

LEY HILL & BOTLEY

NEWS & VIEWS



SUMMER 2022

CLASSICS ON THE COMMON 2022

Ley Hill Village – Classics on The Common returns fully for 2022

Sunday August 14th 12pm until 4pm

BBQ – Club Bar - Tea and Cakes – Bring your own picnic.

Bring out your classic vehicle or just come and view. You are welcome to invite friends.

This is a very popular event and we do tend to reach capacity easily, so arrival before or soon after midday is advisable.

There will be a charity bucket collection, so please give generously as we always support local causes exclusively.

HOPE WE SEE YOU THERE AGAIN !

Neil Lamond 01494 774996, Sarah Peterson 01494 776086



CALLING ALL CLASSIC OWNERS IN LEY HILL!

We have a lot of classic cars here in Ley Hill so why don't we get together once in a while to chat about old cars over a pint or two?

Starting **Friday July 29th** we will have an ad hoc informal meet up at the Swan from 7.30pm on. If there is enough interest we can decide when/if to meet again.

This is not the formation of a "club" so no website, no Whatsapp and no "membership". Just turn up and see what happens.

See you there. Joe Walsh



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear All

I hope you're enjoying some warmer weather and the lovely light nights of midsummer? Probably many of you will be looking forward to a summer holiday whether abroad or here at home in our beautiful country.

It seems a while now since the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. But weren't ours splendid! It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the Beacon Lighting and Fireworks. Although the weather was disappointing for the Platinum Picnic on the Sunday, many people were able to enjoy the refreshments made by the Scouts or marvel at Martin's magic skills and take home some very cleverly made balloon models.

I am looking to make a few additions to the News and Views in the coming months in order to hopefully make it more interesting for the readers. So I would be grateful to receive suggestions for new ideas. Initially, I am seeking someone to write recommendations for books and/or films. If you would like to give it a go please get in touch.

However you plan to spend your summer, do your best to enjoy it!

Anne, the Editor



WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

We're sorry to see Sarah & Kieran from Crown Cottages leave the village but we wish them all the very best as they set up home back in Kieran's native New Zealand.

As some leave, others move in and we offer a warm welcome to the following new families:

Adam & Jo Nash with Harrison and Archie on The Green

Manu & Sadhana with Jasmine and Jaian in Letchfield

Katie & Dale in Jason's Hill

Neil Branscombe with Finlay and Rafael also in Jason's Hill

Clare & Stuart Maddock with Austin and Jensen, one of the new families to try the All Stars cricket for 6-8 year olds

WELCOME to you all and any other new families to the village!

We hope to see you in the future at some of the village events.

COFFEE AND CHAT in the Memorial Hall

Every first Wednesday of the month

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! NO MEETING IN AUGUST

See you on September 7th



COPY DATE FOR WINTER 2022 NEWS & VIEWS IS FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4TH

VILLAGE CLUBS AND GROUPS

Badminton	Tuesday PM Memorial Hall Wednesday PM	Amita Carr Janet Davie	778782 758501
Ley Hill Cricket Club	Chairman Juniors Manager	Nick Lee Chris Morris	782813 07896480445
Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club	Ley Hill Common 8am—Dusk	Chris Harris	chrisharris@leyhillgolf.co.uk
Toddler Group	Under 3 years & mums Weds in term time Chapel	Sam Guerin	Samantha.guerin@gmail.com
Beavers 1 st Tyler's Hill	6 -8 years Tues 5—6pm Memorial Hall	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
Emily's Dance School	2 -18 years Memorial Hall	Emily Harris	07423053556
Scouts 1 st Tyler's Hill	10-15 years Thurs 7 – 9pm Ley Hill School	Joanna Jennings	772688
Cubs 1st Tyler's Hill	8-10 years Memorial Hall Tuesday 6.15-7.45pm	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
Brownies 1 st Tyler's Hill	7 – 10 years Bangay Rooms Friday 6.30pm – 8pm	Zoe Digby	fluffyowl.tylershill@gmail.com
Guides 1 st Tyler's Hill	10 – 14 years Bangay Rooms Monday 7.30pm – 9pm	Gayle Romney	784305
Coffee and Chat	First Wednesday in every month 11am –12.30pm	Anne Birkett	773050
Chesvale Dog Training Club	Thursday 6.15 -10.15pm Memorial Hall	Carol Spencer 01296 662399	chesvaledogtrainingclub.org
Well Seasoned Club	Every other Tuesday 2.30pm Methodist Chapel	Lindsay Faulkner	783048
Women's Fellowship	1st Thursday of each month 2 - 4pm Bangay Rooms	Sheila Hart	785003
Youth Express 11years +	1st & 3rd Sundays from 6pm Ley Hill Methodist Chapel	Neil Rees	nwrees@gmail.com 258328

FROM THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

THE HALL COMMITTEE

IN THE CHAIR	Sarah Peterson	776086
TREASURER	Pete Churchill	776157
SECRETARY	Chris Lewis	786958
BOOKING SECRETARY Claire Randall ring 07716343867 or email cerandall44@gmail.com		

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Appleby	785075	Holly Byfield	07879442118	David Darvell	786995
Gina Daw	771494	Andrew Garth	785482	Angela Gregory	773659
Tamie Hutchins	775406	Joe Walsh	786638		
Catherine Haridi	07870638148			Bobbi Roberts	776751
Karen Perkins	07785367499			Margaret Faulkner	783048

LEY HILL FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW 2022

Don't forget to prepare your entry items for the Flower and Produce Show on Saturday September 10th.

