

# be Grapevine

ssue 128

THE NEWSLETTER FROM HAMPTON LUCY, CHARLECOTE AND LOXLEY PARISHES

April 2011



The restored Memorial, with its dedication to the ten young airmen.

British Legion, the Air Training Corps, the Wellesbourne Aviation Group, and members of other associated organisations. It is hoped that as many local residents as possible will also be able to attend to remember and honour the young airmen who died in our parishes during the war. KW, KC and AJW

# Ooops... that's not quite what I meant! (2)

More of those inadvertent gaffs from parish newsletters around the country, with thanks once again to the editors of Plurality.

- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way • again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Final instalment next month.

# An Apology

I know that this edition appears to be dedicated to Hampton Lucy affairs and apologise for that. As editor, I do try to make the newsletter balanced to take in the news and views of all three villages but can only print what is sent in. We are always happy to receive copy from anyone who reads The Grapevine, so if you have any news, events or just an idea that you think would be of interest, do let us have it. **AJW** 

# Better late than never...!

New green plastic bins for storing winter salt have been acquired by Hampton Lucy Parish Council, and have been placed at the end of The Close, not far from the Stratford Road, and on Snitterfield Street, at the bottom of the hill



heading out of the village. Being 'off the map' as far as the road gritters are concerned, both areas are notoriously slippery when there is ice or snow, and the use of salted grit will make things a lot more comfortable for road users and pedestrians alike. The bins will be serviced by Warwickshire County Council, although it is likely that they won't be filled until the approach of next winter as salt deteriorates over a period of time. Residents in those areas will be free to use the salt on the roads and footpaths when needed, and it is hoped that the supply of salt won't be purloined for use on private property, making it unavailable for general use when needed. AJW

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AJW

Visitors arriving by car should drive into Wasperton where they will be directed to parking near to the village hall. The memorial is a

**Rededication of the** Wasperton Memorial

fifteen minute walk from the car park along level ground, but transport will be provided for those who may find the walk difficult. It will not be a long ceremony, and a reception will be held afterwards in Wasperton Village Hall, to which everyone is invited. In the event of bad weather, the ceremony will be held in St John the Baptist Wasperton. Local Church. dignitaries and representatives of the RAF, RAAF and RCAF will (Photograph: KC) be there, along with the Royal



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# The Parish Letter

Dear Friends,

We have happy memories of Easter as a family. When the children were little we often went away for the Easter holidays. It is cheaper and cooler than in the summer. It was fascinating to come across different traditions in different countries. Our first cultural shock came when we stopped at a town in Holland, on the way to visiting friends in Germany. We had not walked a hundred yards when around the corner came a six-foot Easter Bunny, probably a student earning some much needed cash, carrying a basket full of chocolate eggs. He came up to our toddlers and gave each of them some of the eggs. They thought Holland was a wonderful place! The town itself, busy with preparations for Easter, had an atmosphere of joy and anticipation.

This was raised to another level at our friends' house. They also had two young daughters and their family tradition was that, once the children had gone to bed on Easter Eve, Dad, who was a rather terrifying Sergeant Major to his troops by day, stencilled tracks of the Easter Bunny all round the house and hid chocolate eggs for the children to discover with joy and wonderment the next day. Our children were duly impressed and grew up with the idea that the Easter Bunny was native to Northern Europe.

Those were moments of joy for our children and for us as

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parents also. But the experience that took us right to the heart of Easter was sitting in a packed church in a remote village in Brittany, with a service in the French language taking place around us, and a community that was really caught up in celebrating together. We didn't understand all that was going on but there were some words that were sung repeatedly throughout the service by all of us, accompanied by Breton bagpipes and a band of local musicians.

Those words have stayed with me ever since:

#### Il est vraiment ressuscité : pourquoi chercher parmi les morts ? Il est vivant, comme il l'a promis! Alléluia!

*He really has come back to life:* why are you searching among the dead? *He really is alive, just as he promised!* Alleluia!

That is still the real joy and excitement at the heart of Easter. After Jesus' long journey of love, after the sorrow and grief of the cross, against all the odds - life.

Every blessing,

Cathy.



