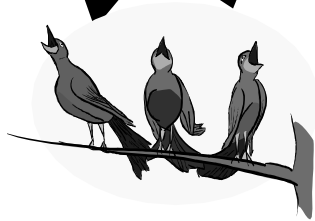




**August and  
September 2012**



**BIRDINGBURY  
NEWS**

**No 51**



**The amazing Jubilee spread for the Street Party - of course  
it rained but that's what tents are for.**

**Did it bother anyone? Not so you would notice.**

**A full account of all the Jubilee events begins on page 5.**

## **Parish Council Report**

Since my last report the Parish Council has had two meetings. There was also a special meeting for villagers to discuss seeking financial support from the Village Distribution Fund, and, of course, many of us enjoyed the splendid Diamond Jubilee celebrations at the beginning of June.

To begin with the Jubilee: the variety of activities were a great credit to the community spirit of the village. The Jubilee Olympics were fun (even if a few people discovered muscles they'd forgotten they had), and the sun managed to shine for most of the day and into the evening for the picnic. The musical contributions by the mixed choir and our local star guitarist were amazing – though the bullocks across the river clearly exhibited their philistine taste by galloping away as the singers got into full voice! The church events on the Sunday also went well. The street party on the Tuesday was a triumph of positive thinking with the huge crowds ignoring the incessant rain, and doing their best to do justice to the enormous quantities of splendid food. Birdingbury Jubilee mugs were distributed to all the children in the village thanks to Councillor Chris Morton's good work in arranging this. All-in-all, it was great and owed its success to a lot of hard work by a large team of villagers, ably co-ordinated by Councillor Gaynor Davy. A big thank you from us all to the army of helpers. The completion of the footpath up to the church in time for the Jubilee weekend provided the icing on the cake!

The Parish Council is still waiting for the County Council (CC) contractors to carry out the Speed Aware improvements to the four entrances to the village – aimed at reducing speed as vehicles come into the 30mph zone. We have been told that changes in CC contractors are causing the delay. The Parish Council will continue to press for this work to be done. Councillors will be meeting CC highways officers to explore ways of improving the 'jitty' between Main Street and Back Lane. The current state of the steps is causing understandable concern to those who use this route. Improvements to the state of some of the footpaths will also be taken up with these officers.

Fund raising for the replacement of our bus shelter has gone very well. With contributions from the Parish Council, the Village Distribution Fund and generous villager donations almost all of the £5,800 needed has now been raised. The dwarf brick wall is now in place, the oak frame has been ordered, and the working party will, I'm sure, be keen to complete the structure once it arrives.

Councillor Ian Tipton has continued to pursue the up-dating of the village Emergency Plan. His article on page 3 provides some helpful advice to all villagers on how best to be prepared for emergencies.

The Parish Council has supported the work of our Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, Jackie Morton, our Community Police Support Officer, Helena Steadman and Warwickshire Trading Standards to set up the 'No Rogue Traders' initiative in the village. This was given wide publicity in the local press. Let's hope that this is effective in ending the spate of dodgy callers we have experienced over the last few months.

Our next meeting will be at **7.30 pm on Tuesday 18 September in the Birbury**. Visitors are very welcome: do come along either to pose a question or just to see what we do!

Diana Turner

Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council

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## Planning for an Emergency

Having recently attended an Emergency Planning seminar held for Parish Councillors by RBC I am clear that both Parish Councils and individual householders should plan for emergencies. Whilst the BPC plans are updated we felt that householders might find some of the advice we were given useful:

- Be ready to look after yourself for up to three days without leaving your home, which should include at least three days supplies of important medication.

- Bottled water.

- Ready to eat food that doesn't require heating (e.g. tinned food).

- A bottle/tin opener.

- Know the emergency arrangements for your children at school?

- Where and how to turn off electricity, gas and water supplies in your home.

- Keep details of anyone you know who might need help, especially if they are elderly or vulnerable.

- Be prepared to leave your home if you are told to do so for your own safety.

- Protect your important documents and valuables. Move them upstairs in a flood.

