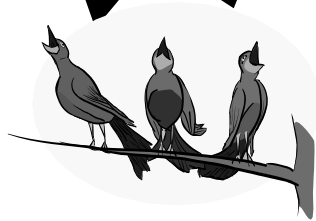


# BIRDSONG

August and  
September 2013



BIRDINGBURY  
NEWS

No 57



Photo Michael Coles

The Birdingbury Youth Club have now raised £1565 for Guide Dogs  
- surpassing their target by £65 - really well done youth clubbers !

## Parish Council Report

At last we have some good weather and the school holidays are upon us. The recreation field is a splendid resource for the village and the Parish Council is keen that it continues to be a safe environment for us all. The annual safety inspection was carried out in July and the recommendations of the inspector will be discussed at our September meeting, but some improvements will be carried out before then. The police have agreed to keep an eye on the field over the summer to ensure no antisocial behaviour spoils the enjoyment of others. Unfortunately there have been instances in the past of bottles (as well as evidence of drug use) being found on the field and under the railway bridge. This is clearly not acceptable in an area where youngsters play.

Our Borough Councillor, Robin Hazelton, reported on an initiative to persuade householders NOT to put soil and rubble in their green bins: these will not be emptied if they are found to contain these items!

Opposite is information setting out how the Housing Needs Survey will be carried out this autumn: the questionnaires will be distributed in the October Birdsong. It is important that a good response rate is obtained - to give the findings greater credibility.

The Council is investigating ways of cleaning our War Memorial as it is some time since it had a face lift. Specialists in the business will be reporting to us over the summer and we shall then decide how best to do this within our limited resources.

There has been a flurry of planning applications over the last couple of months but none of them was considered contentious in any way, and most have already now been passed by the borough council. Your councillors take this part of their work very seriously and visit, where possible, the sites of all applications.

Since the last meeting I have received the resignation from the Council of Cllr. Chris Morton. He has served our community with enthusiasm and dedication as a councillor and chairman for many years, but feels now that pressure of work makes it difficult to 'devote the time and commitment to serving as an effective councillor'. He will be missed.

His resignation means that the Council will initiate the 'Casual Vacancy' procedure, which will begin with a formal notice of the vacancy. Any TEN electors can request an election for Cllr Morton's replacement. The formal notice of the vacancy will go up in early August on the village noticeboard and requests for an election must be made within 14 days of the notice being displayed. If an election is called then nominated candidates will face an election. If no election is requested, then the PC must fill the vacancy by co-option as soon as possible, and we shall then be seeking expressions of interest in the role. Birdingbury Parish Council has just five councillors, so it is

important that we have a full complement. Anyone interested in taking on this role can contact any councillor or the clerk to discuss what is involved, and put their name forward. We look forward to hearing from anyone who might be interested.

Diana Turner

Chair of the Parish Council

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## Housing Needs

An independent Housing Needs Survey of Birdingbury is to be carried out to find out the true extent of housing need in the Parish. Midlands Rural Housing will prepare a questionnaire to be delivered to every household in the village, with the next edition of *Birdsong*. The returned questionnaires will allow a report to be written which will identify whether or not the housing needs, particularly the affordable housing needs, of local people are being met. The survey is being carried out at the request of Rugby Borough Council with the full permission of the Parish Council.

Please could as many households as possible complete and return the questionnaire (a freepost envelope will be provided) either to indicate a housing need or to pass comment on village life and housing issues. All the information is confidential and replies will not be seen by the Parish Council, Rugby Borough Council or any other organisation.

An independent, commissioned survey will provide clear evidence of local housing need and is essential to help both maintain and protect the village and ensure local needs are identified.

Please look out for the survey in mid/late September and rest assured that the Parish Council will be fully consulted on the results and any possible solutions that may be required. If you have any questions please contact

[richard.mugglestone@midlandsrh.org.uk](mailto:richard.mugglestone@midlandsrh.org.uk).

