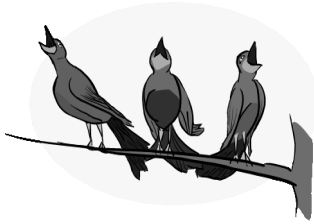


BIRDSONG

**August 2018
and
September 2018**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS**

No 87



Bringing Home the Bales

Photo: John Marshall

From the PC Chair

Dear Villagers,

Here is something I thought you might be interested in from Warwickshire Switch & Save:

‘Following a successful reverse auction between competing gas and electricity providers on the 22nd of May 2018, it has been revealed that residents signed up to the scheme are set to save an average of £177 on their utility bills.’ To find out more, go to:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchandsave>

We all enjoy celebrating birthdays and anniversaries and many such events are finished off in the evening with a firework display in the garden. There is of course nothing wrong with that, so long as the display is finished by 11pm.

However, in a small village set in a valley, noise does travel everywhere, so please consider letting everyone know of your plans. This will allow pets to be kept indoors and windows shut to prevent children being woken.

Let’s hope we all have a lovely summer and, if lucky enough to be going away, a wonderful holiday. We don’t have a meeting now until September but you can still let our clerk, Jackie, or any of the councillors know of any issues you feel we should be made aware of.

Ian Tipton, Chairman

Birdingbury Parish Council



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Watch This Space



I am delighted to report that funding to undertake the Defibrillator project has been secured.

We will, therefore, be able to crack on with the purchase and installation of the equipment, and the training, just as soon as we get BT to remove the telephony kit. Great news!

Jackie Morton

Check out the stop press on page 15.....

Promises Fulfilled

Here is a round up of some of the action following the Promises Auction, held back in March, in aid of Global Care:

Supper with Karen and Eira



Thank you both so much for a delicious supper last night.

We all had a lovely evening enjoying your super food whilst sitting out in the garden until late: that is certainly the way to entertain!

Sue Law

Chauffeur for the Evening

Andrew Armbrister played chauffeur for a friend and me, driving us to and from a 'lively' event in Coventry.

Peter Law



Whisky Tasting



With a mixed bag of seasoned and novice whisky drinkers having bought the tasting evening at the Global Care charity auction, no one was really sure how it would shape up ... but the answer was brilliantly!

Karen and Andrew laid on a fantastic evening of six whiskies, each with an accompanying tasting plate. Each guest was then asked to identify the country, type and any distinct tasting notes.

After courses featuring drinks from six areas, including Taiwan, the Cotswolds and even a semi frozen whisky for dessert. It turned out that the village has its very own super taster in the shape of Richard, who correctly identified almost every element!

A really, really great evening all round and huge thanks to Karen and Andrew for their hospitality.

Tony Flint, Darren Young, Richard Cutts, John Owen, John Starley, Nick Thomas

Birdingbury 100 Years Ago: Women's Roles

Throughout the country there were tremendous changes in the roles of women during the First World War. In Birdingbury, however, we do not have much specific evidence of such sweeping changes.

In the 1911 census the most common occupation listed for women in Birdingbury was domestic servant (most of these living at Birdingbury Hall). Also listed were a teacher, assistant teacher, a needle-woman, a housekeeper, a nurse and two heads of household. This in a total village population of about 200. These figures do not take into account the fact that on the farms and allotments (many villagers cultivated a half-acre, or even one-acre, allotment) wives would have helped in all the farming tasks: calf raising, pigs, milking, poultry management, cultivating and harvesting. Photographs from before WW1 show this and, no doubt, when a husband or son went to war, these tasks increased for the women.



In the more prosperous middle-class households and farms the women would have been occupied with domestic duties, but with the help of a servant or two. They would also have taken a lead in organising the response to exhortations to produce more food, knit socks or contribute to 'comfort boxes' of cigarettes, chocolates, soap and socks for the troops.

Small earnings were possible for piece work in the home: washing, ironing, sewing, lacemaking, assembly work for toys and boxes, but the majority of women were well occupied with the normal domestic routine. This included the arduous work of fetching water for all purposes from the two or three public wells in the village.

Women's Role in Food Production and The Women's Land Army



In 1914 much of the country's food was imported, particularly wheat from Canada and Australia. The German U-boat campaign reduced this dramatically, so it was essential to increase local food production.

