

LEY HILL & BOTLEY

NEWS & VIEWS

SPRING 2025



**Golden daffodils sway in delight,
Chasing the shadows, inviting the light.
Their cheerful faces, so bold and bright,
Whisper sweet promises, pure and right.**

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

Edited by Anne Birkett

**CHESHAM & LEY HILL
GOLF CLUB HP5 1UZ**

**WOMEN IN
GOLF DAY**

**GIRLS OVER 14 YEARS
ALSO WELCOME**

**SUNDAY APRIL 6TH
AT 2PM**



**To sign up contact Anne Birkett
annebirkett@cheshamgolf.co.uk or visit
www.cheshamgolf.co.uk/womeningolfday2025**

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Proudly Present



**Easter
craft & cafe**

Celebrate Easter with some crafts, cakes and a cuppa.

Saturday 19th April 10 - 12.30

LEY HILL METHODIST CHAPEL

Everyone welcome



Money raised for Methodist Global Mission & Leyhill Chapel Youth Work

**Ley Hill Methodist Chapel
The Green, Ley Hill, HP5 3QR**

**Songs for a
Summer's Day**

Saturday 12 July

Afternoon Tea

at 3.00pm

followed by a

programme of music

& readings.



Entry free:

but if you would like to give a gift for church funds, this would be much appreciated (optional).



Please let us know in advance if you have any dietary requirements: email leyhillchoir@gmail.com

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear All

Haven't we enjoyed the recent sunny spell after such a grey, wet winter? The warm sunshine has tempted us to take some relaxing walks in our beautiful countryside. It's lovely to see the blossom beginning to bloom and the opening of buds on the daffodils, that were planted in the Autumn by volunteers on behalf of the Memorial Hall.



It doesn't seem a year since we commemorated 80 years since D-Day and now we are making plans for a similar, though hopefully more joyful event, VE Day 80, the **80th anniversary of VE Day**, when our nation will unite to celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of World War II in Europe. VE Day 80 is not only a tribute to those who fought for freedom but also a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that have defined our country ever since. Details of the day are to be found on page 27. Please come along and join in the celebration.

If this is the first time you've read the News and Views as a new resident I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our lovely village of Ley Hill and Botley. I am always grateful to receive contributions to the magazine and any new ideas of ringing the changes.

I would also like to remind you that an electronic copy of the News and Views can be found on the Parish Council website www.latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk. If you would like to be kept informed throughout the year of what's going on in the village or if you would like to promote an event, do sign up for our email newsletter, which is usually sent out monthly but can vary, then message the parish clerk on parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk who will add you to our mailing list.

Hope to see you on May 8th at the lighting of the Beacon. Happy Easter!

Anne Birkett (Editor)



P.S. BREAKING NEWS

We have just been informed that the owner of the Swan pub has won his appeal and now has permission to turn it into a children's nursery. This is very disappointing for the supporters of SOS who have been fighting for seven and a half years to save this beautiful public house. The SOS committee would like to thank everyone who fought so passionately with them.



COPY DATE FOR SUMMER NEWS & VIEWS IS **FRIDAY JUNE 27th**

VILLAGE CLUBS AND GROUPS

Badminton	Tuesday 1030—1200pm 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
Squirrels 1st Tyler's Hill	4 -6 years Tues 4-5pm Memorial Hall	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
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 or 07921221966
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 6-7.30pm Ley Hill Methodist Chapel	Sam Guerin 07790 824198	Samantha.guerin@gmail.com

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 Harardi

Treasurer: Pete Churchill

Margaret Faulkner

Sally Greenhill

Booking Secretary:

Joe Walsh

Katie Naylor

Claire Randall - 07716 343867 or email:
bookings.leyhill@gmail.com

Rachel Sanders

SPRING LUNCH

Nearly 50 Seniors from the village enjoyed a splendid meal at the Spring Lunch on Tuesday 4th March. They were suitably entertained by the local choir ably arranged by Margaret Faulkner and Sam Guerin. Thank you to those volunteers that provided lunch and also to 8 amazing Year 6 students from Ley Hill School who, along with Headteacher Victoria Lang, provided waiter service and chatted with the guests. This event is arranged each year for those in the village that are now in retirement; it is free of charge and if anyone would like an invitation, please contact Sarah Peterson on 07799 478825. It is typically held on the first Tuesday in March and in 2026, we already have a great Ukelele trio booked.

