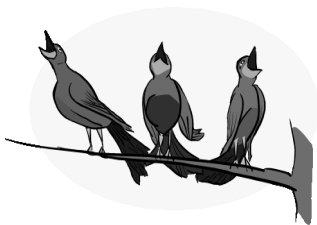


BIRDSONG

**April 2018
and
May 2018**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS**

No 85



Ladies' Day at the Races

Photo: Mike Coles

Parish Council Report March 2018

After the two recent periods of serious snowy weather, the Parish Council discussed how well the community had coped. We noted the ways in which good Samaritans had looked out for vulnerable neighbours: some collected shopping for those unable to get out; a local farmer cleared a blocked road enabling people to make essential journeys; others got out their spades and cleared snow on paths etc. We thank all of you who helped in these and many other ways. We were, however, disappointed by the way in which lack of co-ordination by some elements of our local councils led to real difficulties for those needing to travel to work. The temporary closure of the roads to Marton led to greatly increased traffic along the diversion routes which had not been gritted. We have taken this up with the highways department of the County Council, requesting that they take steps to ensure that this doesn't happen in future. This highlighted, once again, the issue of Bourton Hill not being on the gritting route.

The granting of planning permission for conversion of the wooden stables in a field off Stockton Road is still causing us concern and we are continuing to pursue this issue with the planning authority, Rugby Borough Council.

At our February meeting we discussed the ongoing problem of fly-tipping along local verges. In addition to reporting incidences of this to RBC, it is also helpful if you can note the registration number of any vehicle you might see causing this nuisance, as this could lead to the culprit receiving a penalty.

We are going to carry out our annual **Litter Pick** to clear the rubbish which has accumulated on the verges around the village. Hi-Viz jackets and litter picks will be supplied and a warming cuppa will be available in the Birbury at the end, so if you care about your environment, come out and join us on

Saturday 14th April at 10.30 outside the Birbury

If you have a view on any of these or any other issues, do feel free to contact any of the councillors, or the Clerk, or come along to our next meeting, which will be on

Tuesday 17th April 2018 at 19.30 in the Birbury.

The **Annual Village Meeting** will take place the following week, when you will have an opportunity to put questions to your councillors and hear from the wide range of local bodies which make living here so good.

The AVM will take place at 7.30 on Tuesday 24th April in the Birbury

Diana Turner

Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council

PS This is my last report to you as I shall resign from this role, but not as a councillor, at the Annual Meeting in May

Pancake Races 2018 - Flippin' Good Fun!

Despite the dreadful weather forecast, there was a sufficient turn out for the annual pancake races to allow several groupings to compete - girls aged 6-10, boys aged 6-10, women and men. The inclement weather even held off long enough for us to race without getting a face full of rain!

Lexie and Kara were competing in the same race this year for the first time, but it was Frankie who pushed Lexie hardest, and may have won if she'd held onto her pancake. Unluckily, Frankie dropped her pancake allowing Lexie to take the win in the girls' category. The next category - boys 6-10 - was a disappointment for Team Thomlinson because we had no one to enter. Maybe we'll get Kara's hair cut short next year??



Onto the women's race and thankfully Venice took pity on me and joined in, so I had someone to race against (me, competitive?). It was another win for Team Thomlinson, but we definitely need to recruit a few more for this category next year!

And finally, onto the men's race. We've been sending Mike to the gym to build up his speed and stamina after previous pancake performances weren't up to scratch. It paid off as he narrowly took the title!

We almost had tears at the prize giving until Kara got her hands on her Dad's Easter egg prize, and we also had to explain why she was being replaced by a boy in what seemed to be a family portrait, except it was actually the winners' group photo.

Thanks to all the organisers for some great fun and refreshments. Hopefully the weather forecast will be more favourable next year and we can get an even better turnout for this Birdingbury classic!

Lesley Thomlinson



Winter is Over: Let the Dusk Chorus Commence

As Winter draws to a close and the 'Beast from the East' becomes a distant memory, sounds of Spring have been reported emanating from the Birbury! In true style, Birdingbury's own fledgling band, 'The Birds', performed another excellent set in February to chase away those winter blues with their very own 'dusk chorus'.

