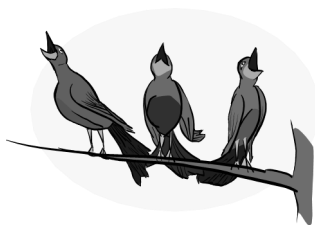


BIRDSONG

**December 2021
and
January 2022**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS
NO 107**



Double 'A' Stars

Photo original Heather McCurdie

Birdingbury Parish Council Report

The final Birdsong of the year and an excuse to look back: this time last year I wrote about listening to Bill read the names of the fallen and the Kohima Epitaph on Remembrance Sunday – he was remembered fondly at this year's service in church and, I'm sure, by the 70 or so who attended the ceremony at the War Memorial.

I also wrote in that edition about the approach that we had received from Landstrom about potential development of the Glebe Field. There have been no changes or contacts recently so the Parochial Church Council and Parish Council letters to the Diocese (the landowners) seem to have paid off. We will continue to monitor. The 5G mast proposal, by contrast, came and went very quickly as the formal application was refused by Rugby Borough Council. I like to believe this was also down to strong co-operation between the PC and villagers as the planners' reasons for refusal echoed points made by us and by several villagers who responded direct to RBC.

There has also been progress on two other fronts, with some running repairs on the Leam bridge by the track meaning that the bollards have been removed, and Highways have installed the safety barrier for the new pedestrian entrance into the Recreation Field. We are getting quotes for a pushchair and wheelchair accessible kissing gate, and we hope to have it installed before birds nest in the hedge! We are liaising with the PCC who own that part of the field.

There has still been no response from RBC regarding the lawful use application and the noise concerns relating to two business park units. We have escalated the delay to the Council's Chief Executive and our District Councillor, Emma Crane, is taking this up with the new Head of Planning. And in the last of the updates, a glimmer of movement from Openreach about fibre broadband, but we shall have to wait until the New Year to hear more, we think.

We discussed the Queen's Green Canopy for the Jubilee next year (see separate item) and have agreed to purchase two replacement trees for Main Street which will be our first 'Canopy' contribution in the New Year. We also discussed concerns about speeding cars and I'm grateful to Dick for attending November's meeting to share his experience. As a result, we are seeking a formal speed survey which will help us to create a case for signage or enforcement activity.

And from speeding to speedos ... Chris Morton has decided to stand down from the PC after what must be about 20 years on duty. Over the years he has brought his valuable property knowledge to the table, was always the first to volunteer to get his hands dirty, and has rarely sat on the fence on any topic (even when he should have!). The phrase 'one of a kind' was made for Cllr Morton. Thank you from me and from your fellow Councillors, Chris – we wish you and Jackie well with your move to the South-West.

On behalf of the Parish Council may I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and relaxing start to 2022.

Guy French, Chair Birdingbury Parish Council

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Parish Council Vacancy

As you may have seen in the Chair's report, Chris Morton has stood down as Councillor as he and Jackie are soon to leave the village. As a result, we have a vacancy on the Council to bring our complement back up to five. Notices will be placed on the Parish notice board (on the back of the bus shelter) and on the village website, birdingbury.org explaining the process.

It seems like an appropriate time to talk about what the Parish Council does as 'the first tier' of our democratic structure. It is fair to say that a Parish Council doesn't wield a huge amount of 'power', but it does have purpose. We provide a connection to District and County Councils and provide them with a local view on matters that impact our community. We also have responsibility for a range of community services and assets.

Just in the last year we have dealt with issues such as the Glebe Field development and 5G mast proposal, held Zoom surgeries on several topics and provided various updates to the village by leaflet, WhatsApp and Facebook. And all for the price of 60-90 minutes, third Monday, ten months a year. It's the new Rock 'n' Roll, they say ...

If you think you might be interested please don't hesitate to contact me (07538 583498 or guyfrenchpc@gmail.com) or our clerk, Jackie (details on the notice-board), for more details.

