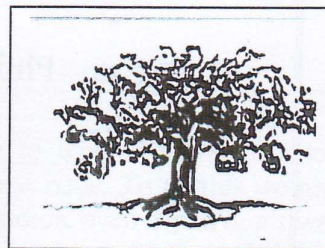
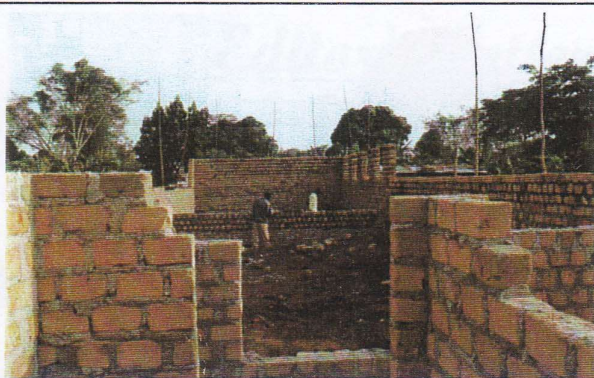
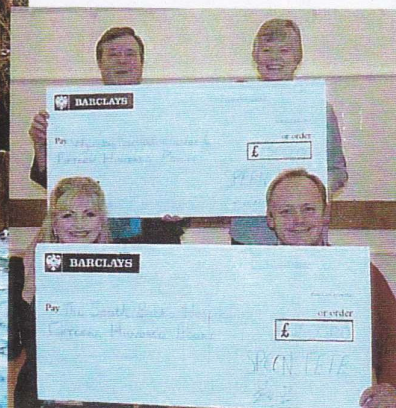


Speen and North Dean News

Issue 23 Spring 2001



**Start
and
Finish
North
Dean
Ward
Uganda**

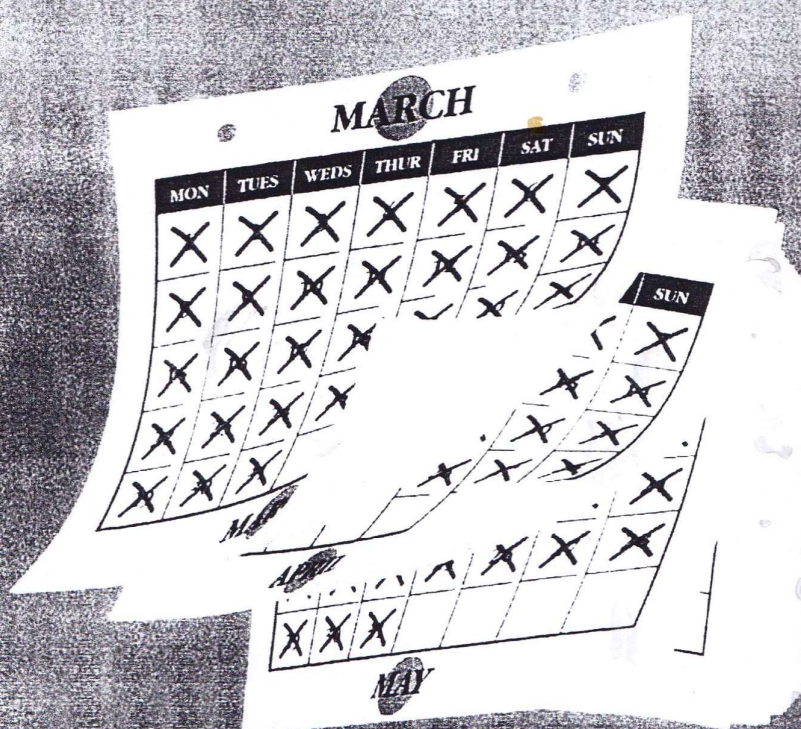


Philip



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Editor's Letter

We are again very grateful to James Jenkins for printing the colour cover of this magazine. This really brightens the whole Issue. There are many others we would also like to thank for their help.

I admit to having been tempted by a suggestion that we should have a rumour page in the magazine to chart the speculation caused by the changes happening to various publicly used buildings in Speen. Look no further! I resisted the temptation. The likelihood of libel was too great, but the suggestion was an interesting one. Have you got a suggestion (a little less dangerous) that you would like us to include? Why not tell us, e-mail us, or write a secret note. You would be surprised how quietly people put articles through our letter box AFTER the copy

date.

We are hoping to have a two-page colour spread in the next issue. To do this we need lots of colour photos, even if you don't want to write an article to go with them. If it is an event in the villages or a person (group photos don't show up so well) then please let us have a good collection to choose from. If you have already had a photo in the mag., send us another. If you haven't, then now is the time to get one in. We need colour prints, or photos on CD discs. I can do a little enhancing of photos. We will return all photos without damage.

Copy Date for the next ISSUE

25th May 2001

By Glenn Hart

THE LUWERO SAGA

New readers begin here ... Early in 2000 David Kemp flew out to Uganda with £4,500 raised by and from North Deaners and £2,000 loaned to build an AIDS Ward as part of North Dean's Millennium efforts. He returned leaving the building largely completed but all the money spent. During the summer several hundred pounds were raised by a runner in the Wycombe marathon from an article in the 'Guardian' and various donations ...

now read on

On September 30th a 'Grand Supper Dance' was held at Pigotts – fine music from Phil Singleton's "POJO" (Pigotts Ocean Jazz Orchestra) and a great meal cooked by Sue McClaughey and friends. 132 sat down to supper in the Main Barn, the other bar was active, profitable (and legal!) and the whole costs of the evening were met from the profit of the raffle! North Deaners and their friends – and several tables of Speenites – ate, drank, danced and frolicked well into the night. A warm message from Sister Ernestine in Luwero was read out – not every dance has a blessing from another continent!

Our thanks to the many people who made it happen and gave their help – musicians, cooks, servers, the clean up team etc. When the bar profits, the ticket money (at £20.00 per head) and the thousand pounds + of generous cheques from those who could not come were totalled, the evening made a profit of £4,500! We could use this to pay off the £2,000 loan and David, who went out to Luwero again the following week, took £3,500 to complete the "North Dean Ward" (see front cover!) and to give Sister Ernestine something towards equipping it. It has 22 beds, office and treatment rooms and was formally opened in January by the papal nuncio.

We have now to consider whether we continue and develop this link or accept that our initial Millennium objective is attained. People have been extremely generous throughout – the £10,000 raised works out at an average of more than £100 for each household in North Dean. Thank you

Letters to the Editor

Open letter to Speen and North Dean News
Doris Redrup and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for all their kindness and support during Doug's long illness

Dear Friends

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who sponsored me in the "Flora Light Challenge For Women" in Hyde Park on July 16th.

I ran in memory of my darling husband Eric and a S.C.B.U.-colleague Lorraine Darby and am delighted to announce that with your help and generosity raised £1280 for sarcoma research.

This most difficult part was actually asking for sponsorship so I am particularly grateful for your support.

If anyone would like a laugh I am willing, by special request, to reveal the photograph taken of me approaching the finishing line, looking like a lobster in agony and, with embarrassing contrast my daughter Lucy by my side looking fresh as a daisy. Not, I hasten to add ahead of me, honest! I did actually sprint over the line and completed the 5K run/jog in 38 mins. Heart and lungs now fully recovered and I did enjoy it.

Love Margaret Hancox.

Dear Glenn

I'd like to thank Keith Jones for yet another splendid bonfire and display of fireworks on New Year's

Eve. He puts a lot of time and effort into these events for the benefit of the whole village. I'm sure it is much appreciated by everyone.

from Jennifer Cowan

SPEEN PRE-SCHOOL

Speen Pre-School would like to take this opportunity to say a 'Happy New Year' and thank you to those who have supported us throughout the year 2000.

A big thank you goes to the village hall committee for all their support and good will towards the Pre-School.

Also a special thank you to all the very kind boys and girls that have donated beautiful toys that they no longer play with. They are providing many hours of fun for our little ones. Thank you for thinking of us.

Caroline Partridge would like to thank everyone who supported Pre-School by buying their festive wrapping paper and cards through the Miller Fund Raising Catalogue this term. A tremendous effort was made by all, and a hefty £340 profit was achieved and donated to our Pre-School.

This return on the catalogue sales was the most successful ever and sincere thanks go to all the villagers and friends for making it a bumper year.

Yours with appreciation.

Janis Hearn

Speen Pre-School Leader

Dear Editor,

TAKE YOUR POO HOME WITH YOU

Another week passes and once again, I have had the unpleasant task of cleaning dog poo/mess/faeces off my children's shoes. Why, when we have so many responsible dog owners who clean up after their dogs, do the rest of dog owning population feel that they can be so irresponsible and unsociable. It's not just the fact that it looks revolting, or that we have to constantly watch where the children are walking, but sooner or later it will affect the health of someone (probably a child) in the village. If it's too much trouble to take the poo home and dispose of it there, then maybe we should, as a village, look at getting some bins situated around the place to put the waste in.

Come on you guilty dog owners/walkers, you know who you are! I hope you will think twice before you let your dog soil the paths and roads around the village again and give the kids a chance to enjoy the outdoors without having to watch their every step.