With newly acquired 'toy', namely an 'electric keyboard' (rumoured to have cost Dallal her summer holiday), 'The Birds' played out an extensive set list ranging from 1950's and Bill Hayley's 'Twist and Shout', through to Green Day's 2000 hit 'Minority'.

The evening started with a rendition of 'Dear Prudence' with The Birds' very own bass guitarist David Hanson delivering an exquisite 'Steve Severin-esque' version of this Beatles classic, shortly followed by a rendition of The Doors' 'People are Strange'. This provided an excellent opportunity for Patrick Unwin to demonstrate his multi-talents by changing from acoustic guitar to keyboard, whilst being beautifully complemented by Ash Adewale on Drums (a true talent in the making).



Having concluded that 'People are indeed Strange', there was only one option: venture into space! 'Rocket Man' was summoned up and a delightful rendition of this Elton John hit was delivered by Patrick, wowing the crowd with his vocals.

Having gone ballistic and avoiding the odd 'Walrus' (Beatles – again delivered with much aplomb) on the way, there was only one solution: call up the army! Simon Davy, dutifully obeyed, delivering a rousing version of The Jam's classic 'Eton Rifles'. All this angst in Birdingbury - what next, I hear you say? Well, just to show the hard men of the North (Simon and Patrick) can do Soft (Cell), a delightful performance of 'Tainted Love' then followed.





With rumours of a World Tour mooted, (well, err the next village), The Birds held back the ‘Tears for Fear(s)’ of upsetting Marton and confirmed that it was indeed a ‘Mad World’ by delivering the 7” version of this classic. With the mosh pit now in full swing, both Ruth Adewale and Ian Palmer completed the line up to deliver a rousing encore.

To conclude a thrilling evening and end on an on an emotional high, the final song for the evening was completed with a wonderful rendition of ‘I Wish I Was A Fisherman’ by Lewis Cutts playing his grandfather’s old accordion. This of course delighted both the crowd and the Angling Society!

Mike Coles

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Newly Hatched!

On 15th March at 9:12am, Rachel gave birth to our beautiful little girl, Willow Lyra McGauley.

After a very quick labour, giving birth 20 minutes after arriving at the hospital, Mum and Baby were discharged on the same day.

Everyone is now back home and doing well.

We’d like to thank everyone who has sent us messages, cake, and cards of congratulations on the birth of our beautiful daughter, Willow. We feel lucky to have settled into such a welcoming village and we are looking forward to raising our daughter here.

Sam McGauley



Congratulations, Rachel and Sam, and a big Birdingbury welcome to Willow!

Remembering Derek Wells

Karen, Mark and Morgan would like to thank friends and neighbours for the many cards and messages of sympathy received after the sad loss of my Dad last month.

Derek Wells was born at Marton in 1940. His family went on to live at Princethorpe and at 19 he met a Birdingbury girl called Christine Cleaver. They were married at St Leonards, Birdingbury during the 'Big Freeze' in February 1963, holding their reception afterwards at Birdingbury Club on a very snowy day. Their first home was in Marton and they later moved to Princethorpe where they started their family. Several years later they moved to Leamington Hastings.

Many people will know Derek from his time as Caretaker at Leamington Hastings School and in recent years will have seen him and Christine at local events including the Birdingbury Country Show, displaying and selling their much renowned Hand Painted Bird Boxes.

His funeral was held on 27 February, attended by many family members, friends and neighbours, again on a very snowy day.

Thank you to all who gathered together afterwards at the Club to celebrate his life.

Karen Thomas

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG



A Happy Mothers' Day!



What a lovely surprise to be presented with a bunch of daffodils on Mothering Sunday.

A huge thank you to all at St Leonards and in particular those who took the time to walk round the village and give so much pleasure.

