

## Introduction

If you live in the villages of Filkins and Broughton Poggs, one thing is for sure – you need a good diary!

There are so many social activities happening in this beautiful corner of England that you just can't help but get involved. No matter how young or not so young you are, if you have lived in the village all your life or have recently found sanctuary here – even if you just hide out here at the weekends, you are bound to find something of interest and a warm welcome to all the goings on.

There are so many clubs, societies and facilities in the villages that we have to produce a welcome pack for new comers to help them get started. And new comers are welcomed with open arms, even if you always find your house referred to by the previous owner's name.

There are also two monthly newsletters, a business calendar and a comprehensive website to keep residents in the know in this busy parish.

The various organisations in the village lay on a large number of events and activities throughout the year. Each event provides residents, new and old, young and not so young, the chance to meet and make friends. The networks in the village are strong and supportive. If we want something or need something then we get organised and we do it! We are proud of the community spirit that we have created and maintain.

New villagers are welcomed with open arms and older residents are cherished and catered for. There is something special about knowing who your neighbours are and that they will be there to celebrate or commiserate with you.

Filkins and Broughton Poggs is a very active and inclusive community. The best way to explain this is to show you some of the activities that have taken place in the last twelve months. The events and activities that follow could not be organised so regularly or be so well attended if it wasn't for the overwhelming sense of community spirit in Filkins and Broughton Poggs.

August 2005

## 13<sup>th</sup> August – “Our Village Shop” opened

The desire for a village shop was highlighted by the Parish Plan activity (more information in December’s entry). A small and committed group of villagers pulled together to turn the community request into a reality in just 12 weeks. The Village Shop Committee managed to survey the residents and produce a credible feasibility study, research other similar local enterprises, gain local funding from Oxfordshire Rural Community Council and the Parish Council, secure and refurbish the village centre rooms, organise branding and uniforms and stock the tuck shop ready to open.

Our Village Shop is set-up as an Industrial and Provident Benefit Society. It is designed to be run by the community for the community. The first phase of the shop sold sweets, chocolates, soft drinks crisps and ice cream. The shop serves all sorts of people, young and old and has become a very sociable meeting place. By opening during the summer holidays the Tuck Shop was able to support the members of the swimming pool, which is located right next door. (See additional display for more information.)

## St Filica Newsletter

Each month the St Filica Newsletter is hand delivered to every household in the villages of Filkins and Broughton Poggs. The newsletter was started in September 2003 following an idea from the St Filica Society Committee (for more information on St Filica, see February’s information). The first edition was just two sides of A4, 34 issues later the newsletter has grown to 8 pages – there is just so much going on!

## 27<sup>th</sup> August – Flower Show & Fete

The Filkins Bowls Club organises the annual Flower Show and Fete in the Village Hall and Paddock. (For more information about the Bowls Club, see April 2006.) It is a great chance for all the residents to enter all sorts of items from fruit, vegetables and flowers to cookery and handicraft items. There is also a children’s section so everyone can participate. Whatever your hobby there is likely to be a class for it! The produce is auctioned off at the end of the show.

September 2005

### 3<sup>rd</sup> September – The Old Lamb BBQ

A group of new (well comparatively new!) residents in the Lamb development got together to organise a family party in the courtyard of their homes. Cars were moved to make way for the BBQs, chairs and tables and a bouncy castle for the children. After the children went to bed the adults continued to enjoy each other's company long into the evening by candle (and security) light participating in a bounce or two on the bouncy castle! So much fun was had by all, it is set to become an annual event!

### 13<sup>th</sup> September – Filkins Cinema

The second Tuesday of every month sees the Village Hall turned into a cinema. September's film was "Dear Frankie", A Scottish Family drama starring Emily Mortimer. The village now owns the cinema equipment and is able to choose some really interesting films from those just released on DVD to films you might have missed at the cinema a while ago and classic films.

