



Issue 60  
Summer 2014



# Speen and North Dean News



Editor: James Hazeldine

Advertising: Tom Dent

Production: Jude Awdry

Committee:

Gloria Holmes – Chair  
Megan Chinn  
Nick Wheeler-Robinson  
Julie White

Printer: PK-Inprint Ltd  
Tel: 01494 452266



for simply beautiful gardens



garden design  
construction  
planting  
after-care

[www.alchemille.co.uk](http://www.alchemille.co.uk)  
01494 488072 / 07909 936718

## Contents

What's On .....	4
Speen Church .....	6
Speen & North Dean Toddler Group .....	11
Speen Village Hall .....	11
Guide Dog Puppies .....	11
Speen Heritage Group .....	12
Speen Funday .....	14
Speen Pre-School .....	17
Speen Fete Children's Competitions .....	17
Wildlife Watch .....	19
Speen & North Dean Golf .....	19
Speen School & PTA .....	20
Speen WI .....	23
Horses, Hounds & Heroes III .....	25
Speen Fete .....	27
North Dean Fete & Village Hall .....	29
Nordic Walking .....	31
District Council News .....	35
Down on the Farm .....	35
Speen Group .....	36
Speen Gardening Group .....	37
Who's Who .....	38

### Speen and North Dean News

Do you ever need an extra copy? Further copies are available at a cost of £1. Please contact Gloria Holmes on 488420.

### NEXT EDITION

Copy for the next edition (61) is due by **Tuesday 12th November 2014.**

The planned publication date is during November. Please send photos separately from text, together with captions and a consent form (download from the SNDN website [www.speenbucks.org.uk](http://www.speenbucks.org.uk)) if any of the photos are of children. Send to [editor.sndn@speenbucks.org.uk](mailto:editor.sndn@speenbucks.org.uk).

## Index of Advertisers

Alchemille Garden Design .....	2
Beechdean Farmhouse .....	39
C.G. Tree & Garden Services .....	32
Chiltern House Partnership .....	28
Coles & Blackwell .....	31
Darvills Hill Farm .....	10
Fine & Country .....	40
Fraser-Morgan School of Dancing .....	32
Hamptons International .....	24
Hughenden Builders .....	32
Ian Gray .....	16
Independent Living Consultants .....	8
JML Training Consultancy .....	36
John Bishop .....	16
Judith A Newenham .....	8
Kevin Mills .....	16
LJM Electrical .....	16
Mix 96 .....	9
M.R. Collins .....	10
MWH Interiors Limited .....	30
Nelson Electrical Services .....	32
Nick Higgins .....	11
Nicki Thomas Web Design .....	30
Nordic Walking .....	26
Painted Kitchens .....	24
Paul Newman Limited .....	33
PK-Inprint Limited .....	30
Premier Architectural Joinery .....	34
Risborough Area Community Bus .....	8
Risborough Carers Limited .....	22
SB Professional Painting & Decorating .....	5
Seasons Farm Shop .....	18
Speen Stores .....	10
Springline Cars .....	37
Taps UK .....	26
Ten Mile Menu .....	15
The Old Plow .....	26
Village Environmental Services .....	34

Month	Event	Where	Contact
<b>August</b>			
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	WI. 'I am a Paramedic'	Speen Village Hall, 7.45pm	Barbara Collett 488348
<b>September</b>			
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	WI. Florist Ribbon Art	Speen Village Hall, 7.45pm	Barbara Collett 488348
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Marquee Upping	North Dean, 5.00pm on	Greg Cook 488939
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	North Dean Fete	North Dean Playing Field	Jez Wicks 563517
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Marquee striking	North Dean, 6.00pm on	Greg Cook 488939
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	MPS	George, W Wyc, 8.30pm	Graham Peart 488327
<b>October</b>			
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Theatre in the Village	North Dean Village Hall	
<b>November</b>			
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Speen Bonfire Night	Speen Playing Field	Christian Nagele 488247
<b>December</b>			
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Tree/Carols	Speen Playing Field	Lesley T-Davies 488851



Here we are in July already and with the school summer holidays upon us there's still plenty happening in the village. As ever I'm grateful to our regular contributors and, of course, our loyal advertisers who really pay for this publication. However, it would be good to



hear from some new sources with new ideas, interests and copy that we could use. I also repeat my usual "plug" for some well composed, good quality photographs. How about a "Pets Corner" – if our younger readers have a pet they'd like featured, send me a photograph with a short piece of supporting copy.

The Village Draw – this is being re-launched with the opportunity to pay by standing orders, thereby saving our hard working volunteers shoe leather. At the end of this month the prizes will now range from £30 to £5 plus a £50 bonus prize.

The profit from this goes to pay for almost half the cost of maintaining the Fields. Also, if anyone would like to volunteer to be a collector, then Tony Bobroff would love to hear from you.

Last but not least, another fund raiser for the Village is the Firework Night. After what has gone before, I for one can't wait to see if they can beat the last two years' epic bonfires!

*James Hazeldine*

## Fish in the village

We no doubt all remember Peter Clarke from Speen Stores. Well he now has a new venture supplying and delivering high quality frozen meat and, in particular, fish products to your door.

All his food is produced by [diningsolutionsdirect.com](http://diningsolutionsdirect.com) and to view his products, or place an order, give him a call on 07884 367679.

- Over 20 years experience
- All interiors and exteriors
- All wall coverings
- Free quotations

**SB Professional**  
Painting & Decorating  
Call Ben On:  
07973 539495 or 01296 486470

References from completed work are available from Speen and surrounding areas



## Summer events in and around the Chapel

Summer is a time when Speen Church members like to have fun and get outside, and the annual croquet on Stephen and Dawn Booth's lawn was an enjoyable time, matched by the very different sport of archery with the Whiteleaf Bowmen a couple of weeks later. It should be noted that the Bowmen are also very capable coaches, and even the most hesitant guests were achieving some closely-grouped clusters by the end of a (slightly rainy) evening, before heading for the White Lion.

One recent invitation that was held inside the Chapel was the ladies' breakfast on 5th July where, following Gloria Holmes' and Judy Redrup's signature salmon and scrambled eggs, speaker Josephine Biss talked about opportunities to help young people who get into trouble, through volunteering with the Youth Offending Service.



With her friend Susan also contributing, the talk drew a picture of young people with social problems and difficult family backgrounds – or none – facing the emotional pressure of questioning from police at a time when they perceive that they are on their own, and feel that they can do nothing to help themselves. Without support, they are much more likely to re-offend. Josephine told a story of one young man whose feeling of hopelessness after questioning led him to commit suicide.

Police are not allowed to question a young person aged under 17 without an appropriate adult. A parent may not be available, or willing. However,



*Josephine Biss speaking about the Young Offending Service volunteer panel*

Youth Offending Service volunteers have a unique dispensation to talk to those in custody privately.

Another side of the work is support following a magistrates' court community order, a common intervention for low-level offending which may also involve the process of restorative justice. Support broadly translates into being there for young people who are crying out for someone to love them, often the story behind their less than loving actions.

This was a memorable time, and not a few who heard the talk went away thinking about whether some of their time could be well spent making a real difference in a young person's life.

## Chapel plans look good to go

The latest scheme to refurbish and slightly extend the hall of the chapel is finding more favour with authorities than previous applications. Planning officials have commented favourably on the overall design, and are satisfied that the rebuilding does not point to a significantly different pattern of use, or level of traffic and parking requirement.

A particular feature of the design is a new pedestrian entrance with a footpath and gate looking out to the village up the hill. The



intention is to encourage people to walk (or cycle) to the various regular gatherings and not bring cars unless necessary.

The general appearance will match the brick and flint of the original circa-1801 chapel, and retain some of the brickwork of the 1960s extension while cloaking it with new walls which will incorporate timber cladding to soften the

appearance. Next steps are to seek formal planning permission with listed building consent – and considerable fundraising from personal and charitable sources.

*Rev Ian Greig*  
*Tel 01494 488585 or 07976 365798*  
*speenchurch@gmail.com*



Speen Church west elevation  
Proposed new pedestrian entrance from Speen Village side of the Chapel



Speen Church south elevation  
Architect Joanna Podmore's visual of the new look of the hall

**Judith A Newenham**



**Curtains**  
**Blinds**  
**Cushions**

**10 Honor Road**  
**Prestwood**  
**01494 868461**  
**07788 718242**

**Time to explore**

**Walking Aids, Mobility Scooters,  
Chairs, Beds, Bathing, Grabbers,  
Rails, and much more!**



**0345 6011933**

**10 Cross Court**  
**Downley**  
**High Wycombe**  
**HP13 5UW**

**Woodway**  
**Princes Risboro'**  
**HP27 0NN**

**ILC**

**www.IndependentLivingConsultants.co.uk**



## **RISBOROUGH AREA COMMUNITY BUS**

**Our services to Princes Risborough run on Tuesdays and Saturdays**

**Depart Risborough High Street 0850, arrive Speen 0905, arrive Risborough High Street 0929**

**Depart Risborough High Street 1135, arrive Speen 1150, arrive Risborough High Street 1215**

**On request pm service on Tuesdays only depart Risborough 1605, depart Speen 1625, arrive Risborough 1649**

The bus is available for Group Use evenings and weekends for up to 14 people. Our unique door to door service can be used for clubs, families & friends; for your own events or for sports, shopping, theatres and parties. Ring Georgina on 07941 963097 for information and bookings

We also run regular outings to places of interest including Garden Centres, Bicester Village and tours of the Chilterns. See <http://www.bucksvoice.net/racb/> or call 07941 963097



A dark blue silhouette of a town skyline is positioned horizontally across the middle of the image, just above the main text. It includes various shapes representing buildings, a windmill on the left, and a church spire on the right.

