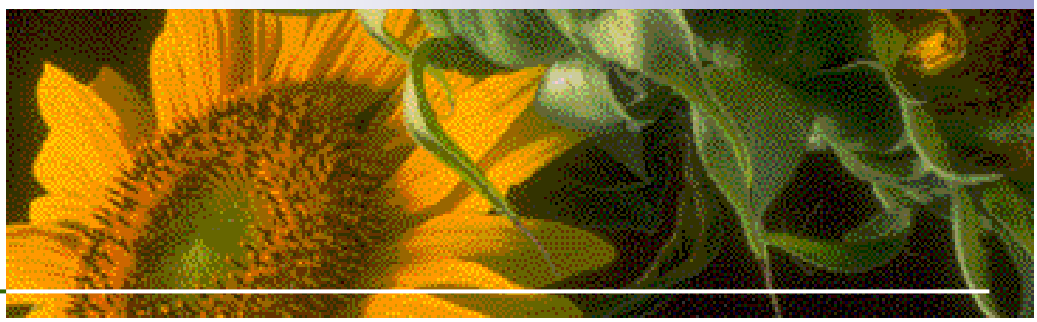
Village News: Long Marston,Puttenham, Wilstone, Gubblecote



September 2010

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

75th show success for Long Marston

by our outside broadcast team

THEY say around here that the sun always shines on the Long Marston Show. Well it held true this 75th year too but it was a close run thing. A grey and damp morning cannot have been much encouragement for the many people engaged in setting up the annual horticultural show, but the skies lightened at lunchtime and a better afternoon welcomed villagers and visitors to the recreation ground.

Unaffected by precipitation, in the village hall the display of flowers, vegetables, arts, handicrafts and domestic skills was as colourful as ever and attracted many visitors. Standards were high and our pictures show some of the splendid and colourful entries. The children's contributions are not to be missed, and there were some brilliant entries this year. The whole event is staged by the Long Marston and Puttenham Horticultural Society. This year's Show Secretary, Gillie Russell-Mann, said that the number of entries was down on last year, but she was pleased with the high standards.

Out on the field music played, the refreshment tent did a brisk trade, burgers and hot dogs were

……..*continued on page 28*

"Treasure Island" 1st prize Frances Farley

And the band played on

The raffle gets going

Inside this issue:

Church services	*3*
What's on	*4*
Suduko	*6*
Vicarage	*9*
Council News	*12*
Recipe	*14*
Puttenham Page	*24*
WI News	*26*
Village view	*27*

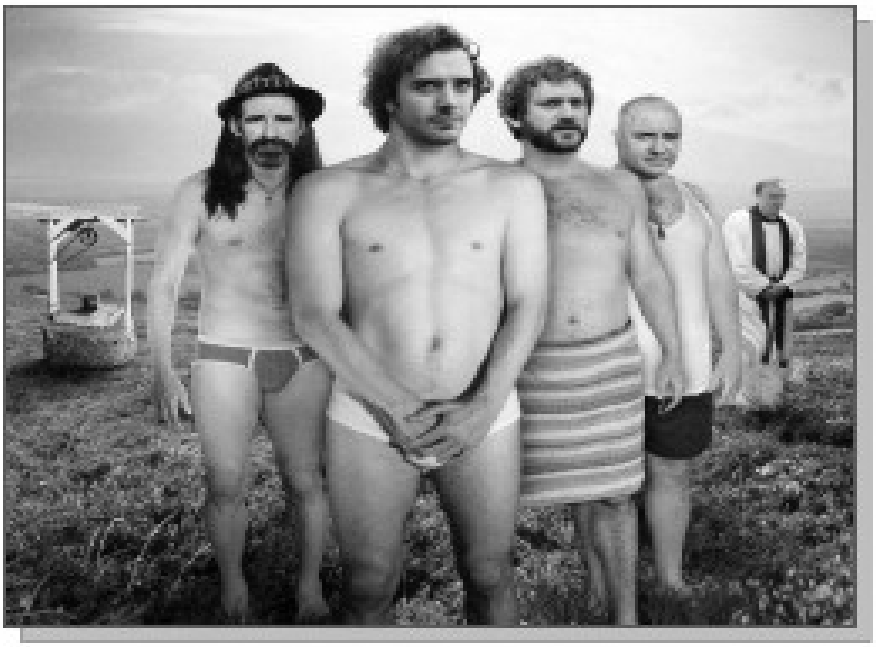
Special features:

- L Marston Show 1-28
- Agricultural 16
- Letters 19
- Double Gold 27

Readers' contributions are welcome. Send them in!

Wilstone Film Nights

Friday, October 8th



Holy Water

For four bachelors of Killcoulin's Leap, life is slowly passing them by. The remote Western Irish town holds no future for them, no career opportunities, very few eligible women, and (save for the handful of geriatrics their band plays for on Saturday night) no night-life to speak of. It seems they're stuck to live out the rest of their lives in withering boredom. But when one of their mates decides to find his fortune, a planned is hatched to hijack a shipment of Viagra and sell it in Amsterdam. The consequences lead to a very different town - a town suddenly swelling with life, throbbing with possibilities.....and a town willing to keep a secret.

FRIDAY OCT 8TH
TICKETS £6
AVAILABLE NOW AT

WILSTONE VILLAGE STORE
HALF MOON PUB, WILSTONE
MEADS FARM SHOP

Film starts at 8pm. Licenced bar opens at 7.15pm

15

Village News

Editor this month: John McCall

Email: **editorwlmp@yahoo.com**
Post: Editor, 27 Tring Road, Wilstone, HP23 4PE.
Phone: Phil Buchi, 01442 890599

Editorial Team
Phil Buchi, Colin Davenport, Fran Flowerdew, John McCall, Colin Moore, Emily Woodbridge.
Advertising Managers
Alison & Matthew White 01296 660402
villagenewsadvertising@googlemail.com
Distribution Manager & Secretary
Carole Harrison 01296 668526
Finance Manager & Treasurer
John Harrison 01296 668526

Well, here we are coming to the end of August and enjoying the outdoor life in warm, comfortable temperatures. So what if there was more rain this year, for those of you like us who settled for a summer "staycation," we could forget ash clouds, air strikes and trudging for miles around airports and enjoy not only the fantastic countryside but also such things as the natural firework display of shooting stars which recently lit up the night sky. And it is all free!

Our congratulations to Margaret and John Noakes as well as to Bill and Eunice Hall on reaching their golden wedding anniversaries—maybe they will write an article to tell us the secret!

Do look at the notices on page 24 which advertise vacancies on the Village News team. The tasks are not onerous but are vital to the good running of this magazine.

John McCall

Deadline for items for our next issue (October) is Wednesday 22nd September 2010.

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

Church services

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

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

5 September
10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer
4.00pm St Cross Messy Church
6.00pm St Cross Evening Prayer

6 September (Monday)
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

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

19 September
10.00am St Cross Holy Communion
10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer

20 September (Monday)
2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

26 September
10.00 All Saints Harvest Service and Sunday Club followed by a Bring and Share Lunch
3.30pm St Mary's Harvest Evensong

28 September
2.00pm—3.00pm All Saints social afternoon

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

What's on...

Tring Team Parish

invite you to

The Glam & Glamorous Late Summer Ball

on

Friday 3rd September 2010

at

Tring Park School

7.30pm – 11.30pm

Dancing to 'Courtin a Storm'

Please do NOT wear heeled shoes as the rooms have special flooring!