### **Birdsong Next Edition**

The next edition of *Birdsong* will be produced by the Birdingbury Youth Club.

The regular editor and production assistant will be away.

Email address for copy remains the same - [birdsong1@btinternet.com](mailto:birdsong1@btinternet.com)

## The Bus Shelter - Grand Opening



Photos Michael Coles

Since our iconic old bus shelter was destroyed in January last year a group of villagers have been working to replace it. The majority of the work over the last 18 months has been done by David Harrison, supported by the Bus Shelter Working Party and others. So it was wonderful to be able to declare the splendid edifice open at noon on Saturday 1 June.

The ribbon was cut jointly by David Harrison and Kate French (on behalf of the young people who had made the Jubilee mosaics inside the shelter) and the Chair of the Parish Council thanked all concerned.

The new seat next to the shelter was then ‘unveiled’ – dedicated to David and Jackie Westcott in recognition of their many years of service to the village. Around 80 people attended this quite heart-warming event – and the sun shone on us all. It was a lovely occasion.

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### CONGRATULATIONS!

Bill Cowley will be 90 on 16 August. Born in Marton, he went to school and was confirmed there. He was called up at the age of 19, but returned in 1946, married to Dink and with one child, to live, first in Back Lane (where Carol was born), and then in 1954 to their present house ‘At Last’ in Main Street.

**Happy Birthday, Bill!**

## Scarecrows

On 1 June, the village Youth Club, along with Birdingbury's various other groups (the Cycling Group, the Ladies Circle and more), all came together to compete in the village Scarecrow Competition in order to raise money for Guide Dogs. For many weeks, the Youth Club dedicated their time to constructing two 'intricately designed' scarecrows - one male, at first bearing a large resemblance to a gangster before becoming a much more acceptable child, and a pristinely dressed girl. The whole group enjoyed comically dressing the two scarecrows and making a bit of mess with the papier-mâché heads. On the morning of the grand opening of the bus shelter, the Youth Club helped out with some of the stalls, prior to the judging. Finally, the hour of judgement came. After many hours of heated debate, each scarecrow was awarded its own special prize, including the 'Best Accessory', 'Best Overall Male' and 'Best Overall Female'. Later that day, all of the scarecrows played an important role in the village Picnic in the Field, which they attended and received star spots on the main stage. The Ladies Circle's scarecrow even joined the village woman's choir in



their performance of 'Jolene'! Overall, everyone enjoyed the day and the Youth Club managed to raise a large sum of money for donation to the Guide Dogs. At the moment, the Youth Club runs on Friday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 in term times and warmly welcomes any new members. Usual activities include fun and games in the Birbury, friendly competitions and going up to the park to play sports. If anyone wishes to join, please contact Gaynor or Jan, or just come along to the Birbury for our new term of activities commencing in September.

Marcus Coles

Member of Birdingbury Youth Club

## Birdingbury's Own Picnic in the Park

On a beautiful balmy evening, early in July, the village saw a steady stream of wheelbarrows, trolleys, deckchairs, baskets and boxes wending its way toward the Hall Field. So laden down with paraphernalia, the individuals propelling these gargantuan loads were barely visible beneath them. What is this we wondered – a mass migration? a devout pilgrimage? the rush for Post Office shares?



Photos Lesley Fleming

No! It was the Birdingbury Picnic in the Park. The giant jubilee celebration a year ago seemed like a mere rehearsal for this - the real thing! Tables had been set out in a huge semi circle around a magnificent stage that put Michael Edis's paltry pyramidy thing to shame. The lighting! The special effects! The sound system! The spookily still and bizarrely dressed groupies, watchful on the hay bales! The audience was tense with anticipation (or was it smoked salmon?).

