

# PARISH NEWS LETTER

## AUTUMN/WINTER 2010



**LONGWICK CUM ILMER**

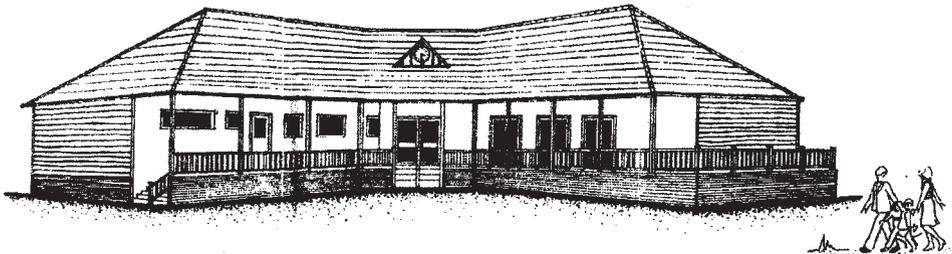
**Ilmer**

**Meadle**

**Longwick**

**Owlswick**

**Horsenden**



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## **WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2010**

As usual I try to have an opening paragraph for the Autumn/Winter newsletter but find it difficult not to repeat previous description of these two colourful seasons although I am sure some of you will disagree with the Winter months – so a change of plan:

**Harvest Festivals** in the Great Britain usually take place in September the start of autumn. It is an annual celebration around the time of the main harvest of a given region. Due to the difference in climates and crops harvest festivals can be found at different times of the year. In Britain thanks have been given for successful harvests since pagan times and by celebrating on this day usually indicate singing, hymns, praying and decorating the churches and chapels with baskets of fruit and food in the festival know as Harvest Festival, and it is both a Church Festival giving thanks to God for the harvest.

**Halloween** falls on 31<sup>st</sup> October and the eve is a magical time of secrets and of mysteries. In days gone by sachets were sewn in red silk and hung around the house to ward of evil or scattered salt and honey cakes left on the sills of windows and doorsteps. It has roots in the Celtic festival of Samhain original spelling was Samuin roughly means summer's ends. It was also a time to take stock of food supplies and slaughter livestock for winter stores.

Today, children and adults alike celebrate by wearing costumes such as ghost/ witches or fairies. Pumpkins are cut out to make funny faces with candles inside to make them glow and children go around their neighbours to do "trick or treats". This celebration is intertwined in a fascinating way and is a perfect example of superstition struggling with Religious beliefs

**Bonfire Night** - 5<sup>th</sup> November

Throughout England, towns and villages light large bonfires – let off magnificent fireworks and burn effigies of Guy Fawkes to celebrate the

fact that Parliament and King James 1 were not blown sky high in 1605, by the gun powder plot!

## **Christmas**

Christmas is the time when Christians around the world celebrate the birth of Jesus.

The word Christmas (or Christ's Mass) comes from the old English name "CRISTES MAESSE", The first recorded celebration occurred in Rome in AD360, but it was not until AD440 that the Christian Church fixed a celebration date of 25<sup>th</sup> December.

In Britain, Christmas is a truly magical season, bringing families and friends together to share the much loved customs and traditions which have been around for centuries. Most people are on holiday in the UK and stay here with families and friends on Christmas Day. We also decorate our homes and Churches; sing carols and go to carol services and give presents to share the joy of giving.

This year our Carol Service will be held on Tuesday 14 December at 6.00pm outside Longwick Village Hall where the children from Longwick C of E Combined school will be taking the service. Mince Pies and warm drinks will be served afterwards. Do come along and bring your families and friends for an enjoyable evening.

Please do not forget to look at the Parish website at [www.longwickcumilmer.org.uk](http://www.longwickcumilmer.org.uk)

Items for the next Spring/Summer newsletter need to be with me, **Val McPherson** by Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011 either by email at **[thewillows@hotmail.com](mailto:thewillows@hotmail.com)** or ring my mobile **07815144691**.

The Parish Council would like to wish you all a

**Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year**



## LONGWICK FETE

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Fete such an enjoyable occasion, without you we would not be able to do it. Total income was £3,198.25, expenditure £1,457.82 making a profit for village hall funds of £1,740.43. It was also an opportunity for many local groups to raise money for their own cause.