No jeans or trainers. Dress glamorously – Black tie & Ballgowns optional

Please note this is an Adult (18+) evening

TIP Bar – Raffle – Tombola – & many more surprises!

Entry by ticket only – Limited number of tickets so buy your tickets soon as this is an evening not to be missed!

Tickets : £20.00 including a welcome drink & canapés

Janet Goodyer 01442 824929
Maggie Tigg 01442 824752
email : maggie.tigg@ntlworld.com
Afra Willmore 01442 851459

Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

Saturday 11 September 2010
10 am to 6 pm

- Have fun Cycling or Walking
- Help save your local heritage
- 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.

For more information please contact:
Long Marston
Carole Harrison 01296 668526
Puttenham
Christine Rutter 01296 668337
Wilstone
Mary Minter 01442 823605

BEHCT – *Saving the Past for the Future*

www.BedsHertsHCT.org.uk
BEHCT Registered Charity No 1103187

Bike 'n Hike in association with the national *Ride & Stride*

Diary dates...

Tring Rural Parish Council meetings (8pm)
The public are welcome to attend these meetings.
Wednesday 15 September, Long Marston village hall
Wednesday 20 October, Puttenham Cecilia Hall.

Friday 3 September
Late Summer Ball. Tring Team Parish. See ad this page.
Saturday 11 September
Sponsored Bike 'n Hike in aid of Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust.
Tuesday 14 September
WI "The other Bucks County." Neil Rees. LM Hall 8.00pm.
Wednesday 15 September
TRPC Parish Plan Review At Long Marston Village Hall, 7.30pm. All villagers invited.
Friday 24 September
Quiz night at Wilstone village hall, 7.30pm.
Saturday 25 September
'Mozart by Candlelight'. Tring Chamber Music. All Saints Church, Long Marston, 7.30pm, £13. 01442 822732.
Tuesday 28th September
All Saints Social afternoon 2.00pm—3.00pm.
Saturday 2 October
Jumble Sale 2:00pm. Cecilia Hall, Puttenham.
Friday 8 October
Film night at Wilstone village hall, 7.30pm.
Saturday 9 October
Model railway exhibition at Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted 10.30am - 5pm. (T&DMRC).
Friday 15 October
Toby's quiz night in aid of All Saints church.
Saturday 30 October
Supper & Auction 7.30pm. Cecilia Hall, Puttenham.
Friday 19 November
Film night at Wilstone village hall.
Saturday 27 November
Long Marston village bazaar.
Friday 17 December
Film night at Wilstone village hall, 7.30pm.

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

Times for mobile library

Thursdays, fortnightly: September 9th and 23rd.

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

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

All Saints Church

QUIZ

With
Toby Davidson
Quizmaster

Friday 15th October 7.30 for 8.00pm
Victory Hall, Long Marston.

Tickets £4. Teams of eight.
BYO drinks and nibbles.
Contact Carol Harrison 01296 668526

Dress up and get on down to the

Funky Disco
Long Marston Victory Hall

Saturday 18th September 2010
Dancing 8pm 'til late
Licensed Bar

Groove to the thumpin', pumpin', jumpin' sounds of DJ Matthew
and the Long Marston Sound Factory
+Guest DJs

Tickets £4 in advance from The Queens Head or call Mags on 01296 661 021 or pay £5 on the door on the night

All proceeds to Long Marston Victory Hall

Wilstone Village Hall Committee are proud to present a repeat performance of their February hit:

A special Glam Rock evening at

Maggie's ☆

CABARET CLUB ☆

*A **glamorous evening*** of entertainment, music and dancing at Wilstone's exclusive night club.
All-local cabaret with comedy drama, music, and dancing.
(Cabaret may differ from the February performance.)
Come dressed for the occasion. Prizes!

Saturday 23 October 2010.Show starts 8pm.
Doors and bar open 7.15pm. All seating at table.

By advance ticket only. £12.50 from Maggie Buchi
Tel: 07802 154981. (Because of the anticipated demand it may be necessary to limit ticket allocations.)

College Lake—Diary of Events

Sunday 19th September 10.30am—2.30pm: Autumn Treasures.
Join in with autumn at College Lake including a treasure trail, woodland walks and children's craft activities. No need to book, come and go at will.

Sunday 3rd October—Bird spotting Race from 9.00am
Join the RSPB & BBOWT on a Big Bird-Spotting Race around College Lake. Gather your friends and family together and form a team, collect some sponsors and track down as many of the amazing different bird species that visit the reserve as you can. Adult teams start from 9am and finishing at 1pm. There will be a family and junior race at 1.30pm ending at 4pm.There will be kid's craft activities available from 10am – 2.30pm, so why not bring a picnic lunch and make a day of it!

Tuesday 26th October—Apple Day
Join us during half term for our second Apple Day as part of the Tring Apple Fayre. A day of family activities to celebrate this wonderful fruit. Explore our Orchard Trail, enjoy tasting a variety of British apples and have fun playing apple games. Bring a picnic and make a day of it; come and go as you please - no need to book! All children to be accompanied by an adult please. Tea/coffee will be available at the Barn.

Keep up with **Long Marston Cricket Club** progress and events by visiting **www.lmcc.org.uk**

News in brief…

Volunteers for Village News

YOU will see from advertisements in this magazine that we need some extra help on the Village News team. Your village magazine is written, produced and distributed entirely by a team of local volunteers and from time to time these kind folk move on and need to be replaced. Here are two opportunities to support a worthwhile community project.

At present we need to recruit an advertising manager to look after our advertisers, who provide 80% of the funding for this magazine. This is a vital task without which we would cease to operate, but it is not an especially onerous job. No selling is required - the magazine sells the advertising by itself, and the task does not include collecting money. The advertising manager deals with enquiries from new advertisers, passes on the ads to the editor, and sends out invoices. The process is up and running and full training is given. All you need is a computer with internet access and a few hours a month. If you think you can help us with this do please call Phil Buchi for a chat: 01442 890599.

We also would like a volunteer to act as holiday relief distribution manager to step in a few times a year when our distribution manager is away. The job is to receive the magazines from the printer and bundle them up for the distributors who then take them out to readers. This takes only a few hours on each occasion, and the dates are known well in advance. Carole Harrison would be very pleased to hear from you if you might be able to help with this. (It is her holidays!) Phone her for a chat on 01296 668526. Thank you!

Sudoku Corner **by Colin Moore**

No 51 Easy Solution on page 23

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

Seems to be very straight forward to start with but you may encounter a more difficult patch in the middle.

Eco-lodges on the front page

Our story "What's an Eco lodge?" in the July/August edition of *Village News* (page 12) did get a lot of attention, including at the offices of The Gazette. Gazette reporter Jonathan Saunders picked up our story and did such a good job it made the front page lead on 21st July. He did a number of interviews to get the background to the proposal to build this mini holiday camp on the shores of Wilstone reservoir. His contact at Dacorum Planning Department, Helen Lawrence, said that such a proposal was not likely to be supported by DBC. Not too hopeful then. So well done to The Gazette - but you read it first here in Village News!

