



SPEEN VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY 10th JULY 1999



YES there is going to be a FETE this year. The tents are booked, the band is booked and arrangements for the field layout between the Pageant team and the Fete Committee are complete. All that is now needed is your **HELP!!!**

We also need to gather together representatives from those village organisations that benefit from the proceeds of the Fete and who help to make the day enjoyable and successful.

Over the past few years the Fete committee has been suffering from a lack of support, which means the money raised has fallen, and therefore so have the contributions to Village organisations. It is important that each of the village organisations arranges for at least one representative to attend a set up meeting, in order that they can contribute to the arrangements, and offer help if possible. This meeting is to be held on *Thursday, 8th April 1999* in *Speen Baptist Church Hall* at 8:00 pm.

This meeting is open to ALL, as we are anxious to involve as many people as possible in planning new attractions and helping with running of the fete. It will not take much of your time and the result is very worth while. Without the fete contribution, each year, some village organisations will struggle to continue. The fete donates about 20% towards the cost of producing this magazine each year.

Thank you in anticipation of your support: Dave King – Fete Chairman



Extra! - Mini Issue – Extra!

The production team decided that we needed an additional mini issue 17 at this time as there was so much going on in the Villages. There is no advertising or letters etc. as these will be included in the main issue in June /July in the normal way.

Copy for this must arrive before 15th May.

We already have three articles for this issue 18.

Please let us have your copy as soon as it is ready.

If you need any more information please contact. *Glenn Hart 488528*

Hughenden Parish Council

The Parish Council has been trying to ascertain the parishioners' wishes with regard to Millennium projects to be initiated within their wards.

Several ideas have been progressed so far including the re-instatement of a row of trees down one side of Cryers Hill. These were planted last year and seem to be thriving to date. The Parish Council thank those willing householders that gave their time to keep the tree outside their home watered last year.

We have also applied for a Millennium tree, which is a cutting from a tree at least two thousand years old. This will be placed in the burial ground at Four Ashes Road. Other

suggestions have included placing large trees in several places within the Parish.

One item that has been brought up recently is the provision of a Parish Map. There is assistance available for the funding of such a project but it will require a lot of work by volunteers. This brings me to the major point of the letter. If the public wish this project to get off the ground, we will require a team of volunteers, preferably from all wards within the Parish, who will be willing to 'pick this up and run with it'. If any of your readers are interested could they please contact the Clerk to the Council, Mrs. Lynne Turner on HW 716296 after 1st March 1999. If enough people show an interest, this is something that could be very successful.

Hughenden Parish Council Public Statement

The Hughenden Parish Council, as a result of a formal complaint by its Clerk, **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** at a re-convened Extra-ordinary Meeting held on 2nd February 1999, that: -

1. This Council upholds the formal complaint against Cllr Mrs. Leflaive made in the Clerk's letter of 11th December and other supporting documents.
2. This Council censures Cllr. Mrs. Leflaive for her behaviour towards the Clerk, which the Council believes amounted to harassment.
3. This Council expresses its complete confidence in the Clerk, Mrs. Turner.

The Parish Council added a further resolution, in view of the fact that Mrs. Leflaive, as a Councillor, has not been acting responsibly nor constructively in any way, that: -

4. This Council votes to remove Cllr Mrs. Leflaive from its Finance and Planning Committees and the Council's Representative on all outside bodies.

Planning Applications

98/06573	Bottom Cottage, Highwood Bottom. Demolition of Barn and erect replacement.	No objections.
98/07376	Victoria Cottage, Grubbins Lane Fence and wall enclosure	No objections.
98/05556	Grubbins, Grubbins Lane Convert garage into Granny Annexe	Permission refused on appeal.

LOCAL OSTEOPATH TO HELP KALASHA PEOPLE IN HINDU KUSH REGION OF NORTH WEST PAKISTAN

During the month of June I will be visiting the far North West corner of the Hindu Kush mountain range in Pakistan. This region is 5000 feet above sea level and is the home of the Kalash people.