Ann Hoggarth

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Ladies' Circle

Dr Denise Taylor of the Warwick Badger Group came to speak at our February meeting. There are approximately 3,000 recorded badger setts throughout the region. It is estimated that approximately 50,000 badgers are killed on Britain's roads every year because they often forage by the side of busy roads. They have poor eyesight and this makes them more prone to being hit by vehicles. Not everyone was a fan of badgers because of the damage they do in gardens - lively debate ensued!

March's meeting was very calm and tranquil as acupuncture was the topic, led by Phoenix who, after becoming bored working as BA cabin staff, trained in acupuncture 12 years ago. She explained how she tries to discover and treat the cause of the problem rather than just healing the symptoms.

Next month we are venturing out of the village to Body Shop in Leamington Spa for a private evening pamper session.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month in the Birbury at 7.45pm. If anyone would like to join us, please come along; you will be very welcome, or get in touch with me if you want more details (ls@sidaways.net).

Leigh Sidaway



BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Geography



Birdingbury knows

It's not near as far as Hill:

Leamington Hastings

Thin Jethro Lasky

The Bard of Birdingbury

J. Laurence Hart was born in Harborne in 1850 but spent most of his adult life living and working in Warwickshire and had a particular connection with Birdingbury. He was a prolific artist and poet and nature lover, with the rural countryside being his predominant themes in both media. He painted mainly watercolours of landscapes and rural scenes in the impressionist style. At least 90 of his paintings are exhibited in various art galleries in London, Liverpool and Birmingham.

As a young man he was disinherited by his father for turning his back on the Roman Catholic faith and becoming a Protestant preacher. He lived in poverty most of his life, scratching a living from the sale of his poems and pictures. He lodged for a time in Birdingbury at Marston House with Miss Charlotte Perkins, an elderly lady of independent means. His paintings still occasionally come up for sale at auction fetching several thousand pounds.

Particularly relevant to us is the painting he did of Birdingbury Hall in 1885. We are not sure of the current whereabouts of this painting but we do know it was auctioned off in 1914 as part of the estate of Miss Cook of Haseley Villa, Clarendon Avenue, Leamington Spa. The Birdingbury History Group have a full colour copy in our picture archive if you are interested.



Although he painted landscapes and seascapes from around the country, the titles of many of his works reflect his love of our part of Warwickshire. Examples include:

- View of the Leam - evening
- A Spring in the Woods- Cubbington
- Warwickshire Canal
- A Warwickshire Ford with Cattle
- The Old Mill, Eathorpe

As well as an artist and poet, he was an eloquent speaker. His friend, J Cumming Walters, said of him: "I remember that on one occasion, he was asked to respond to the toast to literature and art. He at once arose, and poured forth a wealth of beautiful thoughts which simply electrified his audience. The hearers were as if spellbound while sentence after sentence flowed forth with perfect ease, the language always rich and choice, the glimmering image stealing into it, the sentiment elevated, and the apt quotation, introduced without an effort, adding its gleam to the rushing torrent of speech. It was a perfect piece of oratory, delivered in faultless style."

He was a shy, introspective and reserved man and quite reclusive in nature, so he never received the fame and recognition he deserved. He did not seek reward or fame but was content to pursue his study of English literature. He found peace and joy in his later years writing his poetry and painting at his hermit-like retreat in North Wales.

It was here that upon opening one of his old books, he saw the name of Birdingbury that he had pencilled in on the fly leaf. Reflecting on his time in our village, he was inspired to write the following poem;

Birdingbury

Dear spot! Remembrance holds thee yet
So warm and close, thy pencilled name,
Floods all my thought, desire, and aim,
As with a rain of wild regret;
I should but give my love to shame,
Could I forget!

Since when I left thy meadows, set
So softly round thy willowed Leam-
And coppiced haunts, where in a dream
I left a while Life's tare and tret,
Myself now changed - thy wood and stream
Could I forget!

But thou art far, the sea-deep's fret,
Rolls upward through the troubled night,
And scorneth it with hateful spite,
To mock me that my eyes are wet
With visions of a lost delight,
Could I forget!

