

LEY HILL & BOTLEY

NEWS & VIEWS

WINTER 2023

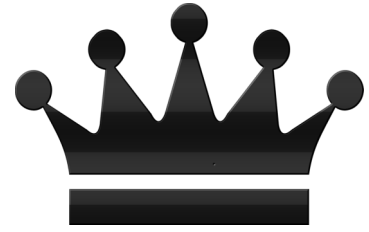
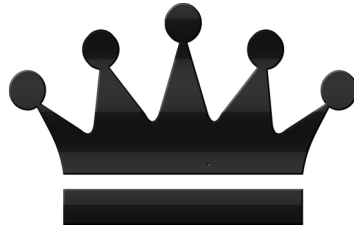
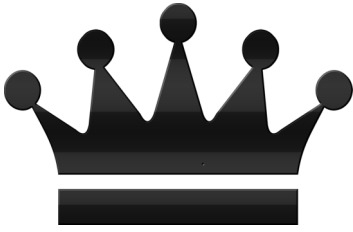





**This beautiful crown
It's a part of me – protecting me
And deep in the heart of this forest
I know I am safe.**

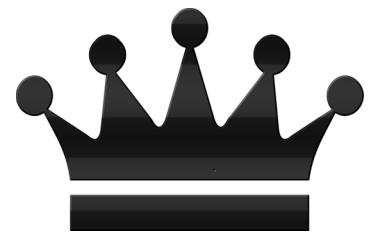
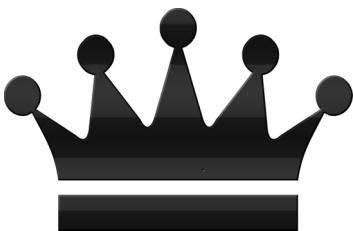
Published three times a year by the Ley Hill Memorial Hall Committee

Edited by Anne Birkett

CROWN CHRISTMAS QUIZ



1. In which popular nursery rhyme is “**crown**” mentioned?
2. Who played James Bond in the 1999 “The Thomas **Crown** Affair”?
3. In which countries is the **krone** used as currency?
4. Which Spanish football team has this **crown** on their badge? 
5. Which playwright said, “Uneasy lies the head that wears the **crown**” ?
6. The Koh I Noor diamond is part of the **Crown** Jewels and is set in the Queen Mother’s **Crown**
But what does Koh I Noor mean in English?
7. What does the **crown** emoji mean? 
8. Who wrote “The Jewel in the **Crown**”, a 1966 novel set during the final days of the Raj in India during the Second World War?
9. The **crown** was a British coin in circulation until 1965.
How much was it worth in decimal currency? 
10. Which British manufacturer uses this **crown** as their logo?
11. Which national teams compete for the Triple **Crown** in Rugby Union?
12. Who is playing the role of Queen Elizabeth 11 in the new series, Series 5 of The **Crown**?
13. **KROON** means **crown** in which language?
14. Hugh Grant and Andie MacDowell famously spent a night in The **Crown** Hotel, Amersham when filming which romantic comedy in 1994?
15. Who actually **crowned** King Charles 111 at his coronation in May this year?



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear All

I've been driving around the lush green countryside over the last few weeks wondering, now we're in November, if Autumn is coming and the leaves are going to start falling from the trees. But the mud on my shoes after a walk around the soggy golf course would suggest that Autumn is well and truly here.



I'm sure you will all agree that it is great that the Crown has re-opened, offering a very friendly welcome to customers. It was if the heart had been ripped out of the village with both the Swan and the Crown closed over the summer months. We all wish Sandra and Rob the very best as they make their new business a success!

It was with great sadness that we heard of the recent passing of Beryl Wardle. She and her husband Cliff had lived in the village for many years and had always been involved in the village community. Personally I had known Beryl a long time and had the privilege of working with her in several community activities. Beryl was involved in the running of the Ley Hill Playgroup in St. George's Hall which my daughter attended. I then went onto to teach her children who attended Ley Hill School then more recently Beryl was really helpful when she and Cliff, the previous editors of the News and Views passed on the responsibility to myself. Beryl was always such a kind lady and was always interested in you and your family. She will be very much missed.

I would like to thank all the contributors to the Ley Hill and Botley News and Views for your regular, interesting articles and also to the distributors, who deliver the copies in all weathers. A special thanks must be given to Patti Brindley-Codd who has carried out News and Views deliveries for many years. It is very much appreciated! Thank you Patti. And also thank you to Nora Perry who has now taken on the task of distributing to residents in Tyler's Hill Road. If you know of anyone who would like to receive News & Views please let me know as it can be easily arranged.

We are very lucky to have three defibrillators in the village which are available to anyone in an emergency. Thankfully at present the defibrillator at the Village Hall is in action and the one outside the Crown is now back in action after requiring new pads and a new battery. The Golf Club defibrillator is at present out of action as they wait for a new battery. Apparently there is a national shortage of batteries! Please be assured that in an emergency the ambulance service will always inform you of the nearest defibrillator in action and give you all the instructions you will require.