# 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.



# **The Three Parishes Prayer Group**

The group will meet as usual at the home of Janet and Duncan Fairfax-Lucy by their kind invitation, on Thursday, 14 April, at 7.45 pm. AB

# Mothering Sunday and Easter Day

On Sunday, 3 April, there will be special services for Mothering Sunday to which everyone is invited and in which the two Church Schools will be involved. These will be held at 9.30 am at Hampton Lucy and at 11.00am at Loxley. Do come along and join in the celebration. On Easter Day, the service at Hampton Lucy will also be at 9.30am and will be designed to appeal to people of all ages. Do join us for worship on these two most important days of the Church year.

Parishioners are reminded that the new timings of church services will commence on 1 May, and even this month some services, previously scheduled to begin at 10.00am, will in fact start at 9.30am. Please check the list of church services on page 6 to confirm details and times of services.

# Hampton Lucy Parochial Church Council

The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 7 April, 2011 in the School Hall at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Why not come along and hear what has been happening in the life of our Church during the past year? Light refreshments and a glass of wine will be served at the end of the meeting. SB

# From the Registers

**Baptisms:** St Leonard's Church, Charlecote

12 December 2010

Jessica Grace Girling Anna Kate Shelswell

#### Planning Application for Proposed Gypsy and Travellers' Site (Application number 09/02313/FUL)

A further application for planning consent for the location of four travellers' units on a site at Blackhill, adjacent to the Wyevale Garden Centre, has been submitted. Since its last rejection, the application had been re-worded and now indicates that the four units are not necessarily to be registered to specifically named individuals, implying that the site could possibly be occupied by transient families. The previous grounds for rejection, traffic considerations with respect to site access, have apparently been resolved, although safety issues for pedestrian access to the site don't appear to have been considered at all. Availability of school places may also be a problem, with no current vacancies locally in any of the school years. The application will be put before the Planning Committee on Thursday, 30 March. It is opposed by both the District and Parish Councils and Stratford District Councillor, Helen Hayter, urges all interested parties to make their representations to the Planning Committee as soon as possible and to attend the planning meeting. A petition opposing the development is being actively raised by residents of Snitterfield.

Editor's comment: The date of the Planning Committee Meeting is 30 March. Your Grapevine should have been delivered in good time for you to make any representations to the committee, if you wish to do so.

#### Hampton Lucy Parish Council

At a well attended meeting the following key items were discussed. Helen Hayter, Stratford District Councillor, reported on the progress of the planning application at Blackhill. (See the report above). The new play equipment is now installed and in use in King George's Field. Three new fruit trees have also been planted on the site. A suggestion that the field could be renamed "Queen Elizabeth II Field" in honour of the Queen's 60th Jubilee was discussed and rejected. The rededication of the war memorial by the river, near to Wasperton, will be attended by the Parish Council Chairman, Sue Main, accompanied by the Clerk and other councillors, and a wreath will be purchased for the occasion. The Chairman asked for suggestions for a suitable event to celebrate the Queen's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee. The Clerk reported on the grit bins, now installed, the ongoing problem of outstanding street repairs, the progress of the campaign to reduce dog fouling around the village, the purchase of the telephone kiosk, and the re-negotiation of the cost of street lighting. Parking after school by the play-ground causes problems for the residents along Stratford Road. It was agreed to place advisory notices in the area, and to ask the Head Teacher at the school to highlight the problem to the parents. Further action will be considered if it persists. Charitable donations to the sum of £200 were agreed. Volunteers were sought to make use of a local scheme to monitor and reduce traffic speed in the village. The £200, donated by Sir Ian Wilmut on his visit two years ago and set aside for funding study projects by school children, has not been taken up. The scheme will be re-examined at the next meeting, in consultation with John Dunkerton who made the original proposal. The next meeting of the Parish Council will held on Wednesday, 11 May and all residents are invited to attend. AJW

# A Plea to Dog Owners

There have been quite a number of complaints recently on the subject of dog fouling in Hampton Lucy, and all three villages are probably suffering in the same way. Hampton Lucy Parish Council has been actively targeting the problem, placing additional signs around the village. There are ample disposal bins situated around the area which will soon be labelled as suitable for dog waste, and dog owners are asked to be scrupulous in clearing up after their pets. Not only will this eliminate an unpleasant eyesore in our villages, but it will also remove the risk of children contracting the debilitating and potentially blinding parasitic infection that can be transmitted through dog waste. For all our sakes, please observe the law and at the same time protect our environment.