As many commentators have observed, his poems are like pictures, creating an atmosphere of nature and the countryside. He takes a scene as it presents itself to the artist's eye and then proceeds to paint it in words.

He died on October 23rd, 1907 at his retreat in North Wales, aged 57.

Richard Davies

The Great Birdingbury Auction of Promises

It was fantastic to see yet another gathering of Birdingbury villagers at the club, coming together to catch up, enjoy some good company and take part in a really fun event.

Ella-Sophia and Hazel from Global Care were there to tell us more about the charity and the fantastic work they do in the Lebanon, providing an education for Syrian children displaced by war. The people of Birdingbury don't need much persuasion to support a good cause and everyone present was touched by the personal stories they heard.

John Starley was quick to turn everyone's attention to the matter in hand and bidding quickly started. Villagers battled over dog walking services, lasagnes and planters. A catalogue of lots (just like a real auction house) meant that some real thought went into what to bid for and how much, but of course the persuasive powers of Mr Starley and the fact that Ella Sophia had a card machine, quickly put paid to that. £70 for a lasagne? Really?



Some of the promises created a real interest, with friends clubbing together to be sure of success. Andrew Armbrister will be reconsidering how sensible he was in gifting his promise of a whisky drinking (sorry, tasting) evening for 6 people and, almost certainly, Reverend Ali will be wondering how to knock up a meal for 6 worthy of £155!



The interval came and Dick was pleased to report that the auction had already raised the amount the organisers were hoping for and that we should all celebrate with a hot dog (thanks Karen Armbrister and Mel Palmer!) Steve Edgar helped everyone relax and regroup with some great music, so it was no surprise that the amount raised was doubled in the second half – a total of almost £3.5k!

In addition to those mentioned, the organisers would like to thank John Starley for his auctioning skills, Ian Palmer for his help in managing the sound and visuals, Rosie for her support in finding additional promises and Daphne for her money skills. Have I missed anyone? It was certainly a community effort, with thanks also going to all those who racked their brains and came up with such generous and well thought out promises.

The Churches of the Draycote Benefice have committed to support the charity Global Care over a 3-year period. Last year Frankton and Bourton raised £3k through a sponsored event, this year was the responsibility of Birdingbury and next year Stretton will take on the challenge. If you'd like to know more about the charity they are supporting, take a look at their website <https://www.globalcare.org/>

Alex Rigler

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Thank you from Global Care

On behalf of Global Care, I would like to thank everyone who came along and took part in the Promises Auction at Birdingbury Club. What a fun evening it was, not to mention the first fundraising event we have attended where a trailer of horse muck was up for grabs!

For each person's enthusiasm to get into the bidding spirit, more refugee children in Lebanon will be provided with an education, a basic human right. The money raised for this project is truly astonishing and a testament to the generosity of Birdingbury's residents.



I would like to personally thank the organizing team for their hard work, put in both on the night and in the months leading up to it. At a time when people are increasingly cautious about the work of charities, it was a real encouragement to witness the dedication to the event and to the work of Global Care in Lebanon.

Thank you!

Ella-Sophia Peaple

Donor Development Officer, Global Care

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

LH Quiz Night 2018 - Whitfields Win by a Whisker!

Another lively Leamington Hastings Academy quiz night was held recently at Bourton, Frankton and Draycote village hall, with the usual Birdingbury suspects supporting our fundraising efforts.

Six teams competed on the evening, including the aptly named United Nations - our local Greek/Scottish/Irish/German contingent with an English team captain playing the role of Kofi Annan.

The teams worked hard for their supper across a myriad of subjects. "A Postcard from Pyeong Chang", this year's sports round, proved challenging for most of the teams, while I also had feedback (aka complaints) that the film quiz was a little too difficult for most. So difficult that one team guessed Sleepless in Seattle when the film was actually Fight Club! The statues picture round caused further amusement at the expense of Billy Fury. His Liverpool birthplace may have commemorated him in bronze, but his fame doesn't seem to stretch to the depths of Warwickshire. Suggestions included Cliff Richard in Eastbourne, Shakin' Stevens in Skegness, and Elvis Presley in Prestwick (where he doesn't have a statue but he does have a bar named in his honour - how very Scottish)!