Many farmers were, however, reluctant to employ women. Nevertheless, in March 1917, a civilian women's labour force of mobile workers, called the Women's Land Army, was formed.

These 'Land Girls' were trained and then took on milking, care of livestock, ploughing and general work on farms and were paid 18 shillings (90p) and later £1 a week. Between March 1917 and May 1919, 23,000 women became official full-time members of the Women's Land Army – a small but significant part of the 300,000 women who by 1918 were working on the land. (Were there any from Birdingbury?)

Women taking on Men's Roles

When a generation of men went off to fight in 1914, women took up roles previously denied to them, from establishing military hospitals staffed entirely by women to working as window cleaners, road sweepers, and cleaning railway engines (although they were never paid the same as men).



Local papers in Leamington, Rugby and Coventry carried advertisements: 'Situations Vacant. Women wanted for factory work'. We simply do not know whether girls in their late teens from Birdingbury may have travelled or moved to the local towns for such work. We do know that, for the first time, women were employed at the Stockton Cement Works as labourers. And, of course, by 1915 there was an urgent need for shell manufacture and in 1918 a million women in the country were employed in munitions work.

Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD)

This voluntary organisation provided field nursing services throughout the country and overseas. Money was raised in Southam and surrounding villages for a hospital which was established at The Grange in Southam. Mrs Lillia Ackroyd of Birdingbury Hall was its Deputy Commandant. Work for this VAD hospital was not for the faint hearted. Initially there was no water at The Grange and it had to be carried from a pump on the Welsh Road. Later, a water diviner discovered water on site.

Women's Vote

Finally, in 1918, exactly 100 years ago, women over 30 who were householders were given the vote! (The rest of us had to wait until 1928.) This would not have been with the blessing of Mrs Ackroyd as she actively supported the National League for the Opposing of Woman Suffrage!

Rhondda Barney

Photos courtesy of Southam Heritage Collection

Bob Munro Tractor Run

The Tractor Run, BBQ and Open Mic day on 30th June was a great success, raising £610 for the 'Bloodwise' charity. We are hopeful that we will also get a further £500 donated by Lloyds Bank as part of their charity matching scheme. More news on this when we know. We were a bit unsure how many tractors might turn up on the day, thinking it would be somewhere between 10 and 30. In fact we had 38 tractors, three trailers, two Land Rovers and one bike.



It was great fun travelling through our beautiful local countryside at a sedate pace, fuelled by gallons of tea and coffee provided by the Birbury Ladies. We also enjoyed excellent hospitality at our refreshment stop, the 'Green Man' in Long Itchington, and top quality food, cooked perfectly by our BBQ team, at the Club. The day concluded with a few tunes at the Open Mic in the evening.



There are many people to thank for their contributions and I hope I remember you all. Here goes:

- 'Our John' (Edgar) for general organisation and the original idea
- David Walker and Dan Dabbs for encouragement, experience and ideas
- all the Birbury Team for tea, coffee, biscuits etc.
- the Marks (Taylor and Dent), Carl and Nicky, and anyone else who helped with the BBQ (it was obvious you'd done it before) QUALITY!
- Bob, John, George, Ian, Rob, Annabel and Mia, and Jo for their music
- Barbara, James and Gaynor for use of the field and the Yellow Brick Road
- Richard Cutts for cycling the whole route, directing traffic, closing gates etc.
- and finally, to all the tractor drivers who willingly paid an entrance fee to take part, and to everyone who came along to watch, ride or, in some cases, simply to contribute to the charity collection.

There were lots of favourable comments on the day and a few constructive suggestions. Will we do it next year? Watch this space!

Steve Edgar

Summer at the Club

It's been a very busy summer at the Club and it's been great to see so many people using it - and so often! What with the tractor run, the walking treasure hunt, the swing ball competition, the dog show and the football, plus Pizza Nights, some fab weather and a few barbeques - it's been a great summer so far.



Looking ahead to the next couple of months, we have a Summer Quiz Night on 25th August, Pizza Night on 31st August, Harvest Supper on 22nd September and Open Mic Night on 29th September. Please do pop down and join in the fun!

On the business front, thanks to everyone who came to the AGM. It was great to be able to report that both Club usage and the finances continue to go in the right direction, and that our discussions about a way forward are progressing well. It's taking a little longer than we anticipated: as it turns out this is quite complex, but we hope to have more news on that in the next couple of months.

