more stars are revealed than just using the naked eye. Also, do look at the Moon (when not Full) through binoculars and you'll see so many craters and features. Some people have told me that is one of the most amazing things they've ever seen.

It's been a pleasure to share my love of space with 'Hallmark' readers, and hopefully it has helped de-mystify a few things and reveal others. Enjoy what's above our heads and cherish the dark skies of Lacey Green and Loosley Row which have less light pollution and so darker skies than many places, so you can see more! Clear skies..

Chris Dignan



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On the Farm

I hope this isn't our last Hallmark article but its looking like it could well be as, as far as I know, no one is taking over from our editor Mike who has been doing an excellent job for at least 16 years.

Hallmark first came out in 1970. My mum, Joan West, started writing in the Hallmark in 1976. At that time it came out every other month. I took over from her and have been contributing an article about the farm for the last few years. One more year and we would have been contributing for 50 years - that is a lot of articles! The good news is, they can all be found on mum's website: LaceyGreenHistory.com. Joan's website is a huge resource of history of the people, places and events in and around Lacey Green. She is continuously researching and compiling it. If anyone has any information about local history she would love to receive it, you can contact her on: Laceygreenhistorywiki@gmail.com.

When Hallmark first came out my grandparents, Dick and Hilda West, were farming Stocken Farm in Partnership with my parents, John and Joan. Later myself and my wife, Maxine, joined the Partnership. Hopefully our children, Charlotte and Robert, will become Partners before long. They have both been working on the farm for a number of years now and it's time their enthusiasm and new ideas are put to the test to drive the business forward.

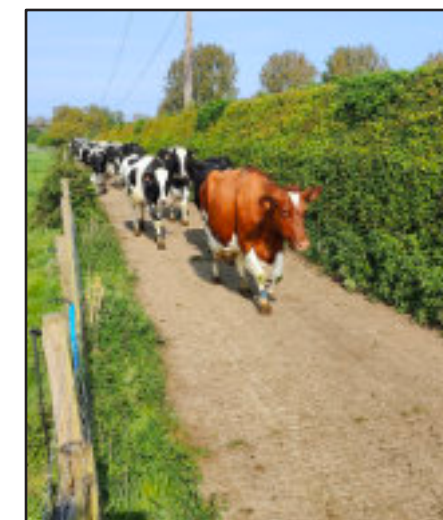
Much has changed over the years. Many different enterprises have come and some have gone. Some of you will be surprised to learn we used to have a flock of sheep and a herd of Pigs. For many years we had about 1500 hens and raised replacement pullets, selling fresh eggs direct from the farm.

We also used to do Christmas turkeys and cockerels, up to 1000 at one point. We have had milking cows since at least the 1950s and they have become the main part of the business, along

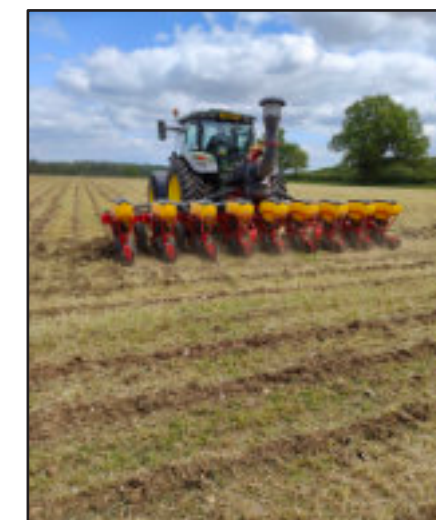
with raising beef cattle and growing various arable crops. Over the years we have grown: oats, barley, oil seed rape, linseed, flax, triticale and turnips. We currently grow milling wheat to sell and grass, maize, lucerne and rye to feed the cows.

Similarly to 1976, the first year we wrote in Hallmark, we seem to be in a drought. Grass has been very slow to grow with cold nights as well, until the 30 mm of rain we had in about 2 hours on the 12th May. We were lucky to get this as it was very localised. A lot of crops are beginning to look desperate for rain and will consequently not deliver well at harvest.

The cows have been out grazing for a couple of months now. We have managed to keep enough grass growing and, with the dry spring, we have had excellent grazing conditions (see photo of Daisy the red cow leading the herd out to grass after milking).



We planted some maize after our first cut of grass using a strip till technique. This is where only a small strip of land is cultivated. This is plotted with GPS. Then a drill comes and plants the seed using GPS again to put it in the same strip (see photo top right). This method prevents water loss so the seed will germinate quicker and more evenly. Also less land is cultivated saving fuel and protecting carbon within the soil. We will be able to compare with the conventionally sown crop before long.



On the 11th of May we hosted the County Young Farmers pre Rally day (before the Country Show in Bledlow on the 31st May). This included fencing, clay shooting and stock judging competitions (see photo below of young farmers from around the county scrutinising the beef cattle for the competition).

All the competitions are awarded points for the overall Rally Trophy. Our local club, Princes Risborough Young Farmers, are organising and hosting the show at Bledlow this year. Everyone is welcome to come along, it's a great day out, so get the date in your diary!

Richard West



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Plant Sale

Yet again the weather is behaving oddly. After floods in March we had one of the driest Aprils on record and the grass has hardly grown at all.

Many of us have been caught out by this and I found that my just-germinated seedlings got burnt in the greenhouse and half of them died.

So it was a relief to fall back on the annual Horts Soc Plant Sale. Every year this event takes place at the second weekend in May (When the garden should be ready to receive new plants without too much fear of frost.

