

A Grand Night Out (...cracking bonfire, Gromit!)



(Ed's note – can you spot Guy Fawkes' ghost?)

The Friends of Loxley School laid on a Bonfire and Fireworks Night to remember on Saturday, 6 November. The event was held at Loxley Hall, by kind permission of Mr Gregory-Hood and his family, and we welcomed local residents and visitors from the surrounding area. The weather was fine and everyone enjoyed an outstanding firework display. There was a plentiful supply of warming refreshments, with the mulled wine yet again proving highly popular. This year the bonfire was built in the form of a castle, giving a dramatic effect when the flames took hold, as you can see from the picture! We are already working on ideas for next year's masterpiece! Thanks to everyone's generosity we were able to make a significant contribution to the school funds, with a profit in the region of £1200, more than any previous year, so "thank you" to all of you who came along to support us. Special

thanks go to all those who contributed to the event and helped to put on such a successful evening. With the help of the money raised, we are looking at providing resources that will be available for use, not only by the school, but also by the local community as a whole. Watch this space for further developments.

HCC

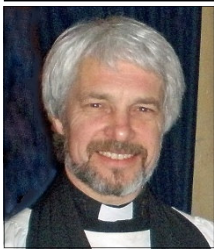
Hampton Lucy School's New Pond

The children of Hampton Lucy School are now starting to benefit from the latest addition to their outside learning environment. With the aid of willing parents and the advice of environmentalist Bob Green, the children have helped to dig and build both a pond and a hide to further their outdoor studies. In time, this part of the school garden will develop into a wet, marshy area, attracting many creatures that should thrive in that sort of environment. With a national decline in newt, frog and toad populations due to lack of field-ponds and ditches, this will soon become a haven for them and should be full of spawn by the spring. We look forward to reporting on the development of the scheme. Pond-dipping is now on the syllabus! The project has been made possible thanks to the unfailing support of the Friends of Hampton Lucy School.

MH



Oliver, Katlin, Phoebe and Sean showing us how it's done, despite the rain!



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The Parish Letter

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Dear Friends,

Back in early November there was a series of three one-hour programmes on BBC2 called "The Big Silence". It was about five people, none of them claiming to have an active Christian faith, who volunteered to spend time exploring silence. They were gathered together by the Abbot of Worth Abbey, and he supervised the experiment. His belief is that silence is the gateway to 'the soul', and that 'the soul' is the gateway to getting to know God. He wanted them to spend time being silent and to invite God to be with them in that silence.

First they spent a weekend sharing the lives, and the silence, of the monks at Worth Abbey. Then they went home and tried to reserve an hour each day for silence in their own busy lives. They failed. They then went on an eight day silent retreat in North Wales, with only one meeting per day with their individual retreat guide at which they could talk. Finally they went back to their friends and families and their usual lives.

Perhaps they had thought it wouldn't be too difficult. In fact they each found it really hard but all of them had some sort of very powerful experience and, at the end, all five of them said that it was the most important thing

they had ever done. One of them was subsequently baptised. One rediscovered the Christian faith. The remaining three were greatly changed by the experience of getting more in touch with themselves, and with some great power outside of themselves but, by the end of the series, they were not ready to link that experience to Jesus or the Church.

We are approaching one of the busiest times of the year when, in order to spend a few days celebrating, there is a tremendous amount of preparation. It is great to have that time to celebrate with family and friends, so we need to do that preparation, but it may be that Christmas can be more than that. For Christians, Christmas is about a God who cares enough about the world to share in our humanity in Jesus; to come and be with us. How about making some space among all the other preparations to spend some time being quiet and inviting God to come and be with you in that time? You never know; it might mean getting a Christmas present unlike anything you have received before.

Happy Christmas to 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.



grapevine is published in colour each month but normally printed in monochrome, for reasons of cost. To see the colour version visit either the Hampton Lucy or Loxley websites, or ask for a colour copy to be sent to you by e-mail. These are sent out in good time, usually around 20th of the month. As with the printed edition, there is no charge for this. To request an e-copy please contact grapevine46@btinternet.com. (The file size never exceeds 4 megabytes.) **AJW**

The Three Parishes Prayer Group

The group will meet on the evenings of Thursday, 9 and 30 of December, and Thursday, 20 January. The meetings will be held by the kind invitation of Duncan and Janet Fairfax-Lucy at their home in Wellesbourne, beginning at 7.45pm. **AB**

Christmas Greetings

Hampton Lucy Village Hall Committee invites all residents in the parish, with their guests, to join them in the village hall on Wednesday, 22 December, from 6.30pm for Christmas drinks and nibbles.