**Bucks Best Mix of Music**

**[mix96.co.uk](http://mix96.co.uk)**



## SPEEN STORES

Your 'useful little shop'

- Fresh bread baked daily
- Delicatessen counter
- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Free range eggs
- Home made cakes
- Handmade greetings cards

Please visit the village website

[www.speenbucks.org.uk](http://www.speenbucks.org.uk) for our opening  
hours and more information

## M. R. COLLINS

### GARDEN CONSTRUCTION

Est 1979

Driveway, Paving, Brickwork, Fencing  
Groundworks, Excavations, Operated  
digger hire.

We specialise in Block paving and all  
types of slab laying Indian stone and  
concrete offering a start to finish service  
inclusive of excavations muck away,  
supply and fix.

For estimate Phone: 01844 346360  
Mobile: 07774 256732

WHY NOT TRY OUR DELICIOUS  
**SAUSAGES, BACON, CHOPS,  
LEG OF PORK, GAMMON  
& SHOULDER OF PORK**  
FROM OUR OWN HOME-GROWN PIGS

Flowers Bottom Lane  
Speen • Bucks • HP27 0PZ  
t: 01494 488078  
e: [thepantry@darvillshillfarm.co.uk](mailto:thepantry@darvillshillfarm.co.uk)



## Speen & North Dean Toddler Group

Speen and North Dean Toddler Group continue to meet every Tuesday morning during term time from 10am until midday at North Dean Village Hall.

We are a small group of mums and carers and are always keen for new children to come and join us. It is a great way to meet other parents/carers in the local area and the children start building long term friendships at Toddler Group moving on to Pre-School and then Infant School together.

We welcome all parents and carers from Speen, North Dean and surrounding villages with babies and toddlers aged from birth to 3+ years.

We take turns to serve refreshments every week and a variety of toys and larger play equipment is on offer for the children. We hold a party at Christmas and in the Summer for the children. We have been lucky recently with the weather and have spent many sessions playing in the outside play area beside the hall.

If you would like to join us please feel free to come along any Tuesday morning during term time. £1.50 per family including fresh coffee & biscuits and refreshments for the children.

For further info please contact Alex Allan on 01494 489838.

## Speen Village Hall

The Village Hall is 90 years old this year! I know it does not look it but the hall has been owned by the village since 1924 when it was purchased for £124. So we are celebrating by holding a cream tea party on Saturday 26th July at 3.00pm in the village hall. We may also manage a birthday cake! All are welcome and we are raising funds for the village hall roof.

During the forties and fifties the village hall was the centre of village activities with dances, whist drives, quizzes and serving as the local meeting hall. Today it has become the centre for village organisations with the Pre-School, WI, Bridge Club, Table Tennis Club and Garden Club all holding regular meetings.

However these do not provide sufficient income to cover the hall's expenses - we have experienced a 25% increase in electricity charges this year alone. We are therefore reliant on events arranged by the Village Hall Management Committee to generate additional funding and the Christmas Bazaar and the Film and Food Evenings have been particularly successful. For major extraordinary expenditure we do need external funding and we are extremely

grateful for the help we have received from the Pre-School, the Shop Charity, the Parish and District Councils and especially this year from the Fete Committee. This year we have to spend a significant sum on repairs to the roof in order to prevent further flood damage.

So please come and join us at our birthday party on the 26th July to raise funds for YOUR Village Hall.

**Bill Groves**  
*Chairman*

*Speen Village Hall Management Committee*

## Guide Dog Puppies

Joy is now a brood bitch for the Guide Dogs for the Blind charity. She had 9 lovely puppies in the Spring. At 6 weeks they all went to GDBA puppy walkers around the UK. They are now being trained to become Guide Dogs.



Joy is happily back to normal and enjoying life in the Speen countryside. We hope to have another litter in a year.

*Gloria Holmes*

**Nick Higgins**  
**Forestry & Fencing**  
**Contractor**  
☎ 07768 383418  
☎ 01494 488835

45 Great Hampden  
Bucks  
HP16 9RJ

Seasoned logs  
available





In previous editions of the SNDN we described what we had found out about the ten young men whose names are recorded on the WWI memorial at Speen Chapel. Recently a fellow researcher in Princes Risborough kindly sent us a copy of the Military Electoral Register for 1918. It proved to be surprisingly educational.



None of us knew, for example, that hardly any of the British soldiers who fought in WWI were able to vote. To have the right to vote you had to be male, over the age of 21 and to own Property. Few of the young men of Speen owned a house; most Speen families were tenants who lived in a house owned by their landlord. Even young but wealthy men – in 1914, they overwhelmingly constituted the Officer class – were not entitled to vote if they still lived in a family home that was owned by their Father.

When Conscription was introduced in 1916, the nation faced the unacceptable fact that British young men were being ordered to go to war by a Government over which they had no say. That cruel anomaly was clearly intolerable in a Democracy. (Interestingly, all German soldiers – and all French soldiers – had held the right to vote for many years before WWI.) It took Parliament a long time to work out a solution. In 1917, the Russian Revolution greatly sharpened the realisation that something had to be done.

The Representation of the People Act of 1918 enfranchised all men over the age of 21, provided they were not insane or felons or Members of the House of Lords. The property requirement was abolished, for men. It also gave the right to vote to women – over the age of 30 – provided they owned property or were married to a property owner. Why was that? The 1918 legislation tripled the size of the Electorate; it increased from 7.7 million people to 21.4 million – but, of those, 43% were women. So many men had been killed during WWI that, had women been enfranchised on the same basis as men, they would have been in the majority. Parliament felt that Britain was not yet ready to accept so much change.

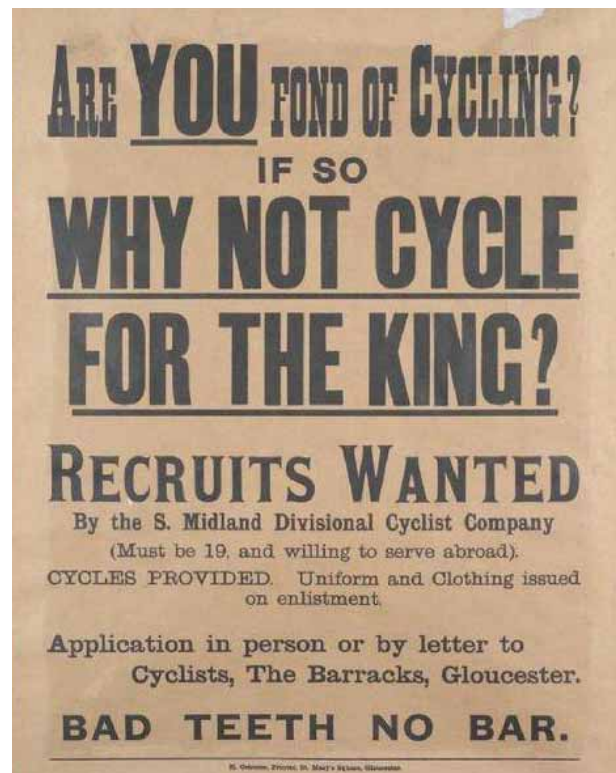
A decade later, the Representation of the People Act of 1928 allowed women to vote at age 21, without any property restriction. Adults in the Mother Country then had the same right to vote that their kith and kin in New Zealand had enjoyed since 1893. In Germany, women had received the right to vote on 12th November 1918, the day after the end of WWI. Women in France were not eligible to vote until 1944.

Today there is concern that hundreds of thousands of young people have not bothered to put their names on the Electoral Register. The

Home Office is running a campaign to urge them to do so; no such persuasion was needed in 1918. Curiously, in the late 1970s, the personnel staff at MOD discovered that a great many non-commissioned ranks thought it was somehow improper for them to be associated with politics and therefore they did not vote. In recent years, a Parliamentary Committee has criticised the Army for failing to make adequate administrative arrangements for those fighting in Afghanistan to exercise their right to vote. Evidently, there are some things that the Army did better in 1918.

Our studies of the 1918 Electoral Roll were interesting. Then as now, Speen, Lacey Green and Loosley Row were in the same electoral district. Forty-one servicemen gave their home address as Speen, Flowers Bottom, Turnip End, Darvills Hill or “Speen Bottom” which, today, is Highwood Bottom. The list included Frank Randall who was killed on 25th March 1918 and Artie Ralph Bristow who was to die, his health broken, in 1920. It also listed Corporal John Rixon who was killed on 26th August 1918 and his brother William, who survived the War – but it gives their address as Lacey Green. Since we knew that they lived in Speen, we added the Rixon brothers into the total of 41 but, clearly, there may be more Speen men concealed under other addresses.

The big families of Speen were well represented; there were five Ridgley’s; four Janes’ and four Bristow’s. There was just one officer; Wilfred Warren of Turnip End was a 2nd Lt in the 8th Sherwood Foresters. Nine men were in the Ox & Bucks; of those, one – Harry Saunders – was a Corporal, the remainder were Privates. Nine men



*British Army Cyclists Recruiting Poster WWI*



*British bicycle troops - Brie, Somme, 1917*

from Speen were Privates in the Labour Corps, or its equivalent (Archibald Ridgley was a Private in the Agricultural Corps; Albert Frederick Ward was a Sapper in the Royal Engineers) and they would have had a mixed experience of the War. They were employed to dig trenches, under fire, but they also manned the regimental baths; laundries; cinemas etc for the troops who were periodically withdrawn from the Front and brought back to the safety of a Depot for a period of recuperation. Sidney Albert Janes – always known as Albert – a pillar of the Speen Cricket Club (his son, Brian would captain High Wycombe and also Bucks) was a Private in the 3rd Cavalry Reserve. Most of them, lucky men, were never called to the Front; they were held – in reserve – to train replacements for those cavalry regiments that were on active service. Nevertheless, towards the end of the War, a few of them had to be converted into infantry to meet the manpower demands of trench warfare.

