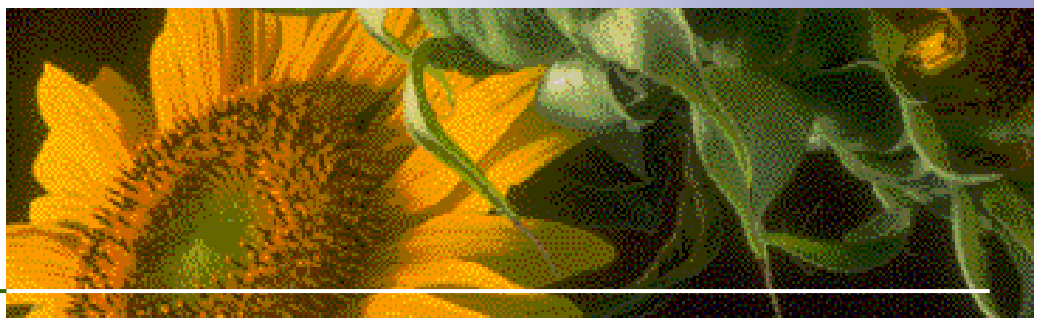
Village News: Long Marston, Puttenham, Wilstone, Astrope



*September 2011*

***Your independent village magazine - produced and delivered free to every home in the Tring Rural villages entirely by local volunteers.***

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We depend on readers' articles and pictures. So let's have them!

# Sunny show seems like summer

***by our outside broadcast team***

LOCAL folklore has it that the sun always shines on the Long Marston Show. Well, the folk must be right, as even in this abject apology for an August the sun did indeed shine - but only for the afternoon of the show. Villagers seized the opportunity for an afternoon in the sun and turned out in large numbers. Our pictures show that this year's theme: "Royal Britain", was reflected in Union Flag attire of stallholders.

The horticultural exhibits in the hall looked splendid, with colourful flower arrangements, amazingly large (and perfectly formed) vegetables and finely decorated cakes. Show secretary Gillie Russell-Mann said that it was disappointing that entries to the show were slightly down this year, and hoped that this might encourage new exhibitors for next year. Apparently one or two of the regulars have retired, so that means more chance of a prize for the rest of us perhaps.

Outside, the raffle ticket team were doing a good trade, there were queues at the massive tombola, coconuts were displayed by proud winners and Pimms was much in demand. Great to have a sunny interlude in an otherwise drab summer.

***See the back page for more pictures.***

**L to R: Maeve, Orla and Laurie are clearly crack shots.**

**Showing the flag.**

**Enjoying the show. Lucy and Iain Bancroft with Millie (centre).** (Pictures: Village News)

ADVANCED NOTIFICATION
OF FUTURE FILM NIGHTS

# Wilstone Film Nights

Friday October 14th

## Starring Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter & Geoffrey Rush

This Oscar winning film tells the story of the man who became King George VI, the father of Queen Elizabeth II. After his brother abdicates, George ('Bertie') reluctantly assumes the throne. Plagued by a dreaded stammer and considered unfit to be king, Bertie engages the help of an unorthodox speech therapist named Lionel Logue. Through a set of unexpected techniques, and as a result of an unlikely friendship, Bertie is able to find his voice and boldly lead the country through war.

12

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 14th**
**Tickets will be £6 when they go on sale on October 1st**
Film will start at 8pm Licenced bar will open at 7.15pm
Please note these other film night dates for your diary
**Friday November 18th**
**Friday December 16th**

# Village News

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Another bumper issue to celebrate the end of the summer (at least I think it was the summer)! There are plenty of articles celebrating recent events including some great pictures of three weddings.

On a more serious note, although our world is a peaceful one not affected by the recent social unrest seen in parts of the country, there is a very pertinent message from Rev'd Jo Wetherall on page 23, and an appeal for help on page 11 in the hope that witnesses can be found.

Lastly, the need for greater support for the village shop is highlighted. It provides not only a service but is also a social centre for much of the village. Life would be poorer without it.

***Deadline for items for our next issue (October) is Wednesday 21st September.***

***Village News*** is written, edited, produced and distributed entirely by local volunteers. Only the final printing is done by a commercial company. We aim to be local, interesting, informative, fun and a good read.
***Let us know if we are not!***

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Denington Estate, Wellingborough, NN8 2RA. 01933 228855.

# Church services

## St Mary's Puttenham
## St Cross Wilstone and
## All Saints Long Marston

You are most welcome to join us at any of the services.

**4 September**
10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer
11.00am St Cross Harvest followed by lunch
4.00pm St Cross Messy Church
6.00pm Evening Prayer

**5 September (Monday)**
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

**11 September**
8.15am St Mary's Holy Communion
10.00am All Saints Holy Communion
6.00pm All Saints Evening Prayer

**13 September**
10.00am St Cross Holy Communion – Patronal

**18 September**
10.00am St Cross Holy Communion
10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer

**19 September (Monday)**
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

**25 September**
10.00am All Saints Holy Communion and Sunday Club
3.30pm St Mary's Harvest Festival

**Read *Village News* on line at:**
**www.tringruralpc.org.uk** (Click on Village News)
**www.wilstone.me.uk** (Click on Village News)

# What's on...

## Chilterns Countryside Festival

**Sunday 18th September, 11.00am to 4.00pm.**

**at Ashridge Estate Bridgewater Monument, near Berkhamsted**

**A countryside event for all the family with over 80 stalls including local produce, crafts, plants, conservation displays, owls, ferret racing, sheep shearing, story teller, archery and children's activities. Refreshments available. Dogs on leads welcome.**

**Adults £3.00, children under 16 free. Free parking in the meadow**

**For more information phone National Trust on 01442 851 227 or Chilterns Conservation Board on 01844 355 506**

## All Saints Church

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ? | **Quiz** and curry (Optional, home made by Huw) | ? |

## Toby Davidson
**Quizmaster**

**Friday 21st October 7.30 for 8.00pm (in Victory Hall, Long Marston)**

**Tickets £3.50 or £10 with curry**
**Teams of eight. BYO Drinks**
**Curry numbers by 7th October please**

**Contact Carole Harrison 01296 668526**

## Diary dates...

**Tring Rural Parish Council meetings** (8pm)
*The public are welcome to attend these meetings.*
**Wednesday 21 September** Long Marston village hall.
**Wednesday 19 October** Puttenham Cecilia Hall.

**26 to 29 August - Bank Holiday weekend**
Marsworth Flower Festival.
**Saturday 27 August**
Jumble sale Cecilia Hall, Puttenham 2pm.(Friends of St Mary's).
**Bank Holiday Monday 29 August**
Long Marston 6-a-side day. Phone Toby, 01296 660754.
**Saturday 3 September**
Lace and craft day, Bishop Wood School, Tring. 10am-4pm.
**Saturday 10 September**
Sponsored Bike 'n Hike. (Historic Churches Trust.)
**16 - 25 September**
Southampton Boat Show. (Southampton.)
**Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September**
Tring Chamber Music Concerts, All Saints, Long Marston.
"Open House Weekend". Throughout the UK. See press.
**Sunday 18 September**
Chilterns Countryside Festival. Ashridge Estate.
**Friday 23 September**
Quiz night at Wilstone village hall.
**Tuesday 27 September**
All Saints Social Afternoon 2pm to 3pm.
**Saturday 1 October**
October supper and auction, Cecilia Hall.
**Friday 14 October**
Wilstone film night - new season starts. The King's Speech.
**Friday 21 October**
All Saints Quiz Night. 7.30 for 8pm at LM Victory Hall.
**Friday 18 November**
Wilstone film night.
**Friday 16 December**
Wilstone film night.

***Your local event details can be included here for free. Just email details to the editor. See page 3.***

**Wilstone village shop opening hours are:**
Monday to Saturday: 7.30am to 1.00pm
Sunday: 9.00am to 12.00noon.

## Times for mobile library

***Thursdays, fortnightly: September 8th and 22nd.***

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tringford (Piggeries Pine)** | **11.10 to 11.30** |
| **Wilstone (The Half Moon)** | **11.35 to 12.35** |
| **Astrope (Astrope Lane)** | **13.15 to 13.35** |
| **Puttenham (Church Lane )** | **13.40 to 14.40** |
| **Long Marston (Queen's Head)** | **14.50 to 16.20** |

... don't miss anything with our guide to local events! Free listings.