We WANT your unwanted BOOKS for the bookstall. Please!

Please contact Angie on 773659 if you have any books.

Books can be left either at the village hall if it's open or at Skibbereen, Jason's Hill HP5 3QW

We look forward to seeing you all there on the day!

Go on and Give it a go!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Classic Cars on the Common

Sunday 14 August

Charity Quiz (Rennie Grove)

Friday 23rd September

Contact Dave Peterson on 776086 or 07970 726667 for tickets £12.50 incl supper (£15 if paid after 16th September)

Ley Hill Luvvies Show

an adaptation of 'A Christmas Carol'

1st to 4th December

Contact details: Sue Woodstock on 771840 from 1st November.

Autumn Litter Blitz.

Saturday 1st October

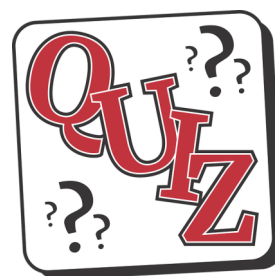
Silver Sunday

Sunday October 2nd

Christmas Carols

Monday 19 December

Please bear these dates in mind & support the events. THANK YOU.



LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

All Services at 11am

17th July Roy Swanston

21st July David Morgan and Youth Express at 6pm

24th July Rev. Andrew Brazier All Age Worship



Youth Express is the youth group for teenagers that meets at the Ley Hill Methodist chapel on the 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings from 6pm starting with pizza, then games or activities and finishing with a short talk or discussion. This is for secondary school children.

If you have children interested please contact Neil Rees on nwrees@gmail.com or 01494 258328

LEY HILL AND BOTLEY CARERS

Ley Hill and Botley Carers are volunteers who are organised to help their neighbours in the local community to cope with emergencies not normally handled by statutory or other voluntary services.

We can help in the following ways:-

Visiting - if you are ill

Transport - to doctor, hospital, health centre

Help at home - shopping, prescription collection, gardening.

If you need assistance phone 01494 785935



WELL SEASONED CLUB

Meeting in the Chapel on alternate Tuesdays, 2.30pm -4pm.

We have to admit that we have had quite a disrupted programme this summer! Our garden party was held in Oakley sitting room, rain stopped play and we have had an extraordinary number of quizzes due to cancelled speakers.

However, nothing stops the tea, cakes and chatter so we look forward to a more organised autumn programme commencing September 13th with, yes, you have guessed right, a quiz but followed on 27th September with the Harvest Lunch, and hopefully a full programme of events and speakers until Christmas.

Enjoy the summer warmth.

Best wishes,

Rita, 785935, Margaret and Lindsay 783048

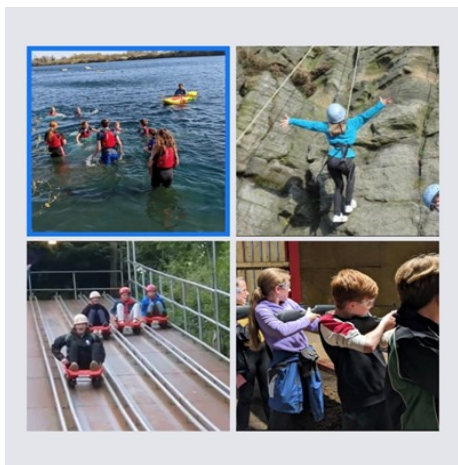


1st TYLER'S HILL SCOUTS

1st Tylers Hill Scout Group held its AGM on 28th June and elected Tessa Passey as the new Chair of Trustees. We thank outgoing Chair, Andrew Dawson, who has supported the group so brilliantly over the past 7 years.

Between Sept 2021 and July 2022, our team of eight excellent adult volunteers delivered a diverse and fun programme for girls and boys aged between six and fourteen, with help from parents and 7 young leaders. We have awarded 383 badges across the group, including 6 Gold Awards and so many others from astronomer, navigator and artist to cyclist and paddle sports. Beavers and Cubs carried out community fundraising activities for Chesham's Community Fridge and the Ukraine and held a local camp. Scouts organised an expedition camp at Speen and canoeing and kayaking camp at Dorney Wood, and day activities including rock climbing, tobogganing, rifle shooting, air ball and games in the woods. We entered two teams of four scouts in the Quest 12-hour hike in the Misbourne Valley. We are so proud that three explores who graduated from Tyler's Hill Scouts were selected to represent the UK at the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in July 2023. It's been quite a year and wonderful for the children to experience again the full range of scouting activities.