Long Marston Show: cup winners

Thomas Chapman Award for contribution to village life: Colette Bernard
William Dean Cup (fruit and veg.): John Rowe
Grace Trophy (veg. collection): Michael Glasser/John Rowe
Ernest Gregory Cup (flowers): Jeff Norwood
Parker Cup (floral art): Frances Farley
William Huckvale Cup (domestic): Carole Harrison
Katherine Severs Memorial Plate (domestic - cakes): Rozanne Wallace
Woman Magazine Cup (handicraft): Joss Ashton
Frank Hopkins Trophy (art): Duncan Bignell
Sir Harry Vaisey Cup (most points - child): Isabel McAuliffe
Sheila Wood Cup (veg. & flower - child): Isabel McAuliffe/ Oumnia Abounouar/Amy McMunn/Mollie McMunn
Hales Trophy (most points - lady): Sally Smith
Alan Taylor Cup (most points - gent): Jeff Norwood

Novice awards were made to: Oumnia Abounouar (children's flower arrangement) and Isabel McAuliffe (vegetable novelty).

Diplomas in Horticultural Excellence were awarded to: Jeff Norwood (2), Jane Murrell and John Rowe.

Information provided by the Long Marston & Puttenham Horticultural Society.

TRING RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

An invitation to all villagers to attend the annual review of the

Parish Plan

First published in 2005, the plan sets out aims and objectives for the Parish Council. This is an opportunity to contribute to the policy and strategy of the Council.

Wednesday 15th September, 7.30 - 8.30pm at Long Marston village hall.

1000 runs at Long Marston

by Colin Moore

SUNDAY 1st of August saw the start of a 3 day match between Hertfordshire and Staffordshire which Staffordshire won by 187 runs gaining 24 points to Hertfordshires' 4. A large number of spectators turned up each day and the threatening rain somehow managed to miss Long Marston.

Peter Wilshaw opening for Staffordshire faces medium bowler William Rudge
Photo Colin Moore

Staffordshire made 346 runs in their first innings. Hertfordshire got off to a bad start losing 3 wickets for 35 before bad light stopped play, losing 6 overs . There was not much improvement in Hertfordshire's batting the following day and they were dismissed for a paltry 174. Surprisingly Staffordshire chose not to force the follow on and made a further 284 before declaring early on the 3rd day. Chasing 456, Hertfordshire made a brave attempt to save the day. There were some outstanding individual performance from both sides. Peter Wilshaw made an impressive 95 runs and took 5 Hertfordshire wickets for 33. Twenty year old Eddie Ballard scored 102, the only century of the match and supported by Rob Clements put on 158 runs in Hertfordshires' drive to get back into the match. With over 1000 runs scored, credit must also go to Long Marston for providing an excellent pitch that performed superbly over the 3 days.

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in your natural pond (¼+ 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!***

Friends of Ashridge

by Ann Lang

HAVE you ever wondered where the money comes from to keep the National Trust Ashridge Estate in good shape? – well, the Estate's basically self-funding, so the NT staff work very hard to keep enough income coming in. The Friends of Ashridge exist to give staff as much help as they can, in two ways: first, to raise funds which are used to buy essential equipment for the Estate; and second, to encourage people to take up all manner of volunteer jobs.

At the moment, we're working very hard to fund two more of the increasingly-popular mobility vehicles, which allow the less-agile to still go for a "walk" in the woods. Annual membership of the Friends is positively a bargain at £7 – for this you receive a full-colour twice-yearly newsletter, invitations to Friends-only events and discounts on NT walks and talks at Ashridge. Better still, if you become a regular volunteer, you'll be a Friend for free. More details and a membership form are on our website (www.friendsofashridge.org.uk) or from Arthur Mason (01582 619 829).

Our website has a full list of all the NT and FoA events for the coming months but here are a few important dates for your diary:

26th Sept Chilterns Countryside Festival – 11am to 4pm at the Visitor Centre.
Come along to our annual festival to celebrate the different crafts, industries and wildlife associated with the Chilterns countryside. Enjoy a day of mouth-watering local produce stalls, fascinating craft displays, forestry demonstrations and children's activities in the meadow behind the Visitor Centre.
All adults £2.50, children free, on the day. No need to book.

5th Dec Christmas Fair – 10am to 4pm at the Visitor Centre
It's bigger! It's even better! Fill yourself with festive cheer and your bags with festive goodies at our annual Christmas fair. Free entry.

27th Dec Christmas Walk - 10am to midday. Meet at the Visitor Centre.

Enjoy a scenic post-Christmas walk through the Estate at this magical time of year. There will be mulled wine or a soft drink and mince pies at the Visitor Centre afterwards. £5.00 non-FoA members, £4 FoA members, £3 under-16s.

Booking essential – 01442 851 227

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Mob: 07950809851

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TEL: 01442 890933

CRYSTAL CLEAR ST. TROPEZ The Ultimate Tan JESSICA

Message from St Cross

by Rev'd Joanne Wetherall

SEPTEMBER – Michaelmas daisies, the feel of new school shoes, slightly too big and definitely too stiff to run around in, burnt tongues from tasting the blackberry jam too soon and the smell of a warm musty class room which has been closed up for six weeks.These are some of the sensations which I remember from childhood as the year turns from the long, warm summer days to shorter, crisper Autumn ones. These days the seasons seem to play tricks on us – perhaps they have always been unreliable really and it's our collective memories and the work of poets which romanticise the past.

It is hard to have our memories disrupted or doubted, if they are not real then what is?

Our memories give a shape and framework to our lives, the way we respond to situations is hugely affected by the experiences which form us, not just in childhood but all through our lives. Some of those brief September memories I described make me smile, the others make my stomach turn over. Where the negative experiences have continued to affect me adversely I have had to try to create new positive ones or to confront my feelings and work through them, not a comfortable thing to do. I think memories are reliable, even if they are not perfectly accurate, because they are what we experienced. Compare the memories of two children growing up in the same household – they will remember the same events in different ways, their experiences will be different because they are different people, but each memory is equally valid. One argument levelled against Christianity is that it is out of touch with an age of reason, that we believe in superstition and inconsistent accounts of the life of one man.

My memories and experiences come from growing up in a world where human knowledge of the world has expanded our thinking beyond our imagination. I accept the evidence of evolution and value the enormous contribution that science has made to the quality of human life, but my experience of the world is that there is a loving creative force behind it. Richard Dawkins the famous atheist funded a publicity campaign for which the slogan read "There is probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life."

Perhaps he has never read the many parts of the Bible which have repeatedly said for thousands of years - "God cares for you deeply. So stop worrying and enjoy your life"I have also experienced Church as a place of acceptance of all our life experiences.A place big enough to hold our imperfect memories, to bring our doubts, fears and questions, our delight in life love and beauty and still to believe in something other.

St Cross is going to be open as a place of quiet and prayer every morning from this month. Why not call in and share your memories and experiences.

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Mobile: 07860 847328
Unit 9, Airfield Industrial Estate,
Cheddington Lane, Long Marston.

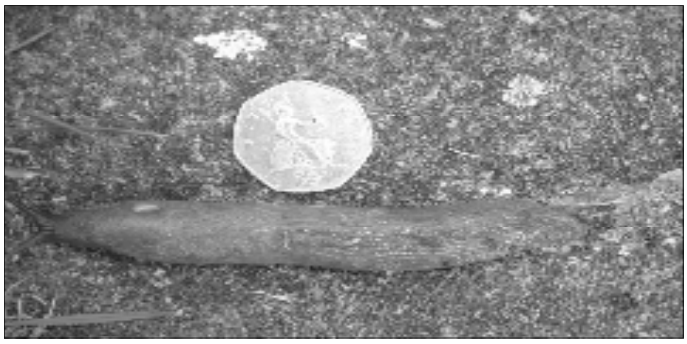
Horti But Nice

by Andy Ashwell

ALTHOUGH we have lived in Long Marston for four years now, this is the first year that we have managed to make it to the Horticultural Show. This hasn't been a deliberate snub on our part but just an unfortunate clash with our annual seaside-holiday. This year was, so we thought, to be no different as we were once again scheduled to miss the show. But as luck would have it the poor weather intervened to save the day: not the poor weather that was predicted for the show but the poor weather that was *actually* in Cornwall.