- Take them with you if you leave home e.g. jewellery, laptops, passport, driving licence, house insurance

- List important phone numbers (not just family and friends - you might also need numbers for doctors, utility companies, banks etc. You can find these on your latest bill or statement).

Ian Tipton

## **‘No Rogue Trader Zone’**

Birdingbury is the first entire village in Warwickshire to become a ‘No Rogue Trader Zone’, after intelligence identified it as a rogue trader and distraction burglary ‘hot spot’.

The scheme is run by Warwickshire County Council's Trading Standards Service in partnership with Warwickshire Police. Locally, the scheme was championed by the Police Community Support Officer and Neighbourhood Watch.

Seventy out of 120 households in Birdingbury provided Trading Standards with evidence of their experiences with doorstep callers in the last year. 93% of the seventy had had people knocking on their door in the last year asking them to buy something or offering to do work for them. The majority of residents were approached by people selling household items such as dusters, dish cloths and cleaning products, or were offered driveway tarmacing or roof sealing work, consistent with rogue trader activities. 81% of respondents considered that doorstep sellers were a problem in Birdingbury.

All residents have been issued with a No Rogue Trader door/window sticker and information booklet. Street signage at all entrances to the village will reinforce the No Rogue Trader message and act as a warning to rogue traders that they will be reported if they attempt to trade in the area.

Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the Rapid Response Team via the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 08454 04 05 06. Trading Standards Officers will reply either in person or by phone.

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## **The Bus Shelter**

As soon as the Parish Council was able to give its go ahead we were able to make a start by getting the brick walls built. Until this was done we could not put in a detailed order for the oak frame as this depended on the exact dimensions of the brickwork. When using reclaimed bricks it is not possible to be absolutely sure of the precise measurements in advance.

Now we are in the hands of the firm making the frame and they have promised delivery around the middle of September. Once we have the frame it will be up to us. Putting the frame together should be fairly speedy but making a nice job of the slate roof with its four hips will need care and, as with any construction, there are numerous tasks to complete the work.

It is good news, and a great credit to the village, that the finance has been organised so swiftly. Many thanks to all those individuals who responded to the appeal. By paying a deposit before the end of June we were able to take advantage of a temporary discount offered by the frame makers.

Birdingbury Bus Shelter Group

## BIRDINGBURY'S JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

### ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

When the Birbury opened on Saturday 2 June an impressive display was revealed on the back wall. An interesting mixture of momentos, photographs and newspaper articles dating back to the Coronation and various Jubilee celebrations since then.

On the tables were original Coronation programmes - the ordinary and the de-luxe Souvenir Edition - newspapers, mugs and textiles. Several villagers had fun spotting one of our present Parish Councillors in fancy dress with members of their family at a previous Jubilee celebration. The personal memorabilia of previous village celebrations kept many people engrossed throughout the afternoon. However, they were not that engrossed that they didn't take the opportunity to enjoy a cup of tea and some delicious home made goodies. It was very pleasant to hear people reminiscing about past events and if somebody had forgotten the exact details of 'who did what' or 'who was that?' someone else was on hand to supply the correct details.

Meanwhile, outside on the site of the bus shelter and sheltered from the weather was a hive of activity, '**ALL OUR TOMORROWS**' was being created! This involved the completion of two mosaics, designed by some talented village youngsters on pieces of board designed to fit inside our new bus shelter. Everyone was invited to select a small piece of coloured tile and glue it into place; several people enthusiastically stuck down quite a few! It was lovely to see the youngsters telling their parents, 'That's my bit'. All this frenetic activity was supervised by Gaynor, who had the original bright idea, and Anna and Kate French who with Issie Sharratt had spent many hours drawing out the designs and transferring them to the boards. The completed designs looked very impressive but we have been assured that they are, 'not quite ready', and lots of vigorous polishing is being organised for the summer holidays before they are ready to take their place in the bus shelter and remind us of a special day, or several days, in June.

Jenny Hawes

### JUBILEE CREAM TEAS AND SONGS OF PRAISE

On Sunday afternoon when we arrived, the church was a bustle of activity, people sitting at tables, chatting and enjoying their cream teas.

