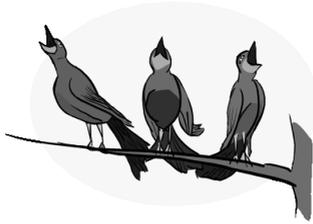


BIRDSONG

August 2017
and
September 2017



BIRDINGBURY
NEWS

No 81



The End of the Show

Photo: Sara Hancock

Parish Council Report July 2017

At our last meeting before the summer break, the Council discussed at length how best to take forward three important issues:

- A defibrillator to be stored in the telephone box;
- A Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for the parish;
- Proposals for the future use of the Club and Birbury.

The PC continues to explore the adoption of the telephone box so that it can house a defibrillator. There are issues about the state of the door which need resolving before the PC takes it over and these are being pursued with BT.

A small group was set up at the Annual Village Meeting in April to investigate the need for Birdingbury to initiate the process of producing a plan (NDP), and they will be presenting their findings at a public meeting in the **Birbury at 8.00pm on Tuesday 5th September.**

Following the AGM of the Club last month, the PC discussed how best to respond (as holders of the lease of the Birbury) to the proposal agreed by the club members. It was decided to suggest a meeting of interested parties (the Club, the PC and the Birbury Management Committee) in late September. There was strong and unanimous support for the need to pursue a joint approach, while safeguarding our responsibility as leaseholder.

Recent vandalism on the Recreation Field has unfortunately resulted in the involvement of the police. Villagers have been informed about this, and we are confident that there is widespread support for ensuring this doesn't happen again. We ask that all users report any further problems or damage to a Councillor. Such a valuable village facility is worth protecting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at:

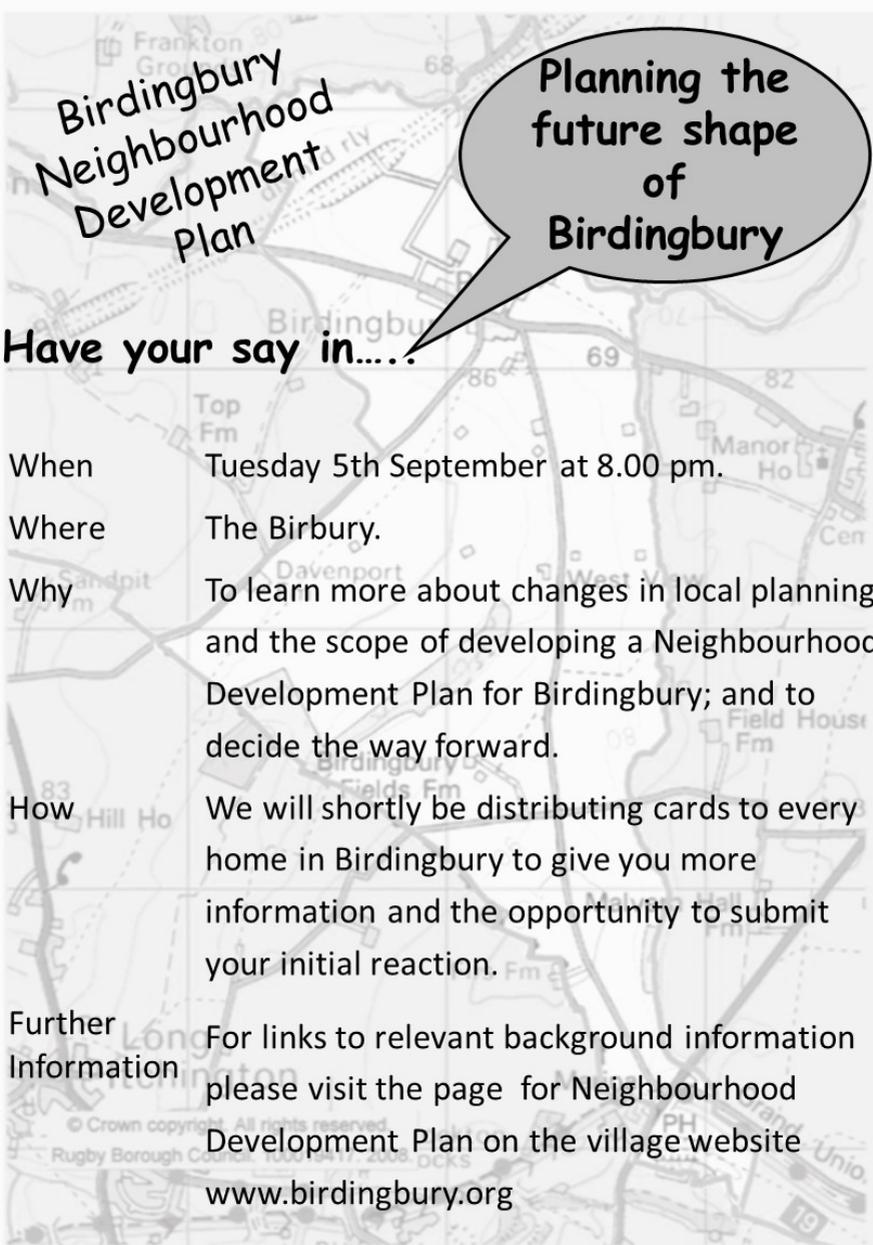
7.30pm on Tuesday 19th September 2017 in the Birbury