# NEIL GURNEY.

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You will be amazed and amused (you will laugh throughout the evening)
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on Monday **October 24th at 7.30pm.**

Buy your TICKETS now, - £8.
S.a.e to ***Pam Russell, 5 Hazely, Tring, HP23 5JH.***
Cheques to ***Tring PCC.***
Information – 01442 826533.

This is part of the Tring Team Parish's **"The Year of Giving Generously"**

## Sudoku Corner by Colin Moore

**No 61 Easy**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | | | 6 | | |
| 3 | | | | | | 8 | 4 | |
| | | | | 9 | 3 | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | 9 | |
| 6 | | | | | 9 | | | 1 |
| | 8 | | | 5 | 2 | | | |
| | 2 | | | 1 | | | | 5 |
| | 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | | 4 | | |
| | 4 | | | 2 | | 3 | 6 | 8 |

This can largely be solved by inspection. Good luck.

**Raise funds for our church**
and for other churches & chapels in Beds & Herts
on
**Saturday 10th Sept**
**10am to 6pm**
by
cycling or walking to churches & chapels in your area.

For more information on the Sponsored Bike'n Hike please contact:
Wilstone: Mary Minter 01442 823605
Long Marston: Carole Harrison:01296 668526
Puttenham: Christine Rutter 01296 668337

**Saturday 17th *and* Sunday 18th September**
**7.30 pm All Saints Church Long Marston**

**Mendelssohn Piano Quartet in B minor Op 3**
**Kurtag Signs, Games and Messages for string trio**
**Mendelssohn Songs without words**
**Schumann Piano Quartet in E flat Op 47**

# 'Music by Candlelight'

*"Dazzling, but controlled, virtuosity was as much a mark of this excellent reading as the great emotional depth and richness of Shelley's playing." Daily Telegraph.*

Schumann said of Mendelssohn: "He is the Mozart of the 19th century", and like Mozart he seemed to have a wisdom and confidence beyond his years. Completed just before his fifteenth birthday, the third piano quartet is a fine example of Mendelssohn's astonishingly precocious talent. Schumann's piano quartet expresses this composer's last desperate romantic leanings before he sank into the depths of mental illness. It is a piano driven work of a highly personal nature. In stark contrast, the music of Hungarian György Kurtág uses concentrated miniatures to explore a wide range of human emotions. Howard Shelley completes this colourful programme with some of Mendelssohn's favourite 'Songs Without Words'.

Howard Shelley (piano)
Paul Barritt (violin)
Louise Williams (viola)
Josephine Horder (cello)

Tickets: 01442 822732

**www.tringchambermusic.co.uk**

# Wilstone village shop

*by Diana Crapnell and Rachael Friedl*

## Nearly two years old!

YES, in October it will be two years since Liz & Ron took on the Wilstone Shop, and they have certainly brought it back to life in a great way.

Over that time we've seen an ever increasing range of stock as they have responded to our many and various requests. It's become a place to gather for activities such as The Great Macmillan Coffee Morning – more of which anon, a hub for village news, and somewhere to come and find out what's happening and when. During periods of snow when it's been hard for many of us to get out and about, it's kept us going with fresh milk and bread and other essentials. All in all the shop is now just where is should be, at the heart of our community.

For all of this must go a big thanks to Liz and Ron for their courage in giving the shop another chance. Thanks go too to the ever growing band of volunteers because, sadly, in this day and age the shop can only ever be successful operating as a community business. So sorry Liz & Ron, that villa in the sun will have to be put on hold! But as a community operation it really does work and we all get to enjoy the benefit. As one of the volunteers we can personally say that it's a fun place to work and I've got to know so many more people in Wilstone and beyond.

The next stage for Liz & Ron is that they would like for the shop to be fully run by volunteers on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, they will take over for the rest of the week. We're nearly there but could still do with a few more people, so if you think you can help, even if it's just for a few hours, do please pop into the shop and let us know.

To ensure we have what you want when you want it, we're always pleased to take your orders; whether it's for papers or bread – and did you know we can supply French sticks or ciabatta bread if you fancy that; or perhaps you might need larger pack sizes for some items. Providing we can get it at the right price for you then we're happy to do so. Just come into the shop to ask or give us a call during opening hours on 01442 891167.

Now coming back to the Great Macmillan Coffee Morning; we'll be hosting a session in the shop on Thursday, 29 September from 10.30am to midday. So if you fancy having coffee (or tea) and cake – homemade of course – whilst supporting this very worthwhile cause please put the date in your diary.

The final thank you goes to all our customers from Wilstone, Long Marston, Puttenham and beyond, it's always great to see you and without you we simply wouldn't be here.

## 20 things you may not have known about Wilstone Shop:

1. Wilstone Shop is a community owned shop, without YOUR support it may have to close.
2. Numerous volunteers give up their free time to ensure YOUR shop is kept open.
3. Many villagers support the shop by baking cakes, biscuits, making jams, marmalade & mincemeat.
4. Liz and Ron ensure that you have the shop you want; if there is anything they don't stock please let them know and they will try and get it in for you.
5. Takeaway teas, coffees & hot chocolate are available.
6. Takeaway hot pasties, pies and sausage rolls.
7. Freshly prepared rolls and sandwiches to your requirements whilst you wait.
8. Newspapers and magazines available to order & have delivered or just buy on the day.
9. Selection of fruit and vegetables.
10. 1st & 2nd class stamps for sale.
11. Gluten free and other allergy free foods available.
12. Most of their specialised food is sourced locally, therefore reducing food miles.
13. Fresh bread & rolls from a traditional bakery in Markyate.
14. Free range chicken pieces, turkey burgers, pork loins, lamb chops available from a local farm in Chesham.
15. Whole chickens and turkeys available to order for special occasions like Easter & Christmas.
16. Locally produced jam, honey & marmalade.
17. Cooked meats, bacon & sausages available to buy singly.
18. Locally produced rapeseed oil from Meads' Farm in Wilstone.
19. Easy to park or better still...walk.
20. Friendly & approachable staff who are always on hand to help you.

Make the switch from the supermarkets to buying some of your food at Wilstone Village Shop - it is often easier and cheaper as you only buy what you want. Buy all your shopping from us - you don't get tempted by buy one, get one free offers!

**The opening times for the shop are:**

**Monday to Saturday 0730-1300**
**Sunday 0900-1200**

**We look forward to seeing you soon!**

**Did you know that as well as stocking a wide range of everyday items, Wilstone Shop also specialise in locally sourced and produced food?**

# Megadairy consultation closes

*by Phil Buchi*

THE consultation period has closed for the massive £150 million development proposed by Arla Foods to create what they say will be one of the biggest dairy processing plants in the world. If the letters pages of the Bucks Herald are any indicator, Aylesbury Vale District Council will have had a bumper postbag of responses.

The planned complex would occupy 70 acres near Aston Clinton, completely surrounding the new recycling centre there. Although part of the site is currently used for an industrial estate, the dairy would also take in agricultural land to the south and east of the recycling centre. The Bucks Herald has published a number of articles on the subject - and a lot of letters. The argument is by no means one sided. A number of correspondents have welcomed the 700 jobs which the company are offering; while others point to the large number of lorry movements on the A41, and the impact on the rural landscape. Quotations from Edmund Burke and UN Secretary General U Thant have been wielded in an intense discussion which will surely continue for a long time yet.

In their submission to planners, Arla have included their Environmental Impact Assessment and statements of changes they say they have already made to accommodate local views. On the key issue of road traffic, the company's submission states that there would be 20 lorry movements per hour. They estimate that this will increase traffic on the A41 by 3.5% towards London and 3.2% towards Aylesbury. They say the bypass has a daily two-way capacity of 75,000 vehicles and current usage amounts to 23,000 vehicles per day. Objectors think that the situation is more complex, and that there would be significant effects at other points in the area's road network.

We cannot hope to adequately cover a complex issue like this in *Village News*, but there is plenty of information out there.

Alra Foods began in Denmark in 1880 as a milk producers co-operative, and is now one of Europe's biggest dairy operators. It is still a co-operative. Their brands include Lurpak, Anchor and Cravendale. Their association with the UK market went big-time when in 2003 they merged with the British company Express Dairies. Their website says they employ 16,500 people worldwide, and get through 8.4 billion litres of milk a year. The proposed Aston Clinton site would process 1 billion litres per year - we are talking a lot of milk here.