Those of you asking for a few different things to be on offer behind the bar will, I hope, have noticed the addition of small bottles of Prosecco and the arrival of Pimms and Pink Gin too. We look forward to our new wine offer starting to appear in the next month or so.



Enjoy the rest of the summer and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Tony Flint

President

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Weather



Birdingbury knows

The sun is always shining

Even when unseen.

Thin Jethro Laskey

Have You Tried Kefir?

What is Kefir?

Kefir is a cultured, fermented milk drink, originally from the mountainous region that divides Asia and Europe. It is similar to yogurt but a drink, with a tart, sour taste and a slight ‘fizz’. This is due to carbon dioxide, the product of the fermentation process. The length of the fermentation will affect the taste. Kefir is a good source of calcium and is rich in probiotic bacteria.

How is it made?



The method of making kefir is one of the main differences between kefir and yogurt. Traditional milk kefir uses kefir grains and whole cow’s milk, although now you can find it made from goat’s/ sheep’s milk, and coconut milk too.

Kefir grains are not actually grains at all but small gelatinous beads that look like grains, containing a variety of bacteria and yeasts.

The grains are placed in a glass jar/bowl, soaked in milk, covered and left at room temperature for a minimum of 24 hours. This enables the bacteria and yeast to ferment the lactose (natural sugar in milk) into lactic acid, activating the bacteria to proliferate and grow.

After around 24 hours at room temperature, the grains are strained from the kefir and transferred to a fresh batch of milk and used again to enable them to keep reproducing. This cycle can be carried on indefinitely. The strained kefir is now ready to drink.

The grains will multiply as long as they are kept in fresh milk at the right temperature. When the product is put in the fridge the cool temperature inhibits the fermentation process.

Nutritional benefits

Milk is a good source of protein and calcium, and kefir is no different. However, it has the added benefits of probiotics. Probiotics are better known as the ‘friendly bacteria’ that can ease IBS symptoms, such as bloating, and digestive distress in some people.

Kefir grains contain around 30 strains of beneficial bacteria. Some of the major strains include lactobacillus or lactic acid bacteria (LAB). Lactobacillus kefir, which is one LAB unique to kefir, has been shown in a study to inhibit the growth of some harmful bacteria such as salmonella, h-pylori and e-coli and is used to prevent or treat some gut inflammatory disorders. However, many of the health claims associated with kefir require further research.

Some people find that kefir improves their digestion due to its probiotic content. Probiotics can help restore balance in the gut, thereby improving digestion.

Free to a good home!

At Hereford House there has been intense bacterial growth! Initially, we got hold of 5g of live kefir grains and over the last two months we have been adding fresh milk to these and leaving them to stand (or, technically, ferment) for a day or two.



The initial results were a thin yoghurt drink which we then flavoured with strawberries or honey by blending in a nutribullet.

As the weeks have progressed, the kefir has changed considerably and now results in a thick rich yogurt drink which is not fizzy or sour. We can only assume that our grains have matured and now know what they are doing! They are like white squidgy cauliflower bits. The resulting growth of the grains means we now have over 150g and need to give some away to people who would like to make their own kefir.

We can supply instructions.

Give us a shout at rosycarr@ymail.com or call 633705 if you'd like some.

Rosy Carr

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Chip Van Wrinkle

Having valiantly served up what must be thousands of helpings of delicious, hot, fresh fish and chips to the village over the last few years, The Chip Van Man has regretfully decided that he can no longer commit to continuing the service.

The Club Committee are actively pursuing an alternative and will update everyone in due course.

Tony Flint



St Leonard's Church Fete 2018: Raffle Winners

The prize winners in the Church Fete raffle were:

£100.00 in cash	Mark & Karen Thomas	Birdingbury
£60 Meal Voucher for Cote Brasserie	Mr Hoggarth	Birdingbury
Half Case Red Wine	Brian Sunderland	Bourton
Half Case Mixed Wine	Maria Leret	Stretton
Round of Golf for Four at Leamington Golf Club	Jean Foroughi	Birdingbury
£40 Voucher for Sainsbury Stores	Nick Thomas	Birdingbury
Lunch for Two at The Larder	Bill Cowley	Birdingbury
£25 Voucher for Jason's Organic Butchers	Jenny Ho	Birdingbury
£20 Voucher for The Friendly Inn	Keith Marshall	Birdingbury
Midweek Meal for Two at The Huntsman, Dunchurch	Thelma Cain	Stretton
Farm House Breakfast for Two at Hill Top Farm	Richard Davies	Birdingbury
Free Carpet Clean by Steam Genie	Richard Cutts	Birdingbury
£10 Voucher for Cheese on the Green	Lisa French	Birdingbury

Auctioned

Breakfast for Two at the Stockpot Café, Ryton	Dick Withington	Birdingbury
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Congratulations to all the lucky winners and our sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the raffle and, of course, to everyone who bought tickets.

