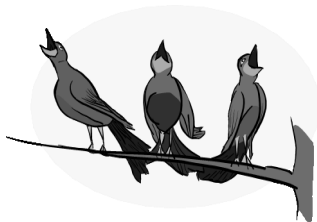


# **BIRDSONG**

**April 2019  
and  
May 2019**



**BIRDINGBURY  
NEWS**

**No 91**



**Spring Sprung**

Photo: Mike Coles

# Parish Council Report March 2019

With Easter just around the corner and the weather no doubt improving, it is time for our spring litter pick. This year we will be meeting at 10.30am on Saturday 6th April outside The Birbury. The more who help the better, so please come along if you are able.

And thinking of mess being left around the village, the problem of dog fouling foot-paths and verges continues! It really is not good enough for dog walkers not to pick up the mess their dogs are creating and that includes the children, if they are being asked to walk family pets. There have, in the past, been calls to name and shame but surely that shouldn't be necessary!

Because of a clash with the Easter holidays, the annual village meeting will drop back to Tuesday 30th April and will, as usual, be held at 7.30 pm in the Birbury. I will again be inviting the representatives of the various associations to give updates, as well as giving one myself on behalf of the Parish Council. It will also be an opportunity for anyone present to raise concerns or ask questions.

Fly tipping continues to blight the lanes around the village and it is now possible to report incidents online, so that the council can organise someone to pick the rubbish up. The address is

[https://www.rugby.gov.uk/info/20009/fly-tipping\\_and\\_abandoned\\_vehicles/17/fly-tipping](https://www.rugby.gov.uk/info/20009/fly-tipping_and_abandoned_vehicles/17/fly-tipping)

The Warwickshire Crime Commissioner has set up a 'Rural Crime Unit' which comprises of five officers who will be tasked with reducing the incidence of crime in rural areas.

It is important that our village is able to form a Parish Council, so with three of us standing down this year, please consider stepping forward to serve. The BPC, often with the involvement of other parishioners, has achieved many things over the past few years. Examples include the footpath up to the Church, the new Bus Shelter, the continuing refurbishment and maintenance of the recreation field, tree planting, the defibrillator, and super-fast broadband. If you fancy a try, our Parish Clerk, Jackie Chapman, has copies of the nomination documents that must be completed and handed in by 3rd April.

The village meeting will be my last as a Parish Councillor, having had the privilege of being Chairman for the last 12 months. So, I would like to thank all the councillors, as well as Jackie our Parish Clerk, for all their hard work.

*Ian Tipton*  
*Chairman*



## Meet our new Community Support Officer

I just would like to say hello and thank you for the warm welcome I received when I dropped into the village last month.



For those who have not met me yet, I'm your local Police Community Support Officer and I work out of Rugby Police station for Rugby Rural South/Central Safer Neighbourhood Team. I have worked for Warwickshire Police for 11 years as part of the SNT teams and have gained a lot of knowledge in rural policing,

I am also one of the local wildlife officers for the area. If there are any issues or questions you have for me, please feel free to drop me an email at:

[David.Banks@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:David.Banks@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk) and I will get back to you.

*PCSO 6137 David Banks  
Wildlife Officer, Warwickshire Police*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## LH Academy Update

Over the past few months at Leamington Hastings we have taken part in lots of exciting events. One of our highlights was when the whole school went to see 'The Snowman' performed live on stage, complete with a showering of snow. The children then used this as a stimulus for carrying out various pieces of work.

The children have also had great fun visiting Pizza Express where they found out about different food groups and then got to make and eat a delicious pizza. To keep up to date with the news from the school, follow our page on Facebook: Leamington Hastings Church of England Academy, Rugby.

Save the date! – Our annual Rose Queen Day will be held on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of July. Everyone is welcome to come along to watch the children take part in some May Pole dancing. There will also be various traditional school fair activities on offer, such as a tombola, hook a duck, refreshments and much more.

Please come along and support your local school if you can.

*Suzanne Marson  
Head of School, Leamington Hastings Church of England Academy*



# A Flipping Brilliant Morning on Main Street!

It's that time of year again that always crêpe's up on you and the village turned out in their shroves for the Annual Pancake Race.