So, who are the Kalash and what is the reason for my visit? The Kalasha are a tribe who live by subsistence farming and generally apply the old methods using wooden ploughs drawn by bullocks whilst spades and hoes are their only tools. The Kalasha have their own religion based on the strict separation of the pure (ONJESHTA) and the impure (PRAGATA) realms.

The pure realm is associated with mountain tops (home of fairies or supernatural beings), the high pastures, and goats which are considered the sacred herds of the supernatural.

The impure is the nether or underworld associated with the myth that the world stands on the head of a bull. Earthquakes are associated with the roar of an angry bull hence the bull is thought of as impure.

Ancestors spirits are believed to exit into this underworld after death. Women during childbirth and also their menstrual cycle are considered impure and during these times are confined to a special place called the Bashali House. Despite considerable hardship the Kalasha are happy, friendly, and peaceful people who have high moral values within their own strict culture.

The aim of my visit is to support a colleague,

Maureen Lines who works voluntarily in the area as an Emergency Medical Technician and for the past sixteen years has devoted her life to helping these people in the way of first aid treatment, negotiating for medical supplies, providing a jeep for transportation during medical emergencies, establishing better hygiene and various other activities.

I personally intend to use my osteopathic skills and to offer nutritional advice to a race who suffer many nutritional and metabolic disorders like thyroid dysfunction due to lack of iodine, and other disorders such as ringworm and tuberculosis for which medical supplies are scarce. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and cheques should be made payable to H.K.C.A. (a registered charity for the Hindu Kush Conservation Association) and forwarded to me at the following address:

Christine Langley
(D.O. - Registered Osteopath)
The Clinic, Wembley Cottage,
Main Road, Lacey Green,
Princes Risborough,
HP27 0QU
Tel: 01844-275055

Thank you

P.T.A. News



SPEEN SCHOOL P.T.A. NEWS

Recent Events

Many of the children from school and their parents enjoyed a recent performance of The Tinder Box by a travelling theatre group, which included quite a lot of audience participation. Thanks are due to Jenny Quinn and her team who also provided refreshments.

On Saturday mornings Alistair Blundell has started running sports club again for the children. Weather permitting, the club will

run for the rest of the term. Other village children under eight may wish to take part in the club which runs from 11.00 to 12.00noon.

The **Summer Black And White Ball** on Saturday, 3rd July is likely to be the highlight of the year again. The band, Some Like It Hot and the same DJ as last year have been booked and planning is well advanced. Tickets will be £25.00 each but *Earlybird Tickets* will be available at £20.00 each paid in full before 30th April. Return the slip from the last edition to me with payment:

Peter Symonds, 10 Abbotswood, Speen; or call me on 488016. Cheques, payable to, Speen School P.T.A. please.

DOG OWNERS

If you keep your copies of the Speen and North Dean News may I ask you to refer back to Issue No. 13 (Spring 98) page number 39 where it gives details of The Wycombe District Dogs (Fouling of Land) Order 1998. The footpaths, grassed verges etc., adjacent to a highway except where the speed limit exceeds 40mph. are all covered by this law with a maximum penalty of £1000 if caught.

I know nearly all our village dog owners are very responsible people who walk our roads with little plastic bags at the ready, but we also have a few who are turning our verges into a veritable health hazard. Possibly these people walk their dogs under cover of darkness as I have never actually seen anyone letting their dogs do this, but the proof is there for all to see.

On walking twice round the village from the shop around Studridge Lane and back, looking both sides of the road I counted 127 piles of dog excrement. Around the Village Hall where children are coming and going to pre-school it is particularly bad and in this area I have often seen a small dog running loose with no owner. If your dog made a mess on your living room carpet you would, I hope, clear it up immediately – surely this should apply when you have your dog out in a public place.