The first big decision was to choose which type of tea to have; there were teas to match all moods, pick me ups, calming down, revitalising.....English Breakfast, Earl Grey with Darjeeling, Green, Fruitful or Lemongrass tea. Once that was sorted, it was

the choice of which Birdingbury-made jam to have and which scones to choose; oh decisions... but all very fresh and yummy.

How wonderful to see so many people in our little church; it was very friendly and welcoming. I had my Mum with me and she could not get over how welcoming everyone was she met. She can now understand why we enjoy living here!

Many chose their favourite hymn and stayed to sing them in the service led by the Rev. Barbara. It was a lovely informal service, with people sharing why they had chosen their particular hymn.

If you were there I am sure you will agree with me that it was a great afternoon. I want to thank all those who made it happen, especially Eira and Aileen, who had to sample all those teas in their research. [turn to page 10 to see the results of the tea tasting *ed*]  
If you could not make it - look out for the next Church Cafe event.

Melanie Palmer

### THE FUN OLYMPICS

On Monday it was time for the Fun Olympics. Three teams were assembled to represent Marton Road, Main St and Back Lane. The games were held in the Recreation Field and luckily for all the weather held fine.

All kinds of activities took place including a three legged race, egg & spoon, welly whanging, hockey, football, basketball, spacehopper racing, mums and dads race, boys & girls races and relays.

All of the results were carefully logged by Lewis Cutts and the running order was superbly organised by Nick Thomas and Richard Cutts.

I'm sure that everyone who took part really enjoyed the day and it was fantastic to see some very keen villagers trying hard to win for their respective teams. This was a great day for everyone and the end result hardly seemed to matter!!

David Hawkes

The **Fun Olympics** were supported by Community Games, which started as a Legacy Trust UK programme in the West Midlands. They provided the certificates and stickers for the day. I have received a request from them to have some photos of the event in the Recreation Field to use in their future promotions and publicity. It would be difficult for me to obtain permission from all individuals as there are a lot of photos, a lot of people involved and they would need a selection to be able to choose appropriate ones. **I think the easiest thing to do is for people to contact me if they do not wish to give their permission. Please contact me by 30 August.**

**Thank you. Gaynor 632041**

## BIRDINGBURY JUBILEE PICNIC AND CONCERT

One of the great highlights of the Birdingbury Jubilee celebrations must have been our very own Proms in the Park – not least because it actually stopped raining!!

Laden down with umbrellas and waterproofs, spam sandwiches and blancmange, the stalwart village culture vultures descended en masse to the Rectory Field, staunchly determined to enjoy a nostalgic evening of sophisticated classical music and stimulating conversation, come what may.

Needless to say, none of these predictions was fulfilled. The clouds cleared as the gently setting sun cast a mellow glow across the Leam. The picnic tables (some grander than others) were set up, the wine was poured, the lanterns were lit, and picnicking began in earnest.



Our MC for the evening's entertainment was the ebullient Mr JK Starley. Our court correspondent told me that, despite the offer of a mention in the New Year's honours list, *and* a place in the Olympic cycling team, he felt he could not decline the Birdingbury gig in favour of hosting the other show on that evening. So, to set the tone and get the party off with a swing, The Big Ess began by enlightening us all to the origins of the humble Jubilee Clip (apparently devised by one Commander Lumley Robinson

in 1921) – eat your heart out London! JK then introduced Birdingbury’s local rock legend, Mr Patrick Unwin. Fresh from his tour of South America, the ‘Prof’ quickly demonstrated that he had much better empathy with his audience (and a wider repertoire of songs) than the old fogies feebly wheezing along to their worn out bagpipes down south. Some of Patrick’s songs were special requests and some were personal dedications (was Eira’s really ‘Up the Junction’..?) His sweet melodies, carried on the breeze, could not fail to enhance the serenity of the pastoral scene. After a rousing encore he left the stage for a brief interlude. For a while, the discrete chomping of strawberries and the clinking of crystal were the only sounds to be heard in this perfect rural idyll. Pudding over, bottles empty, anticipation began to build as Mr S once more mounted the trailer – oopps sorry, stage – to announce the long anticipated appearance of the headline band: The Birdingbury Massed Choirs, under the direction of maestro,



Gaynor ‘Move over Malone’ Davy.