Talking of the Scots and alcohol, I was kept busy with the quiz night bar (thirsty work this fundraising lark), although the self-service approach was also employed by a few folks when required! Needs must and all that.

An amazing supper was provided half way through to sustain the brains. This included Iliana's delicious moussaka, Ally's tasty chilli, and Clare's veggie delights. Clare also excelled with the desserts, supported admirably by Mai and Iliana. Highlights included Devon apple cake, chocolate brownies and a tasty crumble with custard.

It was a close call when scores were totted up at the end of the night. The Back Lane Beasties, led by the only slightly competitive Paula Whitfield, took a narrow victory, pushing last year's winners Pistol Knights into second place by only 4 points. Given how rowdy the winning team were during the quiz itself, we can only apologise if their victory celebrations caused any disturbance in the village.

As ever, many thanks to everyone who supported the evening, with particular mention to our wonderful quiz master and head of crowd control, John Starley. We raised over £400 which will go towards some fantastic new learning resources.

Roll on next year when I'll be back competing and someone else will be setting the (hopefully easier) questions!

Lesley Thomlinson

On behalf of the Friends of Leamington Hastings Academy

The Lowdown Ensemble Concert

The Lowdown Ensemble is a local, recently formed group of outstanding professional musicians, producing a new and exciting sound. They recently performed at All Saint's Church, Stretton, where they received a very warm ovation.

**THE LOWDOWN
ENSEMBLE**

Exciting new professional ensemble perform
classical and popular masterpieces arranged
for 3 Cellos and Double Bass

4.30pm

Sunday 22nd April 2018

St. Leonard's Church
Birdingbury
CV23 8EW

Adults: £10
Children under 16 £5

We are delighted to welcome them to St Leonard's on Sunday 22nd April 2018 for a performance at 4.30pm.

Tickets are available on the door at a price of £10 for adults and £5 for under 16's.

Tea and cake will be available from 3.45pm and donations to St Leonard's will be warmly welcomed for these.

Karen Armbrister

Road Closures Between Birdingbury and the Straight Mile

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make two Temporary Traffic Orders. The closures are required to facilitate carriageway patching.

- The first order will be to close Bourton Lane, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby from the junction with Draycote Road at Bourton, to the junction with Marton Road in Birdingbury. The Order will commence on 9 April 2018 and will last for a period of 18 months, or until the works are completed, whichever is the earlier. However, it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 13 April 2018. An alternative route will be signed and is available via: Frankton Road, Main Street, Marton Road, Birdingbury Road, A423 Oxford Road, B4453 Rugby Road, B4453 Princethorpe Road, Main Street and vice versa.
- The second order will close Main Street, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby from the junction with Straight Mile to the junction with Draycote Road at Bourton. The Order will commence on 12 April 2018 and will last for a period of 18 months, or until the works are completed, whichever is the earlier. However, it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 18 April 2018. An alternative route will be signed and is available via: Bourton Lane, Birdingbury Road, Frankton Road, Main Street, Marton Road, Birdingbury Road, A423 Oxford Road, B4453 Rugby Road, B4453 Princethorpe Road and vice versa.

Pedestrian access to the roads to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

PLEASE NOTE: The diversions are only suitable for vehicles under 13ft 3in in height due to low bridges on Birdingbury Road and Marton Road.

The Council regrets any inconvenience that may be caused. The team dealing with this Temporary Traffic Order at Warwickshire County Council is County Highways North (Tel: 01926 412515).

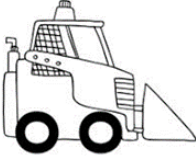
Any enquiries relating to the works being undertaken may be directed to the contractor dealing with this matter, who is Shaun Thornhill for Balfour Beatty (Tel: 07513 111069 or 24hr 01675 467523).