The largest audience to date was for Calendar Girls, the film about the WI producing a "risqué" calendar. Many of our own WI members were in the audience along with a wide cross section of the residents and Filkins and Broughton Poggs and the surrounding villages. It was a fantastic evening.

Having this facility means that residents who cannot get to the cinema can still see films and at a much more affordable price! You even get a cup of tea and a biscuit for a few pence. The film details are advertised in our local newsletter and on the telegraph poles throughout the villages.

September 2005 cont/d...

## **www.filkins.org.uk launched**

Our village website launched in September 2005 and, a year later is bigger and better than ever and very well used. Our webmaster, Mike Clark, works very hard to get information posted very quickly, so for the latest news the website is the place to go. The St Filica newsletter is also posted there each month. Young and old log on regularly! You can even keep up on village news if you are away from home.

## **Belly Dancing Classes**

The Village Hall rang to the sound of jingling bells throughout September and October with the Belly Dancers. Residents were able to shimmy their cares away while learning some snappy new "Shakira-type" moves.

## **Voluntary Car Service**

Throughout the year the voluntary car service is run to assist residents who do not have access to a car, to get to the local doctors surgery and hospital appointments. The rota is published each month in the St Filica Newsletter and service users can book their hospital trips with the organisers. The service is provided for the villages of Filkins, Broughton Poggs, Broadwell, Kencott, Langford and Little Farringdon and operates on a Tuesday and Thursday.

## **Filkins Gentlemen's Walking Club**

Filkins Gentlemen's Walking Club meets every weekday morning (weather permitting) for a reasonable attempt at some exercise and a discussion of the most important issues of the day. The gentlemen also help to reduce speeding in the village as they all wear fluorescent yellow jackets that often fool motorists into slowing down!

October 2005

## 9<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Supper for Farm Africa

A fun fundraiser! This supper followed by entertainment raised £160 raised for Farm Africa. Young and old alike provided the after supper entertainment. This event for Farm Africa is in addition to the St Peter's direct links with a school in Uganda. This year the church worked with Langford school to donate 60 pairs of unwanted children's shoes for the children in the Ugandan school. The church has also been able to raise lots of money to help with the school building. See additional display for more information.

## 12<sup>th</sup> October – Quiz night at The Village Hall

In 1995 the museum committee held a children's party to celebrate 50 years of peace since the end of the war. 2005 was the turn of the adults to celebrate, but in order to do so finances had to be raised. As part of the activities for this a quiz night was held at the Village Hall. The quiz was well supported and very enjoyable – if a little difficult for some!

## 30<sup>th</sup> October Carved pumpkins at The Five Aalls pub – one for all ages

July 2005 saw a new Landlord and Lady in our village local. Since arriving David and Natalie Bates have laid on numerous events to bring the community together. Halloween gave the perfect excuse for a pumpkin carving competition. There were two categories, under 16 and over 16. There was a tremendous response from all the budding sculptors in the village, as you can see from the photographs!

The Five Aalls is a real village local. It is a meeting place for all sorts of people. Many of the village clubs and organisations use the meeting room in the back of the pub for their weekly meetings and more formal annual general meetings. The Five Aalls supports these groups by offering this facility free of charge. After the meeting the visitors often adjourn to the bar, so everyone is happy!

November 2005

## 5<sup>th</sup> November – Bonfire Night at The Five Alls pub

The community provided the firewood and the “Guys” and the Five Alls provided the venue for a very enjoyable and cosy Bonfire night.

## 12<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday – British Legion

The Filkins and District Branch of the British Legion is a small but active branch, covering the Broadshires area of West Oxfordshire. The branch committee meets regularly and has a welfare committee dedicated to assisting ex-servicemen and women in need. Legion membership is open to all: ordinary membership is for ex-servicemen, and associate membership is available to anyone who has not served in the British Armed Services. The cost is just £12.50 per year, which contributes to the work of the Legion, and membership includes five Legion magazines per year.

