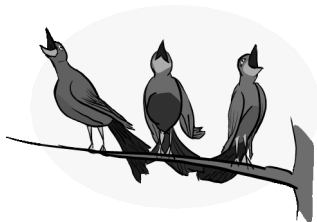


BIRDSONG

**February 2020
and
March 2020**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS**

No 96



Lunch at Last!

Photo: Paula Whitfield

Birdingbury Parish Council Report

The Parish Council doesn't tend to meet in December so there tends to be a full in-tray come the January meeting and that was certainly the case this year.

There are various expenses that need to be paid. We agreed in November not to change the parish precept for the next financial year so will be managing funds within this year's budget level.

There continues to be a steady trickle of planning applications, all of which need to be assessed in the context of the new Local Plan for Rugby. This restricts the possibility of development outside the settlement boundary (an invisible line that broadly follows the 'built up area' of the main village area). The Council's role is to ensure that the decision makers in Rugby are aware of the local context of any proposal.

Even though the grass isn't currently growing, we've been discussing mowing. The cutting of the verges and Recreation Field is one of the main expenses in the Council budget. Looking at the mowing map we noted that some residents cut their own verge even though the Parish contract covers the area. We can't really change the contract based on whether residents choose to mow or not, so we'll discuss this with the contractor.

Speaking of the Recreation Field, last year's audit highlighted that it is showing its age in places. We're continuing to monitor the issues, but if you notice anything worrying please do let us know.



Finally, we've agreed the date of the **Annual Litter Pick** (the official start of Spring!) to clear the rubbish which has accumulated on the verges around the village. Hi-Viz jackets and litter picks will be supplied, and a warming cuppa will be available in the Birbury at the end, so if you care about your environment, come out and join us on

Saturday 28 March at 10.30 outside the Birbury

It will be great to see you there!

Guy French, Chair, Parish Council

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Vision

Birdingbury knows

2020 is so rare

Nothing as it seems

Thin Jethro Laskey



LH Academy Update



We've had a busy few months at Leamington Hastings Academy. The children performed fantastically in their Christmas Nativity play, it was great to see members of the community supporting the children by coming to watch. After all their hard work in putting the play together the children all went to watch 'Puss in Boots' at the Belgrade theatre, it was great fun!

In January we started the term in Key Stage One by investigating blocks of ice in our 'Pole to Pole' topic and by discovering a dinosaur in the outdoor area in the Early Years unit. These events have led to lots of fantastic learning.

We are inching closer and closer to our fundraising target for the playground project and are very grateful for all the support we have received from the local families and community. The wreath making evening was very well attended and we are grateful to those of you attending the upcoming 'Snowball'. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Suzanne Marson, Head of School

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Comings and Goings

A warm Birdingbury welcome to the Kent family: Simon, Nicola, and their two children Edward (9) and William (7) who have moved into The Coach House, John and Ann Carroll's old home. We all hope you will be very happy here.



By the way, here is the photo of Ann and John on their wedding day at St. Leonards in April 1965, which was stolen from the last edition by cyber-goblins.

Lizzie and John Marshall have now sold their bungalow on Stockton Road. Work on their barn conversion is due to commence in January and meantime, they are travelling around in their touring caravan. Along with the rest of the village, they would like to welcome the new residents of Greenacres, Ian and Kerry Macpherson, and to wish them both all the very best in their new home.

Dick Withington

History Group News, Reviews and Leads

Civil War Loss Accounts for Leamington Hastings and Grandborough

Well done to Barbara Sweet and Rhondra Barney, the star turns at Ladies Circle when they gave a talk about the results of their research into the Civil War Loss Accounts as part of a Warwickshire survey.

Online queries and requests

New contacts and requests for information are available via the History drop-down section on birdingbury.org.uk website. Our most recent request related to a former tenant of Birdingbury Hall in the early 1900s.



As it happens, Chris Barney is in the process of writing about the various tenants, not of Wildfell Hall but Birdingbury Hall. Watch this space in a future edition!

Birdingbury POW Camp

We are still gathering information to add to our knowledge of Birdingbury POW Camp 97. I was recently alerted to two people in Frankton who have memories of Camp 97. Fingers crossed that these contacts can add to our knowledge about our local POW camp!

Enid Vayro, who sadly died some months ago, was one of the first inhabitants of the post-war housing developed from the former camp buildings. I am often reminded of a quote 'When a person dies, a whole library goes up in flames' (an old Ethiopian proverb). Members of our group tried gently to get her to talk about her reminiscences of life in the former camp with her husband, Dick and her mother. Unfortunately for us, and you, the time was never right. She certainly knew more about this phase in the history of Birdingbury Camp than we have been able to glean. C'est la vie!