If your son or daughter would like to join us, or you would like to volunteer, please contact our Group Scout Leader via: Sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk or 07729 336402.



THE CROWN'S MUSIC AND BEER FESTIVAL

The Crown are planning the Ley Hill Music and Beer Festival this year on

Saturday and Sunday August 27th and 28th

With 4 bands each day starting at 1pm, there will be over 30 different ales to wet your taste buds as well as food and drink stalls.

This will probably be the biggest and best festival that Ley Hill has seen with our new stage and lighting layout. This is the 15th year of the festival, having missed two years due to Covid.

Tell your friends and family and come along to enjoy the bank holiday in style!



1st TYLERS HILL BROWNIES

1st Tylers Hill Brownies have had another busy term of fun and learning. We all refreshed our memories on fire safety and practised a fire drill for the hall as well as some activities and games to help us think about how to react in an emergency at home.

We celebrated Easter with a chocolate and egg themed evening - we had fun, resist-dyeing eggs with onion skins and leaves, making chocolate crispy nests (complete with eggs of course) and playing a covid-safe version of the 'chocolate game' with a mini chocolate bar each to open with a knife and fork.

As part of St George's Church's bid for Eco Church status the Brownies and Guides are helping to improve the woodland area for wildlife. During the Easter holiday we had a fun afternoon where we built the giant bug hotel that we designed earlier in the term, as well as some small bug houses that we hung in the trees. We also helped to decide where the nest boxes the Guides made would be placed. As the Brownies were leaving, we were delighted to see two deer running through the woodland area.

We are monitoring wildlife sightings in the church yard and woodland area, and would be happy to hear from anyone who has something to add to our lists – please either email me or add them to the list on the noticeboard in the Bangay rooms. The Brownies made lists of things that animals need to survive; and one that everyone said was food.



We asked the church wardens if we could plant some sunflowers along the fences and they readily agreed so we spent part of a meeting planting the seeds and the leaders have looked after them until they are big enough to plant out. Hopefully by the time you read this they will be growing well, not eaten by the rabbits, and later in the summer will be providing nectar for the insects then seeds for the birds.



We had two exciting outings - at the end of May lots of the Brownies joined the rest of Girlguiding Chesham Vale for an activity day at PACCAR Scout campsite where they got to take part in traditional camp activities as well as climbing, tunnelling and archery. Then in half term a small group of Brownies and leaders attended the Platinum Jubilee parade and beacon lighting in Ley Hill, which was a fantastic experience.

Following on from our planting of the sunflowers, the church wardens asked if the Brownies would like to take over the care of the round flower bed at the front of the church. It's now looking really good with its red, white and blue themed flowers for the jubilee. The Brownies take turns to water each week and remove the weeds. Hopefully it will encourage some of them to do their Grow Your Own Badge.



1st TYLERS HILL BROWNIES

In preparation for a walk in the woods, we learnt about the Countryside code, how to recognise different types of path, and how to respect the land and other people's property. While we walked, we looked out for the signs we had learnt about and once there the Brownies built some super deluxe homes for their teddies remembering not to cause too much disturbance and not leave any traces of our visit.

We're finishing off the last couple of weeks of term in traditional fashion with campfire cooking, silly sports and water games.

If you have a daughter interested in joining Brownies, please drop me an email or register your interest at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter>



Fluffy Owl (Zoë Digby) Leader, 1st Tylers Hill Brownies fluff/owl.tylershill@gmail.com

1st TYLERS HILL GIRL GUIDES

We are currently a very small Unit of six Guides and they all attended the Chesham Vale division camp, with Rosemary and Zoë, at PACCAR in May. Thank you to the parents for their help in transporting equipment to and from the camp, especially one who we discovered has got a van – camp equipment isn't often transported in a brand new van – a '22' registration! They had good weather, (so no wet tents for the van) and all enjoyed the activities. Unfortunately one of them was unwell during Saturday night and ended up on Sunday at Stoke Mandeville hospital, having her appendix removed. She has made a rapid recovery and certainly won't forget her first Guide camp!

We all attended the Beacon Lighting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at Ley Hill and enjoyed the firework display, although some of it was obscured by a tree!

At Guide meetings we have done lots of outdoor activities including a scavenger hunt and several fire-lighting and cooking activities. We've had two meetings to which we invited the older Brownies and hope that some of them will join us in September. One of these was cooking jacket potatoes and smores and the other was our Crystal Maze games. Rosemary celebrated a 'big' birthday and we helped her eat her birthday cake!

At St George's Fun Day we ran the cake stall, selling home-made cakes provided by the Leaders, the Guides, the Brownies, and their parents. We did very well raising £81.50 for the church. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

We are continuing to recruit and welcome new members. Any interested parents of 10-14 year old girls should visit the Girlguiding website www.girlguiding.org.uk to express their daughter's interest and I will contact them.

Thanks, as always, to Rosemary, Zoë and the parents for their support giving the girls the opportunities that Guiding provides.