This year saw a revamped outlook on the traditional contest, with a total of 5 races across the morning, including obstacles and team relay.

The first event of the morning was the children's race, where each runner had to flip 3 times without falling flat. It was a tightly contested race with future Olympic champion Lexie taking the win, closely followed by Frankie in 2nd and Freddie in 3rd places.

Next on to the Under 5's and a fantastic effort from all participants. With great encouragement from the crowd, Layla was first to cross the finish line, with Jonah in 2nd place.



Now onto the serious race, the adults, each eyeing up the obstacles and discussing tactics with their child counterparts, whilst trying not to make...well, a pancake out of themselves. A clear winner with Lesley, taking after daughter Lexie, with a comfortable win.

The penultimate race saw teams of three generations and all ages compete in a thrilling relay where teamwork and motivation were the key to success. The winners consisted of a team with an

average age of around 9 years old; a big well done to Lexie, Frankie, Sophie and Sky.

Finally, the biggest race of the morning was one for all comers, from the under 5's all the way to the adults. I've never seen so many pancakes, there were certainly no short stacks! Another very fun race to spectate and perhaps the closest, where we saw Lexie take her hat-trick of victories, closely followed by Max and Frankie.

Without buttering it up too much, it was the perfect setting on Main Street, with the sun shining and each child received a small treat with impeccable manners. The true spirit of the village shone through. Many passing cyclists and runners stopped to watch the races and compliment the community spirit.

A huge thank you to Alice Munro for her organisation of such a successful event and to her helpers who made the event run smoothly. A special mention to Jackie providing freshly made pancakes, tea and biscuits afterwards in the Birbury. Yum!

*Lewis Cutts*

## Defibrillator in Demand

Jackie Morton has asked me to mention a recent medical incident in Birdingbury which necessitated the fetching of the defibrillator, although it was not actually required to be used.

The incident showed that the process which had been demonstrated to us was followed by the Ambulance operator. After assessing the state of the patient, and the support available, the operator alerted the caller to the fact there was a defibrillator nearby and gave them the access code, so it could be fetched.

*Ian Tipton*  
*Chairman*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Dial-a-Ride Bus Service



WRCC is the leading rural community charity in Warwickshire with a mission to tackle disadvantage in, and provide support to, rural Warwickshire communities. First and foremost, we do this by delivering cost-effective and efficient community-based support, including our Back and 4th transport services.

I would like to draw your attention to our brand new community bus service which is now available to residents of Birdingbury every Thursday.

The service is called Dial-a-Ride and is aimed at those who struggle to access the conventional transport that is on offer. This could be due to being disabled or elderly and unable to walk to their bus stop, or simply not actually have a bus service in their area.

Dial-a-Ride operates a door-to-door service between 10.00 and 14.30, with full wheelchair accessibility, low steps and reasonable assistance with boarding and alighting. Passengers call to book their seat and the vehicle will collect them from their door and provide transport into Rugby town area. If passengers hold a concessionary bus pass, they can use this as payment for their travel, so it is completely free for them to use. Otherwise a return fare within the designated zones is £5.00.

Do get in touch if you would like to know more and/or would like to register for the service. I can be contacted by phone on 01789 842182 or e-mail at [judeh@wrccrural.org.uk](mailto:judeh@wrccrural.org.uk). Alternatively, there is lots of information on our website: [www.wrccrural.org.uk](http://www.wrccrural.org.uk)

*Jude Henderson*  
*Senior Project Manager, WRCC*



## Some Effects of WW1 on Our Village

Finding information about Birdingbury's soldiers in WW1 is relatively easy because of official war documentation, both on and off the battlefields. What happened 'back home' wasn't the top priority for reporters and, therefore, it is more difficult to find information about life of a small village like Birdingbury over 100 years ago.

We do have evidence of recorded events in Birdingbury during the 1910s, through local newspaper reports and church registers of burials, baptisms and marriages. For the record: from 1910 to 1919 six Birdingbury men, aged between 24 and 47 years, died on war service. During this same decade there were nine deaths of village residents, whose ages ranged from 27 to 79 years. For the Wall family, death struck twice in six months: George Wall was killed on war service on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1918 aged 24 and his father, Matthew, died on 9<sup>th</sup> October aged 79. One can only speculate whether George's death in some way contributed to that of his father.