Now many of you will remember the special guest appearance of this highly prestigious and enigmatic ensemble at the Christmas show, and once again we were privileged that they had made time amongst their busy engagements to perform for us. A respectful hush descended as the immaculately groomed ladies and gentlemen took to the trailer (I must stop calling it that), and assumed their positions.

That was the end of the hitherto balmy evening. At first, the Birdingbury Belles took centre stage to present us with a heart rending appeal to ensure that ‘The Hills are Alive with the Sound of Music’. Encouraged, by the wine everyone did.

Inspired by the ladies’ subsequent urgent exhortations to ‘Climb Every Mountain’,





Il Divo then made their entrance.

Our lusty lads, straining at their cummerbunds, proceeded to delight us with a brand new number specially written for the occasion. The audience soon picked up the refrain to join in. 'Over the hill in Birdingbury, that's where my heart is longing to be' was never sung with more conviction.

The combined choirs then went on to inspire our patriotic instincts with rousing renditions of 'Rule Britannia', 'Jerusalem', 'Land of Hope and Glory' and, of course, the National Anthem to round it all off. Another surprise guest appearance drew gasps of amazement as Britannia herself, arisen from the azure main, took centre stage with her trident. Flags were fluttering and tears welling as the evening finally drew to a close.



Many thanks went to Jan and Hugh for use of their field; Bruce and Sue for use of their drive; Bob for providing the trailer stage; Wallie for mowing the grass; Alex and Lewis for technicals; and especially to Gaynor, the singers and everyone else who contributed to a truly epic event.

Lesley Fleming



## **JUBILEE STREET PARTY**

We really enjoyed the Jubilee Street Party, held in Main Street on Tuesday, right outside our house, so we didn't have far to go. The street was closed to traffic and a long row of tables and chairs was set out under cover, with colourful bunting and flags.

The party started at 3pm, as did the rain, but lots of children and grown ups soon arrived with plates of food and drinks and umbrellas.

It was fun blowing the 'hooters' which we were given; they were very noisy. The tables were soon full of food, including sandwiches, crisps and lots of cakes, with ice cream to finish. There was a special Union Jack cake made of red, white and blue cup cakes, one for everyone.

At the end we were presented with our Birdingbury Diamond Jubilee Mugs, given by the Parish Council, as a memento of this special occasion.

We had a fun time at our first street party, despite the rain.

We would like to say thank you to all the people involved in organising this very special day.

Karla and William Hoggarth

## **The Tea Ratings**

In preparation for the church Café we went on a tea-tasting trip to the café at Vanilla in Rugby: this was purely for research purposes, not relaxation, you understand. The loose-leaf teas which we served in teapots from Aileen's collection of 1930s china, were obtained from a company called TeaPigs (the tea that we tried at Vanilla).

Everyone who came for afternoon tea on that royal afternoon had a choice of English Breakfast, Earl Grey with Darjeeling, Mao Feng Green, Fruitful or Pure Lemongrass tea. Eira, as well as keeping the teapots full and remembering the list of choices to tell each person as they arrived, also amazingly kept a mental record of the popularity ratings of the teas! The results were as follows:

1st: English Breakfast;

2nd: Earl Grey with Darjeeling;

3rd equal: Mao Feng Green and Pure Lemongrass;

5th: Fruitful.

We will, of course, keep these results and compare the ratings with those if (or when) we ever have another 'tea-tasting' Church Café.

Aileen and Eira

## Willoughby Challenge 2012

Here we are again reporting on another highly anticipated Willoughby Challenge. On 24 June Birdingbury took two well trained teams to the Willoughby Football Tournament.