Thanks for your co-operation

Kate Vale

Enhancing the Village Hall

Some of you might remember that in the mid-nineties, Jo Keattch and I ran a successful club providing outings and theatre trips. When we set up the club we decided to make a small profit each trip, and in the early years we helped Speen Playing Fields Association with extra cash to maintain the field and pavilion. When the Playing Fields finances were on a more secure footing we continued to make profits and when the club finally ran out of steam we had £1,000 in the bank.

We invested this with the intention of spending it later to benefit the Speen Community.

Some of the money recently financed a very attractive stained glass window, now installed opposite the porch door of the village hall. The window commemorates the 1999 Pageant "The Leaves of Time", which gave so much pleasure to audiences and performers alike. The window was commissioned from Caroline Loveys who designed, made and installed it. We hope you will en-

joy the new window whenever you visit the hall and that you will feel this was a good use of the money we had.



There is still some more cash available and we would like to spend it to benefit the cultural or theatrical side of our village life.

All ideas will be considered!

Shiela Tidball(01494 488377 & Jo Keattch (01494 488629)

Speen Village Hall Quiz

On October 20th this Annual Battle of wits took place with all the proceeds going towards the upkeep of our Village Hall.

As usual it was organised by Mrs. W. Lowes assisted by her daughter in the kitchen and her son-in-law Mr David King as Quiz Master and grand-daughter making sure all the points were recorded correctly.

The Village Hall team led for some time but the Pre-school took over to win the trophy. Nine teams had entered the Quiz. Everyone seemed to enjoy the sausage and mash supper which people supplemented with their own particular "tipple". As usual plenty of laughter accompanied David's musical round, and an entertaining evening was had by all.

By Catherine Butler

News Item from Bob Johnston

Tessa Rubbra was the recipient of Joyce Coleman's spinning wheel on Joyce's death in 1995. Joyce bought the wheel when aged 16, in 1921 and told her parents "This will be my Livelihood."

Tessa has donated the wheel to Bucks County Chair Museum where it is currently displayed.

SPEEN MILLENNIUM MARQUEE

This 60ft x 40ft Marquee was purchased last year to be used as a Village facility. It was at the Speen and North Dean fetes. Bookings are now being taken for events in 2001. Local organisations will be charged at cost, and Villagers at a discounted rate.

For availability and terms please speak to John Holmes (Tel: 01494488420).

SPEEN MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS

After nearly 2 years of often pretty frantic activity, the Speen Millennium Celebrations project will soon be wound up, save to make its final donations to the village (*see The end, below*). I think it is fair to say that it has made a vigorous contribution to village life over that period, and it is now perhaps appropriate to reflect on what was achieved.

The beginning

The Millennium project was started in January 1998 when Marjorie and I held a public meeting in the Village Hall to gauge interest in the idea of producing a history book and a pageant about Speen. The objectives were both to commemorate the forthcoming Millennium and to help to develop community spirit in the village. About a dozen people turned up which, we were told as newcomers, was "good" for Speen, but it did at least provide the basis for a working group.

By June, a formal Speen Millennium Celebrations Committee had been established including representatives from most village organisations; a "Memories of old Speen" day had been held and Bob Johnston had organised and begun his highly successful Village Walks. (They ultimately ran throughout the summer months for three years!) A Millennium stall at the 1998 Fête help put us in contact with a few more interested people.

Finance was a concern. Although the Parish Council had already kindly pledged support, we did not know at that stage that we would obtain further generous assistance from Wycombe District and the Speen Shop Charities Fund. A rolling programme of activities was therefore generated both to raise funds for these major items and also, in keeping with the original objectives, as a means of involving the village in a wide range of communal activities.

The middle

Looking back now the list of events appears quite daunting, although we enjoyed it all:

May-September 1998

- * Village Walks organised by Bob Johnston

October 1998

- * Beating of the Bounds of Speen
- * A Music-Hall entertainment entitled "Village Varieties".

November 1998

- * The Music-Hall performed in Coleshill
- * Natural History and Colours of Speen, slide show by Peter Symonds.

February 1999

- * A Bodger's Eye View, illustrated talk by Stuart

King on the history of the local furniture industry

- * Organic Wine and Cheese Tasting, organised by Suzi Rose

March 1999

- * Pictorial History of Speen, old photos shown through the epidiascope, organised by Bob Johnston.

April 1999

- * "An Evening of Bucks Song and Verse." Speen Millennium Choir's first public performance, plus solo songs and verse readings by local people
- * St George's Day Quiz.
- * Second year of Village Walks.

July 1999

- * "The Leaves of Time", village pageant: involving about 135 people and watched by nearly 800.

November 1999

- * "The A to H of composers". Speen Millennium Choir and other local musicians/singers.

February 2000

- * Tree planted on Playing Field to commemorate the pageant.

March 2000

- * "The I to Q of composers". Another concert from the Choir and others.

May 2000

- * Village Walks begin again for the third year.
- * Beating the Bounds of the Ward of Speen.

June 2000

- * Midsummer Day's Quiz

July 2000

- * The Village Fête, at which are launched: "The Leaves of Time," a History of Speen by Martin Stockley and Bob Johnston; Village Map, limited edition prints of Peter Symonds' water-colour; Calendar for 2001, local scenes sketched by Gillian Goodall; Millennium mugs available for every household in Speen, courtesy of the Parish Council; Postcards depicting old scenes of Speen.

October 2000

- * Jazz in Speen. The Vic Ash Quartet

November 2000

- * "The R to Z of composers". Third in the series by the Choir and others.
- * Commemorative "Leaves of Time" window in Village Hall, Jo Keatch and Sheila Tidball.

December 2000

- * Village Sign unveiled. Designed and taken to completion by Peter Symonds.

Speen Millennium Celebrations—Final Distribution of funds

At the time of writing there is in fact still one unfinished project, which is the "Domesday Book" of Speen featuring, basic details of the present population of Speen, with accompanying photographs of many, to be made available in CD-Rom and book format. This is expected see the light of day in the early months of 2001.

The end

Speen has some tangible mementoes of the Millennium to pass on to future inhabitants - not least the Village Sign and the History of Speen. For the present generation, young and old alike, there are some wonderful memories of the pageant. A new choir has been formed and will continue into the new Millennium. From the whole project, acquaintances and friendships have been made throughout the village among folk who might otherwise scarcely have passed the time of day.

The Speen Millennium Celebrations project never set out with the objective of raising money except as a means of financing its own activities. However, it was a stated intention that, should there be a surplus at the termination of the project, it would be used for the benefit of the village. As it turned

out, the pageant and the history book were both highly successful and broke even financially, the former with the aid of the sponsorship mentioned above, the latter through sales alone. Furthermore, the other activities listed above not only played a big part in the village's Millennium Celebrations, but also generated surplus funds which are now available for disposal.

The Committee is therefore inviting suggestions from villagers for the use of these funds. We have no preconceived ideas, but would prefer proposals that:

- a) are likely to be long-lasting
- b) benefit a large number of people
- c) are not something for which other funds should be available
- d) will cost between £100 and £4000. Supporting quotes would be helpful.

Please send proposals to me, as Chairman of the Millennium Celebrations Committee, Driftway House, Coleheath Bottom. All suggestions received by April 30th will be considered by the Committee as soon as possible afterwards.

By Martin Stockley

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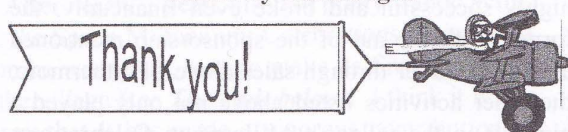
Arthritic pain

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News from Speen Baptist Church

Andy writes:

Carols by Candlelight



Firstly many thanks to all who contributed to the collection during the Carols by Candlelight service on Christmas Eve - over £360 was raised to help street children in Guatemala via the Amersham based Toybox charity.

Secondly,

could not find at the Carol return home. on for 300 in the building



to all those who space in the church Service and had to There were getting adults and children and we just could not fit anymore people in. I'm sorry that you missed it and hope that it did not spoil your Christmas.

As numbers continue to grow at the church we'll have to put our thinking caps on about how to do things this Christmas Eve.

Those who did manage to find a place to sit or stand were in good voice and made the rafters ring as the church music group - flutes, piccolo, violins, viola, guitar and piano - led us in traditional carols and one or two contemporary songs.

No origami to focus our attention this year, everyone received a round '2 It'. So now there's no longer the option to put off those undone DIY jobs (or to delay checking out what Jesus is all about) with the overworked excuse 'when I get around to it'

Christmas Day Celebration

'Joy to the world, the Lord has come!' - the title line of one of Isaac Watts many famous hymns from the Seventeenth Century started our Christmas Day celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Full marks must go to the large contingent from Piggots who walked all the way to church over the fields. If they did not get warmed up that way, then they almost certainly did in a series of worshipful 'Mexican waves' set to a modern psalm. Even having had a 'test wave' it was interesting to see how those below and in the balcony managed to synchronise themselves ... or not!

Ladies 'Breakfast with Friends and ...