And in case you were wondering - there are no actual cows included in the plans at all! The milk would all be brought in (and out) by road tanker.

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# Pre-School News - new term 6th September

JULY was a very busy month at First Steps pre-school which began with our annual sports day, children enjoyed participating in various races as parents proudly looked on. This was followed by our leaver's concert which was based on one of the children's favourite books "The Gruffalo" and finally, the summer term was finished off with an end of term party! At this event we said goodbye to those children making the transition to "big" School in September, all of the children leaving pre-school will be greatly missed but we wish them every happiness in the future.

During the last half term we welcomed *Olivia Diamond* to pre-school and September marks the start of another academic year and we look forward to welcoming a number of new children on Tuesday 6th September.

Thank you to everybody who supported the pre-school 'sweet tombola' at the Village Show on Saturday 6th August. We began the afternoon with over 200 jars filled with sweets and finished with more than £175! This money will be used to help re-vamp our story corner which is in much need of some new resources, love and attention. Thank you to all parents who donated or bought sweet jars and temporary tattoos and a big thank you to all those who helped set up and man the stall on the day.

First Steps Pre-School is held at Victory Hall, Long Marston every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.00am – 12.00am during term time, with lunch clubs on Tuesday and Friday until 1.30pm. During term-time Baby & Toddler group runs on a Wednesday morning 10am until 11.30am from Victory Hall Long Marston.

**As from September the Baby & Toddler fees will increase to £2.00, and 50p for siblings over 1year old.**

If you would like to know more about Pre-School or put your child's name on our waiting list, please contact either Teresa Giddings, pre-school leader, on 07925 185311 (during pre-school hours) or our Chair, Lindsay Armitage, on 01296 661017.

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CRYSTAL CLEAR ST. TROPEZ The Ultimate Tan JESSICA

# Long Marston Cricket Club

***by Paul Dumpleton***

A GOOD season for all at Marlins with both First & Second XI's holding solid mid table positions in their respective divisions of the Cherwell League. The early good start by the first eleven helped them sustain a good position as they encountered several of the stronger teams. Ably marshalled by skipper Peter Toovey, the youngsters in the side have flourished and in James Beesley and Matthew Storey we have two sixteen year olds, who have consistently delivered at the higher level. As a club we are extremely proud of them both.

Second XI batting has been frail at times but the guile of Lee Beesley, skippering some of our more experienced members, has ensured the team retains its league position.

3rd XI have had a more difficult season and are in the bottom two of the division 10 at the time of writing. We have however maintained our policy of using this team as a development side with youngsters supported by two or three experienced players. We have on a few occasions met teams with a much higher standard of playing strength.

The second half of the clubs '50th anniversary at Marlins' celebration takes place on the evening of Friday 16th September when we hold a cheese and wine bingo night to round off the season. Other diary dates include the presentation evening on Saturday 8th October and the clubs Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 16th November.

# Abseil for the Hospice of St Francis

***by Abbi Langan***

CALLING all daredevils, the Hospice of St Francis has launched another daredevil fundraising challenge and is looking for volunteers to literally 'go over the top for the hospice!' In this case it means abseiling 100 foot down one of the highest buildings in Hemel Hempstead , all for a good cause of course!

Dixons Retail has kindly offered their Head Office building in Maylands Avenue as a platform for this stunt taking place on Sunday 25th September 2011.

Registration costs just £25 with a minimum sponsorship requirement of just £100 - that's just 10 friends sponsoring you £10 each - simple! (Under 18's need to pay just £20 to register and raise a minimum of £50).

Community Fundraiser Emma Day enthused "Last year we hosted this event for the first time and were thrilled with the amount of people that took part. It raised more than £15,500 and this year we are hoping to smash that target! So if you are planning a family day out with a difference, a team building event or simply fancy a challenge before the year is out, then sign up!"

All the money raised will go towards helping patients and their families coping with a life limiting illness. To sign up or for further information call 01442 869555 or email: **fundraising@stfrancis.org.uk.** You can also register online by going to **www.stfrancis.org.uk/abseil2011reg**

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# County cricket at Marlins: Herts v. Cumberland

*by Colin Moore*

SUNDAY 7th August saw Long Marston CC hosting a 3-day Minor Counties Championship match between Hertfordshire and Cumberland. A good number of spectators including a regular group from Liverpool attended each day. Lunch and teas are available at reasonable prices and the bar is open for drinks. If you missed this year's matches try and make it next year and its free!.

**Cumberland's Toby Bulcock appeals unsuccessfully for lbw**.

Hertfordshire won the toss and decide to field. The teams just made it onto the pitch for the 11.00am start when rain forced a delay until after lunch. The game finally started at 1.40pm. Two wickets fell quickly leaving Cumberland 2 for 2 by the third over. Cumberland recovered and made 177 for 5 by tea afterwhich rain stopped play.

The second day was marred by high winds but it did allow play from 10.30am to 8.00pm making up some lost time. Cumberland batted on until lunch declaring at 374. Hertfordshire had a slow start but were able to declare at 277 leaving Cumberland to bat for just twenty minutes to finish off the day. With evening sun low and the shadows of trees extended now to the centre of the pitch young George Scott opened the bowling and James Clarkson fell to lbw on the second ball of the innings.

**George Scott at the start of the 2nd innings.** (Pictures: Colin Moore)

On the final day Hertfordshire had a excellent morning taking 7 wickets before lunch and the last two fell just after lunch. This left Hertfordshire needing 309 to win, with just 65 overs to play. It was a fairly close draw with Hertfordshire needing 48 runs or Cumberland needing the 3 final wickets to win. The league however is based on points awarded for the game, batting and bowling. At the end of the day Cumberland gained a total of 12 points to Hertfordshire's 11, placing Cumberland at 5th in the league and one place above Hertfordshire.

We saw over 1123 runs from 290 overs, with 2 centuries, catches, run outs, lbw's and a stumping. What more can you ask from a cricket match, apart from better weather?!

*Long Marston have hosted Minor county games since August 1994 when Hertfordshire lost to Suffolk by 2 wickets.*

# Long Marston School 100 Club

Here is the list of this year's winners in the Long Marston School 100 Club. Many congratulations to them all and a big thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. If you would like to join in and support the school, tickets will go on sale in September so just drop into the office to participate.

| Month | Winner's Name |
|---|---|
| October | Alison Munt (Issac) |
| November | Vicky Hayes (Taryn) |
| December (£50) | Karen Davis |
| January | Helen Russell |
| February | Alison Munt (Noah) |
| March | Sally Smith |
| April | Jonathan Tymms |
| May | Di Freestone |
| June | Alison Munt (Issac) |
| July (£50) | Nicky Gifford |

# Mad Summer Ball beats £100,000 target

*by Jane Murrell*

**800 attend to raise money for Help for Heroes and Care for Casualties**

THOSE of you who have been following my articles will want to know how much we raised. I was hoping that I could have that information by the time I wrote this article but unfortunately I don't have the final figure yet. I can say that we did beat our target of £100,000!

After all the months of planning the evening finally arrived. The setting up and laying tables, lawn mowing and staff briefings had all been done. A lot of committee members did not leave the marquee until around 5.30pm, to be back there again for 6pm. This was a major challenge for some of us, given only 30 minutes to get ready! It was very apparent that this was a big event. As you looked out of the marquee all you could see from there to Wingrave was cars. One of the committee members took 15 minutes to get out of his drive on the Leighton Road. Anyway, all the guests arrived without too much delay and in time to see the start of the event: a fly-past by a Hawker Hurricane fighter. In the words of a guest: "The Hurricane display was so marvelous and made me cry". With the music of The Rifles Band in the background it was awesome. Then the buglers called us for dinner and T.A. Riflemen directed everyone to their seats. On the tables special bottles of water had on them printed the logos of the two charities, the date and venue. (The Vivreau Company is also going to sponsor the water at Headly Court. A massive thank you must go to them for their donation which will help a lot of people.)

