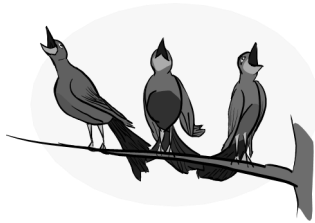


BIRDSONG

**October
and
November 2024**



**BIRDINGBURY
NEWS
NO 124**



A Plentiful Harvest

Birdingbury Parish Council Report

The Parish Council had a busy meeting in September having had, as every year, no meeting in August. It was nice to celebrate some successes, particularly the refurbishment of the phone box cum defibrillator which now looks great in its smart red coat of paint. The door is quite heavy and sticks a bit but responds to a good pull. We also noted that the series of long potholes on the bend by the McCurdie's farm entrance have been filled – this was the one I reported on the Warwickshire website, so it is proof that it is worth reporting these when you see them (search *Warwickshire potholes*).

We have also been advised by the County Council that the road drains by the Club were jetted over the summer, so we shall see whether that has made a difference when the inevitable October storms arrive. We are still 'on a list' for work on pavements and drives in Main Street and are trying to secure a site visit to discuss the blocked culvert on the corner of Stockton Road.

We have also discussed a few planning applications over the summer. If they come in between meetings, one or two Councillors will investigate and draft a response for agreement offline by the other Councillors. This is what we did for the proposal for an enlarged industrial unit on the business park, although that application has been withdrawn before the decision date.

It has gone quiet on the fibre broadband front now that CityFibre have won the contract for our area. We discussed how we can contact them about plans for the village, drawing on contacts in parishes that have had a CityFibre solution. Hopefully, there will be more on this soon. We also discussed the broadband outage that happened since our last meeting, and we'll be looking at the Parish Emergency Plan at our next meeting to see whether there are any lessons to be drawn from two days without the internet.

The Parish Council continues to chase equipment suppliers to see what it will cost to repair or replace some of our Recreation Field kit. It is a frustrating task to get firms to give us quotes - you'd think they didn't want the business! We're giving them until our November meeting when we will see what we have had for each of the relevant pieces of equipment and make decisions based on that. We are also looking at 'the Hovel' (aka the Glebe Barn) as it needs some running repairs.

As ever, if you have any questions or suggestions for the Parish Council, please let me know (guy.french@birdingbury-pc.gov.uk).

Guy French, Chair, Birdingbury Parish Council

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A New Term at LHA



We have had a great start to the academic year at Leamington Hastings C of E Academy. The new children have settled into nursery and reception, quickly becoming part of the school family. The new learning topics are well underway, with the Early Years children focusing on the topic 'Marvellous Me' and Key Stage One carrying out some historical learning about toys from the past.

We have some exciting trips and events planned for later this term such as a visit to Warwick Arts Centre for our annual theatre trip, workshops taking place in school to find out about toys from the past, and a vocabulary day – this is where everyone dresses up as an ambitious word and is great fun to take part in.

If your child is due to start reception in 2025, or nursery within the next year, you are welcome to join us for our prospective parents open evening on Monday 11 November 2024 at 5:30pm.

In the meantime, our online prospectus will give you lots of information about the school and can be accessed using the QR code or online:

<https://www.leamingtonhastings.covmat.org/school-prospectus/>



Our contact details are:

Leamington Hastings Church of England Academy:

01926 632359

<https://www.leamingtonhastings.covmat.org/>

Dunchurch Boughton Church of England Infant Academy and Nursery:

01788 810292

<https://www.dunchurchinfantschoolandnursery.co.uk/>

Suzanne Marson, Head of School Leamington Hastings Church of England Academy and Dunchurch Boughton Church of England Infant Academy and Nursery

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Mobile Library

8 November

6 December

13.40 to 14.00 outside the Club

Thanks from the Club

The first thing to say is a huge thank you to all the people that volunteer at the Club. The financial position is much improved, and it also seems that the number of people using the Club is also increasing.

Many people have helped in a wide range of areas, so a massive thanks from us to everyone who has contributed in some way: it is appreciated and really has made a difference.

Can you spare a few hours to help behind the scenes?