S Duxbury, Head of Law & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick

Club Events

Month	Date	Start Time	Entertainment
March	Sat 31	8.00	Easter Quiz 
April	Sat 21	8.00	Ingenious Inventors 
	Thu 26	7.30	Chip Van 
	Fri 27	5.00	Pizza Night 
	Sat 28	8.00	Quiz 
May	Sat 12	8.00	Eurovision Night 
	Sat 19	TBC	FA Cup Final 
	Fri 25	5.00	Pizza night 
	Sat 26	8.00	Skittles 
	Thu 31	7.30	Chip Van 
June	Sat 02	5.15	Football ENG v NIG 
	Sat 09	8.00	Quiz 
	Sun 24	PM	Church Fete 
	Fri 29	5.00	Pizza Night 

Thank you



Residents of Stockton Road would like to express their appreciation of the efforts made by the Bostock family to clear the snow that threatened to consign everyone to their homes during the recent visit by the Beast from the East. It really was a life line.

Maxine Timms et al

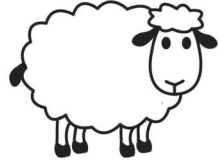
BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Calling all Birdingbury Walkers

Those of you who have been out walking recently will have noticed that there are now sheep and lambs in Willowfield and Brook Furlong. The eagle eyed will have also spotted an electric fence along the river bank. This is to prevent the repeat of last year when far too many lambs decided to take a swim and sadly perished as a result.

So that the sheep and lambs may graze in peace, we are asking everyone to stay on the public footpath and keep their dogs on leads as they cross the fields.

The way is marked with yellow flashes. It travels from the corner of Back Lane, down the paved pathway and our drive, through the gate and straight across Willowfield, through the second gate bordering the two fields, across Brook Furlong towards the telegraph post, and so on to the pedestrian gate by the road.



Thank you for your cooperation.

Lesley Fleming and John Starley

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Doggie Doos



The blight of dog mess is still occurring in the village. Many deposits are being left on verges and house frontages. It is most unpleasant for other villagers, who have to clear it up, and is potentially hazardous to vulnerable people, especially children.

Can we make a specific appeal to the individual who is persistently using the Stockton Road as a 'Dog Toilet'?

Please pick up and dispose of dog waste in the bins provided.

Thank you

Put Spring in Your Step

What is Pilates ...

Pilates is a form of exercises which concentrates on strengthening the body with the emphasis on core strength. This helps improve general fitness and overall wellbeing. Pilates concentrates on posture, balance and flexibility: great for tight aching muscles and joints.

Pilates classes are currently at Leamington Hastings Parish Hall.

Suitable for beginners, men and women, they run on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am to 10.30am. Mats etc. are provided.

Costs are £8.50 per class or £42 for 6 consecutive weeks

What is Yoga....

Yoga is an ancient form of exercise that focusses on strength, flexibility and breathing to boost both physical and mental well-being. The main components of Yoga are postures as series of movements: great for mind, body and soul.



A new Hatha Yoga class starts Monday 14th May at Leamington Hastings Parish Hall.

Suitable for beginners, men and women, they will run on Monday mornings from 11.00am to 12.15. Mats etc. are provided.

Costs are £10 per class or £51 for 6 consecutive weeks. Since it is a new class, there is an early bird promotion of £45 for a 6-week block booking. The deadline is pay by Friday 20th April.

Please contact me on 07879896888 or clairehewer@hotmail.co.uk about these classes. I also offer 1-to-1 personal training at home and sports massage.

Claire Hewer

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Coffee and Chat

We meet on the last Thursday of the month in the Birbury at 10.30 to enjoy a hot drink, tasty cakes and biscuits, and a chat with our fellow villagers; everyone is welcome.

Our next two meetings are on Thursday 26th April and 31st May and we look forward to seeing you there.

Your friends at St. Leonards



Lifelong Learning

Southam College Community Education Centre offers a varied programme of daytime and evening courses in Southam and surrounding villages.

Summer term starts from 23rd April, 2018



Places available for Cake Decorating, Digital Photography, Family History, and Watercolour and Mixed Media Art classes.

