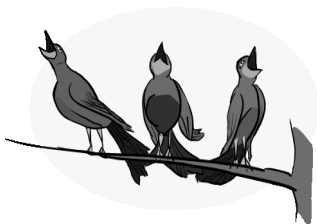


BIRDSONG

**June 2018
And
July 2018**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS**

No 86



Egging Role at Egg Rolling

Photo: Matt Markham

Birdingbury Parish Council - Signing Off

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, Councillor Ian Tipton was elected unanimously as the new Chairman, with Councillor David Preston as Vice-Chairman. This means that they will lead our small team of five in this last year of the current council: our current term of office comes to an end next May, when there will be elections for the new council.

It is likely that at least two of us will not seek re-election next year, so we are keen to encourage new blood to come forward. While the role of the Council is limited, we do have responsibility for ensuring the parish is cared for: grass-cutting, the recreation field, consultees on planning etc. It is not an overly strenuous task – just ten meetings a year lasting up to two hours; taking up issues brought to us by parishioners and ensuring that the PC precept of less than £7,000 is well spent.

So, if you are committed to life in this very special community, you might find the idea of seeking to take on the role as councillor a possibility. It really is not a scary task and provides many opportunities to meet more of your neighbours.

If you think you could contemplate joining the next council, do contact any of us, or come along to our meetings (7.30pm on the third Tuesday of each month, except August and December) and see what we get up to. We look forward to seeing anyone interested in this role.

Councillor Diana Turner

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Thank you, Diana Turner

Diana Turner stood down as Chairman of the Parish Council at our AGM on 15th May after seven years of dedicated service. At the same meeting, I was elected as the new Chairman and David Preston was elected as Deputy Chairman.

I have big shoes to fill but fortunately Diana will continue as a Parish Councillor for a further year and be available to offer wise advice.

May I take this opportunity to thank Diana for all her hard work and dedication; her leadership will be greatly missed.

Ian Tipton

Chairman, Birdingbury Parish Council

Birdingbury Parish Council Meetings

June 2018 to May 2019

All meetings take place in The Birbury, Main Street, Birdingbury, CV23 8EL and start at 7.30 pm.

Summer	19 th June	17 th July	August: no meeting
Autumn	18 th September	16 th October	20 st November
Winter	December: no meeting	15 ^h January	26 th February
Spring	19 th March	16 th April 23 rd April Annual Village Meeting	21 st May Annual Council Meeting, followed by Parish Council Meeting

If you have any queries please contact the Parish Clerk, Jackie Chapman

e-mail parishclerk@birdingbury.org

Tel 01926 716191

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

2018 Annual Village Meeting

The village meeting was held on Tuesday 24th April in the Birbury. It was well attended and gave an opportunity for the many organisations to give their reports and plans for the future.

Lesley Fleming as chair of the Neighbourhood Development Plan working group updated the meeting with the outcome of the work of the group and its recommendations. Lesley has provided a detailed update within Birdsong so I won't go into detail. Suffice to say the village agreed with the recommendation not to proceed at this time whilst consideration should be given to updating the Village Plan.

Ian Tipton

Chairman, Birdingbury Parish Council

Update on Birdingbury Neighbourhood Development Plan

At the Village Meeting last year, the decision was made to investigate the appropriateness of Birdingbury producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. Five people volunteered to initiate this investigation.

As part of the investigation, the team's activities included:

- Attending conferences
- Reviewing official publications
- Contacting other communities
- Presentation information at a special village meeting
- Seeking the views of residents
- Distributing flyers
- Setting up a working group of volunteers
- Holding meetings to gather ideas and plan activities
- Reviewing the 2009 Birdingbury Parish Plan
- Consulting the RBC Planning Department
- Setting up and populating a dedicated information page on the Birdingbury website
- Publishing updates in Birdsong

Following the above, and a meeting with the Senior Planner for Rugby Borough Council, the following conclusions have been drawn:

- Birdingbury is well protected from significant development:

Under RBC's Local Plan, Birdingbury is designated as a rural village. There are no allocated housing sites in Birdingbury as rural villages are not contributing to RBC's strategy. This Local Plan is due for adoption in 2018 and will run until 2030. It is not due for revision before 2025

The Leam Valley flood plain and green corridor form physical boundaries around the parish

Development of green field sites outside the village envelope would be difficult due to access / sustainability constraints.