Thank you

Guy French, Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council

Daphne Chippendale

Daphne spent her days around the village, gently ministering to those whom she loved, and being a really, good friend to many. Having lost the love of her life, dear Wilf, some 10 years ago, she readily became a good companion and neighbour to many others.

Always willing to volunteer, she was such good support to the church community, and it feels so very strange being in church without her there. Additionally, she held the position of Treasurer for over 20 years, and kept our finances in good order throughout, always knowledgeable about the state of our business and paying our bills on time!



Her gentle, loving presence will be very missed in the village.

It was Daphne's wish not to have a funeral. Whilst we have found this hard, we have been determined to honour her decision. But the PCC would like to host a thanksgiving service, for us to thank God for all that she was, and is to us, and this will take place on **FRIDAY 3rd DECEMBER, at 2.30pm in St Leonard's**. We hope you will feel able to come. It will be a time for us to remember Daphne with love, and to share our memories as we bid her goodbye.

The service will be followed by tea and cake in the Club. Karen Thomas has kindly offered to coordinate this. We are asking our fabulous village bakers to 'Donate a Cake for Daff', to share on the day and to raise funds for the Stretton Shoe Box Appeal, which Daphne supported so actively in the last few years. Cakes can be delivered to the Club on Thursday evening or Friday lunchtime.

Karen Armbrister, Church Warden

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

When Neighbours Become Good Friends

Daphne was a wonderful friend to us ever since we moved to Birdingbury in 1973 and since 2013, the most delightful neighbour one could wish for.

What can we say about Daphne? Well, it's the important, small but significant things that have been an important part of our shared lives.

The telephone would ring and a gentle voice say 'It's only Daphne'! Or we heard her tap on our side door wanting Dick to sign a cheque for Church accounts.

Daphne was a great nature-lover. She loved feeding ‘her’ birds and they must have loved her too! She would call us and say ‘woodpecker alert’ or ‘bullfinch over the road’. She had begun encouraging wild flowers to seed in her front garden and this year she was delighted to find nine bee orchid plants in flower.

Whenever we went away, she was our regular chicken carer. She always told us that they laid more, and better eggs for her than us because she talked to them.

Daphne loved dogs – probably as much as, if not more than, their owners! She was naturally devastated when Toby, her beloved dog died some years ago. But sensibly, she decided that it was time to enjoy other people’s dogs instead. On her daily walk in the village, she could guarantee to meet, talk to and enjoy the company of some dogs on the way.

Daphne had a very keen interest in astronomy. Wilf, her beloved husband, had wanted to buy her a piece of jewellery for a special wedding anniversary but she told him that she would rather have a new telescope! She was a member of Coventry and Warwickshire Astronomical Society and spent many happy hours observing and enjoying planets in the solar system, probably when the rest of us were relaxing in front of the TV or in bed.

She was partial to a glass or two of red wine, both at the Club on a Friday night and when the weather permitted, with Val in her garden. The sound of laughter and chinking glasses coming from Daf’s patio always made us smile.

Daphne enjoyed Classic FM but anything by Queen was her music of choice. Her favourite TV series was Poldark, particularly when Ross was centre stage!

We will miss her a lot but remember her with great fondness.

Aileen and Dick Withington

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Thank You Daphne

Not everyone knew, but Daphne was a stalwart member of the Birdsong band from its offset. She had by far and away the largest village delivery round to contend with. Not only did she walk miles up and down the steep drives on Marton Road and contend with the snappiest of letterboxes, but she also braved bumpy drives and barking dogs to ensure everyone at the outlying farms and villages got their copy too. Thank you, lovely lady.

Lesley Fleming, Editor

Farewell to a Warwickshire Lad

Many people who live in Birdingbury and the surrounding district will have known my brother Keith Marshall who recently died at the age of 65. At his funeral several tributes were given, not least from Martin & Jeannie Williamson of Hensborough Hill Farm, Kites Hardwick, where Keith worked for some 49 years.

We thought that as Keith was so well known across the village and district, it would be nice to share a poem written and spoken at the funeral by Fraser Pithie, who worked with me at Severn Trent.

