

THE NEWSLETTER FROM HAMPTON LUCY, CHARLECOTE AND LOXLEY PARISHES

March 2014 Issue No: 157

Should Our River Become A Canal?



Nadhim Zahawi, MP for Stratford-on-Avon, has been described in the local press as supporting a new proposal to make the Upper Avon navigable between Stratford and Warwick. He was invited by Alan Scaife to come and hear the other side of the story. On 7 February at Charlecote Mill he met representatives from a wide range of interested parties, including Charlecote Mill, Charlecote Park, Hampton Lucy Parish Council and The Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. As an introduction, Karl Grevatt and John Bedington, present and former millers, showed him around the mill and explained why it would not function if the river levels were raised, as has been proposed. Stephen Bennett and James Sharp described the potential consequences of a navigation through Charlecote Park, emphasising diminished amenity,

compromised security, access problems and the damaging impact on the herd of fallow deer. Edmund Fairfax-Lucy described how his mill had been restored by John Bedington, is the only commercially working watermill in Warwickshire, and is of great educational value, John Dunkerton, Hampton Lucy Parish Clerk, emphasised the tranquillity and beauty of the river, and Graham Harrison from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust described the river's delicate ecological balance, with important features that provide habitat and breeding grounds for many species. Otters have now returned to this secluded part of the river. Lepidopterist David Brown confirmed that the reed and nettle beds provide an essential breeding ground for a wide range of increasingly rare insects and moths. Jeremy Whyman, narrowboat owner, described the brutal subjugation of the river that would be necessary for safe navigation by leisure craft, and David Tucker, from Alveston, talked of the huge cost of the project and, as it won't connect with the Grand Union system, the unlikely return on investment. Mike Woodman emphasised the strength of opposition amongst the local residents. Mr Zahawi, having listened attentively, reassured the meeting that he was not yet committed to supporting the navigation scheme. He was struck by the depth of feelings, the absence of self-interest, and the impact and broad range of the presentations that he had heard. He undertook to closely examine the claims of the proposers of the scheme and affirmed that, unless the proponents of the scheme could demonstrate an overwhelming acceptance by local residents, he would withhold his support. Alan Scaife, as chairman, thanked him for taking the time to attend. (A copy of the detailed notes of the meeting are available by e-mail from The Grapevine - contact details on Page 5) ASc/AJW

Help!

Later this summer, Caroline Butterfield will take on a sponsored seven-day trek in the Pyrenees to raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund. Caroline, who lives in Hampton Lucy, will be leaving on 15 September. The route follows 'Le Chemin de la Liberté' over the Pyrenees, one of the toughest WW2 escape routes from Nazi-occupied France to Spain, and it is arduous, steep and long. She will need to raise £1,800 over the next few months and is planning a fundraising event in the spring, whilst at the same time undergoing intense fitness training. If you can offer any ideas, help, support or just a little time, call 07809 406486. Visit www.justgiving.com/Caroline-Butterfield Every contribution makes a significant difference to the RAFBF's valuable support work.

Fruits of Their Labours

Last month, the children from Class 4 at Hampton Lucy planted four fruit trees in the school garden. It was part of the River Cottage Fruitshare Scheme which promotes fruit tree growing in schools. The four trees

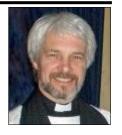


are a Bramley Apple, Russett Apple, Victoria Plum and Conference Pear. We are hoping to have some fruit in the Summer of 2015! The children were helped with the planting by a lecturer from the Countryside Team from Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell Centre.

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Rev'd David Jessett The Rectory Church Lane Barford CV35 8ES Tel: 01926 624238

The Parish Letter



Dear Friends,

Last month I wrote about how volunteering to do things for other people seemed to me to fit with Jesus' command to 'love your neighbours as much as you love yourself'. But the other thing that Jesus said which was really important was 'Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength'.