In the morning it was the Under 9s turn to show off their teamwork and football skills. In the first game the team got off to a winning start defeating Onley Park 4-0, with a Rees Moor hat-trick and Dominic Whitfield getting on the score sheet. The next game against Flecknoe proved to be tougher, but the boys battled well, with some great defending by Robert Hayes and brilliant keeping by Jake Thomas, the score finishing Flecknoe 1 - Birdingbury 3 with scorers Ash Adewale, Rees Moor & Billy Flint. With the rain threatening, the boys sealed a comprehensive 7-0 win over Broadwell, Billy scoring an impressive 4 goals, Robert Hayes 1 and Jake Thomas popping up to score with a well driven shot in the corner. Making his debut, James Tipton scored a nice close range effort: 'Are you watching Granddad - that's how Coventry should do it'. In the final group game against Grandborough, the boys defended well from the start with good tackling from Ash & Dominic, but late into the first half they undid Grandborough with some great midfield play by Billy Flint linking up with Rees Moor to slot home from 5 yards. In the second half Rees returned the favour by setting up Billy to finish nicely to make it 2-1.

It was Flecknoe as runners up to play Birdingbury in the final. The game started with a lot of possession by Birdingbury. The boys could not finish off as Flecknoe closed the play down. Then Flecknoe started to control play but some good all round defending by Robert and Dominic kept their chances down. Into the second half, a real end to end game saw Rees and Ash go close. Flecknoe started to apply pressure, but Jake Thomas stayed strong, supported in his defence by James and Billy ensuring few chances were given. The final whistle came and extra time loomed. With four minutes of



extra time to play the parents feared the dreaded penalties were going to seal someone's fate. Then with one minute to go, a handball by Flecknoe saw the referee point to the spot. Up stepped Billy Flint, the man of the moment, to take the penalty.

Showing no fear, he drove the ball past the keeper, into the top of the net. For the last minute it was all out defence and Birdingbury soaked up the pressure. **Birdingbury 1 Flecknoe 0.**

Every Birdingbury player had managed to get on the score sheet and Birdingbury had conceded the fewest goals. Each member of the team should be very proud of his outstanding efforts and achievements in picking up the trophy for the fourth time in the last five years.

**Team & Scorers: Jake Thomas (gk) 1, Robert Hayes 1, Ash Adewale 1, Dominic Whitfield 1, Billy Flint 7, Rees Moor 5.**

In the afternoon it was Birdingbury's U11s turn to take the stage, keen to achieve what the U9s had already done in the morning. The first game went very well with the team beating the hosts Willoughby 3-1. Josh Thomas netted two good solo efforts while his brother Jake slotted in from close range.

The following game against Flecknoe put the boys to the test but they stayed strong. The defensive pairing of Robert Hayes and Adam Whitfield and good midfield work from Rees Moor & Morgan Thomas meant that Flecknoe did not score. Second half substitute Jacob Cutts put Josh Thomas through; he drove the ball into the top of the net to seal a 1-0 victory for Birdingbury.

Next Birdingbury beat Broadwell 2 0, with all the boys performing well. In the first half a neat one two between Morgan and Oliver Taylor saw Morgan's shot saved by the keeper. However, Josh Thomas netted two goals, one in each half, to seal the victory.

Against Onley Park Birdingbury won by 5 goals. Jacob and Morgan both netting two goals and Josh Thomas scoring after a Robert Hayes clearance.

With our passage already secured to the final, the game versus Grandborough continued to be a goal fest with Josh getting another two goals with his determined runs and Jacob and Rees netting one each with some great finishing, supported in midfield by Morgan and Adam. The defence impressed again with our fourth clean sheet, thanks to some tough tackling by Ollie and Robert and some fine saves from Jake in the goal.

Birdingbury U11s had reached the final and all that was left was Flecknoe standing in their way, and they had already provided the toughest test of the afternoon.

Birdingbury started on the back foot in the first half and looked very nervous, but they were first on the score sheet with a 20 yard Morgan Thomas free kick which was driven into the top corner. This did not settle our nerves with Flecknoe immediately getting a goal back.