Local newspaper articles reported events held in Birdingbury, most of them with the aim of fundraising for war charities. On the face of it, reading these accounts now might give the impression that life here was full of tea parties at the Hall, concerts at Birdingbury School, local dances and so on. But the reality of life in Birdingbury in wartime was not easy! Villagers probably provided mutual support for each other through friends and neighbours. However, there must have been so many personal, unspoken feelings of loneliness, loss, uncertainty and worry. Those at home would have been concerned about members of their family risking their lives in the war, compounded by the lack of contact with them. They must have worried about their jobs and managing finances, as well as taking on the emotional impact on their family at home. They probably wondered about their own future, and that of their children growing up, as well as the unknown length, health and quality of life of their soldiers – and so much more.

Before 1914, we know that women's traditional role was one of domesticity. However WW1 changed all that. We know that some women from this village worked at Nelson's Cement Works near Stockton and others at the Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital in Southam. Women also worked on local farms too. Bearing in mind that 70% of Birdingbury's male population under 40 had joined up and 11% of the men under 40 died, the emotional impact on those left in Birdingbury must have been huge.

The Leamington Courier reported that, when volunteering to serve in the war became conscription in 1916, Charles Barfoot claimed, and was granted, exemption from military service on the grounds of the hardship that it would cause to his family's smallholding and carrier business.



In a similar case, Frank Cockerill, a stockman and butcher, was granted exemption, but only for two months. There must have been other Birdingbury families in similar situations that had to manage the lack of young, fit people available to work and maintain sufficient income for their households.

How would you have felt if you lived here during this time? What a lot we don't know. There is so much that, sadly, we will we never find out.

*Aileen Withington*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Leicester Tigers v Wasps - March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Once again, the email landed in my inbox, Tigers versus Wasps, only this time it was at Welford Road in Leicester. We had missed the home fixture at the Ricoh as it was so early in the season.

So, instructions were to meet at the Club at 12.40 ready to catch the bus. This we all duly did, some people hoping for a Tigers win, some for a Wasps win and some, like me, not really minding, just hoping for an exciting game with lots of tries.

We arrived in Leicester and, after a drink at the bar, went to find our seats. Being right by the try line, we had an excellent view at one end. The game began, and Wasps were soon ahead. I cannot comment on the finer points or otherwise of the game, or on the standard of the refereeing, being just a girl (!). By half time Wasps were ahead. The row of small boys in front of us, who were very excited, now went on the pitch to have their picture taken with the Leicester mascot and came back even more excited - egged on by some of our group and discouraged by others.



Tigers fought well in the second half and scored, then endured minutes of pressure by Wasps at the far end of the pitch in the closing stages of the match. Tigers defended so well, plus a couple of Wasps tries bring not allowed, they were the eventual winners 19 points to 14.

All that remained was to find the bus and get home. Some people were jubilant, others were disappointed, but we all had a good time.

Thank you, John, for an excellent trip. I know you were happy with the result. Till next year!

*Barbara Sweet.*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

# Strictly Comes to Birdingbury



Both the young and old of Birdingbury came together to participate in the inaugural 'Strictly Does Birdingbury' evening. With as much bling and glitter as we could get our hands on, including numerous borrowed glitter balls and homemade scoring paddles, preparations began. The judges were appointed and appropriately spray tanned, the dance teacher was booked, the music was arranged, so all that was needed were some participants. And boy, did we get some participants!

The evening started with our own Tess Daley (Johanne Young) and Claudia Winkelman (Steve Edgar) setting the scene for the night. The first part of the evening was a group dance lesson where Malcolm, our experienced and, more importantly, patient dance teacher taught us a Waltz and then a Jive. Once the lesson and practice were over and sufficient refreshments had been taken on board at the bar, it was time for the show!