## 12<sup>th</sup> November – Auction of promises

One of the most enjoyable evenings of the year! The St Filica society held a similar evening some years ago with great success, so the shop committee knew that the response should be fairly good, however, no one anticipated the overwhelming support. In advance of the evening the committee lobbied all the residents for promises of different services or goods. Everyone was keen to think of something they could offer, small or large. A large number of local business also participated. The promises ranged from a flight for two in a helicopter to the completion of a bag of ironing!

The evening was held at the Village Hall and was very well attended. Those who couldn't attend were able to submit written bids so they could still participate. The auction raised £3700 for the village shop project, an astounding amount.

November 2005 cont/d...

## 18<sup>th</sup> November – Jazz in Filkins at the Village Hall

Our Village Hall is well used, the Jazz evening was organised by the Broadshire Conservatives. Our local MP, and now leader of the Conservative party, David Cameron attended. The hot music was accompanied by a hot supper!

## 20<sup>th</sup> November – Annual Conker Championships at The Five Ails pub

The annual conker championships were attended by the young and young at heart. Conkers were provided to test the competitors skills. The St Filica Society sponsors the Alternative All-Comers Conkers Championship. The much-coveted trophy is an enormous model conker suspended on a string from a wrought iron scaffold set in a polished wooden base.

December 2005

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Talent Scheme coffee morning

The Churches of St Peters Broughton Poggs and St Peters Filkins not only share the same name but they are part of the same Parish. The talent scheme was run to raise money to restore the church roof. Participating parishioners were given £10 and asked to make it grow into a larger sum of money to return to the fund. The residents willingly took on the challenge and raised £500. The coffee morning was organised to celebrate the success of the scheme and display photographs of many of the ingenious ideas. There was also a sale of homemade cakes and mince pies to increase the funds! See additional display for more information.

### 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Bingo in aid of Church in Village Hall

The Christmas Bingo was another successful and enjoyable fundraiser in aid of the church roof.

### 10<sup>th</sup> December – Santa's visit to Filkins and Miffie Mouse at carol singing party in the Village Hall

Every year Santa tours the village in his Vauxhall powered sleigh, giving presents to the local children. This year three elves and a somewhat iffy looking reindeer supported him. (An Irish wolfhound called Fraggie wearing antlers.) Santa knew exactly where to stop because his elves had put up "Santa Stops" around the village. The tour finished at the Village Hall, where a "reduced panto" was the surprise item of entertainment to accompany all the music, mulled wine and mince pies! Written by our webmaster, Mike Clark and narrated by Pat Clark the story of "How Miffie Mouse lost her squeak" was beautifully performed by some of the youngest members of the community.

### 12<sup>th</sup> December – Parish Plan Publication

The Parish Plan Committee was formed following a public meeting in January 2004. The final plan was finally published and distributed to every home in the parish after many months of hard work by the committee and the community. For more information please see the Parish Plan document. The plan activity "**planted**" the seeds for many other activities in the village, including the village shop and the book and gardening clubs.

December 2005 cont/d...

## 17<sup>th</sup> December – The full shop opens thanks to defra Grant

Christmas came early for the community of Filkins and Broughton Poggs with the people at defra disguised as Father Christmas! The long awaited grant confirmation from defra meant that the shop committee could finally follow-up the huge success of phase one and put phase two into action. The launch party, on Saturday 17th December, officially opened the exciting second phase of the shop project.

The grant allowed the committee to fit-out the larger of the two rooms with a new till and counter, new lighting and security systems, heating/air conditioning units and additional shelving. It also provided for new fridge and freezer units. The product range was greatly increased to include all the things you would expect to find in a convenience store and some ranges you might not, in total over 400 product lines became available.

## 24<sup>th</sup> December – Crib Service in St Peter's

Christmas services are spread throughout the benefice. The crib service at St Peters Filkins is a very short family service especially designed for children. This service is always busy with the children of the village and surrounding areas.

## 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day Communion

The heart of the Christmas celebrations in the parish, a family communion held at St Peters Filkins.