We were disappointed not to be able to take the Garland Parade through the village to the Old School House, but to obtain permission to do this we needed an enormous amount of insurance cover which was unaffordable. It was also disappointing that so few children took part in the ancient tradition of "**Mayday Garlands**" and a little puzzling because as usual Sue and Richard Belgrove freely supplied "crown imperials" and willows to make the frames and making garlands is really quite simple. The main reason for holding this Fete is to keep the tradition alive, so we are prepared to give it another try, but would really like a few more entries to make it all worthwhile.



By the time you receive this newsletter we will be starting to think about planning next year's Fete, and would really appreciate it if anyone would like to join the organisers to provide fresh ideas and help. If you are thinking about making a garland consider growing some spring flowers, wallflowers are available to plant now and are usually blooming at the right time.

If you would like more information or are able to help in any way please contact **Jane Rogers 01844 347906**

## **NEWS FROM WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

An interesting planning application came before the Planning Committee at the beginning of September. The Garsington Opera was seeking to move from its present site near Wheatley in South Oxfordshire to the Wormsley Estate near Stokenchurch. Many of the smaller villages such as Turville and Ibstone were worried about an increase of traffic through their villages, but the opera company agreed to use the entrance close to the M40 junction at Stokenchurch only and the main objection was overcome and the application permitted. The Wormsley Estate provides a delightful setting for the summer festival season, scheduled to begin next June. The twenty-one performances will be attended by 600 patrons and there will be benefits to local people, who will be able to attend the dress rehearsals free of charge. The company will also work with local schools. Three operas a year will be staged and the company has become well known in operatic circles for staging high quality performances in a special setting and providing a platform for young singers at the start of their careers and for championing lesser known works. I am sure we can look forward to some delightful events.

Consultation begins 17 September and concludes on 29 October into the building of a new stadium for Wycombe Wanderers and London Wasps. At the moment the site they share in High Wycombe is limiting ambitions of both clubs and is also a source of intrusion into the local area. A total of nineteen sites were examined and three are considered worthy of consideration, not only for the new stadium, but also a possible Sports village or stadium with additional facilities.

The three sites to be consulted on are to retain the existing site at Adams Park and improve it, although it is a very tight site in the Area of Outstanding natural Beauty and partly in the Green Belt. The access is difficult through a residential area and then an industrial estate. The other options are the Wycombe Air Park or the Abbey Barn area in between High Wycombe and Flackwell Heath. Wycombe District Council's role in this is an enabling role, not paying for the new stadium, and the council will be carrying out consultation.

For those of us in the area details can be found in libraries and on 14 October there will be staffed drop in sessions at the Princes Risborough Information Office from 5 – 8pm, when members of the public can pop in and ask questions.

There are many ways to make one's views known – go to the Information Centre and give your views, fill in a response form, either by hand or electronically, complete an on-line survey on the council's website or submit comments by e-mail or post to the council by 29 October.

It looks as if there may be interesting times ahead.

**Pam Priestley**

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## TEA AT THREE

The next Tea at Three is on Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in Longwick Village Hall. Autumn already, how quickly the Summer has flown by!

I hope you have all had a nice break. It will be lovely to meet you all again. If you have not been before do come along you will receive a warm friendly welcome, a nice cup of tea and cakes made by very kind helpers.

Looking forward to the 28<sup>th</sup> September, and just to remind you all the Christmas Tea will be on Tuesday 30th November.

**Gill Stone**



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



A timely reminder now the evenings are drawing in – do not become a victim to burglars:

Close and lock your doors – even if you have just popped out to see your neighbour or you are gardening.

Make sure you lock all your tools away in the shed/garage.

Do not leave any valuable items on show such as a laptop/jewellery/mobile phones especially by a window or door.

Never leave (and some of us still do) keys hanging on a piece of string underneath the door flap inside the house or under a flowerpot next to the front door, or a stone or boulder. This is where the burglar will look first!

Mark all your property with either a special marking pen which will only keep for 6 months then you will need to remark, by using your house number first the your post code Example: 18 HP27 9RP, or if you do not have a number to your house think of something that you will remember, perhaps the date of your birthday or a lucky number, then add your post code.

If you need something more secure then the product like SmartWater will mark everything including jewellery, china/ porcelain/ paintings etc. If you need more information on this product then please contact me either by email: [thewillows@hotmail.com](mailto:thewillows@hotmail.com) or ring 07815144691.

And lastly and invitation will be going out to all Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and members of Longwicks/Ilmer/Owlswick & parts of Meadle NHW for a special meeting on "Gun & Knife Crime" on Wednesday 20 October @ 7.45 in Longwick Village Hall. Further details to follow.