A Warwickshire Lad was he,
Keith Marshall from Birdingbury,
All seasons for years he farmed,
Always ensuring yields and stock were not harmed.

With a mop of hair like one of the Bee Gees,
Keith was a person at home on the land not the high seas,
With a mechanical ability many desire,
Keith was adept at fixing things for which some can only aspire.

An uncle who cared deeply for his nephew and niece,
From the years he had with them, he enjoyed an inner peace,
A son who loved his Mum and Dad,
Getting home to them safely every night made him glad.

A brother who could always provide a laugh and a smile,
But always be there when needed for that extra mile,
A farmhand who knew and has seen pretty much all,
Every job done to perfection large and small.

A Birdingbury lad was Keith in every way,
With a love of his village, the country and everyday,
He ploughed the fields and scattered the good seed on the land,
And for each of us Keith was always someone that would lend a hand.

And though he may seem to be leaving us to a place so far,
He will indeed remain with us above in the night sky as a bright new everlasting star.



Keith sadly passed away due to rare Genetic disease called Hemochromatosis and will be deeply missed by us all. Always in our hearts, Keith .

John and Lizzie Marshall, James and Elly.

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Bob McKinlay



In November we also said goodbye to long standing Back Lane resident, John Robert McKinlay. Fondly known as Bob, many will recall seeing him driving around the village in his little blue car. Bob's funeral and burial took place at St Leonard's on Friday 12 November.

May he rest in peace.

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Peter and Betty Wallace

Condolences to the Wallace Family who lost Mike's father, Peter, and shortly after, his mother, Betty.

Our thoughts are with you all as you come to terms with your bereavement.

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Miss becomes Mrs

You may have noticed back at the beginning of October a cluster of tepees appear at Bondon Farm. No, it was not new housing for Eric and Ernie (although they were hopeful), but the venue for the reception of my sister Alex and her fiancé Andrew's wedding.

When Alex left Master's Court here in Birdingbury some 16 years ago, she was all ready for her move to Coventry when she got talking to an old friend in Acorn Stores in Southam. This friend, Andrew Baughan a local farmer's son, asked her out on a date which led to her move to Priors Hardwick and not Coventry!

Fast forward 16 years and good old Covid put a spanner in the works: the wedding was scheduled for this May but had to be put back to 9th October. Which, looking back was probably not a bad choice as the weather was amazing. You could have been fooled into thinking it was a mid summer's day. October 9 is also a special date as it is Fiona, my eldest sister's, birthday with this year being her 50th. (She'll kill me for that!)

Once the date had been re-set it was all systems go for October. Dad, whose name is actually William Wallace, decided to go full kilt-wearing Scotsman. In his words 'Well I am only going to do it the once so I want the full regalia'. And didn't he look the most handsomest dad ever!

Alex was attended by four bridesmaids and a matron of honour made up of her sisters, nieces and closest friend all dressed in teal, gold and navy. Our bouquets featured blush pink flowers, ears of corn and pheasant feathers. Andrew was aided by one of his closest friends as best man, and the ushers were his son and two nephews.

The bridal party prep started early with the hair and make-up artists arriving at 6am. The ceremony was at 1pm at the Church of St Mary's, Priors Hardwick.

Everything was running smoothly until we were waiting for the cars to take us to the church. My father is a stickler for being punctual and cannot bear lateness. You can imagine the conversations taking place at 12:50 and no cars in sight! After a few frantic phone calls to the wedding co-ordinator and 'Bernie' the driver, it transpires he had the wrong time. I don't think a 1930's Rolls Royce Phantom or



Austin Shearline have ever got to 50mph before, but they have now. So being over half an hour late, I think Andrew did start to have a few beads of sweat appear as he waited for his bride. I said it was Karma for all the times he has been late!



But, we got there and wow! What a wonderful service it was, led by our dear friend Barbara Clutton. There was laughter and tears for those loved ones missing but most of all joy and happiness, at seeing two such suited and loved people finally tying the knot.

They were transported to the reception by helicopter not before having a fly around the area for a bird's eye view. The rest of the bridal party had a much more sedate ride back in the cars once they had cooled off!