We live in a charming village with no pavement or street lights (thank goodness) but walking round at night necessitates taking a torch and keeping your eyes on the road. I certainly don't think it would be worth us entering The Best Kept Village competition again unless something is done about this situation.

Name supplied.

Speen Shop Charities Committee

Report of the Meeting to elect members to the committee, which will distribute funds from the shop to organisations within the Village of Speen.

There had been three nominations for the committee. Peter Symonds, Peter King, and Tim Crossley.

The meeting unanimously agreed that all three would be an asset to the committee, and should therefore all become members of the committee. The members who were at the meeting were Jane Fleming, Don White, Judy Booth and the new members as above. New members of the committee introduced themselves to the villagers present.

A question was then raised about accommodation for the tenants of the shop. As one of the tenants was present, it was felt to be useful to discuss this briefly. Jane Fleming outlined the offers that had been made by Bucks Housing Ass. to the tenants. These included the offer of several different types of accommodation for rent in the local area: Prestwood, Lane End and Stokenchurch. An offer was made by The Bucks Housing Ass. to purchase a house in Downley for the shop tenants to rent.

All these offers had so far been rejected. Sharon stated that as they ran the shop, they wanted to live as part of the community, and therefore live in Speen or perhaps Naphill. But all the accommodation so far offered was too far away.

Jane responded that there was no accommodation in Speen at a price that the Bucks Housing could justify buying for one housing unit.

It was decided to explore the possibility of using the funds from the shop to support Bucks Housing in purchasing within Speen. This may not be allowable by the Lottery Commission, or accepted by the organisations within the village, who would lose the revenue for about five years.

Since this meeting we are delighted that Sharon and David have accepted an offer of a house in Hughenden Road.

Glenn Hart.

Good News From The Hairworks.

Speen now has it's own beauty room within the hair salon. The room called The Sunflower Beauty Room. This will give clients more comfort and complete privacy. This has also allowed us to offer more treatments including facials, luxury back treatments and a special massage/weight loss programme. Look out for special offers.

We can also now offer Gel nail extensions as well as acrylic, which look and feel more natural and last longer. Another new treatment we can offer is ear piecing.

We would love you to come and look at the new room or discuss new treatments at anytime.

Lucille and Chris.

OOPS!

On page 16 of Issue 16. Don White submitted a report on the 1998 Village Quiz. The account had been credited to John Holmes in error!

Sorry - we made this mistake!

Pass the Polish!

During the Christmas break, the floor of the Village Hall was re-sealed and renovated. It looks really nice now.

Voting at Speen Village Hall

District & Parish Council Elections. – 6th May.

European Parliament Election – 10th June.

The Decline of Neighbourhood Watch in Speen

After a number of years of slow but steady growth and support from the Aylesbury constabulary, both Speen and North Dean came under the control of High Wycombe as part of the new Chiltern Vale police area. We looked forward to closer ties, more local involvement, and a general continuation of the improvements we were getting used to. Initial handover problems were to be expected - they materialised and were overcome - we thought.

The late Dickie Bird became a familiar voice on the 'RingMaster' system and the early newsheets showed promise. The government had said they were committed to supporting the continued growth of Neighbourhood Watch, and improving the links with local police. However, the regular crime reports stopped coming, the brief newsheet became irregular and remained brief. In fact it all started to fall apart.

We are lucky in this locality that the rate of crime is low, we want to keep it that way. Neighbourhood Watch should not swing into action as soon as the members suffer from a few crimes: it should keep ticking over with regular contact. The street co-ordinators should be able to brief their neighbours about what is happening.

I can honestly say that we are now back where we were over 7 years ago. Aylesbury was providing a quarterly magazine to be passed around to each house - we

don't get this any longer. Thame police station provided a brief extract from the crime computer that was an invaluable source of warning about problems in the surrounding area - we have been denied access to this now.

All the above is how a NHW co-ordinator see it, but how about you ?