The Horts Soc Committee, old and new, together with some kind residents bring along spare seedlings from their Spring planting. Other helpers split established perennials to create new child plants or dig up plants that have seeded themselves in the wrong place.

The Horts Soc take over the Village Hall for the day and display hundreds of plants for sale. There is a wide mixture of both vegetables and flowers, sized from tiny plug plants through to some 6 ft high climbing roses.

The plants are piled up on hall tables and given a price sticker. For the buyer it's a bit of a lottery as the plants rapidly lose their labels and we don't know what is what, never mind what colour it will turn out to be!

For the first time we have a credit card machine so that you can pay with plastic rather than cash.

The committee also have a home-made cake stall, either slices to eat now or to take home for the kids.

The great majority of the plants do sell on the Saturday. The remainder are put on a pop-up stall in Main Road where passers-by can take plants and leave donations.

This year the takings were over £1,300 which will go to worthy, horticultural related, activities in the local area.

So mark your calendar now for the next plant sale - May 9 2026 - which is also National Windmills Day so include a tour of our splendid mill

Look out for the forthcoming Horts Soc talks.

Wed 16th July - The importance of honey bees by High Wycombe Bee Keepers.

Wed 17th September - Creating a wild garden

Autumn Show - Saturday Sept 6th. Plants, vegetables, cookery and more

Mike Piercy



SHH Hospice Fundraising has held two very successful events so far this year. A Quiz evening in February and the Annual Ladies Spring Lunch in May.

The group has been able to distribute £4,000 to each of the four hospices it raises fund for from the 2024 events.

Last September a Comedy Night was held at Lacey Green and Loosley Row Village Hall. Elliot

Wengler who organised last year's evening is hosting another this year. He will be bringing on a selection of different comedians and again it will be held at Lacey Green and Loosley Row Village Hall.

Save the date: Saturday 11th October, Doors open at 7pm and Showtime at 8pm. Tickets £20.00 per person (No booking fees to third-party agencies) Further details at www.shh-shop.org

Finally, if you are interested in raising money by taking part in an event or finding out more about becoming part of our fundraising group at SHH, please contact me events@shh-shop.org

Gráinne Suter

Chair SHH Hospice Fundraising



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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

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



Social Snapshots. VE Day. Local legacies

WW2 had ended in Europe after years of difficulty for everyone. But before that had been years of severe economic depression. Many little cottages had been condemned. However, these cottages were inhabited throughout the war due to the shortage of materials and need for accommodation. Harry Floyd recalled one property owned by his father, where a new lavatory bucket cost him more than the rent and letters landed indoors in a puddle.

Local Legacy. In 1950 the Council built Greenlands. Supposedly to help replace houses lost in the 'blitz' in London. The list of the first occupants in 1951, related by Ted Janes (he being one of them), shows the vast majority were local residents, moving into better housing.

Local Legacy. Bomber Command. Established in 1939. The headquarters are just in Lacey Green Parish. Over the years many of the high ranking Air Force officers have retired locally. 1939 saw the officers' children coming to Lacey Green School – an ever revolving intake of about two years to be fitted in.

Local Legacy. The New Road from Lacey Green to Walters Ash. Previously the road from Lacey Green went left into Slad Lane round in a semi-circle across into Smalldean Lane. Shortly after this it turned left into a road much of which later disappeared under the bunker of Bomber Command. This direct new road was built to speed access from Bomber Command to an airfield constructed on the flat land of Stocken Farm. This necessitated them renting land miles away. Officers' families were also billeted in Stocken farmhouse (2 rooms, one upstairs, one down).

The Airfield was not to be a legacy of the war, as the land was given back after the war. But it was to leave lasting happy memories for the boys who played football with the pilots and guards of the hanger housing the

planes there. Extensions to the school now cover its site.

Local Legacy. Hambye Close. A far cry from 1939 when the site was a famous indoor tennis court. Built by the Revered Robson, then bought by Harold Carter who owned Grymsdyke House. Harold Carter's business being bombed out of London, he converted the Tennis Court into his offices. This brought many people here. Some lived in the property and some in the villages. Light industrial and warehouses followed until Hambye Close was built.

Local Legacy. May Dell. In 1939 the North Kensington Nursery School, its children and staff evacuated to Loosley House. After VE Day, the children and staff went home. But May stayed here and married Bert Dell. Bert and May ran the much loved Hickmans Stores for many years. Hickmans Stores were locally famous in their day, before supermarkets were invented.

The Legacy of the memories of families whose cottages were full to overflowing is vast. Many children had been sent out of London, land army girls needed rooms, friends likewise, all squeezed in. (The school had about 40 extra children to fit in.)

John West remembered the German prisoners of war who were living at the bottom of Smalldean Lane. They were



brought to work on Stocken Farm. They begged to have any hessian sacks that were beyond repair. Unpicked, they were made into espadrilles. These shoes were very popular, clothes being rationed, and the Germans got a little money for them. They craved some crusty bread from Sid Janes' bakery as that given them was often blue with mould. They gave young John the money to buy them some nice bread. (Bread was not rationed until after the war).

Local Legacy. After the war most of the German prisoners went home, but several opted to stay here. Without exception they all established very successful businesses.

Many memories of those in the Home Guard recalled look-out duty in the semi-derelict windmill. Also those from the local fire service who were conscripted to fight the Blitz in London.

Details of all these events are to be found on www.LaceyGreenHistory.com To comment or add information about people or places in any era around the area email me on LaceyGreenHistoryWiki@gmail.com

Joan West

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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		

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Defibrillators

There are defibrillators at the Village Hall , the Sports Club, and Lower Road, Loosley Row.

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.

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