Quite often I meet people who share Christian values and may believe in God but don't see any need to relate to God by prayer or worship. And some do take time to pray for people they care about, or even for people they don't know but whom they see on the news going through terrible suffering. That is lovely and the world would be a much better place if more people lived their lives in that way, but for me it misses out on perhaps the deepest and best aspect of religious faith – having a relationship with God in which He helps us to love our neighbour better.

While I was on sabbatical and since I took up my role in these six villages again, I have been trying to take more time for my own prayer or times of quiet, praying for these villages and for all who live in them or come to work in them, but praying also that I will be able to live my life and fulfil my role here as best I can.

In the New Testament the earliest Christians often talk about how the 'grace of God' or the 'Holy Spirit' enabled them to face up to difficult situations better than they might have expected. Christians down the centuries have experienced the same thing. The same can be true for any of us – that, if we take the time to be quiet and to pray about the things that are going on in our lives, God can help us to make better decisions and to respond to situations that arise in more loving ways. Some of you may not think God is doing much of a job with me but think how much worse I might be without that help!

Early in March Lent will begin. The forty days of Lent are traditionally a time when Christians do things to deepen their relationship with God, but anyone can join in. Why not make it a time when you take time to pray about things that are bothering you or to ask God to help you to handle things better?

With my best wishes and prayers for you all, David Jessett



News from the Parishes

A complete list of church services, including those at Barford, Wasperton and Sherbourne, is displayed on the notice board in your church.



Women's World Day Of Prayer

There will be a service on Friday,7 March in St Peter's Church, Hampton Lucy, at 10.30am. The service has been planned by the Christian women of Egypt and the theme is 'Streams in the Desert'. The aim is to help us to understand a little of the country, the position of women in their society and the problems faced by everyone. We look forward to welcoming you to this service.

Lent Courses

These will be held on Tuesday evenings during Lent at River Keeper's Cottage, Bridge Street, Hampton Lucy, beginning on 11 March at 7.45 p.m. There will also be similar meetings in Barford on Monday evenings at the Wenman Mobility Centre at 7.45pm, beginning on 10 March, with yet another session on Thursday mornings. For further information, please contact Ann Fawcett on 01926 624371.

The Church of St Peter ad Vincula Becomes A Cathedral - For One Day

The BBC is making a programme about the protective removal and storage of the mediaeval stained glass from Coventry Cathedral in Hampton Lucy Rectory during the Second World War. The film crew were in the village on Wednesday, 12 February, using Church Street as background and the nave of St Peter's to represent the gothic, pre-blitz Coventry Cathedral. More importantly, a star was born. Rev'd David Jessett plays the part of a harassed Dean bustling about retrieving cathedral artefacts under fire! (*Autographs available on receipt of a donation to church funds!*) The programme is due to be screened at 7.00pm on Sunday, 2 March, on BBC 1. For more details of this historic event and its outcome, watch the broadcast, but some background to the story is on *Page 4*.

Charlecote Wall-hanging Nears Completion

The wall-hanging project is very nearly complete, with the panels now being stretched and assembled. The date of the grand unveiling in Charlecote Village Hall will be announced shortly.

From the Registers				
Thanksgiving and Blessing: Baptisms:	Hampton Lucy Hampton Lucy	3 January 9 February 9 February	Harvey Hicks Oscar Ralph Stephen Houghton Aden Harrison Sidney Dance	

Charlecote Park

The Park and Garden Department at Charlecote needs your help! Unfortunately, there is very little information on the history of the park, garden or the broader estate. This year, staff and volunteers will be starting a major research project in the Park and Garden Department to try and rectify this. Can you help? Do you have any historical information, stories or photographs relating to Charlecote Park or the surrounding area? If so Charlecote would love to hear from you. If you can help in any way please get in touch with Lisa Topham, the Park and Garden Manager, at Charlecote Park, CV35 9ER, or e-mail lisa.topham@nationaltrust.org.uk Many of you have enjoyed walking in the park during the winter. Remember that whilst the park, garden, restaurant and shop are open all the year, every day, the house is now open from 12 noon till 3.30 pm every day except Wednesday, increasing to 11 to 4.30 after 28 March. On Tuesday, 11 March, you could take part in the Park Check at 9.am, but you will need to pre-book, cost £5.00. Phone 01789 470277. The ground is drying out after the winter floods - but bring your boots!