Gayle Romney Guide Leader gayle.romney@ntlworld.com



NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

I am pleased to report that life for the Memorial Hall is very much back to pre-pandemic times at last and hopefully many of you have been pursuing your hobbies and attending social events as a result. If you are new to the area, or perhaps out of the habit of going out as much as you used to, please come along to one of the many activities that we host. Details can be found of both our regular hirers and the one off events that the Committee arrange from time to time in this newsletter as well as on notice boards and local social media. If you are looking for somewhere to hire for a private event then look no further.

Since the April newsletter we have largely been preoccupied, together with the Parish Council, in organising Ley Hill's celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Can you imagine spending 70 years as arguably the planet's most famous and recognisable person? What an incredible achievement. We hope very much that those of you that came along to the Common to attend one of our two major events enjoyed yourselves. I make no apologies for using these pages to summarise the occasion for the record and to say thank you to everyone who helped out in any way. Ley Hill has something of a reputation for putting on a bit of a show on such occasions and notwithstanding the number and quality of competing events during the extended Jubilee weekend hopefully we maintained the tradition.

On Thursday 2 June when the beacon was lit we had a crowd on the common that had to be seen to be believed. How many do you think? 1,500? 2,000? Judging from what I saw on the television subsequently of beacon lighting events around the country ours was comfortably more exciting than most! Thank you to Matt Gardner for preparing the fire and its fuse and to Jo Barclay, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire and a local resident for coming along to light it. Thank you too to our splendid piper, Jamie Kendall, and the wonderful Ley Hill Community Choir led by Karen Holt. Both Jamie and the Choir performed music written especially for the occasion simultaneously to 1,500 other locations across the country. Before that Jamie led our local scouts, guides, cubs, brownies and beavers down from the Hall to the Beacon in a moving procession to start the formal part of the proceedings. Thank you to all of them and their leaders.

Leading up to the beacon lighting we were entertained by the evergreen Aldbury Morris Men and the music of Dr Hooley at The Crown. There was definitely a feeling in the air that after the last couple of years we had some catching up to do in having a good time! The pubs it seemed were almost overrun! Then after the beacon had burned spectacularly heads turned to our firework display on the common, the feedback from which has been excellent. Thank you to Sarah and Dave Peterson (and their pyrotechnician Will) for undertaking the onerous task of setting everything up for a terrific display and attending a course run by our supplier Fantastic Fireworks. A fabulous finale to the evening. Thank you too to all the marshals for their contribution in controlling traffic, parking, spectator safety, providing first aid services etc as unobtrusively as possible and to our bucket collectors for persuading you to part with your very kind cash donations towards the cost of the weekend's activities.

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

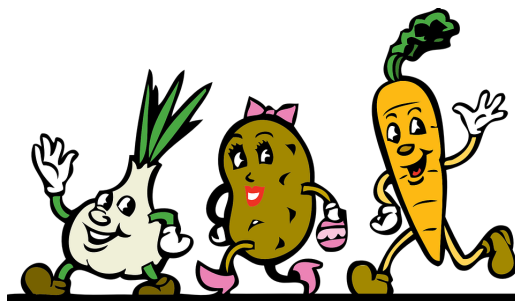
Then on Sunday 5 June, the day started with a service enjoyed by the congregations of both The Chapel and St George's in the Memorial Hall rather than by the beacon (to be on the safe side weather wise). An anxious day or two had been spent looking at very depressing weather forecasts, but thankfully the expected rain did not materialise and we were able to fully commit to the planned giant 'family picnic' on the Common. It was a typically English picnic day; gloomy, chilly, damp in the air but dry enough to have a great time thank goodness, and those that attended certainly did. Thank you to everyone that attended and in particular to the efforts of the scouts, cubs and the beavers and their leaders (notably Sheila, Jo and Julia) in providing perfect refreshments and many activities for children of all ages to enjoy. The Tug o' War seemed very popular as did the stall for younger attendees which had numerous games to engage with.

Anne Birkett is fast becoming our resident picnic expert and her photo opportunity with HM The Queen by the large decked out 'throne' was extremely popular, complete with a resplendent backcloth of our four giant patriotic flags courtesy of Neil Lamond.

There are too many to thank individually for their contribution over the weekend but these things don't come together by magic and the original organising committee of Neil Lamond, Sarah Peterson, Angie Gregory, Anne Birkett and myself were joined by representatives from the various youth groups, sports clubs, churches and The Crown for a couple of planning meetings. Thank you all, and thank you as well to Ley Hill School for providing some wonderfully topical decorations, most of which were displayed inside the Memorial Hall, before, during and after the Jubilee weekend. Thank you too to the golf club for closing the second fairway for our use at both events.

Phew! Part of me thinks thank goodness that's over but as ever it's great to be involved with something that brings our wonderful community together, puts smiles on faces and is hopefully enjoyed by everyone.