The guests were treated to the Bilton Silver Band welcoming them to the reception with canapés and drinks before a very hearty, beef of course, wedding breakfast.

The cake was made by Alex and beautifully decorated by our cousin featuring, daisies with gold centres, sugar paste foxgloves and two hedgehogs as the bride and groom. It also featured diggers and tractors to signify Andrew and his love and work with machinery.



Cake cutting over and when the evening guests arrived it was full on party time, with dancing going onto the very early hours. The tepees looked stunning with the chill-out area very welcome after too much dancing. Everyone could gather round the fire pit for toasted marshmallows or s'more's and the 'Brew Bar' to make a cup of tea. The complimentary flip flops were well received so dancing could re-commence.

I think Andrew was one of the last still standing at 4am, so a good time was definitely had by all. Even those collecting cars on Sunday morning were treated to a Red Banger breakfast we had organised.

Alex and Andrew had such an amazing day, as did we all, seeing our darling Alex marry her man. People are still telling us it was the best wedding they have ever been to and I am inclined to agree with them.

Heather McCurdie

Birdingbury Remembers

The villagers gather to pay
their respects



Dr Peter
Kent from Lawrence Sheriff
leads the commemoration



Guy French reads the names of
the fallen



Liz Ellis and her grandson lay the British Le-
gion Wreath



Simon Davy embodies
selfless service for
Queen and Country



Bill watches from his window



The Queen's Green Canopy

The Parish Council has discussed whether the village would be interested in a collective tree planting activity as part of the Jubilee celebration in 2022. The Woodland Trust is supporting the official activity, known as The Queen's Green Canopy. They are providing free packs of saplings (from 15 to 420) and current orders would be delivered in March. A variety of species are available to plant either hedges or copses and any planting will need to be on publicly accessible land.



Parish Councillors are making enquiries about potential sites and, if one or more are found, we'd like the planting activity to be a collective activity, especially involving the children in the village. Watch this space, the WhatsApp group, and the village Facebook page for more information.

In the meantime, if you would like to be involved, please contact me at guyfrenchpc@gmail.com or on 07538 583498. Thanks

Guy French, Chair Birdingbury Parish Council

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Carol Singing 2021

On Thursday December 23 from 7pm onwards, a group of us, on behalf of St Leonard's Church, plan to sing carols around the village in aid of Hope 4, a Rugby based charity helping people who have housing or food needs.



We will focus on residents who may find it difficult to get out on winter nights. However, if you don't tick this box but would like a doorstep carol, please contact me and we will aim to fit you in. You may, for example, have an elderly relative with you, or are going to find this Christmas particularly difficult. Whatever your reason, please don't hesitate to ask. I can be contacted on 632644 or drop in to see me at High Mead, Marton Road.

Ideally, we would like about half a dozen singers. Please join us. It would be good to have an idea of numbers in advance. We will meet outside the Club before we set off on our planned route

Dick Withington

Leamington Hastings Academy Update

We've continued to have a busy term at Leamington Hastings Academy. The children say that their favourite elements of this term to date have been making wreaths for Remembrance Day, wearing odd socks for anti-bullying week, learning about the similarities of different faiths in interfaith week and the various cooking activities that have taken place!

The children also had a great time at an end of half term pumpkin party where the pumpkin carving skills on display were extremely impressive! Photographs of all the pumpkins can be seen on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LeamingtonHastingsCofEAcademyRugby/>



We have lots of exciting events still to come this term. These include a workshop with a rock band, a pantomime visit, the opportunity to work with a local artist on a whole school project, nativity plays and of course a visit from Father Christmas himself who will be arriving via tractor! We are also looking forward to our school Christmas service at All Saints Church and to joining in with the community Christmas Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church in Willoughby on the 19th of December at 4pm.

We have reached the time of year when families are applying for Reception places for next academic year. We are not holding an open day this year due to the ongoing pandemic, but we are very happy to show families around the school on an individual basis. If you would like to know more about the school, check out our website: <https://www.leamingtonhastings.covmat.org/>. For a tour of the school, please get in touch with the school office via school.office@leamingtonhastings.covmat.org or telephone 01926 632359. We look forward to hearing from you!