As well as what you see more obviously, there is a great deal of hard work done behind the scenes and this is an area we really could do with more assistance, as it falls on too small a number of people at present.

Being realistic, if we can't spread the load around on these things then we'll have to look at buying some services in or making changes that are more pragmatic than they are desirable. This isn't ideal, but we're optimistic on this front because if Birdingbury is as solid a community as we claim, then we'll be able to solve this between us.

We are looking for more helpers in the following areas:

- Cellar work – this would be two to three hours, once every two to three weeks on a Monday evening. We work in pairs, so we can either buddy you up or, if you have a friend and you'd like to do it together, that would be great!
- Cleaning – again this only takes a couple of hours and generally takes place on Sunday morning, but it can easily be carried out at other times if that suits you better. We'd like to get a few people involved so that people only end up doing it once every few weeks. There are various parts to this job and, yes, it isn't glamorous, but we do have all the gear you'll need and it is necessary!
- Real Ale Conditioning– can you spare half an hour here and there during the week? Conditioning the cask ales is something that can be done in fits and bursts. It involves doing something for half an hour, waiting a day, doing something else, waiting another day, and popping for 10 minutes now and then to check on things. It's not complicated, but there is a bit of an art and process to it. And yes, real ale drinkers – yes, we're looking at you!

Of course, if you're more comfortable behind the bar serving people, we'd also love to hear from you too!

Drop us a line if you're interested in any of this by emailing birdingburyvolunteers@gmail.com

Tony Flint, Birdingbury Club President

Community Café



The Team was delighted to re-start the café on 10 September, and the customers seemed pretty pleased as well!

The excesses of seasonal produce were well put to use in stunning bakes from Jenny Barr, a lime and courgette cake, and Steph Seeley, who produced a chocolate and beetroot cake: both absolutely delicious.

Regular favourites such as Jean's famous cheese scones, vanilla

and jam cupcakes, lemon drizzle, chocolate brownies and banana cake have all made guest appearances again and been greeted with joy.

The donation box has been generously used and we hope that by the year end we shall all be really proud of our efforts again this year.

With continued thanks to our brilliant team of bakers and helpers*.

We are here every Tuesday 10.30am – 12pm

Karen Armbrister

Jean McDougall Foroughi



← *and thanks to the café's amazing organisers too!

Fun Day Fundraiser at Marton

It was initially overcast for the Marton sports day on Saturday 7 September, but in the end the rain held off and we didn't get too wet.

Many villagers and visitors came along to join in the fun and as a result of their generosity, the event generated around £1,100 each for Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer research.



Rob organised the rounders, where children and adults played together on mixed teams. There were a few exceptional performances, whereas some deployed tennis racquets to increase their chances of hitting something.

The contestants in the pétanque competition were kept on their toes by Michael, and Rob's running commentary ensured everyone was up to date with the action.

Val and Ali oversaw the raffle, which included many prizes donated by both individuals and local businesses. The tombola was run by Ann and Clare with a focus on goodies for children.

Tea and cake was provided by Ruth, Sue and Bernie, and the traditional horse box bar and barbecue were very popular. Thanks to Richard and Angela, Danny and Naomi who also worked hard all day to keep everyone fed and watered.

Finally, for those who overextended themselves, Maya was on hand to provide relaxing massages.

Thanks to all who came along, organised activities, donated prizes and helped to make this another fantastic event.



Mary Harrison with photos from Maya van der Galien

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Dogs Out and About

New and Improved Dog Walks? On September 7, a brand new bridge (fabricated by Nusteel in Kent) complete with handsome retro-style signage was installed to join the two sections of the disused railway adjacent to the Old Station Yard, Marton.

This will ultimately form part of a re-routed Route 41 of the National Cycle Network which will eventually go from Leamington Spa to Rugby via Draycote Water. The plans include improving the surface of the current path along the disused railway line to make it accessible to cyclists, pedestrians, pushchairs and other wheelers, and horse riders (not just dog walkers!) This project is being managed by Sustrans, the charity responsible for the National Cycle network.