#### Spring News from The Boar's Head (Advertisement) The ever popular Annual Beer Festival at the Boar's Head will be held between Friday, 29 April and Monday, 2 May. This year, amongst the many fine beers to be sampled over the weekend, beers from around the United Kingdom that have been brewed by ladies will be on offer. These will include The Wean Brewery 'Blackberry Stout' and Brewster's 'Belly Dancer', to name just two. On Friday, 29 April, the festivities will be shared with Prince William and Kate on their wedding day and a wedding breakfast will be available. A 'Blind Tasting' will be featured on Saturday, 30 April, whilst on Sunday, 1 May, it is time to 'Meet the Brewster'. On Monday, 2 May, there is a barbecue and a jazz band. Finally, a reminder that there will be a Flower Arranging Supper in the pub on Thursday, 31 March, with the price including a buffet, soft drinks and two glasses of wine, plus flowers and professional advice on your own arrangement to take home for Mothers' Day. For full details visit: www.theboarsheadhamptonlucy4food.co.uk AJW

# Don't be conned - beat the scammers!

February was "Scams Awareness Month" when we highlighted the problems of scam mail such as prize draws, fake lotteries, clairvoyant predictions, get-rich-quick schemes and miracle health cures. The one thing that they all feature is an invitation to send money up-front in order to claim a fabulous prize. Sadly, you are unlikely to ever hear from them again and any "prize" you do receive will be worthless. If you do send money, you are likely to be bombarded with further scams because your name will have been added to a "sucker" list. One Warwickshire resident received sixty three such letters in just a few months. Many of these letters look official and are very persuasive. The recipient is often addressed by their first name, giving the impression that it is a personal offer, just for them. To limit this unwanted mail, register with the Mailing Preference Service on 0845 703 4599 or **www.mpsonline.org.uk**. This is free service and will make it easier to identify scam mail. **Most importantly, if something sounds too good to be true, then it probably is - bin the letter!** If you are unsure whether or not a letter is a scam, contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards Service



#### Wellesbourne & District Lions Club News

There is a plethora of bank holidays coming up over the next few weeks. First a late Easter break, then the royal wedding, followed by two May bank holidays. A chance to get the garden sorted, perhaps a spot of decorating or, better still, taking the opportunity to relax and unwind. The Lions have three events coming up to which I would like to bring your attention, starting with 'Lion Racing' on Saturday, 2 April, at Barford Memorial Hall. Tickets are £7.50 each which includes a hot supper and a dessert. Timing is 6.30pm for a prompt 7.00pm start. The evening promises to be great fun and all the proceeds will be going to 'Smile Train', a charity providing cleft palate surgery for desperate children. For more details and to buy tickets contact Barbara or Terry Offiler on 01926 624153. Between Friday, 8 April, and Sunday, 10 April, the Lions will be running a raffle at Wellesbourne Co-op. A number of prizes will be on offer and all of the money raised will be used to support local charities. Finally, we will be holding our annual Charter Night on Saturday, 7 May. This year's dinner and dance will be held at Ettington Chase Hotel. For more information on this prestigious evening, please contact Terry Offiler on 01926 624153. We would love to see you there. ۵S

#### **Charlecote Park News**

Spring has definitely arrived at The house opened in early Charlecote. March and scaffolding around the gatehouse was due to come down soon after, leaving a viewing platform for visitors to enjoy a panoramic view of the house, park and surrounding countryside. A virtual tour of Charlecote is now available in the carriage house, giving easy access to many details. Until the end of April there will be conservation tours taking approximately twenty minutes, between 11am and 12 noon, giving an insight into how the staff care for the delicate interior of the house. Talks about Elizabethan costumes, as worn by the lady of the house when Charlecote was newly built, can be enjoyed by visitors on most days. The Victorian kitchen often has demonstrations cookery and hands-on kitchen activities, always popular with the children. Easter brings special "Easter Trails" for the children, from 22 to 25 April.



#### Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI

On Wednesday, 2 March, a very well attended **INSPRING WOMEN** meeting enjoyed a return visit by Gillian White, who made history come alive with a fascinating talk on the life of Mary, Queen of Scots. Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI has entered the competition to be held at the Annual Federation Meeting, Stoneleigh, on 23 March, 2011. The title of the competition is "Inspiring Women" and our group have decided, to go back to 1919 as a theme, the time when our WI was formed. At our next meeting on Wednesday, 6 April, the ninety-second birthday of our WI, we shall have a 'bring and share' supper, and Rod Quilter will entertain us with a talk entitled, 'A Remarkable History of Corsetry'. The meeting will be held in Hampton Lucy Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. MJW

# The Queen's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

In 2012, Queen Elizabeth II will celebrate a remarkable 60 years on the throne. Hampton Lucy Parish Council would like to make sure the event is celebrated in fine style and suggestions for the type of celebration would be very welcome. If you have any bright ideas for a suitable event, please contact any of the Councillors or Mike Woodman, Parish Clerk, 841205, e-mail: mwoodman@talktalk.net AJW



I know we always feature a photograph from The Park, but it is so photogenic!