Duncan Dyason 11th November

Duncan is the founder of the Toybox charity and he movingly shared about his life, the founding of the

charity and the wonderful work that they have been able to do, rescuing children from the streets of Guatemala city, providing them with somewhere to stay, education and a trade.

Men's 'Breakfast with Friends and ...

Brian Neville 2nd December

Brian's description of his former life of crime as a 'hard man' certainly got our attention. Some of his descriptions of that violent way of life were stomach churning and sat uneasily with a splendid English breakfast prepared by Gloria Holmes and her team of ladies.

In contrast to his former life, Brian's conversion was startling good news, and his visits to prison are not now due to criminal activities, but to share his faith with prisoners and offer them the opportunity of a renewed life.

Alpha Course

Monday evenings have been very exciting this autumn as a group of up to 18 adults and teenagers have been exploring what Jesus is all about - some coming to an understanding for the first time of what it means to choose to become a Christian, some taking that decision to be followers of Jesus, and others deepening their existing faith.

Sharing supper together in a relaxed and friendly environment has helped many to voice their doubts and questions, and find some answers to them.

We hope to run the course again after the summer.

Happening Soon:

24th March - Men's Breakfast: Dr Rodney Holder
19th May - Ladies Breakfast: Cath Grant
After Easter - Developing Parenting Skills Course

Summary of Weekly Church Activities

Sundays: 10:30 am Worship for all ages incl. Creche, Sunday School for 3's-12's and Teens discussion group.
12:00 Fair Trade Stall in church hall (2nd Sunday in month).
6:00 pm Worship Group.
7:30 pm Meeting for Prayer.
Weds: 10:00-11:30am "Time Out"
10:00-11:30am Daytime Home Group - Chinysnook, North Dean
8:00-9:30pm Evening Home Group - Studridge, Studridge La.
Thurs: 8:00-9:30pm Evening Home Group - 172 Parkwood Walters Ash

THE FUTURE OF THE SPEEN STORES

Thank you all for supporting the shop and proving the sceptics to be wrong! However by now the "To Let" board will be up for the Speen Stores. We are sorry that David and Sharon have chosen not to renew their lease and we wish them well for the future.

There is no question of the shop closing, even temporarily.

Bucks HA is totally committed to the project and fully appreciates the contribution it makes to village life.

A local family has already expressed an interest in taking over the lease and we are confident that we will be able to appoint a new shopkeeper by the end of February.

Our thanks go to David and Sharon who have offered to work along side their successors during March and April to enable the transfer to take place with the minimum of disruption.
From Jane Fleming

Speen Shop Charities have donated money to this magazine on two occasions, for which we are very grateful. These donations have enabled us to print colour pages in the magazine, which we believe greatly enhances its appeal.

Without this additional support we would be very dubious about spending the extra money involved with the colour printing process.

By Martin Hart

Speen Village Hall have now been able to replace the crumbling concrete at the front of the hall. This has been done with the help of the Speen Shop Charities Committee who contributed £750 towards this project. I'm sure everyone using the hall would like to express their thanks for them helping us to maintain our hall, which is in constant use by our community.

By Catherine Butler Secretary

Where the Speen Shop Charities money has been spent in 1999 and 2000

| Organisation | Amount | Used For |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Speen W.I. | £55 | Senior Citizens' lunch |
| Speen & North Dean News | £200 | Towards costs |
| Speen Millennium Celebrations | £1000 | Lighting & sound equipment |
| Speen Baptist Church | £1175 | Lychgate repair & plaque |
| Speen Pre-school | £250 | Staff training |
| Speen Toddler Group | £300 | New equipment |
| Speen Village Hall | £750 | Replace concrete at front |
| Speen Children's Football Group | £335 | Carry home goals |
| Speen Playground Appeal | £1000 | Playground equipment |
| Speen & North Dean News | £100 | Towards costs |
| Speen Millennium Marquee | £500 | Towards purchase |
| Speen Pre-school | £350+ | Toys & equipment |
| TOTAL | £6015 | |

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SPEEN PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

Newcomers to Speen may not realise that the Playing Field, next to and behind "The King William IV", is not owned by the Council, but by the villagers themselves. Two acres of land were bought from Courage's Brewery in 1935 and a further quarter acre later with money from public subscriptions. The Field is registered as a charity and is managed by a Committee elected annually. The Committee's job is to manage the Field in the way in which the villagers wish.

The Playing Field Committee is responsible for providing and maintaining the Pavilion, children's play equipment, mowing equipment, the seats, litter bins etc. and ensuring that the Field and its surrounding areas are kept in good order.

To finance all this the Playing Field Committee need your help to raise funds. Part of the income is met by villagers contributing to a fortnightly draw. Residents are encouraged to buy at least one ticket each at a price of 5p per week. Approximately half the money raised from the Draw provides income, and the other half provides prizes, 1 of £10, 1 of £5, and 2 of £3. A list of winners is displayed on the Playing Field notice board and the Parish Council notice board at the end of Water Lane. A number of collectors are responsible for different areas of the village, and they call annually to collect contributions, which are £2.60 per ticket.

The Draw is registered under the Lotteries Act 1976 with Wycombe District Council. We therefore invite any residents who are not already members to join our Fortnightly Draw - or as an alternative we are happy to receive donations from anyone who is opposed to the idea of raffles.

Additional fundraising events are organised by the Playing Field Committee from time to time but the draw is the most regular source of income. Expenses are kept to a minimum by Committee members providing most of the labour involved in maintaining the Field and its surrounds, with help from residents when big tasks are involved.

It is in the interest of all in the village that the Playing Field is kept as an attractive open space available to everyone and particularly providing a safe place for children to play. Adults who are not involved with activities on the Field would surely like to see that our 'village green' is maintained in good order.

Please support our efforts by joining the Draw.

We are currently seeking at least one new collector who can spare approximately two or three hours per year.

If you are not a member and am interested in supporting the Draw) or can help by volunteering as a collector please contact the Draw Promoter, Peter Collett on 488348.

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Wycombe District Council September 2000

May I firstly belatedly wish you all a happy New Year. This year will see a major change in the way the Council is run. Gone will be the old committees and in their place will be a new cabinet structure. All of this results from the Government's reform of the public sector requiring all councils to make changes in the way they work and what they do.

Wycombe District Council will change to the new decision-making structure from May this year and run it as an experiment until November. It is designed to make for faster and more accountable decisions. In addition, the Council is also reviewing all its services to see how they can be improved.

New powers and duties have also been given to the Council to promote the economic, social and environmental well being of the area. The Council is working closely with the Town and Parish Councils to identify the key issues facing their area over the next five years. This will

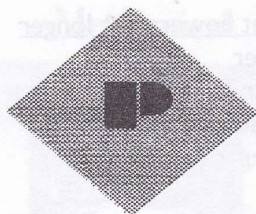
help the Councils to identify the actions that need to be taken.

One result of the change will be the introduction of public speaking at full Council meetings from May 2001 allowing you to have your say on things that matter to you!

The formal hearings to determine the Local Plan are continuing with the inspectors taking evidence. This stage will probably conclude by the end of June 2001 after which it will be for the inspectors to prepare their findings which are anticipated to be issued early next year.

On the local front, meetings have continued to take place at Lacey Green in an effort to find ways to improve the parking/traffic problems experienced at school set down and pick up times. It is still very much early days in the discussions but some progress has been made with all interested parties taking an active part.

Paul Rogerson



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Council Information and Planning news

Planning Applications for Speen Issued by Lacey Green Parish Council

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 6047/00 | Hillside Cottage, Coleheath Bottom | Demolition of half of semi-detached house and construction of new detached house Refused by Parish and District Council. Appeal lodged with Dept of Environment. |
| 6246/00 | Ashton, Studridge Lane | Remove tree from front garden: no objections |
| 6589/00 | Chervil Meadow, Chapel Hill | Erect Conservatory, no objections |
| 6971/00 | The Laurels, Chapel Hill | Reduce size of tree in front garden, no objections |
| 6833/00 | Cherry Tree Cottage, Studridge Lane | Erect conservatory, no objections |
| 6873/00 | Parish Council | Millennium sign on corner of Hampden Road, approved. |

Planning Applications for Speen and North Dean Issued by Hughenden Parish Council

| | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| MAS/00/06761/FUL | Jasmine, Speen Road, North Dean | Demolition of existing garage and workshop, construction of 2 storey extension, single story conservatory and breakfast room, enlargement of dormers, alterations to roof and construction of detached workshop, no observations |
| JDG/00/07467/FUL | Highview House, Spring Coppice Lane, Speen | Change of use of small area of agricultural land and construction of new underground garage, no observations |

Hints and Tips

- *****
- * To make cut flowers last longer
 - * Add to water
 - * 1 tblsp sugar (to feed)
 - * 1 tblsp. Bleach (to kill bacteria)
 - * 1 tblsp. vinegar (to neutralise).
 - *
 - * To keep a thermos sweet in storage
 - * with a lump of sugar in it.
 - * To descale a kettle.
 - * Soak overnight with a mixture of vinegar and water 1/2 & 1/2 , to the required level
 - * By Jane Oury
 - *
 - * Use the clothes softening cloths (that are used in a tumble drier) to
 - * 1. Wipe over your hair if you have a lot of static electricity in it.
 - * 2. Wipe over the TV or VDU monitor to clean and prevent static dirt.
 - *
 - *
 - * *****



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By Nick Wheeler-Robinson (01494 562167)




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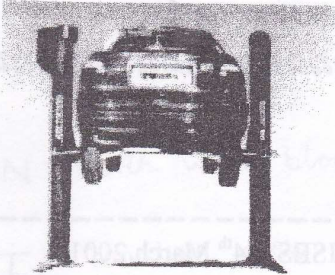
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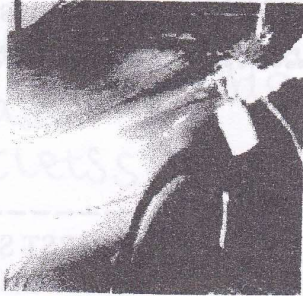


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Speen School PTA

I'd like to start by thanking Nicki Pitt who successfully chaired Speen School PTA last year. During the year Nicki and the PTA committee made a significant financial contribution to the school, assisting with the initial purchase and on going support for the new computers that have recently been installed at the school.

The PTA has a busy year ahead and we look forward to your full support in the many events that are now an established part of the Speen calendar.

Auction of Promises

March 24th sees the return of our single biggest fundraiser, the Auction of Promises. If you haven't yet heard about it, or need a gentle reminder, we are looking for pledges that we can auction on the night – anything from babysitting to bird-watching, gardening to gourmet cooking, hedge cutting to human slave !!. Please use the form below to share your special talents with us for the benefit of the school; and be sure to attend on the night – it is enormous fun and there will be some great bargains to be had. (Tickets are available from Phillipa Lane on 488 453, priced at £5 including ploughman's supper and entry to prize draw).

Treasure Hunt

Following such a wonderful treasure hunt in the glorious sunshine of last May, we couldn't resist repeating the event, one that parents and children alike can enjoy. Look out for a slight twist this year. Date confirmed as 20th May.

Summer Ball

And finally don't miss the Speen Summer Ball !!.

June 30th, featuring the popular local band, THE WEDGE and Jimmy Sawyer's Disco. Tickets available from the PTA soon.

Any enquiries, please contact Louise Wilson on 563 750.

David Vale


Chairman PTA 488 622

SPEEN CE FIRST SCHOOL AUCTION OF PROMISES 24th March 2001

Name.....
 Address.....
 Tel No.....
 Pledge.....

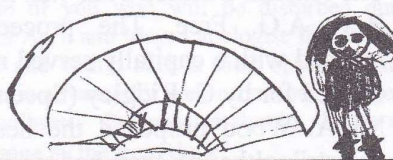
Please Return to Phillipa Lane at Kingsley, Hampden Road, Speen (Opp King William)

W wonderful winter^{weather}
 I Ice on the road
 N Nice dog I said
 T Trains have wheels
 E Every time I go to bed
 R Rain is on the roof



Billy

W We like playing in the snow
 I I played in a igloo
 N North is cold in winter
 T The trees were blowing in the wind
 E Emily and Sophie played in the snow
 R Robbie went to play outside







Winter Poems

Written by children from
 Speen Church of England First School

W We want snow
 I Icy igloos
 N north wind blows
 T Tim has a tie
 E Emily likes egg
 R Rudolf is a reindeer.

BY Lara

W Wind and wet and snow so cold
 I igloo Lets go in and see
 it's so cold.
 N St Nick lets see and go in.
 T Tim is in a car.
 E elephants are cold in the snow in the cold.
 R Rudolf the red nose and is
 too pull so hard he is so
 tired.
 from Lauren.

POOR FOLK ENTERTAINMENT
BUCKS FREE PRESS FRIDAY 26TH JULY 1907.
FOUND BY PAUL EVANS WHOSE ANCESTOR WAS
REV. ALFRED GEORGE FREE
PASTOR OF SPEEN CHURCH 1857 - 1865,
PASTOR OF NAPHILL MISSION HALL 1875 - 1907

It was indeed a happy thought when our committee was formed to provide a few hours pleasure for the poor in receipt of outdoor relief, residing in the Hughenden,

the upper hamlets of Princess Risborough, and Great and Little Hampden.

The Naphill Mission Hall was kindly lent by Rev. A.G. Free. The proceedings commenced with a capitally served meat tea well catered for by G. Ridgley (Speen).

Mr A. Wood proposed the health of "Our Guests", although they had no wine or other like refreshments, they would do it just as heartily out of tea cups.

He could tell them that some of those attending had not had an outing for years and it required a great deal of persuasion for some to leave the surroundings of home.

The pledge was drunk with musical honours, the company singing "For he's a jolly good fellow" Mr. Baker (Lacey Green) gave a pleasing rendering of the ditty "In the shade of the old apple tree." Mr. Walker (receiving officer) in response wished it to be known that the expenses did not come out of the rates, the funds were raised by kind friends.

Mr Rupert Stevens (tailor of Speen) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the workers and subscribers.

Preparations were then made for a series of athletic sports on Naphill Common and thither the Monks Risborough Star Brass Band led the way. On the common tobacco was liberally supplied to the men and sweets to the women and children.

There was a touch of pathos as the old folk chatted about "good old times". One old infirm recipient told how he once had to pay 12 1/4d (twelve pence and a farthing) for a loaf of bread and 11 d per pound for bacon.

Another told of years threshing corn at one shilling and six pence per day. Chimed in a third "I don't want to go back to them days". Amongst the races was the Old Men's Slow race (the last home being the prize taker)

1. G. Saunders aged 90, 2. R. Redrup aged 83

In the Old Women's Slow race.

1. Mrs. L Lacey 2. Mrs S. Parslow

At seven o'clock the vehicles took the poor back to their respective homes, loud in their praise for all that had been done to provide a few bright hours for them

Edited by Bob Johnston 2001

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WELL DONE SPEEN !

Villagers will be delighted to learn that Speen's annual fete raised a total of £3,581.74, £1,500 more than the target. The photo shows cheque presentations to Sheila Tidball (acting in this instance as representative for Wycombe Hospital's Paediatric Unit) and Alan Chandler, a trustee from The South Bucks Hospice. We have received letters from both benefactors who asked me to pass on sincere thanks to everyone involved. Every year, virtually every village in the country plans and stages its annual fete. In order to achieve success it requires much debate, some diplomacy and serious hard work. Inevitably, Murphy's Law will intervene (what can go wrong, will!) and last minute hitches cause headaches. Every year, dedicated Speen Fete Committee organisers plan and produce a wonderful family day for the village whatever the problems and despite the weather. As we decided to donate most of the profits to charity, everyone in Speen and surrounding villages were enthusiastically supportive and generous – well done Speen!

Now we are into another year so

STAND BY YOUR LOOSE CHANGE

because, I thought I ought to let everyone in Speen know that we are approaching the door-to-door collections time. I have been collecting door-to-door for Christian Aid for 16 years and for Save the Children for 12 years. When I first arrived in Speen, I was asked to act as co-ordinator for the collections for Save the Children and I have now a loyal band of helpers whom I bully into helping me. This year I am organising a buffet lunch shortly after Easter for all my collectors (details later). However, if the idea of a free lunch appeals or you would like to help with the collections, please call me as soon as possible for more information (488 696).

For those of you who will be disturbed during the months of April and May, I apologise that we appear so regularly and within such a short space of time but I thank you in advance for your usual courtesy, generosity and friendliness. Perhaps we should all put a pot of loose change by the front door?

By Suzi Rose

North Dean News

On Dec 21st, with the run up to Christmas in full swing, we held our festive social evening. An abundance of our famous North Dean Punch, a few light refreshments, and plenty chat, made for a relaxing couple of hours. Numbers were down on previous years, but the committee were taken slightly by surprise; with 23 children attending, a hasty search was needed to replenish the bran tub. I hope no one was disappointed. A small presentation was made during the evening to our young football enthusiasts for their help on fete day. As numbers were down perhaps the wrong day was chosen. It is always difficult to get the timing right. If you would like to come next year let us know when you would like event held. With Christmas now a faint memory, Sat Jan 13th, saw the Village Hall being prepared for that great Annual event, the Senior Citizens Lunch, or, as it is now known, The Young at Heart Club. Once again, numbers were down on last year, with good food and friendly company, all who attended appeared to enjoy themselves. Sherry was served on arrival, and friendships were renewed, while the food was being made ready to put on the table. About 35 sat

down to Chicken with all the trimmings, washed down with a glass or two of wine, followed by trifle with or without sherry, and coffee and mints. A vote of thanks was proposed to the ladies of the Committee who as usual provided this delicious spread. Nick Robinson mystified us all with his sleight of hand and a short rendition of verse. A couple of games of bingo raised a few laughs, and a free raffle rounded off a very pleasant afternoon. If you admit to being over 60 and young at heart, join us next year by letting one of the committee know. In North Dean, we try to run events that have appeal to all age groups. Most of the committee have served for many years, and so tend to be in the older age group. We do need some younger blood to join us, both for now, and to carry on when we oldies pack up. The more helpers there are, the easier it is, so if you want to see the Village Hall carry on, both for yourselves, and your children, please think about giving up a little of your time and join the happy band of committee members. Happy New year to you all.