Suzanne Marson, Head of School

Leamington Hastings Church of England Academy

Halloween 2021 Birdingbury Style

After our annual Halloween spooktacular had to find a new format in 2020 due to creepy covid, it turned out to be so popular that we kept the same approach for this year... the Birdingbury Halloween Trail.



Witch Lesley devised a new terrifying trail around the village, with our revolting revellers tasked with finding different haunted houses and using the associated house names to come up with a petrifying passphrase which



would earn them their Halloween treats. Feedback had been received that we maybe make it a little trickier than last year, testing the resolve of some parents and grandparents. However, the children and teens were very resilient and put great effort into solving all the cryptic clues - well done to everyone who participated!

Meanwhile, Witch Karen did an amazing job of creating our spooky shack at the back of the creepy club. This formed our witches' hangout for the evening, and a fabulous start and end to the trail. Mark also played his part, furnishing the witches with refreshments to keep us going. We had a busy (and therefore thirsty) evening, with over 40 junior witches, wizards, ghosts, ghouls, and even some superheroes, taking part!



Many thanks must go to everyone who donated treats to our central cauldron. We had so many that we needed bigger bags than last year. These were spookily decorated by Witch Karen, with some additional embellishment by the sorcerer's apprentice, Witch Kara.



And thanks to everyone who decorated and put pumpkins out: Birdingbury looked fab-YOO-lous for our Halloween shenanigans. We did have an unofficial pumpkin count as part of the trail; the highest number reported back was 53 if my memory serves me right - wow!

Feedback was great - it seemed to be enjoyed by young, old and everyone in between - which makes all the effort worthwhile. It's so lovely to see families and friends out having fun together.

I'm guessing I better start planning the 2022 trail...eek!

Lesley Thomlinson

Jammer Raises Cash For Charity...

Hello Birdingbury! Firstly, I'd like to say thanks for the opportunity to tell you my story and why I make preserves in aid of cancer charities.

Until 4 years ago, I'd rarely had a day's sickness in my life; I loved my job and was privileged to travel frequently to India and the USA. However, I didn't appreciate how much this all takes its toll until one day I woke up in India and looked in the mirror and thought 'What's that in the corner of my eye?' It was conjunctivitis, concerning but worse was yet to come. Fortunately, my colleague's wife was an eye doctor and was able to prescribe antibiotic drops, but she told me it could be the sign of an underlying virus. She was right and that was the start of a battle from which it took nearly 2 years to recover. The virus attacked my digestive system and left me with extreme difficulty eating and unable to sleep more than 3 hours a night. The raised adrenaline levels also resulted in acute anxiety and PTSD symptoms.

But luckily for me help was out there in our wonderful community. The generous ladies of Marton gave up their time to help me get out walking and latterly to drive out for walks, or teas/chats. The preserve making all started with a quince tree in a local garden that had a bumper year and its fruit being offered to villagers. I'd never made quince jelly, but it worked out well. Since there was still plenty of fruit, I wondered if I could make and sell it for charity. This is how I got involved with our village fundraising for cancer charities. In the first year I ended up making 116 jars of quince jelly which raised £400! My efforts have now grown to include other jellies, chutneys, jams and marmalades. Last year we raised £1270 in the sale of preserves, all of which went to Breast Cancer Now and Prostate Cancer UK charities. This year we're on target to reach £2000 from sales of preserves and refreshments at the Marton fundraising lunch.



I've been fully recovered now for 3 years and lucky to be back in a job I love, but I'll never forget that I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the kindness of our local community. I can never repay them for the generosity in helping me back to health; making these preserves for the charities is my way of giving back.

I still have lots of stock available, so if anyone may be interested, I can be contacted on valerie_a_self@yahoo.co.uk for the full list and prices. 100% of the sales proceeds is donated to the charities.

Thanks very much to you all for taking the time to read my story. I hope I can tempt you to some tasty preserves and help support cancer research!

Val Self

and Jammers Take Birdingbury By Storm...