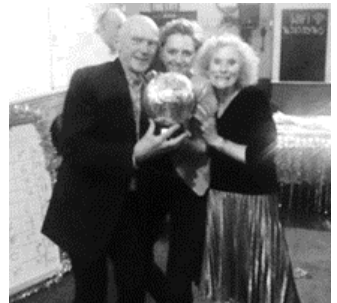
The children judges, Erin, Frankie, Sophie and Freddie, took to their seats, together with the adult judges, and the competition sprang into action.

In true Strictly fashion, the dances were completed with various levels of expertise but all full of Birdingbury gusto. Each and every dance was loudly cheered on by the

gathering crowd and then fairly judged by all the judges, children and adults alike all done in fantastically good humour.

Everybody stepped up their game in full competition mode, with some even remembering their dance steps from the earlier part of the evening. John Starley put his tails and game face on with the late arrival of Lezlia Aleksandrovna Fleminski, who claimed to be the Russian Latin champion, but I had my doubts.

After the presentation of the glitter ball trophy, the participants and the watching crowd all joined the dance-floor to dance the night away. For the record, visitors Victoria and Geoff ran out winners of the trophy, but the result seemed immaterial as such a good night was had by all.





A special thank you should go out to Jo and Steve for doing such a great job in organising the event and giving the night so much thought and preparation. There were so many other people who happily gave up their time to make it such a success: that is what makes me proud to live in Birdingbury village.

Roll on Strictly Does Birdingbury 2020!

*Darren Young*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Strictly Thank You

It seems a long time ago now, but what a great night we had back in February, training and competing for the Strictly Glitter Ball 2019.



I would like to thank my fellow organisers for the effort they put in making this such a success, namely Jo (Tess), Darren and Venice. Thanks also to also David Walker for the loan of his lights and, of course, Mark and Karen for the superb hospitality; to the judges, Gary, Mark, Vicky and Lesley and our junior judges, Frankie, Erin, Sophie and head judge Freddie. Finally, thanks to all those who took part and, of course, Malcolm our dance tutor.

Congratulations to Geoff and Veronica who deservedly took away the glitterball to the New Forest. We hope they will bring it back next year to defend their title.

*Steve(Claudia) Edgar*

## Strictly Stop Press

Due to the success of Strictly Birdingbury, another dance tuition session with Malcolm, similar to the Strictly training but without the competition, has been organised. This will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May from 19.00. Please contact Steve if you are interested, so that numbers can be judged.

And don't forget, keeeeeeeep dancing!

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Strictly Disco

Thanks to all the dancers at the 60s and 70s disco on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. I really enjoyed being the DJ and, thankfully, my old computer made it through to the end! Worth doing again later in the year, I think! Watch this space.....

*Steve Edgar*



## Ladies Circle

Our circle of friends has enjoyed two very different evenings recently; a professional musical performance and a glimpse of life in the wild.

A talented trio entertained us with a recital that ranged from Schuman (Clara, of course) to "What a Wonderful World" via Delius, Bizet and others. The players had also arranged some of the pieces themselves: we have a lot of hidden talent in our village. On a cold February night, it was lovely to have the chance to experience a performance by such an enthusiastic group of musicians. They did not charge for their playing, so we had a retiring collection for a local charity.

If February was about sound, March was about sight and Josie transported us to the wilds of Africa with her recollections of safari adventures enjoyed by her and John over the years. She gave us some amusing and frightening tales of their exploits, with a selection of superb photographs. To conclude her talk she also took us to the Galapagos and the Arctic; a well-travelled lady.

On Tuesday April 9th, we will be listening to a presentation by Peter Sherley from Tools With A Mission, TWAM. He represents a charity that repairs/reconditions various types of tools to send abroad where they are given a new lease of life. Maybe time for a sort out in the tool shed? Everyone is welcome to come along to the Birbury at 7.30pm for refreshments, the talk will start at 7.45. It is free for members and £3 for non-members.

Our meeting on May 14th will be focused on crafts. Members and friends are invited to bring along any craft project they are working on or have completed. We will take it in turns to tell each other about our hobby and, if appropriate, demonstrate how to do it. You do not have to talk, or bring along anything, if you would prefer not to, or if it's too big to fit in the Birbury - no reupholstered three-piece suites please! The aim of the evening is to share our skills and enjoy each other's company. All are welcome at the times and place as above.