Marton History Group

Marton History Group is paying a visit to St. Leonard's Church on Monday 30th March to hear about the history of our village church and churchyard. Hopefully we can arrange a return visit to St. Esprit's in Marton. Out of interest, when Dick and I first came to Birdingbury, St. Leonard's shared a priest with St. Esprit, Marton.

Birdingbury Village History Archive



One of the first tasks that we undertook when our group was formed 10 years ago, was to gather as much information, copies of documents and photographs etc. from villagers to create our own village archive. Please feel free to ask to one of us to help you look up something of village interest.

If you come across any snippets of historical information about Birdingbury or its former residents, dig up anything interesting in your gardens or find old documents (or bank notes) hidden under your floorboards, then please photograph the said object and let us have a copy to add to our archive.

You can contact us on birdingburyhistory@hotmail.co.uk.

Happy New Year!

Aileen Withington on behalf of Richard and Liz Davies, Barbara Sweet, Chris and Rhondda Barney, Liz Tompkins and Leslie Turner

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Marton Coffee Morning Update

This is a further update regarding the fundraising coffee morning which was held in Marton village hall on Saturday 5 October 2019.



We were raising money for Cancer Research UK and at time of our last update the total raised was £600. However, the money continued to flood in and with additional donations and the ongoing sale of home-made jams and chutneys by Val, the final total donated to Cancer Research UK was £1040.

We have been overwhelmed by this amazing effort on the part of everyone involved.

So many people have been affected by cancer, whether through family, friends, neighbours, colleagues or even personally. Thank you again for all your support, we could not do this without your help, and we hope for your continued support in future events.

Thanks again.

Mary Harrison & Helen Keeves

New Year, Good Health, Complementary Therapies

What is that thing Mel Palmer does? It's called The Bowen Technique.

I am Mel Palmer and I live in the village. I am a Bowen Practitioner and I am often asked what it is I do, so here is a little about the Bowen Technique and how I came to be a practitioner.

How Bowen helped me

In 2002 I had a serious lower back problem which resulted in 9 months off work and culminated in me having back surgery, from which there were complications. I met an old school friend, a nurse, who was training in this thing called Bowen. She asked if I would like to see if it would help me. Well it did, by enabling my left leg to recover from nerve damage and my back to become more flexible again. I got well enough to get fitter and stronger and to get back to a more normal life. I was so impressed I changed career from banking to complementary therapist and I began training in the Bowen Technique. That was 14 years ago, and I have not looked back.



What is Bowen?



Bowen Therapy is a drug-free, non-invasive, gentle, hands-on remedial therapy that involves me using my fingers or thumbs to move on muscles, ligaments, tendons and fascia in various parts of the body, often administered through light clothing.

Bowen is still a relatively new therapy which, having started in Australia, has only been in Europe since approximately 1992. Bowen Therapy can be used on adults and children of all ages. My youngest has been a new born baby and my eldest to date is 92! Bowen can help with a variety of symptoms, such as back, shoulder and muscular issues, and respiratory difficulties, such as hay fever or asthma.

This therapy can also be effective to help relieve everyday stresses and revitalise the whole person. It is about treating the body as a whole and giving it time to get from the sympathetic state (fight and flight) to the parasympathetic state (relaxation and restoration).

Want to know more?

There is more information and testimonials on the website for The Bowen Therapy Professional Association (BTPA).

If you would like to know more, try a Bowen treatment for yourself or maybe even train in the therapy, I would be very happy to have a chat. My phone number is 01926 634321, my email is mel.palmer@mail.com or just catch me around the village.

NEXT TIME: The Emmett Technique, also from Australia.

Mel Palmer

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Ladies Circle

We had a very pleasant Christmas meal at The Friendly in December, and a thought-provoking meeting led by Rhondda and Barbara to start the New Year.

We discovered various aspects of life in Warwickshire during the Civil War, tried to read historical documents, listened as they explained how their voyage of discovery started, answered a quiz, and learned that Charles I passed through Birdingbury on his way to raise his standard at Nottingham.

The meeting was well attended and very enjoyable; thanks again to our knowledgeable hosts.

The next two meetings have a horticultural theme. On Tuesday February 11th, another villager, Julia Wright, will be giving an illustrated talk on Ryton Organic Gardens: Past, Present and Future. She has been involved with the Gardens for seventeen years and it promises to be an interesting talk about a local asset.

Then on Tuesday March 10th, we will be having an Evening of Swops where we exchange plants/cuttings and garden knowledge. You do not have to bring anything with you if there's nothing in the greenhouse! However, several members have promised us some healthy plants...