Leaflets are available in many local venues including libraries, leisure centre and shops and can be viewed on our web page www.southamcollege.com/about/community-education (together with further information about courses and fees).

Some classes are oversubscribed so please contact Sue Hawthorn to check availability and reserve a place on 01926 810942 or email commmed.s@welearn365.com

Like Southam College on Facebook for updates and links.

*Sue Hawthorn,
Southam College Community Education Centre.*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Attention allotment holders

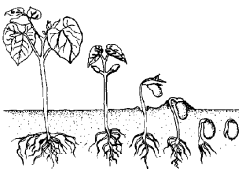
The Annual General Meeting of Birdingbury Allotment Society will take place on **Wednesday 25 April at 8 pm at The Birbury.**

We look forward to seeing you,

*Vic Shayler
Chairman- Birdingbury Allotments*



BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG



*Now's the time to get sowing for
the Produce Show!*

Ingenious Inventors is Back!

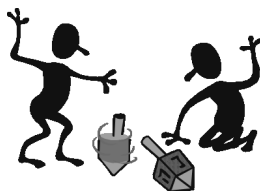


Saturday 21st April 2018

At Birdingbury Club:

8.00 pm till 11.00 pm

Family Fun!



*Test your skill and ingenuity – conceive,
design and build a device to do a simple
given task, using the materials
provided and your native wit!*

Teams of up to five people.

*For more info call John on 632508 or
email on john@jkstarley.com*



Annual Birdingbury Egg Roll



Come to the recreation field on Saturday 31st March at 10.30 for our annual Choccy Treasure Hunt and Egg Roll competition. This will be followed by the Best Decorated Egg competition at the Birbury, along with refreshments and the prize giving.

You will need one hard-boiled egg to roll and a decorated one for the judging.

Hope to see you all there for some 'eggitement'!

Jo Cutts

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Leamington Hastings Academy Rose Queen Day

Please come along to our traditional summer fete on Saturday 9th June - have some fun and support your local school in the process. Take a break from your other weekend activities and enjoy our stalls, games and refreshments, including lots of lovely homemade cakes!

As is the LH tradition, the children will also be showing us their maypole dancing skills before we crown the new Rose King and Queen.

Timing is not yet confirmed but likely to be from around 12 noon until 3pm, so please pop by.

Lesley Thomlinson

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG



Home Delivery Library Service

The Home Delivery Library Service is a free service to those who are unable to visit or use their local library or Mobile Library due to ill health or infirmity.

Using volunteers, we deliver books to people in their homes once every four weeks, based on their personal preferences.

We offer books in both large and small print and also talking books on compact disc.

Anyone who feels that they would be eligible and would benefit from receiving the service can contact us on 01926 851031 or by email on:

mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Debbie Bennett

The Birbury AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Birbury Room Management Committee will take place on Tuesday 3rd April at 7.45pm in the Birbury. This gives us an opportunity to review the previous year and confirm the representative members of the Committee.

We meet on the 5th Tuesday of each month and the main events we organise for the village are the Pancake Races, the St. George's Day lunch and Tea @ 3 at Christmas time, plus occasional fund raisers since we are a charitable organisation.

New members are always welcome as we want to ensure that the Birbury is a meeting place used by all villagers. Why not come along and see what we do?

St. George's Day Lunch



Our annual St. George's Day lunch will take place in the Birbury on Sunday 22nd April at 12.00. Please join us and have a chat with fellow villagers while you relax and enjoy crusty bread, cheese and pickles followed by homemade puddings and a hot drink. All this for £2.50, which covers our costs. We look forward to seeing you there.....

Jenny Hawes, Birbury Chair

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Bowls Club Update

Thanks to everyone that helped last autumn, the green is lush, smooth and ready to play. Thanks also to those who continue to contribute in many ways to keep the club successful.

Would you like to try something different? We meet every Wednesday at 7pm at the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. You don't need any special clothing or equipment, just a sense of fun. Any age, any ability, you are most welcome to come and join us.

On Saturday 28th April we will be playing our traditional Captain v President match to mark the opening of the green and indeed the start of the outdoor season, assuming the weather allows it. The match starts at 1.30 pm so, if you would like to come and watch to see what happens, you will be most welcome.