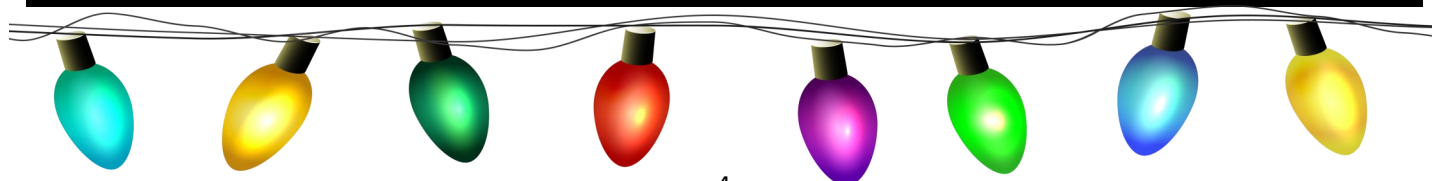
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I wish you all a very happy Christmas and Healthy New Year! Anne

COPY DATE FOR WINTER NEWS & VIEWS IS FRIDAY MARCH 1st

VILLAGE CLUBS AND GROUPS

Badminton	Tuesday 1030—1200 Memorial Hall	Amita Carr	778782
Ley Hill Cricket Club	Chairman Juniors Manager	Nick Lee Al Rowe	782813 07894 901880
Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club	Ley Hill Common 8am—Dusk	Alex Lloyd	784541
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	2 -18 years Memorial Hall	Emily Harris	07423053556
Scouts 1 st Tyler's Hill	10-15 years Thurs 7 – 9pm Ley Hill School	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
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 7pm – 8.30pm	Gayle Romney	gayle.romney@ntlworld.com
Coffee and Chat	Second Wednesday in every month 11am –12.30pm	Anne Birkett	773050
Chesvale Dog Training Club	Thursday 6.15 -10.15pm Memorial Hall	Carol Spencer	chesvaledogtrainingclub.org
Well Seasoned Club	Every other Tuesday 2.30pm Methodist Chapel	Margaret 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

Chairperson: Sarah Peterson (07799 478825 or 01494 776086)

Deputy Chair: Angela Gregory (01494 773659)		Steve Thorp
Secretary: Liz Thorp	David Darvell	Catherine Haridi
Treasurer: Pete Churchill	Margaret Faulkner	Sally Greenhill
Booking Secretary: Claire Randall - 07716 343867 or bookings lleyhill@gmail.com	Joe Walsh	Katie Naylor
	Neil Branscombe Chris Lewis	Lesley Tinine

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

It's been a busy summer for the Hall. Our regular hirers have continued to enjoy themselves and we have held several significant events, some of them popular annual ones.

The largest of these by far was the Classic Cars show in mid-August which once again attracted a very significant number of vintage and veteran vehicles of all shapes and sizes and provided a great opportunity for everyone to gather, chat and enjoy not only the cars but the terrific variety of refreshments on offer.

Well done to all those involved in the organisation and administration of that event. They know who they are and they do it every year! Thank you. In the absence of an active pub on the Common at the time, it was a very much welcomed occasion. Many of our stalwart committee members, trustees and helpers are heavily involved in Classic Cars and although not really advertised as a Memorial Hall event there is a significant input one way and another from the usual suspects.

Once again, the Thames Valley Air Ambulance charity was a major beneficiary as £1,088 was raised for them through donations on the day.



NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Another annual event, that dates back to the 1920s I believe (and some would argue is still in the 1920s!) is the Flower and Produce Show and enormous fun it is too. This is always on the second Saturday in September (put it in your 2024 diary now) and the more that enter and come along, the merrier. You don't have to be a gardener to enter; there's something for everyone to have a go at including handicrafts, photography, cookery, gin making, painting, poetry, and children's classes to name some of the non-gardening categories. Maybe we should change the show's name? It's also another great excuse for the community to gather over light refreshments and take pride in the enormous creative talent that exists in Ley Hill. Well done to all involved in its organisation, notably Sarah and Dave Peterson, Angie Gregory and Sue Woodstock and all their helpers; and of course the entrants!

Other events have included a Roaming Supper back in early July which Mike Appleby and Sue Woodstock arranged and was very successful. This seems to be an increasingly popular 'mystery dinner party' which starts and ends in the Hall but includes various host houses in between. It's a novelty format to eat, drink and meet existing and new friends in the neighbourhood.

Dave and Sarah organised a very well attended Quiz Night in early October which raised money to cover the exceptional costs of the Coronation celebration which the Hall sponsored to a significant extent. Although not Hall organised, Sam Guerin and her team have now held a couple of barn dances for all the community to attend, including a delicious supper, that whole families can enjoy as they start and finish early. Thank you Sam and company; they were great fun.

And coming up as this magazine is being compiled is a return to the Memorial Hall of the world famous Ley Hill Luvvies who are performing a comedy play called 'The Quartet'. Good luck to Paul Woodstock and the Luvvies with that. The proceeds are donated to local charities.

Ley Hill has become well respected for the efforts that are made to recognise Remembrance Day every year. By the time you read this hopefully you will agree that this year's display at the beacon was very appropriate. The beacon was sponsored by the Memorial Hall originally and is now an established focal point in the village. Indeed at the time of writing I understand that Ley Hill School is planning a parade to the beacon on 10 November having to lay stones painted with poppies. Thank you to Neil Lamond, Joe Walsh, Anne Birkett, the Parish Council and others for the work you do in making the beacon such a striking feature, particularly for the November remembrance purposes.