John Rogers, Chairman NDVH Committee

THE OLD PLOW BISTRO AND RESTAURANT

A selection of dishes from the current bistro and restaurant menus:-

STARTERS

Fresh Devon crab, giant prawns, smoked salmon, fresh mussels and lemon and chive mayonnaise.

Fish and shellfish soup with fresh basil

Moules Mariniere

Fresh scallops salad with oriental dressing

Parma ham and fresh figs

Los Angeles Caesar salad with smoked duck breast

MAINS

Grilled breast of corn-fed chicken, venison sausage, cranberry and orange relish

Pan-fried calf's liver and sweet-cured bacon with shallot confit.

½ fresh lobster Thermidor

Venison sausages with mustard sauce and neeps and tatties

Fresh fillet seabass with lemon butter and wild mushroom sauce

Linguine pasta with prawns, saffron and fresh crab

Char-grilled Aberdeen Angus rib eye steak with cracked peppercorn. sauce

DESSERTS

Hot syrup sponge with raspberries, strawberries and vanilla sauce

Sticky toffee ice-cream with poached William pear and chocolate sauce

Mango and raspberry sorbets with fresh fruit coulis

Farmhouse cheese platter with grapes, walnuts, celery and a glass of port

Hot French apple tart with vanilla ice-cream

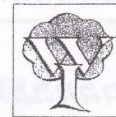
All dishes are subject to availability

For Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and details of parties and conference facilities, please telephone 01494 488300 and ask for Mrs Cowan.

The Old Plow Bistro and Restaurant, Flowers Bottom Lane, Speen



Speen W.I.



The November meeting had as usual been the Annual Meeting of Speen WI and allowed members to look back on what had been a very busy and enjoyable year. With the President and Secretary agreeing to continue their duties, all was ready for an equally successful year in 2001.

In December, Mr Leslie Grout asked 'How Pagan is Christmas?' and went on to explain how early Heathen and Saturnalia festivities were remarkably close in both time and nature to the ways in which we now celebrate Christmas. Many of our current customs were popularised particularly during the Victorian era with Christmas Cards first appearing in 1843 when there was also a mince pie season which lasted from December 16th until February. Santa Claus appears to have had a very varied life and set of names going from Holland to the UK via the USA.

Plans were made for the coming year with visits already planned to Denman College in March, and to the Tate Modern and the London Eye, and later in the year to the Lord Mayor's Show. The Book of Banners and Cloths had been borrowed from Stuart Lodge and will be in the institute again next year for those who missed it first time around.

Although funds are currently

at a reasonable level, the new Treasurer suggested that some fund-raising would be needed and members were asked to think of money spinning ideas.

Christine Oliver is collating the WI Walks mileage and those who keep a tally are surprised at how far all that dog walking takes them!

Two members will attend the Resolutions Selection meeting in January.

The Annual Carol singing round the Village with the WI and Speen Choir will take place on December 18th and the proceeds are to be given to the Scan appeal.

Speen WI really got into the swing of things at the first meeting of 2001 with an evening of Scottish Country Dancing. Local dancing enthusiasts Sheila and Bob Johnson bravely struggled to take members through the steps of a sedately timed

strathspey. The individual steps and patterns were learned beautifully - then they had to be strung together! The second dance of the evening went much more smoothly as confidence grew and by the end of the evening the Dashing White Sergeant was being spiritedly presented. All set now for the Burns Night Supper planned for January 2002. During the breathing space interval, Sheila explained a little of the world-wide appeal of this form of dancing and the way in which dances are still being written to this day. The Carol singing in December had raised £145 for Scan appeal and grateful thanks go to the singers and also to the generous donations given by villagers who were on the receiving end.

Members were reminded of the visit o Denman College in March and also advised to book their places on the County visit to Tate Modern and the London Eye in April. The County newsletter also offered many other interesting events planned for the coming months. The February meeting takes place in the Village Hall when it is hoped everyone will have recovered their breath and as always visitors are very welcome to join us. If you would like to see the programme for the year, then please contact the secretary.

By Jean Morris

Thursday 1st March

■ Trip to New Zealand

Mr. M. George
Comp. Favourite
Holiday postcard

Thursday 5th April

Birthday Party
Sawdust & Greasepaint

Mrs. J. Purdy

Thursday 3rd May

Resolutions Meeting

Thursday 7th June

Tai Chi and Me
Mrs. S. Eastgate
Comp. Something from
the Far East

MORE JAZZ IN SPEEN

It's not often that a member of the great Oscar Peterson's band has dropped in for a cup of tea in Speen, but it happened in October when Catherine and George Butler answered the door to find Martin Drew, a regular member of Peterson's overseas touring band for many years, standing there. He had arrived about an hour and a half early for a gig in Speen Village Hall and, finding it shut, made his way down to the Secretary's house to ask if he could bide his time.

Later that evening, villagers were treated to a feast of jazz from a quartet of world-class musicians, as part of the programme of the Speen Millennium Celebrations activities.



The quartet was led by tenor sax and clarinet virtuoso Vic Ash, who has worked with many of the great names in the business including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Johnny Dankworth, Sammy Davis Jr etc.

Bill LeSage, another of Britain's leading jazz musicians, displayed his mastery of the keyboard, while Dave Green on bass and drummer Martin Drew completed the band.

The Hall was packed for an unforgettable 2 hours of memorable music, the relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere was aided and abetted by a bar run

by Marjorie Stockley and Pat Davies.

By Martin Stockley









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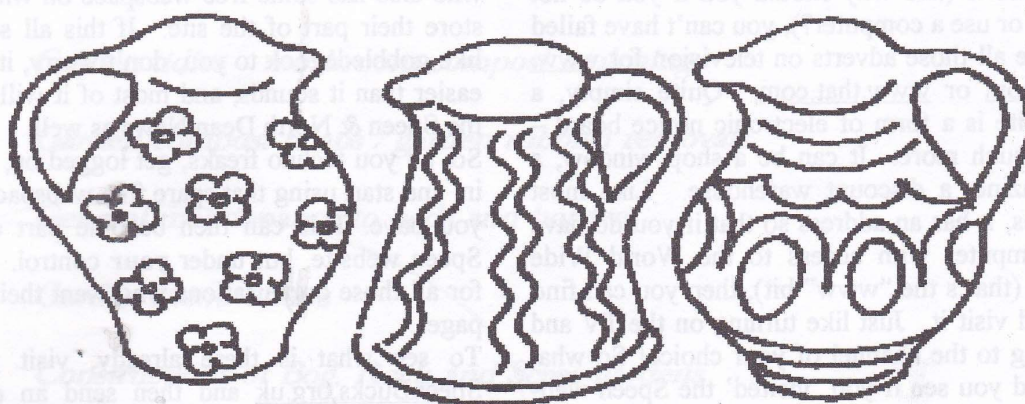
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by Tessa Rubbra



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On display in the showroom are examples of beautifully coloured and fine tableware. Special Commemorative Plates and Bowls can also be made for Wedding Presents, Anniversaries and other occasions that need to be remembered.

The Pottery is open every day, but if you want to see Tessa to discuss an order it would be advisable to ring before coming.

Tessa holds pottery classes in her workshop for groups of 3 people, mornings or evenings. Ring for more details 01494 488 206

Valley Cottage, Highwood Bottom, Speen Bucks. HP27 0PY

SPEEN ON THE INTERNET

We may be a sleepy Buckinghamshire Village 'on top of the Chilterns', but now Speen has its own website. Looking elsewhere in this magazine, you would perhaps disagree with the 'sleepy' description – and that is why the website was started. Often there is so much going on that it is difficult to fit it all in, or even find out about it all. Even if you don't know what a website is (and why should you if you do not have or use a computer?), you can't have failed to see all those adverts on television for www.this.com or www.that.com. Quite simply, a website is a form of electronic notice board – but much more. It can be a shop window, a magazine, a discount warehouse. Like most places, it has an address so that if you do have a computer with access to the World Wide Web (that's the "www" bit), then you can find it and visit it. Just like turning on the TV and tuning to the channel of your choice! So what would you see if you 'visited' the Speen website?

Currently it is pretty empty, just a few past editions of the Speen & North Dean News populate its pages – but it is waiting there for any villagers to provide the content. John Radford secured the names "speenbucks.org.uk" and

"speenbucks.co.uk" last year, and has built the framework for the website, so now it is just waiting for you to provide the input.

John is looking for villagers who have a computer with access to the internet and who either already know how to provide content to a website or who would be willing to learn. In particular the basic requirement is for someone who also has some free webspace on which to store their part of the site. If this all sounds like gobbledegook to you, don't worry, it is far easier than it sounds, and most of it will be in the Speen & North Dean News as well.

So, all you techno freaks, get logged on, tuned in, and start using that spare free webspace that you have. This can then become part of the Speen website, but under **your** control. Ideal for all those organisations who want their own pages.