**Hawker Hurricane Mk1 (R4118) was built in 1940 is the only 'Battle of Britain' Hurricane still flying today.**

The Master of Ceremonies said grace; we toasted absent friends, and were able to start our excellent dinner. We thank the caterers for the amazing job that they did feeding 800 people three superb courses, and we have had many compliments about the food. The Rifles Band played during the meal; then the buglers did a play off which was brilliant - I think one of the best things of the evening. They were followed by Double Tap (formed from ex-Parachute Regiment drummers) who came on with luminous skeleton masks and flashing drum sticks. Excellent. On to the main auction; this got off in fine form with the amazing Charlie Ross, who was very entertaining. Afterwards, Bjorn Again quickly filled the dance floor. The 'silent auction' was running the whole evening. The raffle prizes ranged from iPads to spa days. Now well on into the night, the vodka luge was going down well, the dance floor is full and everyone who wants to is keeping an eye on what they want to bid for on the silent auction. The evening ended for us at 4am on Sunday morning with aching feet, tried legs, but feeling very proud to have been part of what turned out to be a great event. Words from some guests: "What a cracking evening we had on Saturday. It was superbly organized - so hats off to all your team"; "Thank you again for all the effort you and the team went to, to pull off a fabulous night".

We would like to thank everyone who donated something to the evening, whether it was a prize, money or their time to help set up. They have all helped to raise this amazing figure to help these guys and girls who put themselves on the line for us time and time again. So, I would like you to remember their charities as they are going to need our money for a very long time. Don't forget **Care for Casualties** and **Help for Heroes**: C4Cand H4H.

# WITNESS APPEAL REGARDING AN ASSAULT ON A 12 YEAR OLD BOY

Approximately 2pm –2.20pm on Friday 12th August a 12 year old boy was in the vicinity of bridge 6 along the canal between Puttenham and Wilstone with a friend. The boys were approached by one of two males who were fishing at the location and verbally abused before one of the boys was assaulted in an unprovoked attack by one of the males in visibility of the other male. Sgt Hopkin from Tring police station has stated "This was a particularly vicious attack upon a young boy that has left him with minor injuries and in fear of his safety when he should be enjoying the summer period with his friends. This is an unusual incident for this area and I would like to stress that the canals and surrounding countryside have been and are continuing to be a place of safety for everyone to enjoy".

Police are appealing for anyone with information to come forward in complete confidence – please contact the officer in the case, PC Mobbs, on the non-emergency telephone number 101, quoting crime reference D3/11/481. Thank you for helping keep our community safe.

## *The agricultural story line…* *by David Mead*

# Harvesting weather

IT'S Thursday, it's raining, it's time to do a few indoor jobs that have been put off for weeks. Alex is fitting the rapeseed drilling equipment on to a cultivating machine, behind a tractor. He will then be able, in one pass, to prepare a good tilth and scatter the small round black seeds into the soil as it is moved along. If the soil dries enough, one pass with the rolls will be sufficient and the seedlings will appear after a week. I don't know whether pigeons lick their lips, but they will be flapping their wings in anticipation. The new aluminium bin, made in the U.S.A., was finished just in time for this year's oil seed rape crop. The filling machinery worked, except one bolt hadn't been fitted - so the seed rained down on Christopher's head. So up he had to go, brave man, almost to the top, to tape over the hole.

We've still got some wheat, late rapeseed and the beans to combine but good progress has been made with the storage areas nearly full. In May after a very dry spring low yields were expected, but we have all been surprised - nearly record yields this year. I would like to thank and congratulate the plant breeders. In the 1950s, on this light soil, 1½ tons per acre was the average, with a 2 ton yield being the exception. Simon can now monitor each field with his combine and 4 tons per acre has been achieved. Talking to another farmer, he told of a 5 ton per acre crop. It will be interesting to see if the price will be affected. Russia and India have had good harvests apparently, we are told.

There have been some kind words spoken about the farm shop and tea room. One couple, on holiday from New Zealand, claimed that the bags of liquorice were produced 20 miles from their home. No sale there then.

It seems a bit strange but I'm taking out loads of logs. I suppose that first frosty night is just around the corner. I get into trouble after some deliveries. Well, log customers have interesting tales to tell, gardens to be looked at, anyway I have to find them first!

It looks as though another Public House has disappeared. The White Lion on the canal bridge at Marsworth. The pub plus car park is apparently being sold for development. I remember a tale my Father told of the landlord, Mr. Goodlife, benefitting from a very cold winter when the reservoirs froze over. He had bought in a sale somewhere a load of ice skates. They were queuing at his shed door.

The conservation boys should be wary this summer. There seem to be lots of birds about, mainly youngsters, that enjoyed the dry spring while growing up in their nest, and its not just the glamorous kites and buzzards that make their presence felt. There are also lots of families of sparrows, chaffinches etc., and we're all so pleased with the numbers of pigeons - such a handsome bird. I believe there is a Greek restaurant somewhere with a very good culinary description.

As I finish writing it has stopped raining. A good drying day tomorrow and we shall be off again at the weekend. Wonderful!!

# Lee and Tracy at St. Cross

**Lee, Tracy and the delightful Darcy.**

THE marriage of Lee Morland and Tracy Lellyett was celebrated on 25th June with a blessing at St. Cross, Wilstone.

There was a splendid reception at the village hall which was enjoyed by everyone.

Lee and Tracy are pictured here with their delightful daughter, Darcy.

All best wishes are extended to the happy couple.

# Fun day goes ahead despite inclement weather

**St Cross Fun Day** ***by Jo Woodbridge***

The wet weather did not dampen the enthusiasm of the organisers of this year's Fun Day.

For the first time in its 5-year history the Fun Day had to be held inside the Church. The usual popular stalls were on offer with a few new additions. Shove Halfpenny and Bagatelle brought out the competitiveness in many of the participants.

John Baron's Cannon Ball game also proved popular outside when it had stopped raining. Delicious cakes and cream teas were consumed and despite the low attendance the afternoon was a fun affair.

Thank you to everyone who helped on the day.

# A year in the life of the Brownies

*by Claire Fordham and Ali Driver*

WE have had a very busy year in which the Brownies have earned their Homemaker, Disability Awareness and Cooks badges, taken part in various events, and contributed to their community in a variety of ways.

In the autumn term we celebrated the end of our Girlguiding Centenary Year by joining with the rest of Tring district guiding for a camp fire and fireworks at Great Farm in Wilstone. It was a wonderful cold clear night and the fireworks provided by Dave Severs were as you would expect, spectacular! We were very lucky to meet the Aces Junior Wheelchair Basketball Squad at Stoke Mandeville Stadium in November and enjoyed a fantastic lesson in how to play wheelchair basketball. We always attend the Remembrance Sunday Parade and this year we had our best turn out of Brownies in recent years and proudly marched with our brand new unit flag. Sadly our annual carol singing trip around Wilstone with Santa's sleigh was thwarted for the second year running by bad weather.

The highlight of the spring term is always our outing to the Long Marston Panto and as usual a great afternoon was had and many dental caries created due to the number of free sweets consumed. As part of their homemaker badge the girls decorated All Saints Church with flowers for Mothering Sunday; made birdfeeders; fridge cake and pizza as well as sewing a sock puppet and designing their dream bedroom.

In our summer term we concentrated our efforts on community and world action and the girls were busy with a number of fundraising activities for their chosen charities of 2011, Help for Heroes and Aces Basketball Squad. We received the most fantastic community support in June at our tea party, and in only one hour of serving tea and cakes we raised £178.

We ended our year during the first week of the summer holidays with a fantastic pack holiday to Phasels Wood where the girls enjoyed a two night stay and a chance to try abseiling, go-karting, the zip wire and the cresta run. The girls did their own catering while we were away and earned their cooks badge.

Sadly it was also the end of an era for us as our unit said goodbye to our remaining 9 year five brownies who have all turned 10 this year. This means that we have spaces for new recruits in September. If your daughter is 7 and has been on the waiting list a place is available for her and you will be contacted shortly. We have already got lots of exciting things planned for 2011/2012 and look forward to starting back on Thursday 15th September.


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# Parish Council news

by Phil Buchi

## Plans for Dean's Farm Eggs

PETER DEAN attended the July meeting of the Parish Council to show his plans for re-development of the Dean's Farm Eggs site in Gubblecote. Several Gubblecote residents attended to hear the proposals. After discussions with planners at Dacorum, the proposal was to demolish the existing industrial buildings and build 26 houses and four small 'work units'. There will be a mix of houses, with 10 of the 24 being 'low cost', and 7 to be placed with a housing association. Mr Dean said that compared to the previous commercial use of the site there would be a reduction in the movement of commercial vehicles through the villages. He said that the intention was to provide: "... a good mix of houses which met a high standard of sustainable design which would fit in with the Chilterns and the low carbon strategy." This means a 'barn style' development for the houses, he said. Detailed plans and artists impressions of the finished development had been brought along and were laid before the Council. Formal planning application would be made to Dacorum Borough Council shortly, and Mr. Dean asked the Parish Council for a positive comment on the proposals when they were consulted.