Maintenance of the Hall itself is not carried out by the fairies which may surprise some of you but we are lucky to have a fabulous cleaner in Vicky Povey and a Management Committee that ensures as far as possible that everything is in order for our hirers. Recently we have had the kitchen 'deep cleaned' and some worn out carpeting is being replaced and flooring issues in the toilets are being attended to. It's not all glamour! We are also looking at replacing fluorescent lighting with LED and improving our noise control system.

On the people front our Committee Secretary Chris Lewis has passed the secretarial baton on to Liz Thorp who many of you will know I'm sure. Thank you Chris for your service as Hall Committee Secretary for many years and to Liz for taking the task on. We now have both Mr and Mrs Thorp on the Committee! Chris continues as a Trustee.

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Our last Hall arranged event of the year is another annual one, namely the Carol Concert (hopefully complete with brazier fire) outside the front of the Hall on 18 December at 7pm. This is a terrific event to start the Christmas holidays with and I recommend it to everyone. Needless to say appropriate refreshments follow in the Hall.

With The Crown re-opening (and what a fantastic job Sandra and Rob have done in their first month as tenants), having listed some of the entertainment held in the past few months, I think Ley Hill has turned a corner as a village after a more difficult few years (largely Covid induced) and it takes me back to other memories of living here which some of our readers may not be fully aware of. We moved to Ley Hill in 1986 (it seems like yesterday) and whilst there have inevitably been ups and downs rarely a year goes by without something memorable happening. A few spring to mind. Who can remember for example Acker Bilk and his jazz band playing outside The Crown in a free concert for all; the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease in 2001 that led to the closure of Ley Hill Common; Ley Hill entering the Guinness Book of Records (we are still there I believe) for the world's biggest Christmas cracker (also in 2001), stretched out along Middle Lane between the golf and cricket clubs; the many royal event celebrations, annual music and beer festivals organised by the pubs; the Millennium celebrations; enormous fetes; balloons landing on the common; etc, etc. ? What a great place to live! Let's keep the fun going.

To bring us back to earth, The Hall's Annual General Meeting will be held in the rear meeting room of the Hall at 8pm on Monday 29 January. Look out for the agenda in due course on our notice boards in The Hall. Don't forget that if you need a venue for a function, please contact our Bookings Secretary, Claire Randall. We can cater for virtually anything ...within reason! Happy Christmas and all the best everyone for 2024.



Ian Walter (ianwalter@btinternet.com), Trustee

Beryl Wardle

It is with great regret that I report the passing of a long time Ley Hill resident, Beryl Wardle. Together with her late husband Cliff, Beryl edited and compiled this very magazine, News and Views, for many years. They were instrumental in re-designing the publication when they took on the editorship and introduced software to the process. I also remember Beryl helping out at the St George's playgroup at the top of Jason's Hill when it was run by Gill Henderson thirty years ago. This became of course what is now Ley Hill School Nursery.

Beryl was also a long serving past Trustee of the Memorial Hall and Cliff carried out various maintenance tasks at the Hall, often of an unusual or one-off nature. The Wardles were great examples of Ley Hill volunteers. For many years they both ran the raffle at the Flower and Produce Show, which raised valuable funds for the Memorial Hall. They were long time residents of Birch Tree Grove although Beryl has more recently been residing in a local nursing home. Our thoughts are extended to Beryl's family at this time. *Ian Walter*

Beryl's daughter Claire has invited anyone who knew Beryl to attend her service of celebration at Ley Hill Methodist Church on Friday December 8th from 11.30am. Please RSVP to Claire on 07507987849 or clspinks-gillen@hotmail.co.uk

LEY HILL FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

It was great to see everyone at the Ley Hill Flower & Produce show in September; there were 66 entrants spread across 300 classes, about the same as last year but including a few new entrants who are always welcome as it helps to keep the show alive and popular. With the seasons changing the weather some years is more challenging than others for growing vegetables and flowers. Perhaps the new entrants having taken the plunge entering this year and now seen the format will be encouraged to enter further classes next year! It's not a serious event and is open to you all. Please ask if you have any questions.

We loved seeing all the children's entries and whilst entries were up, more are always welcome. It was good to see more entries from the children of Ley Hill School. Again there were plenty of Domestic entries and it is always great to see how many men now take part. The trophies went to several different winners this year. The flavoured Gin category remains popular – plenty of samples for the Judge! The refreshments were a great opportunity to get together over a cup of tea and piece of cake. Although the book stall was well-stocked sales were slightly down - maybe more people are reading on a kindle?

So have a think about what you can grow or make for next year on **Saturday, 14th September 2024**. Advance notice of the Photo categories will be posted soon. So get your cameras out and take some interesting snaps (note maximum size is 7" x 5"). As always very many thanks to all those who helped put the Show together, ran or helped with the raffle, book stall, refreshments and to all those who donated cakes, books etc and sponsored classes. Sponsoring a class is just £6 and there are still some that need a sponsor- please let us know if you're interested. Thanks also to those who set up or cleared up after the show. We are always very grateful to the judges who judge year after year, generously giving their time and expertise. And finally a big Thank You to all of you who entered – there wouldn't be a show without you.