- Do you see the patrol car as frequently ?
- Have you suffered from more crimes ?
- Do you feel more, or less, reassured about policing in our villages ?

When it comes down to it, these are the really important issues, not just the amount of support your co-ordinators feel they are getting.

RingMaster is a message system that automatically telephones NHW reps with any urgent news or warnings. No news is good news - but continued silence is disconcerting.

The above article is available on disk in various formats, or can be e-mailed to any address.

Contact John Radford 01494 488679,
e-mail addresses:

"john.2.radford@bt.com" or
"raddish@btinternet.com"

PIGOTTS WOOD - NORTH DEAN

Pigotts Wood won a Chiltern Woodland Award in 1998 for the quality of its management. At the ceremony certificates were accepted by John Morris, of Chiltern Woodlands, as the Manager and by Caleb Wheeler-Robinson, aged 6, youngest of the group of owners.

On November 13th a training day in woodland archaeology was held at Pigotts. It was organised by John Morris of the Chiltern Woodland Project, with the additional expertise of Dr. Nichola Bannister, field archaeologist. The twenty-four participants brought a further range of enthusiasm and local knowledge. Initially Dr. Bannister spoke of sources of evidence and showed slides of features that might be found. The whole group then walked the southern part of Pigotts Wood, identifying and discussing banks, pits and other evidence. Numerous sawpits, some quarries, "swallow holes", tracks, a medieval boundary bank and several charcoal hearths were identified. After a sandwich lunch, groups of 4 or 5 mapped features to be found in the northern part of the wood, which has many boundary banks. In a final session this information was collated on a large scale map of the wood and related to some of the documentary evidence (beginning in the 16th Century). A very successful

day - and, as not all who wanted to come could be included, one that is likely to be repeated.

NB: John Morris will shortly produce a booklet on the identification and protection of archaeological features in the Chiltern Woodlands - 01494 565749

A rather different day will be held in Piggotts Wood on 8th April 10.30-3.30 for 8-12 year olds to learn about woodlands from John Morris as part of the Easter Environmental Activities organised by Wycombe District Council. This is particularly fitting as two of the consortium that own the Northern part of the wood are aged 10 and almost 7 (interested families should ring Stephanie Tebbutt on 421886)

Most of those who drive regularly to Wycombe from Speen and North Dean will have noticed the large bracket fungus on the oak south of the Stocking Lane junction. Last Autumn it rapidly ripened to a striking red - but not everyone knows that this was due to a spray of paint from, it is suggested, a humorous highways worker marking areas for repair

Nick Wheeler-Robinson

IT COULD BE YOUR SOCIETY/CLUB.... THE ROLE OF THE SPEEN SHOP CHARITY

The Speen Shop Charity is now fully up and running, following an Election Meeting on 8th February. What this means for Speen is that the Bucks Housing Association donates the rental income from the Shop (just over £2,700 each year) for us to invest in worthwhile causes. This grant originates from the Bucks Housing Association project to build affordable housing and a shop in Speen, and was one of the terms agreed in return for the significant National Lottery grant that kick started the whole project.

The Charity Committee has guidelines for investment decisions laid down partly by the Lottery and partly by the Committee members. These guidelines or 'Terms of Reference' are as follows:

- ♦ The Speen Shop Charity will provide financial assistance for any useful non-commercial purpose, which either satisfies an individual need or is to the benefit of the community.
- ♦ The scope of the Charity is restricted to the Parish of Speen.
- ♦ There must be a clear and demonstrable educational, medical, social or community need.

- ♦ As a general rule funding should not be available from an alternative source.
- ♦ The provision of a grant should directly benefit a local individual or group or the village in general.
- ♦ The first two grants have now been made and details are posted in Speen Shop.

Application forms for grants are available from the Shop, and the Committee meets quarterly to review applications. The next deadline for applications is 30th April and details of grants will be published in the Shop in early May.