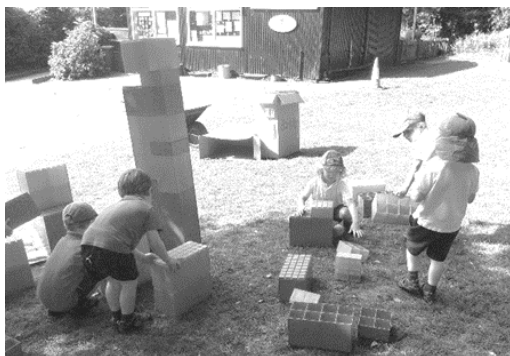
Good luck for 2019!

Dick Withington

Leamington Hastings Academy Update

So, we've come to the end of another academic year, and another great year of fun and fundraising.

Over the whole year we have raised a whopping **£2,873** from the various fundraisers including the Christmas Fayre, Rose Queen Day, Quiz Night, our Lego event, after-school tuck shop and the Bags4School collection. This is a fantastic amount for a school of our size, and is down to the tremendous support from parents, grandparents and our local community, which includes many former parents (some of whom were responsible for the significant amount raised by the quiz night bar!). Birdingbury folks did pretty well on the Rose Queen Day raffle too - I had to tour the village dropping off prizes!



We have used the money raised to fund travel for school activities like our trip to the Botanical Gardens. We've bought some new school equipment including visualisers for both classrooms and giant construction blocks.

We have also just agreed to spend further funds on new chapter books, musical instruments and mathematics equipment which will be in school from September.

We had a lovely party to celebrate our Y2 leavers recently, held in our very own Birdingbury Club, with a fab (if a little sweaty) disco in the Birbury. The sun was shining for us, giving us a good excuse for a little refreshment. It was great to bring a school event into the heart of our little community, and very fitting given my youngest child is one of those leaving LH this year. Thanks to Mark, Karen and Kim for their help in hosting our event - much appreciated!

And finally, it's my last year with the Friends: Kara moves onto Dunchurch Juniors in September. I'm sure, like me, you will continue to support our lovely local school and I'd thank you for all your help during my time with the Friends of LH. Best of all, I can take part in next year's Quiz Night because I won't be organising it!!

Lesley Thomlinson, on behalf of the Friends of LH Academy

Hedgehog Hunting

We are currently working with Dr Debbie Wright, Senior Hedgehog Officer at Warwickshire Wildlife Trust with her research into these prickly creatures. A few people have already messaged Debbie about the possibility of having footprint tunnels in their own gardens, like we did at the church last year.

Debbie asks ‘Do you want to know if you have hedgehogs visiting your garden? You can borrow a “footprint tunnel” from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to find out! The plastic tunnel can be placed in your garden, baited with hedgehog food and with some ink and paper inside. If hedgehogs are around, they will eat the food, accidentally tread in the ink and leave a nice set of inky footprints behind on the paper.’



Tunnels are free to borrow and will be available to pick up from St Leonard’s churchyard from the 29th August, when there will also be a hedgehog house building workshop happening!

Drop me an email at karen.armbrister@btinternet.com by August 20th if you would like to borrow a tunnel. I can then ensure that Debbie has the right numbers ready for Hedgehog Day!

Karen Armbrister

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Language

An Englishman, a Frenchman, a Spaniard and a German are all standing watching a street performer do some excellent juggling. The juggler notices that the four gentlemen have a very poor view, so he stands up on a large wooden box and calls out ‘Can you all see me now?’

Came the replies:

‘Yes’

‘Oui’

‘Si’

‘Ja’



A Very Special Award

I am very proud to announce to my fellow villagers that I have received a notification from the French authorities. This is with regard to my military engagement in France during the Second World War. I was 20 years of age at that time whilst serving in the D-Day campaign.