## Village Hall Lottery, Christmas Draw

The Village Hall lottery is held throughout the year with the proceeds going towards the maintenance and improvement of the Village Hall. Residents pay £1 a month to be entered into the 12 monthly draws and the additional Christmas draws. The monthly prize is £40 with the Christmas draws of £200, £100 and two runners up prizes of £50 each. Despite these wonderful prizes, last year the lottery raised £580 for the Village Hall.

January 2006

## 9<sup>th</sup> January – Filkins Village Hall AGM

Filkins Village Hall, known formally as the Carter Institute after its founder and benefactor, Mrs Amelia Carter, is a thriving and popular venue for village and private functions, parties and shows. It was originally built in 1912 as a temperance establishment, but the rules have since been relaxed a little! Facilities include the main hall, with modern portable staging, a kitchen and bar area, green room, cloakrooms and a smaller meeting room upstairs. There is also car parking at the rear of the Hall.

The Village Hall is managed by a Committee made up of elected members and representatives of all the principal organisations in Filkins and Broughton Poggs, which make regular use of the Hall. This is a well-used facility that is managed and maintained by the community, for the community.

## 12<sup>th</sup> January – Inaugural meeting of the Book Club

The Book Club is another activity to come from the work of the Parish Plan. Fourteen avid readers first got together in January to start the Book Club. The group meet every six weeks to discuss the two books under review.

## 25<sup>th</sup> January – Burns Night dinner at The Five Alls pub

Complete with an ode to the Haggis, the Burns night was another great chance to get together with people you did or didn't know and enjoy good food and a tot of malt whisky! The meal was arranged on one long table, so you had the opportunity to meet new people.

## 26<sup>th</sup> January – First lunch club lunch

There are many people that work from home in the village. In order to give these people and others who are in the village during the day, a social outlet during the day, the pub decided to provide a "Lunch Club" on the fourth Thursday of every month. For those who have a limited amount of time, you can phone through your order before you arrive. This started in January with 18 people attending and it has continued to provide people a welcome break from the isolation of working on your own.

February 2006

## 21<sup>st</sup> February – St Filica AGM

The original idea for the St Filica Society was conceived in 1987, initially as a means of bringing together people who shared a common interest in the well being of the local community, and who were willing to give some of their time, energy and skills towards supporting local charities and other worthy causes.

Since then the Society has been involved directly and indirectly in raising many thousands of pounds for these purposes. Central to the St Filica Society's fund-raising style is entertainment: events are organised to raise money either for the Society's general charity fund (distribution of which is voted on each year at the AGM) or for specific needs as they arise.

These have included "theme" parties, charity sporting fixtures, discos, concerts and a pantomime horse race. The society is also the principle organiser of the Filkins Festival, which runs bi-annually throughout June and July with 2006 being a festival year. Two regular annual events are the Street Party, held every July and the Filkins Feast, revived after more that 70 years. (See June and July for more information)

Apart from the money distributed every year at the AGM St Filica has also raised enough money to purchase two marquees and gazebos. As well as being used for village events and by village organisations, these are also hired out for private functions in the local area, complete with a willing group of volunteers to erect the structures!

Villagers can join St Filica for the princely sum of £1 per annum. There are currently 120 members. This year the St Filica Society had £1500 to distribute between worthy causes in the parish.

February 2006 cont/d...

## The Five Alls supports St Filica

A large empty whisky bottle has been located on the bar for any unwanted change. After just 6 months this is counted up and given to the St Filica Society at Christmas – a total of £137.18. In addition the pub ran a sweepstake to guess how many coins were in the bottle and their total value, which boosted the donation further. The funds raised from the bi-monthly pub quizzes are also donated to St Filica.