As soon as the picnicking was over, our seasoned MC, Mr Starley (aka The Big Ess) took to the stage with a slurred rambling about how great it was to be here, the thanks and health and safety notices. His clarion call of 'YO BIRDINGBURY' was immediately echoed by the popping of another cork. (The audience at this time were clearly still concentrating on their canapés and prosecco). 'YO BIRDNIGBURY' again rang out and the entertainment began.

Proceedings started with an auction of superb prizes organised by the Youth Club in aid of their Guide Dog appeal. More than £500 was raised owing to the generosity of

individuals.

Patrick Unwin then eased us gently into a musical mood with a medley of classic chords and bluesy ballads. Partick's set concluded after a rousing encore. Some excitable young ladies looked distinctly faint – whether that was due to their despair of ever winning Patrick's heart or the chardonnay remains to be confirmed.

On completion of Patrick's set, The Big Ess announced the imminent arrival on stage of the fabulous girl band – Birbury Belle Stars, and the audience went wild. The ladies ramped up the vibe, seamlessly segueing from one country and western standard to the next. Never was 'Stand by your



man' delivered with more irony. The set reached a spectacular climax with the special guest appearance of none other than Birdingbury Britannia herself, last seen in a marginally less outrageous outfit at the Proms. The audience waved their lighters and wrist bands (OK, luminous Rolexes) in appreciation.

After a brief respite (where is that d....d corkscrew?) the amazing Back Lane Boys made their entrance. They too delivered a selection of old favourites but somehow the words sounded a bit unusual? The political satire, 'There's a hole in my Budget'; tribute to the new bus shelter 'Stand in Hope and Fury' and finally the heart rending appeal to the Angling Club 'Tangling for Tinca' all got the audience singing along.



As usual there were too many to name, but special thanks for a fabulous evening went out to: Hugh and Jan (the meadow); Bob,

Matthew and Gaynor (the stage); Mel and crew (the set design); Rob and David (the straw bales); Alex and Lewis (technical); the performers; and finally

**YOU THE AUDIENCE!**

Lesley Fleming

## Behind the Scenes ....

Ian and Mel would like to thank folks for the support given to making the evening picnic and entertainment such a huge success:

First, to Hugh and Jan, for the generous use of the Old Rectory Meadow - what a beautiful backdrop to our evening.

We would not have had the fantastic stage (Gordon complete with carriages) without the logistics and hard work of Bob Munro, Matthew and Gaynor Davy.

Thanks to our 'stage design team' Lee Haydon, Maggie Chinn and Julie Colledge who transformed Gordon from train and carriage and platform into a wonderful stage for the singers.

Rob and David Walker provided the bales of straw, creating an extended stage for us.

Our singers, after hours of rehearsals and laughter (and that was just the girls) gave their all that night. Special thanks to our guest singer Patrick Unwin and the very talented Mr John Starley, who not only wrote the lyrics for three very funny songs but was also our brilliant compere for the night. The PA team - Ian Palmer, Alex Taylor and Lewis Cutts were probably the unsung heroes; thank you for all the hard work and patience required in making us sound good.

So much hard work by a lot of people goes into an event like this. We were overwhelmed by the goodwill and help from so many of you. A great big **thank you** to everyone who supported the day and then turned up in the evening as well  
.....Birdingbury, what a great place to live!

If you were not able to make it this year, maybe next year ???

Melanie Palmer

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## A thank you from Jennifer and Geoffrey

We would like to give a big thank you for the kind remarks in the last copy of *Birdsong* about our 17 year stay in Birdingbury. It was a great wrench to leave the village and the many friends we have made over the years. We will certainly miss you all, together with the most caring and comfortable place in the world in which to live. We will be moving into our new house (new to us) in the middle of August, but will be visiting Birdingbury from time to time so that the green Landrover Defender will not get too homesick! We will, in due course, let you know how we are getting on.

Jennifer and Geoffrey Johnstone



## Healthwatch Warwickshire

This is a new organisation that aims to be the consumer champion for both health and social care in the county.