Jake Thomas was strong in goal, keeping Flecknoe's chances down and supported with some superb defending from Morgan Thomas and Richard Hayes. In the second half Birdingbury woke up with Rees Moor using his tight ball control to good advantage and laying a neat pass through to Jacob Cutts in the opposition half, who drove a good

left footed shot home to the cheer of the Birdingbury parents and a happy dad. Two minutes later Josh Thomas intercepted and played a nice ball through to Jacob on the left who drove another left footed shot home to secure his second goal. The Birdingbury parents were now on tenterhooks waiting for the final whistle, when Flecknoe scored their second against the run of play. However, with a few minutes to go, the defence of Oliver Taylor, Morgan Thomas, and Richard Hayes stayed strong, supported by the good hands of Jake ensuring Birdingbury secured victory 3-2. Birdingbury had now won both age groups for the second year running. **Birdingbury 3 Flecknoe 2.**

**Team & Scorers: Josh Thomas 8, Jacob Cutts 5, Morgan Thomas 3, Rees Moor 1, Jake Thomas 1, Richard Hayes, Oliver Taylor, Adam Whitfield.**



I would like to say thank you to all parents who have given their continued support to the boys and carried them to and from training and the challenge. I'm sure the boys really appreciate it. My son Lewis not only helped me with the training sessions, but also on the day refereed 50% of the games without too many dodgy decisions!

**AND FINALLY THANK YOU TO ALL THE BOYS WITHOUT WHOSE DEDICATION  
AND SKILL WE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL!!!!**

Good Luck to Adam, Morgan & Jacob on your retirement from Willoughby Challenge football.

**PLAY UP BIRDINGBURY - RICHARD CUTTS**

LEAMINGTON HASTINGS INFANT SCHOOL

## Rose Queen Day 2012

A huge thank you to all the parents and friends who came along to our summer fete this year. The weather was fabulous and we all had a great time sampling the traditional stalls such as chocolate tombola, cakes and pick a rose, while the children enjoyed sampling all the activities on offer like the bouncy castle, games, hair styling and Olympic themed crafts.

It was lovely to see so many old and new parents, as well as some families considering the school for their children next year. Everyone was very impressed by the children's dancing and the beautifully dressed Rose Kings and Queens. We were even lucky enough to witness a parents' maypole dance this year!

The day raised nearly £1000 which will be put directly towards the purchase of specialist numeracy resources for each year group in the school.

Alex Rigler

### *Ladies Night*

### *Comedy Evening & Charity Auction*

*Saturday 13 October 2012*

*7.30pm – Midnight*

*Flecknoe Village Hall*

*£30 inc. food, entertainment and a glass of bubbly*

*For tickets call Alex Rigler 01926 632709 / alexrigler@aol.com*

*Proceeds to Leamington Hastings School, Flecknoe Village Hall  
and Breast Cancer Care*

### Lost property

Someone left a very smart pink 'Papaya' cardigan in Birdingbury Church on the day of the Church Fete.

Please ring Dick or Aileen (01926 632644) if it is yours.

## **St Leonard's Church Fete – June 2012**

The sun didn't quite shine but we were grateful that the rain didn't fall either and we all enjoyed our second fete in the grounds of our lovely church. Plenty of cakes were donated which provided a beautiful display to tempt everyone who attended. The tombola was a magnet for visitors of all ages with the Owen and French families needing large carrier bags to take all their prizes away. Readers in the village must have been delighted by the magnificent display of books and we all now have a large supply to get us through the present rainy season. Even though the weather has not been kind for our gardeners, we still had a wonderful array of plants and gardening equipment, and we hope your purchases are well on the way to harvest. Raffle tickets were easy to sell with such an excellent range of prizes, all bar two of which were won by villagers, which was great to see. Church Cafe bustled with delicious fresh sandwiches, shortbread and strawberries and cream. The smell of hot dogs encouraged us all to the barbecue for a snack.

Thank you so very much to everyone who helped in any way, providing items for sale, helping to set up and clear up, selling and buying raffle tickets, helping on stalls, visiting and spending money on stalls and supporting us. We were delighted to raise approximately £1400 for church funds. Thank you everyone.

Karen Armbrister

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## **RIDE & STRIDE**

This year it's on Saturday 8 September. Those of you who have participated in the past and would like to again this year please contact me, Liz Ellis, on 632379 for a sponsorship form.

Alternatively, check out the website at [www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk](http://www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk).

If anyone is interested in the ride for the first time then please contact me for details and information.