## 25<sup>th</sup> February – Annual litter pick

This essential event has been organised by Chris and Barbara Bristow for that last seven years. Although the village works hard throughout the year to keep everywhere tidy, this is our annual spring clean. Volunteers meet at Filkins Farmhouse come rain or shine, with rubber gloves and bin bags, then it is out into the village and the main A361 to tidy up. The full bags are collected by car by other willing volunteers. Then it is back to the Farmhouse for tea and cake and a warm up! This is always a thoroughly sociable and productive event.

## Filkins and Broughton Poggs awarded the Best Kept Village in Oxfordshire

February saw the announcement that Filkins and Broughton Poggs had been awarded the Best Kept Village in Oxfordshire in the Small Village category. Things like the litter pick above in no small part contributed to this win. Everyone participates in keeping our village tidy and well looked after, in particular our grounds man, Chris Maunder, who does an outstanding job. We live in a truly beautiful place! The village was very pleased to receive this award – something we had also received in 1963! The plaque from 1963 can be seen in the Village Hall, while this year's award is currently in the heart of the village, outside the stone bus shelter.

## 25<sup>th</sup> February – Pancake night at The Five Alls pub

Pancake madness: Children and adults had fun in the pub with pancake racing, pancake flipping and a BBQ in the newly resurfaced car park.

March 2006

### **3<sup>rd</sup> March – Filkins Theatre AGM**

The Filkins Theatre comprises of a children's group and an adult's group. Productions are rehearsed and performed in the well-equipped Village Hall throughout the year. See additional display for more information.

### **4<sup>th</sup> March – Tabletop sale for church funds**

A staggering £533 was raised for church funds at this simple tabletop sale. Sometime the old ideas are the best! Amounts like this just wouldn't be possible without the "can-do" attitude of the residents.

### **10<sup>th</sup> March – Filkins Review**

An evening of song prose and the "not so easily shocked" one act play "last Tango in Filkins" at the Village Hall, courtesy of the Filkins Theatre Group. Complete with raffle and refreshments during the interval.

### **17<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick's day dinner at The Five Alls pub**

This informal celebration for St Patrick comprised of an authentic Irish stew and a pint (or two!) of Guinness!

April 2006

## 4<sup>th</sup> April – First meeting of the Filkins Cinema Club

In addition to the monthly films shown by the Filkins Cinema (see September's entry) the Filkins and District Film Club has been started for all those film buffs in the surrounding area. The club aims to make the best use of the state of the art cinema equipment, which is now owned by the Village Hall. A 14ft screen and an excellent surround sound system compliment the DVD and Video equipment. The first meeting was very successful and it is hoped that the club will soon be presenting the sorts of films you might not see on the television, which really need to be seen on the big screen to appreciate their full value.

## 15<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Egg hunt at The Five Alls pub

The Easter egg hunt was fun for all the family.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> April – St Georges Feast at The Five Alls pub

The St Georges Day feast was another chance to meet new and old residents with one long table for dinner. Traditional English food was laid on to celebrate our patron saint's day in style.

## 27<sup>th</sup> April – First Aunt Sally match

The Five Alls hosts a thriving Aunt Sally tradition, with two teams playing regularly throughout the summer in the Bampton Aunt Sally Association League (for details and background, including how to play, visit the league's excellent website [www.bamptonauntsally.org](http://www.bamptonauntsally.org)). Matches are played in the garden at the Five Alls every Thursday evening.

April 2006 cont/d...

## 30<sup>th</sup> April – First Bowls Home Fixture of the year

Filkins Bowls Club was formed in 1936, the green being laid on land granted to the club by Sir Stafford Cripps to be held in trust by the club so long as it remains in being.

The club provides an important social and recreational facility in the village, and is maintained almost entirely by the voluntary efforts of members. As well as the green, a small pavilion was built by members, helped by a grant from the Sports Council. Filkins Bowls Club has traditionally followed a policy of keeping costs and fees to a minimum consistent with financial self-sufficiency and augments its income from very modest subscriptions and match fees by means of an energetic social and fundraising calendar, which includes the village's annual Flower Show and Fete held on the last weekend in August. (See August 2005 entry for more information)

The Bowls club also organises an annual dinner and dance in aid of club funds. This is open to members and non-members alike and is always a well attended and enjoyable evening.