The section of path between Birdingbury and the new bridge has not yet been renovated and remains a beautifully wild and overgrown haven for badgers, foxes, birds of prey and wildflowers. It's a fantastic place for a canine companion to sniff and explore, and occasionally roll in pungent fox poo! This short stretch is used by mountain bikers and dog walkers, but it is not easily accessible, and there is a security barrier in place to stop anyone gaining access to the new bridge, presumably to allow for finishing touches to the bridge and its surroundings.

We hope that when Sustrans improve the surface on this part of the old railway line, as part of the next phase of work, that they leave plenty of wildlife habitat in place on either side of the path. How will Sustrans make the path accessible for all, whilst preventing nuisance users (eg dirt bikes and quad bikes) from making it noisy and unsafe for others?

Project Splatter Over the last week we have sadly spotted/sniffed out two dead hedgehogs in the village and a dead fox in a ditch on the Marton Road. Project Splatter (projectsplatter.co.uk) is a citizen science project to quantify and map wildlife roadkill across the UK.

Watchouts for dog walkers during October

- Newly released pheasant poults are everywhere at the moment. These naïve birds are very tempting for a dog to chase!
- Conkers – please be careful to keep conkers away from dogs as they can both poison a dog and block their intestines (as we found out).

As always, observe the Countryside Code

Dogsbody

LHCC Relief in Need Fund

The Leamington Hastings Consolidated Charity (LHCC) not only manages the Almshouses in LH but also administers a 'Relief in Need' fund.

The fund is available to local residents who could benefit from a grant to help towards the cost of items, services or facilities to support them during a time of need.

We welcome applications from individuals but equally please do let us know of other residents who may not be in a position to apply for themselves – we may be able to help.



The application process is easy and informal. Questions and interest should be forwarded to me, Clerk to Trustees at alexrigler@aol.com or 07962 169199

Alex Rigler

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Wonderful Workshops

Itching to get into some creative crafts or delve into your family history? A one-day workshop at The Percival Guildhouse in Rugby could be just right for you.

Among the classes being run on Saturday 9 November are 'Stitched Book Binding' and using 'Air Dry Clay Ornaments' to make attractive gifts. There's also 'Tracing Your Family History' for folk who've already made a start, and a chance to learn about the people and traditions of the mountainous regions of Patagonia, China, Morocco and Mexico.



Quizzers with intermediate level Spanish have fun in store with a workshop focused on Spain, Colombia and Mexico, which will inform and test in a light-hearted way.

On 30 November, we offer two perfect pre-Christmas crafting workshops which focus on learning how to make fabric gift bags and creating the ideal French beret. Plus, there's more family history advice and the opportunity to dive into the hidden world of canal heritage. Other Christmas workshops will be on offer in early December.

Visit www.percival-guildhouse.co.uk for details of all autumn workshops, or phone the Guildhouse on 01788 542467.

Clare Turnbull

My Belize Trip

Recently I had the opportunity to go on a once in a lifetime trip- a trip to Belize! Many people may not know where Belize is... I didn't either. It is located south of Mexico and shares a border with it and Guatemala. This trip was organised by the Warwickshire Scouts and when I first heard about it, I didn't know what to expect. I did not know what adventures lay ahead...

As the plane was coming into land in Belize City, all I could do was stare at the beautiful rainforests and wonderful views, but when we landed, all I could feel was the searing heat. Hot would be an understatement of how I felt.

The opportunities I had when I was out there were amazing. Some of the activities that were available were snorkelling, cave tubing, night hikes, waterparks, tours and more.

Whilst we were there, we also took part in a community project. This was going around the streets of San Ignacio collecting litter which we did with the help of the Belizean scouts which was interesting. We got to learn about their culture and what it was like to live in Belize and to be a Scout there.



I was able to take part in this trip because of the Scouts and without them none of this would have happened. I believe that it is an organisation that is amazing because of the opportunities that it can give people of all ages.