Wellesbourne & District Lions Club News

Easter is only a few weeks away and the Lions are repeating the very successful fundraising venture that we have been involved with in the last three years. We are again encouraging local pubs, restaurants and businesses to raffle a giant Easter Egg, with all profits going to local charities. If you own a business, haven't participated before, and feel you would be able to take one of our eggs, then please contact either Lion John Liley on 01789 841745 or me, Lion Andy Stokes on 01789 841939. I have two recent events to report this month. The first was on Wednesday, 22 January, when the Lions took local pensioners to see the Phoenix Players' pantomime in Stratford, when everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The second was a Ouiz Night held on Saturday, 25 January, at Kineton Village Hall, when the proceeds from this year's Christmas floats were presented to all of the charities who took part. Wellesbourne & District and Shakespeare Lions are happy to announce that the 38th Annual Wasperton to Stratford Raft Race will be taking place on Sunday, 22 June. Our race chairman, Peter Fisher, says, "Following the huge success of last year's race in raising £15,000, we are pleased to say that we are now open for entries at our dedicated web site www.raftrace.org. This year our main beneficiary will be The Cardiomyopathy Association, whose aim is to provide information and support to individuals and families affected by the heart muscle disease, cardiomyopathy. Although we are certain to welcome the return of our regular entrants, we are hoping that many new crews will take part, especially from local businesses that have supported us magnificently in the past. A brand new sponsorship package is available this year and we are also seeking additional sponsorship to help fund the water-based safety support teams, involving teams of canoeists and divers, along with rescue boats". Leanne Langdon, event fundraiser at Cardiomyopathy Association says, "We are delighted to have been chosen by the Lions as their main beneficiary this year and we shall use the sponsorship raised to fund a dedicated part-time children's nurse – a position we have wanted to fill for a long time". Further information about the raft race and Cardiomyopathy is available at www.raftrace.org and www.cardiomyopathy.org or ring Peter Fisher on 01789 842031. AS

Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI



In spite of the appalling weather, we had a good turnout of members at our meeting on Wednesday, 5 February. Gillian Crisp spoke on ACWW, Associated Country Women of the World, and gave us an interesting and informative talk, illustrated with photographs. Her presentation was followed by tea, coffee and cakes, giving everyone time to look at the information that she had brought along. The next meeting

will be held on Wednesday, 5 March at 7.30pm in Charlecote Village Hall, when the speaker will be Lawrence Thatcher who will tell us about Roman Alcester

MJW



Loxley WI

On Thursday, 13 February, we were very grateful to our treasurer Gill Dancer for a delightful evening making cold porcelain flowers. She brought along examples and pictures of her exquisite work and talked of her many years learning her craft. After

demonstrations, at each stage of the process, we attempted to emulate her deft fingers, and under her excellent tuition we all managed to produce a pretty spray of jasmine flowers. This was the evening when it was our turn to welcome Jeryl Stone, Warwickshire Federation chairman, as she continues to visit each WI in the county. I think she enjoyed the evening as much as we did. We would all like to have another evening of happy creativity with Gill in future. Our next meeting will be in Loxley School at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 13 March, with a talk by Nick Channer on "London with a difference"



Moore/Rodin At Compton Verney

Following the preview in February *Grapevine*, the exhibition of work by Henry Moore and Auguste Rodin opened on 15 February. It features one hundred and seventy sculptures, moquettes, drawings and original photographs by the two artists, with magnificent bronzes, including the 'Monument to the Burghers of Calais' by Rodin, carefully sited in the Capability Brown landscaped parkland with the lake as a perfect background. It provides a whole new perspective of their work and the exhibition runs until 31 August. It is well worth a visit and very highly recommended by the Editor!