## Yoga Group

Burford ACL runs a yoga class in the Village Hall on Monday mornings. This is a great way to start the week, work off any excesses of the weekend and restore calm and equilibrium. The class is very sociable and good fun and it is a mixed class so ladies and gentlemen are welcome.

May 2006

## 6<sup>th</sup> May onwards – Our Village Shop increased opening hours

Our Village Shop went from strength to strength in the first five months of the year and with the lighter evenings the committee decided to extend the opening hours to encourage more customers. See additional display for more information.

## 7<sup>th</sup> May – Filkins Museum

The village museum opens on the first Sunday afternoon each month from May to September. This years exhibitions are “The Changing Face of Farming & Filkins at Play”. The museum is housed in a 17th century cottage. It is a fine collection of local domestic, agricultural, trade and craft tools, which provides a unique picture of a bygone rural community. One of Oxfordshire's oldest small museums, it was originally set up by "Old" George Swinford in the 1920's and 1930's, and the Swinford family is still represented on the board of trustees. A dedicated team of volunteers run the museum for the benefit of the community. In addition to the displays and exhibitions the museum also runs very popular children's quizzes.

### LIVING HISTORY

Since 2003, the Trustees of the Museum have been active in managing a project to capture the memories and experiences of people who lived or who were associated with Filkins and Broughton Poggs during and immediately after World War 2. A priceless library of audiotapes recording these reminiscences has been built up, much of it transcribed and available in printed form, together with a fascinating collection of old photographs and other memorabilia. See additional display for more information.

## 13<sup>th</sup> May – First Gardening Club plant sale

Formed as a result of the Parish Plan, the Gardening Club held its first plant sale in May. In addition to plants (flowers, shrubs, trees, vegetables and herbs) and preserves, second hand gardening books, pots and other sundry gardening items were on sale. Thankfully refreshments were also available for the hungry shoppers! £235 was raised for the WI and the Gardening Club. Next years event will hopefully be bigger and better, with another charity benefiting.

May 2006 cont/d...

## 16<sup>th</sup> May – Annual Parish Meeting – the Parish Council

The Annual Parish meeting is a chance to hear a summary of activities undertaken by the Parish Council over the last year. The accounts for 2005/6 are also available for inspection at this meeting.

The Parish Council meets monthly in order to discuss Parish issues and update parishioners on the progress on issues previously raised. These meetings, like the Annual Parish meeting are an opportunity for consultation with Parishioners. Agendas and minutes are published on the village notice boards. The Parish Council often invite community experts, such as the police to meetings where appropriate issues have been raised.

## 19<sup>th</sup> May – Bridge Drive at the Village Hall

This fun event was organised in aid of the Caspian Pony breed.

## Swimming pool refurbished

The swimming club runs the glorious open-air pool for the benefit of its members. This year the committee was able to have the bottom of the pool refurbished and both sets of changing rooms had a much-needed face-lift. The pool was first opened in 1936 and continues to provide a well used facility for the village and surrounding area.

Memberships are available for residents and non-residents alike, with residents paying a reduced rate. This year all the season memberships were sold out by the end of June!

Until recently the pool was a well kept secret, but now members are joining from as far a field as Highworth! Day memberships are still available for guests accompanying a member. With the heat wave this July the pool was by far the best place to be, but even with the air temperature in the thirties the unheated water was still refreshingly cool!

(See July's entry for information on the annual swimming gala)

June 2006

### **3<sup>rd</sup> June – Art Exhibition in the Long Gallery at the Woollen Weavers**

The Woollen Weavers is a thriving business in the heart of the village with the best label of all – Made in Filkins! Coach loads of people regularly visit this working mill to see the production process and buy cloth, soft furnishings and clothes made in Filkins. In addition to the fabric production the mill has an art gallery and a coffee shop that is visited by locals and tourists alike.