- A Neighbourhood Development Plan is not currently the right vehicle to meet the village's aspirations:

RBC Local Plan is complete and nearing ratification

There are no sites being brought forward which would be the basis for a plan: commercial sites could only be considered if there were no proven demand for continued employment use

Development outside the village boundary could be through the National Policy Planning Framework but RBC's position is such that any development would need to be for affordable housing that met an identified need. A NDP would not protect against this and no such need has been established.

It would not prevent infill within the village envelope or conversions of existing buildings

There is no current identified need for future development, as distinct from the current established desire to preserve / enhance the prevailing state.

- The 2009 Parish Plan is out of date and, as such, holds little authority

As a result, the working group made the following recommendations to the Village Meeting in April:

- Not to pursue the route of NDP at present but to reconsider in 2025
- Refresh the Parish Plan:

Update the 2009 action plan

Restate / revise statements regarding housing

Reconsider its scope, content

Form a new working group.

These recommendations were accepted.

Finally, the working group reflected on their involvement and agreed that the experience had been both interesting and enjoyable. Communications and consultation had worked well in engaging residents in the debate, and the working group had been representative of a good cross section of residents. Participation and interest had been sustained, with everyone working well together and learning from the experience.

Lesley Fleming

Chair, Birdingbury Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group

Recreation Field Safety

Last summer, when we considered that the safety of young people was at risk, we had to warn about unacceptable behaviour at the Recreation Field. At that time the concerns were related to broken glass, vandalism and evidence of substance abuse.

Sadly, it seems that the use and purchase of drugs, possibly of a serious nature, may now be taking place, either in or around the Recreation Field area. Young adults in vehicles have been seen waiting in the parking area and making 'exchanges'. Whilst not intimating that our own village youth are necessarily involved, we think it important, and indeed have an obligation under duty of care as custodians of the facility, to bring this to the attention of the village as a whole.

A heightened police presence around the area will hopefully serve to discourage any 'dealing' that may be taking place. If you feel safe doing so, it is very important that, if thought to be suspicious, vehicle registration numbers are noted and passed on to the authorities, in case there is already a link to crime.

We want to crush this type of activity taking place here if possible and to keep our youngsters as safe as we possibly can. Of course, our Recreation Field must remain a place that can continue to be enjoyed, without fear, by children and adults alike.

Councillor Jackie Morton



BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Language Challenge

A pompous linguistics professor was lecturing to his class one day.



"In English," he said, "a double negative forms a positive. In some languages though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative.

However," he pointed out, "there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative."

A voice from the back of the room piped up, "Yeah, right."

Anon

Rugby Rural South Police Safer-Neighbourhood Team

As from 1st June 2018 Rugby Rural South Safer-Neighbourhood Team will comprise of the following officers:

- Police Community Support Officer 6149 Helena Seal
- Police Community Support Officer 6226 Joanne Jackson
- Police Constable 978 Andrew Crouch
- Police Sergeant 948 Sarah Masters



They will cover the following Beat Areas:

N75R: Dunchurch, Princethorpe, Stretton on Dunsmore, Marton, Bourton, Frankton, Draycote, Thurlaston

N75P: Willoughby, Grandborough, Flecknoe, Woolscott, Wolfhampcote, Nethercote, Kites Hardwick, Leamington Hastings, Broadwell, Birdingbury, Calcutt, Hill.

How to contact us:

Email: rrs.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: @RugbyCops

In an emergency: 999

To report a crime or incident: 101 (not emergency)

To otherwise contact the team: 01788 853851

To visit or mail: Rugby Police Station, Newbold Road, Rugby
Warwickshire, CV21 2HD

PCSO 6149 Helena Seal

RRS Safer Neighbourhood Team

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdingbury's Royal Connection

With a Royal Wedding grabbing the headlines, it is perhaps interesting to reflect on Birdingbury's (admittedly distant) royal connection.