Both meetings will start at 7.45 in The Birbury; everyone is welcome; £3 for non-members, refreshments will be served.

Jenny Hawes

Barbara Moore

Jan 1931 – Jan 2020

'A spirited and good-hearted lady' 'Never without a grin' 'Could always be relied on to be honest' 'Didn't suffer fools gladly' 'Younger than her years' 'Always fiercely independent' 'A good friend'



These were just some of the warm memories Barbara's friends shared at our Swap Shop meeting on Saturday. People recalled her energy and enthusiasm over the years we had known her: her golf; membership of the Parish Council; the caravan trips she and Derek made all over Europe researching venues for her travel agency business; her love of cars; but, overwhelmingly, her spirit in the face of challenge, pain and sorrow.

The Moores came to Pump Cottage in Main Street after the tragic death of their son, Simon. They both threw themselves into their new community with characteristic energy. Barbara's rheumatoid arthritis meant that she was constantly in pain, but even after Derek's sudden death, she continued to involve herself in the life of the village. With Rhondda Barney she took on the launch of 'Birdsong', using her IT skills to get that unique venture up and running. Right up to her recent long stays in hospital, she was a regular Swap Shopper, always enlivening the proceedings.

Our oldest resident, Bill Cowley, recalled his memory of Barbara on the eve of his departure to war. Living at the pub in Marton, she and her sister Jean went round to say farewell to Bill and gave him a big hug – a typical response from a young girl who grew up into the feisty, spirited lady we shall miss enormously.

Diana Turner and friends of Barbara

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Jean Sharratt late of Birdingbury

Our thoughts are with Ben and Isobel Sharratt on the sad passing of their mother, who recently died at her home in Coventry.

Jean was a long standing resident of Back Lane and for many years was a cheerful face behind the counter in the erstwhile Village Shop.

Karen Armbrister





Snowdrop Walk

Leamington Hastings

15th & 16th
February 2020
11am - 4pm

Ticket price £10 per car

Price includes one drink per passenger

Homemade soup, cakes, biscuits
& hot drinks available

Events in the Church include;
Photographic exhibition, craft stalls &
an art exhibition by pupils of LH school

Parking available in the village

CV23 8EB

Proceeds go towards the preservation
of All Saints Church, Leamington Hastings



friendsofallsaintslh@gmail.com

Coffee and Chat

If you can brave the weather, you will have a warm welcome in The Birbury at 10.30 on Thursday 27th February and Thursday 26th March.

Our Coffee and Chat meetings continue with hot drinks, tasty refreshments and the chance to meet with fellow villagers, old and new for a relaxing hour or so of good company.



Hope to see you there.....

Yours friends at St. Leonards

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Napton Art Group Easter Exhibition 2020



Napton Art Group are holding their ever-popular Easter Exhibition on Saturday 11th April and Sunday 12th April at Napton Village Hall (CV47 8LS) from 10 am until 5 pm.

On display and for sale will be over 150 paintings, cards and craft exhibits. There will also be our usual range of delicious refreshments, a raffle and tombola.

The entry charge is £1 for adults and there is no charge for children.

Howard Collerson

IRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Progressive Supper - Saturday 28 March 2020

Here's a reminder that we are arranging another Progressive Supper for Saturday 28 March 2020. This year we are going to raise money for Mental Health Together, a small and new charity based in Leamington who work to bring people together to improve mental health and reduce isolation.

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

To get your name on the list, contact either of us:

Simon Whitfield (01926 634761 (simon_whitfield@hotmail.com))

Alex Rigler (01926 632709 (alexrigler@aol.com)).

Don't forget to tell us if you have dietary requirements so we can let your hosts know.

Simon Whitfield and Alex Rigler

Club Calendar

Date		Event	Time
February	Saturday 1	Guinness 6 Nations Rugby starts - all matches shown on TV	as scheduled
		Quiz with hot supper available	8.30pm
	Friday 7	Pizza Oven	from 5.30pm
	Saturday 8	Strictly Birdingbury	from 6.00pm
	Saturday 15	World Challenge Quiz	7.30pm
	Friday 21	Build a Burger	from 5.30pm
	Sunday 23	Charity Cake Sale	10.30 – 12.30
	Thursday 27	Fish & Chip Van	from 7.30pm
	Saturday 29	Jo Young Trio Music Evening	from 8.30pm
March	Friday 6	Pizza Oven	from 5.30pm
	Saturday 7	Quiz with hot supper available	8.30pm
	Saturday 14	Irish Music Jam Night, celebrating St Patrick's Day	from 8.30pm
	Friday 20	Build a Burger	from 5.30pm
	Thursday 26	Fish & Chip Van	from 7.30pm
	Saturday 28	Progressive Supper Evening	as advised

A great night was had by all those who attended the Club Beach Party for New Year's Eve. A bevy of Hula Lads & Lasses sporting festive grass skirts and Hawaiian shirts rolled up to enjoy the revels, and some knees were exposed that are now forbidden to re-appear until summer! Some great music, supplied by Steve, was complimented by fabulous lighting, courtesy of Baby David. Thanks everyone - roll on the next one!