Wishing you all a splendid summer break,

With best wishes,

Diana Turner.

Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council



Birdingbury Neighbourhood Development Plan

Planning the
future shape
of
Birdingbury

Have your say in....

- When** Tuesday 5th September at 8.00 pm.
- Where** The Birbury.
- Why** To learn more about changes in local planning and the scope of developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Birdingbury; and to decide the way forward.
- How** We will shortly be distributing cards to every home in Birdingbury to give you more information and the opportunity to submit your initial reaction.
- Further Information** For links to relevant background information please visit the page for Neighbourhood Development Plan on the village website www.birdingbury.org

A Night at the Musicals - No Phantom at this Opera!



As yet another Glastonbury drew to a close, strange melodic sounds were reported emanating from the Club - yes it is official, Birdingbury is now part of the music Festival season!

Who needs V, Leeds or Reading when you can have the massed ranks of the Birdingbury men and lady folk serenading you with a "Night at the Musicals".

With a programme to make Broadway envious, our very own 'Gareth Malone' (aka Karen Armbrister) treated the assembled masses to a concert worthy of the Palladium.

As Richard "Topol" Cutts voiced concerns about the price of his next round in 'Wish I was a Rich Man', other members of the cast started to question the educational standard of a certain village (My Fair Lady - namely Eliza "Liz Ellis" Doolittle.

Fortunately, Birdingbury's own Rex Harrison

(Andrew Armbrister) was able to save the day and also reassure the Allotment Society that "In Hartford, Hereford and Hampshire, hurricanes hardly ever happen".



Just to provide a little break, the guitar wizardry of Lewis Cutts continued the education theme by playing Pink Floyd's classic 'Another Brick in the Wall'.

As the night progressed, further members of the village men folk were heard 'Singing in the Rain', whilst members of St. Leonard's were delighted to report a remarkable increase in numbers as

many of the good lady folk pronounced themselves nuns, singing 'I Will Follow Him' from Sister Act. Testimony no doubt to holding the Church Fete at the Club!





As if the evening couldn't get more surreal, to the excitement of members of the Shooting Club, a giant brown bear joined members of the choir as the simple 'Bare Necessities' for a perfect evening were delivered in the guise of a medley from Jungle Book.

Much to the relief of those assembled ecologists in the audience, that brown bear performing a 'wild' cameo was none other than Birdingbury's own John "Baloo" Starley.

To bring the evening to the perfect close, the choir magically transformed into Swedes before delivering a trio of Abba classics, 'Mamma Mia', 'Honey Honey' and to great appreciation from the audience, 'Dancing Queen'.

Mike Coles



BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdsong Appeal

Birdsong is distributed to over 150 homes around the village. All the work of writing, collating, checking, publishing and distributing is done on a voluntary basis. We do, however, have to pay for the printing. Over the years this has been held at a modest level by a hitherto sympathetic and community minded printer in Rugby. Sadly, our special deal is no more and the cost has increased.

Birdsong receives no formal or regular funding and, although we do periodically receive personal donations from kind individuals (for which we are very grateful), the bank account does need topping up!

Whilst I have approached the Village Distribution Fund for some help, the time has come, dear readers, to ask if you too would consider making a personal donation to help finance future editions.

Any form of donation will be most welcome: cash or cheques, payable to 'Birdsong News', to me at Moonrakers; or electronic transfer to Santander Bank; a/c number 52421518, sort code 72 03 54.

I do hope that, with your support, we can continue to provide the Village with a regular newsletter. Thank you.

Lesley Fleming

Progressive Supper – the Victims

This was our third Progressive Supper in Birdingbury and once again it was a fabulous evening with the chance to make new friends and meet old ones. Not to mention the opportunity to have a peek into some houses that you have walked past many times but never entered!

The evening started as usual with everyone gathering at the Club. The expectations were high and the alcohol level still low. Such is the importance of the event that one participant had flown in from India just a few hours earlier, whilst another was recently returned from San Francisco.