The Akroyds, who lived at Birdingbury Hall from 1910 until 1920, represented new money. Though they liked to think of themselves as part of the landed gentry, John Akroyd was in fact a stockbroker descended from a Lancastrian industrial background. It is through the Akroyds that Birdingbury derives its royal connection and, although they themselves were never part of the aristocracy, I am sure they would have been very proud of the rise to fame of their grandson, George Raymond Seymour.

The Akroyds were a major employer in Birdingbury, having a staff of 29 people. They also brought in local painters and decorators to the village to help with the renovations at the Hall. Mrs Lilia Akroyd was involved with the school and used to hold Christmas parties at the Hall for local children. They were also prominent members of Leamington society and were enthusiastic supporters of the Warwickshire Hunt.

They had four children, three boys and a girl.

Two of the Akroyds' sons served in the Army during WW1. Mr Akroyd was a generous benefactor of Southam Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital in Southam and Lilia Akroyd went on to become its Deputy Commandant. John Bathurst Akroyd died in 1920 leaving a considerable fortune (over £2 million in today's terms) and the family moved out of Birdingbury Hall and left the area.

Winifred, the Akroyds' only daughter, was born in 1887 and in 1909 she married Harold Boyd-Rockfort. The marriage did not last and they were divorced in 1922, which must have been quite a scandal for the time.



*Lilia Akroyd at Southam
VAD hospital*

Shortly afterwards, on 17th July 1922, Winifred remarried Reginald Henry Seymour. Reginald Seymour was very well connected and came from an aristocratic family. He fought and was wounded in both the Boer War and the First World War. He became Equerry to King George V in 1916.

Winifred Akroyd and Reginald Seymour had a son, George Raymond Seymour (known as Raymond), born on 5th May 1923. Sadly, he was only two when his mother, Winifred, died so would not have known her. His father remarried and Raymond was brought up by his step-mother. He was educated at Eton.

It is Raymond Seymour (John and Lilia Akroyd's grandson) that gives Birdingbury its royal connection. He had the rare distinction of being Page of Honour to three monarchs, George V, Edward VIII and George VI. **A Page of Honour** is a ceremonial position in the Royal Household of the Sovereign of the United Kingdom. It requires attendance on state occasions but does not now involve the daily duties which were once attached to the office of page.



*Raymond Seymour as
Page of Honour*

In his role as Page of Honour, Raymond Seymour was one of the train bearers to King George VI (the Queen's father) at his Coronation in 1937.

Raymond went on to have a distinguished career with the Royal Family and was attached to the Household of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, as an equerry. In this role he had the (some may say) dubious honour of attending on Princess Margaret, who lived with her mother until her marriage. He subsequently became the Queen Mother's assistant Private Secretary until her death in 2002. In 1990 he was awarded the honour of Commander of the Royal Victorian Order for his services to the Royal Family.

He died on 6th October 2010 aged 87.

Richard Davies

Birdingbury History Group

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Laurence (Lol) Underhill **25th May 1926 – 11th March 2018**

The funeral of Lol Underhill was held at St. Oswald's Church, Rugby on 23rd April.

Lol and his late wife, Bernice, were both born in Nottingham. They moved to Birdingbury in the 1950s and lived first at Avonlea and then at Ingleside, both on Marton Road. Here they raised their two daughters, Kate & Ghislaine.

Lol worked at Rugby Portland Cement until his retirement.

Those of us who can remember him knew him as a jolly man; a great story teller with a good sense of humour. He enjoyed life in Birdingbury and took part in many village events, especially the Festival where he was to be seen driving his restored Little Blue Monarch Tractor.

Happy Memories, Lol.

Daphne Chippendale

A Promise Fulfilled!

Thank you to the Reverend Ali Massey, who made this birthday cake covered in beautiful handmade sugar flowers, following the very enjoyable Birdingbury Auction of Promises.

