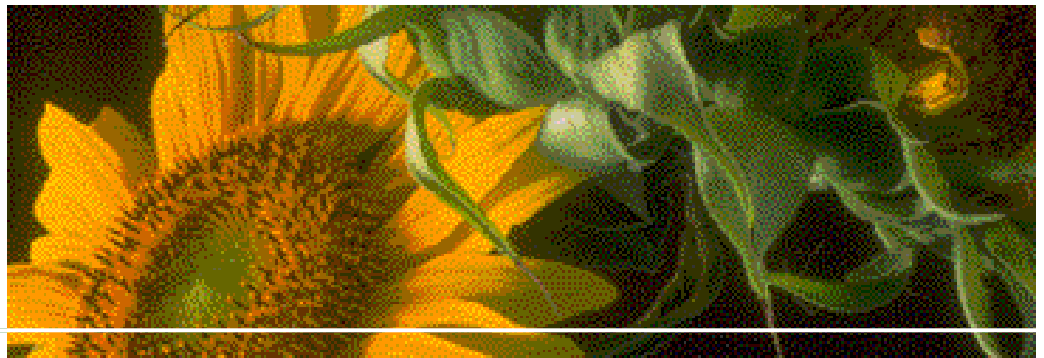


32 packed pages!

October 2009

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



A store at our door once more!

Village shop refuses to stay closed

by Diana Crapnell

Inside this issue:

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AUGUST saw the door close once again on a valuable asset to all our villages, the Wilstone shop. Liz Faulkner worked in the shop for four years with previous proprietor Jenny Corsby, so she knows better than most what an important community role it has to play and she was greatly saddened to see this latest venture fail. But undaunted, Liz has decided to pick up the gauntlet herself and, with her expertise and our support, is determined to make the shop once again a local centre for us all. Liz said "I feel so strongly that a village needs a shop. It not only provides a service but is also a place to come and have a chat, even if you don't want to buy".

Liz is hoping to open for business around the middle of October so keep an eye out for details of the grand re-opening. Initially she plans to open from 7.30am to 1pm, with potentially longer hours at weekends during the summer, to cater to walkers, boaters and those of us out and about enjoying the nicer weather.

So what will Liz be offering? Her main aim is to offer all the basic staples but she intends to make a strong feature of good local

produce. She will continue to deliver newspapers as well as having a few to sell in the shop and magazines will also be available to order. Fresh bread, milk and dairy produce



Liz Faulkner expects to open for business in October.

(Picture: Village News.)

will also be available plus a delicatessen similar to the one Jenny offered with quality local ham, pies and other goodies. We will also be able to order meat sourced from a Chesham butcher, including Aylesbury ducks. Plus, and I know it seems early but, we will also be able to order turkeys,

(Continued on page 30)

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• More dogs!	25

Reader's contributions are welcome. Send them in!

Engine picture!

No excuse needed to include a fine picture of an engine on our pages.

This splendid traction engine with caravan and water bowser was pictured by **Jenny White** in the summer, possibly en route to the Marsworth Steam Rally.

More nice pictures welcome. Any local subject. Contact the editor.



Wilstone Film Nights



**Judi Dench, Cleo Laine,
June Whitfield, Ian Holm**

It's the dark days of World War II, as London was being bombed, our heroine, Judi Dench, was playing in an all girl band, the Blonde Bombshells. After the war and the death of her husband, with the release from a boring marriage and a safe, respectable life, she realises that the only time she felt truly alive was when she was a teenager in the band, so she organises a reunion of the Blonde Bombshells. A funny feel-good movie with some great big band music.

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 16th
TICKETS £6**

AVAILABLE NOW AT
THE HALF MOON PUB, WILSTONE
MEADS FARM SHOP &
COLIN REEDMAN, 25 TRING RD,
WILSTONE

**Film starts at 8pm.
Licensed bar opens at 7.15pm.**

OR

Or we will send you your tickets. Simply complete this form, make out a cheque to **Wilstone Village Hall**, and send it to Peter Walker at 21 Tring Road, Wilstone (opposite the Half Moon).

NAME

ADDRESS

No. of TICKETS

Village News

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Village shop refuses to stay closed

Like many villagers, I was sorry that the Wilstone village shop had to close last month after only six months of trading. But what a surprise to learn now from Liz Faulkner that she intends to have a go herself at running a community shop. To have a chance of success she will need some volunteer help so if you would like to get involved, perhaps now is the time to put your hand up. Last year the steering group generated a lot of interest in a shop run on community lines, and the research they carried out should prove valuable. Liz expects to be open in October, so let's hope the venture gets off to a good start.

John Painter omitted

I do regret that we omitted to give John Painter credit for all the pictures of the Long Marston Show that he kindly provided for the September issue. Here is your credit now John. (That's three mentions, by way of compensation.)

Phil Buchi.

**Deadline for items for our next edition
 (November) is Wednesday 21st October 2009.**

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**

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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.*

27 September

10.00am All Saints Holy Communion and
 Sunday Club.
 3.30pm St Mary's Evening Prayer.
 6.00pm All Saints Evening Prayer.

4 October

10.00am All Saints Pet Service
 6.00pm All Saints Evening Prayer
 6.30pm St Cross Evening Prayer

5 October (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

11 October

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

18 October

10.00am St Cross Holy Communion
 10.00am All Saints Morning Prayer
 6.00pm All Saints Evening Prayer

19 October (Monday)

2.00pm All Saints Toddler Worship

25 October

10.00am All Saints Holy Communion
 and Sunday Club
 3.30pm St Mary's Evening Prayer
 6.00pm All Saints Evening Prayer

1 November

10.00am All Saints Holy Communion
 Team Service



What's on...

Autumn Fair

**Saturday 3rd
October
2 pm
Long Marston
School**

Indoor and outdoor games, cakes,
tombola, raffle, mystery parcels,
jewellery stalls, hot dogs, books
and much more.



All Saints Church

?

Quiz

?

with

**Toby Davidson
Quizmaster**

**Friday 23rd October 7.30 for
8.00pm**

(in Victory Hall, Long Marston)

Tickets £4
Teams of eight
(BYO Drinks and Nibbles)

Contact
Carole Harrison
01296 668526

Diary dates...

Tring Rural Parish Council meetings (8pm)

The public are welcome to attend these meetings.

Wednesday 21 October Puttenham village hall.

Wednesday 18 November Wilstone village hall.

Saturday 26 September

Long Marston scarecrow competition and hog roast. 5pm
in the front paddock, end of Chapel Lane.

Sunday 27 September

All Saints Sunday Club 10am.

Friday 2 October

Jazzercise class starts at Wilstone village hall, 9.45am.

Saturday 3 October

Autumn Fair at Long Marston School, 2pm.

Saturday 3 October

Supper and Auction - The Puttenham Trust.

Sunday 4 October

All Saints Church pet service, 10am.

Friday 9 October

Coffee Evening 7.30 pm at 19 New Rd Wilstone.
In aid of Wilstone Village Church.

Saturday 10 October

TaD Rail model railway exhibition. Ashlyns School.

Saturday 10 October

Eco fair at Victoria Hall, Tring. 10am - 4pm.

Sunday 11 October

Historic Jaecoaks Orchard open day, Cow Lane 10 - 4pm.

Sunday 18 October

"Go Ape" Sponsored Event Wendover Woods.

Friday 23 October

All Saints Quiz, Long Marston village hall, 7.30 for 8pm.

Sunday 25 October

All Saints Sunday Club 10am.

Tuesday 27 October

All Saints Church social afternoon at 2pm.

Friday 30/ Saturday 31 October

Charity Christmas card sales, Court House, Berkhamsted.

Saturday 7 November

Fireworks and bonfire, Old Tom's Meadow, LM, 6.30pm.

Friday 13 November

Christmas food fair at PE Mead's Farm Shop, 6 - 9.30pm.

Sunday 22 November

All Saints Sunday Club 10am.

Your local event details can be included here for free.