Talking of which ... one of the Hall's next community events is September's annual Flower and Produce Show. Step back in time and experience a very traditional English event. If you've never entered a class then go for it this year; many of them involve very little effort (and have nothing to do with gardening). It is great fun to compete in and visit. Please study the enclosed competition entry form and let's see if we can have a record number of entrants this year.



Finally, following our Centenary Remembrance Day Commemoration last November, Neil Lamond has produced a wonderful photographic book of the occasion. If you would like a copy please contact either me or Neil. The cost will vary according to how many are interested.

Ian Walter (ianwalter@btinternet.com)

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Hi, we are here and settled...well almost.

I was going to introduce myself with the song from The Greatest Showman "*This is me*" but thought I'd go with the more settle approach which *is not me*...

Some of you may have met me and my family either at the St George's Fun Day or the Queen's Jubilee service when we had a joint service in the memorial hall with the Methodists and the community. It has been a great start at St George's as we began our journey in March. We moved up from Bournemouth with two children who have settled well in their new school and adjusted extremely well to their new life, and my wife Steph has settled in at a new job.



It has been a wonderful and warm start and I have been in awe at the beauty of Ley Hill and surrounding areas. I won't tell you too much about myself as I hope I might get invited either to the pub for a drink or around your home for drink and CAKE... (I love cake). I will say that not only do I love God and of course my family but Star Wars and all things Marvel and DC comic related I am huge fan off. My office if you ever want to come for a chat is filled with figures and ships. As you get to know me you might realise, I am not your ordinary Vicar which some say is a great thing but for some the jury is holding out.

We are very excited about what God has done so far at St George's and we are looking forward with hope and anticipation for where He is going to lead us in the future. St George's had their 150th anniversary service in the woodland they have purchased, and we are planning our first forest church event in July, which I would love to invite you all to.

So, if you do see me walking around the area, please do stop me for a chat, I'll look forward to meeting you all over the coming year.

Services

Our services are at **11:15am on Sundays**. You are very welcome to join us at any time. We are very friendly and there is always time for coffee, biscuits, and a natter afterwards. Everyone - young and not so young, those familiar with church and those who are curious are all welcome.

Forest Church 22nd July 4.30pm

Harvest Service 9th October 11:15am

We have dog friendly coffee mornings on the first Saturday of the month 10:30-11:30am. Our next one is September 3rd. All welcome!

The Bangay Rooms are available for hire. These rooms, adjacent to the church have a large meeting room that can be divided into 2 smaller rooms, a kitchen & toilets. The rooms are ideal for group meetings and events (up to about 30). If you would like to hire the rooms, please contact Julie Rennard julierennard6@gmail.com We look forward to seeing you soon!

Keep up to date with news from St George's on [https://](https://www.stgeorgesandchrist.church)

www.stgeorgesandchrist.church on Facebook and twitter @stgeorgeshp5

or email Rev'd Darren Dalton vicar@stgeorgesandchrist.church

Hazel Rymer, Gill Glenister & Jenny Allison – St. George's District Wardens

St George's Church, Tyler's Hill Road











LEY HILL TODDLER GROUP

Ley Hill toddler group meets at Ley Hill Methodist Chapel, every Wednesday morning during term time, 10am until 11.30am.

We have a fabulous selection of toys, craft table, bible story time and singing.

We serve tea, coffee, homemade cake and provide snacks for the children.

You will be made very welcome and it is a great way to meet other parents and carers and also for the children to make friends before going to nursery and school.

Please contact Sam to check availability. Samantha.guerin@gmail.com



NATURE NOTES

Sitting outside on still summer evenings, we might well hear the sharp if slightly alarming cry of the wonderful little owls, which occupy nests and territory around our village.

Spread widely across the Old World, the little owl was not found in England until its introduction here by Victorian ornithologists. It is now widespread, though not common, across England and Wales.

Little owls have a particular penchant for barns and outbuildings, where they can find secure hidey-holes with good, high views of their immediate territory. Their chicks are a favourite food of their larger cousin, the barn owl, which explains their preference for homes with narrow entrances and, ideally, a separate internal chamber for the nest proper.

Readers of News and Views without barns but with an open wall might like to build a nesting box for little owls designed along these lines – <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/nrs/about/little-owl> provides an excellent example. I set one up in 2020, but am yet to have it occupied!

The little owl is of course widespread in Italy, where it became associated in antiquity with the goddess Athene. Also in Italy, tamed little owls were used by hunters of birds to draw out their quarry, since small birds will mob owls in an attempt to drive them away.

With the Roman occupation of Britain, little owls as symbols of Minerva have found their way on to coins, frescoes and mosaics of that period – so although not appearing in person until the 1880s, the little owl has been among us for a very long time indeed.

As those readers with children at Ley Hill school will know, there is nothing ***tam sapiens quam strix***

Andrew Garth



LOCAL SERVICES

With Kerry

Join my friendly online community whilst improving your core strength, mobility and posture.

It's the perfect way to de-stress and remain strong.