*Jenny Hawes*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Annual Birdingbury Egg Roll

Come to the recreation field on Saturday 20th April at 10.30 for our annual Easter Egg Treasure Hunt and Egg Roll competition. This will be followed by the Best Decorated Egg competition at the Birbury, along with refreshments and the prize giving.



You will need one hard-boiled egg to roll and a decorated one for the judging.

Bring your friends to 'egg' you on!

*Jo Young*

# Bereavement Point

We appreciate the loss of a loved one is a very difficult time. Bereavement Point offers hospitality and a listening ear to anyone who is affected by the death of a loved one and is coping with bereavement.

**We are here to listen.**

**We are here for you at Moriarty's Café**

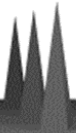
**28 Regent Street, Rugby, CV21 2PS**

**Meeting every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 2.00pm-3.30pm**

Our drop-in service offers a café in which there is a confidential safe space for our trained volunteers to listen to the thoughts, feelings, experiences and needs of bereaved people.

We offer the opportunity for group discussions, as appropriate, where bereaved people can share their experiences with others who are experiencing the same. We offer appropriate guidance, support and signposting.

**For more information contact our team on 02476 965833 or 07342 086276**



University Hospitals **NHS**  
Coventry and Warwickshire  
NHS Trust

## Like to help?

Volunteers are wanted to help and support this new monthly service being established in Rugby from 2nd April 2019. Training will be provided, and volunteers will require an enhanced DBS check.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sharon Crofts, Chaplain and Community Project Worker, UHCW, on 07432 086276 or email: [sharon.crofts@uhcw.nhs.uk](mailto:sharon.crofts@uhcw.nhs.uk)

*Karen Armbrister*

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Progress

Birdingbury knows  
those bare brown branches of March  
sprout in sunny spring.

*Thin Jethro Laskey*



# Global Care and Shack Schools



You may remember that thanks to a lot of generosity and hard work on behalf of the organisers, a year ago we held a Promises for Auction evening. Amazingly we raised almost £4000.

Now our 3-year benefice commitment to the project is in its final year, with Stretton busy raising at least £1500.

Where do we go from here? I think it's been a mutually beneficial commitment and, if possible, it would be good to continue our partnership. There are several possible ways forward:

We have been invited to join a small team going to the Bekaa Valley this Autumn. I, for one, am keen to go. If it works out, there could be room for about five of us from across the villages. Are you interested? If you want to know more I am happy to have a chat.

The 'Shack Schools' project is winding down and will finish in June 2020, hopefully with local people being able to continue to provide education for the future. Global Care are keen to commit to a new project with The Red Crescent (The Islamic name for The Red Cross), identifying and working with about 100 of the most traumatised and damaged families.

Global Care have a link with a Christian family in a bombed-out Damascus suburb who have somehow stayed and survived. They are keen to work with Global Care providing Homework Clubs, a learning model that Global Care have used elsewhere.

After eight years of immense suffering, the civil war is probably coming to an end and Global Care may be able to provide new kinds of help.

Should we continue to support them and their partners and, if so, what should the emphasis be? Please let me know your thoughts about our future involvement. I can be contacted at [dick@special-time.co.uk](mailto:dick@special-time.co.uk)

*Dick Withington*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Altar Guild AGM and Supper

This year it will be held on Thursday 16th May at 7pm in the Club.

Eira, Liz and Jasmine look forward to welcoming all the members to this annual event where, after a brief meeting, all the work they do in support of our lovely church is rewarded by a delicious supper.

Put the date in your diaries, girls!

*Liz Ellis*

## Club Calendar

Date	Event	Time
Saturday 6th April	Spice Truck	from 6pm
Saturday 27th April	Quiz with hot supper available	8.30pm
Saturday 4th May	Dance Tuition	from 7pm
Saturday 18th May	Music with Steve Edgar & Guests	from 8pm
Saturday 20th July	Tractor run and Craft Beer Event	all day

### Opening times:

Monday to Thursday 8pm to 11pm

Friday 7pm to 11pm (7pm to 8pm happy hour)

Saturday open all day

Sunday 12 noon to 5pm

See you there!