These are always popular, but come on Easter Saturday if you prefer it a little quieter. There will be a "Wildlife Photography Walk" on 5 April, providing an opportunity to get closer to the animals in the Park. There is a charge of £5 per person. (Editors note: At the time of writing, this event was fully booked, but there may be cancellations). The "Walk with the Gardener" at 2pm on Saturday, 30 April, is free of charge and needs no advance booking. For further details, please contact Charlecote Park on 01789 470277, or visit the website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/charlecotepark\_ SF



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# **Church Services**

3 April		The Fourth Sunda	y of Lent	
	8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion	BCP
	9.30am	Hampton Lucy	Mothering Sunday Service	(see page 2)
	11.00am	Loxley	Mothering Sunday Service	(see page 2)
	6.00pm	Loxley	Evensong	BCP
10 April	10 April The Fifth Sunday of Lent			
	9.30am	Charlecote	Morning Worship	
	11.00am	Loxley	Family Service	
	6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion	CW
17 April		Palm Sunday		
	8.30am	Charlecote	Holy Communion	BCP
	9.30am	Hampton Lucy	Come and Worship	
	11.00am	Loxley	Matins	BCP
	6.00pm	Hampton Lucy	Evensong	BCP
21 April	21 April Maundy Thursday			
	7.30pm	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion	CW
22 April		Good Friday		
	10.00am	Hampton Lucy	Hot Cross Bun Service	
	2.00pm	Charlecote	Meditation	
	7.30pm	Hampton Lucy	Meditation	
24 April	April The First Sunday of Easter - Easter Day			
	9.30am	Hampton Lucy	Holy Communion	CW
	11.00am	Loxley	Holy Communion	CW
	11.00am	Charlecote	Holy Communion	CW
			(with The Festival Singers)	)

# For your diary - April

Sat 2	Lions Club 'Lion Racing', Barford Village Hall, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. (See page 4)		
Sun 3	Charlecote Mill Open Day, 11.00am to 5.00pm. (Notice Board)		
Tues 5	Hampton Lucy Coffee and Cakes, The Boar's Head, 10.30am. (Notice Board)		
Tues 5	Keep Fit, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.		
Tues 5	Wildlife Photography Walk, Charlecote Park, (Booking required). (See page 4)		
Wed 6	Tai Chi class, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.		
Wed 6	Hampton Lucy and Charlecote WI, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm.		
Thur 7	Hampton Lucy PCC Meeting, HL School Hall, 7.30pm (see page 2)		
Fri 8-Sun 10	Lions Club Charity Raffle, Wellesbourne Co-op. (See page 4)		
Sat 9	SHN Vintage Second-hand Clothes Sale, Shipston on Stour. (Notice Board)		
Sat 9	Rededication of Wasperton Memorial, 10.30am, (See page 1)		
Tues 12	Dene Valley U3A, with speaker Gillian White, Wellesbourne Church, 2.00pm.		
Tues 12	Keep Fit, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm.		
Wed 13	Tai Chi class, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.		
Thur 14	Loxley WI, call 01926 624830 for venue and details.		
Thur 14	3 Parishes Prayer Group, Janet and Duncan Fairfax-Lucy's house, 7.45pm.		
Wed 20	Tai Chi class, Hampton Lucy Village Hall, 9.00am to 10.00am.		
Sun 24	The Festival Singers, Easter Communion, St Leonard's Church. (Notice Board)		
Mon 25	Charlecote Mill Open Day, 11.00am to 5.00pm. (Notice Board)		
Fri 29	Royal Wedding Tea Party, Charlecote Village Hall, 4.00pm. (Notice Board)		
Fri 29-2 May	Annual Beer Festival, The Boar's Head, for details call 840533. (See page 3)		
Sat 30	Walk with the Gardener, Charlecote Park, (Booking not required). (See page 4)		

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