Ed Kent

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Birdingbury knows

That each tiny drop of rain

Will no more be seen

Thin Jethro Laskey



My Experience Hiking Kungsleden

Kungsleden is a hiking trail in Swedish Lapland that stretches roughly 470 kilometres from Hemavan to Abisko, traversing a varied, untouched landscape and crossing into the Arctic Circle. Hiking in a region that is so remote and inaccessible is brought within reach of the intermediate hiker due to only moderately difficult terrain, a well-marked path and amenities provided along the way in mountain cabins and villages.



As such, it seemed a ripe opportunity for me to take a step up from what can typically be had for hiking in Britain, especially England and Wales. The trail, which takes anywhere from 15-30 days to complete, involves not only walking on foot, but also crossing rivers and lakes by rowing boat and ferry. I selected the end of the hiking season, between the 29 August and 16 September: a relatively speedy 18-ish day effort, although, for reasons I will mention, I wish that I had not rushed so much.

By a miracle, my journey to Kungsleden itself was not disrupted; my flight from Gatwick to Stockholm only dodged a collapse of Gatwick's air traffic control system by a few hours and, upon arriving in Umeå via connecting flight, I realised that my SIM card was not working. Nevertheless, I managed to catch a bus from Umeå to Storuman, where I spent the night, before continuing to Hemavan the next morning. My plan was to walk the trail northwards to Abisko. This is the opposite direction to most hikers, who start in the north and walk south, but it allowed me to save the most beautiful scenery in the northernmost section for last, as a source of motivation.

The first section of the trail from Hemavan to the village of Adolfsström took 6 days and was marked by mild weather and countless hordes of reindeer. The reindeer are free to roam in herds, but they are not truly wild creatures, as they are kept as livestock by the semi-nomadic natives of northern Scandinavia, the Sámi people. The reindeer naturally migrate to lower altitudes during the cold months, where they can be harvested for their skins and meat. To avoid disrupting reindeer migration, hikers are instructed not to scare them away if they block the path but wait for them to pass. This became a little frustrating, because it was also moose hunting season and I was warned not to stray from the path so as not to be mistaken for game. Although the reindeer would generally clear away upon seeing me, I had to wait for them to move in their own sweet time if they were feeling more stubborn.

Walking in the opposite direction to most hikers meant that, instead of travelling in a southbound column, I met many people coming the other way as I walked north, usually passing around a dozen each day. There were surprisingly few Swedes among those that I spoke to, the majority being from Germany or the Netherlands/Flanders, as well as quite a few from England. Many had told me about the gift shop/bakery in Adolfsström, so I made sure I stopped by for a pastry.

A day on from Adolfsström, I came to Jäkkvik, just north of which was my first river crossing which had to be made by rowing boat. It was quite windy, and I am no expert in rowing boats. *'In wind speeds of 15 mph or over do not attempt to row'* read the sign. Without a way to properly judge the wind speed, I took a chance and thankfully crossed the river without being swept away.



I continued north, coming to Riebnes Lake by the evening, where I chose to camp, pitching my tent on the lake's south shore and at the foot of a mountain ridge. It was here that I had perhaps my worst night's sleep. As I learned first-hand, 'katabatic wind', after sunset, causes the cool, dense air atop mountains to fall, displacing the warmer, lighter air that sits below in adjacent valleys and above nearby lakes. Suffice to say, I was blasted nightlong by a chilling wind, which by around 4am had grown to such a strength that I had to take down my tent for fear of it being torn in half. My grievances were shared by a Danish birdwatcher who had also been camping nearby and caught the ferry with me that morning.

Not much further up the trail I crossed into the Arctic Circle, the scenery being beyond everything that I had hoped for. What once was rugged, hilly terrain became an impressive, mountainous expanse of peaks and valleys. The surfaces of broad, open lakes, undisturbed by birds, boats or insects, glimmered a brilliant blue in the sun.