It is independent, able to employ its own staff and involve volunteers, so it can become the influential and effective voice of the public. The aim of Healthwatch Warwickshire will be to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how health and social care services are provided within their locality.

*We are determined that HWW will build on the good work delivered by Warwickshire LINK to engage in a meaningful way with local services and service deliverers, to ensure that the voice of the people is heard loud and clear in the places where it has, historically, not been heard.*

*We will spend time talking to people and groups, gathering their thoughts and feelings about the way services affect them, about what works really well and about what could be improved and what frankly needs to go back to the drawing board.*

*We are a small organisation brought together through a consortium of the CABs across Warwickshire, Age UK and Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action, so our coverage of the County and partner knowledge of the landscape is comprehensive and inclusive with links to many organisations and groups both large and small.*

*Get in touch, tell us your story, we may not be able to fix things but we may well know a man who can!*

Deb Saunders Healthwatch Warwickshire CEO

To get in touch phone 01926 422823 between 10am and 3pm or email [deb@healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk](mailto:deb@healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk)

There is more information at [www.healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk)

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## Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for all the support and help with travel etc since David went into care.

It has been such a help to the family and good for David, too, as he gets visits quite often.

Jackie Westcott

## Neighbourhood Watch

Hi all

I have to confess to being old enough to remember when cereal packets used to contain all sorts of gifts, so read with some amusement Helena's final suggested hiding place for valuables! Helena has put together the following list of things to consider before you go on holiday, and asked me to copy it out to you. Aside from going away on holiday, with this lovely warm spell please remember to secure doors and windows when you retire at the end of the day or leave the house.

Kind regards

Jackie

### **Helena's thought for the Summer!!**

Put lights on a timer. Do not put a hall light on and have the rest of the house in darkness; this is a sure sign you are out. It is worth having one on a timer downstairs and one upstairs that come on and go off at different times.

Lock and secure all garden tools and equipment.

Arrange with someone you trust to have a key. Ask this person to move the curtains and the post. Be sure they do not leave piles of unopened post in view from a window. Make sure your chosen person has your contact details for whilst you are away. It is a good idea to give them your home/car insurance details especially if you are away for several weeks abroad.

Leaving a car on the drive is a good indication that someone is in, but be sure that the keys are not left in sight.

Be aware of what you or your children post on social media sights such as Facebook. If you have your location posted with your status and you have an unusual surname a status such as, 'This time next week we will be sunning ourselves in sunny Spain' will make your property vulnerable; burglars can easily use this information to track down your full address. While you are away be very cautious of posting photos showing you are clearly out of the country. If you do want to use social media for this purpose double check your security for maximum protection.

Make sure laptops, ipads and gaming machines are out of sight and locked away if possible. If you have a lot of gold jewellery and do not have a safe, then hide it in various locations. Some good ideas that I have heard are creating a pocket in the hem of a curtain or inside of a cushion, or putting the jewellery into a small box and sinking it into a packet of cereal. Just remember what you have done with them!

## THE BATTLE OF SOUTHAM

Living History Weekend: Southam in the Civil Wars  
Saturday 17 August and Sunday 18 August

**The Sealed Knot are bringing the 17th Century to  
Southam Town Centre**

Parades, Drama, Displays,

Battle Re-enactments

Music, Food, Family Activities

On both days, the action commences

at 11am on Market Hill

A community partnership event led by Southam First Community Culture group,  
the Sealed Knot ([www.thesealedknot.org.uk](http://www.thesealedknot.org.uk)) and the Friends of Southam's Cardall Collection.

(All featured aspects of this event may be subject to change, or may be limited by weather conditions.)

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## What is BAIT?

After an aerial photograph was taken over Broadwell in the '90s, showing a D shaped enclosure, CADAS, the Coventry and District Archaeology Society, undertook field walking and trial trenching to investigate the area.