Remote Pilates sessions via Zoom every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 8pm £8

Contact Kerry 01494 785438 07860693619

Email: hello@withkerry.co.uk

WALK BETTER

If you need help with cutting toe nails or general foot care

Contact Ann on 786995 or 07754205469

Home visits available.

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LOCAL SERVICES

CARDIO/INTERMEDIATE PILATES: Mondays at 9.30am & Wednesdays at 10am

BEGINNERS & MIXED ABILITY PILATES: Mondays at 5.45pm, Tuesdays at 10am,
Wednesdays at 11am, Thursdays at 5.45pm

SAGALATES (Chair-based Pilates/Stretch): Thursdays 12.05pm

HIGHFIELDS STUDIO, 169 BOTLEY ROAD, LEY HILL, HP5 1XR

Call or e-mail Trish Baptist for information or to reserve your place

01494 [771055/tbaptist@btinternet.com](mailto:tbaptist@btinternet.com)/07758 382528

DRAWING CLASSES

Ley Hill Memorial Hall 9:30-12:30 Thursday mornings

Suitable for all abilities. Tuition given. £150 per ten week term.

Contact: Hilary Sussum BA MA on 01494 771708

MORNING EXERCISE BOOT CAMP

Ley Hill Common - for any level of fitness; (just outside the cricket club)

Every Saturday 9.30am—10.30am

Call 07471940250 for more information

Just £5 a session; FIRST SESSION IS FREE

JANET WHEELER-SMITH

Handmade curtains and alterations. No job too small.

Zips, buttons, re-hem trousers and curtains

based in Botley 01494 773021

DOG WALKERS FOR LEY HILL & SURROUNDING AREAS

Also able to dog sit if required.

For more details contact Paul or Lorraine Pearce on 775071 or 017597573398

CHEMISTRY TUTOR

A- level and GCSE Chemistry and KS3 sciences.

£40 an hour Or A group of 3 students for £15 each

Experienced Chemistry school teacher, references available.

Contact Natasha for availability 07766282721 Based in Botley, Chesham

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07462860087 www.timetotune.co.uk

FIND THE CROWN IN THE ACTIVITY TRAIL

There are 12 crowns attached to trees in the activity trail and below each crown you will find a stone with a number painted on it. Write the number of the stone found under each letter.

Contact anne.birkett@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk foto check your answers and for a sticker!



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MY FAVOURITE RECIPE

I've listed below my mother-in-law's recipe for gingerbread. I hadn't made it for years then in lockdown I unfortunately discovered that I can still bake a pretty good cake. After a disaster with a new recipe for ginger muffins I dug this out and had forgotten how good it is!

GINGERBREAD

INGREDIENTS

1/4lb / 115g butter

1/2lb / 225g syrup + 1 tablespoon of black treacle

1 egg

1/4lb / 115g caster sugar

3/4lb / 350g S R flour

1 teasp of ground cinnamon

3 teasp of ground ginger

1/2 teasp of bicarbonate of soda

1/2 pint of hot water

Stem ginger, chopped (optional)

METHOD

Put butter, sugar and syrups in a pan and melt.

Mix together the dry ingredients and pour in the melted butter etc

Add the egg and hot water and mix well

Add the stem ginger and stir through if used

Pour the batter into a lined square/oblong pan and cook for 35-40 minutes at regular 6, fan 180C or 200C or until cooked through.

Heather Sprake



LEY HILL SCHOOL

I'm very proud to report that Ley Hill School were awarded 2nd place in the carnival- something I know that people worked very hard to achieve with many late nights and some ingenious decoration tactics! Personal thanks for to Lora and Alison for all the hard work in helping Ley Hill receive this accolade! Already looking forward to next year!



The end of June week saw all of our children participate in our first 'proper' Sports Day since 2019, competing in both field and track events, working hard to earn points for their respective sports teams. It was so very lovely to welcome parents and carers back into school to share in the fun! Many thanks to all friends and family for your enthusiastic support, it made such a difference having you there, and to all of the staff for enabling the event to happen!

We have also had an amazing week in school celebrating all things Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. (STEM). STEM education is all about connecting classroom activities and experiences to real-life opportunities. STEM-based education teaches children far more than science, technology, engineering and mathematical concepts – with a focus on hands-on learning and real-world applications it develops life-long skills such as curiosity, critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, communication and collaboration. We had a number of STEM ambassadors in to school including Dr Ed an Immunologist from Oxford University, a Civil Engineer from HS2, Professor Jim a Veterinary Scientist from the Royal College of Veterinary Science in London, Dr Nina a dermatology surgeon from Amersham Hospital and Mrs Delahay who talked to the children about science careers and how medicines are created.

We ended the week with our very own Science Fair where all the children shared their science investigations and posters. Some of the posters are available on the website for you to look at. <https://www.leyhillschool.co.uk/mrs-roberts-headteachers-blog/>.

It really has been an incredible week. Little minds have been inspired about advances in technology and careers in STEM. Thank you to Mr Battye for organising such an enriched science curriculum for the children. We know that some of our Ley Hill pupils will have been inspired to seek careers in some of these areas of Science in the future.