For any further information please contact any of the Committee members:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| ➤ Andy Gower (Chairman) | 488758 |
| ➤ Don White | 488437 |
| ➤ Judi Booth | 488273 |
| ➤ Tim Crossley | 488269 |
| ➤ Peter King | 488189 |
| ➤ Peter Symonds | 488016 |
| ➤ Jane Fleming (BHA) | 532808 |
| ➤ Rosemary Pickworth (BHA) | 532808 |

Finished at Last! - These things take time...

Now that the pavement between Speen School and the shop has finally been completed, it might be opportune to put on record the difficulties the Parish Council have met with, in their efforts to tidy up this part of the village. When the School was built in 1966, a pavement was laid along to the end of Water Lane.

Two years later, the pair of bungalows were built opposite what is now St. Peters Close and the pavement was extended along to the drive of the furthest bungalow. In 1976, the Parish Council considered various improvements regarding provision for pedestrians in the village, and the Chairman and Clerk met with the then Divisional Surveyor, Mr Rivett, with a view to continuing the pavement all the way down to Speen Chapel.

At that time, three houses had been built alongside Rosebank Cottage and it seemed logical to provide pedestrian access to the Shop and School. The County Council were not in favour as too many pavements detract from the

rural aspect of villages.

Meanwhile the population of the village was rising and in 1986 the Parish Council put in a request to the County Council to complete the pavement along to the Shop. At that time, financial restrictions prevented capital works of this nature, which were not considered of vital importance. Three years later, the Shop closed and the Parish Council were informed that the pavement would not be extended until some form of redevelopment of the site was completed. The Parish Council considered that to be a danger spot and several further official requests were made but the County Council would not undertake any work. They intended to

make completion of the pavement a condition of planning consent for the Shop redevelopment, thereby saving the Local Authority the expense of undertaking the work.

When the Shop site was finally developed, the Parish Council again urged the County to complete the path and were informed that a small amount of land in front of Monimail and Hamilton Cottage would have to be acquired to provide sufficient width. The County Council put the onus of these negotiations on the developers of the site, after protracted negotiations, which, as will be seen, were conducted separately with each frontage. The whole matter was finally concluded at the end of 1998.

In order to complete the pavement as soon as possible, the Parish Council undertook to pay for the work at the front of Hamilton Cottage, again owing to the financial problems of the County Council.

Don White

Nine Lives - Plus?

Cleo is a sleek, black feline, much loved by my friend Ann. During the years of her husband's illness and his subsequent death, Cleo was a companion and great comfort to her owner. Although Ann now has a new partner and a happier life, Cleo is still a treasured member of the household.

About 7.30am one morning last summer, Ann's husband answered the telephone - a neighbour was calling with some bad news. He had found a black cat, dead, in his garden and he feared it was Cleo.

Eric dressed quickly and dashed round to his neighbour to identify the victim, but was surprised to see the cat already wrapped in a towel and a grave already dug.

The neighbour, who also owned a black cat, explained he originally thought the cat

was his, and had in fact buried it, only to see his own cat stroll nonchalantly up the garden path and in through the kitchen door some fifteen minutes later.

Now assuming the dead cat to be Cleo, it was promptly exhumed and displayed to Eric, who confirmed it was indeed their cat. Feeling quite distressed it was quickly decided to re-inter Cleo, still wrapped in the towel in the ready prepared grave.

Ann was inconsolable and for an hour the tears flowed. Neither felt like eating breakfast but thought a good strong cup of coffee might help. As Eric went into the kitchen to organise this who should pop through the cat flap - you've guessed - Cleo!

The mystery remains unsolved. Whose cat was buried, twice, in a garden in Stoke Poges? Whoever they are, they must take comfort from this - she had a decent burial and was deeply mourned - *twice!*

Lillian Cash

LUNCH PARTY NORTH DEAN

January 23rd was the date this year for a special annual lunch party, when the North Dean Village Hall Management Committee cook and serve lunch to the senior residents of the village.