Come and have a go, you might enjoy it!

Susan Turner





The WPH Charitable Trust provides medical funding for a range of purposes and seeks to offer financial help, donations or sponsorship to individuals, groups and projects

WPH Charitable Trust

Local people battling ill health or injury are being urged to apply for financial assistance.

The call comes from the WPH Charitable Trust which was established in 1994. Since then, thousands of people across the area have benefited directly or indirectly from Trust funds, which distributes some £250,000 of financial aid every year.

Individuals and organisations who work towards preventing, relieving and curing ill health are also among those urged to apply. Grants are also given to community and private projects in the area which aim to improve the lives or quality of life of people battling ill health or injury.

Recent grants include £1,500 for a mobility scooter for a 51-year-old mother with mobility problems and £2,000 to a pensioner for a stairlift. Also, £1,500 towards a project teaching people with mental health issues how to cook and eat healthily, and £1,500 towards a recycling social enterprise project which creates volunteering opportunities for people with learning difficulties or disabilities, who may otherwise find it difficult to find employment.

The criteria for eligibility cover a wide range of needs, from research into new technologies to the provision of equipment for personal need. The Trust supports new buildings for hospitals and schools helping with provision of special educational facilities, disabled funding, and access improvements.

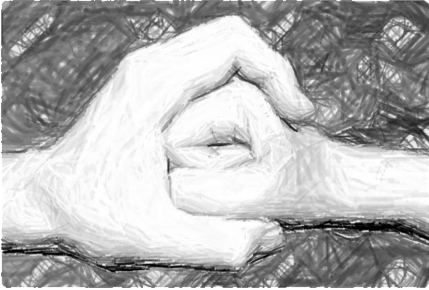
David Holt, Chairman of the WPH Charitable Trust trustees, said “Whether your application is for an amount large or small, the aim of the WPH Charitable Trust is to offer financial assistance towards projects and equipment which are of benefit to the lives of people. If you think you may qualify for assistance, the WPH Charitable Trust actively encourages you to get in touch.”

For further information, or to make an application, visit the WPH Charitable Trust website on <http://www.warwickshirehealthcharity.org.uk/>

Two Brothers

Love does better
On the surface,
Where true giving
Can begin.

Hate prefers it
Deep inside you
Far beneath
The damaged skin.



Easier then
To hold
Love's giving hand.
Much harder, Hate,
His bruising fists,
To know and understand.

Pilgrim

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdingbury Calendar

April		Event	Time	Venue
Tuesday	3	Birbury AGM	19.45	Birbury
Tuesday	10	Ladies' Circle	TBA	Body Shop
Saturday	14	Litter Pick	10.30	Birbury
Tuesday	17	Parish Council	19.30	Birbury
Saturday	21	Ingenious Inventors	20.00	Club
Sunday	22	St George's Day Lunch	12.00	Birbury
		Lowdown Ensemble	16.30	St Leonard's Church
Tuesday	24	Annual Village Meeting	19.30	Birbury
Wednesday	25	Allotments AGM	20.00	Birbury
Thursday	26	Coffee and Chat	10.30	Birbury
		Chip Van	19.30	Club
Friday	27	Pizza Night	17.00	Club
Saturday	28	Quiz	20.00	Club

May

Tuesday	8	Ladies' Circle	19.45	Birbury
Saturday	12	Eurovision Night	20.00	Club
Monday	14	Hatha Yoga starts	11.00	LH Village Hall
Saturday	19	FA Cup	TBC	Club
Friday	25	Pizza Night	17.00	Club
Saturday	26	Skittles	20.00	Club
Thursday	31	Coffee and Chat	10.30	Birbury
		Chip Van	19.30	Club

June

Saturday	2	England Football	17.15	Club
Saturday	9	Rose Queen Day	12.00	LH School
		Quiz	20.00	Club
Sunday	24	Village Fete	pm	Club
Friday	29	Pizza Night	17.00	Club



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