HONEY BEE TALK

What can we learn from them and about them?

A fascinating talk by Meriet Duncan (mdthequeenbee.co.uk), an accomplished author, speaker & beekeeper, in the Memorial Hall 7pm on Friday 28th March.

Just £2.50 a ticket (includes refreshments).

To book tickets please contact: Angela Gregory at Skibbereen, Jasons Hill, Ley Hill HP5 3QW or call/text 07921 293761 or email : angegregory@btinternet.com.

It would be great if you could support this event and feel free to invite others out of the area. If this talk is successful, we'd like to organise others on different subjects.



VE DAY COMMEMORATION & CELEBRATION

Cast your mind back to all your memories or those of your family members or neighbours and friends. Do you have any to share with us, any stories of life in the village during World War II?

We are gathering information, photographs and stories to illustrate how life was at the time of the VE day 8th May 80 years ago.

If you have any memorabilia, photographs or stories and memories, please share them with us. Everything will be returned and will be well looked after.

Contact Sally Greenhill on greenhillsallyj@gmail.com by April 11th or drop round for a chat to 178 Botley Rd. Alternatively contact any member of the Village Hall committee.

ROAMING SUPPER Saturday 28th JUNE

The Village Hall Committee are delighted to invite you to the 5th Ley Hill & Botley Roaming Supper!

Please join us as it is a great way to meet new neighbours and for residents in the village to catch-up and share a meal together.

- 6:45pm Meet in the Village Hall for a drinks reception then we will announce where you will each head for your starter
- 7:30pm Move to starter destinations; various hosts – depending on numbers will have volunteered to have 4 to 6 guests in their own homes for the starter course
- 8:30pm Your hosts will hand out sealed envelopes with the destination of your main courses
- 9:45pm approx. Everyone meets together at one host's residence for dessert & coffee



Cost £15 per head which includes all food & drinks (excluding the hosts who don't pay).

Please let us know if you'd like to join us and whether you would consider hosting either a starter or a main course. It doesn't have to be a fancy dish, ideally something that can be prepared ahead of time and then just ready to eat. We will deliver wine to all the hosts.

We hope this fun, social event will be well supported again – please spread the word to any local friends in the village who may be interested.

RSVP

to: katie.naylor@dnassociates.co.uk

Any questions please contact Katie Naylor 07801 341 626

CLASSIC CAR SHOW ON THE COMMON



SAVE THE DATE

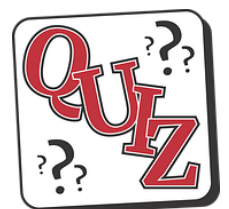
Sunday August 10th

Neil Lamond & the Classic Cars Team

FUN PUBLESS QUIZ

Every Sunday 8:30-10pm

The Fun Weekly Quiz has now been running for more than 17 years. Originally held in the Crown (which currently closes at 6pm), the quiz is held now at the Cricket Clubhouse every week with a number of regular teams who would welcome new participants. It really is a fun quiz, so it's suitable for everyone; you don't need to be an Egghead!! Just £1 entry per person and a cash prize for the winners so please feel free to come along - just turn up or contact Dave Peterson on 07970 726667



NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

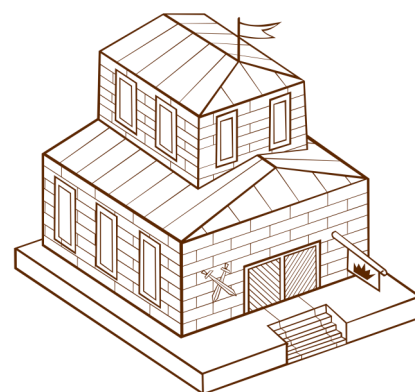
Spring is on the way! Trust me. The purchase of hundreds of daffodil bulbs that the Hall has sponsored are showing significant signs of life at the time of writing. Fingers crossed for a 'Welcome to Bovingdon' type display in a month or so's time. They are on the green space opposite Botley Lane and at the top of Broomstick Lane ... in case you've not noticed the early signs!



Those of you that did not attend our Annual General Meeting at the end of January (and there are a few ... hundred!!) might like to know what we spent money on last year at the Hall in maintaining it to its desired high standard. A total of over £7,500 was spent on hall and toilet redecoration, new carpet tiles at the back of the Hall in the meeting room behind the stage and the adjacent passageways, the replacement of high and low level lighting units with low energy equivalents, a new electric cooker to replace the old gas one and various changes to the electricity wiring etc to facilitate that. This is over £4,000 more than the previous year's spend on maintenance, partly reflecting the building's age so we can expect repairs and maintenance costs to increase. In January we also had an issue with one of our two heaters which necessitated a wait for a replacement part. Apologies to hirers affected by that but believe me, every hall in the land has these issues and frustrations from time to time, notwithstanding best efforts to avoid and mitigate them. It's the same as running a very large house!

With the Hall now 25 years old (and so are most things in it) the Trustees are acutely aware that over time, various items will need replacing or repairing so this situation is likely to continue. This has always been anticipated and we are fortunate in that the Hall has a sound financial base to facilitate repair and renewal. We are proud that our Hall is one of the best appointed in the area and totally run by volunteers (an important point to remember!) and the Trustees consider it provides excellent value for money compared with other similar local facilities, some of which for example have paid 'caretakers'. However we experience of course the same inflationary pressures as everyone else so we will be keeping our hire charges under regular review but hope to maintain a competitive position. Meanwhile we are hugely indebted to all those volunteers who serve on the Management Committee of the Hall or as Trustees and all those that assist one way or another behind the scenes. Thank you all.

Whilst writing about the fabric of the Hall it would be remiss of me if I did not mention the names of Reg Gregory and Lindsay Faulkner, both of whom many of you will know. Lindsay and Reg were hugely involved in the project to re-build the Hall back in the late 1990s and without their input we would probably not have a hall standing today. They brought extensive project management, planning and building skills to the re-build project and were constantly on site supervising and directing the work on an almost daily basis.



NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Sadly, at the age of 92, Reg passed away in late November and was still a Trustee right up to the end having served for very many years. Those of us that attended Reg's funeral would have learned as I did, and as one does on these occasions, what else an individual has accomplished in as full a life as Reg had. In his case, apart from his devotion to Ley Hill and our Hall, he was hugely influential at Chesham 1879 Tennis Club, which I know many of you in Ley Hill enjoy. Thank you Reg for all that you have done for the Hall and Ley Hill. You will be sorely missed by family and friends.

Meanwhile Lindsay has had his devotion to numerous causes recognised in His Majesty The King's New Year's Honours List. Lindsay joins his wife Margaret as being a very proud recipient of the British Empire Medal. What an amazing family! That can't happen very often. Many congratulations Lindsay on your richly deserved award. In addition to his work for the Hall, Lindsay for example was a very active Governor of Ley Hill School for very many years and as an expert in so many building related areas Lindsay helped the School as much as the Hall, often in a very hands on way (ie Lindsay saying in a meeting "leave it to me, I'll do it" or words to that effect). Invariably he did. Thank you Lindsay and huge congratulations from us all.

By the time you read this our annual Seniors Lunch, fully financed by the Hall, will have taken place on 4 March. Thank you to Angie Gregory, Sarah Peterson and the team for arranging that.

Thursday 8 May sees the country commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Needless to say Ley Hill will play its part and our beacon will be lit that evening at 9.30pm as part of a nationwide beacon network. The Parish Council is leading Ley Hill's activity and thank you to Anne Birkett and the councillors for that. A celebration similar to that held to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D Day is currently envisaged. Look out for further details in due course.

Sadly there is no special Bank Holiday to mark this occasion.

To coordinate with the national event Sally Greenhill is organising a Ley Hill History Night on the same evening and is gathering information and stories. The venue is to be finalised (possibly the Methodist Chapel so as not to disrupt regular Hall hirers) but again keep an eye open for further details. Please forward any relevant material you may be happy to lend for display or stories to Sally who can be contacted on 07798 527599 or greenhillsallyj@gmail.com.

Before that, on Friday 28 March at 7pm the Hall is hosting a bee Talk by Meriet Duncan. For the extremely reasonable cost of £2.50 (including refreshments!) you can find out all you ever wanted to know about bees. Please contact Angela Gregory by email at angegregory@btinternet.com if you would like to attend.