Charlecote Village Hall Committee extends a similar cordial invitation to residents of Charlecote and their visitors on Friday, 24 December, to meet in the village hall for drinks and greetings. For details see the village notice board.

From the Registers

Baptism		
St Nicholas' Church, Loxley:	19 September	Barnaby Hood Valentine Brown
Funeral		
St Leonard's Church, Charlecote:	14 October	Patricia Anne Barton
Humanist Funeral		
Stratford Cemetry:	3 November	Ray Hinkley (Charlecote)

Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI



There was an excellent turnout of members for the AGM on 3 November at Charlecote Village Hall. Jeryl Stone was re-elected as President, and all of the committee were also re-elected 'en bloc'. Judith Worsley was welcomed as a new committee member. The December meeting will be our Christmas Dinner, to be held at the Boar's Head, Hampton Lucy, on Wednesday, 1 December, at 7.00pm. We shall hold a competition for the best hand-made Christmas cracker and there will also be a festive raffle. The first meeting of 2011 will be on Wednesday, 5 January, at 7.30pm in Hampton Lucy Village Hall, when Jeremy Whyman will return as our speaker, this time giving an illustrated talk on British inland waterways, following a month-long trip to London in the narrow-boat 'Frances and Jane', via the River Thames. New members and visitors are welcome.

MJW

Loxley WI



Loxley WI is happy to report a year of enjoyable meetings, graced by excellent speakers. On 14 October Ann Reynolds lead the group in making corn dollies. All the participants took home a completed corn dolly, having spent a thoroughly entertaining evening and ending up covered in straw! On 11 November Michael Osmond, Head Chef at Marlowes Restaurant, Stratford-upon-Avon, gave an interesting talk on the life of a present-day restaurateur. During the evening he taught the ladies to fold table-napkins in a variety of attractive designs. We meet on the second Thursday of every month and always welcome anyone who may be interested in joining the group. Our meetings are on Thursday, 9 December, and Thursday, 13 January and, if you would like to come along as a visitor, please telephone Lorna Lee on 01926 624830.

LL

News from Charlecote Park

A small invasion of large mice can be seen in The Park and, throughout the winter, children can follow them along the sculpture trail around the grounds. If you have never seen a mouse skating, just go along and look at the work of local artist, Stephen Charlton. The ground floor of the house will be open between 12.00noon and 4.00pm at weekends until 19 December, and will be decorated for Christmas. The Bedworth Wind Band will entertain on Saturdays and on Sundays there will be festive readings and music. The grounds will be open every day, apart from 24/25 December, from 10.00am to 4.00pm, with the restaurant serving light meals during weekdays and a full menu on weekends when the house itself is open. Don't forget all the Christmas goodies, from cards to puddings and presents, on sale in the shop which opens on the same days as the house. Father Christmas will be in his grotto, as usual, so why not phone and book a visit. For further details please call 01789 470277.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ecotepark

SF



Me and my girl! A fallow doe with her fawn, showing off on the Deer Park Safari in October.
(Photo: AJW)



Wellesbourne and District Lions Club

I hope your Christmas preparations are well underway. The Lions are really looking forward to meeting everyone when we go out and about with 'Santa' and his Christmas float. We will be collecting for local charities and will visit Hampton Lucy and Charlecote on Thursday, 9 December, and Loxley on Friday, 17 December. We would also like to invite everyone in the district to join us for 'Carols in the Precinct' on Monday, 20 December, at 6.30pm in Wellesbourne. Shops and the café will be open and we shall be serving mince pies and mulled wine. A very successful fundraising evening at Kineton raised £1,133 for Shakespeare Hospice and other local charities, and on 6 November the 'old folks' of the district were treated to an afternoon of entertainment. Over 120 attended and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon. We are very proud to report the results of our fundraising this year. This year's Raft Race raised over £8,500 for the Air Ambulance and local charities; £1,404 was raised from the "Mini Prom" in aid of Myton Hospice and local charities, and £760 for the Lions Club International fund for the flood victims in Pakistan. Thank you all for your wonderful support. All that remains is for me to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us in The Wellesbourne & District Lions Club.