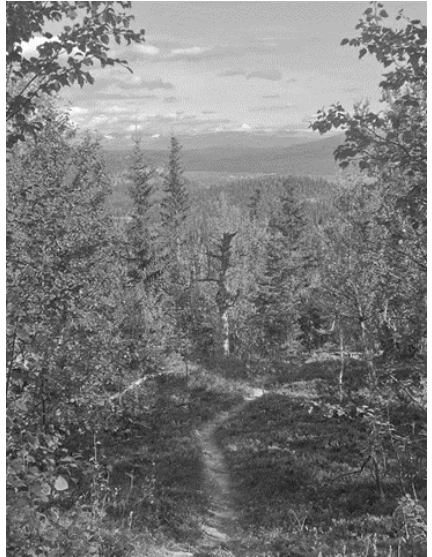
The remainder of my hike went like clockwork, as I had grown very accustomed to my routine of hiking on the trail. Waking up each morning and going to sleep each night in perfect synchrony with the rise and fall of the sun, and with my only day-to-day concern being to cover distance on foot provided for a very simple and peaceful existence, which, for many, is what makes hiking most enjoyable.

Despite hunger, physical discomfort and, in my case, being completely alone in a far-flung and foreign corner of the world, I felt more tranquil and content than I ever had before. In the face of such adversity, simple pleasures such as food and a warm bed brought more gratification than anything we have in our ordinary lives. As I approached Abisko, I felt myself almost wishing that I could go on hiking for eternity, but alas my trip had to come to an end.

The final stretch of the northbound route, quite poetically, passes over the highest point on the trail, Tjätka pass, and then descends into a two-day home stretch through a series of valleys.

Almost as soon as I reached the end of the trail in Abisko, where I camped for a few days in wait for a southbound train, the summer weather grew cold and suddenly there were several inches of snow. My expedition and the summer altogether seemed to have both ended in an instant.

I would thoroughly recommend Kungsleden to anyone with some hiking experience looking for something both challenging and stunning, but by no means treacherous or unforgiving. I hope to find an excuse to return to the trail someday - whether to try once more to catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights or to explore the side trails leading to remarkable sights that I regretfully skipped in my haste, in particular, the Sámi village of Jokkmokk and the mountains Skierfe and Kebnekaise.



Ash Adewale

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Twitterings

- Warm congratulations to James and Annie at Olcote on their recent engagement.
- Best wishes to Erin and Bella on starting their new college courses - go, girls!
- Happy new home to Josie at Galanos House.
- Special birthday greetings to both Dick and Aileen.
- Good luck to Lynne with her new knees.
- Sad goodbyes to Ben, Arnie and Bentley.





OPEN MIC NIGHT

**SINGERS AND
MUSICIANS,
THE STAGE
IS YOURS!**

**BIRDINGBURY CLUB
SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER
FROM 7.00PM**

Shedding Light on Baha'i

You might or might not know that David and I are Baha'i and may have wondered what that is. Well, the Baha'i Faith is the world's most recent religion.

David grew up in a Baha'i household, but you can't say you are Baha'i until you are 15 years old – that's the age at which we believe you are old enough to form your own views. Independent search for truth is central to our beliefs (which is why we don't have priests or mullahs or other religious leaders). My own Baha'i journey began in my 30s with a lot of questions, including why religion has always seemed to cause so much division in the world.

What attracted me to the Baha'i Faith was that Baha'is believe that all faiths come from the same source and can be compared to chapters in a never-ending Holy book. This means that God will never cease to leave us without guidance as humankind progresses. To do this, He sends us special beings at times when humanity is most troubled ... Abraham, Moses, Krishna, Buddha, Zoroaster, Jesus, Mohammed... These special beings bring us guidance and teachings that are relevant to the age in which we live and ultimately renew a world of spiritual wintertime and decay, transforming it into a flourishing springtime where huge advances are made in how humanity lives and behaves. The nine pointed star of Baha'I symbolises the unity of all religions.



The Baha'i Faith was founded in Iran in 1844. Bahá'u'lláh is its founder. For Baha'is, He is the Messenger of God for this age and has brought us in His Writings: both spiritual and societal teachings that are relevant for today.

Baha'is believe in the existence of one God, the loving Creator and sustainer of creation. We also believe that all religions are sent by that same one God. Essentially, they are one. Prayer, reflection, a life of virtue and service to others are the core of a Baha'i's individual daily activities.