We will welcome new members of staff to our team in September following a rigorous recruitment drive ready for the new academic year and are delighted that we have a strong and dedicated team in place. Sadly, this does mean that we will be saying goodbye to some members of staff at the end of the summer term.

Mrs Rennard will be retiring and we wish her all the very best for a happy retirement- she will be sorely missed by all.

Mrs Legge will also be retiring at the end of the summer term. Having worked for many years in the Nursery, she is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and we wish her well too.

We also saying goodbye to Mrs Mortali, Mr Leadbetter and Ms Pater who will all be moving on to new adventures.

Our whole school community joins together to wish them all well on their new and exciting journeys.

As a final bit of news we have a vacancy for a site assistant/caretaker at school from September. We are looking for someone who is available to work a few hours in the morning. If you would like some more information or know of someone who would be interested please contact me directly at the gate or email the school office.

Charley Edwards - Co-chair of Governors, Ley Hill School

WHERE SHALL WE GO TODAY?



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire**
Wildlife Trust

COLLEGE LAKE



Once a chalk quarry, College Lake is now one of the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust's flagship nature reserves.

College Lake is widely regarded as one of the best places in Buckinghamshire for water birds, and with many hides overlooking the lake, this is a great destination for bird watchers or for families, whatever the weather or time of year.

The marshland is perhaps the most important of the reserve's homes for wildlife, as in the summer it supports a number of breeding waders. These include lapwing and redshank, both of which are rare species, and College Lake is a key breeding site in Buckinghamshire. In the lake, common terns nest on specially created islands. In the winter, the inhabitants of the water change, and wintering wildfowl, such as wigeon and teal, from Scandinavia and beyond, use the wetlands for feeding and roosting.

Elsewhere on the reserve, chalk grassland is alive with colour during the spring and summer as a wide variety of flowers come into bloom. These support a range of insects, including a number of rarer butterfly species such as the small blue. Rough grassland provides a home for breeding skylarks, as well as shelter for small mammals, which in turn feed birds of prey such as kestrels and barn owls. Woodland, scrub and hedgerows are widespread across the reserve, and support a wide variety of wildlife, including finches and tits and in winter, thrushes such as fieldfare and redwings. An unusual feature of College Lake is the Cornfield Flowers project that started in the 1980s. College Lake was one of the first places in the country to actively conserve these rare and beautiful flowers, and the reserve now produces a glorious show of colour every year during June and July.

- Try the circular Wildlife Walk (2 miles). Just follow the lapwing way markers.
- Explore the world of bees at the Bee Centre.
- Find out about the old farming methods that we still practice here in the Farming Exhibition.
- Visit our 'Outlook Inn' a hands-on wildlife treasure box for under 5s.

Location: Upper Icknield Way, Bulbourne, Tring, Bucks HP23 5QG

THE SWAN UPDATE

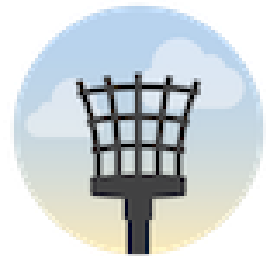
What's been happening?

At this moment in time, we can do very little until the Swan's owners appeal against the refusal of their planning application (to turn the pub into a domestic dwelling) is reviewed.

There are currently no dates set for the appeal so we can do little but wait.

The Swan has re-opened since lockdown - albeit on a limited scale with reduced opening hours and reduced offerings, limited drinks offerings and no prepared food.

Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	12–2:30pm, 5:30–10pm
Friday	12–2:30pm, 5:30–11pm
Saturday	12–2:30pm, 5:30–11pm
Sunday	12–4pm
Monday	Closed



There have been several new families who have moved into our village recently and we are pleased to welcome them. At least they now have had a chance to see the inside and the gardens of this historic pub and hopefully they can understand why we are trying to save it!

Round 2 of the Government Community Ownership Funding has commenced but unfortunately, we cannot apply again until we have an agreed price for the purchase of The Swan. Until then, again we will have to wait for this to happen.....

The Future - Wait and keep your fingers well and truly crossed!!

And Finally - Do you have any old photos of The Swan from previous visits over the years? If so, please let us see them either by e/mail to- info@leyhillcommunitypub.co.uk or from your original prints. Please give your prints to any of the S.O.S. team and we will scan your original photos and return them to you. The plan is to build a photographic montage showing historic events and occasions that were hosted by the Swan.

Dave Peterson on behalf of the SOS team

MAPS OF LOCAL WALKS

Another good suggestion in response to the parish survey was to create a booklet of local walks. I already have several which were published in earlier editions of the News and Views, and which all started and ended in Ley Hill. However, I'm sure they are many of you who have your favourite local walks. If so, I would be very grateful if you could send them to me, even if they're handwritten and we will put a book together.

anne.birkett@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk



LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Survey and Public Parish Meeting

Thank you for all your suggestions for improvements to our village in response to the recent parish survey. We have already begun to address some of the issues raised and to research some of the newer ideas. However, a number of the problems are not part of our remit and can only be solved by Buckingham Council. In light of this we have invited Gareth Williams, Joseph Baum and Emily Culverhouse – Chesham Town Councillors to address a public meeting for the parish. This will be held on Tuesday September 20th at Ley Hill Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Please come along to receive answers to your questions!