Update on crimes since 1/7/10

7 July - Burnt our car in Meadle

14 July - Burglary Dwelling in Boxer Road Jewellery & Electrical goods stolen

19 July - Attempted theft from a barn in Lower Icknield Way

19 July - Theft of metal Thame Road

24 July - Theft of a piglet Stockwell Lane Meadle

29 July - Attempted burglary dwelling in Walkers Road

19 August - Hubcaps stolen

22 August - Burglary Dwelling Thame Road - from a business barn - nothing stolen

25 August - Theft Longwick Road Generator stolen.

**Val McPherson – Area Co-ordinator**

## **LONGWICK EVENING WOMENS INSTITUTE**



Longwick Evening WI meet in the Village Hall every second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 for 7.45pm.

After our August break we are looking forward to our meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup> The talk by Rosemarie Wakeman, a nanny with a Jewish family is entitled "No 'Phones On Saturday"

However the speaker had to cancel and at the last minute Dr Tony Maisey stepped in and gave us an interesting and informative talk on the history of the NHS.

A few of our members went to Stow Garden Party for a picnic to celebrate 90 years of the WI. The day started well and they enjoyed their Pimms in the sunshine As they started their picnic down came the rain and refused to go away. So after soggy sandwiches they retreated to the coach for shelter. What a pity as the grounds are beautiful and organised walks had been arranged.

Another one of our summer outings this year was a trip to historic Chenies Manor which was very interesting. The gardens were full of tulips of all colours and designs. They are numbered to enable you to order bulbs for the winter. The visit finished with a gorgeous piece of cake and a cup of tea.

'History of English Furniture' by David Embling is scheduled for our meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>

The Christmas meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> will have us all a flutter with the 'Language of Fans' by Amanda Rayner.

There are regular activities throughout the year which members can attend as well as the monthly meetings These include , Thursday afternoon Bridge, our book club, china painting, morning walks usually finishing with a pub lunch , croquet and in the winter months, a discussion evening.

We love to welcome new members so why not come and join us

If you require any further information regarding any of our meetings or events please contact our new Secretary Kathryn Trout 01844 273 746 or [kathryn.trout@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kathryn.trout@tiscali.co.uk).

**Xandra Lambert Autumn 2010**

## **Remembrance Day**

Children from Longwick School will place a wreath on the War Memorial in a short ceremony at 11.00am on Thursday 11th November.

## **Parish Council Election May 2011**

Election for the Parish Council will take place next May on the same day as the District Council election. Anyone who is interested in becoming a councillor can get more information on the process from Wycombe District Council - E-mail: [elections@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:elections@wycombe.gov.uk). Longwick-cum-Ilmer Parish Council has 7 councillors (the number is set for us). If there are 7 or fewer candidates, there is no ballot. If there are more than 7, a ballot will be held.

## **Your Parish Council Finances**

The Parish Council income with the exception of occasional grants is a charge on the rates paid by each householder to Wycombe District Council. The amount for the current year (our Precept) is £16,500 - a slight reduction on the previous year. The major items of expenditure budgeted for this year is:

Clerk's salary	£5,120
Insurance	£1,400
Website	£ 870
Grass cutting	£ 3,210
Dog Waste & Litter bins	£730
Capital Project (Zip wire)	£8,500 -

some of this cost was met by money the Parish Council had saved in reserves.

Since there are always unanticipated costs to be met, we try to maintain reserves of a level which our Clerk advises us is appropriate.

**George O'Neill - Vice-chairman**

# **Morning Market - Charity event in aid of Longwick Pre-School**

Longwick Village Hall HP27 9SF on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010.  
10 am - 1pm

Everyone welcome - come and support your local community whilst  
raising money for Longwick Pre-School.

## **FREE PARKING & FREE ENTRY**

We have face painting and bouncy castle fun for the children.

Discounted Children's Sample Clothing

Children's Silver Fingerprint Jewellery

Hand Crafted Gifts

Avon

Jewellery

Cookware

Usborne Books

Nearly New and Pre-Owned Children's and Baby Items

Beauty Treatments

Refreshments, Cake, a great Raffle and lots more.....

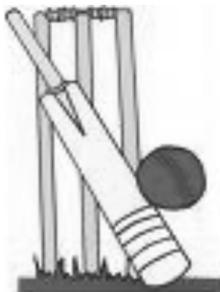
## BOUNDARY BANALITIES

Spider ant cricket man thing

Writing for the autumn issue of the magazine has many advantages, not least the chance to reflect on memorable events of an exhilarating summer of cricket; an opportunity for Longwick Cricket Club to vote on its own "champagne moment" of the season.