To see what is there already, visit www.SpeenBucks.org.uk and then send an e-mail saying you want to be part of the Speen website. We might even be able to operate a village based e-mail system – now there's a challenge!

By John Radford

McGuee

Twinning Association

The twinning of Lacey Green and Speen with Hambye in Normandy is now in its 20th year and we will be hosts to a party from France later in the year. Exact dates still have to be finalised.

Our 20th year started off with the annual fun quiz that took place in the Millennium Hall in Lacey Green on Saturday, 20 January. 12 teams took part and at the end, only 5 points separated the first four teams. The victors by one point were Shower (David Morgan and team), with the runners up Smithsonians (Joan Smith and team). As usual, chairman Pat Williams set all the questions and also supplied a splendid supper.

With the 20th anniversary in mind, we are planning to print a small book of memories.

So, if you have any memories of twinning from the last 20 years, we want to hear from you. It might be that one of your children went on an exchange visit and came back with an odd story, or you may have been involved in putting one of our French visitors up at any time. Please think back, and if you can come up with a funny, sad, embarrassing or interesting thought, we would love to hear from you. Perhaps some place you visited made a lasting impression, or you could describe a person who impressed you. Any and all contributions will be welcomed, from members, ex-members, non-members.

All contributions to Pat Williams 10 Croft Road, Thame e-mail typ.williams@cwcom.net



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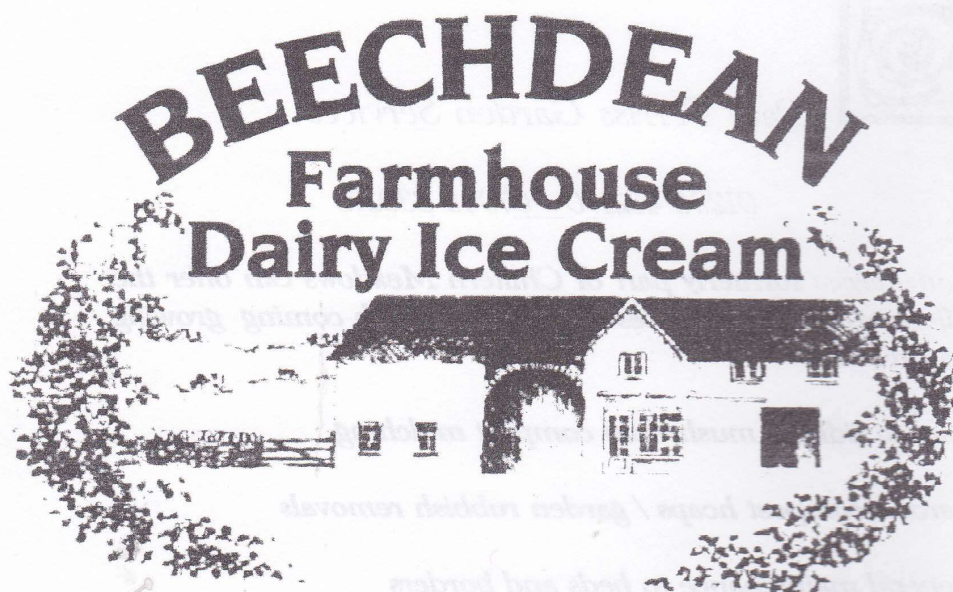


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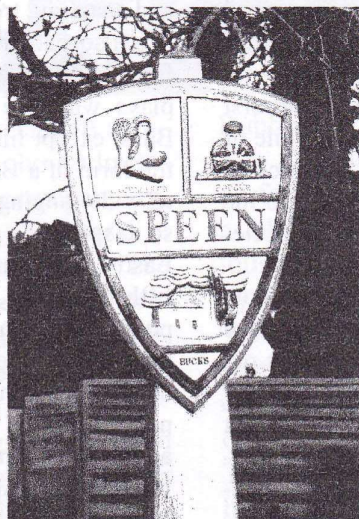
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SPEEN VILLAGE SIGN UNVEILED

Don White said he had specially selected the weather, and who's to say he hadn't? It was, a fine December morning when about 80 villagers congregated at the junction of Hampden Road and Chapel Hill to witness the unveiling of the new Village Sign. The sign was the idea of Peter Symonds. It was one of the Speen Millennium Celebrations projects and also had gained the support of the Parish Council. However, Peter is not only an ideas man, he has many practical talents too, and he set to work on the immensely time-consuming task of designing and artworking the sign himself. After the design was completed, further local input was provided in the final construction. First, Gomme's Forge cast the metal sign at Loosley Row, after which Peter came back into the picture to hand paint the finished article. Peter Tomlin then fashioned the massive oak pillar on which the sign is mounted, and finally Mark Wengler installed it on its stone base.

Several aspects of Speen are reflected in the sign. The lacemaker and the bodger are

strongly associated with the village and represent two of the crafts upon which it grew from a small farming hamlet in the late 18th



Century to the much larger and socially active community of the 20th Century. The Chapel is also depicted, as it has played a major role in Speen village life for nearly 200 years - and continues to do so. When you next pass the sign, stop to look closely at the marvellously detailed representation of the Chapel's flint walls. Last, but by no means least, the plinth at the foot of the sign has been built with Denner Hill stone - specially selected for the job because of its history as a building material in the village

and, in its extraction and cutting, as a one-time source of employment for Speen's inhabitants.

A time capsule is buried under the monument, containing a copy of the electoral roll and other mementoes of contemporary Speen, but it is to be hoped that our new sign will stand guard over the site for many years. Maybe even to the next Millennium?

By Martin Stockley

Speen Postcards

After years of not having any village souvenirs for tourists to buy, we now have a selection. This year there is a special calendar for 2001 featuring the drawings of Gillian Goodall. You can still buy the Leaves of Time book researched by Bob Johnston and edited by Martin Stockley. There are some delightful postcards of the village, the historical black and white cards showing scenes of the village in days gone by and some bright new photographic cards with snow scenes. With the exception of the new postcards all the other items have been produced as part of the Speen Millennium

Celebrations. Villagers will be familiar with the postcard showing a snowy Baptist Chapel as this was used on their Christmas Card this year. The new postcards were produced from photographs taken by John Radford, in response to a request from Sharon at Speen Stores. He hopes to produce more local cards, this time with a Summer and Spring theme, again under the banner name of Chiltern Postcards. They are already on sale in the Wycombe Tourist office, as well as at Speen Stores, of course.

By John Radford

Bangers, Bonfire...and all that Jazz!

With November 5th falling on a Sunday this year, Speen's annual tradition of celebrating Guy Fawkes Day landed on the 4th, being the closest Saturday to the anniversary. The four hundred plus years of celebration for this event around the country presented itself with a bonus cocktail of entertainment in Speen this year.

Once the noise of the bangers, rockets and starburst had faded and the bonfire reduced to a small pile of burning embers, those lucky enough to have tickets retreated from the noise of the Playing Field to the Village Hall, a venue fast becoming a regular celebration of Jazz music.

With Martin Hart, leading his quartet in his now familiar style, the audience were transported through what is probably undisputedly the best period of jazz of the last century.

Moving relentlessly from one composer or lyricist to another with hardly a pause for breath, the audience were treated to an extravaganza of both popular and also lesser-known music from the 20's, 30's and 40's, passing swiftly yet orderly through the three decades of music.

With good tradition, the evening started with the time honoured "I Got Rhythm" played with no apologies, to get the audience toe tapping and in the mood from the start. The casual narrative style of Martin Hart followed the first tune, sort of, filling in the holes of history as to how the music or lyrics came into being. I say "sort of" because many stories from the showbiz world often derive from a combination of hard - or not so hard fact, popular assumption and often well-planned publicity. Never the less, they are always fun to hear related time and again for the sake of us lesser educated mortals on the fringes of jazz appreciation. Martin has developed his own style of presentation, which is easy to follow and informative. His use of brief notes, rather than formal script adds to the informality of the evening and in the best tradition of the improvised music - as jazz has always been described - fitting perfectly with the concert's title of the evening, "The Poets of Tin Pan Alley."

The evening saw the welcome return of Mike Wills after just over a year's absence and this time armed not only with his Clarinet but also a trio of Tenor, Soprano and Alto Saxophones. Mike has now made several appearances at the Village hall and brought his range of Saxophones by popular request.

Also returning from last year's Dave Brubeck's concert was Roger Munns, playing the keyboard. Roger's talent combined with a highly versatile instrument provided a wide variety of sound and a true touch of authenticity through the developing and changing trends of Jazz of these three decades. We also had the opportunity to welcome, for the first time to the Village Hall, John Monney. John plays what we would expect to call the Double Bass, except his instrument was also electronic, in the form of a Bass Guitar, once again lending itself to wide ranging sounds to "blend with the trend" - so to speak!

Lastly, the Martin Hart Quartet was joined by, a fifth musician. Elizabeth May provided vocal support, showing not only a great talent for jazz music but also a wide and varied range to suit the large number of songs performed throughout the evening. Dressed in an alluring "black number" she added a welcome touch of glamour to the proceedings and I suspect helped keep the tempo up to pace for the rest of the "mature" Quartet!

