



July 2008

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

Inside this issue:

Church services	3
What's on	4
In Brief	8
Council News	10
Recipe	19
Local Contacts	25



HAVING practiced in secret for weeks, twelve stunning Can-can girls took the Wilstone fête by storm to be one of the centrepieces of an afternoon packed full of entertainment. Looking fabulous in their costumes, these local ladies had no hesitation in showing us their frilly knickers, and not just once! By popular demand they performed this outrageous dance three times during the afternoon. They did not seem to need much persuading though and looked as if they were having as good a time as the crowd of spectators. The weeks of rehearsal by the troupe, all from Wilstone, certainly paid off. The cheers from the audience got louder with each performance.

Wild West Wilstone was opened by a parade through the village led by Calamity Jane (Jane Shirley), the Milky Bar kid (Stephen Warner) and the Wyoming Raiders - the latter a group of enthusiasts who live out scenes from the Wild West. Villagers dressed as cowboys and Indians filled the street as traffic was temporarily halted. The opening ceremony was performed by Calamity Jane mounted on a beautiful horse with authentic western saddle and tack, after which the Milky Bar kid was introduced with the song we all remember from the TV ads - this time sung by the Can-can girls.



.....Continued on page 2

Special features:

- Suduko 11
- Savage archives 12
- Ashwell's Walks 14
- Book review 20
- Rectory news 26
- Village View 27
- Let us have your item to feature here!

.....continued from page 1

The very authentic Wyoming Raiders acted out the “gun fight at the OK coral” with gunfire, lots of smoke and historical commentary, also performing the American Trilogy later in the afternoon. They judged the children’s fancy dress competition which was well supported with excellent entries.

TV stars Kate and her Dancing Dog gave us a real treat in the arena with an amazing performance of agility and control - it was no less than fantastic. (Kate has also performed on Richard and Judy.) Dance teachers Joanne and Gordon, assisted by Matthew, Emma and Zoe, demonstrated western line dancing, and some fête-goers were persuaded to have a go. The Fun Dog Show, organised by Jill Walker and efficiently run by Long Marston Dog Training Club, proved as popular as ever with the entertaining sausage eating race proving a particular crowd pleaser.



The Wyoming Raiders

Picture John Painter

Encouraged by sunny intervals, the bumper crowd ate all the burgers and sausages, bought every raffle ticket, and drank the Last Chance Saloon dry by 4.30pm. Stall holders reported brisk trade and all put on a big effort to make the recreation ground part of the Wild West. The organising committee are to be congratulated on staging an afternoon packed with entertainments for us all. There were so many things to announce, the US Marshal doing the commentary kept up with the schedule only with some difficulty. “A great afternoon,” was the general view as people made their way home. It was indeed. What will the committee think of next? See page 28 for more pictures .

First Wedding for six years at All Saints. By Rev'd Huw Bellis



Congratulations to Philip and Sarah Hutchinson of Gubblecote who were married at All Saints on June 7th. Picture Helen Reynolds

IT has been wonderful to have two weddings at All Saints this summer. The last wedding in All Saints was some six years ago (Mags and David Severs), so we needed to dust off the banns books and find the registers at the back of the safe. All Saints however is a beautiful location for a wedding, and the church looked stunning.

The first of our weddings was Katrina and Bob, a Tring couple who wanted a more intimate setting for their wedding and who really enjoyed becoming part of the All Saints faith community in the months leading up to their marriage. Being a team parish, residents are allowed to get married in any of our five churches. The second wedding was for a couple who live within the All Saints district, in Gubblecote.

Remember the village churches are your churches and we are delighted when they are used for major life events.

Village News

Editor this month: Colin Moore

Email: editorwlp@yahoo.com
 Post: Editor, 27 Tring Road, Wilstone, HP23 4PE.
 Phone: 01442 890599

Editorial Team

Caroline Beevers, Phil Buchi, Colin Davenport, Fran Flowerdew, John McCall, Colin Moore, Jill Walker

Advertising Manager

Colette Bernard 01296 661172

Distribution Manager & Secretary

Carole Harrison 01296 668526

Finance Manager & Treasurer

This month we have another bumper colour edition with the highlights or highlife from the Wild West Wilstone. We also have many serious issues, with rural services and life under pressure from all sides. In particular the threat to our Post Offices and the likely knock on effects. We can do our bit but it not easy to take on large organisations that are carrying out central government directives What's next polyclinics, super pharmacies, who knows. All of this depends heavily on public transport, in particular buses. How certain is their future?

On a more local note Wilstone has undergone some major road works - we had three pot holes out of about 30 filled. I wonder when a pot hole is not a pot hole? I missed the actual works but no doubt a man in a suit arrived to identify the offending holes and mark them with yellow paint followed some days later by a truck with one or two operatives, cones, other necessary safety equipment and of course bucket of tarmac. I'll say no more, it's too depressing.

To come we have Long Marston's *Horti* show, Wilstone's Fun Day and Puttenham's Patronal Festival. Let's wish them every success.

Deadline for items for our next edition (Sept) is Wednesday 20 August 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!

Printed by **Express Printing**
 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 July

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

7 July (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

13 July

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 July

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

21 July (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

27 July

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

3 August

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

4 August (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

10 August

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

17 August

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

18 August (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

24 August

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

31 August

10.00am St Mary's Holy Communion
 Team Service

No Sunday Club in July or August, but it will

What's on...

Swing at Wingrave

THE many dance enthusiasts in the villages may like to know that Swing comes to Wingrave on selected Sunday afternoons over the summer. S-Wing-Rave Tea Dances are being held at Wingrave Community Centre, Church Street, from 4pm to 8pm on 13th July, 10th August and 14th September. The cost is only £3 and that includes complimentary tea and cakes! (Any proceeds go to charity, so don't eat too many.) Families are welcome too. Swing is an earlier form of jive, so if you like jive this is for you. Just come along for an energetic afternoon. More information from Sandra Bennett on 07918 167217.

LONG MARSTON & PUTTENHAM
HOTICULTURAL SOCIETY

JOIN US FOR OUR

SUMMER RAMBLE

MEET at 10.30am on
Saturday 5th July
Starting at The Boot,
Long Marston

As usual, this will be an easy ramble
with a pub lunch before returning to
Long Marston
ALL WELCOME

FUN DAY

SAT 12 JULY 2-4 pm
MANY ATTRACTIONS PLUS
FREE GRAND DRAW
ONLY CANINES CAN
WIN THE £5 PRIZE
WILSTONE CHURCH GDNS
ADMISSION FREE

Diary dates...

Tring Rural Parish Council meetings (8pm)

The public are welcome to attend these meetings.

Wednesday 16 July, Puttenham Cecilia Hall
Wednesday 20 August, Wilstone Village Hall
Wednesday 17 September, Long Marston Village Hall.

Saturday 28 June

Midsummer Ball, Cheddington Village Hall.

Sunday 29 June

Family Games (Puttenham).

Saturday 5 July

Summer Ramble.

Saturday 12 July

Family Fun Day 2-4 pm Wilstone Church Gardens.

Tuesdays 29th July

Childrens Arts & Crafts Lm Village Hall pm.

Saturday 2 August

Long Marston Annual Show.

Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th August

Childrens Arts & Crafts L M Village Hall pm

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.

Saturday 1st November

DBC "Free Family Fun Day" 10am - 4pm, L. Marston.

Tuesday 11 November

Remembrance Day Compline at St. Mary's.

Tuesday 16 December

Carols around the tree at Long Marston.

Times for mobile library

Thursdays, fortnightly: June 5th and 19th.

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

*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'

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

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

AT THE

LONG MARSTON VILLAGE SHOW

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST 2008

**FROM 2PM - LONG MARSTON
RECREATION GROUND**

Children's Fancy Dress

Competition on the Theme of "The Wind in the Willows"

DISPLAYS & SIDESHOWS

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------|
| Bee Keepers |  | Raffle |
| Penny Arcade | | Pound in the Bucket |
| Jewellery | | Bric-a-brac |
| Cakes | | Tombola |
| Books | | Children's Games |
| Plants | | Skittles |
| Football Game | | Coconut Shy |

HARRY POTTER ANIMALS TO MEET IN REAL LIFE



Live Band
"Reflections"



Horticultural Exhibition

**Exhibition of Produce, Art &
Photography in the Victory Hall**

BAR, REFRESHMENTS & BARBECUE



ART EXHIBITION

EXHIBITION AND SALE OF WORK BY
PROFESSIONAL AND LOCAL ARTISTS

26th – 28th September 2008

AT

TRING SCHOOL

MORTIMER HILL, TRING, HERTS

Friends of Tring School will be hosting their 14th Annual Art Exhibition on:
Friday 26th September 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th September 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Tea and cakes will be available throughout the weekend.

If you are a local artist and would like to exhibit at this event, please telephone Tring School on 01442 822303 for contact details.

Environmental Projects

AS a result of the evening event held on 4th April to celebrate our local countryside, a Tring Rural Environment Group has been formed to take forward some of the ideas that were put forward. This is not a committee and we are determined to avoid agendas and minutes at all costs!