After a warm up drink, we all departed for our starters. At this stage, you wonder if Simon and Alex consider athletic ability when allocating courses. At least one couple was haring from one end of the village to the other between courses - good for working up an appetite. In our case, we had a delicious starter at our next door neighbour's and then had to go an exhausting 10 yards to get back to our own house for main!

Actually, we thought this was quite fortuitous as this was our first year doing a main and we were quite nervous about not having enough time. It turned out to be even more fortuitous when we opened the door to find smoke coming out of the oven! With a bit of swift ventilation, the situation was quickly rectified and everything was under control by the time our guests arrived.

Great fun was had with our lovely guests, no doubt aided by the continuous alcohol consumption. After what seemed like no time at all, it was time to open our next envelope and we were off for dessert, where we met some villagers properly for the first time and really enjoyed ourselves.



Back at the Club for the post mortem it was clear that everyone had had, and was still having, a great time. Many couldn't remember the names of some of the people they had been with but they were sure they had enjoyed themselves immensely!

Thank you very much to Simon and Alex for organising a wonderful event. May it continue for years to come.

Sara and Matt Hancock

Progressive Supper – the Perpetrators

This year was the first time I have been involved in the organisation of the Progressive Supper. Despite initial reservations I found I really enjoyed it: in fact all the hard work put in by others before me meant that the whole process was quite simple (especially as Simon did most of it!).

It was great to see so many people have such a good time - 33 couples in all! The time of year meant that we didn't have quite as many participating as in some years. A few of our stalwarts were on early holidays, but it was great to see relative newcomers to the village joining us.



As a result of our fantastic night and ever generous villagers, we were delighted to donate £415 to Hope4 Rugby. In a letter of thanks Hope4 told us that their services are needed now more than ever and have running costs of around £6,500 per month. A further £415 has also been put towards the village defibrillator which will be sited in the telephone box in Main Street.

We'd love to see yet more Progressive Virgins joining us next year, so please do give it some thought. The concept is very simple, you have two couples join you at your table for one course - starter, main or dessert - before moving on to another house and two different couples where you will be served the next course, finally meeting again at the club for a nightcap. You don't know who you are going to meet until the door is opened! The important thing to remember is that the food is just an excuse for a good time - if cooking is not something you enjoy then just keep it really simple - that's what I do!

A big thank you must go out to everyone that took part and to all those who donated a raffle prize, helping us raise such a great amount for our charities. Hope to see you all again next time!

Alex Rigler

The Country Show Garden Café

End of an Era

Wow! What a weekend we had at the Garden Café at the Birdingbury Country Show. It was a fabulous show with a record breaking attendance and an amazing atmosphere. The generous donation of delicious Cornish clotted cream and strawberry jam from Roddas of Redruth to the Garden Café was such an amazing gesture and I am so grateful.

Thanks to our amazing friends, we raised over £2000 in the Garden Café this year. Thank you to Paula Munro, Fern Berwick, Maggie Chinn, Sara Hancock, Karen Armbrister, Lee Hayden, Sylvia Redhead, Jan Seenan, Liz Ellis, Isobel Porter, Louisa Porter and Dick Withington.



A special mention goes to the kitchen team of Sue Ward, for her ten years of good deeds, and Monica Tompkins, for an incredible twenty-seven years.

Thank you also to everyone who has helped in previous years; I am so indebted to you all. I think we must have raised more than thirty thousand pounds for charity in the Garden Café over the years. My Dad would have been so proud.

The show is set to make a record breaking amount of money to donate to Bloodwise, a charity that is so important to our family.

The last couple of years had been tough for Dad, but hours of relentless chemotherapy gave him, and us, extra years, whereas thirty years before his Mum wasn't so fortunate. It is thanks to many, many people who had raised money for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research (now Bloodwise), in those interim years, that gave us precious additional time with him. He was so proud and humbled that we and the Country Show raised money for this charity so that research and treatment can get better and other families can have longer with their loved ones.

Our Dad would say the money for the charities was a bonus. He just wanted everyone to have a good time. One year, Mrs Facer, in her eighties, going out of the house for the one and only time of the year, shouted to Dad, as he was driving Gordon up Main Street, “Hey, Bob this is great!”. He gave her a chubby ‘Bob’ wave and turned to me and said “That’s what it’s all about – folk having a good time”.

Our Dad created this, he and his friends made it happen and everyone did “have a good time”

Thanks Dad.

Gaynor Davy

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdingbury Country Show

What a glorious weekend of weather for the final Birdingbury Country Show.

Throng of visitors came to enjoy all the wonderful displays of vehicles – the Steamers, Tractors, Tanks, Commercial Vehicles, Motor Cycles, Classic Cars and Stationary Engines. Everybody came together to ensure our final Show went out on a high.