The trophies awarded in 2023 were as follows:

Dave Peterson & Joan Halliday Bettridge Trophy (most points in the whole show)

Steve Thorp Grace Sanders Cup (most points in fruit and veg classes)

Pete Evans Norman Sanders Cup (second in fruit and veg classes)

Rees family Family Cup (Household, adult & children, with most points)

Pete Evans Derek Rance Cup (best collection of vegetables)

Pete Evans Lowe Compost Bowl

Margaret Faulkner Catling Cup (most points in Domestic classes)

Dave Peterson Nina Sanders Cup (second most points in Domestic classes)

Wendy Barnes Kinta Cup (most points in Floral classes)

Wendy Barnes Allen Cup (best Floral arrangement)

Margaret Faulkner Hopkins Cup (Best specimen rose)

Amy Rees Darvell Cup (most points in Young People's classes)

Austin Maddock Children's Cup (Best single entry in Young People's classes)



We hope to see you all again next year. In the meantime, encourage others to enter as well.

Dave & Sarah Peterson and Sue Woodstock

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Peace

On Christmas day in 1914, just as World War 1 was just a few months old, both British and German soldiers on the front line met up and played football. It was a glorious moment of peace during one of the most brutal wars ever fought. It has been remembered because it was so unexpected. During this brief time, friendships were made, and to this day, nothing like this has happened since. There has not been a Christmas this century where there has not been a war. Despite John Lennon's 1971 Christmas song, The War is Over; it wasn't then and still isn't.

On November 11th, at 11 a.m., the nation pauses in silence as we remember those in the past who have sacrificed so much for us. We remember with gratitude and hope for a better future, yet we do not learn from the past. As wars are still happening today, we remember those who are still fighting and sacrificing so much. While praying and supporting all those who are suffering as a result.

Peace for many is something that cannot be achieved; the absence of peace can be painful, with lingering regrets. As many people live by "my life, my rules," they seek the interest of themselves. Yet if we seek peace, it can be a beautiful, harmonious experience that brings wholeness, tranquillity, security, and safety. This can only happen when we truly love one another the way we were always intended to. We place the needs of others before our own. Christmas can be a day of family conflicts; it can be a difficult time for some, yet the true gift of Christmas was the birth of Jesus, who showed us how we can live in peace, which was a glimpse of the future when He will restore all things. A time when all tears will be wiped away, a time of peace. Instead of this year choosing to hold on to conflict, choose to forgive, to love, and to choose peace.

We at St. George's invite all of you to join us this season as we discover what hope, peace, and purpose we can all receive from Jesus this Christmas.

Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ. Our services are as follows:

Christingle Service Sunday 10th December 11:15am

Carols at the Hen and Chicken Thursday 14th December 7pm

Carols by Candlelight Thursday 21st December 5pm

Christmas Carol Service Sunday 24th December 11:15 am

Christmas Service with Holy Communion Sunday 25th December 8am

We look forward to seeing you all .

Rev Darren Vicar.darren@gmail.com



BANGAY ROOMS FOR HIRE

Family events, or small parties, meetings, Training sessions, Keep Fit/Yoga Classes

St George's Church, Tylers Hill Rad, Chesham, Bucks

£9 per hour or less for regular block bookings. Available 8am —10pm

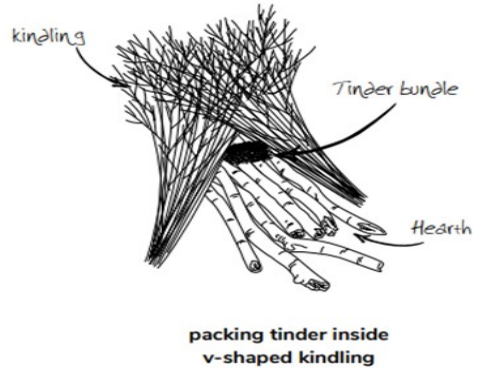
Car Park—10 cars

Tel: Julie Rennard 785345 or jrennard6@gmail.com



1st TYLERS HILL SCOUTS

Winter is finally here and as the long nights draw in, this is an exciting time for scouting. On a Thursday evening, Tyler's Hill Scouts aged 10 to 14 are busy carving pumpkins, playing wide games, doing night hikes, and learning about fire lighting and fire safety. Here's a taster of what's involved:



To achieve their Fire Safety Activity Badge, scouts need to:

1. Explain what action should be taken and why, if you discover a fire has broken out in the home or at camp.
2. Explain the process of combustion.
3. Be aware of dangers in the home and the fire precautions necessary for:
 - a. oil heaters and open solid fuel fires
 - b. portable electric fires
 - c. drying clothes
 - d. electric wiring and fuses
 - e. smoking paraphernalia, particularly matches
 - f. uses of household gas, including gas fires
 - g. party decorations and candles
 - h. closing doors and windows
 - i. using BBQs
4. Explain the benefits of installing smoke detectors.
5. Learn what the dangers of campfires are and what precautions should be taken.
6. Find out about the causes of heath and grass fires.
7. Learn how to make an emergency call for the fire service.
8. Identify different fire extinguisher types such as water, dry powder, foam and carbon dioxide.
9. Find out what to do if a person's clothes are on fire.
10. Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a fire at home.



Tyler's Hill Scout Group are looking for new adult volunteers.

If you are interested, please contact Group Scout Leader, Sheila Nardone on 07729 336402.