As a solution to some of the challenges we face today, Bahá'u'lláh teaches:

- the oneness of humanity: He describes humankind as being like the flowers of one garden – a kaleidoscope of colours and hues and contrasting shapes and sizes
- the harmony of science and religion
- the abolition of all kinds of prejudice
- an international concerted effort to put an end to all wars and establish world peace
- the need for equal rights and opportunities for men and women in all countries
- an end to extremes of wealth and poverty.

So, if you'd like to find out more about the Baha'i Faith or have any questions about what you've read, just stop me if you see me walking in the village, see me any Tuesday morning in the Community Café or contact me directly on 07826-539775. Thanks for reading this.

Jean McDougall Foroughi

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

TEAMS4U Shoebox Appeal

On 5 October, as part of their Harvest Festival celebrations, Stoneleigh Church is holding a coffee morning in aid of Teams4U.

This charity sends shoeboxes containing Christmas gifts to children in vulnerable communities across the world through schools, nurseries, hospitals and orphanages. This year the focus is on war-torn Donetsk.

A representative from T4U and volunteers will be giving a talk about their work at 11.00, sharing video testimony from recipients along with examples of the shoeboxes.



Everyone is welcome from 10.30 onwards. Tea, coffee and cakes are free, but donations will help towards the transportation of the boxes. There will also be a produce stall in aid of the Coventry Food Bank.

To learn more, go to the website teams4u.com

Birdingbury's Bit

Birdingbury has been supporting this wonderful charity for some years by wrapping boxes, providing gifts and sending money towards transport.

If you are a dab hand with the sellotape, box-wrappers are always needed - contact Jackie Westcott on 01926 632494 for further details.

Janet Kent

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Spook-tacular Halloweeneeen Party Invitation!

Hey Boogiemens and Ghoul-friends!

Get ready to have a fang-tastic time at Birdingbury's



BOO-tiful Halloween Party!  




Date: Thursday, 31 October

Time: Trick-or-Treating starts at 6pm

Location: We'll begin our ghoulish adventure at the Club before floating around the village in groups, then back to the Club for some spook-tastic Halloween games!

Dress up in your spookiest, silliest, or most phantom-tacular costume and prepare for a night of monster fun and surprises!

Calling All Villagers: If you're happy to be-witching hosts, please leave a pumpkin or Halloween decor out to let us know your house is a haunt of treats! We don't want to be a trick and miss out on your spook-tacular goodies!  

Don't be a scaredy-cat - see you there!   

Chloe, Olly & Isaac

Forthcoming Community Services

Harvest Festival: Sunday 6 October at 11.00am

We will be gathering to give thanks for the Harvest, and any donations for Rugby Foodbank will be very gratefully received. Details of 'needed items' will be posted on church and village social media and can be found on their website www.rugby.foodbank.org.uk.

Whilst all donations are welcome, we do respectfully request that all items are checked for 'sell by/ use by' dates, and that preference be given to items detailed on the website, which can be used much more effectively than rather more random items!

Any donations may be left in church before the service (the church is open 9-5) and will be delivered to Rugby Foodbank on Monday 7th October.

Remembrance Sunday: Sunday 10 November 2024

Our service will start in church at 10.15am, following which we will process to the War Memorial to commence the short Act of Remembrance at 10.55am.

Coffee will follow, served in Birdingbury Club Lounge, with grateful thanks to the volunteers.

Christmas is Coming!

Living Crib Service: Sunday 8 December at 2.30pm at Bondon Farm

This will be a ticketed event, with FREE tickets available from Eventbrite. The event will be suitable for all ages, but children must be supervised. Donations will be gratefully accepted on the day, which will be shared between the Farming Community Network and The Draycote and Leam Valley Benefice.

Carols at the Club: Saturday 21 December at 6.00pm outside Birdingbury Club

Community Carols and Christmas Readings, followed by mulled wine, hot chocolate and snacks in the Club.

Carols on the Doorstep: Monday 23 December from 6.00pm around the village

Dick will lead a group walking around the village to sing for those who find it hard to get out and join in the Christmas festivities. Meet outside the Club with lanterns, torches and warm clothing if you'd like to join in.