*Karen Thomas*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Attention Allotment Holders

The Annual General Meeting of Birdingbury Allotment Association will take place on Wednesday April 3rd, 2019 at 8pm at Birdingbury Club. Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

Rents for the plots are payable on or before April 3rd. There is an allotment now available: size is approx 300<sup>2</sup> yards and the rent is £7.50 per year, and small one-off cost for water. Contact me on 01926 632666 if you are interested.

*Vic Shayler*



RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Music in May



Come and join Steve Edgar and guests for tunes from talent around the village.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, eight 'till late at the Club.

## Eco Church



Eco Church is a Christian charity trying to raise awareness about the worrying state of God's creation, by encouraging churches to act and reflect on a wide range of environmental issues.

St Leonard's is one of nine churches in the Rugby area who have signed up to Eco Church. On March 5th, I helped organise an evening about this and care for wider environmental issues at St Andrew's.

If you as an individual would like to find what Eco Church is about you can access an on-line survey at [ecochurch.arocha.org.uk](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)

Meantime, it is proving difficult to develop the ideas in villages with just a handful of enthusiasts. With this in mind, some of us from Rugby rural churches are planning to meet up at St Andrew's, where they have a large committed team who are open to the idea of supporting environmental concerns like ours.

Our planet is clearly in big trouble, and Eco Church may be one good way of beginning to address the problems.

*Dick Withington*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Coffee and Chat

We will be meeting to share a cuppa, something tasty to eat and a pleasant chat on Thursday 26th April and 31st May. Please join us in the Birbury at 10.30 for a relaxing hour with friends - everyone welcome.



*Your friends from St. Leonard's*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Napton Art Group Easter Exhibition

Don't forget Napton Art Group are holding their Easter Exhibition on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st April at Napton Village Hall (CV47 8LS) from 10 am until 5 pm. On display and for sale will be paintings, cards and craft exhibits.

*Howard Collerson*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Swop Shop

There will be no Swop Shop on Saturday 30th March. This is a cancellation for one week only, normal service, with the Litter Pick as well, on the 6th April

*Jenny Hawes*

# REMEMBER STRICTLY?

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO  
LEARN MORE?**

**WELL YOU CAN !  
BIRDINGBURY CLUB  
4<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM 19.00  
WITH MALCOLM**



**PLEASE CONTACT STEVE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE:**

**07964870069 OR 01926 719039**

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## Happy Wedding Day in Australia



Kristel Stubbs and Sean Henry were married at Zonzo's Vinyard in the Yarra Valley, Melbourne, Victoria, on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Many of you will remember Kristel Stubbs, who grew up at Kilncroft on Marton Road. She went to school at Stretton and Bilton High in Rugby, then on to university. Sean lived in Frankton before moving to Kent to start his own business.

They are now making their home in Melbourne, where Kristel is a physiotherapist and Sean runs his

own business.

We wish them both good luck and much happiness.

*Daphne Chippendale*

RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG



**St. George's Day Lunch**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April from 12noon**

**at The Birbury**

**Bread, Cheese & Pickles**

**Homemade Puddings**

**£2.50 donation**

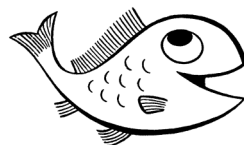
RDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

## **Fish and Chips**

Don't forget that Bob will be visiting the village on the last Thursday of every month with his Fish & Chips Van.

Possibly the best Fish & Chips for miles !

*Lewis Cutts*





# The Birbury

The Birbury is our community meeting room. Built in 1986/7 and officially opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1987, it is separate from, but attached to the Club. It was funded by contributions from many people in the village and beyond and the building work was carried out by local labour, much of it voluntarily.



The Birbury is run as a charitable trust by a Management Committee made up of three people elected at the Annual General Meeting, plus representatives from user-groups such as the Church, the Club, the Parish Council, the Ladies' Circle and Swap-Shop.

The Secretary is Jackie Westcott and the Treasurer is Alice Munro. This year's Birbury AGM is on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.45pm and everyone is most welcome.