We have just been granted Heritage Lottery Funding to look at the work already done, to try and explain the finds from these activities, which consist of a large quantity of pottery sherds, ceramic building materials and a number of Roman coins, and to do further investigations in the area.



Our project will run for a year under the guise of Broadwell Archaeological Investigation Team and we would like to get the local community involved in finding out more about the size and nature of the possible Roman settlement at Broadwell. The project will offer a series of introductory workshops focusing on desk-based research techniques and Roman artefact identification, before undertaking a fieldwork programme to involve and train volunteers in all aspects of archaeological fieldwork.

How can I join in? For information email [covarchweb@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:covarchweb@yahoo.co.uk) 024 7641 8290  
The CADAS website is [www.covarch.org.uk](http://www.covarch.org.uk)

## Willoughby Challenge 2013

Here we are again reporting on the Willoughby Challenge, having lifted both trophies for the last two years. On the lovely sunny day of 30 June, Birdingbury took two teams to the annual Willoughby Football tournament.

In the Under 8s first game against Flecknoe the team got off to a winning start, beating Flecknoe 4-2, in a very tight game. A hat-trick from Justin Hanks and a Charlie Cunningham goal saw Birdingbury secure the three points.

The next game against the joint villages of Onley Park / Grandborough proved tougher but the team battled well, with some great defending by James Tipton and Jemima Deitch. The goals came from a Thomas Miles cross field pass to Billy Davies, and a lovely through ball from Charlie Cunningham found Billy for his second, sealing the victory. Birdingbury 2, Onley Park / Grandborough 1.

With the sun now beaming and the warmth on their backs, the team was inspired and they sealed a comprehensive 7-0 win over Willoughby, with all 6 players getting on the score sheet, the first coming from Jemima who had a smile from ear to ear when she slotted in from the edge of the box. The second came from a corner when the cleared ball was picked up by James Tipton who calmly attacked the goal and slotted a driven shot into the back of the net. Charlie Cunningham was pushed into midfield and rewarded with a great solo effort, having picked the ball up on the half way line



he slotted it calmly past the keeper, while Justin Hanks managed two well-worked solo goals. A great team move saw Billy Davies' driven shot from the edge of the box make it six and, finally, a Thomas Miles solo effort sealed an emphatic victory and a place in the final.

The final against Onley Park / Grandborough started with a lot of possession by Birdingbury, but Birdingbury could not finish off as Onley Park / Grandborough closed the play down. However, Charlie & Jemima defended well and keeper James Tipton pulled off some good saves. Nerves settled a little when a cross by Thomas found Justin who calmly slotted past the keeper. In the second half, in a real end to end game, Onley Park / Grandborough started to apply pressure, but a late tackle by Charlie saw the ball go wide of the post much to the relief of James in goal. Some nice passing by Jemima and Billy found Justin unmarked in the opposition half and he hit a hard shot into the top corner for his second. Birdingbury, now on the up, saw a nice ball from defence by Charlie find Thomas, who hit a great shot only to be saved by the keeper. Onley Park / Grandborough advanced and a great shot was saved at the other end by James Tipton to keep a clean sheet. An attack down the right by Billy Davies and a nicely timed pass to Thomas, whose shot hit the post before finding the back of the net, sealed the win for Birdingbury.

Throughout the tournament every Birdingbury player managed to get on the score sheet. Each member of the team should be very proud of their outstanding efforts and achievements in picking up the trophy for the fifth time in the last six years.

In the afternoon it was Birdingbury U11s turn to take the field. The team wanted to achieve what the U8s had already done in the morning.

The first game saw a win against Willoughby 3-1 with Josh Thomas netting two good solo efforts along with Rees slotting in from close range for the third.