The Hall remains very well used, by both regular groups and occasional hirers but if you wish to use it for either purpose please contact our bookings secretary, Claire Randall via bookings.leyhill@gmail.com.



Enjoy Spring! *Ian Walter (ianwalter@btinternet.com), Trustee*

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 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. *Sam Guerin*



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

WELL SEASONED CLUB

Meeting in the Methodist Chapel every other Tuesday at 2.30pm or 12.30pm for lunch.

This Spring sees us leaving the wet chilly village of Ley Hill and heading to India with Karen Holt, Japan with Trevor and Heather Wadock and South America with Paul Dixon, enjoying in between, the Spring Lunch in the Village Hall and Easter Lunch in the Chapel. Can't be bad!

Our summer programme is yet to be decided but I it should be a Garden Party and Sports Day.

Meanwhile we wish one and all a Happy Easter.

Margaret Faulkner 783048 and Rosemary Glenister 786254



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.

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.



We must stress that it is for emergency appointments ONLY and not regular appointments.

We would love some volunteers from the village to come forward to help and meet the needs of our neighbours.

Please use either number Sarah and Chris Embleton Smith 01494783137 & 07970452031 or Margaret Faulkner 01494783048 & 07910189261

LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

Happy Easter! Easter is a great time for Christians, when we recall the resurrection of Jesus in Jerusalem nearly 2,000 years ago. His resurrection changed history, and enables us to have a meaningful faith. If you would like a real faith, or you would like a relationship with God, why not come and meet us and find out more.

Ley Hill Methodist chapel sits to the left of Ley Hill Memorial Hall. Services are held every Sunday with a music group, when we invite people to explain the Bible, as we journey together to learn more about God. Services are at 10:30am. If you have not been to church for a long time, or usually go to a different church, Easter is a great time to come say hello. Services end in tea or coffee and biscuits and a chat, or let us know if you need us to pray for you.

Weekly What's On @ the chapel

Sundays 10:30 am	Church service, Sunday Club and Bible Class
Sundays 6 – 7:30 pm	Youth Express for second school children
Fridays 7.30pm	Choir practice open to all who wish to sing in VE Day choir

Mondays 3:15 – 4:30 pm Homework Club -NEW!!

Tuesdays 2:30 pm Well Seasoned (fortnightly)

Wednesdays 10 am Toddlers

Wednesdays 7:30 pm Fellowship group

Easter Services @ the chapel

Afternoon service	23rd March	4.30pm
Palm Sunday,	13th April,	10:00 am
Good Friday,	18th April,	3 pm
Easter Sunday,	20th April,	10:30 am

Dates for the Diary

Quiz	Saturday 22nd March
Coffee morning	Saturday 19th April
Summer Concert	Saturday 12th July
Barn Dance	Saturday 27th September @ the Memorial Hall

If you are interested in any of our events please contact Sam Guerin on samantha.guerin@gmail.com

For more information take a look at www.leyhillchurch.org or email us at leyhillchapel@gmail.com



1st TYLERS HILL GIRL GUIDES

Girlguiding Anglia region, of which Buckinghamshire is a part, challenged members to celebrate World Thinking Day on 22nd February by having pyjama parties. Some of the Tylers Hill Guides and Zoë met 70+ other members of Chesham Vale division for sleepover at RUSH in High Wycombe. I don't think there was much evidence of 'sleeping' but the girls enjoyed bouncing on the trampolines, having pizza and a film show before going to bed. The following morning they had another 'bounce' and breakfast before going home.



On Mondays we have done a variety of activities including a 'bin bag' fashion show, learning to knit and crochet, making sweets for the Confectioner badge and doing the Skills Builder 'Build it up' seeing who could build the highest tower from boxes balanced on each other.

We also spent time studying the night sky, identifying stars and some of the 'parade of planets'.

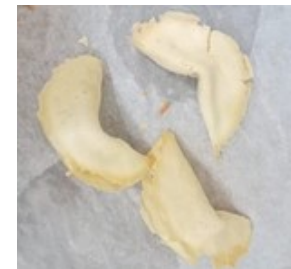
We celebrated the Lunar New Year, the year of the snake, doing Chinese crafts and making fortune cookies and Shrove Tuesday creating designer pancakes.