Walter Fred Linzell, of The White House, was a Lance Corporal in the 67th Cycling Company. Cyclists were employed on reconnaissance and communications work; one bicycle required far less support than one horse. Similarly, Privates Rowland Ridgley and Laurence John Vosper were new-fangled motor transport drivers in the Army Service Corps. Three men, Corporal Archibald Charles Bristow, his tragic young cousin Private Artie Bristow and Private Walter Gomme, were in the Machine Gun Corps. Machine guns – and the gunnery observation balloons operated by the Royal Flying Corps – were always priority targets and men in those corps suffered the Army's highest casualty rates. Private Henry William Holman served in the Royal Field Artillery; that was the largest element of the Royal Artillery and it operated howitzers and medium calibre guns close to the front line. Privates Arthur Atkins and Harry Ridgley and Platoon Bombardier William Rixon were in the Royal Garrison Artillery; they fired the Army's huge siege guns that ultimately defeated the Germans despite their deep, concrete, bunkers. Being difficult to manoeuvre, the heavy artillery were positioned so far behind the front line that they relied on the spotter planes

of the Royal Flying Corps to report, by morse code, the fall of the shot. Two Speen men, Privates William Charles Brown and Alfred Lovett, found themselves – like Private Edward Lester Janes, who had been killed in April 1918 – in the Royal Marines Light Infantry; Britain was so desperate for men that the Navy had to provide infantry for the trenches. Alfred Lovett gave his address as The King William.

There were three Speen men serving at sea in the Royal Navy: Harold Stanley Austin, Leslie Walter Austin and Harry Dean. The Austin brothers gave their address as "Peter Hill, Speen". Does anyone know where that is? Harold Stanley was serving in HMS Ambrose, a substantial cargo liner that was converted into an armed merchant cruiser and



*HMS Ambrose*

later served as a Depot ship for submarines. WWI submarines were small and could not carry large amounts of food, fuel or, indeed, torpedoes. Unlike today's nuclear-powered submarines, they had to be regularly re-supplied; the Germans called their equivalents "mother ships". The Ambrose had workshops that could carry out repairs for the submarines and also provided cabins for relief crews. Harold's brother, Leslie Walter, served in HMS Colossus a huge "Dreadnought" battleship that fought at the Battle of Jutland in 1916 and sank the German cruiser Weisbaden. Colossus was the flagship of the First Battle Squadron under the command of Capt Dudley Pound. Although a sick man (he had a brain tumour that ultimately affected his judgment) he was later appointed First Sea Lord for the first four years of WWII. Today,



*HMS Colossus battleship*

*Continued on page 29 . . .*



# Speen Funday

As the sun goes down on a successful Speen Funday 2014, a really big thank you to everyone who came out and supported the event and also enjoyed our band, The Lettuceheads, who played in the marquee The Night Before. What was great to see was so many new faces and children experiencing their first Funday and the turnout was amazing!



*Thoroughbreds to the Fore: Team Red clearing the chicane and driving for the line*

Game, with loads of water, fun and of course competitive cheating!

The honours this year went to the Green team who have the village bragging rights and their hands on the new Funday trophy til next Funday. The Kiddie Kurling Cup was awarded to Olivia Davies of Abbotswood for adventure and style on the famous blue tarpaulin!

As always these events do not happen without a huge amount of hard work and support. Firstly thanks to Dilly at the KW4 who donated food for the BBQ and also supported the The Night Before by providing a free drink with the ticket. Next thanks to Alison at Seasons Farm Shop who supplied us with the Burgers and Sausages at cost and to Suzie Howard at Beachdean who once again donated all the ice creams. Most of all thank



*Chipping In: Supporters chip-in to keep the teams well fueled. Avid FunDay backer Dilly arrives with a fresh load of deluxe KW4 fries*

you to the Funday organisers and all those who helped on the day to run games including Geoff Smith our referee, Ian Waterman the man on the microphone, all those who manned the BBQ and also took donations on the gate, again a great effort by everyone.



*Victory is Mine! An enigmatic Olivia Davies holds aloft the Kiddie Kurling Kup. A tough contest, edged by an unbeatable combo of distance, form and poise.*

So lots of fun had by all and we also, through our enjoyment of a great village event, raised funds to keep our playing fields in good order for the year to come.



*Surely Not Again! Greens savour another victory after a vigorous stewards' inquiry. Chairman Bobroff awards the spoils.*

Speaking of which, we are also this month re-launching the Village Draw, with the opportunity for contributors to pay by standing order (should they wish to do so). At the end of July we will not only be drawing for the monthly £30 - £5 prizes but also an extra £50 bonus prize. So please buy tickets now available in £5 units. The profit from the draw pays for almost half the cost of maintaining the Fields. Why not also volunteer to be a collector, it is a relatively small commitment of time and a great way to help the community?

**Tony Bobroff**  
*Chairman of Trustees  
Speen Playing Fields*



Keep it **LOCAL**  
Do your **BIG SHOP** with the little guys



# TenMileMenu

A new, award-winning online supermarket that delivers food from the Chiltern Hills, in the Chiltern Hills

- Local, organic vegetable boxes
- Locally reared, rare-breed pork, lamb and beef
- Handmade sausages & artisan charcuterie
- Dairy as it used to be
- Cereals, oils, jams & much more
- A unique & free to join 'Tasting Club'
- Keep up on local gossip in the 'Farm Diaries'



[www.TenMileMenu.com](http://www.TenMileMenu.com)

GREAT LOCAL PRODUCE, DELIVERED

## JOHN BISHOP Est. 1972 GARDEN MACHINERY

### Sales & Service



HONDA  
LAWN & GARDEN



### Machine Hire

Scarifiers, Cultivators, Strimmers, Mowers  
Hedge Trimmers

Blade/Chainsaw Sharpening & shear grinding.

We also stock a wide range of parts for various products.

### Free Collection & Delivery



Tel No. **01494 563513**

Mob. **07917 106004**

1 Margaret Cottages, Northdean, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP14 4NH

## LJM ELECTRICAL

48 Aspen Court, Freer Crescent, High Wycombe, HP13 7YG

### Fully Qualified Electrician

Full or Partial Rewires  
Sockets  
Indoor/Outdoor Lighting  
Fuse Board Replacement  
Showers  
Fault Finding  
Inspection & Testing

FREE QUOTES & FULLY INSURED



Call Lewis Mills: 07793 725554

Email: [lewis@ljmelectrical.co.uk](mailto:lewis@ljmelectrical.co.uk)

## Antique Restoration & French Polishing

Complete range of quality  
restoration work undertaken



**Ian Gray**

Cottage 23, Great Hampden,  
Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 9RG  
Work Phone/Fax: 01494 488560  
Home: 01494 488023  
[www.iangrayrestoration.co.uk](http://www.iangrayrestoration.co.uk)



## KEVIN MILLS GARDEN SERVICES

**01494 563491**

**07749 234982**

Revitalise your garden  
Drives, patios and paths cleaned  
Lawns and hedges cut  
Small landscaping  
All fencing work undertaken  
Regular maintenance

# Speen Pre-School

## Another School Year Comes to an End

Although the summer term still has another couple of weeks to run with plenty more exciting events to fit in such as the annual Sports Morning and Ploughman's Lunch and end of year parties for both parents and children, we have already had a summer term packed with activities.

Many of these have been held jointly with Speen School, with whom we continue to work closely. This year we have joined the school for story time, staff have observed phonics lessons and we held a joint trip to see 'What the Ladybird Heard' at the Wycombe Swan – the highlight for many being the trip in a coach! Each half-term we have been visited by Jo Jingles for singing and instrument playing – a morning which is always popular with the children.

More recently we have been involved in the Speenfest activities. The space theme began with a visit by Mad Science – a team of scientists encouraging children to engage with science through watching and taking part in experiments. This was followed by a visit to Speen School for a day of arts, crafts, poems and music all with a space theme. Back at base station – the village hall – the children have dressed as astronauts, made rockets and even eaten space ice-cream!

The space theme was adopted for the Stargazer's Ball and this year the pre-school were involved in organising this event, which proved a very popular and enjoyable evening. 40% of funds raised will be going towards the pre-school and this money will be used for some much needed technology items.

Thank you for all your support with pre-school fundraisers throughout the year. We are a thriving pre-school but with Speen not being a through route to anywhere we can struggle to fill places. Fundraising and the grants recently received from the Speen Shop charity enable us to buy new equipment and fund staff training. We have also embarked on our first marketing campaign to introduce our pre-school to a wider audience.

We have spaces available for September onwards. We take children from two upwards and offer a range of hours including our core 9 – 12 morning sessions as well as lunch clubs and afternoon sessions. If you would like to visit the pre-school, receive a prospectus or put your child's name down on the waiting list please do get in touch. Contact pre-school direct on 01494 488160 (term-time only) or speak to our Admissions Officer, Antonia Winson on 01494 489848.

This time of year is always a time for good-byes. We wish all the best to the children and families

who will be leaving us to head off to various big schools and a special good-bye to Tim Vale who has worked with the team and children during the course of his gap year.

Finally on a personal note I am finishing in my role as Chair after three years. Thank you to everyone across the village who have offered their support and helped to make it such a rewarding role. In particular I would like to thank all the volunteer pre-school charity trustees who have worked with me over the years. It is great news that a number of this year's trustees have agreed to stand on the new committee ensuring a smooth handover with minimal disruption for pre-school parents and children. As yet we have not had our AGM to confirm our new Chair but I'm sure you will be hearing from them in the next edition.

*Clare Morris  
Chair  
Speen Pre-School*

## Speen Fete Children's Competitions

### Winners

#### Fancy Dress:

Reuben O'Brian

#### Model Battleship:

Jacob Khaira

#### Dig for Victory – Garden in a Shoe Box:

Becky Buxton

#### 4 Decorated Cup Cakes:

Flags - Beth Podmore

#### Colouring:

Evie Lucas

Rosie May Reagan

#### Golf:

A Duncan

J James





# Seasons

F A R M S H O P



## Butchers

All Beef, Lamb and Pork is from the farm in North Dean. The welfare of our animals is portrayed in the quality of the meat we sell. We now have two butchers full time in the shop, Gary and Lee who are both happy to offer you advice and a personal service on your meat requirements.

## The Cafe

Light lunches are served daily and include fresh salads, sandwiches and filled rolls. Bacon sandwiches, burgers in buns, ice cream sundaes, homemade cakes and brownies are available all day with freshly ground coffee and a selection of teas.

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables • Artisan Cheeses • High Quality Preserves • Delicious Dairy Products

Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday 9.00am until 5.30pm

North Dean, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4NQ • Tel: 01494 562 481  
alison@seasons-farmshop.co.uk • [www.seasons-farmshop.co.uk](http://www.seasons-farmshop.co.uk)

## Wildlife Watch

The winter of 2013/14 passed without any prolonged hard conditions so fewer winter birds visited local gardens than usual. One of the best birds of the winter was a Mealy Redpoll in March kindly reported by Margaret Lewis. This is significantly rarer than the Lesser Redpolls that visit some gardens in good numbers. This must be the third year in the last four that at least one of these birds has been present either in our garden or in Woodview Drive. Prior to this, 11 Crossbills were recorded at Redland End in mid January. Siskins were also present and interestingly two were still feeding in our own garden in mid May, suggesting that they may have remained in the county to breed rather than migrating north again. Bullfinches have also been increasingly regular visitors to our garden with six present at the feeders on one occasion.

On the northern side of Speen a pair of Ravens have been investigating potential nest sites whilst Jackdaws have certainly bred using chimney pots on the south side of the village. In North Dean large numbers of Jackdaws and other Corvids have been seen lining the overhead cables (almost reminiscent of a Hitchcock thriller).

In our own garden a pair of Mallard became regulars, reserving the tiny island on our pond for their sole use. Two further pairs visited regularly trying to dislodge the resident pair. The female was incubating 12 eggs by the end of February. Eventually 11 tiny ducklings hatched on the 5 April. By this time two failed breeders had also taken up residence meaning that we had 15 Mallard resident in the garden. One of the ducklings was taken by a Kite, I suspect, and later three were taken in night time attacks by a fox but seven offspring eventually left the garden in mid June.

Whilst this was regarded as a big success the young ducks wiped out many of the newts, tadpoles and other pond life. A grass snake was seen in early May and again in June and July but clearly some of the pond life will need time to recover. A bold juvenile Grey Heron has become a regular visitor to our garden and others in the village and he is also taking a toll on the pond life (and people's goldfish in a couple of instances).

Other interesting birds have included a Cuckoo in College Plantation on 4 May and in Abbotswood on 26 May. Other summer visitors have included regular House Martins in Woodview Drive where I believe seven nests are in use. In the Spring Coppice Lane area two young Moorhens survived apparently and a Grey Wagtail was recorded at the end of June which might be one of the birds which bred successfully in Hughenden Park. The local Great Spotted Woodpeckers have raised several young and have been visiting fat blocks on bird tables in all parts of the village. At least two pairs of Red Kites have nested in the village and at least one pair in North Dean but I am uncertain as to how many young have been

raised. Down in Flowers Bottom young Tawny Owls were heard calling for food in early July.

The three Roe Deer who were regularly seen, which comprised a female with two youngsters born last year, have suffered at least one road casualty. I believe that the female fawn was killed in a road accident. The male fawn may simply have moved away or could possibly be the animal injured on the far side of Great Hampden that was then taken to Tiggywinkles. This year there is at least one new fawn with its two parents somewhere in North Dean.

One interesting mammal record was a hedgehog seen by Jeremy Symondson in Great Hampden. Hedgehogs are vulnerable to badgers and are therefore uncommon on the top of the Chilterns where badgers are widespread. Finally fox cubs were also reported earlier in the year on the northern side of Speen.

Please let me know of any interesting sightings. Peter Symonds 01494 488016, or email: [symonds@speen10.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:symonds@speen10.freeserve.co.uk)

## Speen & North Dean Golf

We had a good day at Beaconsfield on Wednesday 21st May when Speen regained the village trophy. The average Speen score was 29.5 beating North Dean's effort of 27.5. There was the usual amount of banter among the 28 players and the weather was beautiful.



David Davies was winner of the individual cup scoring 41 points, Neil Stratton was runner up on 37 with Mark Breeks third with 36.

James Kent won longest drive, and Duncan Dow nearest the pin.

Any new villagers who golf a bit are very welcome to join us - we are having the next game in October.

*Peter Keen*  
01844 348299  
01494 562151



# Speen School & PTA

Another school year has passed and we've welcomed our new nursery and reception children but also said goodbye to our Year 2 pupils. We enjoyed a year of very happy moments and would like to share some with you.



*I think year 2 have enjoyed their time at Speen School!*

Back in March, the eagerly awaited classroom extension was officially opened by a very exciting visit from Sir Stuart Hampson, The High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire – known to most of the children as the person who stands in for The Queen. Rev James Tomkins performed the opening blessing. Lesley Nickol from the Oxford Diocese who managed the project financing also joined us, as did many parents, governors and members of the village who took part in a service led by Year 2 who wrote the prayers and read from the Holy Bible. Mrs Lidington and KS1 pupils are delighted with all the space in their new learning area.

If all goes to plan, then school meals will be on the menu when the school reopens in September. With government funding and additional funds from the PTA, a new kitchen will have been installed and all Reception and KS1 children will be offered a free hot school meal - lunchtime will never be the same!

It's been a sporty year for the children who enjoyed a range of coaching sessions including cheerleading, tag rugby, karate, athletics, cricket, tennis and basketball. Y2 were thrilled to win the Interschools Hockey Tournament (with Speen mums and dads cheering from the sidelines) and, once again, the school hosted the annual Cross-Country Schools Challenge on the village playing fields and the Speen team did incredibly well despite the mud. The school was inspired by a visit from Chris Rattenbury, elite athlete and WheelPower Ambassador who brought the 2014 Paralympic Torch from Sochi and spoke to the children about his drive to become an international power lifter and our Sport Relief Day raised an impressive £380 for a range of good causes - which just goes to show how much Speen School loves sport.

Year 2 joined hundreds of other local children on stage at the Wycombe Swan Theatre for an Energize performance of Jack and the Beanstalk – a theatre production organised by the Wycombe Alliance.

The school pond has now been completely transformed from overgrown wilderness to wildlife retreat and a fantastic new learning adventure for the children. The children and staff would like to say a very big thank you to Jeni Fairey for leading this project whose passion for nature and artistic talent have really brought the pond to life. Many thanks also to the parents who supported Jeni and for all the plant donations.

The Speen Safari Supper roared back into the village in March and as always was greatly supported by parents, past and present. Many thanks go to Helen Davies and team for bringing it all together.

Another village highlight was this year's Stargazers Ball – a jointly organised School and Pre-School event and it was judged one of our best ever. The cosmic theming, fantastic food, great music and a brilliant range of auction and raffle prizes – all generously bid for – gave us another fundraising success. Once again, thanks to Helen Davies and the event team of Clare Morris, Jo Podmore, Alex Allan and Antonia Winson for all their hard work. A galactic thanks to our main sponsors Jeremy Swan, Ten Mile Menu and GlobalizeMe and to everyone who joined us on the night.

The ever-popular SpeenSchoolFest was also a great success, taking space as the theme and bringing together 300 local school children with Mad Science sessions and art, poetry and music workshops – all masterminded by the musical genius of Kate Laughton and a brilliant team of helpers.

Not only were the PTA hard at work fundraising this year but we were also keen to spend in ways that made an immediate difference to the children and all agreed we wanted to support Mrs Hayman in helping to restock the school library. The older books have been recycled, shiny new stock is on order as is furniture. Year 2 leavers are also donating their favourite book to the school as a leaving gift.

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone in the village and local area who continue to support the school in so many ways. We greatly appreciate the care and hard work of the Board of Governors safeguarding and directing the school's future, many of whom are local residents, including Jackie Edwards. Jackie has been a member of the team for an incredible 21 years and recently retired from the role. We wish her all the very best in her retirement and continued equestrian pursuits. We also want to thank our fantastic reading ladies who regularly come into school



and who have helped us to achieve an above national average in literacy. Karen Woodward does a fantastic job as Caretaker, setting high standards and to whom the staff and governors are enormously grateful.

We thought we would also pose the question - What else do you know about your Village School?

The School has a long tradition with the first pupils registered on the 15th October 1862. Mrs Lidington, who has worked as a teacher at the school for the past six years reminisces, "When the school celebrated its 150th anniversary, I had the opportunity to go through the old school log books. It was a fascinating insight into the life of the people in the village. One of the things that really struck me is that one of the children, who featured by name for some misdemeanours, was one of those who later died for his country in the First World War. It helps to make someone real for those who never knew him. We had a great celebration day, with the children dressed up and reading extracts."

Happy recollections from former pupil Charlotte Hull who attended Speen School in the early 80s and whose children now attend include "the smell of the not very appetising school dinners that we were forced to eat; a very strict headmistress, Mrs Sergeant, who certainly lived up to her name. I remember her Dalmatian dog, Fritz, who we were sent to talk to in her office if we misbehaved. The school roof catching on fire has to be a highlight. I remember rolling down the banks at the back of the school; walking to the farm in North Dean to watch the cows being milked; delivering the produce to the older residents around the village for Harvest; and country-dancing, wearing the same costumes that the children wear today. Finally of course making long lasting friendships".

More recent memories come from Year 2 pupils who are about to move on to 'big' school:

#### **My Amazing Monday at School**

First I arrive at school and change my books. Next I write in a book called a journal. Then we play a fun game on the white board called 'Whack a Mole'; in Whack a Mole moles with numbers on pop out of holes and you have to whack the mole with the right number on. Then we do our normal maths. I do harder work even though I'm only in year two. After playtime we do our topic for the rest of the school day. Our topic for this term is about trains. My Monday at school is very fun.

*By Helena Winson*

#### **My Fantastic Recorder and Violin Lesson**

On Friday all of my friends and I do recorder and violin. Our amazing teacher is called Mrs Laughton. She is very good at playing instruments. One of my favourite songs that we are playing, is 'Trolls and Goblins'. At the end of



*Den building on Fathers' Day*

term we do a concert for all the Mummies and Daddys. I think everyone should enjoy playing instruments!

*By Annabel Hull*

#### **Fabulous Father's Day 2014**

On Friday 13th of June it was Father's day. In the morning, when we had changed our books, we decorated paper bags (it was really fun). Then we decorated cupcakes for our Daddys and Grandads. After lunch at 1.00pm all the Daddys, Grandads and even some Mummies came to build dens with all their daughters, sons, granddaughters and grandsons. You could bring anything to build with. At 2.15 Mrs Nayna (our head teacher) rang a bell which meant time was up. This was your chance to give your cake to your carer and visit other people's dens. What an exciting day!

*By Sarah Morris*

#### **A Great Visit to Quainton**

On the 30th of April 2014 we went on a coach to Quainton railway. We went on a miniature steam train; we saw lots of mini characters. There was a big train hospital, we were allowed to go inside and have a look at the broken trains. There was a proper big steam train that was working; we were able to have a ride on it. We saw a big train that looked like Thomas the Tank Engine! There was a train in a gigantic shed, where we learned how a steam engine works. I had so much fun!

*By Evie Baker*



*Speen School visit Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton*

# RISBOROUGH CARERS LTD

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 1 Thame Business Centre, Wenman Road, Thame, Oxon OX9 3XA

Tel: 01844 212271 E-mail: [rcarers@risboroughcarers.org.uk](mailto:rcarers@risboroughcarers.org.uk) [www.risboroughcarers.org.uk](http://www.risboroughcarers.org.uk)



*Risborough Carers Ltd is a private independent local family run Home Care Agency, established in 1992, and are registered and compliant with the Care Quality Commission*

*Due to continued growth we are now recruiting for:*

## *Full & Part Time Carers*

*To fulfill the following shifts:*

**Monday to Sunday 07:00 to 14:00 and/or Monday to Sunday 14:00 to 22:00**  
(Flexibility within these work patterns)

*We are recruiting for sociable, committed, professional individuals passionate about supporting vulnerable people in our community and who, with training and on-going support, can provide a friendly and dignified service to our Clients in our local community.*

**It is essential that you have a UK driving license and access to your own transport**

The tasks you will be expected to do would involve Personal Care, Domestic Care, Companionship and Social Support but will vary depending on the needs of individual clients.

*In return, we offer a career that makes a real difference to our community. We offer an exceptional induction and excellent on-going training provided by an Accredited Training Company, competitive rates of pay, mileage allowance, flexible hours, and opportunities for career progression, including obtaining a Diploma in Health and Social Care.*

**Being a Carer for Risborough Carers is a highly responsible position but it is a rewarding role making a genuine difference to people's lives.**

*Do you think you have what it takes to be a Risborough Carer?* If so, and you would like to join a local company with an exceptional reputation, then we'd love to hear from you, please ring:

**Stephanie** on **01844 212271** or

E-mail [Stephanie.hill@risboroughcarers.org.uk](mailto:Stephanie.hill@risboroughcarers.org.uk)

(We are an Equal Opportunities Employer)





People often ask what do the governors do? School governors are volunteers with an interest in education who help to run the school. It is useful to bring skills to the team from other areas of life. The governing body are involved in strategic decisions about all aspects of managing the school – such as the buildings and budgets, supporting staff and setting standards of school discipline. They support head teachers, but also ask questions and make sure the head teacher is taking the school in the right direction. Please do get in touch if you have any specific skills that may be useful to Speen School.

We are also on the lookout for paid Mid-Day supervisors and with the introduction of hot meals from September we require more help than ever. If there is anyone locally who is willing to give up around 1.5 hours daily/weekly/fortnightly to assist we are very interested in hearing from you. Please contact the school office on 01494 488321 for further information.

So over 150 years on Speen School continues to grow from strength to strength. With a maximum of 60 pupils at any one time, aged from 4-7, we currently boast an impressive teacher to pupil ratio of 1:13. Today Speen School's results at Key Stage 1 regularly exceed the national standard.

I'm sure Lady Bateman, who bought the present school site and gave it 'in trust' for educational purposes only would be very pleased . . .

*Zoe Baker, Speen School PTA Chair and  
Katherine Matthews, Parent Governor*

### A message from Zoe Baker:

This is the last update I'll be writing for the school as my daughter Evie is leaving this year. She asked if she could share her favourite moments with you. So here they are,



*I love learning  
at Speen School!*

### Evie Baker's Top Five Speen School Moments

5. CAMO Day because we can dress up in camouflaged clothes and we do an assault course which is really fun. We also raise money for the soldiers, the airmen, the sailors and their families SSAFA.

4. Summer Party because a party entertainer comes, we have yummy food and we're allowed to dress up in party clothes.

3. Cross-Country because it's good exercise and we have lots of fun!

2. Gym & Dance Festival because we learn some new rolls and jumps and balances. My favourite roll is the teddy bear roll because we roll like a windmill.

1. And my favourite memory is winning the hockey because we had lots of fun and we learnt how to play properly and we worked hard. So when we heard we had won we were so happy!

## Speen WI

The members of Speen WI have had a busy and enjoyable few months. As well as an excellent Birthday Supper in April, they have been impressed by talks about Hughenden Manor and also the development of the Jubilee River Project which helps reduce flooding from the River Thames in the Maidenhead area and provides a wonderful haven for wildlife.



At the May meeting there was discussion about the issue of making families aware of one's intention to be an organ donor. This was to be the resolution at the National WI AGM held in Leeds this year and has now become a campaigning mandate. It is hoped it will help families more easily accept their relatives' wishes.

Several members went to the Buckinghamshire Federation Annual Meeting, held at the Waterside theatre in Aylesbury in April. As well as being a business meeting, the 800 members present were entertained by gardener and television presenter Chris Beardshaw who gave his take on plants that changed the world. They were also moved to tears by the work of the Dreamflight Charity as described by its founder Pat Pearce MBE, who lives locally. The aim is to take disabled children to Florida for a holiday and a spontaneous bucket collection on the day raised over £800 for the charity.

Closer to home, in June members had a tour around the Buckinghamshire countryside with a visit to Wendover Woods (see photo left) where



*exclusive hand-painted kitchens*

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**FINE BESPOKE KITCHENS**  
RESTORATION & REPAINTING OF EXISTING KITCHENS



FITTED AND FREE-STANDING FURNITURE

**PAINTED KITCHENS NAPHILL**

07768 975 323

[johneasterling4@gmail.com](mailto:johneasterling4@gmail.com)

Show us your home  
and we will show  
you the buyer.

*Because it's important to you.*

01494 611382  
[www.hamptons.co.uk](http://www.hamptons.co.uk)



unfortunately, thanks to really heavy rain, it was impossible to go for a walk – or make use of the tree top slide! But the tea and cakes were lovely.



*Speen WI members*

*(LtoR) Jean Morris, Jean Elder, Daphne Westray, June Black, Barbara Collett and Margaret Hancox*

Isla St Clair was the guest speaker at a Buckinghamshire Summer Lunch attended by some members and there will be more tea and cakes at our Garden Party being held in July in Askett.

With many more good speakers booked and the prospect of other visits it looks like continuing to be busy. If you are interested in finding out more about WI, come as a visitor initially – First Thursday each month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall - or contact us via the number and e-mail below.

**Jean Morris**  
01494 488529  
[jeaninspeen@gmail.com](mailto:jeaninspeen@gmail.com)

## Horses, Hounds & Heroes III – Sunday 8th June

This was the 3rd annual Family Fun Day at The Horse Trust and the biggest and best by some way. We welcomed around 4,500 guests, many of them visiting us for the first time.

Visitors are our life blood. The Trust has been funded exclusively by public donations since opening our gates to care for London's working horses in 1886. Seeing so many people, local, and not so local, was amazing for everyone here, including the horses, who, having had, for the most part, very public working lives, thrive on the energy of the crowd.



Photo © Apollo Photography Marlow

*Doing the teas at the Horse Trust's "Horses, Hounds and Heroes" Family Fun Day – Gloria, Zoe, Pat, Maureen and Diana show some of the delicious offerings. A big thank you to all the other Speen ladies who kindly provided fantastic cakes. All were used.*

We owe a big thank you to our fabulous volunteers and the supportive organisations who helped put on a fantastic show. Some of the demonstrations were spectacular. The added bonus of a host of activities meant we managed to provide something for everyone, across all age groups and having so many great food and drink options went down a treat.



*Amy makes friends with one of the residents*

In this centennial year of The Great War we were pleased to welcome a few of the Chelsea Pensioners as VIP guests. The crowd gave them a great reception and they were treated royally. On their behalf and on behalf of everyone at The Horse Trust we want to thank all the locals for making the day so magical. We hope to see you again soon!

**Peter Larsen**  
**The Horse Trust**

# Nordic Walking

Led by Charlotte Downing  
Chartered Physiotherapist & Qualified Nordic Walking Instructor



- Improve Fitness • Return from injuries •
- Manage health conditions • Improve well-being •

Groups for novices and experienced walkers to explore the beautiful Chiltern countryside mornings and evenings from Speen Playing Fields

Contact Charlotte to make a booking  
tel: 07580 265945  
email: chilternsnordicwalking@gmail.com



## The Old Plow

*Hardens Guide & Michelin listed*

### SUMMER MENU

*includes*

Summer Platters £8.95

Friday Fizz 'n' Chips £14.95

Light Bites from £6.95

Catch of the Day  
from Devon Day Boats

*Terms & conditions apply*

### BISTRO • RESTAURANT & LIGHT MEALS

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS & PARTIES

Open Tuesday to Saturday for lunch & dinner

01494 488300

www.theoldplow.co.uk

Malcolm & Olivia Cowan  
25 years at The Old Plow

WHY NOT TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF A  
FREE QUOTE ON ALL  
BOILER SERVICES,  
INSTALLATIONS &  
REPAIRS.



PLEASE CONTACT Ian Appleby

Telephone : 01296 290 700

Mobile : 07964 041 655

tapsuk@btinternet.com

NO CALL OUT CHARGE PLUS A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

We pride ourselves on a friendly, reliable  
service catering for all your plumbing  
and heating requirements.

Our plumbers/engineers are City and  
Guilds qualified and fully insured. Based  
in Aylesbury we cover a wide area. So  
feel free to contact us to discuss how  
we can be of service to you.



542440

PROVIDING A WATER-TIGHT SERVICE



# Speen Fete

The day of the fete dawned and the light mist gave way to warm sunshine giving hope that it would remain at least dry all day. In the event the sun shone most of the time and with a light breeze it was near perfect weather for us. The work of the day began, to transform the playing field into a suitable scenario for the day's event. This was achieved by a superb band of helpers who worked tirelessly throughout the morning with enthusiasm and good humour despite being bullied unmercifully.



One of our main attractions this year was the Survivor Taekwondo Club of High Wycombe, who gave an excellent display of their talent and discipline in the main arena and later at their pitch throughout the afternoon. These boys, from age 4, learn to channel their aggression and excess energy in a constructive way and increase their mental and physical development, while at the same time increasing their stamina, fitness and strength.

We were also delighted to welcome First Class Falconry, who put on a superb exhibition of falcons and owls. They very much enjoyed coming to our fete and were pleased to answer all the questions posed by the large throng of people who crowded around them all day. It is quite spectacular to see these magnificent birds close up.



As well as the usual sideshows typical of a village fete a new arrival this year was based on the game of rugby where a ball had to be pitched through the open mouth of Brian Moore. This was very popular and provided a different experience to the day. We hope it will be available in future years.

The Pillow Fight got off to a slow start due mainly to a hole in one of the pillows. This resulted in a shower of white foam enveloping the area. However, once that was repaired the shrieks and yelps from the young participants, perched precariously on the beam while fighting their opponent, soon attracted a crowd of others eager to try their luck.

The day went well and we are extremely grateful to the many people who gave up their time to help with running, erecting and dismantling the sideshows and thereby raising money to help finance the facilities that we in the village can use and enjoy. Thank you all.

*Amanda Dobbs  
Chair  
Speen Fete*

*(See the Children's Competitions Winners on page 17)*



# CHILTERNHOUSE

Transparent Financial Advice

“A good plan is like a road map: it shows the final destination and usually the best way to get there.”

- What do I already have?
- Is what I have still the best for me?
- What do I need to safeguard my financial future?
- How much is enough?
- What is the best way for me to plan ahead?

At Chiltern House we blend traditional values with modern thinking.  
If any of these questions remain unanswered for you  
we'd be delighted to hear from you.

**2 The Courtyard, Eastern Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 2XB**  
**T 01344 356980 F 01344 454635 E [info@the-chp.co.uk](mailto:info@the-chp.co.uk)**

Chiltern House Partnership LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority



## A HISTORY OF SPEEN



The "Leaves of Time" was first published in 2000 as part of Speen's Millennium Celebrations and is a history of the village and its inhabitants since records began. It records the building of Speen Chapel as well as the birth of our school, the origins of the 'bodger' and Speen's brush with the Second World War! It is a fascinating account of the self-reliance of the inhabitants of this remote hilltop village.

Updated in 2007, the current edition records more recent events in the village such as the school's 40th birthday, the opening of the children's bike park, the numerous Speen Group's fundraising events and of course the biennial SPEEN FESTIVAL with its art and photographic exhibitions, plays and musicals. All proceeds of the sale of the books go toward Speen Festival.

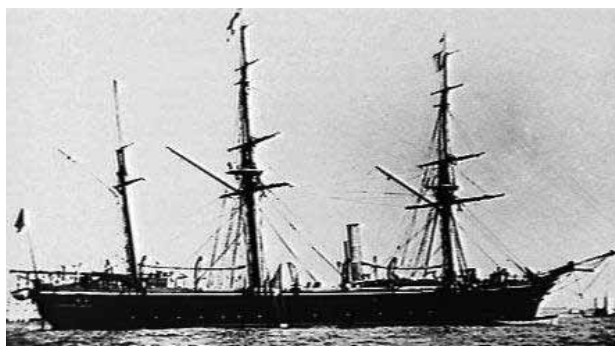
THE LEAVES OF TIME is available from Speen Stores and by email from [symonds@speen10.freemove.co.uk](mailto:symonds@speen10.freemove.co.uk)



. . . Continued from page 13

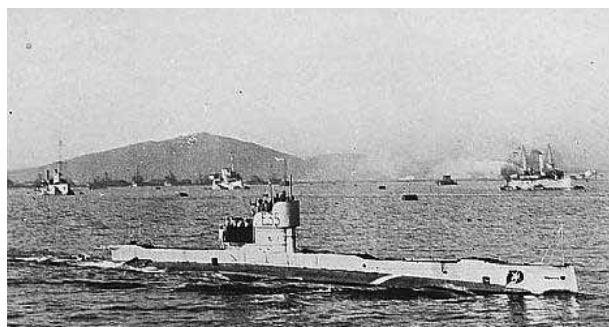
his reputation is clouded for ordering Arctic Convoy PQ17 to disperse. Within hours, Pound was shown proof that the German battle fleet was still in harbour, but he refused to revoke his order. Lacking their protective screen of warships, 24 of the 35 merchant ships were sunk, by aircraft and submarines. Months later, the brain tumour killed him.

Leading Seaman Harry Dean had easily the "cushiest number". He served in HMS *Cormorant*, a Receiving Ship permanently stationed off Gibraltar. This was a large ship that was sea-worthy but no longer fit for battle; it provided food and accommodation for naval crews - and sometimes troops - in transit to and from the Mediterranean. It was, in effect, a floating hotel. Interestingly, we found that HMS



*HMS Cormorant, 1878*

Ambrose was also stationed off Gibraltar towards the end of WWI. The log of the British submarine E35 shows that it was transferred to the Mediterranean theatre in the autumn of 1917. On arrival at Gibraltar on 12th November, the crew rested aboard HMS *Cormorant*. On 31st December E35 was transferred to the Depot ship HMS *Ambrose* to take on stores before going on patrol. On 11th May 1918, acting on secret intelligence, E35 intercepted and sank the German



*E35*

submarine U-154 off Madeira. That was a major coup; in less than two months, the huge U-154, on its maiden voyage, had sunk five merchant ships and badly damaged another four. On 20th December 1918, the weary crew of E35 - gratefully - boarded HMS *Cormorant* to celebrate Christmas . . . and the end of WWI. Did those two Speen men, Harold Stanley Austin in *Ambrose* and Harry Dean in *Cormorant*, ever meet and enjoy a Gibraltar run ashore?

*Clive Rainbow*  
01494 488658  
[rainbows@speen.org.uk](mailto:rainbows@speen.org.uk)

**Speen Cricket Club.** In Issue 59 of the SNDN we asked if anyone could date a very cheerful photo of the Speen cricket team. We are grateful to Edward Ellis; Brian Janes, a former Captain of Speen, and, indeed, Bucks; and Pete Anderson, a former vice Captain. On balance, they believe the photo was taken in 1960 when Speen defeated the Kingshill team, at Hampden, to win the 1st Division of the Wycombe District league. We are keen to trace the entire history of the Speen Cricket Club. Please tell us about any period when you were involved. We are also keen to have any recollections of Ian Peebles, famous cricketer and author, who died in Speen in 1980.

## North Dean Fete & Village Hall

### North Dean Fete - NEW DATE

For many years now the much loved North Dean fete has taken place on the last Saturday of July. This year, however, the fete has a new date: Sunday 7th September 2014. This is obviously later in the summer, but it has many advantages including the fact that most families will be back from their summer holidays, and the fruit and veg entries should be in plentiful supply. Saturdays are invariably very busy days for families, with shopping, doing or watching sport and entertaining. So this year we have moved to a

Sunday in the hope that more people will be free. Additionally, we are opening the fete at noon, two hours earlier than normal. There will be a delicious hog roast available for lunch, so arrive in good time to avoid missing out.

Please put the date and time in your diaries: SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2014 at NOON, and we will look forward to seeing you and your family on the day at our newly refurbished village hall.

Also something for the dates section: - PUT THIS IN THE DIARY

Theatre in the Village Performance. North Dean Village Hall. Friday 17th October 2014.

*The North Dean Village Hall Committee*



## Nicki Thomas Web Design

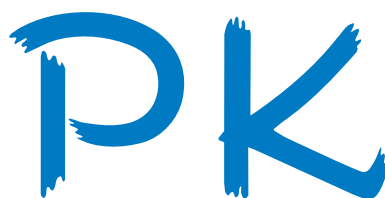
**Creating bespoke websites  
for a  
wide range of businesses**

Visit [www.nickithomas.co.uk](http://www.nickithomas.co.uk)  
to find out more...

Hedgerows, Studridge Lane  
Speen, Princes Risborough  
HP27 0SA

Tel 01494 488665

Email [nickithomas@storecomput.co.uk](mailto:nickithomas@storecomput.co.uk)



**InPrint Limited**

Printers of Speen & North Dean News

**DESIGN, ARTWORK  
DIGITAL & LITHO PRINT**

*all under one roof*

8 Wycombe Industrial Mall  
West End Street  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire HP11 2QY

T: 01494 452266

F: 01494 452216

E: [mail@pkinprint.co.uk](mailto:mail@pkinprint.co.uk)

W: [www.pkinprint.co.uk](http://www.pkinprint.co.uk)

Newsletters

Leaflets

Programmes

Brochures

Folders

Labels

Stationery

Carbonless

Instructions

**CONTACT US NEXT TIME YOU NEED A PRINT QUOTATION**  
if it's on paper we print it

**mwh**

**design • refurbishment • construction**



- Interior building work and alterations
- Bathroom design and installation
- Kitchen design and installation
- Full property renovations
- All work covered by comprehensive insurance and full guarantee

**t: 01494 488002**

**m: 07866 738829**

**mwh | interiors**

[www.mwhinteriors.co.uk](http://www.mwhinteriors.co.uk)   [info@mwhinteriors.co.uk](mailto:info@mwhinteriors.co.uk)

Hayton Cottage, Flowers Bottom Lane, Speen, Princes Risborough, HP27 0PZ

# Nordic Walking

Nordic Walking is more than a walk with poles!

Nordic walking is a specific walking technique that is suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Although it initially started in Finland as a summer training exercise for cross-country skiers, Nordic walking has become recognised as a way to help recovery from sports injury, improve fitness, and manage long term illnesses such as Parkinson's Disease, heart disease, diabetes and osteoporosis. It uses 90% of the skeletal muscles and burns up to 46% more calories than ordinary walking but with reduced pressure on knees and joints.

Nordic Walkers use specially designed walking poles, so the upper body propels them forward as they walk. Apart from the poles and a good pair of walking shoes, no other specialist equipment needed. The majority of walkers exercise as part

of a group where instructors ensure that the correct walking technique is being used.

The Nordic walking groups provide a great opportunity to explore the Chiltern countryside and meet new people, while working on your individual fitness goals. Speen resident Donna Stephens has been attending a weekly Nordic Walking group for the last five months to help her prepare for the 'Walk the Walk' 13.6 miles charity walk in London. Donna said "The instruction and classes have really helped me improve my fitness and manage my asthma whilst preparing for the charity walk, and I am now looking for my next walking challenge".

Charlotte Downing is a Chartered Physiotherapist and qualified Nordic Walking Instructor. She runs weekly sessions around Speen tailored for individual's experience and fitness levels. If you would like to try a session, please contact her on [chilternsnordicwalking@gmail.co.uk](mailto:chilternsnordicwalking@gmail.co.uk) or on 07580 265945.

## Coles & Blackwell

Car Service & Repairs

Book online at:

[www.colesandblackwell.co.uk](http://www.colesandblackwell.co.uk)

Quality car servicing and repairs much closer than you think!

Where are we ? You will find us 300 metres down the small lane opposite the top of Bradenham Wood Lane in Walters Ash, High Wycombe HP14 4UX

*Established in 1959*



### Servicing

Did you know you can get your car serviced by us without invalidating your manufacturers warranty? Legislation passed a few years ago means that you can now choose any garage of your choice to service your vehicle.

### Courtesy cars

We have a fleet of new loan cars at your disposal whilst we service your own car or repair bodywork damage. Best of all - they are FREE OF CHARGE! All part of the service you come to expect from Coles & Blackwell

air conditioning

mot testing

vehicle servicing and repairs

crash repairs

tyres, clutches & brakes

computerised diagnostics

batteries & exhausts

Open Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:30pm  
Saturday 8:30 am - 12:30pm

01494 563102

## Nelson Electrical Services

**Fully Insured  
NAPIT Registered  
Local Electrician**

- Extra power points fitted
- Extra lights fitted
- New fuse box fitted
- Repairs and upgrades
- Total or part rewires
- New circuits
- LED lights fitted
- RCD installed
- Outside lights or shed sockets
- Inspection and testing



[www.highwycombeelectrician.com](http://www.highwycombeelectrician.com)

**Ever found it difficult to get an electrician for that small job or asked for a free quote and never got a response?**

Then call **Michael Nelson** on  
**07908 644058**

## FRASER-MORGAN SCHOOL OF DANCING

### Naphill Village Hall

**BALLET (R.A.D.) : Age 3+**

**MODERN / JAZZ (I.S.T.D.) : Age 4+**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**ELAINE TUCKER ON :**

**01494 816539 or 07974 121081**



## Hughenden Builders

Established **22 years**

### All Building Works Undertaken

- Extensions.
- Alterations.
- Loft Conversions.
- Roofing – all types.
- Drives, Block paving, Tarmac etc.
- Patios, Walls, Garden landscaping.
- Plumbing, Plastering, Carpentry.

### **Planning Service. Clear & Concise Plans**

**Single Storey £150.00  
Two Storey £300.00  
(plus council fees)**

Free detailed estimate with drawing.  
Planning fees returned if tender accepted.

171 Main Road  
Naphill

Tel: 01494 562937  
01494 438057

## C.G. *Tree and Garden Services*

### WORK UNDERTAKEN:

- Tree Surgery and Felling
- Fencing
- Hedge Cutting/Topping and Turfing
- Woodchips and Firewood for Sale
- Free Estimates
- Qualified Staff
- Fully Insured
- Seasoned Firewood



Phone

**Chris Gant  
01494 562045**



# Reliable, Friendly Service

Taps, Leaks, Drains, Loos

## Any Local Plumbing

Restoration to Renewables

### Central Heating & Controls

Gas, LPG, Heat Pump & Electric

Registered for Gas and Electrics

## Based in Upper North Dean

# Paul's Plumbing

07786 175123

**ELECSA**  
Part of the ECA Group

Part P  
Approved Contractor

[www.elecsa.co.uk](http://www.elecsa.co.uk)

Local to Naphill, Walters Ash

Lacey Green, Speen, Hampden

Hughenden, North Dean



199757

Electrics - Bathroom, Heating, Etc.  
Registered for Self Certification

Paul Newman Ltd. 01494 565573



**Premier**  
Architectural Joinery



Conservatories



Bi-Fold Door Sets



Doors and Porches

**Premier Architectural Joinery Ltd**

Ladymead Farm Estate  
Quainton, Nr Aylesbury  
Buckinghamshire  
HP22 4AN

T - 01296 655555 Opt 6

E - u2us@premieraj.co.uk

W - premieraj.co.uk



Hardwood Windows



Gates



Roof Lanterns

**Traditional Hardwood Joinery with a modern approach - free advice!**

## VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Proprietor: Dennis Cook

**BLOCKED DRAINS CLEARED  
REASONABLE RATES**

**NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR EVENING,  
WEEKEND OR BANK HOLIDAY CALL-OUTS  
24 HOUR POLITE, COURTEOUS SERVICE  
C.C.T.V. DRAIN SURVEYS**



Tel: 07850 635 844 between 9am-6pm  
01296 624 221 at all other times  
Fax: 01296 620 222

Full Public Liability Insurance

## DOMESTIC DRAIN SERVICE





# District Council News – July 2014



Much progress has been made with the major developments at Handy Cross, as anyone who has visited or passed through the area may know. Contractors are on schedule with the construction of the new Sports and Leisure Centre and a webcam has been installed so residents can see the progress for themselves – this can be viewed at <https://timelapse.regenology.co.uk/api/embedded/4ej/>

Groundworks are being prepared for the Waitrose store being built adjacent to the new Centre, and opposite the Cinema, work has started on a NEXT home store, initially with the relocation of the Park and Ride facility. These developments will bring employment and excellent retail facilities to the area – with other exciting office, hotel and further retail opportunities being pursued for deployment from 2016 onwards.

The new synthetic turf pitch providing football and hockey facilities has been relocated to John Hampden Grammar School, and the new athletics facility with an eight lane track is close to completion in Little Marlow.

Closer to home, many people have expressed concern over the laying of tracks and the sale of woodland near Speen. I have been asking WDC officers to closely monitor the situation and take whatever action is possible if there is any breach of regulations. Unfortunately, woodland is covered by specific planning rules with a wide range of permitted development rights and so far, no inappropriate actions have taken place on site. If anything does occur, I will be pressing WDC to act immediately to address the situation.

If you have not already discovered the new car parking arrangements within the District, keep your eyes peeled, as following a successful trial in Easton Street and Railway Place, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology is being rolled out across WDC's off street car parks, replacing the majority of the current pay and display machines. ANPR brings many benefits: for residents, there is no need to rush back if your ticket is expiring, there is reduced risk of getting a parking penalty fine, and there are more payment options available. For taxpayers, ANPR provides a more cost-effective and efficient way for the Council to manage its car parks.

The roll-out of ANPR should be completed by mid-August and will apply to all WDC car parks except the Wycombe Sports Centre, Dean Street and Riley Road in Marlow. Please note that the Eden Centre car park is not managed by WDC.

Full details of all of the Handy Cross developments and ANPR can be found on the Wycombe District Council website, [www.wycombe.gov.uk](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk)

*Mel Foster*  
[mel\\_foster@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:mel_foster@wycombe.gov.uk)  
01494 488905

## Down on the Farm

Everyone thinks that farmers are paranoid about the weather! In truth it is the most important factor in our business. Soft fruit farmers are now growing their crops in polytunnels, with raised beds for easy picking and soilless compost with nutrients (tailored to the exact requirements of each crop) added in the water supply. The weather doesn't matter! We rely on rain to make the crops grow and sun to dry the hay and cereals.

Readers who are keen gardeners will probably have had mixed results in their vegetable patches this spring. Slugs and difficult germination conditions have necessitated resowing several crops. Fortunately for farmers, this year's cereal and top fruit crops promise bumper yields; good grass crops have already been ensiled or made into hay and the maize crop has had a frost free start. It is already head height instead of knee height, as it is normally at this time in the summer. We are now praying for rain as the grass will not regrow until some arrives!

Hughenden parish is having a campaign to highlight the problems which can occur on public footpaths and agricultural land when dog owners do not clean up after their dogs. Most people are unaware of the diseases which dogs can carry and which affect humans and grazing animals. Neosporosis and Sarcocystosis cause abortion in cattle and neurological disease in sheep; but for the general public Toxocara is most worrying, as it can cause blindness and children are most susceptible. The message is a) worm your dogs regularly and b) always clean up after them.

As many of you already know, 'contracts' with supermarkets are rarely watertight and growers often find that in times of plenty, supermarkets renege on their contracts. Christine Tacon (formerly head of CWS farming operations) has been appointed by the government to protect suppliers from the large retailers; she announced recently that Tesco and Aldi topped the lists for firm contracts with 43% coming into that category. Morrisons were bottom with only 33%. When they are let down at the last minute, producers rarely manage to find another market but they are wary of complaining to Mrs Tacon in case they lose the next order. Fortunately for us, the milk that isn't needed for ice cream goes to the Arla factory near Aylesbury, so we don't have arguments with supermarkets!

*Gill Kent*

## Speen Group

The Speen Supporters Group, now known as Speen Group, was founded by Suzi Rose in 2001, with the aim of raising funds for the local hospice charities by putting on local events. Committee Members give tirelessly of their time and effort for free with every penny of the profit donated direct to each of the four hospices supported by the group: Florence Nightingale House, Helen & Douglas House, Rennie Grove Hospice, The South Bucks Day Hospice. With limited Government funding the Hospice Charities rely heavily on organisations like Speen Group to raise funds necessary to care for people with life limiting conditions and give support to their families. To date we have raised £61,000.



*Members of the Speen Group Committee*

If you have contacts who could help us with any events or suggestions for any possible future activities, we would be interested to hear from them.

We are very grateful to all those who support us in every capacity and hope that you enjoy the events you attend.

Contacts: Christine Symondson -  
jem@symondson.co.uk or 01494 488654  
Ann James -  
antoinette.james@hotmail.co.uk or 01494 488359

## Speen Group Spring Lunch

The Speen Group held our annual Spring Lunch for the fourth year running at the glorious Sefton's Barn within the beautiful setting of the Horse Trust.

Once again the sun shone for us making for a peaceful and relaxing event. Our supporters enjoyed a lunch of three courses accompanied by a glass of wine. This was followed by coffee and a moving after lunch talk from a lady who told us of the wonderful support that her husband and the family had experienced from the Rennie Grove Hospice when her husband was dying.

The Rennie Grove Hospice is one of the four



A bespoke management training and coaching company established in 1997, working in the private and public sector.

### **Recognise and capitalise on your potential**

Do you need to give yourself the space to broaden your thinking, further develop your skills, confidence and competence in today's demanding environment?

We offer a coaching service that is confidential, flexible, targeted to meet clear goals and expand your skills base. We provide objective executive coaching that will support your professional, business and personal development.

### **In-house training**

Maximise the level of talent skills and performance in your organisation. We specialise in the design and delivery of practical, interactive and results focused in-house training. Let us help you develop your people.

Check out our website at [www.jml-training.com](http://www.jml-training.com)  
or call us on **01494 488787** for further information





hospices that the Speen Group raise funds to help the vital work that they all do. This year our supporters helped us raise £1,267 which will be added to the money from our next two events and is all then divided between the hospices.

This is a significant amount for our small group and we would like to thank all our supporters for their generosity.

## Annual Charity Arts & Crafts Fair

Speen Group's Charity Arts and Crafts Fair held on Sunday 13th July was a great success and raised £748.04 of vital funds for the four hospice charities supported by the group. Work by local designers and artists along with local foods were on display in the village marquee. The King William IV also provided a BBQ especially for the Fair.



It was a chance to enjoy the lovely village, relax, browse the Craft Fair, refuel at the pub or BBQ and Speen Group would like to thank all those who came along and helped make the day such a success.



## Speen Gardening Group

The Speen Gardening Group is now very well established and has a substantial membership. We started the year with a social evening and a talk given by Timothy Walker, who spoke with great authority on the Oxford Botanic Garden. The evening was followed a few weeks later by a visit to the Botanic Garden itself where we were taken round by a guide, who expanded on Timothy's lecture.



Our plant sale on Saturday 7th June, was a huge success in spite of the appallingly wet weather. We are grateful to all who supported us and must give special thanks to Catherine and George Butler for all their hard work and expertise.

The group also visited Lords Wood, Marlow, in June and there was a very enjoyable outing to Coton Manor Gardens by coach in July. We will end our year with another social evening with a talk and slide show in Speen Village Hall on "Wild Flowers in the Chilterns". This will take place on 9th October at 7.30 pm and will be followed by delicious nibbles, washed down with a glass of wine. All are welcome and full details will be posted in Speen Stores nearer the time.

For further details about the Group and its activities, please do contact Daphne Westray on 01494 488742 - new members are always welcome!

# SPRINGLINE

## CARS

PRIVATE HIRE

- Airport Transfers
- Events & Occasions
- London Trips

- Personal Service
- Owner Driver
- Local Knowledge

**RISBOROUGH**

**01844 27 44 74**

Know the voice, know your driver

Bucks County Council - Member for Lacey Green	Carl Etholen	01494 564771
Hughenden Parish Council - Chairman	Roger Beavil	01494 715296
Lacey Green Parish Council - Chairman	Cathryn Davies	01844 342800
Lacey Green Parish Council – Councillor for Speen Ward	Roger Craft	01494 488343
North Dean Village Hall – Bookings Secretary	Jez Wicks	01494 563517
North Dean Village Hall - Fete	Jez Wicks	01494 563517
North Dean Village Hall - Secretary	Robin Hughes	07920 748580
Piggotts 7 '48' Musical Evenings	Nick Wheeler-Robinson	01494 562167
Police Contact	Non emergency Emergency	101 999
Riding for the Disabled	Gloria Holmes	01494 488420
Speen & North Dean Good Neighbours	Pat Richardson	01494 488627
Speen & North Dean Guides	Pauline Hall	01494 488372
Speen & North Dean News - advertising	Tom Dent	01494 488943
Speen & North Dean News - Chair	Gloria Holmes	01494 488420
Speen & North Dean Toddler Group	Alex Allan	01494 489838
Speen Baptist Church	Rev Ian Greig	01494 488585
Speen Festival - Secretary	Sarah Rogers	07771 534234
Speen Fete - Chair	Amanda Dobbs	01494 488887
Speen Fete - Secretary	Nicki Pitt	01494 488713
Speen Group - Secretary	Maureen Laing	01494 488397
Speen Marquee	Greg Cook	01494 488939
Speen Playing Fields Chairman	Tony Bobroff	01494 488688
Speen Pre-School - Chair	Clare Morris	01494 488553
Speen School - Head	Denise Nayna	01494 488321
Speen School PTA - Chair	Zoe Baker	01844 342780
Speen Stores	Alison Templeman	01494 488258
Speen Tennis Court - Secretary	Philippa Lane	01494 488453
Speen Village Hall - Bookings	Sue Taylor	01494 488500
Speen Village Hall - Chairman	Bill Groves	01494 488180
Speen WI - Secretary	Barbara Collett	01494 488348
Wycombe District Council - Member for Lacey Green & Hampdens	Mel Foster	01494 488905



# BEECHDEAN

## Farmhouse Dairy Ice Cream

Made from fresh Jersey milk  
and rich double cream

Pick up your ice cream and chill out this summer at the  
newly refurbished Beechdean shop

### Opening hours:

**Monday to Friday:  
10:00am to 4:00pm**



*You can also find Beechdean in:*



**Waitrose**



**[www.beechdean.co.uk](http://www.beechdean.co.uk)**





# Homes of Distinction

If you are looking for a very special property or have one that would benefit from our award winning marketing then we are ready to act on your behalf.

01844 343131  
Princes Risborough Office

01494 711677  
Hazlemere Office

**FINE & COUNTRY**  
fineandcountry.com™