The following game against Flecknoe put the boys to the test. They stayed strong with the defensive pairing of Billy Flint and Dominic Whitfield and strong midfield work from Rees Moor and Josh Thomas ensured that Flecknoe did not score in the first half. However, in the second half Flecknoe were on the score sheet straight away with a nicely taken goal. Second half substitute Oliver Taylor was asked to help in defence. This allowed Josh Thomas to be more creative and, with two minutes to go, a good clearance from Jake Thomas in goal found George Riley on the left, who played a nice ball to Rees Moor. He drove the ball into the top of the net to seal the draw.

The next game saw Birdingbury beat Broadwell 9 – 0. Jake Thomas was replaced in goal and then grabbed four of the Birdingbury goals. All the boys performed well with Rees Moor scoring two, Billy Flint one and Josh Thomas one. The biggest cheer of the

day from the Birdingbury fans came when Oliver Taylor blasted a penalty into the back of the net to score Birdingbury's ninth goal.

The goal fest continued with Birdingbury putting eight goals past Onley Park, Rees Moor scoring four, and Josh Thomas two and finally, after coming close and setting up many of the goals, George Riley also found the net twice. However, this was a team performance with Billy Flint and Dominic Whitfield ensuring we kept our second clean sheet. Ollie decided to show his mum a bit of Messi magic (as she had missed his first goal) and took the ball around one player and placed the ball with a lovely shot into the back of the net. 'Did you see that, Mum?'

To reach the final we had to win the last game against Grandborough who had proved stiff competition all day. In a nervous encounter Grandborough were first on the score sheet but after Birdingbury took the kick-off Dominic Whitfield played a good ball to George Riley who equalised. Some strong defending from Billy Flint and Ollie Taylor was required for the rest of the first half to ensure it stayed equal at half time. In the second half Birdingbury came out strong with Rees Moor setting up Josh Thomas to put Birdingbury ahead, before Billie Flint brought a fine ball out of defence to set up George for his second of the game with a powerful low drive. Grandborough stepped up the pressure and started to shoot from all angles but Jake Thomas was strong in goal and pulled off some fine saves. With one minute to go, Grandborough scored



their second and it was to be a nervous last minute, but some stealthy Norman Hunter (The old Day version of Nermaj Vidic) defending from Billy Chopper Flint ensured Birdingbury was victorious.

Birdingbury U11s had reached the final with only Flecknoe standing in their way. We started strong with Rees, George and the energetic Josh working tirelessly and going close on several occasions. The defence was also tested but good tackling from Billy and Dominic kept it nil-nil at half time. Flecknoe started the second half strong with Jake Thomas being called on to make some crucial saves. Second half substitute Oliver Taylor replaced Dominic and helped keep Flecknoe opportunities down. Half way through the second half Birdingbury woke up and some good passing play between Rees Moor and Josh Thomas saw a neat ball to George Riley saved by the excellent Flecknoe keeper. At the final whistle the game was nil - nil, so four minutes extra time beckoned. With Dominic Whitfield called back into defence, Birdingbury created a few chances with Billy Flint putting Josh Thomas through, but yet again the Flecknoe keeper kept strong. The game was end to end and Dominic kept up the strong Birdingbury defence with Billy. With one minute to go Jake Thomas released brother Josh who rounded his marker and played a nice ball out to the left wing where George Riley beat his man and crossed a lovely ball for Rees Moor to drive low into the goal to give Birdingbury the much needed lead. We threw caution to the wind and played four at the back and one up front with Billy, George and Oliver staying strong, supported by the good hands of Jake, ensuring Birdingbury secured the victory with a 1 - 0 win. Birdingbury had now won both age groups for the third year running.

I would like to say thank you to all parents who have given their continued support to the boys and girls and carried them to and from training and the challenge - I'm sure the kids really appreciate it. Thanks too to my son Lewis who not only helped me with the training sessions but on the day also refereed 50% of the games without too many dodgy decisions. Many thanks also go to Nick Thomas and Tony Flint who took training (when I was on my cycling 'holiday' doing the John O'Groats to Lands End) and finally TO ALL THE CHILDREN, AS WITHOUT THEIR DEDICATION AND SKILL WE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN AS SUCCESSFUL!!!! Good Luck to Josh Thomas and Ollie Taylor on your retirement from Willougby Challenge football.