She baked and iced it during the Bank Holiday week-end heatwave, then delivered it in person. The cake was enjoyed by my family and work colleagues as part of my birthday celebrations and it was that bit more meaningful knowing that my donation will help children who have been displaced from their homes and their education. Thank you again!

My other, more down to earth, purchase on the night was 'Prize Winning Manure' which I am looking forward to getting my (gloved) hands on.

We'd love to hear more of your Promises Fulfilled stories, so drop a line and a photo to the Editor for the next edition of Birdsong!

Ruth Adewale



BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

A Word from Josie



Thank you to all in our caring village for your support to John and me. Many helping hands and support keep my spirits up.

Birdingbury, on Trip Advisor, gets all the stars there are.

Josie Price

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Transport

Birdingbury knows

Railway cutting here but gone

Just a sleeper now

Thin Jethro Lasky



‘The bOObies’ - Ceara Hayden's Story

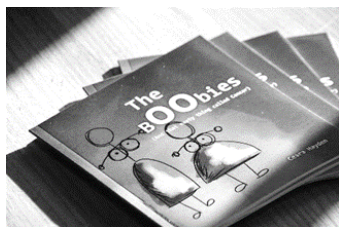
Melons. Breasts. Baps. Knockers. Everyone has them (yes, even men!).

Cancer. Lumps. Tumours. Scans. Chemo. Drugs. Sickness. Radiotherapy. Drugs. Recurrence.

Scary words that we all want to avoid, yet wherever we turn, they are too often in the same conversation. Last Christmas they came together in the Hayden household when my Mum, Lee, was diagnosed with Grade III Breast Cancer (one of the nastier types).

After having already been through more than her share of ‘life events’, it didn’t really seem fair but in typical Hayden fashion, she embraced the news with a sense of humour and a determination to fully tackle this new challenge head on. They really do say laughter is the best medicine and, as a family, we can testify that is true!

As a result, I really wanted to write a book to support her through the ups and downs of her treatment. And so, I did. It is only a small little book, a poem of sorts about boobies, and cancer, and chemo. It is a book intended not to trivialise but to outline the ‘process’ that cancer sufferers may go through. It is aimed to bring a smile to people’s faces when all they might want to do is cry. It is a story of hope. And most importantly, it is a story to prompt people to “check their boobies”. Mum’s prognosis would have been a lot, lot worse if she hadn’t found the lump herself.



All the money raised from sales of the book will go to CoppaFeel! - an incredible charity promoting boob-checking and, ultimately, saving lives. If you’d like to buy a copy, they are available direct from the Publisher’s website here:

<https://www.asparkinthesand.co.uk/product-page/the-boobies-by-ceara-hayden>

I do have a couple of Limited Edition copies left too. Just drop me an email to: cearahayden@gmail.com

Finally, ...give your bOObies a hug. Check them. Feel them. Then tell others to do the same (their own of course!).

Ceara Hayden

Leamington Hastings Consolidated Charity

Almshouse Vacancy

The Charity has a one bedroom flat available at the Almshouses, located in very quiet and peaceful surroundings in the village of Leamington Hastings. Our flats are intended for people of limited financial means and suit single persons or couples. Due to their size and communal layout, the flats are not suitable for children or larger pets such as cats and dogs.

Would this vacancy be of any interest to yourself, a relative or perhaps somebody else you know?

The Trustees are required to give priority to people who have a “local connection”, i.e. that they were either born or have lived in the Parish of Leamington Hastings or surrounding areas but Trustees have discretion to consider individuals from further afield if there are no local applicants.



Residents do not pay rent but instead contribute a monthly payment towards the cost of providing maintenance and communal services, including heating and hot water.

This is not supported accommodation so the Charity cannot provide, nor arrange for, the provision of care services. Our residents are expected to be able to live independently or to make their own arrangements in order to do so.