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

jazzercise®



**Wilstone
Village Hall
Friday
9.45 a.m.**

Other Morning & Evening Classes across Aylesbury, Halton & Tring. **Jazzercise** blends aerobics, Pilates, yoga, and kick boxing movements into fun routines, suitable for all fitness levels. Expect fantastic results and great value for money in a fun, friendly environment.

**www.jazzclass.co.uk
07900 987230**

First class free with this ad

Times for mobile library

Thursdays, fortnightly: October 8th & 22nd.

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

The Committee of the Victory Hall present a

Fabulous Firework Display

Fireworks and Bonfire

in aid of The Victory Hall, Long Marston

On Saturday 7th November 2009

At Old Tom's Meadow,

Station Road, Long Marston

(adjacent to the junction with Potash Lane)

Admission: Adults £6.00 or £5 in advance

Children (5 to 14 years inclusive) £2 or £1.50 in advance
available from Vicky on 01296 661586

Gates open 6.15pm, Bonfire 6.30pm, Fireworks 7.00pm

BBQ, Sweets, Mulled Wine

No Car Parking (except for disabled badge holders)

Please do not bring your own fireworks.

No Sparklers Allowed

Supported by The Long Marston and Puttenham Horticultural Society

Wilstone Village Hall Committee present

on Saturday 14th November 2009, 8pm,

a (mostly) Vinyl music party night!

Let music fanatics **Fat Boy Phil** and the **Luton Disco Kid** entertain you with **their vinyl favourites** from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's. No rubbish or mushy stuff. Just great music to enjoy in convivial company. Dance if you want to (you will), prop up the bar, or just sit and listen.

Featuring:

the all 45's session

A FINE COLLECTION of 7-inch singles with a few EP's thrown in for good measure. All sorts, with a lot of 60's classics, reflecting the presenter's age perhaps? Pop fun from Fat Boy Phil.

...and Music for the Caister generation from the personal collection of the **Luton Disco Kid**.

Soul, funk, blues and smooth jazz from the 70's and 80's. Come prepared for some great sounds. Have you got the right gear?

Saturday 14th November 2009, 8pm
Wilstone village hall

Licensed bar

Vinyl: *colloq* plastic records regarded collectively, as distinct from cassettes and compact discs. From Latin *vinum*, wine.

Tickets only £5
from Maggie Buchi
01442 890599.
(Price includes snacks.)

Bring your own vinyl. Got a favourite record you would like us to play? Bring it along. If we like it, we'll play it in our **"It's your disc"** session. (7 inch, 10 inch, 12 inch, 45 rpm and 33 rpm. Sadly, the equipment can't handle 78's, or Edison phonograph cylinders.)

In brief...

Tring's Own Apple Fayre

Tring's fifth annual Apple Fayre is being held throughout October with various apple themed events around the town.

On 11th October the historic orchard and First World War smallholding at Jaecock's Orchard in Cow Lane will be open from 10am to 4pm. There is a special Apple Day farmers' market on 17th October, and apple pressing demonstrations on 28th October at the Natural History Museum, Akeman Street.

Though not just about apples, Victoria Hall, Tring, will host an Eco Fair on 10th October from 10am to 4pm.

Those really serious about apples may wish to look in at the King's Arms cider event on 17th and 18th October.

Bungee village BBQ



Great exertions were demanded at the Wilstone family BBQ in September. A valiant attempt at the bungee run by Paul Lovis as he goes for a winning touchdown.

(Picture: Colin Reedman.)

Amazing model rail show

With more trains than London Midland and Chiltern Railways put together, Tring and District Model Railway Club will be staging its annual showpiece exhibition at Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted, on Saturday 10th October. This is a huge show, and people come from all over the country to see the four halls of working layouts and other exhibits. Open from 10.30am to 5pm, admission is £4.50 for adults, £2.50 for children, or £11 for a family ticket. Trade stands and refreshments available, and plenty of car parking space.

Phil Madley open studio

Well known Wilstone artist Phil Madley has opened his studio at 50 Tring Road until 4th October as part of the Herts Open Studios. Phil creates astonishing pictures from wax, a technique he will be pleased to demonstrate to visitors.

Charity card sales

NOW in their 46th year, the Berkhamsted combined charity Christmas card sales for 2009 will be held once again at the Court House, Berkhamsted. Many national and local charities from Herts and Bucks will be represented, and there will be a wide and tempting selection of charity Christmas cards, wrapping paper and Christmas accessories to choose from. The card sales will be held from 9.15am to 3pm on:

Friday 30th October
Saturday 31st October
Saturday 14th November
Saturday 25th November.

Tring Parish Men's Society

Our new round of meetings following the summer break begins on Wednesday 7 October when Bill George will give his talk on *Flight Memories*, delayed by the winter snow in February.

Talks are monthly and on Wednesday 4 November Brian Berry will speak on *Britain's New Aircraft Carriers*, which, from what I hear, have also been delayed.

Meetings are held at 8pm in the Parish Hall, Tring. The full programme can be seen on the parish website, www.tringteamparish.org.uk or from Martin Wells on 01442 828593. All men are welcome, so come along and try us out. *Leslie Barker.*



Puttenham jumble sale success

I am delighted to report that for the second time we have hit four figures with our result - £1022.07p. Sincere thanks to everyone involved with sorting, the sale, the teas and clearing away afterwards (the Tip).

It is good to know that only the leftover "rubbish" was thrown away, and that the street children of Burma and the people of Africa will all benefit from the left over clothes, shoes, toys, etc. Thank you all for your continued support of The Friends of St.Mary's. Much needed at this time as we have just suffered our second theft of roof lead within 9 months. The new lead was only in place for 3 months before this recent strike. Added to which, we now find we have a very serious damp problem – all of which adds up to an expensive future!
Christine Rutter.

Car encroachment too

Following an item in the September edition about hedges encroaching on to footpaths and roadways, a resident phoned to add that cars parking on the pavements are also an obstruction to pushchairs and walking frames too. The solution is easy to implement.

Letters...

From Liz Faulkner and Jenny Hill, Wilstone.

Vera's memorial

WE would just like to say a big thank you to all those kind people who made a donation to us for the memorial service for Vera Rance. Thank you to everyone who helped us to fill the church with flowers and also helped with refreshments afterwards.

We had some money left over, so we have decided to place two plant pots filled with plants outside the church door at St. Cross. We have ordered two plaques, one with Vera's name and one with Dick Gomm's name on. These are going to be placed beside the plant pots.

We were both overwhelmed to see so many people on the day. The collection in the church raised an amazing £190 which has helped to pay their huge electricity bill! Once again, thank you for making the day very special.

Liz and Jenny.

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Victory Hall, Long Marston

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Sally Smith: 01296 661689

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thick, black, smelly **mud** or, is your pond
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All our remedies are harmless to you, wildlife and the environment

We have an in-house scientist and informative

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Enjoy your pond, don't endure it!



Canal memories continued

by Wendy Austin

IN the June 2009 issue of *Village News* I related some condensed extracts from the memoirs of Edward Bell, a Tring man and engineer who worked for 49 years on the local stretch of the Grand Junction Canal.

We left Edward in the 1930s at the mid-point of his career. By this time he considered himself to be "a Real Canal Man", a definition meaning to have fallen into the waterway, a feat he accomplished by taking a header over the handlebars of a borrowed bicycle. He also recalls that he saw a postman doing the same thing at Lock 45, Marsworth, when the many letters from his saturated postbag had to be dried out carefully in the Toll Office at that lock.

Edwards informs us that in those days Toll Offices were situated at strategic points to gauge the loaded craft, and this was done with a calibrated rod floating inside a copper tube. Held against the gunwhale of a boat at four different points, it was possible to obtain an average of the number of dry inches above the water for every 5 cwt. of cargo on the craft. A normal load for a pair of narrow boats was something over 27 tons on the motor boat, and 30 tons on the butty. Cargoes included coal from the Midlands and sand from Leighton Buzzard.