This national event will, as usual, be a wonderful opportunity for all to share and raise funds to keep our church heritage in good repair for the future.

Let's hope that it has stopped raining by then and we can all have an interesting and enjoyable ride around our lovely countryside, visiting local churches and raising money as we go!

Liz Ellis, 2 Old Rickyard, 632379

Cynthia, Roy, Steven and Jayne have been overwhelmed by the kindness and support received during Cynthia's stay in hospital and subsequent recovery at home.

We are really fortunate to live in such caring village.

Many thanks to all chauffeurs, chefs, dog walkers, gardeners and all other offers of support as well as the lovely cards and get well wishes we have received.

Hopefully owing to your support both Cynth and Roy will continue to improve and make full recoveries in due course.

Again, all our love and thanks.

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

A HUGE THANKS to MARK PALFREYMAN

who lives in Main Street for restoring the water pump in Marton Road as a gift to the village and in time for the Jubilee. I am sure all will agree he has done a lovely job and thank you Mark for the resources, time and effort you put in!

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### **Shoe Box Appeal 2012**

Later in the year, probably round about September or October, we hope to restart the wrapping of shoe boxes for Christmas distribution to Eastern Europe.

Please consider providing empty shoe boxes and also wrapping paper and come and help wrap the boxes on a Saturday morning in the Birbury.

We would also welcome donations to help to fill the boxes such as; soft toys, drawing paper, pens, pencils, crayons, model cars and lorries, combs, soap, toothpaste & tooth brushes, small picture books, even the pictures from old birthday cards (these can be made up into colourful picture books), jewellery (including broken necklaces etc), knitted hats and gloves, socks and mittens, pretty ribbons and hair slides, in fact anything small enough to pack into a box and suitable for boys and girls up to about 16.

Small donations of money are also very welcome to finance the transport to carry these gifts.

Please bring your donations to Swap Shop (Saturday mornings in the Birbury) or to myself. I will gladly collect from you and take them to the organiser at Stretton. Many thanks for your generosity and help in past years.

Daphne Chippendale (Lyndhurst, Marton Road - 632582.



## Birdingbury Country Show 2012

By the time you read this, you will be aware that the Show was postponed. The fields were very wet, and with a dubious weather forecast for the weekend, the Committee made the decision to postpone the event to the weekend of 29 and 30 September.

The passes which have been issued to every household will be valid on the new date so please retain them. The raffle will be drawn on the 30 September so please retain those tickets also – sincere thanks to those who have purchased them already.

*Birdingbury Country Show Committee*



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## Bourton

### **Exhibition of the work of local Artists and Photographers**

The Village Hall, Bourton on Dunsmore

Sunday 16 September at 2.00 pm.

If you would like to exhibit your art or photography please contact Alison or Robert on 01926 633677 to book a space.

Come and browse through the exhibition and then enjoy tea and home-made cakes.

Bourton & District Garden Club

27 September **'Is Organic Gardening better for wildlife?'**

Speaker Mr Stephen Ashpole

For more information contact

Barbara Penny 632957, Ann Morton 632862 or Carol Cooper 632033

For your diary

Saturday 6 October – **Coventry Consortium Big Band Evening**

Friday 19 October – **Film Night** showing *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*

## *Birdingbury Village Club*

### **OLYMPICS - EVENTS & OPENING CEREMONY**

**Friday 27 July to Sunday 12 August**

This is what it's all been building up to then. Watch Danny Boyle's Olympic opening extravaganza on the big screen as he turns the east end into the countryside on the 27th, and then join us throughout the games as we'll screen as much of it as we can!

### **BIRDINGBURY OLYMPICS 2012**

**Saturday 4 August, from 4.30pm**

**7pm - BBQ food available**

Differing slightly from the above, this will not require any level of fitness! Try your hand at giant jenga, shove ha'penny, the beanbag shot put, paper plane javelin, etc and then in the evening there's the BAR OLYMPICS with cards, darts, boat races, cream cracker eating...