PLAY UP BIRDINGBURY - Richard Cutts.

## Can you help?

Do you know anything about John William Fletcher ('Bill'), stationed at Birdingbury/Bourton POW Camp during World War II?

Last week, I received a phone call from Australia from Kareen Fletcher who is trying to find out about her husband's grandfather, who was stationed at Birdingbury Camp. She had found my details in an online copy of Birdsong, via the village website. Kareen is particularly hoping for information about what happened to Bill after the war. I asked her to put the details in an email, which is shown below. If anyone can help, please contact me and I will pass the information on to Kareen.

Liz Davies, [elizabethp.davies@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabethp.davies@btinternet.com)

From Kareen:

*My husband Matthew and I are trying to solve a 60 year old family mystery and discover more about his grandfather, John William Fletcher, known as Bill.*

*We know Bill and Matthew's grandmother, Edith Woodward, met in about 1945. Edith was a NAAFI manageress and the family story goes that she was Bill's driver at one point. Bill was an officer in the Royal Pioneer Corps and stationed at the P.O.W. camp no. 97 at Birdingbury-on-Dunsmore. We're told he was the officer in charge of the camp, but we've yet to confirm this.*

*From research done on the medal ribbons in the portrait photo we have, we understand he received an MBE in 1946. From information on the citation, it appears the award was forwarded to Bill at the POW camp in Birdingbury. This citation also tells us that his hometown was Birkby in Yorkshire.*

*Edith gave birth to Peter William Fletcher (Matthew's father) in August 1946. We don't believe they ever married. In 1957, Edith and Peter emigrated from England to Australia. All contact was lost at this point.*

*We would love to speak/hear from anyone who remembers the camp or Bill, or who has memories of a relative speaking about it. Any little piece of information might help us to find out what happened to Bill and perhaps find where he might be buried or other relatives to visit.*

*We would love to solve this mystery!*





## **Bourton**

Friday 7 September **Wine Tasting** – 7.30pm

We are delighted to welcome Alan Blakemore again to teach us how to match wines for a typical 4 course dinner. There will also be a little something to soak up the alcohol included in the price. This is a very popular evening and quickly sells out. With only 50 exclusive places available this is strictly 'a first come first served basis'. In order to secure your places please purchase your ticket(s) with full payment; only £8. Call Lynne on 01926 633258 for tickets.

Saturday 14 September – **Art workshop**

Local artists Brian Sykes and Joan Sherratt have kindly agreed to run a couple of painting workshops for us in the hall. There will be a session for children in the morning and one for adults in the afternoon. Acrylic painting materials will be provided. You are welcome to bring your watercolour paints if you wish. All material produced will be displayed in the exhibition on the following day. There will be no charge for the workshops, but you do need to book your place. Please call Alison on 01926 633677 to book your FREE place on the workshop.

Children's workshop: 10am – 12pm

Adults' workshop: 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 15 September – **Art and Photography exhibition** – 2pm – 5pm

Our 5th annual Art and Photography exhibition in the hall. Please contact Alison if you would like to reserve a space to exhibit your work. Alison would also like to hear from you if you would be willing to make a cake, or help with serving teas 01926 633677.

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## **1st Dunchurch Scout Group**

The 1st Dunchurch Scout Group is pleased to announce the start of the new 'Draycote' Beaver Colony. However, we're still looking for new leaders for cubs and scouts so more children can experience the adventure of scouting. If you are interested please contact:

Louise Partridge - Chairman 1st Dunchurch Executive Committee, Tel : 07968 594110. [chair@dunscout.org.uk](mailto:chair@dunscout.org.uk)

You can find out more about Scouting in Dunchurch via [www.dunscout.org.uk](http://www.dunscout.org.uk)



## *Birdingbury Village Club*

On **Saturday 3 August** please join the  
**Anglers and Wheelers**  
for their **Annual Summer BBQ**



BIRDINGBURY VILLAGE CLUB BIRDINGBURY VILLAGE CLUB

This years **Produce Show** will be on **Saturday 14 September**. Please pop into the club for details of how to enter the various categories. In the evening we will hold the ever popular sale of produce which will again be conducted by Birdingbury's famous auctioneer Gary Laverick.