The President of the Republic has appointed me to the rank of 'Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur'. I am elated to receive this award 74 years afterwards.

I feel extremely honoured and so very pleased that I wanted to share my good news with you all.

Bill Cowley



A Very Special Day



All villagers are invited to attend the presentation of the Legion d'Honneur to Bill on Saturday 15th September at 10.00 outside the Birbury.

The Birbury Committee will have the pleasure of providing refreshments.

Everyone is most welcome to this very special event. It is sure to be a great day for Bill and the community.

Simon Davy

Gaynor Davy

Another Very Special Day

Happy 95th Birthday, Dad on August 16th. Congratulations, love and best wishes from Carol, Paul, Terry, Jane and all the family.

Carol King



Swap Shop at The Birbury

On a sunny Saturday in the Summer of 2007 (we think!), Cheryl Turner and Alison Chappell (who lived at Linden on Main Street at the time) sat at their kitchen table looking at yet another glut of just picked courgettes and wondered if they could face any more. Courgette soup, courgette cake, courgette chutney: the versatility of a courgette might be huge, but their palettes were not!

At that moment, Lisa French (Willowfield, Back Lane) arrived at the back door with a hundred-fold of rhubarb and the words 'If I see another one, I think I'll use it as a weapon'. So, over a coffee and the kitchen table, swap shop was born.

These three figured that the Trusloves (then living on the Marton Road) would be glad of somewhere to dump their wheelbarrows full of apples, and the Turners (then at Glebe Rise on Main Street) would be happy to divest themselves of tomatoes, strawberries and runner beans, and that if we all swapped our produce, we could probably create a lovely Sunday meal.



Saturday morning seemed like a good idea, inviting villagers to bring whatever they had spare in their gardens, whether fruit, vegetables, plants or flowers, and to take whatever they saw and liked on the Birbury tables.

It was hugely important to them all that no money would be exchanged, and that everyone involved would enjoy a natter and a coffee whilst they swapped. Those that had nothing to swap might consider making something - cake, savoury pastries or biscuits - for others to partake. And so it began to grow, only to be replicated in a number of other villages across the land, as well as on 'The Archers' on Radio 4 a few years later!

We are indebted to Cheryl, Alison and Lisa for the inception of Swap Shop, and that has become such a weekly mainstay for the Community. It encompasses everything that a community should be.

Swap Shop continues every Saturday morning from 10.30. All welcome: swapping is not compulsory nor necessary, just pop in for a coffee and a chat.

Gaynor Davy

Chair, The Birbury Management Committee

Neighbourhood Watch

Remember that during lovely summer weather, whilst it is refreshing to have windows and doors open, you must be aware that this can be an invitation for unwanted visitors to access your home and valuables. Please check that your house is secure before you leave it, or an area of it, unattended.

With holiday season upon us, please bear in mind that I have the Community Box available to borrow. The box contains the following very useful items:

- 1 x Patslock (used to securely lock patio doors)
- 2 x padlock alarms (for use on side gates or sheds)
- 2 x fake food cans for valuables (to be muddled up amongst other real food cans)
- 1 x fake TV light (from outside the property this flickers to look like a tv is on)
- 3 x timer switches

The box will be loaned out on a priority and first come basis, so please do contact me if you would like to borrow the equipment.

Through an increase in police presence around the recreation field area we appear to have seen less of the cars and youth lurking about who, we suspect, may have been involved with illegal substances. However, please continue to keep your eyes open in case they return. Anything suspicious should be reported to the police on 101 please.

Keep safe.

Jackie Morton

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG



Stop Press

BT have just removed the telephony kit from the phone box, so we can now get started on the installation of the Defibrillator!

Jackie Morton



Birdingbury Parish Plan

Following the conclusions of the Birdingbury Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group, I have been asked by the Parish Council to get the ball rolling on revitalising the Parish Plan put together in 2009.

The idea is to get interested people together, set up a new working group and start to think about how this might be approached. Amongst other things to consider will be updating the actions from the 2009 Parish Plan; restating / revising statements regarding housing; and reconsidering the scope and content of a new Parish Plan.

Having canvassed a number of interested people, an exploratory meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th September at 20.00hrs in the Club.

If you would like to get involved, or just find out more, please do come along.