More details will follow in the next issue.

Karen Armbrister

Wreath Making Workshop

Following on from last year's table decoration workshop, we thought we would create Christmas wreaths this year. So, we'd like to invite you to spend an enjoyable morning creating your own festive centre piece.

The workshop will be held at St Leonard's Church, Birdingbury, on Saturday 14 December from 10.30 to 12.30. We will be using pre-formed wire wreaths which we shall cover in moss ready to decorate.

There will be festive music, plenty of greenery, and refreshments will be served during the morning. We will both be there to provide support and ideas if needed. All you need to bring are your secateurs.



The fees are £15:00 per wreath / person with all proceeds going towards St Leonard's Church fund. To book your place, ring either Eira on 632876 or Liz 632379.

Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you on the day!

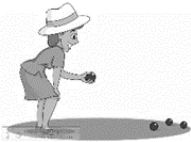
Liz Ellis and Eira Owen

BIRDSONGBIRDSONGBIRDSONG

Bowlers on a Roll

Leamington Hastings Bowls Club members have enjoyed a great outdoor season. Of twelve matches, we won eight, one was rained off, one was cancelled due to lack of 'away' players, so we only lost two matches. Great season - well done everyone! It's lovely to see our newest members settling in, playing well and enjoying being part of the club. It's wonderful to see how well you have all taken to the game.

Saturday 24 August arrived wet and overcast and was not looking good for our Lyle Watts Day, raising funds for Myton Hospice. However, we bowled indoors on our short mats and had a fabulous afternoon. A more intimate setting than outdoors allowed everyone to chat, be more involved in the bowling and the amount of cheering and (friendly) heckling added to the atmosphere. Well done to the winning team of Pat, Jan, Jim and Mel, and well done to everyone who helped raise £487.



We played our traditional Ladies v Gents match on 15 September. We enjoyed a lovely meal and get together afterwards at the Harvester in Long Itchington: our thanks go to Sharon and Simon.



On Wednesday 18 September, we started our indoor short mat bowls season in the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. We play every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm. You are most welcome to join us. If you would like more information, please call me on 01788 336913.

Sue Turner

The Dark Tree



The tree had split.
Clinging to the night
With its ruptured trunk,
It yielded to its death,
Like all condemned life,
Abandoned by the living
To its fate.

I placed my hand
Upon its broken side.
'My Peace,' I said.
No peace lay in its pride.

It took its night
And let the dark day in.
How strange that my old heart
Should want it back
And think itself so wretched,
Starved of black.

Pilgrim

Regular Events

There's always lots more going on and details can change at short notice.
Keep your eye on Village Chat WhatsApp group and Birdingbury Club Facebook page.

Swap Shop every Saturday 10.30am – 12pm

When to eat	What to eat
Friday 4 October from 5.30pm	Mosby Meadows Mobile Catering Half chicken & chips with slaw
Friday 11 October from 5.30pm	That's Nugs Street Food Chicken nuggets, street food style
Friday 18 October from 5.30pm	Village Kitchen Mexican: Birdingbury's own! Home-made enchiladas and wraps
Thursday 24 October from 4.30pm	Chippy Van Plus complimentary bread & butter etc
Saturday 26 October from 5.30pm	Posh Hot Dogs Local sausages with a selection of toppings
Saturday 2 November from 5.30pm	Tapas Zampa Authentic Spanish tapas made fresh to order
Saturday 9 November from 5.30pm	Pizza Wood fired pizzas from Andy and his team
Friday 15 November from 5.30pm	Village Kitchen Curry: Birdingbury's own! Home-made curries to suit all tastes.
Thursday 21 November from 4.30pm	Chippy Van Plus complimentary bread & butter etc
Sunday 24 November – sittings tbc	Sunday Lunch Freshly cooked roast beef with trimmings. Please book in advance by contacting Hayden on 07771 928485
Friday 29 November from 5.30pm	Bad Boys Burgers Mouthwatering burgers & crispy fries



Birdsong Editor:

Lesley Fleming

Moonrakers, Back Lane Tel 632508

Copy date for next issue – 18 November 2024