Hampton Lucy Saves The Day



In 1939, with war imminent, the mediaeval stained glass panels were removed from Coventry Cathedral's windows to protect them from German bombing. The city was packed with industrial targets, both civil and military, and there was little doubt that the city would be attacked. The panels were therefore hastily packed into thirty crates and dispatched to the countryside where most of them were stored in the cellars of the old rectory in Hampton Lucy, now called Hampton Lucy House. Ironically, during the conflict two American Flying Fortresses, both laden with bombs, collided in midair, one of them crashing very close to Hampton Lucy. The resulting violent explosion blew in some of St Peter's own stained glass windows but fortunately didn't unduly damage the church, the rectory or the hidden treasure in its cellars. During the blitz the cathedral suffered multiple direct hits

and, by the time the all-clear sirens had sounded the next morning, nothing remained of the beautiful 14th C. Gothic church of St Michael's but smouldering ruins and its defiant spire. In 1957 the rectory was sold and the crates, packed with ancient glass that had remained secure and unharmed in the cellar for almost twenty years, were returned to Coventry. The architect of the new cathedral, Sir Basil Spence, wanted to incorporate some of this glass into the new building in some way but reassembling whole windows was, at that time, impractical because most of the panels had been removed and crated without any record of their original location. Instead he selected a few choice pieces and installed them in a small chapel in the south porch of the old cathedral ruins, known today as the Haigh Chapel. More stained glass panels have since been placed in the cathedral, including mosaic-style combinations that were assembled during 19th C. modifications to the old church. For some reason, not all of the glass found its way to Hampton Lucy in 1939 and some panels are believed to be still missing - leading to a worldwide appeal for their return by the conservators. In 2012, thanks to new computer technology which enables the glass segments to be accurately identified and relocated, much of the glass was conserved. Seven thousand segments of stained glass remain, with the ultimate plan being to create a display area in the original crypt underneath the ruins. Some of it may be used in contemporary art installations. Unfortunately a large crack appeared in one of the ruined walls of the old cathedral in 2011 and, before any work could be done within the crypt, an appeal was established to raise funds for the estimated cost of repairs of £2 million.

Team Loxley Gets The Romans On The Run

Team Loxley were out in force again at the 2014 'Not the Roman IX' race that took place on a bright Sunday morning in January. In the team were teachers, parents and friends, all running in aid of Loxley School. They were helped on their way by tremendous support along the route, especially in the village itself. Many enjoyed a celebratory drink in The Fox afterwards. Special thanks to everyone who made a donation. Close to £700 was raised!

Amazing!

In Hampton Lucy on the morning of February 15, after one of the the stormiest nights I can recall and with the wind still howling, a skylark was high above Old Pastures Farm, singing!

Our correspondents this month are: CB - Caroline Butterfield; HC - Helen Chidgey; MLC - Margaret Clayton; AF - Ann Fawcett; SF - Shiela Freeman; HH - Helen Hoggarth; Rev'd DJ - Rev'd David Jessett; ASc - Alan Scaife; ASe - Alison Selwood; AS - Andy Stokes; AJW - Jeremy Whyman; MJW - Margaret Whyman;





Clockwise from top: part of Team Loxley - Ted Burch, Wilf Ayres and Nigel Chidgey

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Hampton Lucy website: www.hamptonlucy.net

The Notice Board

The Loxley website: www.loxleyvillage.com

GROPEUINE is published in colour each month. To view the colour edition visit either the Hampton Lucy or Loxley websites, or request an e-mail copy.

The Charlecote website: www.charlecote.org.uk

Hampton Lucy
Ladies' Coffee and Cakes
Meet in The Boar's Head, Hampton Lucy,
Tuesday, 4 March at 10.30am.