Oh what a night, late November back in 21! They came from near and far (well, near Crewe) and representing all ages (the youngest being two days old, the oldest, well, I wouldn't like to hazard a guess!) to hear the great talent Birdingbury had to offer. And what talents there were! Although Jo Young claimed to be recovering from the lurgy, her voice sounded wonderful to those in the audience, as she and the rest of the Jo Young trio thrilled us with the opening set, with Feeling Good proving that she was definitely on form. The Jammers then joined in for a very enjoyable section including the Road to Hell (suggested as being that to Long Itchington?) before we had various combinations of Andy, Steve and Rob showcasing incredible skills to enjoy.



Later, we were treated to David and Angela, singing (beautifully) amongst others, the glorious Glory Box, very ably assisted by 15-year-old Charlie Kendell on bass guitar (not that I'm biased #proudmum) who also joined them for Waiting in Vain and Wicked Game. In those, we had the great pleasure of hearing from Sharon, who played both flute and saxophone over the evening, which sounded amazing and added so much.

Neither should we forget Venice, on spoons and Lewis, excellent as ever... Blue Monk was a great highlight, with the jamming evidencing a real coming together of talent to create a brilliant whole, ably orchestrated by Steve, as he had done throughout the evening.

All in all, it was a fabulous evening, with a great crowd (standing room only!), a fantastic atmosphere and a jolly good time had by all. Although we had to miss the the very last bit, we left feeling we had had just the best evening. Massive thanks to the Club and all involved, including David for all his organisation and for giving Charlie his most memorable debut.

Sara Kendell

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdingbury knows
as winters darkness deepens
hidden stars grow bright

Thin Jethro Laskey



Nordic Walking

Why are there so many people out walking with longer poles? Is it just something associated with lockdown exercise?

Nordic Walking (or walking with poles) is a specialised walking technique that exercises not just the legs, but also the upper body and the core. You need to learn how to do it, and how to adjust your poles, but this is not hard or expensive and poles can be borrowed to try before you buy.

As such it is a good workout for the whole body and it takes place in the open air. It can be used as pre-training for cross country skiing, but many Nordic Walkers just enjoy the walk. Of course, you can walk on your own or with a friend, but there are also different groups with different types of walks to meet your expectations and fitness level. These range from the slower, for those in recovery or with different needs as a result of health issues (or who just want a leisurely stroll), through the chatty walks (with or without poles), and onto the more ‘hard-core’ up hill and down dale across a country wide network of routes. There are also additional classes with yoga or other exercises and cardio workouts with poles on offer from some providers. There are even Zoom sessions and evening walks by torchlight.

There are several providers with websites that provide information, support and details of local classes. I have seen expensive courses that take place in lovely settings such as arboreta, and one-to-one private courses, but there are also much less expensive options that may suit most pockets. As an example, a three-mile walk lasting just over an hour may cost £7 to cover insurance, the walk leader, etc. Pole training can be arranged for around £12.50. Bundled deals bring the price down substantially!



A number of Birdingbury residents participate in various walking groups, or just go solo, so next time you see someone out, do ask if you are interested to know more. I have been Nordic walking since early August and it certainly does improve stamina, breathing and overall fitness - so it worked for me!

Carmel de Nahlik

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Get Well, Matt

Best wishes go to Matt Markham who, while carrying out his duties as Birdingbury's First Responder, sustained serious injuries to his arm and shoulder. Following surgery to replace his shattered shoulder, daughter Phoebe says 'Dad is just being a wuss'. With such sympathy at home, we hope he will be on the road to recovery!

Shoebox Wrappers



After the very sad and unexpected death of our dear friend Daphne, there was a need to find a willing helper to collect wrapped boxes and deliver new ones to enable this worthwhile task to continue.

I'm pleased to report that Val Preston has offered to fill the job but as she has no storage space, I have offered to keep the wrapped boxes until there are sufficient to deliver them to Stretton.

This year's boxes are filled and ready to be sent away for Christmas, but the task carries on so that next year's boxes and contents are ready. If you are interested in becoming a 'Wrapper' or can supply items to put in the boxes, do give me (01926 632494) or Val (01926 633473) a call.