### **4<sup>th</sup> June – Car Treasure Hunt**

The now annual Car Treasure Hunt is organised by St Filica. Come rain or shine many cars beetle about the local countryside trying to understand the somewhat cryptic clues!

### **7<sup>th</sup> June – Swimming pool opens**

Following the completion of the refurbishment work the pool opened as the weather improved at the start of June. As May's weather had not exactly been conducive to swimming in an unheated pool, no one really seemed to mind the delay of a month to the usual opening date.

### **12<sup>th</sup> June – Mobile library – new time each Thursday, 11.20-30am**

The mobile library calls in the village each week and is an invaluable service for those people who are unable to get out to the branches in Lechlade or Carterton.

### **World Cup Football – in the Village Hall with drinks by The Five Alls pub**

Throughout the World Cup, David and Natalie organised the cinema equipment in the Village Hall so the residents could watch England play in style. Drinks were available from the pub throughout the games. These events were well attended and gave the supporters a chance to celebrate and unfortunately commiserate together!

June 2006 cont/d...

## 18<sup>th</sup> June – Filkins Feast

The Filkins Feast is a tradition that was started more than 70 years ago. It was resurrected some years ago by the St Filica society and is well attended by the residents of Filkins and Broughton Poggs.

The large marquee is erected on the paddock and additional facilities, such as the kitchen and toilets are provided by the Village Hall across the street. Tickets are sold in advance through the committee and the shop and Woollen Weavers. The whole event takes place over a long Sunday afternoon and many guests often take the party spirit home into the evening!

Highworth Silver Band usually provides entertainment during the meal, which is organised and prepared by the committee. This year we had the addition of a very enjoyable hog roast. The children have their own part to the party and for the last two years have learnt circus skills from the very entertaining Thomas Trilby. After lunch the children perform their newfound skills along with Thomas Trilby and a willing “volunteer” from the adult audience. There is usually a quiz and always a raffle.

## New notice boards in the shop

The committee installed several new notice boards in the shop to provide space for local information and Parish Council information. This is in addition to the various other notice boards located around the village, including the Parish notice boards in Filkins and Broughton Poggs, the bus shelter and outside the Village Hall and of course, the most important site or rather sites – the village telegraph poles!

## July 2006

### 1<sup>st</sup> July – The Duck Race

One of the most successful fundraising events of the year was held in the grounds of the beautiful Broughton Poggs Mill. The owners of the Mill, Charlie and Avril, were more than happy to offer the stream that borders their property and the racing “ground” for over 160 plastic ducks! Despite living away from the village during the week, Charlie and Avril found time to prepare the track to ensure the best possible racing conditions (drought conditions taken into consideration!) Such a large racing field meant that several heats had to be run before a grand final. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon in the summer sun!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Afternoon tea with WI in the Village Hall

The Filkins and Broughton Poggs Women’s Institute is a very active branch which Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm at Filkins Village Hall. In addition to the monthly meetings there are many other events including nature and history walks, visits to interesting places and safari suppers to name but a few. As part of the Filkins Festival this year the WI organised a lovely afternoon tea in the Village Hall. On a very hot and sultry Sunday afternoon tea, sandwiches and homemade cakes were just the ticket!

### 7<sup>th</sup> July – Pie and Mash evening at The Five Alls pub

It maybe wasn’t the weather for pie and mash, but the residents thoroughly enjoyed another fun themed evening at the pub. The word is that the next evening will be a cowboy night! We can’t wait...

### 8<sup>th</sup> July – Aunt Sally and BBQ at The Five Alls pub

In addition to the two teams playing in the league, the pub organised a fun afternoon for those who were either new to the game of Aunt Sally, or a just a little rusty!

July 2006 cont/d...

## 8<sup>th</sup> July – Filkins Reunion

A now annual event, the Filkins Reunion provides an opportunity to get together with those mad fools who for whatever reason have left the village. This year an amazing 89 people attended the meal at the Windmill Carvery and Restaurant. (The pub would be a little squashed with such a large crowd!)