Hedges

Several parishioners mentioned overgrown hedges in answer to the recent survey. We have reported hedges on common land to Bucks Council who will be trimming them in the coming weeks. However, we have been asked to remind landowners and house owners that it is their responsibility to maintain their hedges especially when the hedge abuts a footpath or a road. If this is not carried out and the council deems it a risk to pedestrians or vehicle drivers Transport for Bucks will cut back the hedge.

Refuse Collections

We are aware that there have been several problems with refuse collections recently particularly since our collection days have changed but hopefully these have been sorted out by now. We have also been asked to request that residents are mindful of where they or visitors to their properties park since there have been several instances in the village when the refuse collection lorry and workers cannot get access to the bins which need emptying.

Painting the Beacon

It was great to see the beacon alight during the Jubilee celebrations, but it is important that each time it is lit it must be painted. However, it is proving difficult to find someone to paint it for us. If you know of anyone who would be prepared to do this work, please contact Claire, the parish clerk at parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk

Bus Shelter

The bus shelter on Rushmere Lane near the junction with Jason's Hill has been defaced with graffiti and we have been advised to repaint the shelter rather than remove the graffiti. Again, we are asking for your help and seeking someone who would be prepared to give up some time and paint it for us. Obviously, we will provide the materials. If you can help, please contact Claire, the parish clerk at parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk.

Plant a tree for the Jubilee

As you are aware the Parish Council will be planting some trees for the jubilee in the **autumn**, but we will need some help with the planting of the trees so yet again we are asking for your help. Please contact Claire, the parish clerk at parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk if you can help.

LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Litter Blitz/Bins

Just a reminder that the Autumn litter blitz will take place on **Saturday October 1st**. Collect your equipment from the village hall from 9.30am

We have received several requests for more litter bins, including dog poo bins, and are working on securing permission and purchasing them as soon as possible. However, it appears that the Waste Team at Bucks is overwhelmed with enquiries presently, so it is taking longer than we hoped. So watch this space!

Councillor Vacancy

At present there are two councillor vacancies on the parish council, which we would very much like to fill. If we are to fulfil many of the survey requests, we will definitely need some more assistance. It can be very rewarding working in the local community. Why not give it a try?

Contact anne.birkett@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk to find out more!

COMMON LAND

We wrote in the last news and views about common land in the parish, and it has been pleasing that parishioners have asked for advice or clarification. The issue of what to do with common land is a growing concern for the whole county, and just recently the county presented an expert in the field, who is advising the council. His presentation can be viewed on the parish council web site: www.latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk

Below is a summary of the main points:

(1) There are grey areas:

The rules about common land have developed over the last 1000 years, and had become a little muddled. There were 2 attempts to clarify this, in 1965 and 2006. The bad news is that neither of these acts were completely comprehensive, and as a result there are still some grey areas. For example: solicitors tend to use the Land Registry to identify land ownership, and the 1965 act set up a different common land registry. Consequently, they may have different views on the same piece of land.

(2) They are trying to develop some consistencies.

In response to the recent survey, we were asked to install more benches. The parish council can support the installation of benches on common land, which can be secured safely, but they cannot have concrete surrounds. Similarly drives and paths that cross common land, can be maintained with loose materials like chippings, but the county council has stated that it will not allow permanent materials like kerbstones and block paving.

Common land is there for all parishioners to enjoy and everyone has the right to complete access with no obstructions to this land. Occasionally common sense suggests that parishioners can cross common land in vehicles, assuming they don't damage it. However, Bucks council have made it clear, common land **cannot** be used for parking, even if it is next to your property, and it cannot be fenced or "claimed" by installing pots or posts. In addition, advertising like for sale signs should be limited to the owners own land.

If we have unobstructed access to our common land, we can all continue to enjoy our parish.

If you have any further questions, please contact parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk

BIRD BOXES

We have exciting news! Volunteers from the Chiltern Society and an owl expert have opened and checked the owl box and the four tit boxes to see if they have been used.

And the great news is that they have all been used! All four tit boxes have old nests and feathers inside; one even has three old eggs in, which did not hatch because either they were infertile or there were too many eggs in the nest to be incubated by the parent bird.

Inside the owl box, two dead Gliss gliss, a dead mouse and a dead jackdaw as well as owl pellets were found indicating that the box is being used by a tawny owl. The best time to see the tawny owl is at dusk so why not take an evening walk through the trail then?

The tit boxes will now be cleaned out and the findings will be recorded so we can analyse the findings in the future.

If there is anyone interested in monitoring the boxes then please contact me.



Anne Birkett anne.birkett@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk

