

In spite of everything that has been thrown at us in the past year or two Hitcham and Taplow appear to have come through it all relatively unscathed. Taplow is still an extremely pleasant place in which to live and is set in wonderful countryside which many of us have particularly appreciated during lockdowns. The Jubilee River has evolved over the years to become a great asset and the 'new' development in Mill Lane is maturing nicely and is a positive benefit to our community after years of disruption.

Unfortunately since we last met we have lost Helen and Aleyn Grellier who had lived in our village for 63 years. I am sure many of you will have known them. You can see their obituary by Roisin Lakings an ex school pupil in last autumn's Newsletter. Helen had been headmistress of our excellent primary school St. Nicolas situated in the heart of the village and she served on the St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council as well as being part of the Women's Voluntary Service. Aleyn was a great rower with many notable achievements. Please may we have a minute's silence for them.

There must be something about the air of Taplow conducive to producing great rowers, or maybe it is the River itself, because I have to offer our congratulations to Tom Dean for his remarkable achievements at rowing in the Olympics. Fantastically well done Tom.

We have a number of special thank yous. We are greatly indebted to your committee members a few of whom I should mention. First and foremost is Roger Worthington. He has done sterling work in so many departments. He is our very efficient Secretary who has not only competently dealt with the local authority document and planning side of things but has assumed the role of Acting Chairman whilst he and Andrew have been responsible for the major part of the production of our Autumn Newsletter. Thank you very much indeed Roger.

We must express our appreciation to Andrew Findlay who has once again done a great job in laying out and overseeing the production of the Newsletter and helping with our website. I hope you all look at it from time to time.

That brings me neatly to Nigel Smales who much to our regret has stepped down from both the Committee and from editing our Newsletter. His enthusiasm and energy will be much missed in both capacities but we very much hope that we will continue to hear from him in future issues. There is a more detailed thank you in the autumn edition of our Newsletter.

Our thanks go to our erstwhile auditor Jim Rousseau who has stepped down from auditing our accounts, having moved away, and welcome Xavier Plumley who has audited this year's ones for which we thank him.

Robert Hanbury is our very able Treasurer who has kept a meticulous eye on the financial side of things as well as looking after our membership details. He has done an excellent job for which we are grateful. Thank you Robert.

Unfortunately we were once again unable to have our Village Green Party but are planning to have one on the 18th June next year weather and Covid permitting. A date for your diaries. Our Easter Egg Hunt did not take place either which was a great disappointment especially

for the young.

In June we once again had a Tidy Taplow ably organised by your Committee Member representing the Mill Lane Development, Jacqueline Turner and her husband Mike, for which many thanks. 20 bin bags of litter were picked up. The Society is now the proud possessor of high viz vests for future events.

Your committee has yet again met regularly on Zoom except for the last meeting when we met for the first time for ages at Upper Bumbles as formerly. So nice to see everyone in person. We have to thank the committee members for all they do on our behalf throughout the year. The reason Taplow and Hitcham are as they are today is because of all those who have gone before who have worked to make our community what it is. We try to represent all areas of Taplow and are completely a-political. We need more committee members so if any of you know of anyone who would like to join us we would be delighted to hear from you or even if you would like to help without actually being on the committee.

Eva Lipman, President HTS