With only two losses (excluding our slightly poorer, hangover-induced tour performance) it is unsurprising that competition for this prestigious award has been particularly intense. However, unless the remaining three fixtures produce a feat of immeasurable proportion, this year's winner will be Adam Rhodes. Adam's return to cricket, after a long absence, was fortuitous for Longwick. However, he will be less remembered for a fine series of brisk, attacking innings than for his performance at the end of the Hyde Heath game. Those of a sensitive disposition, children and old ladies are advised to stop reading here.....

But, for the more curious members of the parish, the story continues. The game coincided with the annual nest evacuation of flying ants. The atmosphere at the ground was "ant grey", making both batting and fielding extremely challenging. However, the cricket concluded successfully, and the sweaty players retired to the showers.....but they were not alone. Unbeknown to Adam, an inquisitive ant decided to hitch a ride on one of the more sensitive parts of his body. Finding itself



in this somewhat invidious position, it responded as any self respecting flying ant would, and delivered a painful nip to said appendage. Adam yelped, did a strange war dance and went on a search for some Savlon. He has not been seen since the event, but there is speculation that the ant was radioactive and (like spider man), mild mannered Adam Rhodes has now acquired super powers. There is no doubt that he

will use these powers to fight evil (non-dog pooh collectors beware!) and that he will eventually fall in love with a ravishingly beautiful girl, only for his hopes to be dashed as any long term relationship would not be compatible with the life of a super hero. eventually fall in love with a ravishingly beautiful girl, only for his hopes to be dashed as any long term relationship would not be compatible with the life of a super hero.

So, good citizens. Over the dark winter months remember to keep your eyes peeled. If you see a strange looking man crawling around Thame, carrying a kebab and accompanied by a column of six legged companions you can tell your friends that you have seen "Spider ant cricket man thing" defender of the good and supporter of local hostelries and food establishments.

On a more serious note, the club would like to extend its appreciation to all those who responded to the recent questionnaire, especially those who offered to join the monthly draw. The extra financial support is invaluable as equipment such as the mowers and heavy rollers require constant maintenance (and perhaps one day replacement). Of course, if any one has a spare roller or cylinder mower in their attic, we are sure that we could give it a very good home.

The winners of the monthly sports club draw for the last two months as follows

August September  
£60 W Potter J Marshall  
£30 Mrs Thomas A Dufton  
£10 S Hartshorne J Frewin

Contact: **Peter Beele on 01844 208348**  
**or email: [pete@beele.co.uk](mailto:pete@beele.co.uk)**

## **LONGWICK SCOUTS UPDATE**

The last couple of years have seen the Longwick Scout Group increase in numbers of children (both boys and girls) and a huge amount of effort put in to refurbish our Scout Hut.

This would not be possible without the time and dedication put in by the Beaver, Cub and Scout Leaders and the Committee Members – who are all volunteers, donating their time and enthusiasm to support the young people of this village.

At our AGM in July a number of significant changes took place to our leadership team.

Rolf van Apeldoorn (a previous Scout Leader) has taken on the role of Chair for the Scouts Committee.

Alan Inglis has taken over as treasurer from Helen Lidington to whom we are extremely grateful for the many years support she has provided to us in this role.

However the most significant change was that after eleven years Andy Emmett stepped down as Scout Leader and Group Scout Leader. Andy has been involved in Scouting in Longwick, since he himself was a scout. Both Andy and his colleagues (Ashley Rattray, Jake Belgrove and Bill Hart) provided a wealth of experiences for the Scouts – everything from the more traditional camping weekends and overnight hikes, to rabbit skinning, rifle shooting, copious games of “bulldog” and to the quite grotesque “can't cook – won't eat”, whereby the Scouts created the most bizarre concoctions and the leaders then had to try and eat it!! They have acted as inspiration and role models, not just to the young people involved in Longwick Scouts, but also as young men, willing to dedicate their energy and spare time to supporting our village community.

Therefore, on behalf of the Scouts, their parents and the committee – we would all like to wish Andy and the team a heartfelt thanks for all their commitment and effort over the years.