Further details and / or application forms can be obtained from the Clerk, Mike Stevens by telephoning 07809 048734 or emailing:

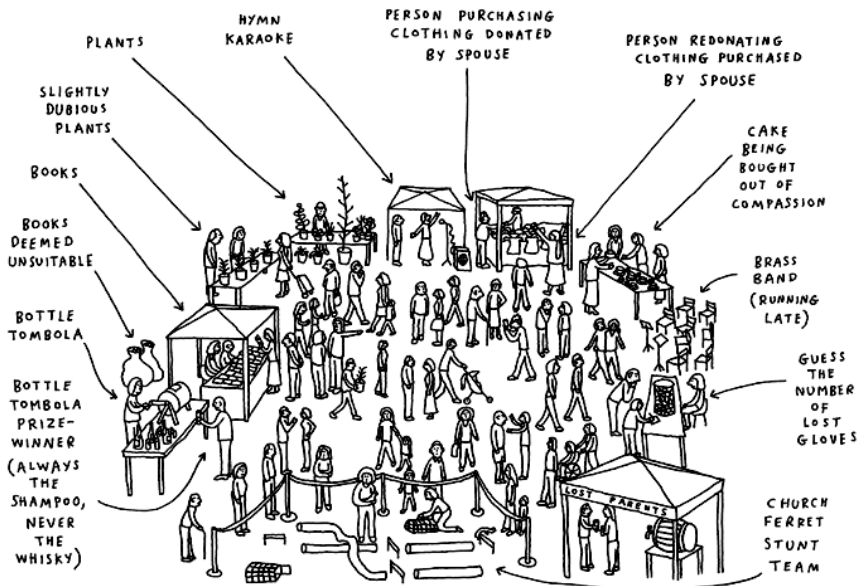
mstevens@msconsultancy.co.uk

LHCC is a Registered Charity (Charity No: 235662)

Mike Stevens

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

THE CHURCH FETE



We can't promise a ferret stunt team but do join us
for:

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH FETE

Sunday 24th June 2018

From 2pm

Birdingbury Club and forecourt and the Birbury

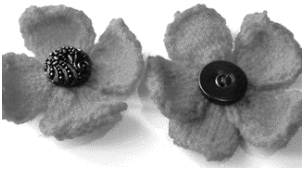
**Cream Teas / Grand Raffle / Cakes and Preserves /
Tombola/ Plants and Books**

Thank you for your support

Remembrance 2018

In recognition of the centenary of the Armistice, we have invited the History Group to recreate their '100 Years' exhibition in St Leonard's Church for the period from 4th to 18th November.

Additionally, we would like to create a 'community cascade' of poppies to a variety of designs, each a little bit different, just like all those who gave their lives.



If you'd like to help, I would love to hear from you. Julie Colledge has kindly agreed to help coordinate this, so we need volunteers who knit, sew, crochet, (or who'd like to learn), plus anyone who'd like to make slightly easier poppies with felt, card, tissue paper. You come up with your own ideas too! There will be workshops for younger

members of the community over the summer as well.

Get in touch with me on 632030 or at Karen.armbrister@btinternet.com or come along to the launch meeting on Wednesday 20th June: 8pm in the Club Lounge.

Wouldn't it be great if everyone in the village was able to produce at least one poppy?

Karen Armbrister

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Ladies Circle

Our planned April visit for a private pampering session and make-over at the Body Shop was cancelled at short notice due to staff illness. However, they have said to make up for the disappointment, we can have a 30% discount when we rebook.

Happily, Matt Markham arrived as promised for our May meeting. A couple of chaps joined us to hear the fascinating stories of Matt's career in the police force. He shared with us the details of some of the murder cases he had worked on, and those of us who love reading thrillers or watching police dramas had loads of questions for him.

The June meeting is a 'bring and share' supper which is for members only. This will conclude our year, as we don't meet July and August.

We will start again September 11th with the AGM when we make our plans for the forthcoming meetings. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7.45pm in the Birbury. If you would like to join Ladies Circle, please do come along or just come when you can for a visit. If you want any more details, please get in touch with me at ls@sidaways.net or call on 632579.