Lesley Fleming

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Caro amici, dear friends,

I am the mayor of a small village in rural Italy and I would like to propose a twinning whilst we still have the benefits of the pan european twinning translation agency.

We are very similar to Birdingbury. For instance, last Friday night we took advantage of our mobile pizza oven which we had outside of our club de villaggio. Because it was a village evento we did not have to pay any “dues” to Pietra Focaia, the local big boss. In fact, he was there himself, the very embodiment of urbane charm.

The pizza oven is a stupendo, fantastico thing, it has wheels and a genuine fire. The creatore di pizza cook a selezione of pizza’s per tutti i gusti (for all tastes). If you suffer from gusti you need not have the jalapeno. You can even make up your own flavours. I myself am very much in favour of a round succulent base (base succulanta) and this is achieved every time. Perhaps there could have been a BRuscita.

Cinquanta pizza (50) were made to order and the various village families all came together to eat them and have a chat / chiacchierare and a drink. Tutto contento! There was a typically Inglese selection of wines and birra calda all served with buon umore.

Do you have anything similar in your village? If you have not tried it yet, you should. I may tell you more about our village in future.

Meanwhiles best wishes from Uccello Seppellire

Giovanni Stella

Sindaco di Uccello Seppellire, Contea di Guerrastoppino, Italia

Progressive Supper - Saturday 10 November 2018

Following last year's very successful event, when we raised money for Hope4 and the Defibrillator, we are arranging another one for Saturday 10th November in aid of Myton Hospice.



If you have done it before, you'll know what great fun it is. If you are undecided or new to the village, then this is an event you won't want to miss, so give one of us a call or email and we can explain. In short, you agree to host a course for a maximum of 6 people at your house (including yourself!). In return, you get to go to other houses for the other two courses.

We meet at the club for a quick drink, and then we are off. After pudding, we return to the club for the raffle, drinks and lively conversation. So, other than what you're going to cook, the evening is arranged for you! We randomly arrange who goes where and, if we get it right, you meet different people at different courses.

As last year, we request a donation of £20 from each couple doing starters or puddings and £15 if you are doing a main course. Raffle prizes also gratefully received.

To get your name on the list, email one of us and don't forget to tell us if you have special dietary requirements so we can let your hosts know!

Simon Whitfield - 634761 - simon_whitfield@hotmail.com

Alex Rigler - 632709 - alexrigler@aol.com

We look forward to hearing from you, even four months in advance!

Simon Whitfield

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Don't forget to come along to the Birbury on Saturday 29th September at 10.30 to support the Macmillan Cancer Charity.

Look out for the posters in the village nearer the event.

Jackie Westcott



St Leonard's Church
Birdingbury

HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 22nd September 2018

7.00pm

at

The Birdingbury Club

£2.50

*Tickets from
Liz Ellis 632379*



Community Education

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



**Southam
College**

Subject areas include Creative Arts and Crafts, Fitness and Wellbeing, General Interest, IT and Personal Development. We have some new courses and workshops planned throughout the year, subject to interest.

Autumn term starts from 10th September 2018.

Leaflets are available in many local venues including libraries, leisure centre and shops and can be viewed, along with further information about courses and fees, on our web page:

www.southamcollege.com/about/community-education,

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 or give me a call on 01926 810942

Sue Hawthorn,

Southam College Community Education Centre

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Coffee and Chat

We do not take a break for the Summer and hope to see you on Thursday 30th August and Thursday 27th September at 10.30 in the Birbury.

Come along for a cuppa, chat and some tasty cake and meet your fellow villagers.

Everyone is welcome and it would be lovely to see some youngsters on their school holidays.

Your friends from St. Leonards



Leamington Hastings Bowls Club

Welcome to our new members Jackie, Malcolm and Mel: we hope you are enjoying playing with the club.



We are having a lovely season with the outdoor bowling. We have won matches and those we lost were still enjoyable: good weather, great refreshments provided (both at the home and away), good banter and an air of congeniality.

Once again, the green is challenging. As we all know, it's been so hot the green grass has turned brown, making bowling fast and the rinks unpredictable.

Thanks to Pat for stepping in as Captain. We wish Pete all the best in his recovery and we know he will be back soon with his own style of encouragement!

Good luck to those playing in the inter-club matches. We will be raising money for Myton Hospice when we play the Lyle Watts Gala on 25th August: always good fun for a good cause, with tea and cake at the end!