Soon after World War II broke out it was considered advisable, in the case of possible invasion, to patrol Marsworth Seven Locks at night, and when Edward's turn came he would cycle from Tring to the Bulbourne workshop during the late evening to get what sleep he could on a mattress in the storekeeper's house before starting his patrols at 2 a.m. Armed with a rifle to repel Nazi invaders, Edward trudged nightly the stretch of towpath between Bulbourne and *The White Lion* at Startops End. On many nights he was horrified to be able to see from Bulbourne Canal Bridge the glow in the sky from the bombing over London. He records that one large bomb fell on the offside bank in Tring Summit just north of Bridge 135. It

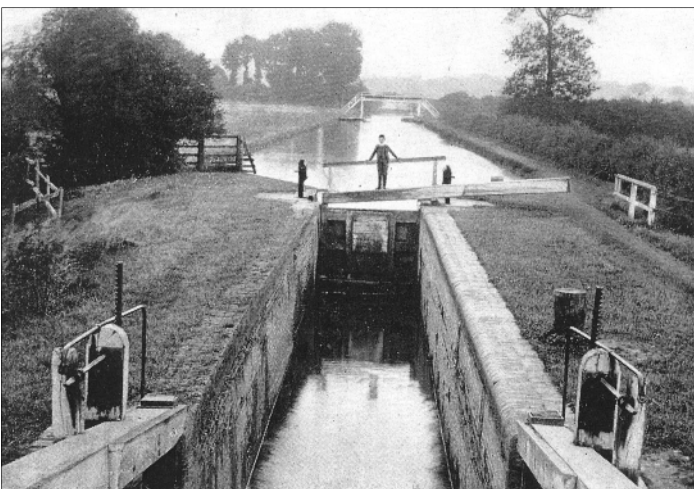


Loading stone at Bulbourne depot.
(Photographs from the collection of Wendy Austin.)

made a crater of about 70 ft. in diameter and dislodged several trees into the water. With the assistance of the Royal Engineers and a steam dredger, the waterway was soon cleared so essential supplies could be on the move again.

As the war progressed manpower grew short, and many young society ladies helped by forming crews to run commercial craft from London to the Midlands. Edward was full of respect for these previously-pampered girls, as he knew exactly what it meant to handle wet ropes in icy weather. He remembered seeing a boat whose cargo had slipped, sinking as it drew alongside Bulbourne Works, and he admired the girl who dived down several times into the flooded cabin to rescue her belongings.

After the war Edward received promotion and was in charge of a newly-established training centre at the Bulbourne office. Personnel came from all over the country, and the courses covered every aspect of canal management from fluctuations of water supply to damage to canal property. Further promotion followed and Edward ended his career as Assistant District Inspector, being given charge of the Watford District (a 60-mile length from Lock 21 Cosgrove to Lock 101 Brentford - plus six branch canals including the Wendover and Aylesbury Arms).



The Aylesbury Arm from the Gudgeon stream lock.

(Continued on page 9)

We plough the fields and scatter...

by Alison Cockerill

WELL “we” don’t, but David Mead and his family and fellow farmers do, year in year out and “we” reap the benefits. Thus it is the wish of our Team Rector, Rev’d. Huw Bellis, that the Team Parish should celebrate Harvest at the same time as the local harvest is actually taking place, and this is now the end of August. The harvest which is traditionally celebrated very much relates to arable farming, and there is ample evidence around the villages of the results of these endeavours. Even travelling along the A41 bypass towards Aylesbury, the fields on either side were truly beautiful, glowing gold even on wet, grey mornings.

The other aspect of farming often overlooked at this time of year, but a harvest in its own right, is that of raising livestock. Beef cattle graze in many of the fields around the parish and a resident of New Road in Wilstone cherishes his views of sheep more than any other aspect of village life.

It is very easy to forget, when presented with such picture-book images, the sheer hard work which is needed to produce the “harvest” whether that be a loaf of bread or a joint of meat. We are lucky – we can walk into a shop and purchase whatever food we need, but sometimes it is also good to remember that many parts of the world cannot produce enough food to feed their people, and there is still a great need to share the earth’s resources.

The theme of “sharing” was central to the parish harvest lunch, held at Wilstone Village Hall on Sunday 30th August, hosted by St. Cross. The meal was preceded by a service of Harvest Thanksgiving, and the church looked spectacular, full of flowers and produce. Local fruit and vegetables filled every available space, including a window display by Mead’s Farm Shop and a basket of eggs “donated” by the vicar’s chickens. On the altar was the traditional harvest loaf fashioned as a sheaf of corn, with harvest mice playing amongst stems.

Afterwards, over sixty people from across the parish sat down together and enjoyed a lunch of cold meat, quiches and salads followed by an assortment of desserts (no point in counting calories that day). A glass (or two) of wine helped the digestive process and the empty bottles helped HCC’s waste-

recycling targets! This was a Team lunch organised by St. Cross but supported by all five churches. The cold meat was sourced from a local farm but all the other dishes were supplied by people from across the parish. There was no buffet table, all the dishes were passed around and along, person to person, just like one big family party, with everyone able to share in the abundance of goodies which this harvest had generated.

To everyone who helped, in whatever way, and to everyone who came and supported the service and the lunch, thank you all very much. We hope you all enjoyed it, and although it was not a fund-raising event, the day resulted in a total of over £200 being donated to the Bishop of St. Albans’ “Harvest for the Hungry” appeal, this year supporting “Water Aid” for the poorer regions of the world. So in acknowledging and celebrating the beauty and abundance of our own harvest, we are able to direct some of our good fortune several thousand miles away in the form of fresh water for Ethiopia. First Tanzania, then Kyrgyzstan, now Ethiopia. If the world really is a global village then the Tring Team Parish must be right at the centre!



The harvest underway.

(Picture: Village News)

(Continued from page 8)

To conclude these snippets from Edward’s reminiscences I quote his words “What happens to the water after it has served its purpose for canal traffic. Where does it go to?” referring to the vital supply flowing from the Chiltern Hills. Via the Aylesbury Arm and south of Tring Summit the water finds its way by overflow weirs and streams down to the River Thames, and the same applies just north of Marsworth Seven Locks. From Lock 34 Seabrook to the 11 mile-long Fenny Pound until it reaches the next high level, surplus water finds its way by the rivers Ouzel, Great Ouse, Nene etc. to discharge into the sea at the Wash on the east coast.

Edward Bell retired in 1966 after, what he considered to be, a rewarding and fascinating working life. During the early part of this period, he also assisted his twin brother, George, in a small photography business in Tring. In a future issue of *Village News*, space permitting, I will show one or two photographic images of the villages taken by the Bell brothers and sold as postcards.

Wendy Austin lives in Tring and has published a number of books on local history including ‘Tring Personalities’ (3 volumes), ‘Tring Gardens: Then and Now’, and ‘Tring Silk Mill’.

Route to stardom continues for local dancer

by our showbiz reporter

Many readers, particularly in Long Marston will be aware, through a variety of local theatrical performances over many years, of David Buckley.

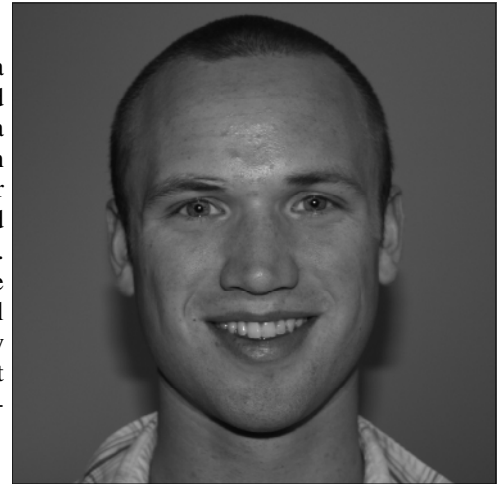
David has recently graduated with a BA (Hons) First in Dance and Theatre Performance from Bird College, Sidcup, Kent and now follows his childhood dream as he appears across the country in the UK Tour of the West End production of Walt Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast'. Treading the boards in such diverse locations as Rhyll, Bournemouth, Edinburgh, Sheffield, Manchester and Shrewsbury to name a few, is keeping David 'on his toes'.