"The Lucy Lads"

will meet at The Boar's Head, Hampton Lucy on Thursday, 6 March at 11.30am

All lads at heart welcome!

Hampton Lucy Village Hall Committee

'Nibbles & Knowledge'

Hampton Lucy Village hall

Friday, 7th March, at 7.30 pm Fun quiz with a bar and nibbles.

Ticket £5 per person

From committee members or call 841155.

The Friends of Loxley School invite you to a

'Pamper and Indulgence Evening'

Wednesday, 26th March, at Loxley School 7.30pm onwards

Various treatments available and gifts to buy. Join us for a relaxing evening, everyone welcome



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Advertising in the Grapevine

Small block (local service providers): £6 per issue.

Double block (as per bottom of page 4): £12 per issue.

Please apply to Jackie Williams - contact details shown below.

(Adverts accepted subject to availability of space)

Grapevine contact details: Grapevine copy by the 10th of the month please with a contact telephone number, to: Jeremy Whyman, 9 The Langlands, Hampton Lucy CV35 8BN. Tel: 01789 470911e-mail: grapevine46@btinternet.com For advertising contact: Jackie Williams, Tudor Cottage, Hampton Lucy. Tel: 01789 841155. e-mail: jacwil@btinternet.com

<u>Police:</u> Police enquiries: 01789 842114. e-mail: wellesbourne.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
Website newsletter, with regularly updated local information: www.saferneighbourhoods.co.uk



Church Services March 2014

Local Service Providers

2 March	The Sunday Next Before Lent			
9.30am	Charlecote	Morning Worship	CW	
9.30am	Loxley	Holy Communion	BCP	
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion	CW	
5 March	Ash Wednesday			
7.30pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion	CW	

7 March Women's World Day of Prayer 10.30am Hampton Lucy

9 March First Sunday of Lent

Hampton Lucy Family Service 9.30am **CW** 11.00am Charlecote Holy Communion CW 11.00am Loxlev Matins **BCP** 6.00pm Hampton Lucy Evensong **BCP**

16 March The Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am **Holy Communion** Charlecote **BCP** 9.30am Hampton Lucy Come and Worship **CW**

11.00am Loxley Family Service

23 March The Third Sunday of Lent 8 00am Charlecote Holy Communion **BCP** Holy Communion 11.00am Loxlev CW 6.00pm Hampton Lucy Evensong **BCP**

30 March The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

Family Service 9.30am Hampton Lucy

Mothering Sunday Service 11.00am Loxley

> No Service today Charlecote

For your diary - March 2014

Tues 4 Ladies' Coffee and Cakes, The Boar's Head, 10.30am. Notice Board.

Tues 4 Keep Fit, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wed 5 Tai Chi, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.

Wed 5 Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI, HL Hall, 7.30pm, page 3.

Thur 6 'The Lucy Lads', meet at The Boar's Head, 11.30am. Notice Board.

'Nibbles and Knowledge', Hampton Lucy Village hall, 7.30pm, Notice Board. Fri 7

Mon 10 Copy deadline for The Grapevine.

Mon 10 Wellesbourne & District Lions Club, Connie Club, 8.00pm, page 3.

Dene Valley U3A, St Peter's Church, Wellesbourne, 2.00pm, (visit website). Tues 11

Tues 11 **Keep Fit,** Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wed 12 **Tai Chi,** Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.

Thur 13 Loxley WI Loxley School, 7.30pm, see page 3.

Tues 18 **Keep Fit,** Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wed 19 Tai Chi, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.

Wellesbourne & District Lions Club, Connie Club, 8.00pm, page 3. Mon 24

Tues 25 Keep Fit, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm. All welcome.

Tai Chi, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am. Wed 26

Wed 26 'Pamper and Indulgence Evening', Loxley School, from 7.30pm, Notice Board.

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