With no sign of the rain diminishing on the Saturday we decided to return home on Friday evening and make the most of the extra day back at home. On the Saturday morning I had mixed emotions about our decision to cut and run until, that is, it started to tip it down; then I felt quiet smug. Ironically, we had returned home in order to avoid a soaking on the beach so that we could get a soaking at the village show instead.

On arriving at the show our first port of call was the hall where all the horticultural exhibits were on display. I must say that they were pretty impressive and certainly made my gardening ineptness all the more apparent. For instance, there were some carrots that were well over two feet long; my best this year was a measly three and a half inches – that's a good inch shorter than one of the greedy slugs that I removed from my vegetable patch.



What a whopper!

So suitably humbled we headed off to the main arena. Our first stop was the pre-school stall with their win-a-load-of-sweets-in-a-jar tombola. Because Mummy tries hard to discourage Florence (but not herself) from eating too many sweets, when Florence successfully met her brief and won a-load-of-sweets-in-a-jar Mummy was mortified.

The offer of a pony ride distracted Florence away from her sweets for a while. The pony ride itself proved to be highly amusing to us, but rather embarrassing to Florence and the young girl trying to lead the pony. I don't know what it had been eating but halfway through the ride the pony stopped to fertilize the grass; a few yards further on it stopped to water the grass instead; and finally, just before the end of the ride, it stopped again to add a further obstacle to the course.

As we left the embarrassed girl and her incontinent charge and sauntered down to the beer tent to get a drink, the egg-and-spoon races were just starting. Florence spied one of her friends at the start-line and decided to join in. Unfortunately the eggs weren't hard-boiled and hers broke after about three steps. Unperturbed she scooped up the eggy mess from the grass and carried it to the end where she received a consolation prize of a Curly Wurly.

The sight of Florence's just-for-taking-part Curly Wurly encouraged Mummy to have a go at 'winning' some free chocolate so she entered us for the three-legged race. I was dragged over to the start line where our legs were tied together with an old school tie. Surprisingly we somehow managed to win our heat and ended up in the final. As we lined up for the final Mummy licked her lips in anticipation of the Curly Wurly waiting for her at the end. At half way we were level with the other couple but then a moment's over-excitement caused us to stumble and lose too much ground and we eventually waddled across the line in a disappointing second place. There was further disappointment (for Mummy) when the anticipated Curly Wurly was replaced by a free-drink voucher. A much more appropriate prize I felt considering our exertions – but I didn't share my thoughts.

As we stood sipping our consolation-fizz, the heavens opened and the arena emptied faster than the pony's bowels. The band very professionally kept playing as if nothing had happened and fortunately the deluge was fairly brief and the normal proceedings resumed shortly afterwards.

All in all we had a great afternoon so perhaps next year, especially now that any burglars who are reading this will know about our planned absence, we will change our holiday dates so that we can visit the show again. Who knows, maybe I'll even enter my carrots in the 'strangely shaped vegetable' section. Or even one of my 4½ inch slugs into the 'Vegetable novelty' section – after all their chemical make-up is around 99% my vegetables.

Marsworth Pre School

Opening Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Sessions: 9.00am – 11.30am and 12.30pm – 3.00pm
Lunch club: 11.30am – 12.30pm
Children from ages 2½ to 5 years

Baby & Toddler Group every Tuesday 9:30-11:30am

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Parish Council news

by Phil Buchi

Still trying for affordable housing

DAVID PICKERING, Housing Enabling Officer for Dacorum Borough Council, attended the August meeting of the Parish Council to report what was happening about the now abandoned affordable housing project in Wilstone. Hightown Praetorian housing association have expressed an interest in taking on the project and have commissioned a groundwater survey to check the feasibility and get a second opinion on the issue that caused the previous developer, Aldwyck Housing Group, to walk away. He said he shared the disappointment of the Parish Council that he was not here to report a start date for building, and confirmed that provision of affordable housing remained an important objective for Dacorum. He had never heard of an instance before when the developer abandoned the project at such a late stage. He believed that the developer had just made an expensive mistake in not getting the groundwater survey done much earlier. Aldwyck had also had to return £400,000 of grant money to the Homes and Communities Agency, and this money has been lost to the borough and the parish. Parish Councillors said that they wanted to be closely involved with any future project and that local residents remained concerned about the density of a new scheme. Hightown Praetorian will be meeting Mr Pickering in September, and he agreed to involve the Parish Council in subsequent discussions. In answer to questions, Mr Pickering said that he did not know what would happen to the land if it proved unsuitable for housing; that was a separate issue for DBC.

USAAF memorial day in 2011

There will be a big event in Long Marston on Saturday 7th May 2011 when a memorial day will be held for airmen of the US Army Air Force 36 Bomb Squadron who died while flying from Cheddington during the war. Councillor Mike Tomlinson has been in correspondence with a group in the US representing survivors and relatives of the crew of a B24 Liberator which crashed in a field by Long Marston village shortly after take off. In response to their request, the Council has agreed that a stone memorial can be placed near to the War Memorial. It is expected that a sizeable delegation from the US will attend the dedication service on that day so this is likely to be a significant event in the village calendar. We

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will publish a feature on the work of 36 Bomb Group, and this fatal crash, in a future edition of *Village News.* Astonishingly our Parish Council Chairman, Mike Tomlinson, witnessed the B24 crash on 19th February 1945.

More on the Eco lodges

Agents Cole Flatt, acting for the Rothschild Estates, invited interested organisations - including the Parish Council - to a briefing and consultation about the proposal to build a holiday centre of seventeen 'Eco lodges' on ten acres of land by the southern bank of Wilstone reservoir. The meeting was apparently well attended, and organisations have been asked to send in their comments. Mr Adrian Cole told the Parish Council meeting that the proposal faced many obstacles, and they intended to listen to the views expressed. The plan was not likely to be taken forward if there was concerted opposition from the community, he added. Parish councillors concerns were about increased traffic, the intrusive nature of fencing, and likely future development on the site.

Cemetery care

Works to admit more light to the garden of rest at Wilstone cemetery are to go ahead in the autumn with the removal of one of the hedges. (See *Village News,* July/August.) To tidy the place up the Parish Council are asking relatives to remove temporary tributes (pots, jars, faded artificial flowers) from graves and memorials during the next thee months.

Your Parish Councillors are:

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

The Clerk to the Council is:
Mrs Dawn Slade 01442 824 138
Email: clerk@tringruralpc.org.uk
***The Village Warden is*:**
Mr Colin Reedman 01442 822 031

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Recipe

by Anna Ashwell

Nectarine, Feta and Parma Ham Salad

This summery salad is so simple and there is absolutely no cooking required. If you cannot get ripe nectarines then you can use mangos. Apparently Marks and Spencer do some very good tinned mangos for when they are not in season.