There was plenty to see and do. The Animals with Jenny proved to be very popular – I know there was a lamb nearly taken home to Essex! The Sheepdog Display with Ducks was brilliant although I don’t think the ducks always did as they should.

Everywhere you looked, people were enjoying the wonderful atmosphere of this event. I’m sure many ice creams were consumed along with the traditional candy floss.

On Saturday lunchtime, the Salvation Army Band kept us entertained, and on Sunday the Bourton Trombone Group (under the direction of Derrick Parker) played for us. Whilst they were playing a piece entitled ‘The Muppet Show’, out of nowhere came the Lancaster Bomber flying directly over us. What a thrill that was.

The climax of the weekend had to be the parade of vehicles through the village headed by Barbara, driven by Peter Lockley in his 1955 Swallow Doretti. They were followed by a couple of Steam Engines and then almost all of the vehicles on site.



Yes, it certainly was a fantastic weekend.

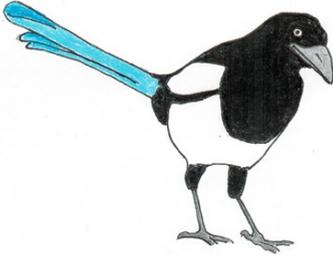
Will Birdingbury ever experience the like again?

Pauline Meade

The Avonlea Magpie

While researching the history of Birdingbury, we came upon this story on the BBC website ‘WW2 People’s War Memories’ from a WW2 evacuee. During WW2, David Critchlow and his brother were evacuated from Hertfordshire to Birdingbury, where they lived with their parents in a shed in the garden of what is now Avonlea on Marton Road. This is his memory of living in Birdingbury.

‘One Over the Eight’



“We and our parents went to live in a converted, two section, chicken house in the garden of the off-licence for the village of Birdingbury. Our hut was bitterly cold in winter and suffocatingly hot in summer, but it was home.

I kept asking my father for a pet. One day he climbed a tree to take a fledgling magpie, which he put in his shirt to keep it quiet on the way home. He hadn’t realised how flea-ridden it was

and had to strip when he got back to get rid of them. We called the bird Maggie, although we had no means of knowing what sex it was. We rather assumed it was male, I don’t know why. He became a great favourite: sleeping on one of the roof ties in the chicken hut home. He was happy to sit on our shoulders, though it was quite painful to have him on our heads — he would really dig his claws in.

When perching on our shoulders, he would often take to leaving his ‘card’ down our backs. This amused my father inordinately but my mother was not so amused, she had to do the washing. Maggie even flew into the adjoining field to mix with other magpies, to our consternation at first, but he always came back.

One day we thought we had lost Maggie when he didn’t come back at lunch time. In the middle of the afternoon my mother saw him fluttering and staggering up the path beside the hut. We were convinced he was ill, but after a sleep on his perch he seemed back to his normal cheerful self.

Later, the lady who owned the off-licence told us he had joined the men having a lunch time pint on the benches in the field and had been finishing off the beer at the bottom of their glasses. They thought it was a great joke and from then on encouraged him. He was better able to hold his drink after a while but his after lunch nap became a habit.

We had also been adopted by the off-licence cat, who even had her kittens on my bed! She was quite friendly with the magpie and even allowed him to perch on her back sometimes.

When we left Birdingbury a year later some friends took Maggie in a covered cage to Marton, some miles away. As soon as he was let out he flew straight to the nearest pub, about half a mile away.

Sadly his friendship with the cat proved his undoing as one day our friends found a heap of feathers in the back garden with their cat skulking nearby.”

Birdingbury History Group

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

‘Birdingbury 100 Years Ago’ exhibition

Did you miss Birdingbury History Group’s exhibition in May or would you like to have more time to browse our findings at your leisure?

Thanks to St. Leonard’s PCC, a selection of our display boards will be in church for the next couple of months or so. Please feel free to visit, or revisit, anytime between 9am and 6pm, when the church will be open.

Aileen Withington,

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Church Fete June 2017

The winners in the Grand Raffle drawn at the above event are as follows:

£100 in cash	C. & J. Kilvington
£60 Meal voucher at Cote Brasserie	C. & D. Shouler
Half Case Mixed Wines	K. Marshall
Half Case Mixed Wines	C. Hall
Round of Golf (Leamington Spa)	V. Elliot-Smith
£40 Sainsbury Voucher	Family at Bourton
£20 Stockpot Voucher	J. Coles
£20 Friendly Inn Voucher	M. Burnett
Meal for 2 at The Huntsman Carvery	R. Murray
Breakfast For Two at Hilltop	P. Law
Steam Genie, Carpet Clean	E. Vayro
£10 Cheese on the Green voucher	I. Tipton

Congratulations to the lucky winners and thank you to everyone who entered. See you next year.

