

School fireworks and fun

A DAZZLING display of fireworks are set to light up Cox Green at the annual Wessex fireworks night on November 7.

Held for the sixth time, the spectacular celebration to mark Guy Fawkes Day will feature a feast of entertainment including a children's fun-fair, barbecue, live music and hot drinks.

All cash raised at the event will be put towards Wessex Primary School's general running costs.

Tickets are £4 for adults and £2 for children, and gates open at 6pm.

Road will be closed

DRIVERS are being warned that a Cox Green road bridge will be closed for part of tomorrow (Friday) for resurfacing work.

Highfield Lane Bridge will be shut from 8am-3pm while the borough carries out planing and resurfacing work.

Diversions will be in place but drivers are being urged to allow extra time for journeys in this area.

Meeting cancelled

THE next meeting for the Woodlands Park Village Association at the Royal British Legion on November 3 has been cancelled.

Association chairman Jan Brown, said she is unable to chair the meeting in Woodlands Park, because of a change in her personal circumstances.

Cheers!

A COFFEE morning held at Woodlands Village Centre in October raised £160 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Sweet goodbye

A POPULAR lollipop man in Cox Green is retiring after three years of helping school children safely across the road.

Ray Powell, 79, of Altwood Bailey, gave up his much-loved position due to health problems on Thursday.

Pupils and staff from Wessex Primary School, in St Adrian's Close presented Ray with presents at a surprise presentation the day before.

Father-of-one Ray, who formerly worked as a printer for the Advertiser for more than 30 years, said: "I've loved my time as a lollipop man, and met so many wonderful people and children."

Ray, who has three grandchildren, intends to relax and spend time with his family.



LAST DAY: Ray works for the last time as a lollipop man in Cox Green. Ref:100562-2

Butcher's final cut

Popular John's retirement sees last of village shops close

THE last man standing of a once flourishing independent store brigade in Shurlock Row and Waltham St Lawrence has announced a date for his retirement.

John King, 71, whose butchers shop in The Street, has been in Shurlock Row since May 1971, will chop rump and sirloin steak for the last time on January 4 next year.

The store will be turned into a one-bedroom cottage by the new owner, bringing an end to a once thriving independent store community.

In their heyday, the villages of Shurlock

Row and Waltham St Lawrence had eight shops, but one by one shops have fallen by the wayside, leaving John as the sole shop owner.

John said: "It's a damn shame, as the trouble is people do not have enough time anymore. I'm lucky really to have survived so long. There used to be eight shops here, and when I go there will be none."

"We used to be so busy, but everybody goes to supermarkets now."

John, who is a vegetarian and is renowned for feeding the birds outside his shop, ran in the Dublin marathon on Sunday for the 24th

time, and said he is sad so be leaving his customers and friends.

He said: "You could not meet nicer people than here anywhere. They are marvellous. I will miss it and will be taking it easy now. But I have lots I want to do."

John added that he will be trading as usual over the Christmas period.

Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council chairman Dave Crawley-Boevey, paid a glowing tribute to John and his involvement in the community.

He said: "He will be much missed as an individual and a shop-



RETIREMENT: John King, who is retiring after 37 years as a butcher in Shurlock Row.

keeper. He has given so much to the community.

"It's disappointing that it's the last shop to go in the area as we used to have so many, but I guess it's inevitable today."

Well owls about that then?



OWL SURPRISE :Zippy the barn owl sits on the shoulder of an excited Charlotte Blundell, eight. Ref:100554-5

ZIPPY the barn owl posed for photographs on Wednesday last week to thrill bird-loving pupils.

The bird of prey was one of three owls taken into the school as part of an educational day at White Waltham Primary School.

A range of owl activities were put on by Night Owls, a group that specialises in bringing in the birds to give children a new experience.

The morning started off with a talk focusing on science, with the children then drawing pictures of the perfectly posing barn owls.

Excited youngsters were then able to let people-friendly Zippy sit on their shoulders, and then watched as the owls silently flew around the inside of the school hall.

Science coordinator Mrs Rawlinson said: "The children enjoyed it tremendously."

"They gained a lot from the whole day, and have used it as a basis for writing poems and carrying out research into owls."

Typical barn owls grow to about 3ft wingspan, and there are 15 different species. For more information visit www.niteowls.co.uk

Positive step

BUDDING journalists from a school in Cox Green have shown the future is bright for local reporters in Maidenhead.

Four pupils from Cox Green School produced a video production with the internet website Headliners and Norden Farm Centre for the Arts as part of a Word on the Street video production.

The video focused on a range of issues including school uniforms, school meals and other school-based topics.

Year four pupils at the school, Loren Barney, Ben Brown, Aimie Floyd, and Frankie Gallop, all aged 14, asked questions to fellow pupils and teachers to canvass opinions.

To see the video the pupils produced, see the video entitled Tired of Ties? on the website www.headliners.org



Justin Burns
Cox Green and the Walthams reporter
01628 678221
justinb@baylismedia.co.uk

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Diary

TODAY (Thursday): Woodlands Park Village Centre, Pilates (Beginners), 9.30-10.30am; SMILE, 1-2.30pm; Age Concern, 10am-2pm.

Cox Green Community Centre, F.L.A.P, 3-6pm.
Tomorrow (Friday): Woodlands Park Village Centre, SMILE, 10am; Aikido, 8-10pm. Cox Green Community Centre, Jo Jingles, 10-11am; Judo, 6.30-7.30pm.

Sunday: Cox Green Community Centre, Church service 10-11am. Maidenhead Deaf Church, 3pm. Woodlands Park Village Centre, Karate, 10.30am-12.30pm; Kick Boxing, 3-4pm.

Monday: Woodlands Park Village Centre, Mobile Library, 10am-1pm, 2-5pm; SMILE, 1-3pm.

Tuesday: Cox Green Community Centre, Luncheon Club, 1-2.30pm; Get Together Club, 2.30-4.30pm; Maidenhead Camera Club, 7.45pm. Woodlands Park Village Centre, Louise's Aerobics, 9.30-10.30am.

Wednesday: Cox Green Community Centre, Baby and Toddler group, 1.30-3pm. Woodlands Park Village Centre, Cox Green Girl Guides, 7-9pm. White Waltham Village Hall, Holly Cottage Bridge Club, 7.30pm.

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