## ...and for Arla's megadairy

Councillors had received a briefing from Tim Evans, director of UK projects and engineering at Arla Foods. The Parish Council had asked for this briefing to be given at a public meeting of the Council, but as this could not be arranged during the consultation period, they settled for a private meeting as better than nothing. (There have been numerous local public consultations and meetings on these plans elsewhere.) Dawn Slade, Clerk to the Council, said that Mr Evans stuck to his brief, and did not say anything that was not in the company's brochure "Aylesbury: Arla Foods dairy proposal". The Parish Council have registered a formal objection to the proposal citing concerns about traffic and noise impact on the villages nearby. The consultation period is now closed. An article on the megadairy plans appears elsewhere in this issue of *Village News.*

## Allotment lease request

Several members of the newly formed Wilstone allotment association came to the August meeting of the Council to discuss their plans for the new allotments at Rosebarn Lane.

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Jane Waterhouse, secretary of the association, asked the Parish Council if they would agree to become the formal leaseholders of the proposed allotments, and hold the title on behalf of all villagers. In this way, she said, the agreement with the landlords - Tring Charities - would outlive any individuals. A lease period longer than one year was also a prerequisite for securing grants. The Council agreed in principle to this suggestion subject to the legalities being checked. Rent for the whole allotment field will be £150 per year, and the aim is to begin cultivation next spring.

# Verge cutting villagers

The Council have been considering whether it would be viable to take over all verge cutting from Hertfordshire Highways, as they think they could do a better job. Cllr Peter Foster pointed out that many villagers already assist with this job by cutting the verges by their homes - and do it very well. He suggested that the Council records its appreciation to those people, and, inspired by their efforts, wondered if more residents could be mobilised to assist. He would be pleased to hear your views.

# Footpath ideas needed

Cllr Jill Finlan would like to have ideas from villagers for footpath improvement projects in the coming year. Her contact details are on this page.

**Your Parish Councillors are:**

Mr Michael Tomlinson (Chairman) 01296 661 311
Mr Chris Griffiths 01296 668 257
Mr Alan Winfield 01296 668 977
Mrs Abby Fermont 01442 825 352
Mr Nick Murrell 01296 668 190
Mr Peter Foster 01442 825 282
Mrs Jill Finlan 01296 661 716
Mrs Olli Wheeler-Cornell 01296 662207

***The Clerk to the Council is:***
Mrs Dawn Slade 01442 824 138
Email: clerk@tringruralpc.org.uk

***The Village Warden is*:**
Mr Colin Reedman 01442 822 031

***Parish Council Website:***

**www.tringruralpc.org.uk**

You can view and comment on planning applications at
**www.dacorum.gov.uk/planning**
**www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk**

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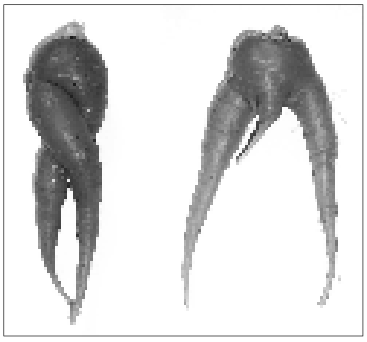
# It's A Fair Crop

*by Andy Ashwell*

Once again this year, the Long Marston Horticultural Show coincided with our annual pilgrimage to Padstow in Cornwall. The weather down there was sunny and warm for most of the time and we only got soaked once during the whole week. I say, *we* got soaked, but what I really mean is that Florence and Mummy got soaked. "The forecast says it's not going to rain until this evening," announced Mummy confidently as she and Florence headed off to catch the ferry to Rock. Just a quick look at the sky would have told her that her so-called forecasters were once again mistaken and that a torrential downpour was not very far away.

I waved them goodbye at the quayside and walked quickly to the shelter of a nearby pub. I nearly choked on my pint when the heavens opened a couple of minutes later – just as I had predicted. Of course, when they returned an hour later looking like two drowned rats I duly offered my sympathy, albeit a little smugly.



**Very strange carrots!**

However, whatever the weather was like back home – rainy by all accounts – it has certainly made our garden leap into overdrive. The lawn, as always, needs another mow; the blackberry bush and plum tree are weighed down with fruit; the rhubarb has got its second wind and is sprouting profusely; and the overhanging apple tree is ready to be scrumped. But it is Mummy's vegetable patch that is the most impressive: it's brimming with French beans, juicy beetroots, bright yellow courgettes, and funny-shaped carrots – a stark contrast to my own measly, slug-sabotaged efforts of previous years.

But this year, I too have actually had a bit of success with my horticultural efforts. Apart from keeping well clear of anything remotely slug-friendly, I have been taking some free advice from the gardening professionals. Totally free advice, in fact, because I borrowed the April edition of Gardeners' World from the library.

**Bumper crop**

The GW experts suggested pruning fruit trees in the spring to improve yield. So that's what I did. The results have been amazing…well, sort of: our damson crop is up by 22% on last year and the pear tree's output has increased by a staggering 1,433%. But, as with all statistics, you have to be a bit careful and although this might sound amazing, the reality is that, despite this astronomically-large percentage increase, we still only have 43 pears. Oh, and the damson situation isn't really that rosy either with the 56 damsons making a paltry two thirds of a jar of jam.

My tomato plants, which regular readers might remember were plundered by the greedy sheep at the end of our garden, recovered well after the experience and look in pretty good shape to produce a record crop too. This time, however, rather than any newly-acquired gardening skills on my part, it is just the sheer number of plants that has won through: I planted 48 seeds and 47 came up; I gave ten seedlings away and three more were broken by Florence whilst 'helping' to transplant them. The surviving 34 plants are now beginning to ripen and will produce – and yes, I have counted them – 918 tomatoes in total.

If we don't get to eat them all, I'm sure that Mummy will be able to change them into some kind of relish in between making the courgette chutney and gallons of the various jams. However, whatever happens, she'll have to fit it in with looking after her new trio of chickens – but more about that next month.

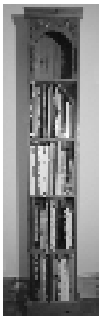
## MILLENNIUM EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**Registered Charity No. 1077157**

Are you hoping to go to University or College in 2012, but are concerned that financial resources might not match up to the requirements? Are you under the age of 22? Have you lived in Aldbury, Long Marston, Marsworth, Pitstone, Puttenham, Tring, Wigginton or Wilstone for at least three years?
To see if you would be eligible for a grant, apply to Tring Charities' Millennium Education Foundation for information and an application form. Write to Elaine Winter, Secretary to the Trustees, 21 Bunyan Close, Tring, HP23 5PS. Please note that the closing date is 15 November 2011 to lodge a completed application for grants payable from Autumn 2012.

**Furniture for sale in Wilstone**

**Weathered 2'6" by 4' solid wood kitchen table £50**



**Tall, slim solid wood bookcase 6' by 1'2" £45**

**Peter Walker 01442 827040**

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| 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
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| 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 8 |

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# Pink Panther gets married!

*by Jo Woodbridge*

**Jacob and Lucas - the guard of honour.**

Pink Panther (aka Sheila Moller) Assistant Beaver Leader with the 1st Wilstone and Long Marston Beaver Colony tied the knot with Chris Harvey on Saturday 30th July.
The wedding took place at St Cross Church, Wilstone followed by a reception at the village hall. Two Beavers from the Colony, Jacob Stewart and Lucas Williams made a guard of honour for Sheila and Chris as they came out of the church.
The Bride and Groom left the church in a pony and trap for the short journey to the reception. It was a wonderful day.

## A big thank you

*by Merle Fitzpatrick*

I MUST have a few screws loose because I am doing a sponsored Bungee Jump near Tower Bridge on the 24th September to raise money for Arthritis Research. I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone that has sponsored me so far, especially everyone that came to the Long Marston & Puttenham Horticultural Show that supported Arthritis Research. In one day I managed to raise just over £90 thanks to your help. This charity is particularly close to my heart as ever since I can remember I watched my mum suffer with the illness, so it would be fantastic to know that the money raised is going towards research to eradicate this illness.
If anyone else would like to sponsor me you can do so at http://uk.virginmoneygiving.co./MerleFitzpatrick


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# Recipe of the month

by Anna Ashwell

## Healthy-ish Oat Cakes

**Try this and have a healthy-ish coffee break.**

**Ingredients:**
100g margarine
50g light brown sugar
2 tablespoons honey
¼ teaspoon ground mixed spice
100g self raising flour
50g raisins

**Method:**
Put the sugar, honey and margarine in a saucepan and heat gently until the margarine has melted and the sugar dissolved.

Turn the heat off and add the rest of the ingredients and mix well.

Place dessert spoon-sized balls of the mixture onto a baking tray. Flatten the balls slightly and make sure they have a little room to spread out during cooking.

Bake the cookies for 15 minutes at $170^0$C.

# Important information about our television reception

*by Jean Fox*

MOST of us in the parish receive our television signal from the Oxford Transmitter Group. On **September 14th** if you have **digital** television you will need to **retune** your set, otherwise you will not be able to receive BBC2.

On **September 28th** the remaining channels will be switched to digital as well. If you don't retune again you won't receive any programmes.

Those with Sky TV, Freesat from Sky, freesat or Virgin Media won't need to do anything.

People who have older television sets (analogue) won't be able to retune or receive any programmes after the switchover. **Don't be left with a blank screen**. If you have any concern or need any help then contact the numbers below to find out more about the help available for older and disabled people from the Switchover Help Scheme.

Anyone with questions on switchover can contact Digital UK on **08456 50 50 50** or visit www.digitaluk.co.uk For more information on the Help Scheme phone 0800 40 85 900 or visit: www.digitaluk.co.uk


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# The Puttenham Page

compiled by Christine Rutter

*BEDS. & HERTS. HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST*

## SPONSORED BIKE 'N' HIKE

### SATURDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER – 10 a.m. 'till 6 p.m.

**Please get your sponsorship form, and cycle or walk for St.Mary's Church and the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust – Your sponsorship money is split 50 : 50**
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**Offers of help for providing/serving refreshments for the hungry and thirsty cyclists would be very much appreciated, as always.**

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

## SUNDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER

### 3.30 p.m. Harvest Evensong, followed by Harvest Tea in Church

**Offers of flowers, greenery, fruit and vegetables would be much appreciated.**
**Also, why not help us decorate St.Mary's Church for the festival. We will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 24th September and work through the morning. You will be most welcome.**

*"Thank-You"*

**Thank You ! …. to all who thought-up and arranged our floral displays in the theme of "Kings from the Bible" for our Patronal Festival. They were all amazing. Thank you, also, for our men in charge of the "Flying Teddies", John's games (including a new one), and the ladies who prepared the strawberry cream tea. A final – and most important Thank-You to everyone who joined us for a most enjoyable and relaxing afternoon.**

**Thank You ! ….. to all who came to our "Friends" Spinning Jenny stall at the Horti show and**

## GARDEN COMPOST

**Don't forget, you can collect a FREE supply of garden compost from the churchyard at St.Mary's. You will find it along the track beyond Cecilia Hall, currently situated both inside and outside of the churchyard. Do remember to bring your own compost bag. Then – watch your garden grow!!**

# Mrs Mary Elizabeth Sarah Lovett, MBE (1922-2011)

*by Colin Moore*

MRS MARY LOVETT, formally of Wilstone and known to many simply as Aunty Mary, sadly passed away on Wednesday 9th of June aged 89 years. Aunty Mary was awarded the MBE in 1994 for her services to the community by delivering newspapers to homes in Long Marston for over 40 years. Mary was born and lived most of her life in Wilstone. Mary's husband was a master carpenter, who died in 1981. Many of you will probably remember Mary out with her dog, Cindy Lou.

**Aunty Mary at the Palace having received her MBE.**

Aunty Mary started work in a munitions factory in Aylesbury during the 2nd World War, helping with the war effort. Later, in 1957, she became a newspaper lady for Wilstone village shop, delivering newspapers to homes in Long Marston. Later, when the Long Marston shop took over the round, Aunty Mary worked there. Every morning cycling from her home in Wilstone to the shop in Long Marston, a distance of just over a mile, arriving at precisely 5.30am, come hail, rain, snow, storm or whatever the weather. Aunty Mary had an excellent memory and once the papers arrived from the wholesaler, Aunty Mary just picked up the papers for over 80 homes, without going through any list, pile them into her bag and off she went on her bike. By the time she finished, she would have walked or cycled a distance of over five miles.

It may be no exaggeration to say that Aunty Mary was probably among the oldest person in the country delivering newspapers. Rumour has it that the people at Long Marston used to set their clocks by arrival of their paper. However, in the latter years her meticulous time-keeping was upset by the unpredictability of the arrival of the newspapers from the wholesaler. "So much for the new technology and efficiency", she quipped.

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# *Letters…*

## Many thanks from a Yank

***From Stephen M Hutton, Apex, North Carolina, USA.***

THANK you for sending me the July/August issue of the Village News that featured my friend Des Howarth. Like Des, the navigator on the B24 Liberator *Beast of Bourbon* when it crashed in 1945, it was most wonderful for me and my wife Pam to attend the 36th Bomb Squadron memorial celebration there in Long Marston last May. We enjoyed meeting you and so many others.

Before this gathering, as the 36th Squadron unit contact for the 8th Air Force Historical Society, I worked Stateside to encourage veterans and their families of the 36th to contribute toward a memorial and to travel to England to make this last squadron event. It gives me great pleasure to know that fifteen "Yanks" made one last truly sentimental journey to attend. How very pleasing it was to see squadron veterans Des Howarth, pilot Art Brusila, his tail gunner Gordon Caulkins, 82nd Airborne soldier Ernie Lamson, plus the commanding officer of the 36th Electronic Warfare Squadron, Lt. Col. Shannon Driscoll, and family members over there to join in the festivities. Although the pilot of the *Beast* Louis McCarthy was invited, he could not attend due to health reasons. However, he is aware of the splendid memorial that now rests in your lovely village.

It was my great honor and pleasure to play a part in the totality of what occurred, but most of all I am very proud of my British friend and event organizer Chas Jellis, along with his girlfriend Heda Kootz and their team who took it upon themselves to promote yet another memorial effort there in England. And what a fantastic show they produced. It was not very long before that in November of 2009 they erected a memorial in Ivinghoe honoring 36th Squadron airmen of the Lt. Norman Landberg crew. Now they have again created another lovely permanent memorial. As well, they scheduled and carried out the many special events for our enjoyment. Our visits to the American War Memorial Cemetery at Cambridge, to Duxford for the British and American Air Museums, the Landberg crew memorial in Ivinghoe and finally a journey back to old Station 113 at Cheddington were all so very moving and an experience of a lifetime.

As the historian for the 36th Bomb Squadron Radar Counter Measure Unit and author of the unit history book titled *Squadron of Deception*, I see this as another story of British - American cooperation as in WWII. These men of the Lt.

**Stephen Hutton at the Long Marston memorial in May.**

Louis McCarthy crew, Fred Becker, Howard Haley, and Carl Lindquist now honored in Long Marston - flying with RAF 100 Group - performed a very important function. They conducted special electronic warfare and countermeasure operations for bomber support. Although they flew in four-engine heavy bombers they never dropped a single bomb! They were in a unique and secret squadron that saved many Allied lives during WWII.

Your Village News coverage before and after the memorial celebration along with numerous TV and newspaper media coverage Chas and Heda arranged was just super and gave great publicity to recognize and honor our World War II veterans. The pride and warmth we feel in our hearts from sharing this time with you shall last a very long time. The beautiful new memorial will last into perpetuity. Thank you!

Finally in closing I would like to again send sincere thanks to Chas Jellis and Heda Kootz and their team; also to Mike Tomlinson, Chairman of the Tring Rural Parish Council for approving the memorial; to Jon and Beckie Reeves at the Queens Head for their kind hospitality and especially to all the fine people of Long Marston who welcomed us with such open arms. As the son of a 36th Squadron tail gunner I thank each of you for making what was truly a most wonderful and memorable occasion for us. To all my fondest regards. *SMH.*

## Norman Buchi (1922-2011)

***From Phil Buchi, Long Marston.***

My father, Norman Buchi, a Chartered Engineer and latterly resident of Wilstone, died on 10th August after a short illness. He was 89. My sister Gillian and I have been touched by the many expressions of sympathy we have received from friends in the villages. We would like to thank everyone for their kindness. It was wonderful to see so many of the people he knew attend the funeral on 18th August, and to hear from them aspects of his life that were new to us. Thank you all.

# New directions-sheep pasturing for beginners

*by Leslie Barker*

Huw, no introduction needed, led a discussion with members of the Men's Society at its July meeting. This year the subject was metaphorical sheep and the pastoral role of the Church, and in particular the scope for new directions for the Society.

It had become clear to the Society's committee that, with only one or two members below retirement age, the Society would die out within a few years, unless younger men joined. We had asked Huw to discuss how the Society fitted in with the Tring Team's ministry. He said it was to "Feed my sheep," not to make new disciples. The Church must go out to people where they are, and offer a "mixed economy", with a variety of services.

Some men may find the Church "too girlie" and struggle with the "new man" concept. Men want to spend more time with their children, but long working hours and commuting make it difficult. Some parishes successfully run men's programmes at weekends, but here that is a key family time. However, Dads & Lads and Daughters had a camping weekend again this summer following its success last year. There are further possibilities by engaging with men's interests. Many men like beer, fire and power tools. So, for example, a Church working party followed by beer and a barbecue could work. Groups of men are already taking part in other activities, such as the occasional meals organised for fathers of children at a school, or watching sport. Particularly good are family activities. There are already Church members in these groups, and others could join them.

In each case the activities are important for their social interaction, and sometimes more for friendship as people enjoy doing things together. Bringing together younger and older men would provide opportunities for mutual support and witness. Huw endorsed the value of the Society keeping its present cycle of meetings as an aim. The 2011/12 programme, starting in October, has already been finalised, with an interesting mixture of talks, outings and meals, as has proved popular this past year.

He also summarised two more aims arising out of the discussion: that the Society should continue to invite men of all ages to its meetings and also bring older and younger men together in both planned and informal activities. The Society's committee will now need to consider how to work out the details.

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# From the Vicarage

by Rev'd Jo Wetherall

AS I write the whole country is still reeling from the heart-breaking scenes of rioting and violence in our towns and cities, scenes which even my liberal politics can see are a very thinly veiled excuse for people to behave in the most appalling manner.

The language of violence is not a conversation, no meaningful dialogue can take place through the wilful destruction of local communities. It has put us all in a bad temper, in a place where perhaps we don't want to listen to any kind of justification.

...but when children of 13 years of age take to the streets with hammers, and looting is a word which legitimises theft, somewhere there is more than a seed of truth about people's fear: about poverty; about a disintegration of community.

People have a need and they want to be listened to. They are telling us that a sickness is affecting our society, especially our children - and it needs to be healed.

I can understand what it must be like to be brought up in a home with a certain world view and then to find that society doesn't understand it. In fact it openly rejects it. I face that reality as a practising Christian. Often I find myself in situations which are so at odds with my beliefs that I feel alienated from the people I'm with; misunderstood, irrelevant. I want to protest - to make people aware that my beliefs do have meaning and purpose. Violence is not a legitimate form of protest, nothing will ever convince me otherwise.

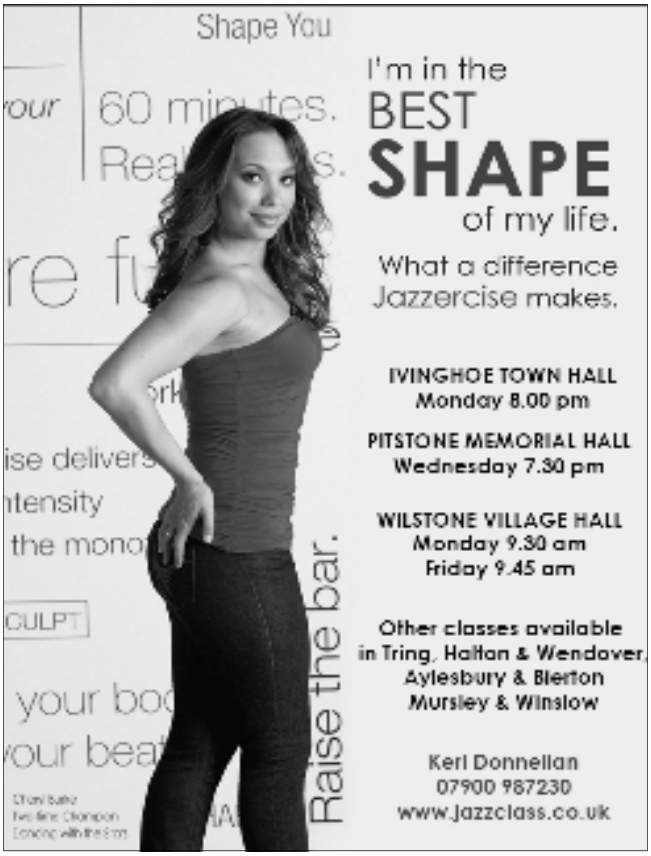
What we need, what our society needs is people with "chutzpah" a good Yiddish word meaning people with gall, brazen nerve, effrontery, incredible guts. People who will sit before our decision makers and say our society is sick and needs healing. You have the power and the influence, ***now do it.***

To consign the people who have participated in the riots to a category where we think we can ignore them isn't going to help.

We need to listen to each other. Listen until we become so full of understanding of our different situations that real dialogue can take place and healing can begin.

It's worth remembering that the inclusive society that Jesus instigated includes responsibility for ourselves and for each other; that it includes boundaries, respect and judgement.

I pray that these scenes of death will lead to scenes of resurrection, that people will be raised up who have the determination and strength of character to stand up for our society, and for our children so they can be healed.




# News from All Saints

WE hope that you are feeling refreshed after the summer holidays. It was a real joy to have All Saints packed for the Team Service on 31st July. The Dads, Lads and Daughters had survived their night camping and breakfast of bacon and sandwiches sustained them on their arrival at Church. Thanks go to the "Kitchen Team" for all their hard work.

Thank you to everyone who baked and then helped at our Cake Stall at the Horticultural Show. I am most grateful for your support. A special thank you to Glenys and Rowena for our lovely banner.

**Dates for the diary:**
10th September Bike Ride
5th and 19th September Toddler Worship 2 - 3pm
25th September Sunday Club 10am
27th September Social Afternoon 2 – 3pm All welcome
Friday 21st October – QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT 7.30 for 8pm in Victory Hall. Tickets £10 including curry, £3.50 without curry.

For catering purposes we will require numbers wishing to have Rev Huw's home-made curry by Friday 7th October. As always, BYO drinks and nibbles if you wish. Carole Harrison 01296 668526.

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# QUIZ NIGHT

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## Wilstone Village Hall
## Friday 23 September

**Questions start at 8pm**

## £5 per person

**Up to 8 per team**
**Bring your own drinks and nibbles**

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# The lost chapel of Long Marston

*by John Noakes*

AT the end of a small lane in the village of Long Marston is a small churchyard. It has a few gravestones, some sombre yews and a gigantic lime tree. At the northwest aspect are the remains of a moat which once surrounded the Manor of Long Marston; long since lost. Adjacent is a 16th century thatched cottage.

Hidden by the yew trees is an old church tower dating back to about the 15th century. It is a remnant of the 12th century Chapel of All Saints, Long Marston. In fact it was a Chapel of Ease; providing a local place of worship thus easing the burden for local people who would normally have to make the long walk to the parish church at Tring.

There are few descriptions of the old chapel which in all possibility stood for 700 years. There was an ancient pulpit and screen of carved oak. The wall had vestiges of rude drawings one of which was supposed to represent St. Christopher and the roof was considered to be a fine piece of work. Overall it was plain and somewhat dark owing to the small size of the windows.

There still remains in the west wall of the tower a large stone window with three lights with gothic tracery. On one side of the blocked up arch is a stone etched with three small sundials; these must have been removed from the south side at some point in the past.

**The only remaining photograph**

The churchyard has few graves and only served as a burial ground for 34 years. The first burial was that of an infant in 1832. This was then followed by seven more infants before the first adult was buried. The last burial took place in 1866, this being yet another young person; a 14year old boy. Clearly the churchyard, although having a short life itself, received many young people whose own lives were tragically cut short.

In 1883 the building was considered to be unsafe owing to insecure foundations, compounded by damp. Furthermore it was thought to be too small for needs of the community. However it could well be that the vicar considered the chapel was not of sufficient size to reflect his status in the community. It was then abandoned!

The decision taken was to build a larger church in the village also to be named All Saints and the main body of the chapel was pulled down to make way for what was thought to be a grander building. The new church has no tower; indeed it is considered now by some to be of little architectural merit?

Disintegration through neglect and abandonment seems to have been the fate of this old chapel. It was as though unstoppable forces had conspired to "see off" this building. Through the endeavors of a small local group, as described in a previous article, the Tower has been restored and is no longer neglected. It stands alone as the main body of the chapel has gone but these forces have not completely removed all traces of the old chapel. The foundation stone was taken from the chapel and laid in the northeast buttress of the new church, probably as a symbolic gesture. Furthermore, in a strange way, the chapel still lives on through a donor transplant. The old chapel itself had been rejuvenated many years ago, as an organ purchased from Tring church for £50, had been installed there. It then gave the instrument, in what was literally an organ transplant, to the new church when it was built. In medical parlance this could have been complicated by rejection. However, after over 100 years this has not been a problem!

Although the main body of the church has been removed it has not been officially declared redundant so theoretically services could still be held there. The last recorded event was a wedding, which took place on 27th April 1882 when only the contracting parties were allowed inside owing to the dangerous state of the building.

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Fortunately it will now be difficult to completely "see off" this old building as the tower has been given Grade 2* status as a national monument and thus there is a duty to maintain it and ensure its safety.

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The churchyard and tower are at the confluence of two footpaths converging on Long Marston. One is from Wilstone, the other from Puttenham both crossing a ridged and furrowed field. It is an interesting corner of the village with a number of sensitively converted barns and two old farmhouses; the 16 century thatched cottage has a Victorian addition. It was originally probably just a farm worker's home that has survived the changes of time. It was for a number of years, the home of Mary Grieve. She was editor, for nearly a quarter of a century, of Woman magazine, which in her time claimed to be read by half of British women between the ages of 16 and 65!

Why not come and visit this interesting spot? There are some information boards we have erected in the churchyard. Long Marston's village green is thought by some to be the site of the pond where Ruth Osborne, the last women in England accused of being a witch, was ducked and drowned. If you don't believe that, you can drown your disbelief in The Half Moon or The Queens Head.

# Who needs good weather to have fun!

*By Anthony Short*

Report from the 1st Wilstone and Long Marston Cub Camp at Tolmers Wood

**Rafting under the watchful eyes of the Dads.**

The boys arrived at camp on Friday in torrential rain, but weren't going to let the British weather dampen their spirits! Luckily we'd managed to erect most of the tents before the downpour started, so although our first evening's activities were somewhat restricted, we still managed to enroll Ben and play a few games before retiring to bed at 9.30pm. It was, not altogether surprisingly, around 2.30am before the last tent fell silent..

The first stirrings were heard at 5am on Saturday morning—it had stopped raining but the ground was still fairly wet underfoot. By the time we'd had breakfast the sun was shining and things were beginning to feel much more pleasant. After collecting wood for the camp fire that evening, the boys raced off for their first exercise of the day - the rolling wall - which got rave reviews on their return.
After sarnies and various other edible delights it was off to Berts pool for rafting. Nearly everyone was really keen on this activity - even if some found the knots and lashings a bit puzzling and had to be cajoled into trying to tie together logs and drums. The first completed raft was successfully launched, along with a couple of dads kayaking and keeping a watchful eye.
After this things seemed to fall apart a little, literally that is, as both the other two rafts disintegrated before even reaching the water! After emergency repairs we managed to get two rafts afloat and all the cubs had a turn aboard. With time running out, the boys had some fun on the water chute whilst the rafts were dismantled and cleared away.

**Blindfold tug'o'war**

The boys then went for a quick spruce up before Archery at 5pm. Having just dried out from the showers, the heavens opened and we all got soaked again! However that didn't stop the boys enjoying the activity and there are some really good Archers in the pack. Then the rain started again. Thanks to Steve Edmonds astute thinking earlier in the day, our chopped wood was safely stored under a tarpaulin and dinner on the Alter Fire went ahead as planned.

The adults then challenged the boys to a Tug-O-War match, but as there were many more of them than grownups, they were made to wear blindfolds. The boys were led to the rope and the fun began. The adults went off and sat down whilst the boys pulled against a big tree in the field for about 3 minutes before realizing all was not as it seemed at first!

Songs around the campfire ('Heads, shoulders, knees and toes', 'You cannot go to Heaven in...',etc) were followed by the cooking of burgers and marshmallows, by which time many were wilting and started heading for bed at about 10.15pm.

Sunday dawned a totally different day from Saturday, firstly the boys didn't stir until just after 7am and secondly, the sun was shining brightly! After breakfast we inspected the tents and then they were taken down whilst the boys were off expending some energy on the assault course. Then it was time for a quick drink and snack before going off and attempting to be Gladiators on a huge inflatable podium, another activity which seemed to be well accepted.
A presentation was made to the tidiest tent and with parents arriving to take 18 tired cubs home, the camp came to an end. I'd just like to finish by thanking Steve Edmonds and Jenny Chalk for their efforts in making our camp a success and to parents, Lee, Paul D, Shaun, Paul M, Michael, Karen and finally Becky. I know everyone enjoyed this weekend, both adults and cubs.

**NB: Our local Scout Group actively and urgently needs your help! Sadly, both our leaders will be leaving us by the end of 2011 after many years of volunteered service. We won't be able to continue running our weekly programmes, or holding wonderful and challenging camps such as the one above unless we can find like-minded and energetic individuals to replace them. If you have some time you feel you can offer (albeit not necessarily on a weekly basis) please email Jane Dawson (Group Section Leader) at wilstone@whscouts.org. We'd be very pleased to hear from you!**

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Bookings:Tony Short 01442 823096
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Lynn Foster 01296 662466

*Changes or additions? Contact the Editor.*

## *Thank you .....*

***To all our volunteer distributors who have delivered your Village News to every home in Tring Rural parish.***

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## *Village News*

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**editorwlmp@yahoo.com**

**Deadline for items to go in the next issue is: Wednesday 21st September 2011.**

**You can read *Village News* on line at:**

**www.tringruralpc.org.uk** (Click on Village News)
**www.wilstone.me.uk** (Click on Village News)

# Wheel meet again (at the reception).

**Get me to the church on time.**

Steve Iley and Naomi Hall chose unusual forms of transport to and from their wedding at St. Cross, Wilstone, on 9th July.

The bride arrived at the church in an elegant carriage pulled by Pog the Donkey. But their hilarious departure for the reception in 'his' and 'hers' wheelbarrows had guests grasping for their cameras!

**Wheel meet again!**

Steve has lived in Wilstone all his life, and Naomi was brought up in Long Marston and Wilstone before moving to Tring.

Naomi's grandparents were also married at St. Cross, on Boxing Day 1948. There was a further pleasant surprise when their son, Logan Stefan Iley, was christened immediately after the wedding ceremony.

# OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE VILLAGE PEOPLE

**Another photo by Neil Williams along the Grand Union Canal.**

**That's two editions in a row that have featured fishing**.

*Perhaps we could have more photos of village folk and other hobbies? Ed.*

**Jacob Jellis and his dad Daniel fishing on the canal.** (Picture: Neil Williams)

# Long Marston Show picture parade

*(Continued from page 1)*

**"Royal Mail" by Frances Farley who won the Parker Cup.**

**Royal icing wins first prize for Emma-Lea Davis.**

**Lottie Woods ready with the Pimms.**

**Onions on parade. Those nearest the camera are by Alan Winfield.**

**Three legged race.** (Pictures: Village News)

**Really serious carrots by (L) Terry Clay and ( R ) Jane Morrell.**

**Hon Show SecretaryGillie Russell-Mann (right) and deputy, Margaret Kaye.**

**Tring Air Cadets.**

**A new look for Ashleigh-Jo**

**A first pony ride for Rhiannon Thomas.**

**WI in charge of refreshments.**

**Massive tombola draws the crowds.**