His role as the 'Cheesegrater' in the production, along with a host of chorus and ensemble work means there is very little rest, with seven performances a week being the norm. Playing to packed houses and being watched by friends and relatives wherever possible, David continues to develop in and enjoy his chosen career.

If you do get the chance to see him, don't be surprised if you can't see the name Buckley in the programme. Registration

with Equity, identified that another David Buckley already existed so David has adopted his mum's maiden name of Allwood for his acting career. Wherever and whenever possible, a very proud Mum casts a watchful eye over David's progress.

The show is a delight to see and will end with a four week run in Glasgow over Christmas and the New Year. As always, the ever resourceful David is already plotting his next move up the ladder to stardom.



Actor David Allwood.

*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
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- *Personal training and conditioning classes*

Each of the classes is provided by Jacqueline Crane BSc (Hons) MSc, a Pilates and Personal Training Specialist.

For more information please contact

01296 661081 or Mobile No. 07985574153.

www.roseberryremedies.co.uk

More monkey business at Wendover by Michelle Marshall

DID you spot a couple of monkeys and a gorilla in Wendover Woods recently? The furry three were helping to launch the newest Hospice of St Francis fundraiser at Go Ape. For just a £15 registration fee, you can monkey around too and climb through the trees and slide across high wires, crawl through tunnels and brave rope bridges, balance on planks and then zip down to the ground at the Hospice's special sponsored event on October 18th. Participants will be fitted with a climbing harness and given instruction before trekking from tree to tree high above the forest floor.

Fran Martin, event organiser and chief monkey (pictured) said: "It is such a great thing to do - really fun and totally safe - you feel amazing swinging through the trees and it's a challenge to do something you wouldn't usually do! The best bit is anyone of any age, families, business colleagues, groups of friends, all your pals from the pub etc can take part!" Raising the sponsorship is the easy bit - it's swinging through the trees that will be the real challenge! All you'll need to do is find 15 people to sponsor you £10 each and you'll have reached the £150 minimum sponsorship level before you know it. It's just £50 minimum sponsorship for children. To register, just download the registration form or contact us on 01442 869555 and we'll send you one, then return it to us with your deposit of £15. Minimum age to participate is ten years old.

Please note that under 18's must be accompanied by a participating adult, and that height and weight restrictions apply. See the Go Ape! website for more details. The Hospice of St Francis cares for people from across Hertfordshire in its purpose built Berkhamsted facility.



Picture: Hospice of St Francis.



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Telephone Carolyn on **01296 668494** to make
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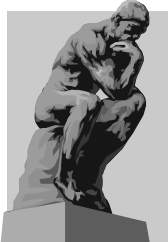
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How Jazzercise dance fitness program can get you hooked

by Keri Donnellan

JAZZERCISE combines elements of jazz dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kick-boxing, and more to create truly effective programs for people of every age and fitness level. Increase your muscle tone, flexibility, balance, strength, and endurance using easy-to-follow movements. Jazzercise, created by Judi Sheppard Missett, is the world's leading dance fitness program choreographed to today's hottest music, including current hits, jazz, country, funk, and classics.

Since 1969, millions of people of all ages and fitness levels have reaped the benefits of this comprehensive program. There are now approximately 7,200 instructors teaching more than 32,000 classes weekly in 30 countries. Within the UK alone, there are 185 instructors, with that number growing rapidly every year.

Instructor Keri Donnellan has been teaching Jazzercise for 16 years and has run classes in Aylesbury and Tring since September 2007. She has just opened a Friday morning class at Wilstone Village Hall, which is on at 9.45 am every week. She says, "when I started Jazzercise in 1991, I became instantly hooked. Nobody cared what I was wearing or how bad I was; the classes are suited to all fitness levels and everyone just seemed to be having so much fun that getting fit was an after thought ! I have 6 fabulous instructors working with me and now have 16 classes a week across Aylesbury, Birtton, Halton, Tring and Wilstone. I am hoping to expand the classes into the villages, looking at Cheddington and Marsworth from March 2010."

We can always find great excuses for not exercising but there are also plenty of other barriers that we face day in day out. Let's take a look at some:

Barrier: "I don't have enough time to exercise."

Solution: The benefits of exercise are cumulative. Don't try to change your life in one day. Come to Jazzercise class one day a week to start and walk for 15 minutes during your lunch break.

Barrier: "I'm self conscious of how I look during exercise."

Solution: Jazzercise offers classes to suit people of all different abilities. During class, participants watch the instructor to know what to do and are too busy having fun to watch everyone else!

Barrier: "I'm always too tired to exercise"

Solution: It is scientifically proven that exercise increases your energy levels. The key is to progressively increase your activity level in order to avoid becoming sore or developing injuries from doing too much too soon.

Barrier: "I've started exercise programs before and never follow through"

Solution: Don't try to go it alone. Develop a network of supporters. Set short term goals initially and get professional instruction and guidance. Find something you enjoy and want to do versus something you feel you have to do.

Barrier:- "I find exercise really hard work and boring"

Solution:- To be able to stick with a program you need to enjoy it as well as see the benefits.

Jazzercise works our mind as well as your

body by the use of fun, but easy to follow, choreographed routines set in a fun, friendly environment. Also, you chose what level to exercise at, making it as hard or as easy as you want it to be.

Barrier:- "I don't have the money to go to an exercise class"

Can you afford not to exercise?! The benefits of living a healthy lifestyle are well known and can help you deal with the stress of day to day life. At Jazzercise we offer reduced prices to people who want to exercise regularly, to help save those important pennies.

Jazzercise can offer you tangible solutions to all these and other barriers, so why not give it a try?

Weekly classes begin at Wilstone village hall on Friday 2nd October, 9.45am start. First class free with this *Village News*.



The Jazzercise team. From left to right: Linda Myburgh, Sarah Mackay, Keri Donnellan, Tamsin Ely & Zoe Tiller.

Parish Council news

by Phil Buchi

DIY flood prevention

A PLEASANT gentleman from the Environment Agency, Mr Keith Lead, attended the September meeting of Tring Rural Parish Council to give advice on flood prevention, particularly relating to the flooding of the Long Marston brook. His job is to help communities who want to help themselves to improve local flood prevention and management. The basis for this approach is - more or less - that there is not enough money available for the EA to fix every ditch and stream that overflows now and again, but if communities are concerned enough to get out their spades and forks, then the EA can help with professional advice and some government money. Mr Lead illustrated this with details of a successful project undertaken by the villagers of East Hanney in Oxfordshire who, faced with regular and serious flooding of the whole village, were able to drop the level of their local stream by half a metre with fairly simple weed clearance and changes to embankments, thus fixing the problem properly. From the jolly smiling faces of the villagers up to their waists in weed and water, it seems as if they took to the task with enthusiasm too.

He had a fascinating map of our villages showing every stream

and ditch, and the flood plains relating to them. From the discussion which followed on the Long Marston brook, it could be that the present problems stem from the culverting of the stream into a pipe under the village in pre-history. It was likely, villagers thought, that this pipe (last inspected in 1976 apparently) was never big enough to take the flow and this causes flood waters to back up and overflow into the street. The existence of the culvert also means that run-off from the fields and properties to the north of the village cannot reach the brook, and so takes to the streets as well. As changes to the pipe would be very costly and disruptive to property owners, other options would be investigated. Mr. Lead agreed to return to Long Marston and, with Parish Councillors, walk the route of the brook so see if more practical solutions could be suggested. Any attempt to tackle the problem is to be welcomed, and is better than relying on the sandbags.

Not crime free

The parish crime figures, which have often been at 'zero', have taken an unfortunate upward blip in recent weeks, reported Cllr. Mike Tomlinson. Among a (still small) number of recent crimes have been two car thefts, a break-in at Long

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Marston school where computers were stolen, iron gates and garden furniture removed, and lead stolen from the roof of St. Mary's Puttenham. The roof lead is specially marked though, and the police investigation looks promising. Cllr. Tomlinson has agreed with PC Hunneysett, our local officer, that in future a crime report for this parish would be produced locally, rather than extract figures from national reports which then lose all relevance.

Plans progress

It is expected that the planning applications for the Wilstone affordable housing scheme and for more parking places in Grange Road, Wilstone, will be presented to the Dacorum development control committee at the 1st October meeting. The application to convert The Boot public house to housing has been withdrawn. The reason was not known, and the Parish Council had not objected. On the matter of Old Tree Place, Wilstone Green, the land owner had sought to postpone enforcement of the order requiring removal of the hard standing as further planning applications were being considered. However, Dacorum enforcement officers have advised the Parish Council that enforcement will proceed, and they will get contractors to carry out the work if the landowner fails to comply.

Your Parish Councillors are:

Mr Michael Tomlinson (Chairman) 01296 661 311
 Mr Chris Griffiths 01296 668 257
 Mr Alan Winfield 01296 668 977
 Mrs Abby Fermont 01442 825 352
 Mr Nick Murrell 01296 668 190
 Mr Peter Foster 01442 825 282
 Mrs Jill Finlan 01296 661 716
 Mrs Kim Deathe 01296 662 623

The Clerk to the Council is:

Mrs Dawn Slade 01442 824 138

The Village Warden is:

Mr Colin Reedman 01442 822 031

Parish Council website: www.tringruralpc.org.uk

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The agricultural story line...

by David Mead

Finishing the harvest, apples, oil and administration

WELL we didn't quite finish the harvest before the Bucks Show. Henry Grace had seven acres of wheat, sown well after Christmas, that needed a bit more sun. The field, next to the isolation hospital on the way to Tring, was soon dispatched and the combine returned at last to the yard. The machine is now being "dusted" down. It's a bit like clearing dust from between 50 double radiators. One year Simon, using a pressure washer, drilled a hole right through his trousers into his leg. One of two batches of wheat have been dispatched. Colin, with his lorry, has taken loads to Heygates Mill at Gammel. The price is still dropping.

The oil salesmen have been busy. Simon and Chris with helpers have shown off their wares at the Bucks and Thame Shows. The Henley Show has been organised, while regular visits to Tring, Wendover, Beaconsfield and Windsor Farmers' Markets have all been rewarding. All the machinery has been dusted down and the press has been producing the golden oil.

Batches of apples have arrived at the shop to be pressed and bottled. Alex and Jessica were lifted by the tractor up into the tall pear trees and gathered a heavy crop. This has also been pressed and bottled and is ready for sampling. I should point out not the same press.

While all this was happening, postman Brian delivered a new batch of maps of the farmed land. This third edition is supposedly more accurate. It's produced by a government agency.

The map must be checked for any mistakes. Environmental headlands have to be a certain width. Where is the edge of the field when there is a ditch and or a thick hedge? Any mistakes and deductions can be made from any payments at source. I expect appealing would be made as difficult as possible.

T.B. testing is still the most annoying and time consuming operation. If there is an outbreak in Devon, say, then any contacts, calves etc that have moved off the farm have to be traced and tested. In the summer a lot of our cattle are in fields with no yards, so temporary pens have to be carried and erected and then the cattle persuaded to enter this new addition to the field. Then, four days after the first test the vet returns to measure any lumps with callipers. The large number bearing yellow tags on the cattle ears prove identity. Sometimes the cattle manage to lose their tags. More tags have to be sent away for and paid for before the vet arrives. Touching my "wooden" table we've had no failures.

I had two wonderful sunny days at Lords this September. The results were not sunny but as we kept saying "we did win the Tests". (But how?) *A question for regular commuters.* When travelling up to Marylebone from Wendover the new Wembley Stadium is close by on the right as you look towards London. When we returned from Euston to Tring the new Wembley Stadium was on the right looking towards Tring. How can this be? A simple map of railway lines in and out of London will suffice. (*Answers to the editor please!*)

Local learning centre on target to improve standards in maths and English

AS the new school year gets underway, a local learning centre is reporting more than a 100% increase in new pupil enrolments. With a greater National focus being placed on improving maths and English skills, children in the area are avoiding falling behind by joining a popular after-school maths and English class in Tring.

The Kumon Centre, one of 600 all over the country, has been run by Louise Ogelman since 1 June 2009. The Kumon Programme itself was originally created over 50 years ago by a maths teacher in Japan to help his own son in maths. An equivalent programme for English studies was introduced in 1997 by popular demand. The programmes are designed to complement the work children do at school through extra practice and extension. Currently, over 4.2 million students study Kumon around the world; over 58,000 of these are in the UK.

In the Tring area 37 local children are now enjoying the benefits of the Kumon method. "Kumon is a highly structured after-school maths and English programme for children of all

ages and abilities. The students start with an individual assessment and begin the Programme at a level that matches their current ability," says Louise Ogelman, a Kumon instructor herself. "This enables them to gain the magic 100% immediately which boosts their confidence enormously.

(Continued on page 25)



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Bring your own vinyl

Wilstone village hall committee is well known for its events programme and film nights, but this autumn they are to try something different. Inspired by finding long lost vinyl record collections when forced to tidy up the loft, two local music fanatics are presenting a 'vinyl music party night' on Saturday 14th November.

Hiding behind absurd stage names, Fat Boy Phil and the Luton Dicso Kid will present favourites from their own music collections covering 1950's, 60's, 70's and 80's in a party atmosphere at Wilstone village hall. There will be space for dancing for those that are so inclined, and a licensed bar for those who would prefer to prop it up.

But the unique feature of the evening is that guests are invited to bring along a vinyl favourite to be played in a special "It's your disc" session. Apparently they can handle 45's and 33's, 7, 10 and 12 inch discs, but not 78's. A great opportunity to dust off those records that we all have (but never play) and get them back on the turntable.

Tickets are a modest £5, available from Maggie Buchi, 01442 890599. Some great sounds are promised from the archives of pop, rock, soul, funk, blues and smooth jazz.

Reader offer

jazzercise... first class free with *Village News*

To mark the opening of a new jazzercise class at Wilstone village hall, *Village News* readers are being offered their first class free.

Just take the ad on page 5 along to the class which is being held each Friday morning from 2nd October starting at 9.45am. Jazzercise blends aerobics, Pilates, yoga and kick boxing movements into fun routines, suitable for all fitness levels.

If Friday's don't suit you, there are classes nearby on other days. Contact Keri Donnellan on 07900 987230 for details of these, or see their website www.jazzclass.co.uk.

There is an article about jazzercise and a picture of Keri and her team on page 13 of this edition.



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Sudoku Corner by Colin Moore

No 43 Easy

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

Continuing with our series of easier puzzles make a start by the usual inspection method. You should soon solve the top boxes. Remember what you can not have in a square may give an easier solution. (See page 31 for solution.)

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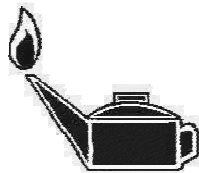
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Pre-school and scarecrows

by Andy Ashwell

IT'S amazing how time flies. It seems like only yesterday that I was enjoying the glorious sunshine and the buzz of the wasps, and only a short while ago that I was regularly straining my back carrying Florence around the footpaths of our lovely villages.

The evenings are drawing in, the few remaining wasps are drunk on rotting windfalls and the backpack is a distant memory. Florence is growing up fast and although she goes to nursery two days a week and enjoys her time with Mummy and Daddy, she is desperate to mix with more little-people of her own age.

To this end, Florence has now taken another small step into the big, wide world of grown-up independence by starting Pre-school, one morning a week, in Long Marston. I was a little anxious to see how she would cope on the first morning and hung around until I was sure that I would be ok without her. I was a little upset when I left, but mainly because she didn't even notice that I'd gone.

The bright-red, courtesy of the registration fee, T-shirt was an instant hit and Florence insisted on wearing it continuously for the next two days. When it eventually became so food-encrusted and smelly that our narcoleptic cat woke up to follow her around, we peeled her out of it and, after the cat had had a good lick to remove the big bits, stuffed it into the washing machine. Florence, obviously traumatised by the whole sorry experience, has refused to wear it since.

Although Pre-school is aimed primarily at serving the needs of children, it is also very good at serving the needs of exhausted parents too: It gives me, every Friday morning, almost two and a half hours of 'Me-time' to enjoy...or perhaps not.

Unfortunately, any ideas that I had of spending my 'Me-time' sitting down with a nice cup of coffee and the latest edition of FHM have become a distant dream. I have spent my first few free-mornings working my way through a seemingly endless list of chores that have suddenly appeared out of nowhere and which I am sure never existed in the pre-Pre-school days.

Fortunately the Scarecrow competition has saved the day for a few weeks by giving me a great excuse for postponing my 'Me-time chores' in order to prepare our competition-winning entry. Little does Mummy realise (until she reads this after the competition) that I will only need a few minutes to revamp the scarecrow that failed to save our vegetables from the birds back in April. Despite what I told her at the time, it wasn't taken to the dump to be composted, it was, instead, hidden in the shed waiting for a time such as this to rear its ugly head again.

I think that I should be able to divert most of the flack when I point out to Mummy that 'Mr Scarecrow' is dressed in some of my favourite and comfortable (i.e. old and threadbare) clothes – the ones that she keeps trying to throw out. Hopefully she'll be so overjoyed to see the back of them that she won't even notice that they are the same clothes that I secretly liberated from her charity-shop bin-liner some months ago. It's not a new thing: I once discovered my very 'trendy' and comfortable yellow jacket in the bin – obviously far too good for a charity-shop – and as I began to retrieve it I was stopped in my tracks when the greasy remains of Florence's spaghetti bolognese were poured over it.

Of course it's now rest-time for scarecrows and the competition should offer a little light entertainment for them after a long, hard summer's bird-scaring. I might just try ours out one last time because the fat, and now even fatter, pigeons have eaten all the seed that I scattered in a vain effort to repair our decimated back-lawn. It's no wonder that pigeons don't bother to migrate in winter.

Here's hoping that the weather holds for the scarecrow competition. Ours will hopefully be the one wearing the winner's rosette and, if Florence is still refusing to wear it, a nice and clean red Pre-school T-shirt.



Pre-school then and now. Andy Ashwell, age 3, (on the right) and brother Jonny (4½) in the olden days. Right: Florence in more modern gear.

Officers' Mess open to the public

by Phil Buchi

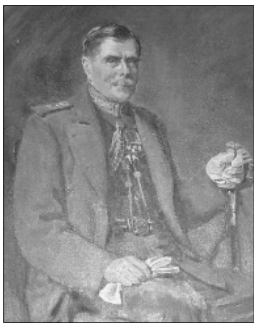
BUT not every day of course. RAF Halton opened the doors to the Officers' Mess one Sunday in September for one of their heritage days. These open days are an opportunity to walk around the rather splendid chateau-style Halton Mansion built by Alfred de Rothschild and completed in 1883. Grandier than the Tring Mansion, but not as fancy as Mentmore or Waddesdon, Alfred never lived there. He built it to host lavish parties and to house his art collection.

His guests, including royalty, ambassadors and top politicians, would have been impressed with the state-of-the-art facilities. The house was among the first to be built with both gas and electricity (dual fuel!) and central heating throughout. The heating radiators were considered such a novelty that they were prominently displayed for all to marvel at. Alfred de Rothschild was a man of considerable influence, and he used his connections to try and prevent the outbreak of the First World War. Being also very patriotic he lent the estate to the army for manoeuvres, and some of the first ever military aeroplane exercises were held there. When war broke out in 1914 he allowed the estate to be used as a training camp and the military have been there ever since. On his death in 1918, the Ministry of Defence bought the estate and the RAF took over in 1920, beginning their apprentices' scheme.

Today RAF Halton is still a training establishment and the Mansion is used as the Officers' Mess. It provides residential accommodation for up to seventy officers and the public rooms are in daily use. Some of the original guest rooms are used to accommodate visiting VIPs. The grand interiors are still grand and the house is well worth a visit. The central staircase is so grand it has been used in many films. There are photographs showing how the rooms were used in Alfred's day, illustrating the fantastically lavish hospitality for which he was famous.



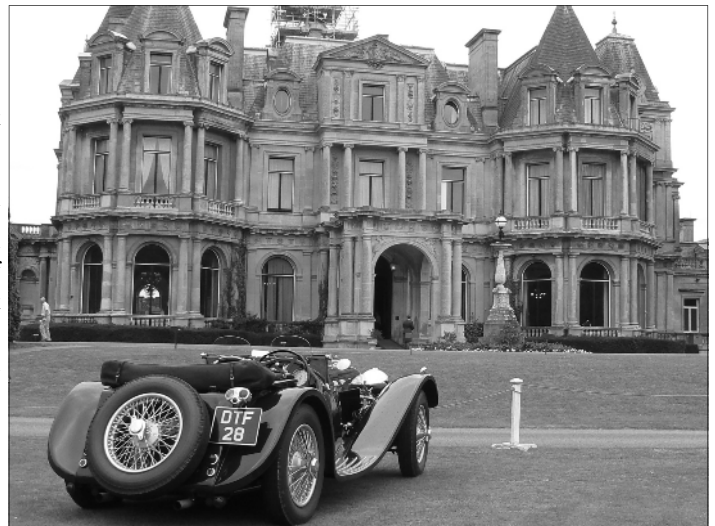
Above: the impressive saloon. Below: the front of the Mansion with a rather nice Jaguar 3½ litre SS100 sports car awaiting valet.



Lord Trenchard, founder of the RAF and of the Halton apprentice scheme.

The open days are free, and there were quite a few officers and airmen present to welcome visitors. Some gave little talks about the house and all were able to answer questions. Nearly a century of military presence is evident too with paintings, photographs and medals of Halton graduates who achieved great things. The open day was nicely done by the Royal Air Force, and it's well worth going to the next one.

(Pictures by Phil Buchi with acknowledgement to the Royal Air Force.)



News from All Saints

Sponsored Bike Ride. Thank you to the cyclists and those who manned the church during the day. We had 48 visitors to All Saints and the cyclists visited over 50 churches.

Sunday 4th October at 10am we are having our **Pet Service**; please join us with your pet – all are welcome.

Quiz Night Friday 23rd October at 7.30 for 8pm in

Long Marston Village Hall. Toby has very kindly volunteered to be Quiz Master again, so for an evening of fun do come along. Tickets are £4 per person (please bring your own drinks and nibbles).

Social Afternoon Tuesday 27th October 2pm in Church. Following our initial get together in August we plan to hold these on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Everyone, of all ages, is welcome to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat with friends.

Details from Carole Harrison, 01296 668526.

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Recipe page

by Anna Ashwell

Cashew nut and celery soup

NOW that there's a definite chill in the air it must be the start of the soup season. So here is a different soup that I came across some years ago to warm you up on a chilly autumn evening.

Ingredients:

- 50g of butter
- 2 heads of celery
- 2 or 3 garlic cloves
- 100g of unsalted cashew nuts
- 1 litre of vegetable stock

Method:

- Roughly chop the celery and finely chop the garlic
- Melt the butter in a pan and cook the celery and garlic gently for 10 minutes
- Grind the nuts in a blender and then add to the pan, along with the stock
- Cover, bring to the boil and simmer for about 30 minutes until the celery is tender

• Cool a little and then purée with a blender or liquidiser

Pass the soup through a sieve into a clean saucepan

To serve, reheat the soup gently and serve garnished with toasted, chopped cashew nuts and chopped celery leaves.

A century of the Half Moon at one sitting

A HUNDRED years of the Half Moon pub in Wilstone were represented when family members of previous publicans visited recently.

Many villagers remember the Coopers as Mrs Cooper continued as licensee for many years after the death of her husband. Before them, the Cartwright family presided. Mr Wally Cartwright, on the right, is the grandson of the landlord who took the Half Moon in 1908. Mrs Betty Smith (nee Cooper) is Mrs Cooper's daughter and was born in the pub.