Build it up



Pancakes



Fortune cookies

Our numbers are still low and we would welcome new members. Please contact us or register at www.girlguiding.org.uk for further information.

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



LOCAL SERVICES

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

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

JANET WHEELER-SMITH

Handmade curtains and alterations. No job too small.

Zips, buttons, re-hem trousers and curtains

based in Botley 01494 773021

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

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

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

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LOCAL SERVICES

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WALK BETTER

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Contact Ann on 786995 or 07754205469
Home visits available.

MATHS TUTOR CHESHAM

Private tuition in A level and GCSE Maths and Physics
From an experienced teacher.
MathsTutorChesham.co.uk MathsTutorChesham@gmail.com

11+ TUITION

Private 1 to 1 or small group 11 + tuition, references available.
Please contact Cathy at
11plustuitionbuckinghamshire@gmail.com or ring 07743990966

NEED HELP WITH IRONING?

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Collection and delivery available
Call 07714927559

MAT BASED PILATES

Friendly & welcoming classes taught by experienced specialist physiotherapist
All abilities welcome
Classes at Ley Hill Memorial Hall
Mondays 8pm - 9pm Wednesdays 2pm – 3pm
Contact Charlene 07921587570 or charmc@hotmail.com

BABYSITTING SERVICES

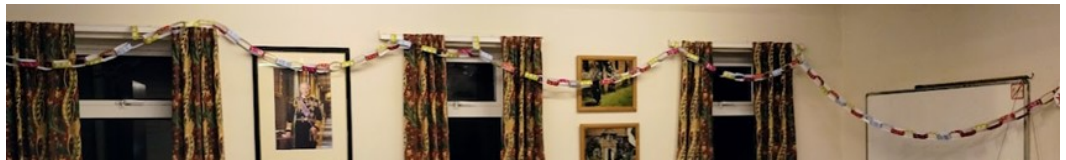
Evenings and weekends Level 3 qualified. Full enhanced DBS check
Over 10 years previous experience as a Nursery Deputy Manager
Contact Aimee on 07949652741

1st TYLERS HILL BROWNIES

Back in December, we made Scandinavian woven hearts to donate as table presents for the Christmas Day party at Chesham Town Hall. We received a lovely message thanking us for our contribution. We did some Christmas baking – jammy dodgers with Christmassy shapes for the holes, and snowman biscuits.

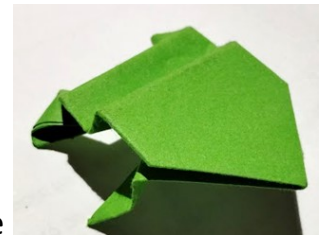


We finished the autumn term with a joint Christmas meeting with Tylers Hill Guides. The girls were put into mixed teams of Brownies and Guides and competed in a Paper Chain Challenge. They took part in various different challenges and answered quiz questions; and for every point gained they won a piece for their team's paper chain. The team with the longest chain at the end of the night was the winner! At the end of the evening we put the paper chain up to decorate the Bangay Rooms.



One of the highlights of the spring term for two of the Brownies and two leaders was the Chesham Vale division sleepover that they attended at Rush trampoline park. 71 Brownies, Guides and Rangers from around Chesham enjoyed an evening of bouncing, pizza and a film, a VERY late night (!) and then more bouncing in the morning before we all headed home for a nap! This was the first residential event that we have been part of since before covid, it was brilliant to be able to give the girls the opportunity and we're all looking forward to the next one.

We spent a couple of meetings looking at the theme of animals, including a very fun activity where we tried out all the yoga poses with animal names that we could think of, then each of the Brownies made up their own and taught it to everyone else. We practiced following instructions making origami hearts and frogs – everyone did brilliantly, and some of the frogs even hopped!



The 22nd of February was Thinking Day, when Guides, Brownies and Girl Scouts around the world remember the global nature and the history of our organisation. We chatted about Brownies in other countries, found out a bit about the Guide World Centres, and then had a go at a craft that you might learn if you visited Our Cabana in Mexico – Ojos de Dios or God's Eyes.

