Village News: Puttenham, Wilstone, Long Marston, Gubblecote

April 2008

Your vibrant village magazine - delivered free to every home in Tring Rural Parish.

Airfield developments - an update

THE public enquiry regarding the latest developments at the Marsworth airfield site will be taking place on 20 May starting at 10.00am in the Walton Lounge, Civic Centre, Market Square, Aylesbury.

Letters regarding these developments should be sent to:-

The Planning Inspectorate
Room 3/16 Eagle
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
BRISTOL
BS1 6PN

If you have written before regarding developments at this site, you should write again as previous comments would have been about different applications and will NOT be carried over to this enquiry.

See page 12 for the full list of the latest applications submitted by Skim Milk Supplies Ltd.

Letters should be submitted as soon as possible and voicing your comments at the Inquiry will all aid the objection process.

Local "vocalisation" is an important component in this process.

Inside this issue:

Church services	*3*
What's on	*4*
In Brief	*6*
Council News	*10*
Local contacts	*24*
From the Vicarage	*26*

Special features:

- Garters ? 6
- Czech connection 8
- The Ball is back! 9
- Su Doku 13
- Further airfield 14
- Braving Borneo 17
- Agricultural 20
- Puttenham page 22
- Recipe 27

VILLAGE VIEW BY JOHN PAINTER

Wilstone reservoir at its busiest.

Village News is supported by Tring Rural Parish Council www.tringruralpc.org.uk

...anyone for tennis?

We would like to invite you to our **open afternoon** on Sunday 27th April 2008

- 2pm to 3pm - FREE kids' coaching session
- 3pm to 5pm - open, informal tennis for adults

Players of all standards are welcome at our club

- complete beginners
- 'rusty rackets'
- regular players

so please do join us for the afternoon

FREE membership until end of May plus two **FREE** coaching sessions for new members....

LONG MARSTON TENNIS CLUB

Our **favourable membership rates** give access to:

- two courts and a clubhouse in an idyllic setting
- regular friendly tournaments and club sessions
- junior and adult coaching
- six league teams (men's, ladies' and mixed)
- social membership of Long Marston Cricket Club
- above all a **relaxed playing environment**

Interested?
Then either:
call Margaret Kelland
on 01296 668314 for more information

or just come along on the day.
The courts are on Cheddington Lane, Long Marston, HP23 4QP

www.longmarstontennisclub.co.uk

Village News

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DUE to the timing of the deadline for the February Village News, several regular articles did not appear in that issue . So in this month's, you will find that we have included double reports on several matters. You will have noticed that the February issue was only 24 pages instead of the normal 28 or even 32 in a good month. This was due in part to the early deadline but also due to the lack of articles. Please keep them coming because without your input this newsletter could not exist.

Spring is (allegedly) now with us and much planning is going on for local events for the rest of the year as can be seen by the number of dates on the "What's on" page . If your event is not featured here please advise us as soon as possible in order to avoid any overlap with any other event.

Now is the time to get out into the garden and/or greenhouse and to start preparing the ground for all those wonderful plants so that we can look forward once again to a colourful summer. Let's hope that it will be a drier one than last year!

Colin Davenport

Deadline for items for our next edition (May) is Thursday 17 April 2008.

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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3 Milnyard Square, Peterborough, PE2 6GX. 01733 230800.

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.

6 April
10.00am All Saints All Age Worship
6.30pm St Cross Evening Prayer
6.30pm All Saints Evening Prayer

7 April (Monday)
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

13 April
8.15am St Mary's Holy Communion
10.00am All Saints Holy Communion
6.30pm St Cross Holy Communion
6.30pm All Saints Evening Prayer

20 April
10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer
10.00am St Cross Holy Communion
6.30pm All Saints Evening Prayer

21 April (Monday)
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

27 April
10.00am All Saints Holy Communion
3.30pm St Mary's Evening Prayer
6.30pm St Cross Evening Prayer
6.30pm All Saints Evening Prayer

St. Cross, Wilstone

Your friends and relations all over the world can read Village News on-line. Find us at

www.tringruralpc.org.uk *and click 'Village News'*
www.wilstone.me.uk *and click 'Village News'*

What's on...

Friends of Tring School

Registered Charity No.1022604

CURRY AND KARAOKE EVENING

Friday 18th April

Desborough Hall Tring School

7.45 pm

Tickets £10 each

Curry supplied by

THE JUBRAJ

Menu to consist of choice of chicken or vegetable curry/rice/poppadoms/pickles and naan bread

Please bring your own cutlery and drinks

Karaoke by David Chenkin

Tickets available **NOW**

From Dennis's of Tring
Or reception at Tring School Mortimer Hill
Or call 01442 822303

Diary dates...

Tring Rural Parish Council meetings (8pm)
The public are welcome to attend these meetings.
Wednesday 16 April, Puttenham Cecilia Hall.
Wednesday 21 May, Long Marston village hall.

Wednesday 26 -Sunday 30 March
Beer festival at the Anglers Retreat
Monday 31 March
Village News AGM, 8pm, Half Moon, Wilstone.
Friday 4 April
A celebration of our local countryside,
7.30pm Long Marston Village Hall
Saturday 5 April
Jumble sale at Puttenham
"Bandstand" Live bands at Long Marston Hall
Tuesday April 8
WI talk. The local Czech connection 8pm.
Sunday 13 April
Beetle Drive 3 - 5pm .Victory Hall .Long Marston.
Friday 18 April
Curry & Karaoke evening. Tring School
Saturday 19 April
Crocus Walk 2pm. Wilstone War Memorial.
Friday 25 April
Currioke! Friends of Tring School event.
Sunday April 27
Long Marston Tennis Club Open Afternoon 2pm
Monday 5 May
Aldbury May Fair
Saturday 10 May
Family Fun Day. St Peter & Paul, Tring
LM Tennis club quiz.
Friday 16 May
Coffee Evening 7.30 pm 67 Tring Road, Wilstone in aid of the village church.
Saturday 24 May -Monday 26
Spring flower festival, St. Mary's, Pitstone
Sunday 25 May -Monday 26
Tring Canal Festival, Little Tring
Saturday 7 June
Wilstone village fete: Wild West Wilstone!
Sunday 8 June
Children's bike ride event.
Saturday 14 June
Proposed Gardens Walk with tea (Long Marston).