Dick Withington and Daphne Chippendale



Birdingbury Village Club AGM

It was great to see so many people at the club AGM the other week and, having once again failed to master the art of stepping backwards quickly enough, I appear to be in the club chair for another term ...

In case you missed it, the AGM confirmed that profits are back on the up and whilst that's welcome news, we're not out of the woods yet! We talked about the future viability of the club being firmly intertwined with the village and how it's been great to see the club host the harvest supper, village lunch and the church fete amongst other events over the past year - long may it continue.

We also discussed options for the future: how we might integrate the use of the whole building; and make the improvements you've been saying you want. The meeting unanimously approved pursuing this, so we'll develop this thinking jointly with the parish council and the Birbury. Should that not be possible for any reason, we will also explore, at the same time, how far the club can take this work on its own.

The joint approach is, of course, much preferred and I'm optimistic about it, but either way we'll need your thoughts on all this at the appropriate time. Watch this space!

In other news, for any wine or gin enthusiasts out there we will be reviewing our wine and gin options shortly, so if there are any knowledgeable volunteers to help us with this, could they drop me a line at antonyflint@aol.com or leave their details at the bar?

Finally, membership is only £10, so could I just ask that if you're not a member or haven't yet renewed your membership for this year, that you consider it?

Tony Flint

Month	Date	Start Time	Entertainment
July	27 th	17.30	Pizza Night
August	10 th	19.45	Fish and Chip Van
	19 th	14.00	Car Treasure Hunt and Barbecue
September	1 st	19.45	Live Football: Malta v England
	9 th	tba	Produce Show and Auction
	14 th	19.45	Fish and Chip Van
	23 rd	19.00	Harvest Supper
	30 th	tba	Race Night
October	21 st	tba	Mini Beer and Cider Festival
	28 th	tba	Halloween Event

St Leonard's Church
Birdingbury

HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 23rd September 2017

7.00pm

at

The Birdingbury Club

£2.50

Seasonal food and music

Tickets from Liz Ellis (632379) or the Club



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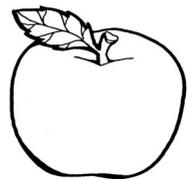
Swap Shop

As it's now "officially" Summer, some very tasty goodies have been turning up on a Saturday morning in the Birbury for the weekly Swap Shop.

We've had rhubarb, beetroot, eggs, jam, courgettes and books. Soon we'll have runner beans, tomatoes, apples and lots of surprises...

You do not have to bring anything to swap, and we only ask for cash once a year, so please come along and enjoy coffee, cake and a chat with your fellow villagers. You might return home with a little something extra.

We meet from 10.30 to 11.30 on a Saturday morning in the Birbury and we take it in turns to play host. This means we have a lovely variety of things to eat. Why not come along and join us?



Di Turner and Jenny Hawes

Recreation Field Safety

If you receive the Neighbourhood Watch email alerts you will have seen this circulated in the last week of June. If you are not signed up and wish to be then please contact me on jackie@elliam.org and I will add you to the circulation.

For some time now there have been incidents of discarded glass from broken bottles found up at the Recreation Field. Unfortunately, a short time ago someone playing football fell and cut himself on glass. We have also cleared away half of a broken vodka bottle which was lying on the children's soft play area – it doesn't bear thinking what harm this could have done to a young child.

Recently there has been an escalation of events with the theft and vandalism of eleven village chairs from a nearby container and, even more worrying, the discovery of several aerosol cans and other drugs paraphernalia, including a home-made "bong" style inhaler.

We are sure you share our concerns about the safety both of our village youngsters and of visitors who use the recreation field in relation to these hazards. Because of our duty of care as a Parish Council, it has been necessary for us to inform the police of the above and they will be keeping an eye open for any antisocial behaviour in the village, particularly around the Recreation Field.

We are asking anyone who uses the Recreation Field to be made aware of what is going on and that our PCSOs and the police will be monitoring the area. If anyone is concerned about the behaviour of others, please:

Call Rugby Police on 101 mentioning the crime number 212-210617

Speak to a member of the Parish Council or an adult in the village, or

Email our PCSO Helena Seal at helena.seal@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

We have also been made aware that youngsters have been warned by the police about swimming in the river (under the viaduct). It is too tempting for some in the recent weather and, whilst the river looks incredibly inviting, it does sadly contain unseen hazards, as has been so tragically proven in the past. There were also people camping on the Birdingbury side of the river under the viaduct, which has alarmed some residents.