As the years go by an increasing number of the Committee wear two hats on this occasion and this year was no exception.

All the food is prepared in Committee members' homes then brought together for a hectic half-hour of intense activity in a very steamy kitchen. Miraculously, all is assembled and members and guests are soon tucking into an excellent meal, a good glass of wine, or two, and lots of noisy chatter. Three residents who were unable to make the journey to the Hall benefited from an express "take-away/home delivery" service.

No musical entertainment this year, but two cards of Bingo got the blood pressure rising with plenty of prizes to be won.

Lillian Cash

Soon at SPEEN STORES.

Trisha Lenko is raising money for dental treatment for Third World and Eastern Europe (Bosnia etc.). She will be selling greeting cards of local views, printed from her paintings.

This will enable her to provide dental treatment and medicines when she goes to these countries, via a charity called Dentaaid.

They set up clinics for dental treatment in the most needy parts of the world. She would be grateful for your support in buying these cards.

Caring for God's World

Issues of Science and Faith

CHURCH NEWS

A Seminar by The John Ray Initiative

Saturday, 17th April, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm
St. John the Evangelist, Lacey Green.

The John Ray Initiative.

Vision:

To bring together scientific and Christian understandings of the environment in a way that can be widely communicated and lead to effective action. It stems from discussion amongst scientists and Christian leaders and aims to promote a deeper understanding of the environment and how humankind should relate to it based on observation, study and an ethical approach to decision making and stewardship.

Mission:

To promote responsible environmental stewardship in accordance with Christian principles and the wise use of science and technology.

Andy Gower

Ordination & Induction Service,
Saturday, 26th June.

Speaker:

Rev. Michael Quiche
Principal of Spurgeon's College,
London

WHAT'S ON? - In Speen & North Dean



April

- 1st Speen Village Hall.** WI Birthday Party.
13th Speen Village Hall. Read through of the script of "The Leaves of Time."
 8pm. (see front page) for potential performers.
(Speen Millennium Celebrations)
16th Speen Village Hall. An evening of Bucks Songs and Verse 8pm.
 both classical and country.
(Speen Millennium Celebrations)
22nd Speen & North Dean Golf Match. Contact David Evans 488495.
23rd Speen Village Hall. St. George's Day Quiz. 8pm.
(Speen Millennium Celebrations)
25th Speen Village Walk. Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested.
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.

May.

- 6th Local Council Elections.** (WI transferred to Chapel)
11th Speen Village Hall. Parish Council Meeting.
13th Speen Village Hall WI Ramble and Supper. *(Starts at Village Hall)*
15th Speen Village Hall. Ladies' Breakfast.
15th Speen Village Walk. Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested.
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.
19th Pigotts Charity Dance For the Millennium Fund. Contact, Nick 01 494 562167.
22nd Car Treasure Hunt. Meet at North Dean Village Hall at 6:45pm for 7:00pm.
 £5 per car & £1 per passenger. Includes light supper.

June.

- 3rd Speen Village Hall.** WI Hanging Basket Demonstration.
5th Speen Village Hall. Men's Breakfast.
6th Speen Village Walk. Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested.
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.
10th Speen Village Hall. Euro Elections.
13th Speen Playing Fields Fun Day.

July.

- 3rd. Speen School Grounds.** Black & White Ball II. Some like it even Hotter. 7.30pm.
8th, 9th, 10th. Pageant, "The Leaves of Time."
10th Speen Playing Field. Speen Fete, and "The Leaves of Time."
10th Speen Village Hall. Art Exhibition.

August

- 7th N'th Dean Village Fete.** On the Playing Field at 2pm.
 All Welcome.
21st Speen Village Walk. Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested.
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.

September

- 26th Speen Village Walk.** Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.

October

- 9th Speen Village Walk.** Meet at Chapel at 1:45pm. Pre-booking requested.
 Tel: Bob Johnston, 488593. Cream tea included.