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

Sunday 15 June
Marsworth Steam Rally.
Saturday 28 June
Midsummer Ball, Cheddington Village Hall. See page 9
Sunday 29 June
Family Games (Puttenham).
Saturday 5 July
Summer Ramble
Saturday 12 July
Family Fun Day 2-4 pm Wilstone Church Gardens
Saturday 2 August
Long Marston Annual Show.
Sunday 10 August
St. Mary's Patronal Festival and fun day.
Saturday 6 September
Jumble sale at Puttenham (to be confirmed).
Saturday 13 September
Beds & Herts sponsored bike ride
26 - 28 September
Art exhibition at Tring School (FoTS)
Saturday 11 October
October Supper and Auction
Friday 17 October
Slide show Wilstone Village Hall
Tuesday 11 November
Remembrance Day Compline at St. Mary's.
Tuesday 16 December
Carols around the tree at Long Marston.

Wild West Wilstone Village Fete: 7th June

Can you CANCAN?

Dancers wanted for stunning line-up!

Would you like to learn the Cancan and join the line - up for one of the big attractions at this year's village fete? Rehearsals begin in April and applications are invited from villagers who would like to take part and perform the Cancan at Wild West Wilstone on 7th June . Instruction and costumes provided.

This could be the big break into showbusiness you have been waiting for! To apply call:

Maggie Buchi on 01442 890599

Wilstone Village Fete Committee

Marsworth Local History Group Exhibition

29 & 30 March 2008

10.00-4.00

Marsworth Millennium Hall

The History of the Village

- Past and Recent -

Refreshments Admission by donation

An Event Celebrating what is Special about our Local Countryside

Friday April 4th (7.30pm)

At Long Marston Village Hall

Hosted by Long Marston & Puttenham W.I.

and you might even get supper!

Mentmore Arts Festival '08

24-26 May Bank Holiday

Mentmore Arts Festival is inviting local Artists to exhibit their work in St Mary's Church, Village Hall and on The Green.

Calling all artists

Mentmore is to hold its first Arts Festival in aid of the Mentmore Church Restoration Fund and local Charities. We are asking local artists to hire exhibition space to exhibit their work.

Artists work will be exhibited in the Church and Village Hall and stall space will be available on the Village Green for the sale of paintings, prints, photographs, sculpture, glass, pottery, local books and postcards. All exhibits in the Church and Village Hall will be available to buy. There will also be a raffle, a children's art competition, and a local artefacts charity stall.

Teas will be served in the Mentmore Village Hall garden.

For a booking form or further information please contact:
Caroline Gates on 01525 382919 or
Sue Scott on 01525 372757

In Brief...

The Government is soon to announce plans for ten new eco-towns . 6000 homes could be built at Long Marston!

WHEN Gordon Brown began his campaign to succeed Tony Blair, his first policy statement was a plan to create settlements of 5000 to 20,000 homes built to strict environmental criteria. Wherever possible they were to be developed on brownfield sites, preferably on surplus public land. The Government invited proposals from developers last summer and so far nearly sixty proposed schemes have been submitted. As yet none of the proposals have been confirmed.

However, Britain's first new eco-town is expected to be Northstowe at Oakington five miles outside Cambridge where a community of 9,500 homes is likely to be built on the site of a former barracks.

Developers are also eager to build an eco-town of 6000 homes at Long Marston on the site of an old second world war installation.

From the list of submissions, ten will be selected, to be completed by 2020.

Source "The Week 23 Feb 2008"

Now is this some April fool spoof? No, it's absolutely true but the Long Marston under discussion is near *Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire*; So relax!

John Noakes

Local tip considered for closure

POSSIBLE future closure of the well used local household waste and re-cycling centre (HWRC) in Tringford Road near New Mill has caused some consternation among local residents. Herts County Council are keen to stress that a decision is not to be taken until October, and that possible closure of the Tring site is one of several options being considered as part of a county-wide review of waste services. The reasons for considering closure of this useful local facility are apparently that the access is difficult for the heavy lorries, and that there are adequate alternatives close by. Also, the site is too small to expand and offer additional facilities in the future, but it did have the highest rate of recycling in the county last year. Information from local authority websites reveals that the nearest alternative HWRCs are in Eastman Way, Berkhamsted (Herts CC) and Rabans Lane, Aylesbury (Bucks CC). These are hardly "nearby" as far as these villages are concerned, and the lorry drivers seem to have managed to get in and out at Tringford Road so far.

Borough Councillor Derek Townsend was quoted in the Gazette as saying: "If they shut the Tring site the borough council will be picking up the bill for clearing up the dumped rubbish that will be left around the town and that will cost us five times more. Every little nook and cranny in Tring will be covered in dumped rubbish." Cllr. Townsend is organising a petition against the closure. Dacorum Borough Council is to oppose the plan.

Wilstone Fete June 7TH

Plants

We will be having our usual plant stall at this year's fete so all spare seedlings, cuttings, plants, bulbs, etc will be gratefully received.

Cake Stall

Ever popular, this stall usually sells out so quickly. Your favourite home made cakes would be appreciated.

Tombola

In a later issue we will be requesting Wilstone residents to help us with items for the raffle and tombola.

China smash

Start saving your old crockery; we will be looking for items for the china smash stall.

Books & Bric a Brac

The usual stalls will be present

Fancy Dress

You hopefully know by now that the fete will be a western themed event so grown ups as well as the children can be in fancy dress.

AND FINALLY……..

Watch out for more details in the May & June issues of Village News.

A whirl of garters at Wilstone

WILSTONE village fete on 7th June promises to be bigger and better even than last year. *(Is this possible? Ed.)* There will be Calamity Jane (in person), the Milky Bar Kid, cowboys, indians, gunslingers and outlaws. Some might say: "Just a normal Saturday afternoon in Wilstone then."

But a unique attraction will be the proposed display of the risqué Cancan dance by a troupe of local saloon girls! The OED says that the Cancan is "a kind of dance with extravagant and indecorous gestures", so an event not to be missed indeed. But the performance depends on volunteers coming forward to join in the whirl of garters, feathers and frills. Rehearsals begin in April and candidates to join the troupe should get in touch now with Maggie Buchi 01442 890599. Previous experience not necessary, but at least *some* aptitude would help apparently.

If you feel that the Cancan is a bit too strenuous, then you must certainly join in the Line Dancing which will take place in the arena. A demonstration will be given by well known dance masters Joanne and Gordon, who will then lead everyone in having a "yee-haw" time. Bring your own cowboy boots and hats. Committee member Jill Walker said: "It'll be bags of fun!"

In last month's issue there were several letters on this topic. This article highlights just some of the problems involved.

"Bag it, Tie it, and Bin it!"

THE latest estimation indicates that there are approximately 6.8 million dogs in the United Kingdom producing approximately 900 tonnes of poo every day of the year!

A recent survey indicated that of those surveyed 80% were concerned about the amount and location of dog mess left lying around our local communities.

Places where this unwanted and potentially hazardous waste was left included local playing fields, dog exempt areas e.g. playgrounds, outside people's houses and in the middle of footpaths.

The places where this poo is left can not only cause serious inconvenience to people who may inadvertently step in it, sit in it or have to clean it up, but it can also be a potential source of serious parasitic infection.

Dogs can carry roundworm which if inadvertently ingested (e.g. being in contact with the poo and not thoroughly washing hands before touching food, drink or utensils) can cause Toxocariasis. Surveys carried out worldwide have shown an infection rate of 2-5% in healthy adults from the Western World, more worryingly it is most commonly a disease of children, typically aged 2-7 years.

Those people that do not or WILL not clean up their dogs not only show a complete disregard for the environment that people live in but also to the health of those people who enjoy the pleasures of town and countryside alike without having a dog themselves.

As a responsible dog owner I always carry poo bags to ensure that I clean up after my dogs, however increasingly I end up cleaning other people's mess up in areas where there are vulnerable members of the community.

Dog mess is increasingly common along the towpaths, outside the bungalows along Tring road, and quite probably the worse place is around the village hall. The village hall is a community focal point where every week the young of the village come for activities such as Cubs and Beavers.

The older children who play in the car park are also exposed, if their ball goes in to the recreation ground and rolls through poo – maybe they see it, may be they don't, this is an ideal method for transmission of parasites. Irresponsible dog owners are potentially exposing their own children and friends of their children to a major hazard.

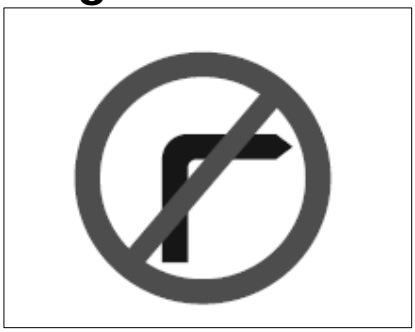
Bagging, tying and binning is not difficult. Finding poo bins can be, but surely picking up the mess and disposing of it properly shows that dog owners can and do respect their environment and neighbours.

Please as a dog owner carry poo bags and help keep our environment CLEAN.

Corks, Bob & Chip.

(And don't throw the bag into the hedgerow. Ed)

No Right Turn Please



AS people who use the Wilstone village hall know, its entrance is located on a very sharp corner. When coming from Long Marston people who look would see a sign forbidding them from turning right in to the hall, unfortunately most people don't bother.

The sign is there for a reason – turning right into the village hall is potentially extremely dangerous, the corner is blind. People driving from the village towards Long Marston have no visibility of who or what may be trying to turn right.

I have seen numerous near misses, where either people have had to stop their turn right as someone comes round the corner or those coming round the corner have had to brake suddenly to prevent them from hitting someone turning right.

Please, if wanting to park in the car park and you are coming from the Long Marston direction, carry on round the corner and turn around in the village. Always enter the car park with the knowledge that there can be young children running around so keep your speed down.

Dr. Caroline Beevers

Unearthing the Bucks 'Czech Connection' in World War II

WI Tuesday 8 April 8 pm Long Marston Village Hall

WHEN the wartime blitz hit London in 1940, Czechoslovak President in exile Edvard Benes was urged to pack up and seek refuge in the English countryside. For the next five years Benes and his wife lived in The Abbey, a country estate owned by friends of the Rothschild family, in Aston Abbots. His cabinet found safe haven at Wingrave Manor, just up the hill from Long Marston, while some 100 Czech soldiers kept watch.

The villages in the county of Buckinghamshire were chosen as an ideal compromise between safety and vicinity to London. Jan Masaryk, the son of the first Czech president, often spent weekends at the home of his friend Anthony Rothschild. It was on Masaryk's recommendation that the Czech government-in-exile moved to Bucks in early 1941.

President Benes made several gifts to the villages, including the Wingrave bus shelter, still in use today. His soldiers of the Czech independent brigade were posted around the villages, armed with tommy guns and even anti aircraft guns. The platoon cook, Martin, had use of the oven at the Bull and Butcher pub on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"And they mixed a lot with the local people - not on the political side, because what they did was secret, but in a social way. They used to hold events for the local people, and the Czechoslovak soldiers would drink in the local pubs. And a number of them married local people as well. But actually in 1945, with liberation, almost all of them went back. But many of them returned with the coming of Communism. However, they didn't return to the villages where they used to live because they didn't want to be found by the communists and that would have been too obvious a place to go back to"

Local author, Neil Rees, has written a book about 'The Czech Connection' and will be telling the tale at Long Marston and Puttenham WI's meeting on Tuesday 8 April. VISITORS MOST WELCOME. £2 entry includes refreshments.

Neil researched and wrote his book locally.

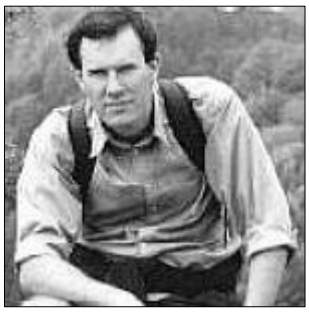
"Many of the Czechoslovaks left souvenirs and photographs with the local people whom they had met, and very often when I go and talk to people they bring something out of a drawer and they say, 'Oh, I've had this for 60 years,' and it's a medal, or a badge or photograph, and I would say, 'May I borrow those and copy them?' And so this book is based upon the photographs of people who have kindly let me publish them, combined with their stories".

"In some cases, people continued to write to their Czechoslovak friends. Normally, this stopped in 1948 because, unfortunately, many of the soldiers that were stationed in Britain during the war went home as heroes but then in 1948 were imprisoned by the communists, and at that point their contact with the West ceased".

Hear more of this fascinating tale by coming along on April 8th.

Acknowledgment for material in this article to Radio Prague and Brian Kenety.

Discover more on www.radio2.cz/en/article69301



Author Neil Rees

Long Marston Cricket Club

ONLY a few weeks away from the new season and the eagerly awaited opening matches in the higher divisions of the Cherwell League. Early season friendly fixtures have been arranged in preparation for the first round of league matches on 10th May. Full details of the league fixtures for the season will be available in the next edition of Village news.

The unusually early Easter and recent colder spell has not interfered with preparations at Marlins and all looks in exceptionally good order for this time of year.

Details of early season warm up fixtures at Marlins are :

Saturday 19th April Start 1.30pm	First XI v Ealing
Sunday 20th April Start 1.30pm	Club XI v Hatters
Saturday 26th April Start 2.00pm	First XI v New Bradwell
Sunday 27th April Start 1.30pm	Club XI v Tring Park
Saturday 3rd May Start 2.00pm	Second XI v Bledlow Village

Paul Dumpleton

THE HORTI BALL IS BACK!

The Long Marston & Puttenham Horticultural Society are organising a

MIDSUMMER BALL

Saturday, 28th June

Cheddington Village Hall

Join us for:

A Champagne Reception with Canapés

Dancing To a Live Band Playing Ballroom, Latin & Modern Music

A Superb Supper

A Licensed Bar

Put the date in your diary, dust off your dancing shoes and get out your glad rags as this will be a black tie event.

The Midsummer Ball will be similar to the May Ball but with the added attraction that Cheddington Village Hall is large enough to accommodate us without the need for a marquee.

More information will be available in next month's edition of Village News

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Parish Council News

by John Noakes & John Painter

The reports for both the February and March Council meeting are reported here due to the timing of the printers deadline in February.

Parish go extreme

THIS was the title given by young people to the Tring Rural Youth Project. This came about following two meetings for Young people, one at Long Marston and the other at Wilstone. Ideas were gathered from those who attended as to what activities they would like to have and what supportive equipment was needed to make it happen.
These activities ranged from basket ball, football and skate boarding to mention a few.
The council is now researching the cost and availability of this equipment as a first step towards the chosen requests of local young people.

Dog Pooh!

SEVERAL complaints have arisen as a result of dog fouling and poor dog control throughout the Parish. Councillors found this unacceptable and discussed a number of approaches to the problem. This ranged from notices to plastic bag dispensers at well known dog walking routes.
The district dog warden's advice is to be sought as a start; further information on how to curb this activity will be published in the Village News.

Joined up Planning

CURRENTLY plans are being considered for repairs and possible upgrades to the Village Hall in Long Marston. The Football Club is seeking to improve their facilities at the recreation ground. At the same time The Young People of the village have made known their own requests for improved facilities. The Council felt there were common themes here to merit a meeting of these three groups to see how they could productively combine their efforts for the benefit of the community. The council intends to set up a meeting to pursue this idea.

Up the Pole

THE electricity company E-ON, through its subcontractor, Morrisons, are re routing electric cables underground in Wilstone. In the process they are planning to remove one streetlight on a pole at the side of the road. They plan to take the pole down and have requested the council to pay for the erection of a new pole and then install a new light at a possible cost of £500. The company refuses to fix the light to a nearby telegraph pole as they are not allowed to make use of a pole owned by another utility. Why the original pole could not be retained for re fixing the light, baffled the council. They will remain baffled until the next round of correspondence or perhaps then even more so?

Mike & Diane Armson have now had the antiques shop in Wilstone for 15 years, and are always happy to advise or help anyone interested in buying or selling antiques. To get in touch phone 01442 890990 or 07860 910034.
armsonantiques@tiscali.co.uk
Our website is up and running and updated regularly.

www.armsonantiques.com

We are frequently on the premises, but to view the stock a prior phone call is definitely recommended.

The Old Post Office
34 Tring Road
Wilstone, Nr Tring, Herts, HP23 4PB

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Alan Winfield
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Parish Council News

by John Noakes & John Painter

Local Roads & Transport

THE state of the roads was again a subject for discussion – maintenance of the roads is a key issue in the Parish Plan. Some concern was expressed about the barriers approaching canal bridges. British Waterways have been approached but claim that their responsibility ends at the parapet. It is to be hoped that Highways and British Waterways will be encouraged to get together to sort out the problem – meanwhile the potentially dangerous situation remains.

A visit by the Sustainable Transport Project to look at the procedures used by the School coach is planned for April, it is hoped that the committee will be able to offer advice on establishing a safe procedure for dropping and picking up the children so that the issue can finally be resolved.

Young People

IT was reported that a further meeting to discuss the Facilities for Young People has been arranged for Tuesday April 22nd at 6.00 pm in the Long Marston Victory Hall. Some quotes have already been received for the provision of a variety of facilities. Quotes have also been obtained for replacement of the fencing around the play area at Wilstone.

Dog Fouling

(see item on p7)

THE fouling of paths and the recreation field was discussed at some length. Although it would seem that only a small minority of dog walkers are responsible it does create a serious health issue – it was reported that children on their way to and from school were amongst those who had had their shoes soiled. The parish already has its quota of bins – so the provision of more bins would be an additional expense, although it did not seem unreasonable to expect dog owners to go out prepared anyway.

It was pointed out that any offences should be reported. If someone was seen allowing their dog to foul the path or public area they should be reported to Environmental Health. People can do so in confidence – complaints can be reported by letter to Sara Lewis, Environmental Health at the Civic Centre, Hemel Hempstead or by email to sarah.lewis@dacorum.gov.uk giving the name of the offender and details of the offence.

Developments at the Airfield site

ITwas noted that the companies are appealing against the planning decisions at the airfield – it was reported that permission for a 50% increase in lorry movements is being sought. The efforts of the CALM group were commended. It was pointed that people could still write in expressing their views.

The planning applications on the south side of the airfield were also discussed. There was some concern that some these applications were for 'retrospective' planning consent – the companies concerned were already undertaking the activities for which planning permission was sought, and could continue to do so until the appeal was heard. Again it was noted that people could write in expressing their views.

Tring Tip

THE lack of notification about the proposed closure of the recycling facility at Tring was of concern. It was noted that the closure would seriously affect local residents, involving a much further journey to another facility, and would almost certainly result in further fly-tipping in the Parish – the recent tipping of a number of fridges was noted. Some felt that because the Parish was on the fringe of Dacorum and Hertfordshire that sometimes the needs of its residents were overlooked.

On a lighter note, the Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the County Archive at Hertford and they would be pleased to take the copies of Parish Council minutes, cash books, correspondence and other records that she had been storing at her house. They would be able to store them in the proper conditions and it would be a relief for her to able to get back in to some of her rooms!

It was also mentioned that people could look up the effects of the proposed changes in aircraft flight paths on the National Air Transport web site : www.nats.co.uk/TCNconsultation

We are in the Chilterns Luton Area (Part F)

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 Kim Deathe 01296 662 623

The Clerk to the Council is:
Mrs Dawn Slade 01442 824 138

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

Parish Council website: **www.tringruralpc.org.uk**

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www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
APPEAL BY: SKIM MILK SUPLLIES LIMITED
SITE: MARSWORTH AIRFIELD SITE, LONG MARSTON ROAD, MARSWORTH, MK23 4NF

Planning Reference	Appeals Reference	Description
07/00728/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047219	Change of use to motor cycle training (retrospective)
07/00843/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047211	Change of use from agricultural workshop/store to storage for personal effects and a motor home
07/00566/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047223	Change of use of building from agricultural to storage of vintage car parts, including occasional auctions of vintage car parts
06/02691/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047161	Change of use of agricultural and storage buildings to use as builders yard including the storage of builders materials
07/00760/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047201	Change of use of building to (B1) light industrial
07/01041/APP	APP/J0405/A/07/2047219	Use of part of building as vehicle storage and restoration

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Su Doku Corner by Colin Moore

No 31 Difficult

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		1		3		7		
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2		5			7			9

Give your brain a work out. Fill in the grid so that every column, row and 3x3 box contains only the digits 1 to 9.

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Further Airfield

by Andy Ashwell

WITH Florence getting older and heavier and my back getting older and weaker, trips with the backpack are inevitably approaching an end. Having considered this sad fact and with time running out, the most obvious place still unexplored and also requiring backpack access is the old airfield site.

A little bit of research at the library reveals that the war-time extent of the airfield and the associated Marsworth Camp stretch far beyond the boundary of what remains of it today. The billets, communal areas and sick quarters that were occupied by the US 8th Air Force from 1942 to 1945 used to spread out to the south of the airfield as far as the canal by Dixons Gap and right into the centre of Marsworth.

In order to get a good overall view of the whole site, it seemed sensible to go to the top of the hill overlooking the airfield. To keep the amount of walking down to a reasonable level for the sake of my back, we cheated a little and drove to the bridge at Marsworth before setting off on foot. On an earlier solo recce I had discovered a poorly marked footpath along Ship Lane by the thatched cottages, so that is where we started our journey. The covert footpath lead to a field full of horsey jumps and things, but was strangely bare of any horses (mind you, it was 8.30 in the morning). However, we found the horses skulking about further along in the fields to the other side of Church Farm. Naturally we neighed at them, making an enjoyable change from our usual mooing and bleating, and after stroking their noses continued excitedly on towards our goal…the top of Southend hill.

Over a stile just after the horses we found a large concreted area where the runway used to end. It was also where our climb up Southend Hill began. Southend Hill is, of course, at the north end of the airfield - a cunning plan that may well have fooled the enemy of old but not seasoned explorers such as us. We quickly climbed the gentle slope overlooking the airfield up to where it flattens off below the trees. We sat down in the dewy grass and Florence ate breakfast consisting of spaghetti Bolognese, sun-dried tomatoes, strawberries and olives – a varied, yet healthy diet, if nothing else.

As she ate I surveyed the scene but, despite having a detailed map, site plan and fantastic panoramic view of the airfield, I still struggled to make out some of the less obvious features…such as the runway! I even turned the map upside down just in case Southend Hill really was at the southern end of the airfield. Admittedly my concentration wasn't helped much by having spag-Bol and olives flicked onto my back and into my hair.

So, having eventually identified the whereabouts of the runway and other main features, I identified the whereabouts of the spag-Bol and other flicked foodstuffs, wiped up, packed up and headed back down the hill. On the way back we took a detour through Church Farm and left down Church Farm Lane where we spotted two more concreted remnants through the fence.

At the end of the lane we found a kissing gate which, according to our map, should have taken us along a footpath past the sewage works and right up to the south eastern boundary of the old Technical Site. We slid through the gate ducking under the brambles and to our delight found that the field was full of cows. Mooing happily along we headed eagerly across the field, scarcely glancing at the two dilapidated Nissen huts on our left, towards the far corner where a stile should have been to take us into the field bordering the perimeter fence. Ten minutes and three complete circuits later we still couldn't find the stile so, even if north is south around here, we should have covered all the options.

So, with a cursory look at the ropey old huts and a last glance in the direction of the stile that never was, we trudged disconsolately back to the car. As we moo'd farewell to the cows I'm sure that one of them looked up and gave us both a knowing wink and a sardonic smile.

DUE to the timing of the February issue, the LONG MARSTON SCHOOL DRAW results for February missed the printers deadline. They are printed below along with the March results.

Please find below the monthly draw results from the Long Marston School for **February** 2008

1st Prize £15
Ticket No: 33 Name: Debbie Hoar

2nd Prize £10
Ticket No: 8 Name: Alison Munt

3rd Prize "Priceless Key Ring"
Ticket No: 60 Name: Ken Martin

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Please find below the monthly draw results from the Long Marston School for **March** 2008

1st Prize £15
Ticket No: 50 Name: Judith Kaye

2nd Prize £10
Ticket No: 19 Name: Caroline Johnson

3rd Prize "Priceless Key Ring"
Ticket No: 36 Name: Helen Mooney

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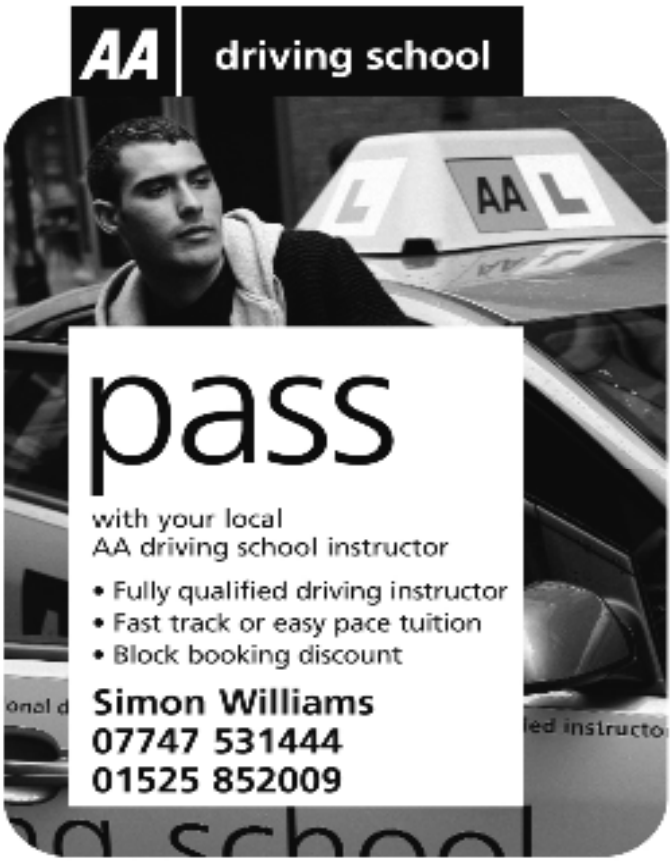

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Braving Borneo

by Max Baiden

In last months issue we read about Max and Merles plans to visit Borneo along with other students from Tring school with The World Challenge organisation and how they have to raise their own funds for the journey - read on……

WE'VE had a bit of a hiccough with our fund raising! Both Merle and I have sustained injuries in the last week or two and have both had our left arms in slings! Merle had a bit of a fight with a dog and ending up worse off with a bite on her left hand and I had a bit of an accident on the football pitch and broke my collar bone! The good news is that Merle is out of her sling – the bad news is that I won't be very active for the next 6-8 weeks. Still it is a chance to be innovative!!

Max nursing his broken collar bone.

Our good friends, Jenny and Simon at the Farm Shop have had a huge Easter Egg to raffle in the tea room – at the time of writing most of the staff have signed up for it so thank you to everyone who has put a £1 in the bucket

We are still going ahead with the Easter Bunny idea in the shop, however, I may find myself lying on a bench outside (someone with a nasty sense of humour said I could be "road kill")! Mum has agreed to supplement our income by turning anyone who is willing into a rabbit by painting their faces for a donation!

The Malaysian Evening in Marsworth was fantastic (not that I was there for very much time as it took place just two days after my accident and I was hurting loads). Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us. In total we raised just over £500; £250 for each of our accounts.

There's lots of plans afoot at school, a Funday Market, a sponsored clean up and an auction in the autumn. Merle has been a star organising bag packing at Tesco and Morrisons in Aylesbury which has give at least 12 of our students a bit of a boost. Some of our Year 11 students organised a disco in Aldbury last week and raised a fantastic £1400 between them.

Merle and I are holding a cake sale in Tring on May 24th and I have a tennis marathon planned at Long Marston Tennis Club on June 22nd. Hopefully I will be fully fit and raring to go by then. More details to follow next month.

If you have any innovative money making ideas that can be completed with one hand, I would love to hear from you! The contact number is 01296 662097.

A few Borneo facts:

Borneo is situated between the Celebes Sea and The South China Sea.
Borneo is divided into 4 parts, Indonesia, the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak and the tiny principality of Brunei.
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Diners enjoying their dinner at the Malaysian evening.

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The agricultural story line... *by David Mead*

WE'VE got beyond shouting, flag waving and smoke signals and most of the progress has come in a lifetime. While drinking Tommy Chappin's tea, he showed me a notebook which his father used to write down customers names. In a shed he had a generator and a way of charging accumulators. The accumulators were square glass jars containing plates in acid and terminals on the top; before there was electricity in the houses they powered the early wireless. Tom's father could recharge them; it cost 9D or 1/- a time. Mr Chappin well remembers Tom Chapman cycling up from Folly Farm in Long Marston, he paid for the charging with rabbits.

I believe Mr Chappin wired his house with a low voltage circuit and with his own generator was one of the first houses in Wilstone to have electric light. Early wireless needed an aerial; there are the remains of one on the side of my house, with insulators to prevent earthing before the aerial reached the set. I suspect Mr Ross installed the system, he also had a very early television set. I was invited to see King George VI arriving at a station, all in black and white and not very clear, it must have been in the late 1930's. Telephones were also appearing, Gubblecote Farm was Cheddington 14. Wilstone had three exchanges competing for custom, Aston Clinton, Cheddington and Tring.

The 1939-45 war slowed down the progress for the ordinary citizen. A wireless station appeared in the field just above the cemetery, two tall masts, a single storey building with what looked like a garage by the road. I suppose from an enemy plane it could have looked like a house. This wireless station was for Cheddington airfield. After the war things progressed, Radio Luxembourg could be found. Sets got smaller but sometimes more complex. Telephones changed colour and then one day in Tring market John Groom, cattle haulier, arrived with a bulky briefcase with telephone handset on the side; the world has never been the same. A survey was carried out amongst farmers 'What item would they not be without'? Of course the mobile phone. A sight to see is Simon combining while discussing prices with the corn merchant, then speaking to the lorry driver about time of arrival. The next problem before turning round could be the price of bananas at the shop. There is always the call to the corn-carter "Where are you?!!!"

Great excitement last week. A new tractor with loader appeared in the yard, built in Finland. In fact Simon HAD to go and see the components on the assembly line; what Sauna, Ice Water Dip and Tobogganing had got to do with it – I don't know! Anyway the tractor comes with air conditioning, radio, heated seats, computer controlled hydraulics and an attachment for the mobile phone, a parrot with a blue tooth... a voice from the radio tells you who is calling then conversation continues "when are you coming home for your tea?" That doesn't change.

Teresa and I went to stay with Lawry and Margaret (ex No1 The Green) "Has Wilstone got a web site?" "Hey, look at this" as Lawry pushed his mouse. "I've got the parish magazine, who is this bloke David Mead?!"

A foot-note from last month: I'm sure that the people in Borneo want to know that Gilbert Grace was selected to play for England for the 'over 70's' at Hockey, not as printed 'in the 70's'.

Fat Balls

by Orni Thologist

Do you feed balls of fat to the birds in your garden? Are they the type that come wrapped in a plastic mesh as in the photograph ? Well done for feeding these to the birds but please remove the plastic first, particularly at this time of the year. I have seen birds using the empty plastic wrappers for nesting materials which the young fledglings, and even fully grown birds, can become trapped in and come to grief. Dispose of the wrappers carefully before using the ball, preferably for recycling.

There is a great deal of activity in our gardens with the birds at the moment so do leave plenty of food and water for them. We are seeing them at their finest with their spring plumage ready to attract their mates and hopefully we will soon hear that first sign/sound of Spring; the Cuckoo.

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The Puttenham Page

compiled by Christine Rutter

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BANGERS 'n' MASH QUIZ NIGHT – It was a successful evening with eleven teams completing. The Quiz was preceded by sausages and mash, plus desserts. Before the quiz started we had a draw for a bottle of whisky which raised £67 for the St. Francis Hospice. Our winning team was "4+2" who each won a bottle of wine. The teams ran very close, with only 8 points between highest and lowest score. Well done all! The proceeds (approx. £540) were divided between the Iain Rennie Hospice, National Meningitis Trust and again the St. Francis Hospice

Our sincere thanks to Toby Davidson for devising the questions and acting as quizmaster, and Ernestine and Oliver Matthews for keeping the scores, not forgetting our band of workers in the kitchen. A SINCERE "THANK YOU" TO EVERYONE.

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Local names and numbers

Herts Police non-emergency number 0845 33 00 222

Local Police Officers (in emergency dial '999')
PC Brian Rutt 0845 33 00 222
PCSO Emma Lennox 0845 33 00 222

Fly-tipping reports
Call Dacorum Waste Services 01442 867858 *(new number)*
Call the police if you see the crime being committed.

Cecilia Hall (Puttenham)
Christine Rutter 01296 668337
Beavers
Jo Woodbridge 01442 891444
Brownies
Rachel Mead 01442 823570
Cubs
Tony Short 01442 823096
Guides
Sheila Hill 01442 823463
Scouts
David Colvin 01442 381544
Horticultural Society
David Severs 01296 661021

Rector
Vacancy
Team Vicars
Rev'd Huw Bellis 01442 851200
Rev'd Martin Macdonald 01442 384953
Churchwardens
Long Marston All Saints:
Neil Brown 01442 825956
Angus Munday 01296 660303
Wilstone St. Cross:
Andrew Minter 01442 823605
Puttenham St Marys:
Christine Rutter 01296 668337
John Barron 01296 631351

Tring Crime Prevention Panel
(Neighbourhood Watch) 01442 381793 & 824593
Tring Rural Parish Council - Chairman
Cllr Michael Tomlinson 01296 661311
Clerk to the Parish Council
Dawn Slade 01442 824138
Village Warden
Colin Reedman 01442 822031

Long Marston Victory Hall
Colette Bernard 01296 661172
Long Marston Cricket Club
Paul Dumpleton 01296 668112
Long Marston 1st Steps Pre-School
Alison Munt 01296 662282
Long Marston Tennis Club
Margaret Kelland 01296 668314

Long Marston Football Club
Daphne Bateman 01296 668054
Long Marston School 01296 668386
Member of Parliament (House of Commons)
David Gauke 020 7219 4459
Or to make an appointment call 01923 771781

Pet Dog Training
Evelyn Chapman 01908 502272
Whitchurch Morris Men
Richard Moorhouse 01494 722259
Wilstone Village Hall
Colin Reedman 01442 822031
Wilstone Toddlers
Kerie Ivory 01442 822117
Women's Institute
Pam Edmonds 01296 661370

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.

Distribution enquiries to:
Carole Harrison, 01296 668526

Village News

Long Marston,Wilstone, Puttenham, Astrope, Little Tring, Gubblecote, Startops End.

Your editor for May 2008 will be:
John McCall
01442 825529

editorwlmp@yahoo.com

Our Advertising Manager is:
Colette Bernard
01296 661172

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for the May edition, published on 1st May 2008.

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

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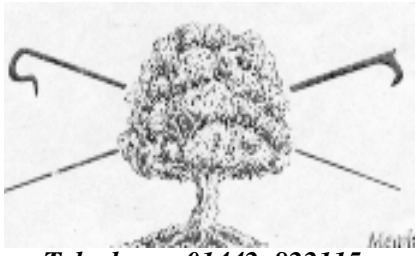

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From the Vicarage… by Rev'd Martin Macdonald

Why I want to go to Kyrgyzstan

TWO years ago at an away-day the Tring Team identified 10 priorities for action which the team could focus on over the next few years. One of these actions was to identify a project which would be

- A long term project (up to 5 years);
- Something for the whole parish to focus on
- Something that connects people in the parish on mission, education, worship, from each of the 5 churches
- Something that would help us grow as a parish
- Something that would inspire us
- Something tangible for people to gets their teeth into
- …and something that will have a tangible, concrete benefit for another group of people.