No doubt we all want to make sure the village is a safe and pleasant place for all and that our amenities are respected and treasured. Your help in making this the case is much appreciated. Thank you.

Jackie Morton on behalf of Birdingbury Parish Council

North Warwickshire Citizens' Academy

Warwickshire Police is offering people in North Warwickshire an exciting opportunity to learn about and experience the day-to-day workings of their local police force as part of the Citizens' Academy.

This programme provides local people over the age of 16 with a unique insight into Warwickshire Police's work to protect people from harm and improve residents' quality of life.

Members of the public can support the work of the police and their partner agencies by enrolling in the ten-week Citizens' Academy programme, to be held at Rugby College, Technology Drive, Rugby, CV21 1AR, and delivered weekly from 6:30 to 8:30pm. The programme begins on Wednesday 6th September 2017.

Students completing the programme will graduate from the Citizens' Academy and their participation will be recognised with a formal ceremony.

It is hoped that students will pass on their experiences and increased knowledge to the rest of the community, or become special constables or volunteers with the police or other agencies.

The course will cover a range of policing functions/roles including crime prevention and detection, recording crimes and incidents, road safety, forensic investigation, police use of firearms, internet safety, and the role of Safer Neighbourhood Teams, as well as other key departments. There may be opportunities for students to experience ride-alongs with police officers and to visit a police station.

Participants will also be encouraged to request subjects of specific interest to them to ensure they get the best possible benefit from the time they invest.

You can watch a video on YouTube which will show you a little more of what to expect <https://youtu.be/iwCSV2UF-N4>

More information and application details are available at:

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/34358/North-Warwickshire-Citizens-Academy>

Please note the final date for applications to be received is Wednesday the 2nd August 2017

PCSO 6149 Helena SEAL

Rugby Rural South Safer-Neighbourhood Team (01788 853851)

Coffee and Chat

We had originally agreed that June would be our last meeting before the Summer break. However, there were so many people there - our biggest attendance yet - that we decided to forget about any breaks!



When you read this, we will have enjoyed a get together in July and our next two meetings are scheduled for Thursday 31st August and 28th September.

We meet at 10.30 in the Birbury for about an hour - depending on how interesting/involved the chat becomes - and share drinks, home-made goodies and catch up with friends, old and new.

It would be lovely if we could see some new faces in August and September, before the return to school or further education. Our youngest visitor recently was only a few weeks old and we welcome all comers.

Hope to see you there soon.

Your friends at St. Leonard's

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Thank You, Birdingbury

Ian and Mel would like to say a huge 'thank you' to so many of you for the care and support we have received following our accident in May. The cards, flowers, good wishes, meals, visits and practical help have all been so gratefully received and are very humbling.

We are both doing really well and are now back at work.

When I spoke to a doctor at the Dunchurch surgery and she asked where I lived, she felt sure we would be very well looked after in Birdingbury. It seems Birdingbury's reputation is well known beyond the village!

We live in an amazing village and we feel blessed to be part of you all. Thank you again.

Mel and Ian Palmer



St Leonard's Hedgehog Watch

It's not every day you go to a meeting and end up sitting next to your local Hedgehog Officer! But that is what happened to me at a meeting of the Diocesan Environment Group, where Dr Debbie Wright, our local Hedgehog Officer, was making a presentation.

Throughout June 2017, the Diocese had a 'Cherish your Churchyard' month where we were encouraged to undertake projects within our own churchyards. After a meeting and chat with Debbie, we decided to have a 'hedgehog watch' week to see if we could establish any hedgehog activity in our churchyard.

Debbie was really helpful: assisting us with setting up a hedgehog tunnel, where we could monitor any visitors; and attending our service where she spoke on the subject.

Says Debbie: "The much-loved hedgehog is our only spiky mammal in the UK. There are 17 species worldwide but we only have one species here, the Western European hedgehog. Hedgehogs have been around for millions of years and are thought to date back to at least the Eocene, in the period after the Cretaceous when the dinosaurs died out. Our hedgehogs are in trouble though, with UK numbers having plummeted by a third since the millennium. Contributing factors are likely to include habitat loss and fragmentation, pesticide use and possibly even injuries from machinery."

We had a wonderful week with over 12 children racing to the churchyard over a period of 6 nights to check the tunnel, re-stock and re-ink it, and to undertake various hedgehog themed quizzes and drawing/colouring. Although we didn't fully establish the presence of hedgehogs in the churchyard, several villagers took hedgehog tunnels back to their own gardens. The Markham family even got some recorded footage of a pair of hedgehogs visiting over several nights, plus an assortment of other domestic and wild life.

Any sightings of hedgehogs can be logged at www.helpforhedgehogs.co.uk. Advice is readily available from Debbie. Contact her by email at:

Deborah.Wright@wkw.org.uk.