Jerome Kern and Dorothy Field featured during Elizabeth May's introductory song of the evening "I Won't Dance" quickly followed by "Lady Be Good," sung at a different than usual, but equally catching tempo.

Many of the classic songs and tunes were also on display and played in their familiar clothes. Anything Goes, I Wish I Were In Love Again, Wonderful, Isn't It a Pity, Change Partners, Everything Happens To Me, Cheek To Cheek, Witchcraft, all were on parade to keep the toes tapping and the hands clapping throughout the evening.

The finale was provided by the Duke Ellington tune, "Take The A Train" but once again the audience was side-tracked by the quartet, having being joined by Elizabeth, adding a little known vocal version of the well-known tune. Although generally attributed to Ellington, it is said that "A Train" was, in fact, written by a life long colleague Billy Strayhorn. Lyrics were added at a later time, specifically, for one particular concert, and rarely heard since. It provided a very nice and unusual curtain drop to a very popular and enjoyable evening, obviously appreciated from the sounds of boisterous applause following a number of encores and the eventual close.

By Reg Taylor.

THE SPEEN MILLENNIUM CHOIR

The third in the series of the A to Z of composers musical evening and supper was held at the village hall on 17 and 18 November



in front of a full and appreciative audience. Martin Stockley led his choir admirably and, with Gwen Palmer accompanying, the choir obviously enjoyed their task in performing several varied pieces. The youngsters of the village were well presented by Natalie Awdry, Mary Hall, Richard Gower and Melanie Holmes who sang and played various pieces.

Wynne Davies sang two songs, the second by a composer named Zimmerman: better known to us as Bob Dylan. The Welsh connection was upheld by Bill and Megan

Chinn who entertained us with their lovely voices. Phil Bowell kept the Speen theme by singing two songs written by Edmund

Rubbra who lived in Speen.

The final soloist was Margaret Lewis who performed September Song by Weill. What a talented village we live in - it was fabulous to see so many excellent performances by local people.

Talent is not restricted to the musical field, Jean Baines and her allies produced an excellent meal which was enjoyed by everyone

The next concert by the Speen Choir will be held in the Spring.

By Charlie Pearson

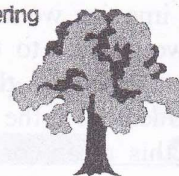
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For more information contact: MEGAN CHINN 01494 563074

Hughenden Parish Council

In my last contribution to the Speen and North Dean News, I expressed the Council's wish to raise the profile of the Council. One of the ways we had looked at, was to set up meetings with residents at either Village Hall or Residents Association Monthly Meetings. This we hope to start in the next few months. I would like to hear from anyone interested in attending such a meeting. The format would take the form of a talk by the clerk, and the Chairman, outlining a brief history of the Council, then a more in depth presentation of the Council's responsibilities, and how Hughenden Parish Council is applying them. A discussion period would follow when you could raise any issues that you feel relevant.

Another area of interest, which many of you may be unaware of is the work within the Parish carried out by the Parish Warden. He has many and varied duties, but because North Dean is a small part of the Parish you may not have seen him very often in our Village. One duty he does carry out on a regular basis in North Dean is to inspect our play equipment for safety. This is a legal requirement incumbent on the owners, in this case North Dean Village Hall, but is a free service by the Parish Council. He is an expert in the dying art of hedge laying, if you are driving along Naphill's main road slow down at the junction to Chapel lane, where there is an example of his work on the hedge surrounding the gas chamber in the verge of the

junction.

Another of his tasks is to look after the unused allotment gardens. We have a few spare ones on the North Dean site. If anyone is interested either in North Dean or Speen please contact me or the Parish Clerk- save John a job and give yourself an interest!

Traffic Calming is another issue I mentioned last time. Our Sub-Committee has spent a lot of time over the last twelve months addressing this problem. Some progress has been made, but it is a long haul. Funding is always the excuse but just recently a small pot of money has been made available, so we hope to get some benefit from this. Speeding is the main problem through North Dean, and I am hopeful that at some time in the future the limit can be reduced to 30mph. The trouble then as now, is to enforce it. Part of this solution is in our own hands. Most of us drive a vehicle of some sort, so why not make it your new years resolution to keep within the speed limit at all times. I would like to remind you that all parish Council meetings are open to the Public and you are welcome to come any time. Full Council Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month except Aug, and Committee meetings are as advertised. They are all held in the Council Office at Great Kingshill and start at 8.0pm.

John Rogers. Chairman Hughenden Parish Council
Tele No.562041

Princes Risborough School January 2001 Specialist Status School - Update

I am extremely pleased to announce that on Friday 19th January 2001. We received a call from the Department for Education advising us that we had been successful in our bid to become a Specialist Technology Status School. As you can imagine we are delighted with the news and would like to thank all those who contributed to the bid that we believe will transform education at the school.

What does this mean for Princes Risborough School?

By achieving Technology status we can continue to build on the full National Curriculum by way of enhanced facilities and resources

that we can provide for the students. This is because the government will now enhance the school's funding for up to 7 years. We are at the very early stages of the change but we do believe that this could mean an extra £1million over the seven-year period. This will enable us to purchase extensive resources and increase our staffing, thus significantly improving the education we are able to provide for your children and/or grandchildren, regardless of the subject they are studying.

Thank you again for your support.

Gaynor Hartle (Headteacher)

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Mrs Rosemary Stone MSSch MBChA

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Or Dave Evans 488495

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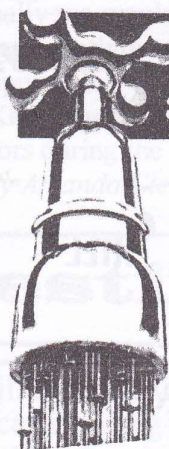


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The Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

school days entry is restricted to 3-5pm (off peak). Adults: £3.50 (£2.50 off peak), Children: £2.50 (£1.50 off peak)*]* subject to change from 1 April 2001

Temporary Exhibitions

02/12/00 – 30/09/01 Stone, Paper, Scissors –

Discover what things are made of in this hands-on exhibition for children. There are lots of things to see, touch and do in this fun exhibition that explores the world of materials.

03/02/01 – 25/03/01 Excessive Pleasures

– a vivid and beautiful collection of modern prints by Dale Devereux Barker, Dale was our Muir Trust Artist-in-Residence in 1999, and we are delighted to welcome him back with his exciting new selling exhibition.

07/04/01 – 09/09/01 The Great Garden Show –

unearth classical landscape architecture to contemporary garden design. This major exhibition features our unique collection of 18th century paintings, by Balthasar Nebot, of the lost gardens of Hartwell House. Throughout the run of this exhibition there will be various special events and activities. These are likely to include: hanging basket workshops; old garden games; a garden party; a teddy bear's picnic; and a bug's day workshop.

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NEW YEAR'S EVE IN NORTH DEAN

A small number of residents gathered in the village hall for what has become an annual event, our own (shortened version) carol service.

We all remember how cold it was that afternoon but with the promise of hot mince pies and a glass (or two!) of sherry (thanks Peter) we all sang with gusto. We were led once again through the Christmas Story with readers by the Rev. Charles Overton and a collection was taken for a children's charity.

By Megan Chinn

SPEEN PLAYGROUND APPEAL

Thanks to the generosity of Speen and Lacey Green Parish Council and the Speen Shop Charities Committee the new playground equipment for the under 5s has been installed on Speen playing field.

The Shop Charities Committee generously donated £1,000 to get the scheme underway which, together with another grant of £1,000 from the Parish Council and a two year interest free loan, enabled us to get the scheme underway sooner rather than later! Money from minor fundraising events has already been forwarded to the Parish Council to help re-

pay the loan and more are planned so please give us your support! The couple of fundraisers we had planned for the end of last year had to be postponed as they clashed with other events but new dates are in the pipeline. Any money raised in excess of the loan will go towards more new equipment for the playing field. Finally we would like to express our thanks to Pete Symonds for his support for our application to the Parish Council and to Keith Jones for liaising with the contractors during the installation work.

By Amanda Cleaver & Caroline Crossley

Speen Festival

Plans are being put in hand for a village Festival in September, when a variety of events will take place featuring largely local talent.

The dates are Wednesday 5th to Sunday 9th Sept

Both the Village Hall and the marquee will be used as venues.

Glenn Hart would be interested to hear from local artists or photographers who would be like have some of their work displayed.

Please contact Glenn Hart 488528 .

Marjorie and Martin would like to hear from anyone (particularly children and young people) who may be prepared to play a musical instrument or sing.

Please contact Marjorie or Martin Stockley (488101).

This will be a first for Speen, so do give it your support.

If successful, it could become a regular event.