If you would like to come and have a go at outdoor bowling, free of charge, you will be made very welcome. We'd love to see some members from Birdingbury – let's see if we can put a combined force together! We meet every Wednesday at 7pm at the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. We have bowls for you to play with and you don't need anything else except loose clothing and flat shoes. The bowls green is next to the Parish Hall and tennis court (both are available to hire by the way).

Susan Turner

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Ladies Circle

Ladies Circle will be meeting Tuesday 11th September at 7.45pm in the Birbury for the AGM when we will be electing a new Chair and Secretary, and planning the events for the year ahead.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month from September to June. If anyone would like to join, please feel free to come along.

Leigh Sidaway



Open Mic Night

Curated by Steve Edgar

Birdingbury Club

Saturday 29th September

Eight 'til Late

Interesting acts already booked!

Your chance to showcase your talent (be it large or small)

If you'd like to strut your stuff, please contact Steve Edgar in advance:

steve@edgar@sky.com



Centenary of the Armistice: 4th November to 18th November at St Leonard's

We are planning to create an exhibition in St Leonard's Church to commemorate the Armistice. We would love this to become a village community project where all households are involved in some way.

We hope all households will produce at least one poppy. We have several designs from various materials, so there is scope for all ages and abilities. We are also holding some community poppy making sessions on the following dates:

- *Wednesday 8th August, 8pm in the Club Lounge*
- *Wednesday 29th August, 10am-12 noon in the churchyard*
- *Thursday 30th August, 10.30am in the Birbury (with Coffee and Chat)*
- *Friday 31st August, from 6pm in the Club Lounge (with your pizza in hand!)*
- *Wednesday 12th September, 8pm in the Club Lounge*

Please come and join in. You can take away materials to make your poppies at home and even create your own designs. Completed poppies may be delivered to either of us or left in boxes in the Club Lounge or the back of the Church.

If you would like to talk to us about being involved, either in making poppies or with the exhibition, then do please get in touch. Everyone welcome!

Karen Armbrister: 632030 / Karen.armbrister@btinternet.com

Julie Colledge: 632463 / jxcolledge@aol.com

Karen Armbrister

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John Price

It is with great sadness that the village learned of the recent death of John Price. Everyone's love and thoughts are with Josie, who has been an unwavering source of love and dedication to John throughout his cruel illness. John's funeral is at 11.00am on Thursday 2nd August at St Leonards.

Margaret Truslove

Many people will also remember Margaret and John Truslove who lived in Birdingbury at Pioneer Farm. Sadly, Margaret has died and John remains seriously ill in hospital. Our thoughts are with the family at this difficult time. Margaret's funeral is on Wednesday 1st August at St. Leonards.

Beyond Silence



A fleet of dreams
That halfway clouds
May scatter
Like tiny rain across
Our childish heads,
Has spun this Globe
In small fragmented moments
And chased our sleep
Into the ghosts it fed.

Storms and tides
And light from hidden harbours
Have sheltered Brevity -
So fierce alone,
That filled our thoughts
With misremembered memories
And gave those rags
Invention's better home.

Pilgrim

Birdingbury Calendar

	Date	Event	Time	Venue
August	8	Poppy Making Workshop	20.00	Club
	10	Mobile Library	11.40	Club
	25	Quiz Night	20.00	Club
	29	Hedgehog House and Poppy Making Workshops	10.00	Church
	30	Coffee and Chat with Poppy Making Workshop	10.30	Birbury
	31	Mobile Library	11.40	Club
		Pizza Night with Poppy Making Workshop	18.00	Club
September	10	Term starts at SCCEC		Southam College
	11	Ladies Circle AGM	19.45	Birbury
	12	Poppy Making Workshop	20.00	Club
	15	Presentation to Bill Cowley	10.30	Birbury
	19	Parish Plan Launch Meeting	20.00	Club
	21	Mobile Library	11.40	Club
	22	Harvest Supper	19.00	Club
	27	Coffee and Chat	10.30	Birbury
	29	Macmillan Coffee Morning	10.30	Birbury
		Open Mic Night	20.00	Club



Birdsong Editor:

Lesley Fleming

Moonrakers, Back Lane Tel 632508

Email: birdsong1@btinternet.com

Church News Editor :

Rachel Glanville

Olcote, Main Street Tel 633369

Email: churchnews34@gmail.com

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