With thanks to those pictured for interrupting their lunch to be photographed!

Picture: Phil Buchi.

Travel feature:

Hertford - our county town

by *The Tourist*

NEVER been to Hertford? Me neither, until last week. Our county town seems along way away from us here, living in the most westerly part of West Herts. Transport links in this oddly shaped county do not really encourage west - east travel, and even today we may regard the authorities at County Hall as somewhat distant. (Imagine how far away Hertford must have seemed to 18th century residents of these villages.) But with the technological miracle that is the M25 (on a good day) the county town can be reached in little more than an hour. An ancient Saxon and Norman town which was important enough to host the first church Synod in 673 and got a mention by the Venerable Bede must surely be worth a visit. As it turned out - it is.

The small town centre is an open air exhibition of delightful old buildings from across the centuries. We're not just talking fragments here, there are whole streets full of them. Clearly much effort (and money) has been spent on restoration works and presenting the town nicely. It's small enough to walk around in an hour or so, but interesting enough to make you linger much longer. There are coffee shops, places to eat, and any number of inns, hotels and pubs. A car park next to the traffic-free centre means you don't have to walk for miles and the parking charges are modest. A very good guide book and map is available free of charge from the tourist office (which was actually open) located at 10 Market Place. This is a good place to begin your visit, as the guide book includes a suggested gentle stroll around the town which takes in the main features.

Hertford Castle, right next to the town centre, was founded in 912 by King Alfred's son, Edward, to mark the new boundary



Hertford castle. Part of the extensive outer wall.



The Verger's House was built in 1450. That's 559 years ago!

(Pictures by The Tourist.)

(the River Lea) between the Saxons and the Danes. When the Normans turned up in 1066, they weren't having any of that 'boundary' nonsense, so they just took over the lot and started again with a proper castle to guard the ford. (The original ford-ing place is still there, by the way). It worked pretty well for a while until 1216 it was annexed by the Dauphin as part of France. (Does that mean that Long Marston was part of France too?) Evidently this did not go down too well with the locals and it was subsequently restored to England in some deal or other. Since then a better lookout has been kept for invading armies, and the castle has seen many important events in history. Though much of the original castle is long gone, the curtain wall is still impressive and you can picnic on the lawns by the banks of the tranquil River Lea. All periods of building are evident in the inns, merchants' houses and public buildings of the town, many decorated with plaster work - called pargetting - which seems a local speciality. The Verger's House was built in 1450, which is really old for a wooden house.

Hertford has much to offer the visitor and it was an enjoyable and inexpensive day out. Worth a second visit perhaps, and next time might also have a look at Hertford's nearby rival, Ware. They say that Ware stole Hertford's river trade, and this could explain why so many old buildings are still standing in our county town.

(If you have been a tourist in Herts, Bucks or Beds please write and tell us about it. Ed.)

Dogs with webbed feet

by our roving reporter

ABOUT two weeks ago I was watching a display by the East Anglian Working Newfoundland's club. Traditionally these dogs were used by Canadian fishermen from the province that gave



Waiting their turn

them their name to haul nets and rescue drowning people. Weighing in at around 75 kilos (male) these docile giants are incredible swimmers having webbed feet. They swim a form of breast stroke not doggy paddle.

The display took place in the River Yare and from the time the 6 dogs were brought up river to the pontoon they never stopped

barking with excitement and anticipation. The Yare is no canal at around 250 feet wide and with strong ebb tide the dogs had their work cut out but they took all in their stride rescuing people, taking out lifebuoys to groups and pulling boats to safety.



Don't panic I'm nearly with you!



I want a swim too!



Dusty brings a lifebuoy to the rescue



Dusty the Newfie drying off after a dip in the Yare.

Chiltern walks

THE Chiltern Society aims to conserve and protect the natural beauty, environment and heritage of the Chilterns. The Society's Rights of Way Group actively protects and restores open access land and public rights of way in the Chilterns some 5,000 paths. It has surveyed every individual path and takes up irregularities with parish, district or county councils to preserve and enhance public rights. The charity has over 6,500 members and organises weekly walks and cycle rides, as well as volunteer work parties to carry out footpath maintenance and other conservation projects.

We welcome non members to join our walks, it is an excellent way to meet our members and learn more about the work of the Chiltern Society. If you become a regular member of our walking programme, we would ask you to become a member of the Chiltern Society, to support our work in caring for the Chilterns. Details of the walks are our website:

www.chilternsociety.org.uk

The Kumon centre *(Continued from page 17)*

Only by mastering the basics in maths can children go on to enjoy and achieve at high levels, tackling fractions, algebra and beyond. Louise continued: "Similarly, in the English programme, the main aim is to give children a life long appreciation and love of reading for enjoyment whilst giving a solid grounding in grammar, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary." If possible, students attend class twice weekly. In class they study for up to half an hour. They then take a small amount of work home to complete each day. "With daily practice, they will master the basics and develop good concentration," Louise continued. "All this helps them to realise that maths and English can be fun and can help them brighten their future," she concluded. Special stickers, achievement medals and certificates are collected by all students for good work and add to the fun atmosphere while achieving results. Once enrolled, each student pays £50 per month membership fee. Parents who are interested should contact Mrs Louise Ogelman on 01296 660839.

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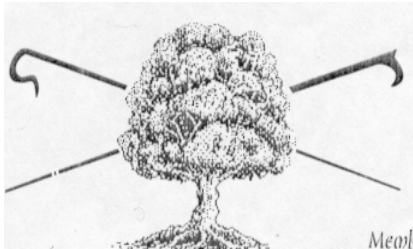
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The Puttenham Page

compiled by Christine Rutter

St.Mary's Church, Puttenham
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE
SUNDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER - 3.30 p.m.
 (It is also "Back to Church" Sunday – so please bring a friend)

Please join us for this very happy and seasonal service. If you are able to provide any items of fruit, vegetables or flowers, these may be left in the church porch on the morning of Sat 26th. Any offers of help with decorating the church would also be gratefully received. "No previous experience necessary"!! You will be most welcome.

Puttenham Trust
OCTOBER SUPPER & AUCTION
SATURDAY, 3rd OCTOBER
CECILIA HALL, PUTTENHAM - 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Guest Auctioneer: Mr. John Bly
 (We should be treated to a very entertaining auction)

Tickets: £8 (Auction/Raffle/Weight of Marrow)
Bring your own drink & a glass!!

Home produce/baking for the auction would be very gratefully received.

PUDDING BASINS for filling with Christmas Puddings for the Auction (see above) are urgently required. Do you have any in your cupboard from previous Auction & Supper evenings? If you do, please contact Christine (01296 668337). They will be much appreciated.

CECILIA MUSICAL EVENING
SATURDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER
 Cecilia Hall, Puttenham

FEATURING "THE RIDGEWAY ENSEMBLE"
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TICKETS: £7.50 to include wine/nibbles during interval
Raffle

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L.A.M.P. : Christian Aid Zimbabwe Appeal
Valerie Taylor Trust : Angel Tree

TICKETS: Christine 01296 668337

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PCSO Emma Lennox 0845 33 00 222

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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

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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

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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 668112

Long Marston 1st Steps Pre-School

Sally Smith 01296 661689

Long Marston Baby & Toddler Group

Sally Smith 01296 661689

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Pam Edmonds 01296 661370

Changes or additions? Contact the Editor.

Thank you

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Village News

**Long Marston, Wilstone, Puttenham,
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Your editor for November will be:

Colin Davenport
01442 890713
editorwlmp@yahoo.com

Our advertising managers:

Alison & Matthew White
01296 660402
villagenewsadvertising@googlemail.com

Deadline for the next edition is

Wednesday 21st October

for the November edition, published on 1st Nov 2009.

Read Village News on line at:

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



Neighbourhood policing

by Thomas Montgomery, Herts Police

HELLO, and welcome again to this instalment of the rural neighbourhood Police newsletter, we hope that you enjoyed what summer we had.