LEY HILL TODDLER GROUP

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

We have a fabulous selection of toys, a craft table, bible storytime 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



WELL SEASONED CLUB

Meeting every other Tuesday in the Methodist Chapel at 2.30pm.

With covid rearing its ugly head once again, we anticipated many absences through fear of infection, but not so! With arms full of jabs, we old dears are determined to enjoy each other's company and the benefits of fellowship, tea and scones.

We shall close this term with Dave Darvell and Friends bringing us Christmas music and poetry then reopen the Easter term towards the end of January, inevitably with Rita's Quiz. (They are not easy!). A full programme will be arranged, ending with the Easter Lunch at 12.30pm, possibly March 19th.

Best wishes to all, Rita, Lindsay and Margaret.



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



LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

FAMILY QUIZ ON 27th JANUARY 6pm – 9pm

IN LEY HILL VILLAGE HALL—SUPPER PROVIDED

Adults £10 Children £4 Family £25 (2 adults and children under 16)

tickets reserved on payment

For information or booking please contact Samantha.guerin@gmail.com



MY FAVOURITE RECIPE

Chocolate Cherry Fingers

INGREDIENTS

115 grams margarine or butter
60 grams granulated sugar
300 grams of dried, pitted dates (chopped)
200 grams glace cherries (chopped)
90 grams dried cranberries
4 cups of Rice Crispies
Pack of dark cooking chocolate



METHOD

Melt the margarine or butter with the sugar in a large pan and then add the rest of the ingredients.

Cook slowly for about 10 minutes until the fat is absorbed into the fruit.

Mix well and press the mixture firmly into a 20cm x 35cm baking tray, using the back of a spoon.

Finally melt the cooking chocolate and spread evenly across the top.

Enjoy! ***Irene Crook***

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL

As we approach Christmas, for many of us it is wonderful family time. For us, the carol and Christingle family services at Emmanuel church are a real highlight.

I do recognise that for some, Christmas can be a lonely time. In Chesham our annual Christmas Party for the elderly is one way of ensuring that no one is alone on Christmas Day. This year's party is set to welcome approximately 80 local people from our town and surrounding villages, many of whom live alone and do not have relatives nearby. Please do email me on gareth.williams@buckinghamshire.gov.uk if you know someone who might be in need of a friendly face on Christmas Day.

Cost of living pressures can also make Christmas more tricky this year. The Helping Hands programme, which I set up during Covid, has already supported thousands of local residents in Buckinghamshire with help, advice and financial support when they have needed it most. If you know someone who might benefit from this, then please encourage them to get in touch with me directly or to find out more online at <https://www.Buckinghamshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>

I hope you have a lovely Christmas and please don't forget that support is there for those who need it.

Gareth Williams—Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change Councillor for Chess Valley ward, Buckinghamshire Council



LEY HILL SCHOOL

Dear Residents,

We are pleased to bring you the latest updates from Ley Hill School. There has been a lot going on this term and as we head into the winter, there are plenty of exciting events to come.



First and foremost, we are pleased to announce that we have appointed a new Headteacher, Ms Lang, who will be joining the school in January 2024. Ms Lang brings with her a wealth of experience from both primary and secondary school settings. Her extensive background includes several years as a SENCO, a primary Deputy Headteacher and a secondary Deputy Headteacher. We look forward to welcoming her to the community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Young for her hard work as Acting Headteacher.

The Ley Hill Craft show in September was a great success and we were pleased to see so many of our students enter. It was wonderful to see their winning entries in different categories. September also saw the 'Great Ley Hill Bake Off'. Our fantastic students made so many delicious creations and we raised a brilliant £160 for Macmillan Cancer Support. You may have seen our wonderful Year 6 students out and about in Ley Hill doing their 'Bikeability' course earlier this term, giving them the essential skills and confidence to cycle on the roads safely.

Autumn wouldn't have been complete without our yearly Scarecrow Trail! Thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising a brilliant trail and to our families who creatively made the scarecrows.

On Friday 10th November the whole school marked Remembrance Day by painting a stone with a poppy and placing them at the Beacon as part of a special ceremony. We also shared a poem, joined together to sing 'A Wish For Peace' and held a minute's silence. We were pleased to see so many of you there.

Our athletes have been playing hard this term and have been representing our community with pride. In particular, we have been focusing on cross country and netball this term. Many of our students will soon be competing in a cross country competition at Hervines Park, we wish them the best of luck.

The holiday season is just around the corner and the PTA has something special in store for the local community. Our Christmas event, which will take place on Saturday 2nd December promises to be filled with joy, lights, and festive cheer. Join us from 10am for a memorable celebration that brings our community together with ice skating, a circus and a visit to see Santa.

*Jenni Denial and Alison Rainey
Co-chairs of Governors*



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

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Contact Ann on 786995 or 07754205469

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www.11december.co.uk

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Dave Bellamy 07765 000915 Chiltern.exhibitions@gmail.com

Chiltern.exhibitions@gmail.com

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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](tel:01494771055)/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

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1st TYLERS HILL BROWNIES

Tylers Hill Brownies have again been experiencing new and exciting things. At the end of the summer term, much to their amazement the girls made some delicious (well, most of it !) ice cream outside in the evening sunshine. With just a little hard work, and lots of ice and salt, they changed a bag of sloppy creamy mixture into ice cream of their chosen flavour. It went down well with freshly baked cookies.