The cost to hire The Birbury is £5 per session (morning, afternoon or evening) or £10 for the whole day. This income doesn't cover its running costs but is supplemented by fund-raising events organised by the Committee. The Birbury Committee also organise non-profit making community events throughout the year.

Thank you to Alice for organising this year's Pancake Race and to all the Committee involved in making it such a success.

We hope you will be able to join us for The St George's Lunch on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon.

## **The Village Distribution Fund.**

The Birbury Committee also maintain The Village Distribution Fund. The Fund was set up to "enhance and sustain the community life of Birdingbury and its inhabitants". It "makes grants to groups of people to fund specific assets or one-off activities that support the Fund's goals up to a maximum of £1000 per application (paid against invoices)".

The Fund was fed by a share of profits from Birdingbury Country Festival and donations from The Country Show. The current balance in the Village Distribution Fund is £4137.41. Recent grants have included the cost of the village Christmas tree and support for the pantomime trip organised by the Club.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the Distribution Fund and thinking of putting in a request for funding should get in touch with the Treasurer, Alice Munro, on 632057.

*Gaynor Davy*  
*Chair, Birbury Committee*

# **The Bob Munro Tractor Run**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

Following last year's success, we will be holding a tractor run from Birdingbury Club around local villages to remember the Birdingbury Show.

We will be raising funds for Bloodwise, which supports blood cancer research.

**All welcome!**

10.00 Meet at Birdingbury Club

- Tractor unloading from approx 9.00 am on Birdingbury Estate, Munro's farm
- Camping available Friday and Saturday (please contact John below for details)

10.30 Tea and coffee courtesy of the Birbury

11.00 Set off on the Run (route to be decided)

15.00 Barbecue at Birdingbury Club, open to all for a small charge

19.30 Open Mic session at Birdingbury Club

Extra guest ales and cider will be available all weekend  
£10 entry fee per tractor.

All tractor drivers to receive complimentary tea coffee and barbecue.

So that we can estimate numbers for logistics, food etc, please register an interest by contacting one of us.

Please also get in touch if you would like to help in some way, we will be very grateful for your assistance!

*Steve Edgar 01926 719039 [stevegedgar@sky.com](mailto:stevegedgar@sky.com)*

*John Edgar 07888 699355*

*David Walker 07841 905473*



## A Message from Europe

It's been  
Such a marvellous smash up.  
You really must  
Brexit again.  
Pierre has gone grey  
With excitement  
And Hans can't  
Remember his name.

There's been screaming  
And break ups,  
Fist fights  
And shake ups;  
Leavers, remainers  
And even abstainers  
Have left teeth and specs  
On the floor.  
The Speaker has roared  
And just been ignored.  
We couldn't  
Have loved it more.  
The money you lent us  
And the laughter  
You sent us.  
Oh pray do not leave us.  
Who else could so please us?  
The British we clearly adore.

Oh but if you could manage  
Some similar damage,  
We dearly would love  
An Encore.



*Pilgrim (with thanks to Noel Coward)*

# Birdingbury Calendar

Date		Event	Time	Venue
April	3	Closing date for PC nominations via Jackie Chapman		
	5	Mobile Library	11.40	Club
	6	Spice Truck	from 18.00	Club
	9	Ladies Circle	19.30	Birbury
	20	Easter Egg Roll	10.30	Field
	27	Quiz with hot supper available	20.30	Club
	25	Fish and Chips	20.00	Club
	26	Coffee and Chat	10.30	Birbury
		Mobile Library	11.40	Club
	27	Quiz with hot supper available	20.30	Club
	28	St George's Lunch	12.00	Birbury
	30	Village Meeting	19.30	Birbury
May	3	Allotment AHM	20.00	Club
	4	Dance Tuition	from 7pm	Club
	14	Ladies Circle	19.30	Birbury
	16	Alter Guild AGM	19.00	Club
	17	Mobile Library	11.40	Club
	18	Music with Steve Edgar & Guests	from 8pm	Club
	23	Birbury AGM	19.45	Birbury
	30	Fish and Chips	20.00	Club
	31	Coffee and Chat	10.30	Birbury



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