What's On ? - in Speen and North Dean

March

| | | |
|------|---|-------------------------|
| 1st | W I. "Trip to New Zealand" Slides. Michael George | Speen Village Hall |
| 6th | Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm | Speen Village Hall |
| | " " (Annual Parish Meeting 8.30pm) | |
| 10th | Jazz: The "Vo-De-O-Doh" Orchestra. Stan Bale (Rotary) | Speen Village Hall |
| 12th | Playing Fields Ass. A G.M.8pm (Everyone welcome) | Speen Pavilion |
| 16th | Tutored Wine Tasting 8.00pm (Nick-Wheeler Robinson) 562167 | North Dean Village Hall |
| 24th | Men's Breakfast. Dr Rodney Holder. "An Astro-Physicist Story" | Speen Village Hall |
| 29th | W I Group Meeting | Speen Village Hall |
| 24th | Auction of Promises. Speen School P T A | Speen School |

April

| | | |
|---------|---|-------------------------|
| 5th | W I. Birthday Party "Sawdust & Greasepaint" Mrs J Purdy | Speen Village Hall |
| 6th} | "All in the April Evening" Concert. | |
| 7th } | " " " Speen Choir & Others | Speen Village Hall |
| 10th | A G M (North Dean) 7.45pm | North Dean Village Hall |
| 22nd to | Painting Day. Nick-Wheeler Robinson 562167 | Pigott's |
| -24rd | " " " " | Pigott's |

May

| | | |
|-----------|---|---------------------|
| 3rd | County Council Election | Speen Village Hall |
| 3rd | W I. Resolutions Meeting | Baptist Chapel Hall |
| 19th | Ladies Breakfast. Cath Grant. "A Wives Story" | Speen Village Hall |
| 20th | Treasure Hunt 2pm. Speen School P T A | Speen School |
| 30th | Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm | Speen Village Hall |
| 31st to | Painting Day. Nick-Wheeler Robinson 562167 | Pigott's |
| -3rd June | | |

June

| | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 5th | W I. "Tai Chi and Me" Sylvia Eastgate | Speen Village Hall |
| 17th | Family Fun Day | Speen Playing Fields |
| 30th | Summer Ball. Speen School P T A | Speen School |

July

| | | |
|------|--|------------------------|
| 4th | Village Fete. North Dean 2pm | N. Dean Playing Fields |
| 5th | W I. "Glass Painting" Mrs J Dunsterville | Speen Village Hall |
| 14th | Speen Village Fete | Speen Playing Fields |
| 14th | Speen Art Exhibition | Speen Village Hall |

August

| | | |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| 2nd | W I. "After the Earthquake" Mr P Degen | Speen Village Hall |
| 4th | North Dean Village Fete | N Dean Playing Fields |

September

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| 4th | Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm | Speen Village Hall |
| 5th - 9th | Speen Festival (Contact Marjorie & Martin Stockley 488101) | |
| 6th | W I "Genetically Modified Crops" Dr Brenda Harold | Speen Village Hall |

October

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 4th | W I "Chinese Wok Cookery" Sandra Webb | Speen Village Hall |
| 5th | Concert with Bryn Haworth | Speen Village Hall |
| 11th to | "Painting Days". Nick-Wheeler Robinson 562167 | Pigott's |
| -14th | "Painting Days". Nick-Wheeler Robinson | Pigott's |

Who's Who in the area ?

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------|
| Speen & North Dean News Editor | Glenn Hart | 488528 |
| Speen Residents Association | Gordon Hall | 488331 |
| Speen W.I. | Mary Dawson | 488222 |
| Speen Horticultural Society | John Payne | 488259 |
| Speen Playing Field Association | Marion Tozer | 488497 |
| Riding for the Disabled | Gloria Holmes | 488420 |
| Village Hall Committee, Speen | Catherine Butler | 488412 |
| North Dean Hall Committee Chairman | John Rogers | 562041 |
| North Dean Village Hall Booking Secretary | Megan Chinn | 563074 |
| Speen Pre-School | Janis Hearn | 488440 |
| Speen School PTA | Julie Cooper | 01844 274152 |
| Speen Tennis Court | Cherry Seekins | 488355 |
| Guides | Pauline Hall | 488372 |
| Baptist Church | Andy Gower | 488758 |
| Speen & N.D. Good Neighbours | Suzi Rose | 488696 |
| Millennium Committee | Martin Stockley | 488101 |
| Mother & Toddler Club | Tracey Salmon | 488697 |
| Neighbourhood Watch | John Radford | 488203 |
| Speen Church of England School | Mrs Nayna | 488321 |
| Speen Stores | Sharon | 488258 |
| Fete Committee Chairman, Speen | David King | 01844 344839 |

Speen Mergue

Hughenden Parish Council Chairman: John Rogers 562041

Lacey Green Parish Councillors : Don White 488437

Peter Simmonds 488016

Wycombe District Councillor : Paul Rogerson 488315

Buckinghamshire County Councillor Tim Jones 01296 622975

The ward Councillors for Hughenden Valley & North Dean Are:

Mrs Ann Hildesley 01494 563374 Mrs Lynn Sullivan 01494 563620

Chris Morley 01494 562714 John Rogers (Chairman) 01494 56204

The Council Office is open to the public on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9.30 to 11.30.

During holiday times the contact numbers will appear on the office notice-board.

Contact Numbers for the Police in the area:

Sergeant Russ Murden 01494 717799

PC Paul Sorensen 01494 715352

Inspector Martin Bolton 01628 816910 (responsible for Hazlemere but based in Marlow)

Local Control room 01494 465888 Local Help/Crime Desk 01494 736735

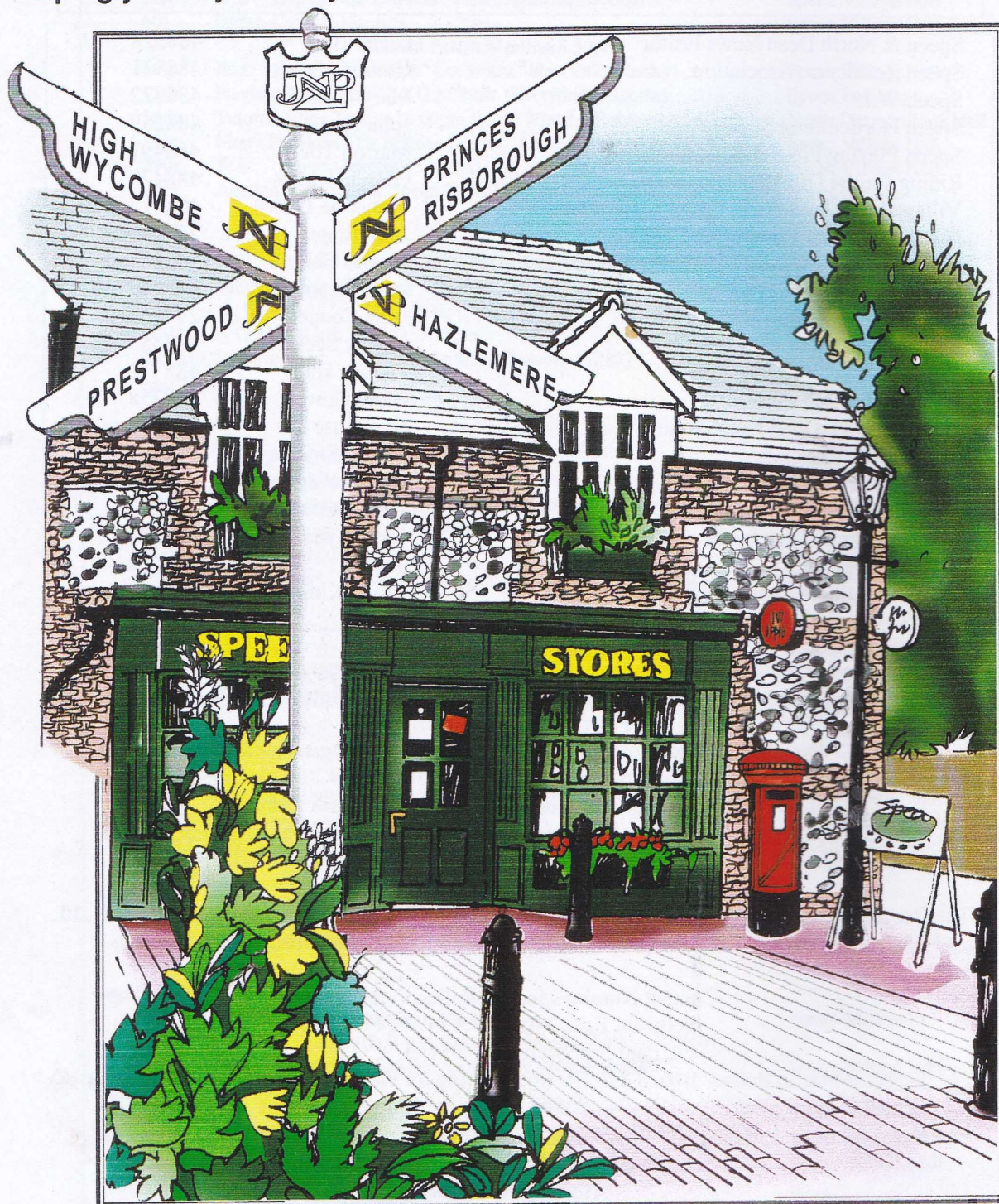
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