For our last meeting of term, we were joined by the Guides for our traditional water themed evening. This year was much, much wetter than usual as unlike previous years when the sun has shone brightly, this year it poured. Luckily it wasn't cold so, undeterred, we spent most of the evening getting even wetter by soaking each other with unicorn water squirters ! If anyone felt chilly there was always the campfire for a quick warm up. And of course, you can't have a fire without S'mores !



In September, we welcomed some new Brownies and it was lovely to see so many interest badges completed during the summer holiday. During the summer holiday we received a request for the Brownies to plant some wild flower seeds around the edges of the woodland area at St George's, as part of the Eco Church project. It was decided this would be best done the first week back so seeds were purchased, we mixed them in a little sand so that they would be easier to handle and the girls had fun scattering them. Everyone was very excited to discover that the grass area was teeming with baby frogs – I think that was the highlight of the evening for most of the girls! One silly leader said, 'Hopefully we'll have a little rain over the weekend to wash the seeds down into the soil'. Well we got more than we bargained for, let's hope some of them survived. We also discussed the benefits of wild flowers for wildlife, and the importance of not damaging habitats by planting seeds in the wild, and not planting on private land unless you have permission from whoever owns the land. We have also been thinking of changes we can make that will help the environment. The church asked the Brownies for ideas that they could make too and we made a display on this theme for their Harvest service, as well as providing our usual donation of items for the Harvest collection.

As often happens, we got sidetracked one meeting and discovered the girls were interested in the moon, stars and space. It just so happens that the Harvest moon fell on a Friday so out we went to try and get a glimpse of it. Unfortunately, it wasn't high enough in the sky during the meeting but most of us saw it on our way home. The following week we did activities and games on a space theme, including making a scale model of the solar system along an unrolled toilet roll stretching from inside the hall to halfway across the carpark ! Some of the Brownies knew quite a lot about space before we started, and hopefully now they all do. Perhaps some of the girls will go on to complete the Space interest badge ?

Finally, at the end of the half term we did an activity called How Many Hats. The aim was to show that one person can have lots of interests, and we took inspiration from Beatrix Potter who had many hobbies and supported a number of good causes. The girls had to copy a toadstool made out of icing (mycology and natural history study), round up marble 'sheep' into their pen using a drinking straw (rare breed conservation) and make a paper tree to put in our mini forest (habitat protection). The girls then thought about the different things that interest them.

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 fluffyowl.tylershill@gmail.com



NATURE NOTES



GLIS GLIS

As we move into winter the longer, darker nights might bring to mind the response of many mammals at this time - and, in effect, certain insects - to sleep their way through the cold weather, waiting for spring. The glis-glis is one of these, unusual in Britain but reasonably common in our area of the Chilterns. Along with the muntjac and wallaby, they are another animal brought to Britain by the Rothschilds at Tring at the turn of the last century, and as we know have since proliferated. In fact there are a number of glis-glis in and around Pancake and Hockeridge woods outside Ashley Green, in the Royal Forestry Society plantation there. The plantation is also notable for having been donated to the Society in the 1980s, by the great-great-granddaughter of the first Duke of Wellington, and readers may know it has a magnificent avenue of Giant Redwoods - Wellingtonia. Of course the glis-glis also enjoys cosy spaces on our attics and outbuildings!

Glis-glis can live for up to ten years, and though their hibernation takes up seven months out of every twelve, they find time to breed over the spring and summer. They will often take over the nests of bats and birds where these are inside a tree or nest-box. Their breeding cycle is such that, if the weather, temperature and forage are not conducive, embryos can be reabsorbed by the mother, undeveloped. In this way the female glis-glis is able to control reproduction.

It is well-documented that the Romans ate glis-glis, and this is a tradition that lives on today in Croatia and Slovenia, where the hunting season begins in October. Baking is a favourite method of cooking glis-glis, though this does not leave much to the imagination.

Despite being an alien species, glis-glis are protected in Britain but may be removed under licence from Natural England.

Wishing readers of News and Views a merry and pest-free Christmas.

Andrew Garth

GREATMOOR—ENERGY FROM WASTE

Greatmoor energy from waste – opening to the public

Do you ever wonder what happens to the things you put in your waste bin?

All of the residual (non-recyclable) household waste generated in Buckinghamshire is now processed at the Greatmoor Energy from Waste facility, at Woodham, near Aylesbury. Greatmoor is operated by FCC Environment, in partnership with Buckinghamshire County Council.

Greatmoor has the capacity to treat up to 300,000 tonnes of waste a year (approximately 900 tonnes a day), waste which would otherwise have gone to landfill. As a result, it generates a minimum of 22 megawatts of electricity to the national grid – meeting the energy needs of around 36,000 homes.

This alternative treatment of waste will result in a saving to Buckinghamshire County Council of approximately £150 million over the life of the contract.

Greatmoor houses a visitor centre, and guided tours are available by prior agreement, at no charge. Tours are open to local organisations, clubs, schools (Key Stage 2 and above), colleges and universities. If you aren't a member of a local group but would like a tour, why not organise a group of your friends for a visit, or come to one of our open days?