Club Membership 2020 now due — only £12!

Strictly Birdingbury 2020

Last year the Strictly glitterball was deservedly won by Veronica and Geoff from the New Forest. Oh yes, the Birdingbury influence spreads far and wide across this green and pleasant land.

This year's extravaganza is taking place on February 8 in the Club, with hopefully many of the same expert judges and presenters. Tess and Claudia have been booked, so now all we need is dancers to try and win the glitterball back for Birdingbury! We are hoping that Veronica and Geoff will reappear to defend their title, so please join us for a fun evening of waltz and tango. The fun starts at 6pm for practice and the competition will be from 8.30pm

Keeeeeep dancing!



SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY THIS YEAR'S DANCES ARE WALTZ OR TANGO

**Come along at 6pm to learn /
practice a few steps and maybe
even join in with the Strictly
competition later in the evening
at around 8.30pm**

Any questions, please contact

Jo / Tess or Steve / Claudia

stevegedgar@sky.com 01926 719039

johanne.young@opteva.co.uk 07950795235

Ash's Challenge

I'm Ash Adewale and this summer I will be spending a month in Ecuador doing high-altitude trekking and local volunteering. Along with friends from school I will be travelling with World Challenge, an organisation that grants overseas travel opportunities to students. To help fund-raise I am holding a quiz and supper evening at Birdingbury Club. Why not come along and bring your family and friends for a fun evening?

WORLD CHALLENGE
QUIZ

World Challenge

licensed bar

raffle

meal included **£8**

SATURDAY
15th FEBRUARY

7:30pm

Birdingbury
Village Club
CV23 8EL

ashadewale2@gmail.com



Charity Cake Sale
Sunday 23rd February
10:30-12:30
Club Lounge



In aid of the animal casualties of the Australian Bushfires
Join us for tea, coffee and cake or buy a cake to take away

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

BIRDINGBURY CLUB MUSIC EVENTS

Saturday 29 February

First full concert 'The Jo Young Trio'



Saturday 14 March



Irish singalong and more in the bar

The New Wind

‘The new wind

Is fresh and challenging.’

Say the Young Leaders.

‘It is a wind for the future.’

‘This is a cold wind.’

Say the old followers.

‘We will drink raisin wine

And laugh at these strange clouds.’

‘This wind will make many heroes.’

Proclaim the Young Leaders.

‘Do not worry,’ they tell

The old followers.

‘This is a good wind

And we will take care of you.’

Pilgrim



Birdingbury Calendar

Date		Event	Time	Venue
February	Saturday 1	Guinness 6 Nations Rugby starts: all matches on TV	as scheduled	Club
		Quiz with hot supper available	8.30pm	Club
	Friday 7	Pizza Oven	from 5.30pm	Club
	Saturday 8	Strictly Birdingbury	from 8.00pm	Club
	Tuesday 11	Ladies Circle	7.45pm	Birbury
	Saturday 15	Tigers / Wasps rugby trip	tbc	Club
		World Challenge Quiz	7.30pm	Club
	Sunday 16	Snowdrop Walk	11.00am	LH
	Tuesday 18	PC Meeting	7.30pm	Birbury
	Friday 21	Mobile Library	11.40am	Club
		Build a Burger	from 5.30pm	Club
	Sunday 23	Charity Cake Sale	10.30am - 12.30pm	Club
	Thursday 27	Coffee and Chat	10.30am	Birbury
		Fish & Chip Van	from 7.30pm	Club
	Saturday 29	Jo Young Trio Music Evening	from 8.30pm	Club
March	Friday 6	Pizza Oven	from 5.30pm	Club
	Saturday 7	Quiz with hot supper available	8.30pm	Club
	Tuesday 10	Ladies Circle	7.45pm	Birbury
	Friday 13	Mobile Library	11.40am	Club
	Saturday 14	Irish Music Jam Night,	from 8.30pm	Club
	Tuesday 17	PC Meeting	7.30pm	Birbury
	Friday 20	Build a Burger	from 5.30pm	Club
	Thursday 26	Coffee and Chat	10.30am	Birbury
		Fish & Chip Van	from 7.30pm	Club
	Saturday 28	Litter Pick	10.30am	Birbury
		Progressive Supper Evening	as advised	Club



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