We have agreed that the first project to be tackled is the Millennium copse at Wilstone. It is planned to have a general clear-up of the site and plant some native bluebells in the autumn. Our planning meeting will be held on 28 August from 7.30pm at the Millennium copse, where we will have a good walk round to see what needs to be done and then decamp to the pub for further discussions. If you would like to join us, please do, but we will definitely require lots of help when it comes to the task itself, so please let me know if you are willing to help or keep a look out in Village News where we will be publicising the dates.

The Countryside Management Service organise regular working parties in the parish, the next date is Sunday 29th June when some volunteers will be surveying the black poplars around Long Marston. Meeting at 10.00 am at Wilstone Village hall car park, bring wellies and a packed lunch. Tea, biscuits and training are provided.

Abby Fermont 01442-825352

Bike'n Hike 2008

ARE your bicycles, horses, walking boots in good order for the Beds and Herts sponsored Bike'n Hike on Saturday 13th of September?

The more athletically inclined may speed from church to church. In the past some have notched up an unbelievable 40 churches while other more normal mortals or those with young children have just done 2 or 3, but all have enjoyed the experience. Walkers may stride out into the countryside or maybe stroll round the town of Tring, where 5 churches and chapels will be open, all within easy reach.

Refreshments are provided everywhere and I would especially recommend sampling the famous hospitality of St.Mary's, Puttenham for a lunch break.

So collect your sponsorship forms and we will look forward to seeing you on your way on September 13th.

News from All Saints

Saturday 2nd August

Long Marston and Puttenham Horticultural Show

We are having the CAKE STALL again this year and would appreciate donations of home made cakes and biscuits.

Saturday 13th September

Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust Bike'n Hike

All Saints will be taking part in this event and it would be nice to have lots of cyclists and walkers raising money to be divided between our Church and the Trust.

For more information telephone Carole Harrison 01296 668526

Bike 'n Hike 2008

Help our heritage!

Saturday 13 September
10 am to 6 pm




Raise funds for your Church or Chapel.
Over 600 Churches and Chapels to visit!

Raise money for the repair of your local church or chapel by getting sponsorship for cycling or walking between churches in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Anyone can take part and there is a choice of over 600 open churches and chapels for you to visit.

Details From:-		
Wilstone	Mary Miller	01442 823501
Long Marston	Carole Harrison	01296 668526
Puttenham	Christine Fitzer	01296 668337

Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust
www.BedsHertsHCT.org.uk

The Puttenham Page

THE FRIENDS OF ST.MARY'S CHURCH

*Don't forget to visit
our
SPINNING JENNY
stall at the
Puttenham & Long Marston
"Horti" show on
Saturday, 2nd August.*

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

annual

Patronal Festival

Floral Displays in the Church,
Strawberry Cream Teas,
Entertainment,
Teddies "flying" from the
church tower

Enjoy a delightful afternoon out
Sunday, 10th August - from 2 p.m.

ST. MARY ' S CHURCH HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 31st August.

11 a.m. (A change for this year)

A Team Service

to be followed by Lunch
in the Cecilia Hall.

To be Confirmed... so please keep
in touch with your church

THE PUTTENHAM TRUST

JUMBLE SALE

*Saturday, 6th September
at 2 p.m.*

Plenty of time
for a household clear-out
Watch out for the
roadside notices nearer the time.

Puttenham's sociable black cat

DO you own a male neutered black cat who doesn't spend a great deal of time with you? Or maybe, he is a passing visitor? He has a few white hairs in his ears, a few more on his upper chest, and a patch of white fur on his lower under belly. Very affectionate, but can be vocal.

He seems quite anxious to become resident, but I do not want to adopt him if he already has a good home and just likes to be "over-social". If he sounds like your often absent cat, or if you have any information, please ring me (Christine 01296 668337).



Ofsted Registered Childminder
in Long Marston now has vacancies.
Qualified BTEC Nursery Nurse with 1st Class
BA (Hons) Degree Childhood Studies and 12
years experience working with children and
families.

Tel: Lindsay on 01296 661017
or mobile 07824 511367

News In Brief...

Shakespeare at Pendley

TWELFTH Night and The Merchant of Venice are both being staged as part of the 59th Pendley Open Air Shakespeare Festival 2008 at Pendley Manor Hotel near Tring Station. There are five performances of each play. Twelfth Night ("If music be the food of love, play on") from 5th-9th August, and The Merchant of Venice ("If you wrong us shall we not revenge?") from 12th-16th August. The festival was founded in 1949 by Dorian Williams amid the Victorian finery of his magnificent ancestral home, now a hotel. The grounds of the hotel will be open to ticket holders from 6pm at each performance, which gives time for a picnic, or a pre-theatre meal at the hotel. Tickets are priced £15-£18 out in the open, or £16-£22 for a covered seat, depending on which night you choose. Call the box office on 01442 820060 from 7th July, 2pm - 7pm Monday to Saturday.

Friends Monthly Draw Results

THESE are the June results for the monthly draw.

1st Prize £15 Ticket No: 20 Name: Mel Bayer
 2nd Prize £10 Ticket No: 21 Name: Cheryl Belchamber
 3rd Prize PKR Ticket No: 38 Name: Anita Ward
 *PKR - Priceless Key Ring"

It is never too late to enter the Friends Monthly Draw! Subscription is £10 per year (April to March) but a reduced subscription is available if you join during the year. All proceeds help our village schoolchildren. There are 3 prizes of £15, £10 and a "Priceless Key Ring" per month for 10 months plus Jackpot prizes of £50 in July and December.

Ring the school (01296 668386) if you wish to join.

Children's bike ride

ON a glorious sunny morning 24 eager children plus their not-quite-so-eager parents set off for the annual Long Marston and Puttenham Horticultural Society Bike Ride. This year the route took them through Gubblecote, Marsworth and finally to Wilstone. The cyclists took it at their own pace stopping along the way to find the answers to the 39

questions. All the children were rewarded with a sweet treat when they completed the ride and most of the families finished the event with a cool drink outside the Queens Head! The winners were Ben Bayer (age 7 and under), Dan Smith (age 8 to 11) and Joe Bayer (age 12 to 14). Dan and Ben are pupils at Long Marston School and Joe attends Tring School. Thank you to all the parents and marshals for a wonderful day.

University grants

ARE you hoping to go to University or College in 2009, 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 (Registered Charity No. 1077157) for information and an application form. Write to Margaret Flanigan, Secretary to the Trustees, 43 Mill View Road, Tring, HP23 4EP. Please note that the closing date is 15 November 2008 to lodge a completed application for grants payable from Autumn **2009**.

Turning Point

THANK you to St. Cross and the people of Wilstone plus a few others who braved torrential rain - you must have webbed feet- to attend the Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale for TURNING POINT on June 3rd. A magnificent sum of £105.50 was raised. .

A thank you to everyone who supported the Mission Charity for May-June - TURNING POINT. We are sorry that at the time of writing we are unable to give the final figure that was raised.

TURNING POINT also need equipment and a new sponsor for the art therapy work.. If you can help in anyway, we are willing to collect paint brushes, card, frames etc. and to pass them on. Contact Pamela & Clive Russell 01442 826533

F U N D A Y
 SAT 12 JULY 2-4 pm
 MANY ATTRACTIONS PLUS
BIZARRE BARGAINS
BAZAAR
 WILSTONE CHURCH GDNS
 ADMISSION FREE

 **TAKING THE STRESS OUT OF MOVING**
 A one-stop moving service to make your move a more pleasurable experience

- Manage the logistics
- Source removal companies
- Provide a moving schedule for you
- Arrange for clearance / auctioneers if needed
- Sort and unpack, clean old house and new
- Provide an insight into local amenities, schools etc
- Organise a meal for your first night in your new home
- Book your pets into kennels

I will look after you every step of the way and make moving easier, stress free and a more enjoyable experience.

To find out more call Ruth Robson on
01494 757109 / 07891 566298

More In Brief...

Travellers' Enquiry runs to four days.

A report from the Planning Appeal June 3rd – 6th 2008

THE Enquiry heard an appeal to Dacorum's previous decision to refuse planning consent for the change of use at Old Tree Place, Wilstone, for three residential caravans and three touring caravans for occupation by single traveller families.

The hearing, led by an independent inspector from Bristol and held at Dacorum Council Chambers, was scheduled to be a two day enquiry. Such was the amount of evidence produced and in particular that of the surprise intervention of British Waterways, that it overran to nearly four days; the last day including a visit to the site by the inspector.

Both the Appellants and Dacorum were represented by legal counsel, so this was every inch a court of law, requiring anybody who wished to give evidence to take an oath.

Wilstone was represented by a few local residents, some of whom produced evidence of the dangerous road access, despite the Highway Agency withdrawing their objections. Others reinforced that, and talked about the risk of flooding, the danger of the already installed septic tank, the lack of local facilities, and in particular, evidence that there are no places available in local schools. The facts that the site was adjacent to a site of outstanding natural beauty and on an area of archaeological interest were also stressed.

The whole event was gruelling on everybody, with the cross-examination of the Dacorum's Planning Officer taking a total of three and a half hours, throwing up all sorts of fine legal points.

British Waterways, who were not scheduled to appear, asked the Inspector to be heard on what they described as a 'life and death' matter. Given the potential gravitas of that statement, there was little choice that they had to be heard, despite the objections from the Appellants' legal representative. British Waterways gave evidence on the second day,

and they explained that Wilstone reservoir was classified as a category B site, which means that no more than ten people can live within 150 metres from the base of the reservoir bank. They said that they cannot control the inflow of water from the hills above the reservoir, and that they have a legal duty to ensure residents' safety in the event of a breach. Therefore, should planning consent be given, they would have to upgrade the reservoir to a category A. To relieve pressure on the banks and to comply with the legislation, they would have to reduce the water level, so affecting the supply into the Grand Union canal, build more outflows, and reinforce the earth banks, at cost of around £1/4 million.

The local residents who had taken time away from work to speak at the enquiry, were at pains to emphasise that the written objections sent by local residents, which represented some 65% of Wilstone households, were of genuine concern for the Appellants' health and safety, as well as for the well being of the village. Regret was expressed for the circumstances in which the Appellants found themselves, particularly in relation to the children involved.

It is not clear when a decision will be delivered, but it is assumed that it will be around a couple of months.

Kids crafts at Long Marston

DACORUM Borough Council are bringing their summer holiday Arts and Crafts sessions to Long Marston village hall on Tuesdays 29 July and 5, 12, 19 August, catering for children from age 5 to 13. The sessions are from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Run by fully trained staff they cost £5.20 for each child, with a 40% discount for Dacorum Card holders. To book call 01442 228632.

The Borough Council also offers financial assistance to local community and church groups who are running activities during the summer holidays. For information about this call 01442 228623.

RELIABLE GARDEN SERVICES

**GARDEN CLEARANCE,
GRASS CUTTING, PRUNING,
HEDGE CUTTING, PLANTING,
WEEDING AND MUCH MORE.**

**FOR REASONABLY PRICED WORK DONE
WELL, CONTACT**

Mark Lee

01296 668310 or 07914 355180



Heavenly Hat Hire
Cheddington, Bucks
Email: info@heavenlyhathire.co.uk
www.heavenlyhathire.co.uk

We stock over 500 hats and fascinators
in all sizes, shapes and colours.
Hire charges are
£10 - £15 for fascinators
and £25 - £35 for designer hats.
Telephone Carolyn on **01296 668494** to make
an appointment to view. Browsers welcome!

Parish Council News

by John Painter

Overgrown Verges

THE June meeting was held at Wilstone Village Hall which was most convenient since one of the items to be discussed was the state of the verge in the hall car park. So, in order to acquaint themselves with the problem, the chairman and the members of the council trooped out to the car park, followed by your intrepid reporter, to see for themselves. They did indeed agree that something needed to be done. They decided that once the weeds had been cleared they could look at the state of the verge and then decide what to do. It was thought that the best long term option may be to level and grass the verge. Quotes for the work would be obtained.

Still on the subject of verges, it was also noted that there were a number of places around the parish where visibility was restricted because the verges were overgrown, or hedges needed to be cut back.

Tring Rural Environment Group

Councillor Fermont reported back on a meeting of an Environment Group, organised by Mark Carter, Environmental Officer with Dacorum. Building on the success of the Black Poplar project, it is hoped to undertake further projects within the parish to nurture and

improve the local environment. See page 6 for details

Post Offices set to close

The announcement that the Post Office was proposing to include Wilstone and Long Marston Post Offices in the list for closure had just been received. Since the closures had only just been announced it was not yet clear what the best action might be, however the Parish Council agreed that they would support any action to fight the closures.

Parish Go Extreme Project

Finally, last but certainly not least, with some funding agreed the Parish Council is now arranging to go ahead with the purchase of some equipment for the **Parish Go Extreme** Project. It is hoped to get some of the items most keenly needed in time for the summer holidays.

No to orange bulbs

It had been observed that some of the bulbs in the street lighting around the Parish had been replaced by orange bulbs – it was suggested that perhaps they could be replaced with low energy white bulbs, which would be more in keeping with the rural environment.

Local Post Office closures—act now

by Colin Moore

BOTH Long Marston and Wilstone Post Offices have been earmarked for closure later this year along with 39 others in the South Essex, South Herts and Bucks area. If you want to try and keep your Post Office you have about 4 weeks to act. The closing date for public consultation is the 28 July 2008. Write with your views to

Gary Herbert
Network Development Manager
C/o National Consultation Team
FREEPOST CONSULTATION TEAM
Email: consultation@postoffice.co.uk

Postwatch, the independent watchdog for postal services, urges customers to engage in the consultation process by finding out more about the proposals and giving feedback to Post Office Ltd. So following their advice I tried to find out more about the proposals, there are certainly plenty of meaningless statistics and in-words but few useful facts.

The Post Office document for the area states that “*We are pleased to have been able to maintain 20 rural branches that support the only essential retailer in the community and 32 rural branches that provided the only access to cash in a particular community*”.

Isn't that exactly what our Post Offices do?

So there must be other criteria for closure. Both our post offices have less than 200 customers per week. The Post Office publishes a list of facts about each of the offices they would like to close, availability and frequency of buses, distances to bus stops, parking and access and facilities for disabled plus many more. Also some more bizarre comments like Wilstone has an Antique Shop and a Pub, Long Marston has 2 pubs! So who needs a Post Office? Conveniently the document gives no details about those small offices like Aldbury and Ivinghoe that will not be closed, so it not possible to make comparisons. The key point is probably the availability of buses to the nearest PO, Aston Clinton, Wingrave or Tring are suggested for us. The fact that a morning visit to Aston Clinton by bus could take 45 minute and in the afternoon over two hours do not appear to be relevant.

In addition to writing to the Post Office you could write to your MP David Gauke and local councillors. Dacorum unlike many District Councils are not mentioned in PO document as having responded to their invitation to comment on the proposals!

For more details visit www.PostOffice.co.uk, and read [SouthEssexSouthHertsBucksAreaPlanproposalbooklet.pdf](#) and [SouthEssexSouthHertsBucksOFAccessReports.pdf](#)

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

You can view and comment on planning applications at

www.dacorum.gov.uk/planning

www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

Bus Route Omission

The new 164 route shown last month apparently carefully avoided Gubblecote, presumably by sprouting wings. Sorry Gubblecote it was our mistake, see Page 24.

Sudoku corner by Colin Moore

No 33 Difficult

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

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.



Always a big selection of quality fresh vegetables.
Extensive freezer selection too.
Our own lamb and beef, and local venison.
Top brand pet foods and animal feeds.
Garden bird tables and bird food.

And have a break with a great cappuccino in the Café and Gift Shop, set in the comfortable surroundings of our restored 18th century barn.
Toasted sandwiches, salads and ploughman's lunches.

Open 7 days
Lower Icknield Way, Wilstone Green
(01442) 828478

The Queens Head Long Marston

An appealing 16th Century coaching Inn that continues to retain that traditional pub atmosphere. With the original flagstone floor, exposed wooden beams and the open fire place, this is a comfortable place to spend time with friends when having a drink or a bite to eat. Our menu offers a choice of light bites or traditional pub grub sourced from local farms and butchers.

Jon & Beckie look forward to seeing you.



- Richard Miller's open mic night last Monday of the month.
- Quiz night first Sunday of the month.
- Email: queenshead@fsmail.net

Fullers & Gales Real Ales Regular Guest Ales Cask Marque
 Approved Quality Wines by the bottle or the Glass
 Open All Day
 Home Cooked Sunday Roasts 12noon - 5pm
 Food served Mon - Sat 12noon - 3pm & 7pm -9pm

To reserve your table call us on 01296 668368

The G A Savage archives

Savage

by Peter

Part 1: Schooling and smallholding



Peter Savage has recently given to Long Marston School documents and photographs associated with his father's tenure as headmaster.

Village News is pleased to be given the opportunity to publish two articles written by Peter using material from the archive. This is the first of these.

The Headmaster, Gordon Savage.

GORDON SAVAGE was born at Tintagel, North Cornwall, on 17 October 1908. Educated at the village school and Camelford Grammar School he trained as a teacher at St Luke's College, Exeter. While teaching in the East End of London in the 1930s he met Margaret Hyson, who was also a teacher, rather romantically on a train between New Cross and Wapping! Captain Hyson would not let his eldest daughter marry a mere teacher – he had to be a headmaster. They married in August 1934 and started life together at Brookside, Long Marston where Gordon had been appointed the youngest headmaster in Hertfordshire at the time.

Long Marston village school had about 90 pupils. Mrs. Whelan was in charge of the infant class in a room separated from the larger room where children of 7 to 14 were taught. Miss Griffiths taught 7 to 11 year olds and Gordon the older ones. Everyone could read, write and add up by the time they left and a number of pupils gained scholarships to the grammar school in Aylesbury. In those days there was no free education. Places in grammar schools had to be paid for - £2 to £5 a term - rather a lot of money for a farm labourer to pay on a wage of £1.10 shillings a week and often with a large family to keep.

Long Marston was a farming community built on a cross-roads with a church, a chapel served by itinerant preachers, a school, grocery store, butcher, post office and three pubs. The railway station at Marston Gate was 1½ miles outside the village on the branch line from Cheddington to Aylesbury. A bus ran once a week to Tring – a slightly less convenient shopping centre but with a cinema.

In those days there was usually a squire who cared for the

villagers and ran the affairs of the village but Long Marston had no big landed gentry. Three families, Chapman, Southernwood and Gregory, managed relatively small farms and the farmers and their wives were generally too busy to have much time for village activities. So it came about that Gordon was in a position to fill the vacuum and became leader of the village especially with the outbreak of WW2 when many fit young men were called up to serve in the armed forces. Some occupations were exempt from military service including farm workers and headmasters.

One of Gordon's first ventures was to enlist the support of the "village elders" in setting up a fruit, vegetable and flower show. The first show was held in 1935. The committee consisted of Mr W B Southernwood (chairman), Mr G A Savage (hon. secretary), Mr J Chapman (hon. treasurer), Messrs B Reed, J Chandler, E Evans, E Bignall, F Tyrrell and F Chandler. The show became an annual event in village life, even being held during the war years. Gordon would be pleased to know that the show continues to this day.

To supplement their meager income Gordon started a smallholding in two fields he rented in Watery Lane, Astrope, nearly a mile from Brookside on the outskirts of the village. In 1935 he started with an investment of £13 and no experience and by 1941 had 500 head of poultry as well as goats, rabbits, pigs, bees and sheep. As the editor of *Feathered World and Poultry Farmer* wrote at the time "His secret is courage and hard work, and at least 12% meat or fish meal with the mash." Every morning before school he cycled to open the chicken coops to allow the chickens free range in the field. Every evening he collected the eggs, fed and watered them and shut them up for fear of the foxes.

A regular contributor to *Poultry Farmer* during the war Gordon wrote on a variety of topics: "How to start poultry keeping", "Sheep on the poultry farm" (followed shortly afterwards by "Sheep are a nuisance"!), "Turn your poultry farm into a smallholding", "Sheep and geese – or plough it up", with the admonition: 'Remember that six geese eat as much grass as one cow', and "Rabbits are not a sideline". He also described the Savage House - "A cheap slatted floor poultry house" - as well as construction tips on feeding hoppers and rabbit hutches. Life at *Brookside* must have been challenging at times as in "Pressure cookers are garden poultry keepers' safeguard" Gordon comments: "There is fish waste cooked in my house seven days a week". Margaret remembers when the pressure cooker washer leaked; "The smell of the fish was appalling and the window in the kitchen was covered with flies".

In 1942 five members of the Young Farmers' Club attached to Long Marston School started to keep poultry in the school garden. "By utilising all available material salvaged from the old school bomb site they built their poultry house with covered run attached for 3 shillings (the price of nails)." The members were responsible for the whole concern, supplying freshly cooked waste twice a day and feeding according to a rota of duty drawn up by the club leader. During a twelve month period in 1942, 639 eggs were produced. All this ef-



The Long Marston Auxiliary Fire Service in full uniform with the Austin saloon used to tow the pump. Volunteer firemen are: Duncan Mead, Sid Stevens, Ray Pheasant, Dick Green, George and Freddy Chandler and Gordon Savage. (Not in order.)



any local fires the team stood-by at Berkhamstead one night a fortnight while the regular firemen supported their colleagues in London during the Blitz. Gordon was also the air raid warden, distributing gas masks to the villagers and was also responsible for billeting the 100 or so children evacuated from London.

fort and experience was described in an article “Young farmers can make a profit at 2d. an egg”.

At the outbreak of war Gordon was made leading fireman of the Long Marston Auxiliary Fire Service with Duncan Mead, Sid Stevens, Ray Pheasant, Dick Green and George and Freddy Chandler. They were provided with a pump trailer towed by an Austin saloon car the roof of which supported the ladders and spare hoses. As well as dealing with

The rural idyll of Long Marston was shattered around 4.30 one afternoon in 1941 when the school was destroyed by an enemy bomb. Miraculously all the children and their mothers, who had been exchanging library books, had gone home but tragically Mrs. Whelan, the infant class teacher, was killed.

Next month: The school magazine, SCOOP, gives us an insight into school and village life during the war. (Photographs provided by Peter Savage from the G A Savage archive.)

**Spotters’ corner:
Do you recognise these classics?**

DOES anyone recognise these splendid vehicles? They might well do, as these photos were found at the Wilstone village fete. A volunteer helper at the bric-a-brac stall spotted the pics inside the case of a Polaroid camera which had been given to the fete, probably by a villager.

They make a fine pair of classics. We think the motorcycle is a Norton from the 1950s. The registration mark is JYV 317, and its GB plate indicates some foreign travel. The Morris Traveller, registration 937 CXR is possibly of similar period, and certainly pre-1963.

If the photos are yours, you can claim them back by contacting the editor (see page 3). We would love to know the story behind the pictures too.



Mystery photos found at the Wilstone fete. Are they yours?

Licensed Private Hire

Established 1984

Alpine Cars

(Formerly Cheddington Cars)

Door to Door Service

To Airports, Seaports, London

To Book or for a Quote Call

07836 272122

NEED A HANDYMAN!
House & Garden Maintenance
 The Summer is Here: Get all Those Jobs Done That You Just Do not Have Time For!

Grass Cutting, Hedge Trimming
 Fencing
 Painting, Plumbing, Tiling
 (BTec, CITB Qualified)
 Ref No Problem
 All Jobs Considered

Reasonable And Reliable

Call Gavin on Tring (01442) 381306
 Mobile 07731 047439

Fêteful Walking

by Andy Ashwell

WITH the long and lighter summer evenings here with us again, we've been back out in the fields once more during the "Witching hour" before Florence's bedtime. The calves in the field behind our house are now fully grown and have recently been 'entertaining' a large male suitor. But it's not been fun and frolics for everyone. Of the five original goats, only the two ginger ones remain in residence. Rumour has it that their three white-haired colleagues, having apparently been mistaken for sheep, have gone to that great big abattoir in the sky.

The ill-fated goats aren't alone in calling it a day because the backpack is, alas, no longer with us either. Having been refused by all the charity shops on safety grounds, it made its final journey to the similarly doomed Tring Dump. Ironically, after all my backpack related problems, the backpack had the last laugh when I twinged my back again lobbing it into the skip.

Florence's walking is getting much better but she still gives up and stops unpredictably. To make life more interesting, she has now introduced a new twist to our walks in that she now has to take her own cuddly-toy-laden, pink pushchair with us wherever we go. This is only really a problem if she stops walking *and* I've dared to leave the big pushchair at home. On these foolhardy and rare occasions my back is painfully reminded by, not only two and a half stones of Florence but, a multitude of soft-toys *and* her pushchair.

I thought I'd solved the problem one day when I managed to persuade Florence to sit in the toy pushchair for the trip home. It was a tight fit and once strapped in she was far from happy and started to whine. The overloaded pushchair wasn't happy either and started to whine too. I made up a trio of whiners when a wheel fell off and Mummy completed the quartet when she saw us hobble home.



On the day of the Wilstone fête I optimistically hoped to get Florence to walk all the way from Long Marston to the fête where we were going to help raise funds for her toddler group.

Taking no risks, Florence, Teddy, Dolly, Baby and I set off in plenty of time with two pushchairs piled high with all the gubbins allied to a nomadic toddler. We sped across the first field to Astrope Lane stopping only once to feed Baby and change Teddy's nappy. However, once across the road and into the next field any interest that Florence had had in walking completely disappeared. Instead she mysteriously developed a sudden and desperate need to satisfy Baby's newly acquired insatiable appetite and Teddy's uncontrollable incontinence.

So we continued our journey, after a brief discussion, with the pink pushchair piggy-backed precariously on top of the big one. We recovered some of the lost time by speeding down Watery Lane and arrived just in time to meet Calamity Jane and her posse as they entered the arena. I remember thinking that I hadn't seen that many cowboys since the Chapel Lane waterworks fiasco of a few months ago.

We joined our toddler colleagues and helped them finish setting up the stall. Calamity Jane opened the fête and was followed by the gun-slinging dog-scarers. We all had a great day and also managed to raise a bit of cash for the Toddler Group. Fortunately we managed to scrounge a lift home and when Florence got hold of a large bag of crisps we left before she was done for rustling.

FUN DAY

SAT 12 JULY 2-4 pm

MANY ATTRACTIONS PLUS

CREAM TEAS

WILSTONE CHURCH GDNS

ADMISSION FREE



CHILTERN BRANCH

REG CHARITY NO
203644

Lovely cats looking for homes.
Can you find room in your heart to
adopt one of our many cats looking
for love and a kind owner?

01296 680397

Steam and sunshine

THIS wonderful Burrell Showman's Locomotive was one of the many exhibits to be enjoyed at the 9th Marsworth steam, vintage and classic vehicle rally held in June. Locomotive No.2668 (registration NM 257) was built in 1904 and worked as a showman's engine right up until 1953 when she was saved from the scrapyard for preservation. Since 1984 she has been owned by Mr David Davis of Prestwood.

The Marsworth Rally is run on a voluntary basis by local enthusiasts with the profits going to village organisations and charities. Over £8,000 has been raised so far, recipients including local churches, schools, play groups and the village hall. The sunny rural setting for the show at Startops End is provided by Josie and Evans Kempster. Parades of steam, vintage tractors, commercial vehicles and buses and classic cars provided much to see this year, attracting exhibitors and visitors from a wide area.



Burrell Showman's Locomotive No.2668

(Picture: Village News)

All Saints classic refreshments

THANK you to everyone who supplied cakes and helped with our refreshments at the Marsworth Steam Rally. We had a very busy day supplying 550 drinks (hot and cold) and using up 24 pints of milk!

As always everyone was very appreciative and friendly. A big thank you Josie Kempster for inviting us again – it's hard work but good fun too and All Saints funds are now looking healthier!

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS

Or would you like to???



Private French tuition for beginners, intermediate or those just wanting to improve their knowledge of spoken and written French.

Tel: Linda Ellis 01296 661136

Cyprus

New 4 bed Villa sleeps 8

Fully air conditioned * Large swimming pool
Quiet village location * Stunning sea & mountain views

14 mins to Beach or Airport * 18 mins to Paphos or Golf

From £450 per week

Tel: Roger 01442 824228

Easyjet flights available



Mill House Designs

Interior Design & Soft Furnishings

Handmade soft furnishings
Supply & fitting service of tracks and poles
Fabric advice & room design



Julie Nicholls
Tel: 01296 660686
Mobile: 07960 766418
Julienicholls11@aol.com



Chris Griffiths
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

Domestic, Commercial
 & Industrial

For ALL your Electrical Requirements
 No job too small

Telephone 01296 668257
Mobile 07768 222127

Domestikate Ltd
Ironing Service

FREE collection & delivery from your Home or Workplace
 with NEXT DAY return*

Your creased laundry will come back ironed, hung and wrapped for just £5 per Kg – with no minimum order.

Buy 1 get 1 free for all new customers**

Call **01442 540082** or **07527 026579**

Email iron@domestikate.co.uk
 Fully insured
www.domestikate.co.uk

Terms and conditions apply
 *within a 7 mile radius of Tring, Herts
 ** One B.O.G.O.F. offer per household
 Registered Number: 6379767



Problem with your windows?

- Double glazed windows or door unit broken, or is the seal damaged?
- Want to clean the inside of the glass but can't?
- Water getting into the double glazed unit?
- All misted up inside the unit?
- Handles & Hinges repaired
- Cat flaps fitted

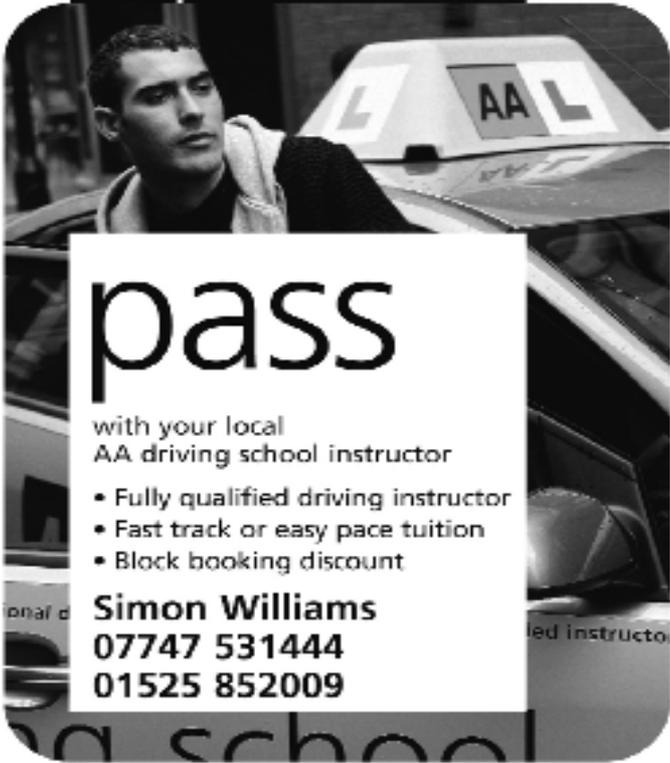
Guarantees on all units fitted

Visit our website for a free online estimate:
Www.SmashingWindows.com

Or ring
01296 630650 to arrange an appointment today!

Try our new window cleaning service
 Just call 07875 534780 for more details

AA driving school



pass

with your local
 AA driving school instructor

- Fully qualified driving instructor
- Fast track or easy pace tuition
- Block booking discount

Simon Williams
07747 531444
01525 852009

AA driving instructors are self-employed franchisees, and all contracts for the provision of driving tuition are between the pupil and instructor. Full terms and conditions at www.AAdrivingschool.co.uk

The Blindman

For all types of Blinds at
 competitive prices

- Roller • Pleated • Woodslat
- Vertical • Venetian • Woven

**We also make Roman Blinds
 from your own fabric.**

Free Friendly Advice & Quotation
 in the comfort of your own home.

Tel: 01442 828 108
Mob: 07767 783 955

Call now for a free quote

C KING BOILER ENGINEERS

OIL SPECIALIST

- SERVICING • COMMISSIONING
- INSTALLATIONS • REPAIRS
- EMERGENCY CALL OUTS •

• WE UNDERTAKE WORK ON ALL OIL FIRED APPLIANCES, INCLUDING AGA'S AND RAYBURNS.

Craig Lorking (AGA TRAINED) 

Mob: 07747 509259
 ckingboilerengineers@yahoo.com
 www.ckingboilerengineers.com



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LTD

- ADDITIONAL SOCKETS TO FULL RE-WIRES
- REPLACEMENT CONSUMER UNITS (FUSE BOX)
- STORAGE HEATER INSTALLATIONS & SERVICING
- OUTSIDE LIGHTING
- LOW VOLTAGE LIGHTING
- SHED, GARAGE AND POND SUPPLIES
- ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL FAULT FINDING
- ELECTRICAL TESTING AND INSPECTION
- PART "P" APPROVED
- FREE ESTIMATES

TEL ... **01296 712776**

MOBILE ... **07966 309846**

- GRASS CUTTING
- GARDEN CLEAN UPS
- HEDGE TRIMMING
- PRUNING
- POWER WASHING



Jim's Mowing

0845 500 10 10
 Local Call Cost

www.jimsmowing.co.uk

Need an evening out? Come to the Half Moon for great food, choice of wines, and good beers.

The Half Moon

Wilstone

(off the B489 near Tring and Aston Clinton)



*Real Ales • Good Food • Children's Menu
 Children's Play Area • Patio • Car Park*

Tel: 01442 826410
A warm welcome guaranteed!

Wild West Wilstone fun dog show

by Jill Walker

THANK you to all of you who came along with your dogs and had a go at one or more of the various classes and activities we had to offer this year. For the 5th year Evelyn Chapman and her brilliant team from The Long Marston Dog Training Club ran the dog show with, as always, great efficiency and friendly enthusiasm

We could not run it without them and we thank them all again for their hard work on the day. Thanks of course, also go to Peter Walker who commentated the dog show as the proceedings evolved through the afternoon, with, we have to say, good humour and a mighty fine cowboy swagger! The Dog Show just wouldn't look the same without the fabulous display boards kindly donated by Bill Hazel. Thank you again Bill. They really make the array of rosettes look very professional indeed.

For the last couple of years we have run a mini-agility race that continues through the afternoon, alongside the classes, with many entrants returning to try and beat their best time over a 70 metre course set by Evelyn. Its a great spectator event with some dogs completing the course in a high speed

agile dash in less than half a minute. While other dogs enjoyed a rather slower paced ramble and crossing the line in a minute and a half! Every one had good fun taking part however long their four legged friends took! The Sausage Eating Race was, as ever, hugely popular and great fun. Due to a high number of keen entrants (and their owners!) the competition was split into 3 heats with the fastest of each going forward to the grand final.



The results as follows, all of whom received a well earned Wilstone Dog Show rosette:

- Class 1. Fancy Dress
- 1st Eleanor Clark and Toby
- 2nd Becky Gascoyne and Archie
- 3rd Grace Simmons and Rupert
- 4th Emily O'Connell and Lenke
- 5th Joe Smith and Hamish

- Class 2 Best Trick
- 1st Gill Taylor and Becci
- 2nd Jane Seal and Maggie
- 3rd Georgina Aylwin and Reg
- 4th Joe Smith and Hamish
- 5th Deborah Tymms and Lucy

- Class 3 Best Child Handler
- 1st Isabelle Alwyn and Reginald
- 2nd Fraser Ellis Jenkinson and Poppy
- 3rd Alex Lashley and Gina
- 4th Phoebe Cole and Penny
- 5th Freddie Smith Watt and Daisy

- Class 4 Best Junior Handler
- 1st Laura Roper and Charlie
- 2nd Helena and Rowan
- 3rd Emily O'Connell and Lenke
- 4th Charlotte O'Connell and Bella
- 5th Joe Smith and Hamish.

- The Sausage Eating Race:
- 1st Fraser Ellis Jenkinson and Poppy
- 2nd Heather and Leo
- 3rd Yusuf Hassan and Lani
- 4th Laura Roper and Charlie
- 5th Richard Miller and Muddy

- The Agilty Race
- 1st Matthew and Tara in 27.61 secs
- 2nd Heather and Leo in 27.77 secs
- 3rd Jennifer and Bella in 28.05 secs
- 4th Fraser and Poppy in 28.28 secs
- 5th Fraser and Poppy in 30.57 secs

Well done to every one again and look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

.....you could pick bright red strawberries, dig orange carrots (forks provided!), pluck yellow sweetcorn from plants taller than most of you, get pods and pods of green peas, pick up a heavy blue skinned pumpkin, get purple fingers picking blackberries and lots lots more.....

@ Grove Farm PYO, Great Gap, Ivinghoe, LU7 9DZ
from approx mid June open daily 10 - 7
more information at www.grovefarmpyo.co.uk
or ring our answermachine 01296 668175

F U N DAY
SAT 12 JULY 2-4 pm
MANY ATTRACTIONS PLUS
THE MONEY GAME
WILSTONE CHURCH GARDENS
ADMISSION FREE

Recipe of the month

by Anna Ashwell

Roasted Peaches

If you are fond of peaches, nectarines or plums, this makes a delicious pudding that really brings out the flavour of the fruit.

The ingredients are split into three parts as follows:

Fruity bit

- 12 to 16 ripe peaches (or nectarines or plums, or a mixture of all three)
- 35g butter (cut into 24 or 32 small cubes)
- 6 tablespoons of clear honey

Syrup

- 200ml water
- 120g caster sugar
- 10 crushed cardamom pods

Vanilla cream

- 200ml double cream
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar
- 1 vanilla pod with the seeds scraped out
- 200ml of full-fat yoghurt

Put all the syrup ingredients into a small saucepan and bring to the boil. Simmer gently for 15 minutes. Remove from the heat and allow to cool before straining through a sieve.

Cut the fruit in half and remove the stones. Place on a sheet of baking parchment with a cube of butter on top of each half. Drizzle the honey over the top and then bake in the oven at 180°C for 20 minutes, or until they are soft and slightly browned.

While the fruit is cooking and the syrup is simmering, make the vanilla cream. Mix together the cream, caster sugar and vanilla and beat until thick. Stir in the yoghurt and then leave in the fridge until required.

When the fruit is ready, remove from the oven into a serving dish and pour over the syrup. Serve warm with the vanilla cream.



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*

AWJW SERVICES

*All Garden Work Carried Out
Borders - Lawn Care - Shrubs - Roses
Hedge & Tree Work - Paving & Turfing
All Types of Fencing and
Gates Supplied and Erected
Paddock Maintenance - Rolling, Topping
& Harrowing
Grass cutting - domestic, public,
commercial areas*

Alan Winfield

**Ivy Cottage, Cheddington Lane,
Long Marston, Tring, HP23 4QP.**

Tel: 01296-668977

Mobiles: 07803 058655 & 07778 919333

Email: ivy-cott@supanet.com

Fully Insured.
Established Over 20 Years.
New Inquiries Welcome.

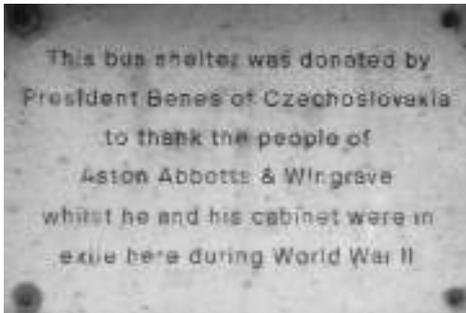
Book review by Phil Buchi

The Czech Connection by Neil Rees

The Czechoslovak Government in exile in London and Buckinghamshire

AT the Wingrave crossroads on the busy A418 is a bus shelter. A rather grand bus shelter in fact, brick built with a tiled roof and seats inside. I have seen it many times, but did not realise its significance. Not, that is, until the Long Marston and Puttenham WI invited Neil Rees to speak about the Czechoslovak government in exile, who were based in nearby Wingrave and Aston Abbots from 1940 to 1945. I now know that the bus shelter was a gift to the local people from President Beneš of the Czech government so that they did not have to wait for the Aylesbury bus in the rain. There is even a plaque on the shelter (see picture) but I had not noticed this.

Author Neil Rees was born in Aylesbury, but only while teaching English in Czechoslovakia in 1990 did he learn of the connection between Buckinghamshire villages and the Czech government. His interest aroused, he has collected a huge amount of material to illustrate this difficult period in Czech history, which provided the material for his book. In 1940 the Czech government in exile was located in London, but their offices were bombed and they moved



All is explained. But the bus shelter plaque did not appear until 1992.

(Picture: Village News)

to Bucks. Czech President Edvard Beneš established his office at The Abbey, Aston Abbots (now a private house), where he also lived. The Old Manor House at Wingrave became the residence for presidential staff, and also the Czech military headquarters. Addington House near Winslow became the home of Czech military intelligence. A small Czech army unit was based in the area as a presidential guard. (Many other Czech servicemen were attached to British army units, served with the SOE for operations in



Book cover shows President Beneš (centre) at The Abbey with officers and men of the Czechoslovak Army and British officers. (Copyright © Neil Rees. With acknowledge-

occupied Europe, and formed five squadrons of the RAF.)

The book is a fascinating photo record of this wartime episode and includes many personal pictures of ordinary life and local places as well as official photos. The story is told though the detailed captions accompanying each photo, of which there are no less than 136! The book has been translated into Czech and has been received with acclaim in the Czech Republic, the launch in Prague being attended by government officials. I enjoyed reading it, the pictures are great, and it reveals a hidden (but clearly not forgotten) link that we have with another country.

The Czech Connection by Neil Rees is published in paperback. 66 pages, 15cm x 23cm, 136 black and white illustrations. ISBN 0-9550883-0-5. Copies are available priced £7.50 from the Wendover Bookshop, 35 High Street, Wendover, 01296 696204. (Book cover illustration is Copyright © Neil Rees.)

Village News would love to hear from any readers who have recollections of the Czechs in exile, or family connections from that period. Contact Phil Buchi on 01442 890599.

Village Fete - A thank you

The organisers of the Wilstone Fete and Dog Show would like to thank the following for their generosity in supplying/donating their goods and/or services for the Fete.

Meads Farm Shop
Brian Allen of Printique
Rossini's Restaurant
The Akeman
Phil Madley
Helen Lishman of The Chapel Room
Long Marston Dog Training Club

Long Marston Horticultural Society
Jenny Cosby - Wilstone PO & store
BP
The Rex Cinema
Waitrose
Dayla
Wendover Financial Ltd.

Agora
Tesco
Marks & Spencer
Woods Garden Centre
Meads Open Farm
The Half Moon, Wilstone

Jane Shirley for being such a good Calamity Jane and Steve Warner for being such a convincing MilkyBar Kid. To Sheila & Colin for counting all the money! And to all the Villagers of Wilstone for donating goods for the raffle and the Tombola and to the army of helpers on the day including the scouts whose help in clearing up at the end of the day made such a difference. Thank you all.

**“Rose Cottage” Kennels and
Cattery, Wingrave.**
26 Mill Lane, Wingrave, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4PL

Relax and enjoy your holiday knowing your pets are enjoying theirs.
Large individual accommodation. Huge exercise paddocks. Personal attention at all times.
Inspection welcome

Contact Dave or Rita Habel on
(01296) 681306

J B SERVICES

**PATIOS AND DRIVES
BLOCK AND SHINGLE
DRAINAGE WORK
EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE**

NO JOB TOO SMALL
TEL: 07799 398335
OR 01442 826648 (EVENINGS)

Vale Burner Services Ltd

Installation : Commissioning
Breakdown Repair : Service

**OIL-FIRED BOILERS
&
RANGE COOKERS**




Registered Business
Tel/Fax 01844 299200

**BLOOMFIELD
WINDOWS & DOORS**

Conservatories Hardwood UPVC
Aluminium Secondary Porches

10 Year Guarantee
FENSA Registered
Tel/Fax: 01442 824333 Mob: 07836 640448

Established 200 years

K.Y.GREEN

**Independent Funeral Directors
Monumental Masons**



29 Cambridge Street,
Aylesbury, Bucks.
HP20 1RP



For personal attention and advice phone
01296 – 482041

24 Hour Emergency Service
Private Chapel of Rest
Marsh Road, Little Kimble.

*Golden Charter
Pre-payment Plans Available*

Please contact us, without obligation,
for your free brochure

Mrs. D. Little's

PET SITTERS

Whilst you're at work, on holiday or during illness,
we will come & visit your pet in your home.
All types of animals.
Member of the National Association of Registered Pet Sitters.
Fully insured.
Also holiday homes for rabbits, Guinea pigs, ferrets
and other small animals.
Tel. 01442 822191 or 07967 019031.

**SBH GENERAL
MAINTENANCE**

For all property repairs and maintenance

**BUILDING • POINTING • GUTTERING
PAINTING • GLAZING • TILING
PATIOS • PATHS • FENCING
PLUMBING • BLOCKED DRAINS
FLAT PACK ASSEMBLY**

No matter how small the job
call for a free quote

Telephone 07739 985923 or 01442 382078



4D BUILDING SERVICES

Extensions
Conversions
Refurbishments

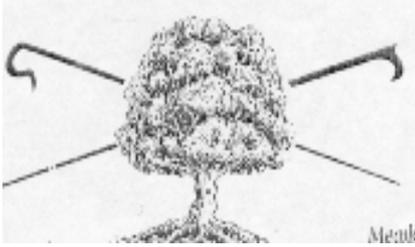
Tel: 01442 826932 Mob: 07778 482970
kevan.ford@btopenworld.com

Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd
carpets • oriental Rugs • upholstery

*High quality professional service
Residential and commercial
Excellent value Fully insured
Free consultation and quote
References available*

PO Box 903 Berkhamsted Herts HP4 3ZQ
Tel: 01442 876622 Mob: 0788 4058795
www.berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk

WALKING & WORKING STICKS
*Handcrafted by John Evans
Member of The British Stickmakers Guild*



Telephone 01442 822115
Wilstone, Hertfordshire
www.wilstonesticks.com



Your local and friendly private hire taxis

Do you like good quality service with a difference?
Door opening, escorted umbrella service and uniformed drivers
Do you require a taxi for long and short journeys?
We serve ALL airports/seaports and local villages
Business/private accounts welcome

For more information visit our web site: **www.ecocabs2go.co.uk**
To book or for a quote on a chauffer style taxi call:
01296 661999

CURTIS CARPET SERVICES
Parsons Lane, Bierton
All types of carpeting supplied & fitted
at excellent rates.
Adaptions - Domestic & Contract.
Phone David Curtis: 01296 482652
Mobile: 07773300054
Why Pay Shop Prices?



SARAH BUTTARS & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

SMALL BUSINESS SPECIALIST

Friendly, competitive, local help and advice with:
Statutory Accounts
Management Accounts
Budgets and Cash flows
Bookkeeping, VAT, Payroll
CIS, Corporation Tax Returns
Personal Tax Returns
Tax Planning

Brensham Cottage
Malting Lane
Aldbury
HERTS
HP23 5RH

Phone: 01442 851962
Fax: 01442 851962
E-mail: info@sarahbuttars.co.uk



T & S TREECARE

All trees lopped, pruned or felled.
All hedges shaped, pruned or removed.
We also do turfing, grass cutting and fencing.
All garden rubbish removed.

FREE ADVICE & ESTIMATE

Tel 01296 662167



SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS OF IRRIGATION & DECKING SYSTEMS

*For all your watering requirements and quality built decks.
Impeccable attention to detail and the highest standard of workmanship.*

For details about our Grey Water Recycling and Grey Water Harvesting

call David Jenkinson
01296 661103

email dj@in-x-scapes.co.uk www.in-x-scapes.co.uk

WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS

in your natural pond (1/4+ acres) ?

Algae ('green water' or 'blanket weed'), thick, black, smelly **mud** or, is your pond 'dead' ? *We have the solutions*, with our



Aerators and **Pond Healer Remedies**. We can offer water-testing and algae identification services, and treatments for algae and thick black mud. **Dissolve organic mud** without expensive, messy dredging. 'Refreshes' water and reverses stagnation.

All our remedies are harmless to you, wildlife and the environment

We have an in-house scientist and informative

website: www.spirexaquatec.com Tel: 01527 821 601

Enjoy your pond, don't endure it !

ASTROPE

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AND FENCING CONTRACTOR
GARDENS, PUBLIC SPACES AND COMMERCIAL AREAS

**GRASS CUTTING · HEDGE CUTTING · TREE SURGERY
FENCING · DECKING · LEAF CLEARANCE
WEED CONTROL · MULCHING · PRESSURE WASHING**

A Professional and Reliable Business Est. 1989. Fully Insured
Current Contracts in and around:

Berkhamsted · Felden · Tring · Chesham · Mentmore · Wendover
Princes Risborough. New enquiries welcome.

Please call Glenn Ansell T: 01442 875155 M: 07951 126534

THE CHAPEL ROOM WILSTONE

A SELECTION OF 'CRYSTAL CLEAR' FACIALS
AROMATHERAPY AND SWEDISH MASSAGES
HAND AND FOOT TREATMENTS
'ST. TROPEZ' TANNING
'HIVE' WAXING
A VARIETY OF EYE TREATMENTS
GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



NEW! CALGEL NAIL SYSTEM

HELEN LISHMAN

FULLY QUALIFIED
BEAUTY THERAPIST AND AROMATHERAPIST

9 CHAPEL FIELDS, WILSTONE, TRING,
HERTFORDSHIRE, HP23 4SL
TEL: 01442 890933



MAN WITH A VAN!

Nationwide collection & delivery service

Anything considered e.g.
student moves, small house moves etc.



7 days a week
01296 427182
07770 237745

The Old Pastures
Luxury accommodation for dogs
Icknield Farm, Icknield Way, Tring, Herts HP23 4JX

VISITTING, KENNELING, AND COLLECTING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Luxury heated accommodation for your dog
with A personal touch giving your dog the
Extra attention they deserve
All dogs are walked twice a day

In association with **Mrs. DeLittles** pet Sitters
TEL: 01442 824856
www.spoilyourdog.co.uk

M.D. SPRING AUTOS

All mechanical repairs
Very competitive prices
All work guaranteed

*Vehicles Collected
and Returned
at
No Extra Charge.*



MOTs Available on Site - Welding -
Tyres - Wheels Balanced - Batteries -
Exhausts - Diagnostic Tuning -
Air Conditioning
Servicing and Repairs



Phone or Fax: 01296 662280
Mobile: 07860 847328
Unit 9, Airfield Industrial Estate,
Cheddington Lane, Long Marston

A Summer Journey

by Magaret Noakes

IT was a beautiful day and we found ourselves with a little time to indulge in an exploration. A journey on a number 164 bus to Leighton Buzzard and back timetable in hand, we caught a 12.54 bus from Long Marston. But where would we catch it? No timetable or any information about buses at all, so a stranger to the area would never know that buses ever came through Long Marston!

The bus arrived on time, totally empty and obviously fairly new. We travelled to Leighton Buzzard without any passengers joining us; a lovely journey along country lanes that I have driven along many times, but this time I was higher up and could see over hedge rows. We travelled through Cheddington, Mentmore and Ledburn where there were no clear bus stops (except perhaps Cheddington) and eventually found ourselves in the high street at Leighton Buzzard. It was a peaceful and fascinating trip and took about 20 minutes. On arrival at the end of the first part of our adventure we asked the driver about the usage of his bus and he said that the take up was much better first thing in the morning. Thank goodness for that.

We wanted to explore the town and planned to take the last bus back at 4.30pm. A fantastic church; burnt down in 1985 but now restored. Simon Jenkins gives it 4 stars, deservedly so. The roof displays angels in full flight and the walls have a number of examples of ancient graffiti, one with an expla-

nation of the derivation of our Simnel Cake. But get there before 2.30pm and preferably on a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday so that you can have coffee in the coffee shop. The town is full of very old buildings, sadly some neglected but indicators of the importance of Leighton Buzzard over the years. The old 16th C market house became a fire station and is now a pleasant restaurant.

Now for our journey home, but there was no information about the 164 anywhere to be seen. Fortunately we caught sight of what was likely to be our bus and after checking, joined 4 other passengers. Incidentally, Waitrose is very near the bus stop so one could shop and not carry heavy bags too far. This time the journey was to take 45 minutes, taking us through Billington, Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Slapton, Horton and finally Long Marston. Again it was an opportunity to really enjoy the countryside and to appreciate the villages through which we passed. I loved the journey but sadly nobody else joined us until we arrived in Cheddington; a passenger that was travelling to Aylesbury. The bus driver, he had no idea that the bus wasn't advertised in Leighton Buzzard and promised to tell the bus company.

So how would I sum up the experience? I had no pressures on me on that day so it didn't matter how long the journey took. The weather was superb, so I could indulge in the beauty of the countryside. But the likelihood of the service staying in place must be remote if nobody uses it. There is absolutely no information at bus stops, or even where the bus stops are. No marketing; no usage; no usage; no need; leads to closure

Cricket at the Marlins

by Paul Dumpleton

SOME very exciting and tight finishes to matches in Cherwell League Division Two have resulted in three recent wins for Long Marston first eleven. This has put the team in a very good position in the league table as the first third of the season comes to an end. Things have not been so good for the second eleven in Division Six with batting collapses resulting in several heavy defeats.