For more information about Greatmoor please visit www.Greatmoor.co.uk

To book a place, or to organise your own visit, please contact

Jez Elkin - Education Manager Jez.elkin@fccenvironment.co.uk 01296 323633



DO NOT PUT THE FOLLOWING IN THE RECYCLE BIN:

- shredded paper - loses its recycling value when shredded; however, there are many recycling centres in our area that will accept shredded paper
- paper coffee cups - their wax lining makes them non-recyclable
- plastic bags - almost every grocery stores has a recycling bin for these as you enter the store
- plastic wrap or film - unfortunately, very few recyclers can handle this type of plastic
- batteries - these can't go in your bin, but there are other ways to recycle batteries:
- *alkaline (single use) batteries*: we weren't able to find any local recyclers for single use batteries but you can check out this [mail order recycling solution](#)
- plastic plant trays, pots & tags - take to a local garden centre

CHESHAM & LEY HILL GOLF CLUB

My Year as Lady Captain

Ever since moving to Ley Hill in 1987 I always planned to join the Golf Club once I had enough free time to play, but with the demands of a family, a full time teaching career and a love of tennis the opportunity never arose. However when lockdown was easing and golf was one of the few sports allowed it seemed a fitting time to sign up. I was immediately welcomed and put at ease by my fellow players despite the standard of my golf! I was particularly impressed with the number of ladies in their late 70s, 80s and 90s who were regularly playing rounds of golf. So I thought if I want to keep healthy and fit I should give it a go!

Just over a year ago a crisis meeting was held at the club as the membership numbers were dwindling so I decided to step up and help out, including taking on the responsibilities of Lady Captain. So in December 2022 I was presented with the brooch of office, followed by a very wet drive in and my year began. The actual golf started very slowly due to many, many wet Tuesday mornings (Ladies Morning) but there was still plenty of work to do promoting the club and trying to boost the membership.

The Golf season starts at the beginning of April and that's when my life became manic. My husband even suggested I should take my bed up to the Golf Club as I spent so much time up there. The Ladies Golf Committee is like a well oiled machine with procedures for competitions and events very well documented so what did I have to worry about? The Ladies Golf Year comprises of a competition every Tuesday as well as matches against local clubs, mixed matches with and against the men of the club and also weekend competitions alongside the men and social rounds like the Captains' Challenge on Thursday evenings. All of these competitions are largely the responsibility of the Captains but are nevertheless very enjoyable.

There were two special occasions which required mega organisation but which were very successful and enjoyed thoroughly by all the players—namely Lady Captains Prize Day and Ladies invitation Day. The former had a pink theme—all ladies wore pink, played a pink ball competition, drank pink soda and prosecco and all the prizes were pink! The latter had an Italian theme as the Ryder Cup this year was played in Italy. The Day consisted of 14 Ley Hill Ladies inviting lady golfers from local clubs in a bid to promote our club. We all enjoyed the golf on a lovely sunny day finished off with a meal of salmon pasta and tiramisu followed by prize giving.

I really wanted to create a sense of belonging for the ladies so organised a series of social events outside the golf club e.g. a trip to Top Golf, a Yoga Class, a golf mini break and an afternoon on the canal. However what I am most proud of this year is the instigation of a Ladies Academy at the club for the first time. We now have 16 ladies who are learning to love the game of golf, with the help of Dave Marsden, the club coach and a wonderful group of lady members who have acted as mentors. I finish my year as lady captain, quite exhausted, thrilled that lady member numbers have increased considerably and a love for the game of golf! *Anne Birkett*



LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

Ley Hill Methodist chapel has stood since 1887, serving God and the local community. Inside it is modern with comfy seats, modern audio-visual equipment and is connected to the Internet. We are the church in the heart of the village. Find us to the left of the Memorial Hall.



We were packed out for the Coronation concert earlier in the year, when many came into the building for the first time.

The church is known for its youth work. Sunday mornings now start at 9:45 with Sunday Club for young families, so you can come along and still get to your football or rugby sports group at 11am. Then normal adult service is at 11 am with music group and a variety of preachers until noon followed by a cup of tea or coffee.

Toddlers meets on Wednesday mornings at 10 am for pre-school children. Adults can chat over a cup of tea and children can make friends and play.

Then Youth Express group meets every Sunday evening from 6 to 7:30pm for secondary school children. Now with table tennis, and a new pool table and pizza every other week. Afterwards we now have Youth Extra from 7:30 to 8pm where we explore faith issues, which is great as school PRE support.

On alternate Tuesday afternoons there is a group called Well Seasoned for those of more ripper years which meets in the chapel at 2:30pm

if you want to go deeper and learn more about the Bible, there is a Wednesday evening fellowship group which does a Bible study and discussion each week from 7:30pm. You can even join it by Zoom.

Over the year we hold special events like coffee mornings, walks followed by lunch, barn dances and quiz nights.

Over Christmas there will be special services at the chapel, with a Nativity Play and a Chapel Choir Concert on Thursday 21st November at 7pm.

If you have never tried any of the church events before, why not come and visit? Look out for our January Quiz on 27th January 2024, and our Spring Barn Dance. Check out our own new website, locally designed by Gavin Darvell of Botley. Take a look at www.leyhillchurch.org or email us at leyhillchapel@gmail.com A number of new people have joined us this year. More are welcome.