Leigh Sidaway

Club Events

	Day / date	Time	Event
June	Saturday 2nd	5.15pm	Football ENGLAND v NIGERIA
	Thursday 7th	8:00pm	Football ENGLAND v COSTA RICA
	Saturday 9th	8.00pm	Quiz Night
	Monday 18th	7:00pm	Football TUNISIA v ENGLAND (World Cup)
	Thursday 21st	7.30pm	Fish and Chip Van
	Saturday 23rd	TBC	Village Treasure Hunt
	Sunday 24th	TBC	Church Fete
		1pm	Football ENGLAND v PANAMA (World Cup)
	Thursday 28th	7.30pm	Football: ENGLAND v BELGIUM (World Cup)
	Friday 29th	5pm	Pizza Night
July		8pm	Club AGM
	Saturday 30th	TBC	Tractor Show, BBQ and Open Mic Night
	Saturday 7th	TBC	‘Swingball-don’
	Saturday 14th	TBC	Village Dog Show and BBQ Wimbledon finals
	Sunday 15th	TBC	Wimbledon finals
	Friday 20th	5pm	Pizza Night
	Thursday 26th	7.30pm	Fish and Chip Van

Don't forget to pop along to the Club for a drink, perhaps during Happy Hour early on Friday evenings or on a Sunday lunchtime. The best way to relax and catch up with village scuttlebutt this summer!

Tony Flint



The Bob Munro Tractor Run

It started as a bit of a chat in the Club about how it was a shame that Birdingbury Show is no more and vague talk of how we should do something to commemorate it. I was at the Show on Sunday 9th July, the last day, and took part in the final cavalcade, which I have since watched again on YouTube. My son, John was there all weekend and ended up, a few days later, buying a Ferguson tractor which had been at the Show.

Also at the Show was David Walker, who I didn't then know. David was displaying four tractors. This was all just a few weeks before we moved to the village and was, for us, a slightly strange experience, passing by the house that we were in the process of buying with the worry that we had not yet completed and that there was still a chance that it would all fall through. Anyway, I digress, which, dear reader, I am prone to doing. So, the seed was set and tractors seemed to be the obvious choice for some sort of event. I think it was David who suggested a tractor run and mentioning Bob Munro seemed to be highly appropriate, due to his major role in the Show's organisation.

So, John, David and I, with input from various people in the Club, went for the tractor run idea. I reread the programme from the last Show, which was still available in the Club and which contains useful information about Bob and the Show. I then had a chat with Barbara and Gaynor and, happily, they were pleased that something was to be arranged.



The date has been set for 30th June and will involve a barbecue and Open Mic night in the Club. Please see separate information and around the village for further details. We don't know at this stage how many entrants there will be but from early indications we hope for at least 30 tractors. We will be raising funds for Bloodwise, a charity which supports blood cancer research and which was the charity chosen for the 2017 Show.

Finally, if you would like to help in some small way on the day we would be very grateful. Please let me know.

Here's hoping for a great day!

Steve Edgar

THE BOB MUNRO TRACTOR RUN

A tractor run from Birdingbury Club around local villages to remember the Birdingbury Show: all welcome!

SATURDAY 30TH JUNE 2018

- 10.00 Meet at Birdingbury Club (tractor unloading from 09.00 on Birdingbury estate, Munro's farm)
- 10.30 Tea and coffee courtesy of the Birbury
- 11.00 Set off on run (route to be decided)
- 15.00 Barbecue at Birdingbury Club open to all (small charge)
- 19.30 Open mic session at Birdingbury Club

£10 ENTRY FEE PER TRACTOR. ALL TRACTOR DRIVERS WILL RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY TEA, COFFEE AND BBQ

We will be raising funds for Bloodwise, the charity which supports blood cancer research and chosen charity for the last Birdingbury Show in 2017.

