

Parish News – August 2016

If you have any news you would like included in the monthly newsletter please send your copy to geoffreyfitch@hotmail.co.uk Also note that if your paper copy of the newsletter has disappeared you can always find it on the parish website www.wwl-pc.org.uk which is kept updated regularly by John Shepherd.

The Summer Party held in the magnificent Lasborough Manor Barn in early July was a huge success enjoyed by young and old from all across our combined parishes. The venue was bedecked with flags, the food provided by many generous villagers was copious and delicious and the three-piece band provided background music that was not too loud to hinder conversation. A very welcome innovation. The two most heart-warming aspects of the event were how involved many residents have become in the setting up, clearing up and running of the evening and how the many children present formed new and, we hope, lasting friendships playing on the huge swings and a wooden horse. Those who contributed so much are too numerous to mention but special thanks must be given to the Scott family for the loan of the barn, Salvador and Carlton for the barbecue and to Geraldine Shepherd for coordinating the event.

A reminder to you all that the 131st Hawkesbury Upton Horticultural Show is to be held on Saturday 27th August adjacent to the Village Hall. For those of you who have never been, this is rural England at its very best. The gates open at 12:30 with tickets selling for adults £5, seniors £3, children £2 and family tickets for two adults and up to four children for £12. There is a street parade and this year in the arena, entertainment will include comical Indian Runner ducks and border collies, acrobatic and gymnastic displays and a Punch and Judy show. Elsewhere are beer and Pimms tents, hog and deer roast, archery, fairground rides, tractor pulling competition and a wide variety of trade, charity and craft stalls. This really is a local event not to be missed.

Following the publication of last month's flyer about the Village Hall Fund, 19 interesting responses were received for consideration by the Trustees of the fund. One involved buying a racehorse but as many residents probably don't even know where to find Sandown Park that suggestion was politely declined. It has been decided to undertake more detailed appraisals into two of the possible options for securing a village venue and once these are available an open meeting will be arranged so that all who have an interest in the issue can have a say and probably a vote. No decisions will be made by the Trustees without full consultation with parishioners and the Charity Commission who oversee the fund. The involvement of the Commission may lengthen the process but at least the ball has started rolling towards what one hopes will be a widely acceptable outcome.

On Thursday 4th August at 7:30pm., Hookshouse Pottery, just to the north of Westonbirt, are hosting The Pantaloons outdoor theatre production of Romeo and Juliet. This entertaining troupe of professional actors is taking time out from their tour of National Trust properties to bring us their very own production. The authentic Shakespeare text will be there and it's a safe bet that there will be moments when the tissues are deployed but there will be lots of action and fun too. This will be a Romeo and Juliet as you've never seen it before. The performance starts at 7:30 and you are welcome to picnic in the garden from 6pm. onwards. Please bring seats and suitably warm clothing and don't underestimate the temperature drop, often sharper on clear days. Door prices are £12 adult and £8 under 14. Advanced tickets are now available at £10 and £6. Reserve by phone (01666) 880297 or email hookshouse@hotmail.co.uk

This year's Mystery Walk will be held on the evening of Thursday 8th September. Confirmation of this date and more details will be included in next month's newsletter but don't forget to book the evening in your diary.

Finally, a plea from the residents of the village street. There appears to be an increase in the dog mess being seen. It could of course be dog walkers from outside the village who would never read this plaintive cry but if those of you with canine family could keep open a sharper eye that would be widely appreciated.

Stop Press!

Highways have turned down our request for a 20 mph speed limit in The Street. Richard Gray has given a very long and comprehensive reason for the refusal. All details are on the [Parish Council Website](#), plus a copy of his letter is on the Village Street notice board.