Neil Rees

LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council oversee the care and maintenance of Tyler's Hill Burial Ground, a place that holds a special meaning for our community. We take great pride in ensuring that these sacred grounds remain a place of beauty and tranquillity.

We work hard to make sure the burial ground looks its best. This includes regular grass and hedge cutting, tending to the trees and keeping the brambles in check, and ensuring that gates and benches are always in top-notch condition.

In addition to the physical upkeep, we also handle the day-to-day administration of burials and plots, making sure that everything runs smoothly.

When a plot is purchased or an interment takes place, we provide clear guidelines and regulations to ensure that our burial ground remains a respectful and pleasant place. We're here to help everyone understand what's allowed and what's not.

We recently conducted a thorough cleanup of the burial ground and wanted to share some important information from our regulations. These guidelines are meant to remind those who visit their loved ones here and to inform those who may not be familiar with our rules.

1. Please remember that, aside from floral bouquets, we kindly ask that no other tributes be placed on the graves. Items such as vases, lamps, solar lights, pottery, glass jars, tins, plastic, toys, storm lanterns, windmills are not permitted on the graves.
2. We reserve the right to remove flowers, plants, or wreaths from any grave if they become unsightly. Christmas wreaths will be removed after 3 months.
3. You are welcome to plant trees and shrubs up to 30cm high on full-sized grave plots. However, we ask that these plantings are modest and in front of the headstone, confined to the area of the grave plot. The maintenance of this area falls to the grave plot deed owner, and overgrown plantings may need to be removed.
4. The repair of memorials or any items permitted on the grave is the responsibility of the grave owner.

By working together, we can continue to ensure that the overall appearance and atmosphere of our beloved burial ground is preserved. Let's cherish this special place and keep it a comforting haven for our community.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

If you have any enquiries about the Burial Ground please contact our Burial Ground Administrator—*Claire Leek* at parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk



SPRING LITTER BLITZ SATURDAY MARCH 2nd

LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



SILVER SUNDAY This year Ley Hill celebrated Silver Sunday on Wednesday October 11th! Seems strange but this works very well for all involved! The idea of Silver Sunday is to help prevent social isolation by bringing the older and the younger members of the community together with some entertainment. We certainly did that! Mr Batty brought down to the Memorial Hall eight Year 5 pupils who helped to serve tea and coffee, sell raffle tickets and also chatted to our guests. An afternoon tea style lunch was enjoyed consisting of sandwiches, scones and homemade cakes. Then the entertainment from Cheeky Dog began. It was truly a great mix of old fashioned entertainment—magic, comedy, singing and ventriloquism, the highlight being for the majority his Elvis Presley! The afternoon concluded with the drawing of the raffle. We must thank Larissa from the Hub for their kind donation of several raffle prizes and to Rachael Bramwell, Heather Sprake and Jayne Dobbie for their hard work in the kitchen on this occasion and at each of our monthly Coffee and Chat sessions, which take place on the second Wednesday of the month from 11am until 12.15pm.

Everyone is very welcome! *For more details contact Anne Birkett 01494 773050*

COFFEE AND CHAT

COFFEE AND CHAT in the Memorial Hall

Every **SECOND** Wednesday of the month at 11am

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

See you on **December 13th and January 10th**



THE CROWN

So, we made it! We have reopened The Crown and in our first month business has been brisk. Firstly we have to thank our many volunteers who came and cleaned, painted, restocked, upholstered furniture, fetched and carried from our house and generally lent their support, we are extremely grateful to you. It has been great to see many familiar faces and to welcome back those who haven't been to the pub recently, your support is greatly appreciated. If you haven't managed to pop in yet, we look forward to seeing you when you can!



We are serving food 7 days a week (see website for timings). Monday and Tuesday are chef's days off so we offer our platters with a choice of cheese, seafood or charcuterie. We run full menu from Wednesday to Saturday with a choice of roast meats on a Sunday along with some pub classics should you not want a roast. Our Wallet Watcher Wednesday has been a great success – 2 courses (main and dessert) off a specially designed menu for

£12.00, has seen the pub packed. We advise booking wherever possible.

We appreciate that our opening times have left a few people questioning our decision so perhaps we should explain. We are open from 11am to 9pm Monday to Thursday, 11am to 11pm Friday and Saturday and 12 to 6pm on a Sunday. We are mindful of the winter fuel bills landing on not just us but everyone and unfortunately cannot keep the pub open for only a handful of people – the figures just don't add up. We have taken the decision to close early on a Sunday to give us time at home. Rob is still continuing to work full time and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. We hope you understand that we want just one night off a week to get ready for the new working week and as this is an infant business would rather not leave staff on site when we are not around.

Looking to the immediate future we are getting ready for Christmas and our menu is out in the pub and will be online later this week. We are taking bookings from Monday 4th December to Friday 22nd December (excluding Sundays). This must be pre ordered in advance. We also have traditional Christmas entertainment on Sunday 17th December at 4.30pm with carol singers and readings from The Luvvies. On Saturday 23rd December we have a Christmas dog walk followed by bacon rolls, mulled wine and hot chocolate starting at 10am (approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ hour) led by Holly Byfield and Nettle. We will be open on Christmas Day for drinks 11am to 2pm only. Our Christmas opening times will be out shortly.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sandra and Rob Dorsett

LEY HILL SCHOOL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



*WE
WILL
REMEMBER
THEM*