AS

'AMICI' visits Hampton Lucy

On Friday, 15 October, the choral group AMICI, formed by singers associated with the cathedral, presented a lovely programme of sacred music accompanied by spectacular images of the original St Michael's Parish Church, photographs taken during and immediately after the devastating fire during the blitz, and studies of the new Cathedral that arose from the ashes. The conductor was Kerry Beaumont, Director of Music at the cathedral, and the sound that the choir produced was stunning, with great depth to the music, underscored by a superb bass section, splendid harmonies and soaring sopranos. All of the pieces were sung 'a capella' and the result was an evening to remember. The proceeds were shared between the choir and the Hampton Lucy Church Restoration Fund.

AJW

Your Grapevine needs you

We are always looking for items of interest to publish. If you have anything that you think will be of general interest to the three villages, do send it in. Don't be shy! The deadline is the tenth of each month and the contact details are on the back page. Items can be sent in as attachments to an e-mail, which is much preferred, but hand-written items are fine if supplied with contact details. Photographs should be sent in full definition, suitable for printing.

AJW (Ed)

For your diary: December 2010

- Wed 1 **Tai chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9-10am.
Wed 1 **Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI Christmas Dinner**, The Boar's Head, Hampton Lucy, 7.00pm.
Fri 3 **Hampton Lucy School Christmas Fair**, Hampton Lucy School, 3.30pm to 5.30pm. (**Notice Board**)
Mon 6 **Afternoon Teas**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 3.00pm to 4.00pm (Bring and Share).
Tues 7 **Keep Fit**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm. (Last session before the New Year)
Wed 8 **Tai Chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.
Thur 6 **Loxley WI**, details unavailable, please contact a committee member.
Thurs 9 **3 Parishes Prayer Group**, at Janet and Duncan Fairfax-Lucy's home, 7.45pm. (Page 2)
Sat 11 **Loxley School Christmas Fair**, Loxley School, 2.00pm to 4.00pm. (**Notice Board**)
Wed 15 **Tai Chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.
Fri/Sat/Sun
17/18/19 **Barford Nativity Pageant**, St Peter's Church, Barford. Admission free, (collection plate). (**Notice Board**)
Wed 22 **Hampton Lucy Christmas Drinks** in the Village Hall, from 6.30pm, All welcome. (Page 2)
Fri 24 **Charlecote Christmas Eve Drinks Get-together**, see village notice board for times and details. (Page 2)
Thur 30 **3 Parishes Prayer Group**, at Janet and Duncan Fairfax-Lucy's home, 7.45pm. (Page 2)

January 2011

- Wed 5 **Keep Fit**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
Wed 5 **Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm (page 3)
Tues 11 **Keep Fit**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
Wed 12 **Tai Chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.
Thur 13 **Loxley WI**, details unavailable, please contact a committee member.
Tues 18 **Keep Fit**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
Wed 19 **Tai chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10am.
Thur 20 **3 Parishes Prayer Group**, at Janet and Duncan Fairfax-Lucy's home, 7.45pm. (Page 2)
Tues 25 **Keep Fit**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
Wed 26 **Tai chi class**, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10am.
(Please note that there will be no Hampton Lucy Afternoon Teas in January.)

Loxley Remembers

It was a blustery morning with heavy showers on Thursday, 11 November, but the clouds parted and the sun shone whilst the children, staff, parents and Loxley residents paid tribute to fallen servicemen and women at the war memorial in Loxley. Rev'd David Jessett led the service and, after a short introduction, the children stood quietly for the traditional Two Minute Silence. This was followed by prayers for those who had fallen in conflict, and for peace. The children then gave a charming rendition of the song "Shalom", a Hebrew word which translates as "Peace", following which they placed their poppies at the base of the memorial. This is always a moving occasion and the children were a credit to themselves and their school.

AJW



Remembrance Day service with Loxley School.