The Scout Group has called upon the services of Andrew Woodruff – Group Scout Leader of Whiteleaf to act as temporary GSL of Longwick until such time as we can appoint a replacement. As an interim

measure, Longwick Scouts will take place at Whiteleaf, until we are able to find volunteers willing to take on the Scout Leader role in Longwick once again. Full training and guidance is provided by the Scout Association (and we promise you won't have to do "can't cook – won't eat"!!!).

If you would like to be part of the Scouts in Longwick then call Rolf van Apeldoorn (01844 347733) or Sylvia Kershaw (01844 275056) for an informal chat

If you have a son or daughter who wishes to join Longwick Scout Group the dates and contacts for the groups are:

Beavers (age 6-8 years)

Meeting – Monday 5.15pm – 6.45pm Longwick Scout Hut

Contact – Donna Livingstone -01494 862737

donna.livingstone2@btinternet.com

Cubs (age 8-10 ½ years)

Meeting – Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Longwick Scout Hut

Contact – Wendy Walker 01844 274110

wendylwalker1@hotmail.co.uk



Scouts (age 10 ½ - 14 years)

Meeting – Friday 7.30pm – 9.30pm Whiteleaf Scout Hut, Courtmoor Close Monks Risborough HP27 9NB (temporary location)

Contact – Ian Ramsey 01844 347302

Scouts Quiz Night

The next fund raising activity for the Longwick Scouts is a Quiz Night – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September (7.30pm – Longwick Scout Hut – please contact Donna Livingstone for tickets.

**Sylvia Kershaw**

## **IT CAN'T BE SUCH A BAD PLACE!**

...Our having moved to Longwick 39 years ago, with two further moves.....both in Longwick.....and both to a house next door. No removal Lorries for us – just wheel barrows!

We came with 3 young children and our 4th (all boys) was born here. The village school only had about 60 children then and the daily trek with pram, children and dog seemed to be without problem. It was certainly the basis of many longstanding friendships. -Undoubtedly a main reason for staying here.

There has always seemed plenty to do. The scouting movement was a great source for activity, involving not just the boys.

Looking back perhaps our most fascinating memories were centered on the family pets and our launching into some questionable farming activities. This stemmed from, an evening in the Duke of Wellington pub (now offices) with a neighbour who had a field standing idle. We dared to agree with Tom Collins (a farming character from the past) that we should have a house cow. Apparently we had been serious as the following Market day we were both quickly summoned home as Tom had dropped off a Jersey cow – later to be called Ivy, and she was waiting to be milked. With a new bucket from Kibbles of Duke St, the stool from the house and some Radio 3 music we eventually managed a few drops!

.....But very soon we cancelled the milkman and even had to offload surplus supplies on unsuspecting friends. No health & safety stuff then! Fingers dived in to remove the straw on my way back over the road for breakfast ...and then to work.

We then took the logical step to have a couple of pigs as we were swimming in milk. Then another cow to be called Hazel and then calves. For 13 years this and more went on.

Perhaps I will share some of the incidents I remember in another Issue.  
Happy Days!

**David**

## HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST PETER'S OWLSWICK

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm

**Attended by the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson**

The last time Bishop was in Owlswick Chapel was in 1949 and we intend to make this an occasion to remember with extra special decorations suitable for harvest.

We would like to invite everyone to visit the chapel, which will be open all day.

**Cream teas will be served between 3.30 and 5.30pm**

As usual we will be collecting for the Whitechapel Mission, which cares for the poor and homeless of London: non perishable foodstuffs and toiletries would be gratefully appreciated.

For more information phone Rev James Tomkins 01844 275944  
or Jane Rogers 01844 347906

### **A Request:**

If anyone has any unwanted gifts they would like to donate for raffle prizes for the **PACE in Aylesbury** – children with cerebral palsy, then please contact Sandra Gomme on 01844 342356 . She is willing to collect.

### **Christmas Church Services**

St Peter's Ilmer	Carol Service Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm
St Michael & All Angels, Horsenden-	Carol Service Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm
St Peter's Owlswick	Carol Service Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm
St Peter's Owlswick	Choral Evensong Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm

### **LITTER PICK**

Do you hate the casual litter that people throw onto our verges? Do you think that something needs to be done? Well now is your chance to do something!

Last March volunteers led by the Parish Council collected over 40 sacks of rubbish from our Parish. On Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> we intend to have another attempt at clearing up this blight on our landscape, **please come and help**. We will meet at the Village Hall at 10pm, it is advisable to wear gloves, old clothes and boots; sacks will be provided.