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## **Birdingbury Country Show**

This year's Show was very well supported with record gate takings.

The weather is always a challenge and after last year's wetness we had dryness and rising temperatures - the ice cream van being a huge attraction.

We were very pleased to welcome the Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Rugby, who spent a considerable time at the Show.

Alongside our nominated charities - The Air Ambulance, Cystic Fibrosis Trust, and Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research - we welcomed Myton Hospice, Colitis UK, RNLI, RSPB, Rugby Cats Protection, Women's Institute, Guide Dogs for the Blind (the youth club's project), and, additionally, the Mayor's charity for Prostate Cancer.

As well as all of the vintage vehicles, we were grateful for the input from the younger generation with support from our local youth club, a youth motorcycle display team (aged 10 to 16), the local young farmer's club and many scouting groups.

Thanks also to the Birdingbury History Group and Rugby Portland Cement Transport for their information and photographic displays, and to all those pets who took part in the Novelty Dog Show. The Grand Draw was also very well supported with several local winners.

And, finally, thanks to everyone for your support.

Barbara Munro

## Ladies Circle

The final meeting for 2012/13 took the form of a Garden Party. It was nice to see some lovely outfits and hats with everyone enjoying themselves in Diana's (and Leslie's) beautiful garden. Many thanks to members for providing nibbles and for Diana and Rhondra (our hostesses) for the delicious strawberries and wine.

The new year will begin on 10 September, at 7.45 in The Birbury, with the AGM to decide the programme of events for the forthcoming meetings. There will also be slide/video footage of the building of the new 'Bus Shelter - from Ashes to Splendour'.

Please join us - there is no pressure to become 'officers' but should you volunteer then the administration is not onerous!

Barbara Munro

## The Birbury

For the weekend of the Birdingbury Country Show, we ran our usual Coffee Shop in the Birbury. We had a mixture of our regular customers and some new ones and a selection of homemade goodies, sweet and savoury, was enjoyed by all. Many people were glad of the chance to escape from the heat and enjoy a cool drink; our sales of iced squash quadrupled on last year's takings! We made a profit of £218.00 which will help us to run the Birbury for the village. Many thanks to all our helpers, from the cake makers to the washer-uppers.

## Autumn Country Lunch

On Sunday 22 September at noon in the Birbury we will be having our Autumn Country Lunch. This will include our lovely breads, cheeses and salads with home-made pickles and desserts. Be sure to be there early as we nearly - nearly - ran out of provisions last time (as if Jackie would let that happen!). Looking forward to seeing you there..

Jenny Hawes

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## Birdingbury's contribution

I have received the following message from Christian Aid for the generous £212.21 raised in Birdingbury in May: *'Thank you so much for your hard work for Christian Aid Week. Together we've taken a bite back at hunger.'*

Daphne Chippendale

## Birdingbury Calendar

<b>August</b>					page
Saturday	3	Anglers and Wheelers BBQ	Club		18
Thursday	15	Library Van	Main Street	2.35	
Sat/Sunday	17/18	Battle of Southam	Market Hill	11.00	11
<b>September</b>					
Thursday	5	Library Van	Main Street	2.35	
Tuesday	10	Ladies Circle	Birbury	7.45	19
Saturday	14	Produce Show	Club		18
Tuesday	17	Parish Council	Birbury	7.30	
Sunday	22	Country Lunch	Birbury	Noon	19
Thursday	26	Library Van	Main Street	2.35	



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