Ingredients (serves 4):

- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- Juice of one lemon
- One red chilli seeded and chopped
- ½ bunch of fresh mint finely chopped
- 7oz feta cheese
- 2oz salad leaves
- 4 ripe nectarines, finely sliced
- 8 slices of Parma ham

Method:

- Whisk together the olive oil, chilli, mint and lemon juice and pour over the finely cubed Feta cheese.
- Divide the salad leaves, nectarines and Parma ham between four plates
- Add the Feta cheese and dressing
- Serve immediately

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Wilstone girls take part in Race for Life

by Fran Flowerdew

CANCER Research UK's Race for Life is the largest women-only fundraising event in the UK. On the 27th June Cancer Research held a Race for Life event at Luton Hoo and four Wilstone girls took part, namely Jill Walker, Maggie Buchi, Ros Birkett, and me, Fran Flowerdew. A friend, Judith Vickers, from Lymington in Hampshire joined us too. Jill, being the fittest of us all, decided to do the 10k run and set off before us slower ones. It was one of the hottest days and we felt full of admiration for Jill because, not only did she have to brave the heat, and the uneven surface of the track, but also the task of trying to overtake all of the thousands of women who were taking it at a slower pace. However, she got round in record timing and was there to greet the rest of us when we got back from our 5k walk. It felt great passing the finishing line and receiving our medals!

All ready to go!

Since 1994, women of all ages and fitness levels across the UK have come together at these inspiring events to walk, jog or run 5k or 10k to help beat cancer.Some take part in celebration of surviving a cancer experience. Others take part in memory of a loved one or to give hope to a cancer-free future. But all of them share a common goal: to raise money for Cancer Research UK's groundbreaking work to beat cancer.

Every pound raised in sponsorship or fundraising helps to fund the work of over 4,500 researchers, doctors and nurses dedicated to helping more people beat cancer. So far, an incredible 4.7 million women have raised over £370 million to fund Cancer Research UK's life-saving work. There are over 230 Race for Life events taking place around the country between May and July and are open to women across the UK. There is no prize for first place – you can walk, jog or run the 5k course. Almost half of Race for Life participants chose to walk at their event.

The Wilstone girls managed to raise approximately £1,000 between them in sponsorship, and the Luton Hoo event raised about £164,000 in total.

We're looking forward to doing it again next year – perhaps some of you would like to join us????

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Evelyn is also a member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers.

Contact Evelyn Chapman

The agricultural story line… *by David Mead*

Getting it just right

BEAUTIFUL dry sunny weather. New (two years old) combine, wheat ripening and all standing up. This is going to be an easy harvest. Well we did make a good start; the oil seed rape crop is finished, bin full. A grey cloud appeared over the hill so we started the wheat. We had two good days, finishing around 11.30pm. The combine went well. Chris dried out the 2% moisture; wheat into bin. And then it rained. On Sunday 15th August the moisture was up to 20% and the forecast is for changeable weather. Look out for a big cloud of dust behind the combine and we shall hear the millers complaining about spoiling quality. The Russians stopping exports *(because of their poor harvest)* has given the price a boost. Hopefully when you read this the sun will have appeared over the hill and we will have finished.

I met David Prosser from Wilstone Green on his way to a gathering. Every three years the Rothschilds invite staff and friends to a gathering in the stable yard near Waddesdon. David has been before and declared that the food was superb. The sausage rolls were the best ever. Bernard Double, keeper now retired, was unable to attend. He was taking his Old English rabbits to the National Rabbit Show in Thirsk, Yorkshire, where his rabbit was show champion. It is the first time in 40 years of showing that he attained this honour. To top it off, he was made President. People brought their rabbits from Cornwall and Kent. Anyone who has done any showing of animals knows the hard work involved. The health, conformation and age for the show have to be right. Diet and attention to records all have to be on the ball.

Katrina, from Buckland, has kept Guinea pigs for some years, and Derek - retired butcher from Sallery's shop in Tring and Waitrose in Berkhamstead - takes his Guinea pigs all over the country and has been a judge for some years. The showing of animals and birds has always been a feature of the area. Arthur Edwards used to keep canaries. Eric and Marge Kingham of Mill Farm, Astrope Lane, kept budgies. I know James Draper has a jungle full in Wilstone, as has Kurt Moennich.

Moisture content is crucial for the combine

When there is a break in farming, operational mutterings can be heard. One uppermost recently was EU regulations, e.g. you can't store more straw in a field than the field has produced. There are rules about farmyard manure (FYM). We can only store it in the field where it is to be spread. Small fields have a head in each field with all the wheel marks. There is also a limit to the amount of FYM that is spread on each field.

But rapeseed oil sales cheer everyone. There were three people braving the elements on the market stalls this weekend, with good results. I'm looking to the hills, but there's no sun. Can we blame the EU?

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To see if you would be eligible for a grant, apply to Tring Charities' Millennium Education Foundation for information and an application form. Write to Elaine Winter, Secretary to the Trustees, 21 Bunyan Close, Tring, HP23 5PS. The closing date is 15 November 2010 to lodge a completed application for grants payable from Autumn 2011.

Tring Parish Men's Society

Sheep breeding for beginners

by Leslie Barker

HUW, no introduction needed, spoke to the Men's Society at their July meeting. Huw spoke briefly on the spiritual significance of sheep describing the difference between English shepherds who spend their time trying to drive the sheep where they don't want to go, and the Middle Eastern shepherd, who knows his sheep by name and leads them where they do want to go. As my only knowledge of sheep breeding is Jacob's unusual method in the Bible, I thought it might be difficult to write up a technical account from the notes I took. However Google came to the rescue with 6540 references to "ram tupping."

The first reference was a government document on Sheep Management which advised assessing "the existing rams on the farm at least ten weeks pre-tupping." The second from the British Farming Forum asked " is there such a device on the market that can be fitted to the Ram to remove the chance of tupping?" While doing this lunch time research a colleague asked the meaning of "coterie" and Google obliged again. The significance of this word is that the sheep breeding social club Huw joined is a coterie, and its original meaning was purely agricultural – "an association of tenant farmers."

Huw joined the group in Aldbury to replace one of four members who dropped out. It is best described as a demanding hobby, as it is dictated by the needs of the sheep. For instance tupping has to occur at the right time to avoid lambs being born inconveniently in Holy Week. The most interesting thing I learnt, and pass on to you with large gardens, if not paddocks, is that sheep encourage the growth of wild flowers including orchids, whereas horses do not.

Autumn Programme

After a break over the summer the Men's Society's 2010/11 programme begins on Wednesday 6 October when Christopher Townsend, local councillor and church member, will speak on *The rôle of a local councillor as politician.*
Then on Wednesday 3 November Rev Bill Carpenter will share his *Thoughts on the Battleship "Bismarck."*
Both meetings will be in the Parish Hall and begin at 8pm.
Following the successful joint meeting with the Mothers Union back in February they have invited the Men's Society to a meeting on Thursday 25 November when we will be entertained by a visiting Handbell Ringers' Group. Programmes for the whole year will be available in September.

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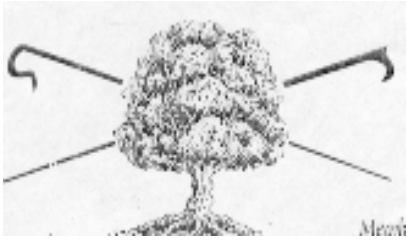

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Letters...

From Jane Waterhouse, Wilstone.

Wilstone allotments

I am wondering if there are any other villagers who, like me, are itching to get hold of a little more land in which to grow things and feel an allotment site within the village would enhance their life.

The village seems to be fairly evenly split between houses with good size gardens and cottages where there is very little outside space available.

I already have 3 households who would be interested and I believe we need 6 or more before we can approach the council to say there is a need.

Even if you have a vague desire to grow more or would like to be involved in some capacity please contact me on 01442 826813 or visit 54 Tring Road (the cottage with the lettuces, peas and tomatoes outside it!)

Look forward to hearing from you.

From Nick Phillips, Thame, Oxfordshire

I manage a rural grants programme that is designed to award grants to small businesses and farmers in the Chilterns of up to £50,000. I wonder if you would pass on the details to any of your local businesses who may benefit.

The funds are from Europe and about £1m has been elected to be spent in the Herts and Beds section of the Chilterns, so your area is ideal and hope that some of the rural businesses in your parish may benefit. Further information can be found on our website www.leader-programme.org.uk

Thanks for your support.

From Graham Thorpe, Grange Road,Wilstone

Smell from sewage pumping station

Just a reminder that the number to call to report a smell is Thames Water on 0845 9200 800. Lines are open 24 hours a day. The more complaints they receive, the more likely there would be swift corrective action.

From Kate O'Pillar

Following the report in your magazine about the failed affordable-housing plans in Wilstone, I felt compelled to write to tell you about my family's situation here in Long Marston. I am one of a very large one-parent family. We have no idea who, or where, our father is and now our mother has just abandoned us in the middle of nowhere (well, somewhere in Long Marston). We are now living outside in intolerably damp conditions – mainly because some twit keeps hosing us down every evening with freezing cold water – with only a few manky old cabbage leaves to eat.

As you can see from my photograph, things are getting more than a little cramped in our abode and I was wondering if any of your kind readers would be generous enough to offer my siblings and me somewhere a little less hostile (and tasty) on which to grow up.

Many thanks.

Pre–school news

by Vicky Hayes

IT seems difficult to believe that we are at the beginning of another new school year and lots of children are moving on to a new stage in their education.
At the end of July, tears were shed (by the staff!) as we said **goodbye** to 15 of the pre-school children: Florence Ashwell, Kizzie Beckwith, Fenella Blankertz, Maeve Brough, Jack Dimond, Alfie Gifford, Tom Henderson, Grace Kirk, Daisy Lauder, George Mason, Ryan Orwin, Xander Patel, Aimee Smith, Nicola Smith and Alfie Thompson. All these children will be starting Long Marston School in September and we hope they are very happy at "big school".

The last few weeks of the summer term were very busy. We had a great **sports day** with all the children taking part in four different races. A couple of weeks later there was our **leavers' concert** when the children performed their stage version of the story "Handa's Surprise". Finally, on the last day of term, we held an **end of year party** which everybody thoroughly enjoyed. After all this exertion everyone headed off for a well deserved summer break and, by the time you read this, we'll be back, raring to go for the new academic year. We look forward to welcoming 6 **new children** in September: Louis Kirk, Oliver Laidlaw, Jasmine Lauder, Jasper McGrath, Oscar Price and Stanley Smith.

Before term ended, we sent off nearly 3000 **Sainsbury's Active Kids** vouchers and look forward to receiving the cooking equipment, balls, bean bags, lunch box trolley, storage bags and butterfly keeper's set over the next few weeks. Thank you again to everyone who has given us vouchers.

At the time of writing, the **Long Marston Village Show** has not yet happened, but I hope the rain stayed away, the pre-school sweet tombola was as successful as in previous years and that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the whole afternoon.

First Steps Pre-School is held at Victory Hall, Long Marston every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.15am – 11.45am during term time, with lunch clubs on Tuesday and Friday until 1.15pm. We welcome all children aged between 2½ and 5 and as a result many children stay with us until they 'cross the road to big school'.

If you would like to know more about Pre-School or wish to put your child's name on our waiting list, please contact either Teresa Giddings, pre-school leader, on 07925 185311 (during pre-school hours) or our chairperson, Vicky Hayes, on 01296 661586.

Wind Farms - further discussion points

by Pete Foster

I would just like to add to your wind farm discussion and perhaps throw some light on Steve Dunthorne's concerns. Firstly, as I understand it the 30% efficiency figure for turbines refers to the expected level of electricity generation. If the wind blows at the ideal speed for every minute of every day it would be 100%, but of course it doesn't. Usually wind turbines provide some electricity for 75-90% of the time, depending on where they are. Bear in mind, though, that the energy source is free. For a traditional power station, efficiency in turning coal or gas into electricity is only about 30-40% and the fuel has to be paid for.

With wind farms spreading across the country and into the North Sea, different turbines will be running at different speeds so there will always be some wind-generated electricity feeding into the grid. But yes, we will need conventional power stations to fill the gaps. Our electricity supply already has built-in flexibility, though, in case a power station goes out of action, so it's possible to have up to 10% of the country's needs met by sources such as wind energy without having to make any significant changes to the way the power system operates. Currently less than 2.5% of our energy comes from wind (with around 6.5% from all renewable).

It's not true that wind farms can't pay their way, but they are made a lot more attractive by subsidies, with good reason. A number of Britain's aging power stations are coming to the end of their lives and will be shut down over the next few years. As a result there's a real risk that, as early as 2015, Britain will face a power shortage, with no new power stations to fill the gap much before 2020. With the government also committed to increasing renewable energy as part of our climate change legislation, there is a need to encourage the installation of wind turbines and other forms of renewable energy.

The problem is that this financial support means that turbines can now turn a profit in locations where they might not otherwise be economic. So it's not really a case of whether we have wind farms, but where they are located. Some coordinated national strategy would be good, but at the moment it seems to boil down to local fights for planning permission. There are lots of questions that can be asked of RES about what assumptions they've made that justify putting a wind farm at the Wingrave site, in terms of wind speed, energy generation, subsidies, electricity price forecasts, etc. It may be viable now, but will it still be in, say, 2020? If not, will they pull them down?

In the long-term, though, the only alternative to wind farms (or other forms of renewable energy) is for all of us to use less power.

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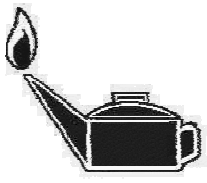

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Ian Doley 1935 - 2010

By Colin Davenport

IAN had lived in Wilstone with his wife Eileen for 46 years. During that time he had served on many committees including the village hall and the church. Some years ago, calling on his accountancy skills, Ian set up the charity "Friends of St.Cross" enabling all funds to go directly to Wilstone's St.Cross, which he loved. This will remain his legacy to his many friends in the church.
Ian was born in Hampstead and won a scholarship as a full time boarder with the Lord Wandsworth College in Hampshire. There he enjoyed an excellent education, including a love of Shakespeare which he and his wife Eileen shared throughout their lives. Ian later became Chief Accountant for Foster Wheeler in London and an auditor with the Ministry of Defence.

He met Eileen in the early 1960's whilst playing mixed hockey, they married in 1964 and moved to Wilstone from which time they enjoyed a full and active village life. They also loved the theatre, especially at Stratford, and spent many happy days at the races. Both he and Eileen were keen and very talented indoor short mat bowlers, playing regularly at Pitstone and successfully representing Buckinghamshire at County level.
Following Eileen's death last year Ian fought bravely against his own ill health. He had just bought himself a scooter to get around the village easily and with the help of his friends and neighbours appeared to be coping well, his love of good wine and dry sense of humour was never far away. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and family.

MP supports wind farm protest group

By Phil Buchi

BUCKINGHAM MP John Bercow has agreed to support a protest group set up to oppose the building of eight wind turbines on Aylesbury Vale between Wingrave and Rowsham, according to a press release issued by his office. The proposed site is in Mr Bercow's constituency. His press release says that each turbine will reach 132m into the sky (each one as tall at the London Eye), having an enormous physical, environmental and economic impact on the Vale, that major access roads and substations will be required, and that the scheme will be visible from miles around across 4 counties. At present a (very) tall test tower has been erected to take the necessary wind measurements to demonstrate the case for the turbines. You can see it for yourself from the Wingrave Road.

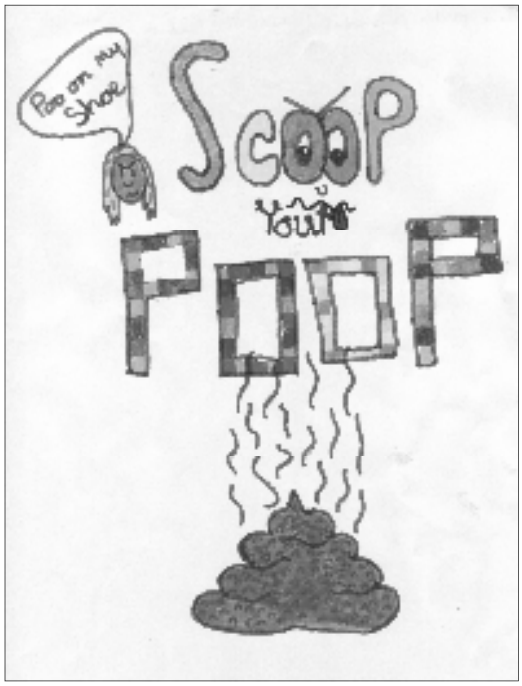
The Wingrave, Rowsham, Hulcott Against the Power Station (WRHAPS) action group was recently formed to fight the proposed development of this wind farm. Toby Phipps, chair of the action group, thinks that the location is not appropriate. He said: "This is opportunistic and reckless in the extreme and the cost of the carbon footprint to bring such a scheme to fruition negates any possible green arguments. Additionally the cost to the environment of such an industrial scale plant will adversely and permanently destroy the balance of man and nature in the Vale; a balance that planners and councils across the Vale have always fought to maintain."

WRHAPS contend that Aylesbury Vale is a completely unsuitable location for such a large scale wind power station and that it would have a huge detrimental impact on environment, health, house prices, wild life, aesthetics and village life as we know it. Their publicity material says: "We are in favour of sustainable forms of energy including wind power stations if they are genuinely efficient and appropriately located. The key issue with this proposal is that it is the wrong location for such an industrial scale development. It is using tax payers' money to fund private investment. These developments should be confined to non-contentious locations such as land adjoining motorways, industrial areas, brownfield sites and of course off-shore. The Secretary of State recently turned down a similar proposal as it '*would adversely affect the character of the area and have an unacceptable visual impact on the landscape - the turbines' height and constant movement would form an alien and incongruous feature and unacceptably dominate the landscape.*'"

Formal planning application has yet to be made by the developer, a private company, RES, whose offices are at Kings Langley by the M25 viaduct. Tring Rural Parish Council objected to the planning application to erect the test mast, and Parish Councillor Abby Fermont has visited RES at Kings Langley to find out more. Her article on this visit was published in the June issue of *Village News* (page14).

There is more information on the activities of RES on their website **www.beaufortcourt.com** including details of their regular open evenings. WRHAPS are setting up a website, but in the meantime interest in joining their group can be registered by emailing **info@wingravevillage.co.uk.**

Another Perfect Poo-Poster



This poster was designed by Izzy Alwyn of Long Marston School for Tring Rural Council. The Council hopes that the children's designs will be more effective than the official signs

Messy Church
At St Cross Wilstone.

Sundays 4 - 5.30 p.m.
Autumn dates
5th SEPTEMBER – ***conkers compost & carrots!***

3rd OCTOBER – Animal Action

7th NOVEMBER 7th – ohhh ahhh

5th DECEMBER – Christingle

Sudoku solution No 51

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

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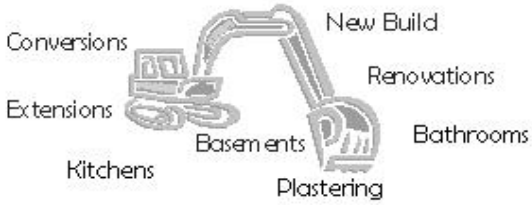

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The Puttenham Page

compiled by Christine Rutter

St Mary's Church Puttenham
HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, 26th SEPTEMBER
Harvest Evensong Service – 3.30pm

You are invited to join us, with a fully decorated church, for Harvest. All produce is donated to St Joseph's Residential Home.Donations of flowers, fruit, vegetables and greenery will be very much appreciated.
Decorating for Harvest will start earlier this year, working during Friday and Saturday morning (24th/25th) as Davina and Tom will be married in the church at 2pm on the Saturday. Our very best wishes to the both of them.

BEDS AND HERTS SPONSORED "BIKE AND HIKE"

SATURDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 10am – 6pm

Visiting the local churches. 50% of your sponsorship is donated to the church of your choice. Please "Bike and Hike" for St Mary's.Help in manning the "Refreshments" for hungry and thirsty riders would be much appreciated. Please contact Christine on 01296 668337

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

JUMBLE SALE

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2pm CECILIA HALL PUTTENHAM

Your last chance to have a good clear- out before Christmas. Jumble may be left in the Hall at any time. We start sorting during the mornings on the week prior to the sale. Any help with sorting, or on the day, would always be very much appreciated. Contact Christine 01296 668337

Volunteer wanted for *Village News* team

The team of volunteers who produce and distribute your village magazine need some help. We would like to recruit a

Holiday Relief Distribution Manager

to provide holiday cover a few times a year. The distribution manager receives the magazine copies from the printer, and gets them out to the distributors. This takes a few hours on one day, arranged well in advance. Can you do this for us? Call Carole Harrison on **01296 668526** for a chat.

Volunteer wanted for *Village News* team

The team of volunteers who produce and distribute your village magazine need some help. We would like to recruit an

Advertising Manager

as our present volunteer is moving away shortly. No selling is involved - the ads sell themselves. The job is to deal with new and existing advertisers by phone and email, take their orders and send them invoices. This is a vital task, but not an onerous one. Can you help us here?
Call Phil Buchi on **01442 890599** for a chat.

Local names and numbers

Herts Police non-emergency number 0845 33 00 222
Local Police Officers (in emergency dial '999')
PC Stephen Hunneysett 0845 33 00 222
PCSO Thomas Montgomery 0845 33 00 222

Fly-tipping reports
Call Dacorum Waste Services 01442 867858
Call the police if you see the crime being committed.

Cecilia Hall (Puttenham)
Christine Rutter 01296 668337
Beavers
Jo Woodbridge 01442 891444
Brownies
Claire Fordham 01296 668088
Cubs
Tony Short 01442 823096
Guides
Sheila Hill 01442 823463
Scouts
David Colvin 01442 381544
Horticultural Society
John Kaye 01296 662975

Rector
Rev'd Huw Bellis 01442 822170
Vicar
Rev'd Joanne Wetherall 01442 851200
Churchwardens
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
Hall hire: Mags Severs 01296 661021
Long Marston Cricket Club
Paul Dumpleton 01296 662849
Long Marston 1st Steps Pre-School
Vicky Hayes 01296 661586
Long Marston Baby & Toddler Group
Vicky Hayes 01296 661586
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
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Claudia Cox 01296 668752
Evelyn Chapman 01908 502272
Whitchurch Morris Men
Richard Moorhouse 01494 722259
Wilstone Village Hall
Bookings:Tony Short 01442 823096
Wilstone Toddlers
Jane Cole 01442 828272
Women's Institute
Lynn Foster 01296 662466

Changes or additions? Contact the Editor.

Thank you .....

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

Distribution enquiries to:
Carole Harrison, 01296 668526.

Village News

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

Your editor for October will be:
Emily Woodbridge
editorwlmp@yahoo.com

Our advertising managers:
Alison & Matthew White
01296 660402
villagenewsadvertis-ing@googlemail.com

Deadline for items to go in the next issue is: Wednesday 22nd September 2010.

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

WI News

by Liz Young and Margaret Kelland

THE WI has attracted several new members this summer and we have had fun hosting and attending a variety of events.

Visitors are most welcome at our **September Meeting: 'The Other Bucks County' (From Buckinghamshire UK to Buckinghamshire Pennsylvania) on Tuesday September 14th at the Victory Hall LM at 8pm followed on the 12th October by "Murders of the 19th Century."** Our meetings are always on the second Tuesday of the month.

Local historian and popular lecturer Neil Rees will outline the connection between the two counties where many places share the same name. In 1680 William Penn left Jordans to found the State of Pennsylvania taking with him hundreds of Quakers, being persecuted for their religious views, from towns including Buckingham, Wycombe, Chorleywood and Rickmansworth. Neil's last talk on the 'The Czech Connection in World War II' about the Czechs exiled in Buckinghamshire was absolutely fascinating and we are certain this one will be equally interesting.

Enjoying a celebratory drink!

At the August meeting, members and guests were asked to bring a teacup and saucer or a mug. No further explanation. Some wondered whether it was an antiques type road show and came with their heirlooms, others had grabbed the nearest mug. What confronted them were buckets filled with greenery and flowers and they were challenged to do a flower arrangement in their cup or mug. An hour later some 28 highly individual arrangements lined the stage to be judged. A napkin folding workshop, quizzes and games followed, completing a very enjoyable event.

At the regular craft evenings members have tried their hands at basic bookbinding, rag rug making, and weaving a bag. These are held on the third Tuesday of each month in LM Victory Hall.

The twice monthly walks start at 10am from the Hall and members have been to Woburn, Cuddington, Great Hampden, Ashridge, an orchid walk on the downs from Pitstone, and several more local routes.

The success of our walking group encouraged us to host one of the annual Bucks County WI Rambles in June, when 70 members from all over Bucks joined us for a two hour walk on paths through our villages. Some group leaders were braver (or more foolish?) than others when faced with frisky cattle en route, but all survived to devour a delicious supper in the hall. WI members are really good at puddings!

Members visited a herb farm in June, had a garden party in July, spent a Tudor Day in Cheddington Village Hall, giggled with Edwina Currie in Aylesbury, had a guided tour of College Lake, and can always attend courses at Denman College – now starring on BBC4. The new WI logo means what it says – Inspiring Women!

Hospice of St Francis appeal

by Abbi Langan

Launch of volunteer recruitement drive

The Hospice of St Francis in Berkhamsted is lauching a new training course for prospective new volunteers to join its thriving Carers Support Service! The team will visit patients in their homes, providing their carers with a well deserved break. The specialised training course for this invaluable role will start mid-September. Apply now if you think you could spare an hour or two a week.

The Hospice of St Francis not only provides vital care for patients with life limiting illnesses but also offers support to carers through its Carer Support team. The Volunteers stay with a patient in their own home whilst their regular carer can take some valuable time out or simply have a rest.

For more information or to join the next training course, contact Karen Filsell, Voluntary Services Manager, on Tel: 01442 869550.

Are you Abseil-utely mad?

Calling all daredevils, the Hospice of St Francis has launched another daredevil fundraising challenge and is looking for 200 volunteers to literally 'go over the top for the hospice!' In this case it means abseiling 100 foot down the highest building in Hemel Hempstead - all for a good cause of course! Currys owner, DSG international has kindly offered their Retail Support Centre building in Maylands Avenue as a platform for this stunt taking place on Sunday 26th September 2010. Registration costs just £25 with a minimum sponsorship requirement of just £100 - that's just 10 friends sponsoring you £10 each - simple!

To sign up or for further information call **01442 869555** or email fundraising@stfrancis.org.uk. And look at the website for further details www.stfrancis.org.uk

Double gold Two 1960 weddings celebrated

TWO couples from Long Marston have celebrated 50 years of marriage this year. We offer them our congratulations.

(Picture: Village News)

(Picture: Village News)

Margaret and John Noakes were married on 18th June 1960 at Langley in Berkshire. They have lived in Long Marston for 14 years after moving from Harrow where they spent 29 years. Before retirement John was a GP, and Margaret a health visitor and magistrate. They celebrated with a dinner for family and friends, and a reception at home for which Margaret made 17 cheesecakes! Clearly a family favourite.

Bill and Eunice Hall's wedding day was 23rd July 1960. They were married at St.Mary the Virgin, Mentmore, because they knew the Rector there through games of badminton. They have spent all their married life in Astrope and Long Marston, most of it in their present home. Their golden wedding anniversary was celebrated with a ring blessing service at St. Mary's Puttenham, followed by a reception at Cecilia Hall.

VILLAGE VIEW

BY JOHN PAINTER

Seasonal view—as good an investment as gold?

Delicious cakes!

Chairman John Kaye on the BBQ

"Elvis Cake" - Second Prize for Emma Lea Davis

Egg-cellent!

Great show of dahlias

Tombola Prizes

prepared by Chairman John Kaye in person, there were crowds at the bric-a-brac and the impressive tombola, and the persuasive team at the raffle desk drummed up business with ease. There was plenty to entertain until an inconvenient shower of rain at 4.15pm had the benefit of driving folk to the beer tent and to the auction of produce (which raised a record amount). Well, it's an ill wind…

(see page 6 for prize winners).

Model Robots by Isabel Mcauliffe, Sofia Mcauliffe and Riley Barnes

Everyone had fun at the Fun Day

by Jo Woodbridge

Saturday 17th July began bright, if a little breezy at St Cross Church, Wilstone. The usual side shows attracted many people over the afternoon. John Barron from Puttenham devised a very ingenious "golf wobble board" which attracted a big following. (see picture). Another new and popular attraction was Pete Roberts' Crazy Golf. Delicious cream teas were devoured both inside and outside the church in the sunshine. The contest to win the bowling prize was as competitive as ever with Paul Lovis winning the adult bowling prize and Ben Goodliffe winning the children's prize. "Wilfred" the bear was won by Martin Young and Jack Quartly correctly guessed the weight of the cake, (lucky Jack). The other prize winners were:

Numberboard – Paul Dollah
Teasure Map – Eunice
Dog Raffle – Kim (Wetherall family)
Guess the number of sweets – Charlie Woodbridge

I'd like to thank everyone who worked very hard to make the afternoon a success and also thank all the "Fun Dayers" for coming along!

Golf Wobble Board in action