## 8<sup>th</sup> July – Children's cinema afternoon

Another event in the festival calendar was the children's cinema afternoon. Two films were showed to provide entertainment for both younger and older age groups. This was such a fun afternoon that the St Filica committee are hoping to be able to run it again next year.

## 9<sup>th</sup> July – Swimming gala

After a scorching few weeks everyone was looking forward to a swimming gala in the sun for once! This was not to be the case! Probably the only dull day in July dawned on the morning of the gala. But, the residents of Filkins and Broughton Poggs were not put off and the games commenced in a somewhat chilly pool! In addition to the team games for adults and children, games were also laid on for the youngest swimmers in the club.

## 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> July Theatre Club production

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production for the Theatre Club was, "The Queen Must Die". A great performance enjoyed with a glass (or two) of wine.

July 2006 cont/d...

## 15<sup>th</sup> July – Sport Relief mile – Bell to Five Ails plus BBQ

Not all the fundraising that goes on in the village is for village funds. Mandy Scott organised our own Sport Relief mile from the pub in Langford to our own pub. The Five Ails also laid on a BBQ for the participants once they completed the course. The Gentlemen's Walking Club provided a marshalling service to ensure that all the participants arrived in one piece. Walkers and runners were please with the £130 raised and everyone had a fun time.

## 16<sup>th</sup> July – Harp Concert at Goodfellows

The Cotswold Junior Harp Ensemble and HARPZ - the Derbyshire Harp Ensemble added a touch of class to another warm summer evening in Filkins and Broughton Poggs. Organised by our own resident harp maker, Clive Morely Harps Ltd.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Street Party

The Street Party is a great evening, especially when the weather is fine. We have been known to run the event inside the Village Hall, and on the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, it looked like we might have to do this again! The torrential rain abated and we were able to have the party outside on a wonderful summer evening. The live music from "Deep Water", a 60s group, rang throughout the village and all who attended had a great time.

## 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Festival Service

This service marked the close of the Filkins Festival.

August 2006

## Birthday coins distributed

To celebrate the Queen's 80th Birthday the St Filica Society distributed commemorative coins to all the children in Filkins and Broughton Poggs aged 16 and under.

## 13th August - Shop's first birthday

A meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> August to update the shareholders on the shops progress in the first year. With draft accounts available, the Chair, Trish Pool was pleased to announce that Our Village Shop is in profit! No mean feat for a start-up business!

## 16th August – WI Safari Supper

A delicious tour around the villages of Filkins and Broughton Poggs!

## 29th August – Church Coffee Morning

This coffee morning was held to raise funds to provide toys for the children to use during the church service.

## 26th August – Flower Show & Fete

Back where our look at the year started, the annual Flower and Produce show will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> August...

## Other events worth mentioning...

### 21<sup>st</sup> March 2004 – The Storm!

When a freak tornado struck the village one quiet Sunday afternoon, community spirit was the one thing that shone out. Alistair and Di Farmer lost their roof, but gained the help and support of their neighbours! Thankfully no one was injured, but a large number of ancient trees were felled and property damaged. Filkins even got a mention on the national weather reports!

### 12<sup>th</sup> June 2004 – Classic Car Meet

The Classic car meet was a fun fundraiser, in aid of the Church Restoration, which raised £500. Some 90 cars were on display at Filkins Farmhouse. Vehicles came from near and far with their owners keen to meet each other and the admiring residents. It was surprising how many classic cars reside in the villages.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2004 – Summer Ball

Part of the 2004 Festival, the Summer Ball was one of the most stylish events in Filkins and Broughton Poggs. It was a tremendous fundraiser – over £800 raised in just this one event – and an event that has been talked about ever since. The residents are keen to have another ball in the not too distant future!

## Other items worthy of note...

Croquet league

Filkins Fillies – girls nights out

Senior citizens dinner for 60 years since war