**This event is being run to raise funds for the new bus shelter**

### **BIRDINGBURY PRODUCE SHOW**

In conjunction with The Allotment Association

**Saturday 8 September**

It's that time of year again, and time to think about the longest runner beans, who's got the moistest sponge, who's got the best looking carrots and all the other stuff that generally sorts the courgettes from the marrows.

Afternoon show with auction in aid of charity in the evening.



### **BIRDINGBURY CLUB SCHOOL**

Saturday 6 October

School opens at 8.00pm.

Dinner Bell 8.30pm.

Headmaster: vacant following dismissal

Janitor: absent with the petty cash

School Dinner! Uniforms!

Competitions and Prizes

Birdingbury Club was the village school until around 1930. We intend to reopen it for this one evening and invite everyone to attend as a parent, pupil, governor or Ofsted official. School dinner (menu to be announced) will be served at 8.30 pm followed by a short assembly, led by the Headmaster and "assisted" by others. There will be prefects, masters, governors, and possibly even mistresses. Conduct (and clean plates) will be monitored and prizes awarded. Please wear at least one article you count as school uniform. We would love to see any memorabilia. We also want volunteers for everything including public renditions of 'school work' but if they don't come forward we'll be happy to make do with conscripts. Please advise any special dietary requirements.

Watch out for tickets from: The Club, John Starley, Rob Walker

## **Ladies Circle**

For the June meeting we visited Feldon Forest Farm, Frankton. We travelled approximately three miles along country lanes to find the farm which virtually overlooks Birdingbury. For those who do not know it, it can be seen on the hill behind Bondon Farm just past the Church.

We were welcomed by George and Gillian Browning who kindly spent about two hours showing us around their organic farm of about 32 Ha. We saw their lovely new lake (the water from which provides irrigation for their produce), the large greenhouses full of produce and the fields of wild flowers. They are recreating the species rich grassland in keeping with the traditional land use in this area. The livestock included Shetland beef cattle and Castlemilk Moorit sheep. George explained the reason behind the rows of trees which are planted on the hill behind the farm buildings – these will be ultimately used for timber.

The tour of the farm was followed by refreshments and a chance to look around the farm shop and purchase some home grown meat and preserves.

Our many thanks to Mr and Mrs Browning for their time and hospitality, and to Gaynor Davy for arranging the visit.

The next meeting of Ladies Circle will be Tuesday, 11 September 2012, at 7.45 in The Birbury. This will start with the AGM and follow with Cheese and Wine and a chance to look at the 'old' minute books before they are archived. We will compile a programme for 2012/13 – please give some thought as to what you would like to do – perhaps get some ideas from previous minute books of the past and present members of Ladies Circle over the last sixty years (?).

New members most welcome – the subscription for the year is £10 which covers ten meetings.

Barbara Munro

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## **Forthcoming Events in the Birbury**

Country lunch on Sunday 23 September at 12.00 - come and share local provisions and enjoy home made desserts.

Our Country Show Coffee Shop has been re-arranged for the weekend of the 29th and 30th September.

Also on the 30th September we will be a refreshment stop for "Bikeathon" the British Heart Foundation Annual Bike ride. This was arranged before the Country Show had to be rescheduled so their refreshments will be in a gazebo near the bus shelter.

Everyone is welcome at all these events.

Jenny Hawes

## Birdingbury Calendar

<b>August</b>					page
Friday	3	Mobile Police Station	Club car park	10.00	
Saturday	4	Birdingbury Olympics	Club	4.30	18
Thursday	16	Library Van	Main Street	2.35	
<b>September</b>					
Thursday	6	Library Van	Main Street	2.35	
Saturday	8	Ride and Stride			15
		Produce Show	Club		18
Tuesday	11	Ladies Circle	Birbury	7.45	19
Saturday	16	Art Show	Bourton	2.00	17
Tuesday	18	Parish Council	Birbury	7.30	3
Saturday	23	Country Lunch	Birbury	12.00	19
Saturday 29 and Sunday 30		Country Show			17
<b>October</b>					
Saturday	6	Birdingbury Club School	Club	8.00	18
Saturday	13	Comedy Evening (LH School)	Flecknoe	7.30	14

Swap Shop every Saturday from 10.30 in the Birbury



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