We looked at a number of possible charities we could work with and eventually selected Habitat for Humanity and choose to go and help build houses in Kyrgyzstan even though most of us hadn't heard of it and we certainly couldn't put a pin in a map.

So often my commitment to overseas mission only focussed on giving money, but here is a chance to commit my time, energy and abilities (such as they are – in my application form I have admitted to being an enthusiastic DIYer) to God in a very different way.

Here is a chance to make a difference by helping to build simple decent houses which combine the best of old and new technologies for people who live in very different circumstances to ours here in the UK (50% of the population of Kyrgyzstan live in poverty on less than $1 a day).
Here is a chance to put into practice the command to love our neighbours as ourselves. And yes I know I can hear someone say that I could do that here in the UK, as indeed I could, But there is another point to going off to Kyrgyzstan.

TheRevd. Martin Macdonald ready to build.
Photo: G.Senior

Each time I have gone on a project, whether to visit Christian communities in the Holy Land or help the people of Thailand launch a new enterprise or help educate and train Malawians to become accountants and auditors, I have come back the richer. Richer because I have been part of a different community for a short time and richer because of the people I have worked with, enjoying food, jokes and company with folk I thought I knew but discovered I knew so little.

Here is a chance to make a difference as well as get to know 11 other members of the Parish (one of them I already know very well as I am married to her!) and I will benefit from that experience in ways that I cannot yet imagine. I have lived and worked in many parts of the world, but I know this will be different and exciting and rewarding.

You can help too! Each of the 12 builders are recruiting a team to help them with ideas, with individual fundraising, moral support and prayers before we go and while we are away. So if you have not yet adopted a builder, please do so. From the villages we have got Duncan Munday, Emma Davis and Mark & Elaine Smith going as builders. So why not get involved and share in the experience and your builder will share their experience with you and who knows – next year you might be going too!

Times for mobile library

Thursdays, fortnightly: April 10th and 24th.

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**

HELP TO RAISE MONEY FOR
BREAKTHROUGH BREAST CANCER
JOIN MY
CROCUS WALK
19TH APRIL 2008
FROM WILSTONE WAR MEMORIAL
2PM
£5 DONATION APPRECIATED

JO WOODBRIDGE
01442 891444

The Recipe page

By Anna Ashwell

Hot and Spicy Tomato Sauce

This is a recipe that I have often used and it beats commercial sauces hands down. It is excellent with sausages and cold meats.

Ingredients:

- 18 large tomatoes – very ripe and full of flavour (home grown or on-the-vine)
- 9 cooking apples peeled and chopped
- 9 whole chopped chillies (use hot or mild to taste)
- 3 tablespoons of salt
- 1½ teaspoons each of ground cloves and ground allspice
- 3 teaspoons each of celery seeds and dry mustard powder
- 3 garlic cloves – crushed
- 1 lb 2oz (500g) sugar

1½ pints (850ml) malt vinegar

Method:

Peel the tomatoes (you can immerse them in boiling water for 30 seconds to loosen the skins) and grate them. Sprinkle with salt and leave for one hour in a sieve over a bowl to remove some of the juice.

Put the spices and vinegar in a pan and boil for a few minutes. Add the tomatoes, apples, chillies, onions and other ingredients and boil gently for about 2 hours, stirring occasionally until thick. The hot sauce should be poured into sterilised jars for storing.

News from All Saints

BEETLE DRIVE. We do hope you will join us for this fun family afternoon on SUNDAY 13th APRIL in the Victory Hall. Tickets are £8 for family, £3 adults or £2 children which includes cake and a drink.
Enquiries to Carole Harrison 01296 668526 or Elaine Smith 01296 662099. Hope to see you there.

ALDBURY MAY FAIR. Monday 5th May. As part of our continual fund raising we shall be having a Football Tombola at this event.
Do support us.

ELAINE would like to give a huge thanks to everyone who took part in the Easter Activity morning at All Saints Church on Saturday, 15th March. We had lots of fun and £140 was raised to go towards our Tring Team Parish Project to Kyr-gyzstan.

6 FOOT OAK PEW FOR SALE

(Formerly from Long Marston Church)

£100 O.N.O
OAKINS 01296 662449
Purchaser to collect.

Please contact
Carole Harrison 01296 668526 or
Elaine Smith 01296 662099

Youth in Need Tanzania

AFTER weeks of planning we finally put on our Village Dance/Party and what a night it turned out to be. With all the support we received whether helping, donating or attending we raised a magnificent £1000 and all enjoyed a great evening.

Music was provided by "Nightshift" who played a mixture of popular tunes and we danced till midnight.

Revellers enjoying the music of "Nightshift"

What a lovely way to raise money for our project making people smile on two Continents.
Our thanks again to All.

Vanessa Iley

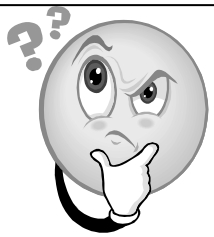
Oh What a night!

The B489 at Wilstone reservoir

THOSE of you who travel regularly past Wilstone reservoir will be aware of the state of that road recently. Despite phone calls from many individuals and the action of TRPC it was several weeks before the repair work was carried out which involved the closure of the road for part of a day.
In the end only a small section was repaired!

The large pothole which necessitated travelling on the wrong side of the road to avoid it.
Photo:J. Painter

Men at work !



Roll up ! Roll up!!
for the Friends Annual Quiz.

Hosted by the Unforgettable Toby Davidson

Friday 18th April at 8pm. Maximum team of 8. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. £3 per person.
Return the slip below early to avoid disappointment

.....
.....

Friends of Long Marston School Annual Quiz

Please enter my team of …… people
Team Name ……
Team Captain……..
Need others to join your team? Just ring the school and tell us.

Let's celebrate what is special about our local countryside.

Join us for an evening with a delicious free supper hosted by our local Womens Institute. See presentations and displays about our distinctive wildlife and landscape, and put forward your ideas about making the most of our local environment.
7:30 pm to 9:30pm Friday 4th April at Long Marston village hall.

Please ring to book a place. Tickets are available from Margaret Fenton (Long Marston & Pitstone Womens Institute) on 01296 668072 or Mark Carter (Countryside Management Service) on 01727 808168.