Thank you for taking part. So that we can estimate numbers for logistics, food etc, please register an interest by contacting one of the following:

Steve Edgar 01926 719039 steveedgar@sky.com

John Edgar 0788 8699355

David Walker 07841 905473



Open Mic Night Back On

Unfortunately, I had to postpone the Open Mic evening on March 24th due to the death, a few days before, of my Mum. Despite trying to notify as many people as possible, I believe a few people turned up on the night expecting tunes. Apologies for that but I'm quite sure you will understand.

The good news is that it's back on the new date of 30th June. This is the same day as the tractor run and barbecue (see separate article).



All abilities and styles welcome. Never performed before? Now's your chance!

As usual, I will be hosting it. We will start at 7.30 for a children's set (see below), with the main event starting at around 8.00pm.

Please feel free to come along and play, sing or just watch. We have a few surprises lined up! If you would like to play something with others, please let me know and we can get together before the event.

I hope to see you there!

Steve Edgar

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Calling All Young Birdingbury Superstars!

Would you like to sing your favourite song, tell your best joke, play an instrument or show your best moves to an adoring audience?

There will be a special slot at the Open Mic Night for young talent, starting at 7.30.

If you would like more information, or a practice, ask your parents to contact me (call 01926 719039 or mail steveedgar@sky.com) and we will arrange something.

Steve Edgar



Bonfire Night at Risk – Volunteers Needed!

The village bonfire night has been a great success for many years, providing a spectacular firework display and bonfire, together with hot food, all at a very reasonable cost, especially for families with young children. For some considerable time, Jackie and Andy Westcott and their team have given great service to the village in running the catering and fireworks side of the event. However, they have now decided to step back from these activities. As a result, and if the event is to continue in anything like its present form, volunteers are needed to help the existing small team to run it again.

In particular, two volunteers will be needed to set off the fireworks on the night. This will require them to undertake a short training course, without which we cannot meet the necessary requirements for insurance, nor the health and safety standards we all wish for at such an event. This task could well appeal to a younger person, so if there is anyone who would fancy doing this, or you know of someone who might, then get in touch with me. We also need volunteers for the catering and the general stewarding teams, so again, get in touch.

If the bonfire night, as you know and love it, is to carry on, it can only do so with the active support of the village. So, come and get involved: both in deciding how we want the event to run, which could be very different with new ideas welcome; and in helping both with preparations and on the night itself.

We would like to meet as soon as possible to gather ideas and opinions from which to decide how we might go forward, so anyone interested who would like to get involved in any capacity, please contact me on dandjpreston52@gmail.com or 01926 633222.

Thank you

David Preston

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdsong News

Thank you to everyone who kindly confirmed that they would like to remain on the Birdsong mailing list. It is reassuring to know that you are happy for me to continue to badger you.

Don't forget, copies of Birdsong are also available in the Club and the Church. Similarly, every edition is posted on the Birdingbury Village Website, along with a host of other useful information. Thank you, Dallal!

Lesley Fleming

Editor

Oxford Male Voice Choir

Leamington Hastings Parish Hall Management Committee are proud to announce that the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir will perform a concert with a strong Christmas flavour in LH Parish Hall on Saturday 1st December. Please make a note in your diaries now.

Celebrating its 90th anniversary year, the choir is more familiar with the Royal Albert Hall than our parish hall! But they are looking forward to visiting us with an extra-special programme.

The concert, part of the hall's fund-raising to refurbish essential facilities, will follow the usual format, which includes a light supper during the interval. More details to follow in future editions of Birdsong.



Howard Collerson

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Leamington Hastings Academy Rose Queen Day



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

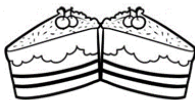
As is the LH tradition, the children will also be showing us their maypole dancing skills before we crown the new Rose King and Queen. Timing is not yet confirmed but is likely to be from around 11 am until 1 pm, so please pop by.

Lesley Tomlinson

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Coffee and Chat

We continue to meet on the last Thursday of the month in the Birbury at 10.30am for refreshments and the chance to catch up with friends, old and new.



Our next two meetings are on Thursday 28th June and 26th July: we do not take a break for the Summer.