We had such a fun week, we have decided to utilise the generous donations, made in the name of Doreen Johns, to create a wildlife garden in our churchyard which we hope will become a haven for all sorts of varieties of wildlife. Do let me know if you would like to be involved in this project.

Karen Armbrister



Southam College

Community Education Centre

Southam College Community Education Centre offers a varied programme of courses, daytime and evening, in Southam and surrounding villages. Subjects include Creative Arts and Crafts, Fitness and Wellbeing, General Interest, Languages, IT and Personal Development. We have some new courses and workshops planned throughout the term, subject to interest.

Autumn term starts from 11th September, 2017

Leaflets are available in many local venues including libraries, the 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 me to check availability and reserve a place on 01926 810942 or email commed.s@welearn365.com.

Like Southam College on Facebook for further updates and links.

Sue Hawthorn

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Craft and Chatter

Our craft group meets on a Monday evening in the club lounge from 8pm onwards.

Whether you are an experienced crafter or a complete beginner who would like to learn a new skill, please come along and join us. Some of the things that we have been doing over the past few weeks range from crochet, knitting and embroidery to colouring and jewellery making.



We ask for a contribution of £3 per session to contribute to club funds.

For more information contact me on jxcolledge@aol.com or 632463.

Julie Colledge



Come and join in the fun at our

Big Dogs Breakfast Party

at Moonrakers, Back Lane

on Saturday 26th August 9.00 am to 11.00am

Lesley's Luscious Breakfast Buns

Droolmaking Doggie Biccis

Human and Canine Socialising

EVERYONE WELCOME with or without dog

(no cats!)

Please let us know if you can come on 632508 or

bigdog@jkstarley.com

All money raised will go to Dogs for Good





La Mairie
Oiseau-en terre
Comte de meule de gueree

Mes amis

No deal iz better zan a bad deal. I keep 'earing this and we never 'ear from you. We 'ave therefore decided to twin wiv Ptitsa Zakapyvat wich nestles in your Urals. They came to us on ze internet and seemed to know all about us! Z'ere was a 101% vote for ze twinnin. Their maire, Znak Prepinaniya, will come and meet our newly elected maire Monsieur Ron Mack soon. Neither of them nor me will write to you any more.

Je vous offer me salutations
jean de l'etoile jachere
ex-maire de Oiseau en terre

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

The Birbury Coffee Shop

Our final Coffee Shop was held in the Birbury over the weekend of the Country Show, 8th and 9th July. Jackie and her daughter, Jennie, served up a variety of home-made treats and hot and cold drinks. They managed to sell some lovely craft items as well - they're multi-talented these two.

They raised in total £160 for the Birbury funds.

There were a lot of "regulars" who turned up to say "goodbye and thanks" and their comments were recorded in a book Jackie provided; they're very interesting to read through.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to such a pleasant weekend by buying refreshments or helping prepare, serve, or wash up.

Jenny Hawes, Birbury Chair

Shoe Box Coffee Morning

A coffee morning in support of shoe box transportation will be held at St. Esprit Church, Marton on Saturday 16th September from 10.00am to 12 noon.

Please come if you can: this is an important event for raising money for the onward transportation of the Christmas Shoe Boxes, As you can imagine, sending over 3,000 boxes mainly to Eastern Europe is an expensive business. This event in the Village Church at Marton will include a display by the organisers (T4U) showing the work carried out by volunteers bringing joy and excitement into the often bleak existence of vulnerable children living in poverty in Eastern Europe.



There will also be coffee and cakes, gift stalls, and a raffle/tombola in the Church.

Thank you to the gallant teams in Birdingbury who are feverishly wrapping boxes even as we speak, but more volunteers always welcome.

See you there!

If you can't make it, cash donations can be made online: www.teams4u.com or brought to me at Lyndhurst, Marton Road, Birdingbury.

Many thanks

Daphne Chippendale

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Ladies' Circle

Ladies' Circle restarts on 12th September with a brief AGM before we hear from Kira Dalton who will be telling us about her work with the Oyster Trust in Gambia.

If anyone would like to join us, please feel free to come along. The meeting starts at 7.45pm in the Birbury.

Leigh Sidaway



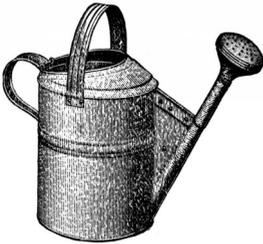
Property Marking

On Saturday 6th May 2017 PCSO Seal and PC Haden held what is becoming a regular property marking event for Birdingbury Village.

This was well received with a number of residents having i-pads, i-phones and pedal cycles marked.