Crime is still relatively low on last year for the area, which is always good news, however we need to be on our guard and not give the criminals a chance to commit crime.

As from our previous newsletters, theft from motor vehicles is still an issue, especially around the rural areas, around Tring Road, Wilstone and Little Tring Road. People are still leaving property on display so we urge you to pass the message on and ensure that where possible your vehicle is parked in a well lit area with nothing left on display. Take out anything valuable or leave it at home if you know you are leaving your car for long periods of time. Criminals are great at spotting the mark where the sat nav holder has been placed and will break the window to see if it has been put in the glove box.

We are continuing with our active patrols in these areas and our Operation Tarantula car crime initiative enables us to contact owners of these vehicles to make them aware of thefts in the area and how to best secure their property. We are seeing a rise in thefts of tools from work vans which have been parked up at properties. Offenders have managed to get away with several tools so far just by checking van doors on the drive. The message is ensure any high valued tools are removed from your vehicle and ensure that your vehicle is always locked. Please also mention it if you have tradesmen in completing work.

As it gets darker earlier this is ideal for criminals to commit crime and when we may see a possibility in burglaries, so just remember the key points.

Make it look as though your house is occupied

- *Install timers which switch lights or radios on and off automatically.
- *Have a neighbour or friend pop round to clear your letter box or doorstep.
- *Encourage a neighbour to park on your drive.
- *If going out after dark, draw the curtains, leave some lights on and a radio playing.

If you are away for extended periods

- *Cancel the delivery of milk and newspapers
- *Disconnect the telephone answering machine, or re-word your greeting message to give the impression that you are only temporarily unable to answer.
- *Enlist the help of a neighbour, friend or relative to keep a regular eye on your property and keep the front door clear of deliveries.

Upcoming Events

Local Surgeries: Tesco, Tring Every Monday at 13.00, and Silkmill Community Centre every Wednesday at 09.00. Meet local officers to discuss any problems or to get crime prevention advice.

Should anyone need to contact us, please visit **www.herts.police.uk** to see your local officers and how to contact them, alternatively contact us on 0845 33 00 222. In an emergency call 999.

Coast to coast *by Jo Mayers*

Joseph Mayers & I would like to thank everyone who sponsored us to cycle the 102 mile Devon Coast-to-Coast Cycle route. Over 4 days in August, we cycled from Ilfracombe to Plymouth in memory of my Dad, Alan Rance, and Joseph's Dad, Andy. Your donations and kind words of support & encouragement were really appreciated. We had lots of fun along the way, & the hills of Herts & Bucks seem a lot gentler now! In total we raised an incredible £2,478 for Cancer Research (UK) and Care for the Family – more than we could have dreamed of!



Here's a photo of the 11 of us who cycled – any other faces you recognise?

A store at our door once more

(Continued from page 1)

geese, beef and other items for Christmas, all from the excellent supplier used in previous years.

Liz also hopes to offer honey, jams, mincemeat and Christmas puddings all with the emphasis on fresh local quality.

For those of us who may just need a small quantity of something we will have the advantage of being able to buy a couple of slices of bacon, a few sausages or just a small piece of cheese. That can be a real help in a small household.

Other items like books of stamps, a basic supply of greetings cards and firewood will also be carried. If you have any other suggestions then Liz would love to hear from you either by phoning her on 01442 825204 or calling into the shop when it opens.

Liz will be ably assisted by Kaye Clements but she would also welcome any voluntary support that can be offered. Whilst she needs the shop to pay its way, Liz very much sees it as a community venture, a focal point for locals, a place where you can call in for a chat, maybe have a cup of coffee and socialise. So it will be important to keep costs to a minimum, and any volunteer help for an hour or two would be much appreciated.

A local shop brings value to a community in so many ways and Liz is offering us another opportunity to enjoy one here in Wilstone. Her 'Store at our Door' which will offer good local produce as well as a social space deserves all our support. Liz would particularly like to thank Mike and Diane Armson for all their help and encouragement in making her dream become a reality. But our thanks must also go to Liz for having the courage to give the shop another go; let's help her make it a success.

Cricket (Continued from page 32)

Saturday 26th September sees the club annual awards and presentation evening at Marlins, when for the first time, our colts will join us during the early part to receive recognition of their efforts. Club coaches have had a particularly difficult task in

making nominations this year. Details of all award winners will be published in the next edition. By the time this reaches readers, the club ground and indeed Mentmore will have been 'put to bed' for the winter under the ever watchful eye of our Director of Hedgerows and Turf, Don Winfield to whom we are deeply indebted for his tremendous commitment to our ground.

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Braving the storm at Mr. D's farewell deluge



Sudoku solution No 43

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

AS reported in the September issue of *Village News*, Mr Peter Dickenson was given a rousing send-off on his last day in charge after a very successful twenty years as head-teacher at Long Marston School. Torrential rain, thunder and lightning marked the end-of-term barbeque held in his honour.

There was not room to print these pictures last month, but it would be a shame not show them now. Helpers and guests were quite up to braving the storm, and shrugged off the monsoon conditions as if a common occurrence. (*Er, quite.*) The most heroic service was performed by those on entrance duty, pictured left. They sat for hours in the dreadful storm protected only by an umbrella and a plastic bag. Impressive.

(Pictures: Phil Buchi.)

VILLAGE VIEW

BY JOHN PAINTER

Autumn - season of mellow fruitfulness!

However, you may have noticed that many horse chestnut trees this year are looking far from mellow and somewhat lacking in fruitfulness. They are suffering from an infection which is gradually killing the trees from the top. Although new varieties that are immune to the disease are being developed, it is quite likely that we will still lose many of the avenues of horse chestnuts along our lanes, and with them one of the simple pleasures of childhood – collecting conkers. *JP.*



Third XI do well in first season

by Paul Dumpleton

THE 2009 season, which has brought mixed fortunes to Long Marston Cricket Club, draws to an end.

Our First XI have struggled this season in Division 2 of the Cherwell League but long awaited victories in the last two games appears to have secured our place in the division for 2010 (confirmation awaited). Some hard talking at the recent end of season players meeting and a renewed willingness to improve, bode well for next year.

The Second XI season has been very poor and relegation to Division 7 of the league was confirmed with several fixtures remaining. Plans are being worked on to change the structure for the 2nd XI in 2010 which should aid the development of our rich crop of young cricketing talent.

Without doubt the success of the season has been the Third XI. This was a new venture for the club and a mid table place in Division 10 of the Cherwell league has enabled many of our youngsters, under the watchful eye of Simon Vessey and Geoff Graveson to develop and experience league cricket. The use of Mentmore CC's ground for our third eleven fixtures has placed an extra burden on our ground staff but the enthusiasm and delight with which the youngsters embraced the game has been tremendous to see.



Hertfordshire's opening batsman Jamie Hewitt faces Northumberland bowler Stephen Boyd at Long Marston on the final day of the County match. (Picture: Colin Moore.)

Our annual Hertfordshire fixture, this time against Northumberland was decided by a thunderstorm on the final afternoon. The previous days had seen some very entertaining cricket including a very rapid century (55 balls) from one of the Northumberland players. As always superb catering throughout the event, was provided by John & Evelyn Seaton and their team.

(Continued on page 30)

American tournament

by Margaret Kelland

EIGHTEEN members of all generations took part in Long Marston Tennis Club's annual American Tournament on Sunday 6th September. A day-long barbecue maintained the energy levels whilst each pairing played eight hard-fought matches. A large number of family and friends turned out in

support (or maybe it was the smell of those sausages and burgers?) The end of the summer maybe, but the Club will have four teams playing through the winter in the Aylesbury and District League, hoping to emulate the success of the Men's First Team, who again topped their division this summer.



Joint winners on the day were Peter Dean with new member Nickola Tingey, and Angie Hodges with Carl Baiden.



Long Marston Tennis Club Chairman Jane Dean, her mother Joan, and daughter Emma Brown all took part. (Pictures: Andrew Screech.)