We take the refreshments in turns and there's always something tasty on offer.

Why not pop down to join us and maybe bring a friend...

Your Friends at St. Leonards

Summer Swop Shop

Now that we've had some sun, and lots of rain, things are starting to grow in the garden - including lots of weeds!

Do you have any surplus produce in your garden that you could bring to Swop Shop on a Saturday morning at 10.30? Or anything in good condition that you no longer want? If it's big, please contact one of us before you bring it: we have swopped furniture in the past.



We originally started our meetings to swop plants, fruit, etc., that would otherwise go to waste, there are only so many tomatoes you can eat... In the last few weeks, we've swopped rhubarb, garden and house plants, books and magazines. We're a friendly bunch and enjoy coffee/tea, cake and biscuits while we sort out the swops.

You do not have to bring anything to swop, just pop down and see us in the Birbury on a Saturday morning and see what you might find, everyone is welcome.

Di Turner (633721)

Jenny Hawes (632678)

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Thank You from The Birbury

After 8 years, Jenny Hawes is standing down as Chair of the Birbury Committee. On behalf of the Birbury Committee, the Parish Council and the Village I'd like to thank Jenny for her hard work and commitment during this time.

The Birbury is a village asset which relies on a small team to run and maintain it on behalf of the Parish Council. New members to the Committee are always welcome; it is not an onerous task with around 4-5 meetings per year. This is a great opportunity for those with fresh ideas for the facility, to take it forward and ensure that it remains at the heart of Birdingbury life.

If you would like more information, please give me a call on 632041.

Gaynor Davy

Library Services

Don't forget the mobile library and home delivery services.

The Mobile Library has long been a favourite for those who are unable or too busy to get to town. Those who have yet to use the service may like to know that it offers:

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



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

The dates for the next few visits are on the Village Calendar (see back page).

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

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

We offer books in both Large and Small print, as well as talking books on compact disc.

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

mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk

Debbie Bennett

Mobile Library and Home Library Delivery Service

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Like A River



What is its name
To a river?
Except that
The essence of it
Is central
To its sound.

If Vistula was just
Some foreign word
For Thames,
Would we better
Understand,
That nothing
In our capacity
For explanation
Exceeds the reverence
Of water for stone -
Of movement
For the static?

Thus, we move,
Ineluctably forward
Even when
Standing still...

For time
At its deep centre
Melts all its cracks
And flows
In its heart
Like a river.



Birdingbury Calendar

	Date	Event	Time	Venue
June	2nd	Football ENGLAND v NIGERIA	5.15pm	Club
	7th	Football ENGLAND v COSTA RICA	8:00pm	Club
	8 th	Mobile Library	11.40am	Club Forecourt
	9th	Rose Queen Day Quiz Night	11.00am 8.00pm	LH Academy Club
	12th	Ladies Circle	7.45pm	Birbury
	18th	Football TUNISIA v ENGLAND	7:00pm	Club
	19th	PC Meeting	7.30pm	Birbury
	20th	Poppy Cascade Launch Meeting	8.00pm	Club Lounge
	21st	Fish and Chip Van	7.30pm	Club
	23rd	Village Treasure Hunt	TBA	Club
	24th	Church Fete Football ENGLAND v PANAMA	2.00pm 1.00pm	Club Forecourt Club
	28th	Coffee and Chat Football: ENGLAND v BELGIUM	10.30am 7.30pm	Birbury Club
	29th	Mobile Library Pizza Night Club AGM	11.40am 5.00pm 8.00pm	Club Forecourt Club
	30th	Tractor Run, BBQ and Open Mic Night	11.00am	Club
July	7th	'Swingball-don'	TBC	Club
	14th	Village Dog Show and BBQ Wimbledon finals	TBC	Club
	15th	Wimbledon finals	TBC	Club
	17th	PC Meeting	7.30pm	Birbury
	20th	Mobile Library Pizza Night	11.40am 5pm	Club Forecourt Club
	26th	Coffee and Chat Fish and Chip Van	10.30am 7.30pm	Birbury Club



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