This term we have also learnt some new games and songs, and awarded several badges including Baking and Collecting interest badges, some theme awards and two Brownie Bronze Awards.

We're looking forward to being able to get back outside for some of our meetings soon – roll on summer and lighter evenings! 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

NEWS FROM THE CROWN

With Spring starting to show her face and the longer daylight hours, we are gearing up for what we hope will be a good time for our pub.

We are currently taking bookings for Mother's Day, 30th March and Easter Sunday, 20th April. If you would like to visit us please get in touch as places are limited and we are already seeing a surge in bookings.

We are running the annual Dog Show on Monday 21st April partnering with Chesvale Dog Training Club. Registration is from 12 noon with the show starting at 1pm. This year we are supporting Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels at Eaton Bray. We are running a BBQ on this day alongside a limited menu.

Saturday 26th April sees the return of the Darts Challenge with a new total of 180,000 points. This year's charity is Petals who provide a free counselling service to support women, men and couples through the devastation of baby loss. A collecting tin is already on the bar to help support this worthwhile charity. We will start the challenge again at 10am and finish at 10pm. We hope you can join us for all or part of the day and throw your darts for charity!

On Monday 5th May (Bank Holiday) we are holding a Street Party in honour of VE Day – further details will follow but entertainment will be provided by 2Tone. This local duo guarantee an afternoon of quality entertainment. We hope you can join us!

Sunday 25th May we are doing Tribute Day again and four acts are performing from 3.00pm. Paul Bacon as Elton John, Niqi Brown as Tina Turner, Alvin as Elvis and Forever Jackson as Michael Jackson. Sunday lunch will stop at 3pm on this day and we will be running a BBQ from 3.30pm into the early evening.

We are still supporting Ley Hill School Monday to Friday providing the children with their hot lunches and it is great to see the children coming into the pub with their parents. Hot chocolate has definitely been a firm favourite over the winter months!

We have been holding a few charity quiz nights on a Saturday evening which have been a huge success. If you have a charity you would like to raise money for and think you can gather a crowd let us know, we would love to help. Get in touch by calling 01494 783910 and we can assist you or arrange the event for you.

Looking further ahead planning for the August Bank Holiday Music and Beer Festival is underway and we already praying for good weather! Further details will follow shortly.

May we take this opportunity to thank you again for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sandra and Rob



LOCAL HISTORY

Here are some old tales passed down through the generations, and noted down by the late
Norman Sanders.

When the old Flaunden Church, (now in ruins) down by the river Chess out in the fields at Latimer, was in good condition and full use. One Sunday the vicar was taking the usual Sunday service when it came time to give the sermon he stood in the church and told the congregation he was sorry he could not give the sermon from the pulpit because a goose had made her nest there.

- - -

Folk say the village of Latimer looks funny and out of place without a village pub. There used to be one and it's believed it was in the first house on the right as you enter the village from the church. The cellars are still under the house. It is said that Lord Chesham walked into the pub during working hours and found several of his work men in there having a drink when they should be at work, he turned them out and closed the pub, not only for that day but for good and it was never opened as a pub again.

Years ago one of the troubles experienced at old Flaunden church yard was grave robbers, they would open up the graves and coffins looking for gold jewels or any other treasure that the robbers could find.

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Another tale goes that when Neptune sitting on the bridge over the river Chess hears the clock strike twelve, he walks up to Latimer House.

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Somewhere on Pinnars Green on the way to Latimer, there used to be a "Dame School" where I suppose anyone who could afford the cost sent their children to be educated. Thomas said that is where Norman's grandmother went to school.

- - -

Thomas Sanders (Norman's grandfather) occasionally liked to visit relatives in Great Milton, Oxfordshire. Transport was difficult being a cross country journey, often too far for a pony to go there and back in one day. Thomas used to start from Ley Hill at 3-30am and walk to Princess Risborough, a distance of 15 miles and being a very lonely & dark walk much of the way through woods and dark lanes. He would catch the first train towards Gt Milton from Princes Risborough, get out at the nearest station, walk to Gt Milton, spend the day there with friends and relations then return the same way home finishing with the 15 mile walk. Not a journey many of us could do in modern days!