Jackie Westcott

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Swap Shop Update

We continue to meet at 10.30 on a Saturday morning for a hot drink, some homemade treats and the chance to catch up with each other. It is a lovely way to spend time relaxing with fellow villagers.

On Saturday 11th December we will be exchanging unwanted presents, this has worked well in the past. This will be our last meeting of 2021 and we will resume on Saturday 1 January 2022 – a great way to see in the New Year!



Everyone is welcome and you do not have to bring anything to swap.

Di Turner and Jenny Hawes

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Tea at Three

We would like to welcome all villagers, old and new, to our Annual celebration for Christmas in The Birbury at 3.00 on Saturday 18th December.

There will be homemade mince pies, tea and sherry and an opportunity to sing some favourite Christmas songs. It will be good to have the chance to meet again, we missed being together last year: for obvious reasons!

Looking forward to seeing you there.

The Birbury Committee



Back on The Jack

Leamington Hastings Bowls Club have begun their indoor bowling season, following Covid guidelines, at the new time of 2pm-4pm and it seems to be working well for the members.

The club would like to welcome new members Sue, Gordon, Wendy and Margaret. It's great to have you bowling with us.

A skittles night took place on Friday 12th November. It was a well-attended, good natured evening among friends with a superb supper, prizes and a raffle. The evening raised just over £326 for the club. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this such an enjoyable event.

Work began on the bowls green in September, after the traditional Ladies v Gents end of season match. Ladies won, by the way. The preparation of the green for the 2022 outdoor season involves scarifying, spiking, reseeding, mowing. We hope that the weather over the winter and spring will be favourable.



There has been some illness within the club over the past year and we all send our love and best wishes to those members.

If you would like to come along and have a go, no obligation, please come to the Leamington Hastings Village Hall on Wednesdays from 2pm-4pm. You don't need any equipment, please wear loose clothing and flat shoes.

Susan Turner

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Windmill Singers



We are a friendly, mixed choir based in Southam and have at last begun our rehearsals again. All ages, voices and abilities are welcome to join us. It is not essential to be able to read music and there is no audition. The repertoire is varied and should suit all tastes.

Enjoy singing? It's more fun with others! Come and give us a try.

For more information telephone either Yvonne Diment (Choir Secretary) on 01926 812481 or me on 01788 816222.

Nick Jakeman, Musical Director

Going For a Spin

Circa 1950s...

What a beauty!

All paid for chum.

Bombing up

The new M1.

Le Mans, Brooklands,

Nothing this

To my new

Sunday morning bliss.

In the country

Speeding wheels.

Corners tight

As business deals.

Brake so late

And throttle early.

‘Isn’t this the life?

Eh, Girlie?’

Crashing gears,

A gorgeous din.

Top of the hill

On a Sunday spin.

Lunch at Fosters,

Then an easy drive

To *Dusty Shadows*

And the 9 to 5.

Pilgrim

Birdingbury Calendar

Pop-up events are being organised on a week by week basis, so do check the WhatsApp groups and Facebook pages for Birdingbury Village and Birdingbury Club. The village website and notice board will continue to capture community information.

Club Events

Date	Event
Friday 3 December: 5pm to 8pm	Fill your boots with Burritos and Nachos from Jammin' Pizza.
Saturday 4th December from 8pm	Test your knowledge with the return of the Club Quiz, food available.
Christmas Eve from 5pm	Chance your arm with the Christmas Draw – loads of prizes. Pop into the Club and pick your numbers, only 25p per go!
Christmas Day: 12noon - 2pm	Raise a glass all round to a Merry Christmas.
Boxing Day: 12noon - 5pm	Nurse that hangover with hair of the dog.
New Year's Eve from 8pm	See in 2022 with Fizz & Nibbles.

Mobile Library Dates

10 December, 7 January, 28 January, from 13.30 to 14.00 at the Club

**Birdsong wishes all our readers a merry Christmas
and a happy and healthy New Year!**



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