In the Minor Counties Cricket Association Knockout Cup at Marlins on Sunday 1st June a large crowd witnessed Northumberland narrowly defeat Hertfordshire with a defiant ninth wicket stand. In the National Village Cup we were defeated at Reed (nr Royston) in the county semi final which means the dream of playing in a Lords final must go on hold for yet another year. In local cups Long Marston play at Northchurch on Weds 25th June in the Semi Final of the Aylesbury Cup and play at Ascott Park, Wing on Friday 27th against either Eggington or Aston Clinton in the semi final of the Coronation Cup. Potential fixture congestion looms as the finals of both these competitions are scheduled for the same day.

Big dates at Marlins later in the summer include the three day Minor Counties championship fixture against Cumberland on 3rd, 4th and 5th August and a 2 day Herts v Oxon development XI fixture for the Tom Orford Trophy on 20th and 21st August.

Sat 24th May - Cherwell League Div 2

LM v Leighton Buzzard (Won)

LM: 211/7 - Mike Lyons 88, Martin Wright 59.

Leighton Buzzard: 191/10 - Paul O'Reilly 6/53.

Cherwell League Div 6

Wallingford v LM II (Lost)

Wallingford: 177/10 - Martin Keable 5/48 LM: 82/10

Sun 25th May - LM v Rivets

LM: 124/10 - John Beardmore 62

Rivets: 127/8 - Matt Wareham 3/21, Adam Wells 3/30

Sat 31st May - Cherwell League Div 2

Dinton v LM (Won)

LM: 189/7 - Will Dallimore 43, Paul O'Reilly 31

Dinton: 182/10 - Adam Wells 6/39, Martin Wright 3/22.

Cherwell League Div 6

LM II v Wolverton (Lost)

Wolverton: 228/5 LM: 101/10 - Matt Wareham 31

Sun 1st June - NPower National Village KO

Reed v LM (Lost)

LM: 92/9 Reed: 94/2

Fri 6th June - Coronation Cup

Flamstead v LM (Won)

Flamstead: 55/10 LM: 56/7

Sat 7th June - Cherwell League Div 2

LM v Milton Keynes Park (Won)

LM: 103/10 - Pete Toovey 32.

MKPCC: 80/10 - Pete Toovey 7/37, Mark Green 3/31.

Cherwell League Div 6

Oxford III v LM II (Lost)

Oxford III: 240/5 - Simon Bound 3/32 LM: 58/10

Sun 8th June - LM v LM Village (Won)

LM: 195/6 - Chris Chapman 80, Adam Wells 52.

Ian Fantham 4/35.

LM Village: 127/10 - Jack Hamper 3/20, Sam Bastin 3/15.

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

Rev'd Huw Bellis 01442 851200

Team Vicars

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 Dumbleton 01296 668112

Long Marston 1st Steps Pre-School

Sally Smith 01296 661689

Long Marston Tennis Club

Margaret Kelland 01296 668314

Long Marston Baby & Toddler Group

Sally Smith 01296 661689

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

Claudia Cox 01296668752

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 the September edition will be

Phil Buchi

01442 890599

editorwlp@yahoo.com

Our Advertising Manager is:

Colette Bernard

01296 661172

Deadline for next month is

Wednesday 20 August

for the September edition,

published on 1st September

2008.

We are on line at:

www.tringruralpc.org.uk (Click on Village News)

www.wilstone.me.uk (Click on Village News)



From the Rectory...

by Rev'd Huw Bellis

I'D like to begin by inviting you all to come to my induction and collation as Rector in the Tring Team Ministry. The Right Reverend Christopher Foster will preside at this service at 8 pm on Wednesday 3rd September. It will be good to officially be licensed as the Team Rector. Hopefully by then Jane, Eliza, David, Martha and I will have moved into a new Rectory, but we aren't holding our breath! Either way it is a challenge that I am looking forward to.

This challenge was spelt out at our PCC and DCC Away Day. The day has given us a huge number of ideas which we can use to take us forward and the July meeting of the PCC will look at these in more depth and from these we will form a strategy for our churches. There will be more about the specifics on after the summer holidays. However I would like to share with you some of the presentation made by our guest speaker, the Rural Dean, the Reverend David Abbott. He emphasised the need for growth and a change in our approach because of the context which we find ourselves in. He stated that nearly 1/3 of the population have no experience at all of church. It isn't a case that we can draw these people back because they have never had any contact with the church in the first place. He also pointed out that about another 1/3 of the population have once had contact with the church but have no desire to come back again. Why? What are we doing wrong?

He also emphasised the need to focus upon youth. The Christian Churches are losing 1,000 children under 15 every week, which is 50,000 a year or half a million every decade. Out of 37,000 churches in England 54% have no teenagers **but** 70% of today's churchgoing Christians made a commitment to Christ before the age of 18.

David left us with a challenging image of a church with the bridge to the community broken and he said "The decline of the Church is ultimately caused neither by the irrelevance of Jesus Christ, nor by the indifference of the community, but by the Church's failure to respond fast enough to an evolving culture, a changing spiritual climate, and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit"

One of the main reasons I applied for the post, and why I am excited by the potential is the expressed desire in the Team to grow. In the last 5 - 10 years the Tring Team has changed beyond all recognition. We are no longer 5 disparate churches but a genuine Team of Anglican churches in a particular part of Hertfordshire. Having spent time coming together as a Team we now need to see the benefits of that, and strengthened by the Team each individual district needs to work out how best to serve the community in which it is located.

As a parish we have defined growth as being two fold. We want to grow in depth and we want to grow in width. Growing in depth is spiritual growth. We want to give every member of our church the opportunity to deepen their understanding of God and the spiritual aspects of their life. Growing in width is numerical growth. We want to encourage others to join our church community. There is a Gospel imperative to do this but it also comes from the genuine belief that Christianity and being a member of the Church improves our lives and we want to share that 'good news' with others.

I really do believe that we have an exciting opportunity to work out what it means to proclaim the Gospel in Long Marston, Wilstone and Puttenham today and I look forward to working together with all of you to do exactly that.

A Thank you – from Mission Committee

by Jenny Scholes

ALL the monies raised at the Mission Committee events 2007/8, together with other generous donations, have now been sent to the respective charities. A staggering £8,233 was raised during the year! THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH for your generosity and hard work which has enabled the committee to support the charities which were nominated by members of the parish congregation.

Three new members were welcomed at the last meeting - Miranda Ball, Pam Russell and Maggie Tigg join the Rev'd Huw Bellis, Vanda Emery, Moira Hargreaves, Rev'd Martin Macdonald, Helen Reynolds and Jenny Scholes on the Committee. We would very much welcome more members of the parish congregations to join the committee. The next meeting is on Wednesday 16th July at 20.00, 94 Western Road, Tring.

Watch this space and the weekly pew sheets for details of the fundraising events in support of this year's charities

CHARITY	DATES	CO-ORDINATOR
Turning Point	May -June	Pam & Clive Russell
Youth in Need, Tanzania	July - August	Andrew Minter
St Luke's Hospital	September - October	Huw Bellis
Bible Lands	November - December	Deborah Munday
Helen /Douglas House	January - February	Jenny Scholes
Mercy Ships	March - April	Moira Hargreaves & Stephen Tricks

Please contact the co-ordinator if you would like to get involved with these activities.

Thank you again for supporting the Mission Committee activities – it wouldn't be possible without your support !

1st Long Marston and Wilstone Brownies

ONE of our meetings this month was a camp fire. We did this so that any Brownies who did not go to our District Fun Day at Phasels Wood would not miss out. Unfortunately the District Fun Day clashed with the Wilstone Village Fete, so that is why the Brownies had no stall there this year.

We had a lovely sunny evening for our camp fire. The Brownies had great fun running round the field playing games. We had two enrolments to do so had taken our toad stall. Our newest Brownie is Katie Johnson and she made her promise with one of our leaders Faye Chappell. I hope this has made special memories for them, getting enrolled around the camp fire.

Sheila Hill our Tring District Commissioner was also in attendance. She likes a good fire and toasting marshmallows, but had come in an official



Village View

by John Painter



Well folks, this is me, I'm Calamity Jane!
A hard drinking trick-shooter no-one can tame.
I rode here all the way from Deadwood, South Dakota,
On these four legs an' nothin' else, cos I ain't got no motor.

I followed Big Horn River, and crossed at Goosey Creek,
I thought I wouldn't get here till the middle of next week!
But finally I found myself out on the Plains of Tring,
Where much to my surprise, I saw these folks from Wyoming!

And just before I got here, the last thing that I did,
Was, I lassoed and roped him in - The Milky Bar Kid!
He had a spot of trouble with a herd of buffalo,
But I helped him out, and brought him down to
Wilstone's Wild West Show!

Jane is riding Smartie a beautiful piebald belonging to Emma Kempster who kindly loaned him for the event. Smartie is used to events and the following day he was out eventing again. I believe he may have won a prize or two with a bit of smart dressage. He probably picked up a few tips or steps from watching the Line Dancing!

John took the photo and Jane wrote the poem and used it as an the opening speech for the Wilstone Wild West Fete.

Wilstone's wild west fantasy

Pictures by John Painter and Colin Moore