Affordable Housing in Hampton Lucy

The Parish Council is aware that a lack of affordable housing is an issue for rural communities, often forcing local people, young and old, to move away in order to find accommodation. We have therefore commissioned a Housing Needs Survey, in partnership with Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC), and a survey form will be distributed to every household in the parish in the new year. This survey involves all residents and will help to compile a profile of the parish, and identify the degree of local support for an affordable housing scheme. If a local demand for such housing is identified, we will work with WRCC and other agencies to explore how those needs can be addressed. People with housing needs do not have to be currently living in the parish. However, they must have a strong local connection, having been born in Hampton Lucy, previously lived here but moved away to find suitable housing, have close relatives in the parish, or currently work here. Occupancy of any new homes would be restricted to people with this strong local connection by means of a Planning Agreement. If you know of anyone who lives outside the parish but fulfils these requirements, please encourage them to contact Sue Main, Parish Council Chairman, on 01789 292316, lsjmain@tiscali.co.uk and a survey form will be sent to them. All information given will be treated in strict confidence. A Freepost envelope will be provided for returning the completed forms. We need your help and ask all households to complete the survey. **SM**



The Notice Board

Hampton Lucy website:
www.hamptonlucy.net

The Loxley website:
www.loxleyvillage.com



Hampton Lucy School Christmas Fair

Friday, 3rd December
3.30pm to 5.30pm
(Come and meet Santa!)



EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Loxley School Christmas Fair

Saturday, 11 December, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Festive fun for all the family

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Hampton Lucy Church in winter

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Barford Nativity Pageant

St. Peter's Church

Fri. December 17: 7.30 p.m.

Sat. December 18: 7.30 p.m.

Sun. December 19: 3.00 p.m.
7.30 p.m.

Admission free
(retiring
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Contact details

Grapevine copy by the **10th of the month**

with a contact telephone number please, to:

Jeremy Whyman, 9 The Langlands, Hampton Lucy

CV35 8BN. Tel: 01789 470911

e-mail: grapevine46@btinternet.com

For advertising contact: Jackie Williams, Tudor Cottage, Hampton Lucy. Tel: 01789 841155. **e-mail: jacwil@btinternet.com**

CHARLECOTE VILLAGE BOOKS

Fascinating books on the history, geography, and people of Charlecote are available to borrow from Beryl Penn in return for a modest donation to village hall funds.

Call: **01789 841487**

Police: Community Police Station: **01789 842114.** e-mail: wellesbourne.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

Website newsletter with regularly updated local information: www.saferneighbourhoods.co.uk



Church Services

5 Dec				The Second Sunday of Advent	
8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion		BCP	
10.00am	Hampton Lucy	Family Service			
6.00pm	Loxley	Evensong		BCP	
12 Dec				Third Sunday of Advent	
9.30am	Charlecote	Morning Worship			
11.00am	Loxley	Family Service			
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion			
19 Dec				The Fourth Sunday of Advent	
8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion		BCP	
10.00am	Hampton Lucy	Come and Worship			
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Traditional 9 Lessons and Carols <i>(with The Festival Singers)</i>			
6.00pm	Loxley	Traditional 9 Lessons and Carols			
21 Dec				Carols by Candlelight <i>(with Peter Fairhurst and The Oken Singers)</i>	
7.30pm	Charlecote				
23 Dec				Christingle	
4.00pm	Hampton Lucy				

24 Dec				Midnight Eucharist	
4.00pm	Charlecote	Crib Service by Candlelight			
11.30pm	Charlecote	Holy Communion			
25 Dec				Christmas Day	
9.30am	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion		CW	
11.00am	Loxley	Holy Communion		CW	

2 Jan				Feast of the Epiphany	
8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion		BCP	
10.00am	Hampton Lucy	Family Service			
6.00pm	Loxley	Evensong		BCP	
9 Jan				The Baptism of Christ	
9.30am	Charlecote	Morning Worship			
11.00am	Loxley	Family Service			
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion		CW	
16 Jan				The Second Sunday of Epiphany	
8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion		BCP	
10.00am	Hampton Lucy	Come and Worship			
11.00am	Loxley	Matins		BCP	
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Evensong		BCP	
23 Jan				The Third Sunday of Epiphany	
9.30am	Loxley	Holy Communion		BCP	
11.00am	Charlecote	Holy Communion		CW	
6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Evensong		BCP	
30 Jan				The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)	
9.30am	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion		CW	
		<i>(Benefice Service)</i>			

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