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Bourton & District Garden Club



After a break for the summer, the next meeting will be on Thursday 21st September at the village hall in Bourton on Dunsmore at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. The topic this time will be 'Vintage Garden Tools'.

For more information, contact Frank or Francine on 01926 632595 or Carol on 01926 632033.

We look forward to seeing members and visitors (a small charge is made for visitors to include refreshments).

Francine Campbell

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Mobile Library Service

The visiting dates of the mobile library have long been a feature of the village calendar. Those who have yet to use the facility may like to know that the mobile library has:

- large and small print titles
- spoken word
- books for young children
- information on the Internet
- local, library and County Council information screens



The mobile library is easy to access, with a low entrance with two small steps and a ramp at the rear for wheelchair or pushchair users. Inside it is air conditioned to ensure a comfortable environment on hot summer days.

Why not pop you head around the door next time you see it parked up on Main Street? If you'd like more information, Debbie Bennett of the Mobile Library and Home Library Delivery Service can be contacted on: 01926 851031 or by email at mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk.

This Night Has Wandered

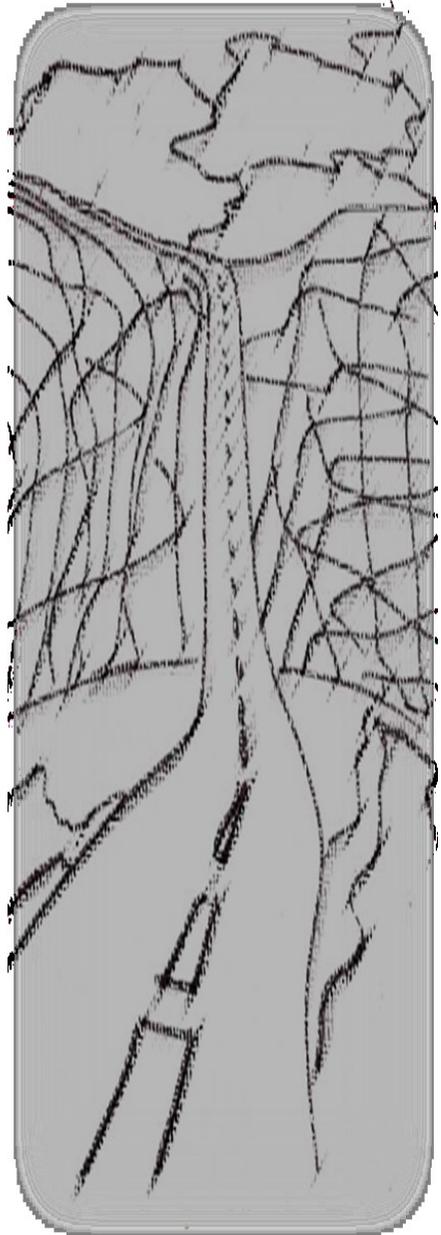
This night has wandered
And this car,
In chartless driftings
Close and far.

Beyond the windscreen
Shadows sweep,
Amidst the headlights
Wrapped in sleep.

Those older smells
Of leather,
Smoke and rain.
I dream but dreams
And they cannot
Reclaim.

I dreamed of then,
When then was
All I knew,
Before the great men shrank
And shadows grew.

Pilgrim

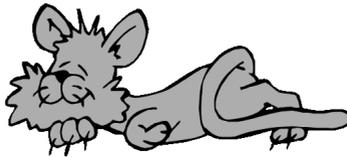


Birdingbury Calendar

August		Event	Venue	Time
Thursday	10th	Fish and Chips	Club	19.45
Friday	11th	Mobile Library	Main Street	11.40
Saturday	19th	Treasure Hunt and BBQ	Club	14.00
Saturday	26th	Big Dogs' Breakfast	Moonrakers	09.00
Thursday	31st	Coffee and Chat	Birbury	10.30

September

Friday	1st	Mobile Library	Main Street	11.40
Friday	1st	Live Football	Club	19.45
Tuesday	5th	Village Meeting: BNDP	Birbury	20.00
Saturday	9th	Produce Show and Auction	Club	tba
Tuesday	12th	Ladies Circle	Birbury	19.45
Thursday	14th	Fish and Chips	Club	19.45
Saturday	16th	Shoe Box Coffee Morning	Marton Church	10.00
Tuesday	19th	Parish Council Meeting	Birbury	19.30
Thursday	21st	Garden Club	Bourton VH	19.00
Friday	22nd	Mobile Library	Main Street	11.40
Saturday	23rd	Harvest Supper	Club	19.00
Thursday	28th	Coffee and Chat	Birbury	10.30
Saturday	30th	Race Night	Club	tba



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