## The Chilterns Under Threat From High Speed Rail

Can you imagine during the worst economic position our country has been in since the war, the government is proposing to waste even more vast sums of tax payer's money on the High Speed Rail, a non-stop service from London to Birmingham. Which if either of the two Chiltern routes get the green light will cause significant harm to vast areas of the Chilterns, a designated area of outstanding natural beauty. They are proposing 14 trains an hour, travelling at 200 mph from 6am to Midnight, HS2 construction will affect our villages, roads, house prices and way of life in Longwick & Ilmer.

Did you know they need a 5 mile wide construction zone, during the 7-10 years of work, creating lots of noise, vibration, dirt, traffic and disruption? Take a look at this local website [www.speenbucks.org.uk](http://www.speenbucks.org.uk), we feel sure you will see the business case for High Speed Rail is fundamentally flawed. It leaves you with the question – is the government is being too heavily influenced by powerful business executives which have a vested interest in HS2 going ahead?

### Call to Action

If you haven't already done so please write to your local MP at The House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, and Philip Hammond, Secretary of State for Transport at The Department of Transport, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DR or email: [hammondp@parliament.uk](mailto:hammondp@parliament.uk).



For further information visit: [www.hs2actionalliance.org/](http://www.hs2actionalliance.org/)

Consider joining the Chiltern Society at [www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) they need of donations for their fighting fund. They are working on an evidence based case to submit to the government on environmental & conservation grounds.

Want to join the fight to keep High Speed Rail out of the Chilterns. Contact me by email [sarah.brambleby@eventhorizonsol.com](mailto:sarah.brambleby@eventhorizonsol.com) if you would like to join our Longwick & Ilmer action group or let me know if would like to be kept informed.

Article submitted by **Sarah Brambleby, Martine Williams & Nikki Hemmings**

On behalf of the Longwick & Ilmer Action Group.

## RISBOROUGH AREA COMMUNITY BUS

AT LAST !!

The Risborough Area Community Bus commences on Monday 19 July 2010.



**Service no. 1** leaves Princes Risborough Market Square at 9.30am, proceeds to Monks Risborough via Aylesbury Road, winds through Monks Risborough and returns to Market Square via Wellington Avenue and Longwick Road. Subsequent departures are timed for 10.30am, 12.00pm, 13.30pm, 14.30pm and 15.30pm.

**Service no. 2** leaves Princes Risborough Market Square at 9.50am, and navigates the Trees and Fields Estates, returning at 10.04am. Subsequent departures are timed for 10.50am, 12.20pm, 13.50pm, 14.50pm and 15.50pm.

**Service no. 3** leaves Princes Risborough Market Square at 10.05am for Longwick via the Railway Station and Summerleys Road, reaching Longwick Post Office at about 10.15am and returning on the same route at 10.29am. Subsequent departures are timed for 11.05am, 12.35pm, 14.05pm, 15.05pm and 16.05pm.

**Services nos 1, 2 and 3** run Mondays to Saturdays except for Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

**Service no. 4** runs from Princes Risborough Market Square to Loosely Row via the Station on Thursdays and Saturdays, departing at 09.00am and 11.30am only.

Fares cost £1.00 (£2.00 for Loosely Row); most Bus Passes are accepted. The Bus is 'wheel chair friendly' but intending passengers who are wheelchair users need to book on 07941 963097 by 4.00pm the day before.

## **Longwick cum Ilmer Parish Council**

would like to put on record the extraordinary Achievement of Cllr. Dorothy Brock who has decided to retire after serving an amazing fifty-one years in Longwick cum Ilmer Parish Council.

Dorothy's knowledge of this parish is second to none; she was born in Longwick and lived most of her life in Meadle where her Father and Uncles' farmed. In addition to her contribution on the parish council she was also for many years our representative on Wycombe District Council.

Over the years she has been involved with most of the organisations in this parish and was for a time a trustee of the old village hall. She still takes an active part in many local organisations, particularly Monks Risborough Horticultural Society, of which she is President. For many years she has been the parish tree warden and in a personal capacity is responsible for the planting of a wood at Larks Dean near Meadle, a hedge near Owlswick and preserving many rare wild flowers. She represents the parish on both Monks Risborough and Princes Risborough Parochial Charities, which are in charge of the allotments and on realising that there was a shortage of these created more allotments on her own land.

Dorothy's knowledge of the land and people of this parish will be greatly missed at parish council meetings; we are very grateful for her contribution to all things related to this parish and wish her many happy years of retirement.