- - -

As Norman & his grandfather Thomas walked through Latimer woods one summer's day, Thomas told him a tale about how at midnight at a certain time of the year, a coach and four horses with driver and footman had been seen to drive at full speed into the lake near Latimer House.

LOCAL HISTORY



LATIMER GREEN

NATURE NOTES

In Praise of the Crocus

From February onwards, colour creeps back into woods and gardens around the village in a certain order: white, purple, yellow as snowdrops announce that spring will arrive eventually, then crocuses and daffodils give their affirmation. Of these the crocus is often overlooked: it is small and not particularly sturdy and suffers in wind and rain, flowering in-between the snowdrop and daffodil.



In myth, Crocus was a companion of Hermes, killed when the god struck him accidentally with a discus. In a familiar act, the sorrowful god let flowers spring up from the blood (see other mortals transformed after falling foul of their immortal friends).

The crocus spreads by either expanding in situ as a corm (not quite the same as a bulb but close enough) or by dropping its seeds. The British garden crocus was originally from the Alps, brought here by the Romans (did they do anything else for us?) and the dried tips of the pistils of the saffron crocus are ground to make...saffron. Helpfully, krokos is also the Greek for saffron.

In the words of Cat Stevens, then, electrical banana is bound to be the very next phase.

Andrew Garth

1ST TYLERS HILL SCOUTS



How are your navigation skills?

In the warmer months, we spend much more time outdoors. One of the scouts' favourite activities is hiking and in March, they participate in Endurance 40.

It's a 40-kilometre/25-mile circular cross-country hike from Misbourne School to Chesham, Ley Hill, Ashley Green, Hawbridge, Cholesbury, Lee Common and back to Misbourne School.

What an achievement for our young people aged 10 to 13!



Why not become an adult volunteer in Scouts to help young people gain the skills they need for life. Thanks to our volunteers, young people find their place in the world, learn to believe in themselves and make a difference to their communities and society.

No matter your background or experience, your time and skills help young people gain skills for life. If you'd like to help at Tyler's Hill Scouts, please contact:

Group Lead Volunteer, Sheila Nardone on 07729 336402



LEY HILL CRICKET CLUB

2025 preseason is well underway with our winter nets, thanks to our partnership with Chesham Prep School. Nets are running until from 27th Feb till the 20th March and are a chance for all members to warm up their bats! The work of our committee of dedicated volunteers has not stopped and over the winter has seen them painting the clubhouse, sorting out the showers, cutting back vegetation in the outfield as well as endless ground maintenance thanks to a very wet winter and some unwanted visitors and their cars using the grounds as a race track.



The new 2025 season starts on the 10th May with our 1st XI and our second year in the Herts League. Following an amazing year in 2024 they start in Hertfordshire Premier Cricket league division 6B and the 2nd XI in division 12 West. We wish them all a successful season. You can follow and support them and their progress via this link <https://www.hertsleague.co.uk/home>

As always we have our brilliant Sunday XI who welcome all people and abilities, whether you are an old cricket legend or a total newbie; we want to restart your love of the game.

The club has a thriving junior's section under the management of the Junior's Manager, Al and Elizabeth our brilliant Juniors secretary. It's likely that we'll start summer outdoor training at the Club on Friday 25th April for boys and girls age 9 and above, weather permitting! If your child would like to come along for a free taster session, they are very welcome.

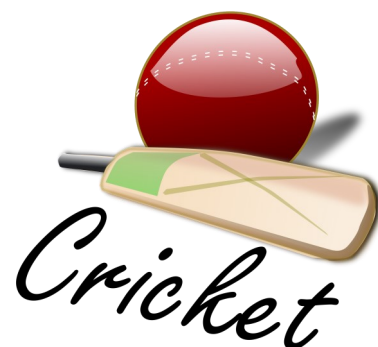
We also offer All Stars training for those children age 5-8 years likely starting on Friday 2nd May (weather permitting). You can register your child for All Stars shortly!

As always the pavilion bar will be open, and the BBQ will be lit on most Friday evening for parents and members to enjoy.

If you have any queries about junior membership, please send an email to the Junior's Secretary via elizabeth.moylan@hotmail.co.uk and for more club information and details of the senior contact me at perkenskaren1227@gmail.com

PS We are looking for a new treasurer. If you are interested please contact me for details of the role and the time commitment involved.

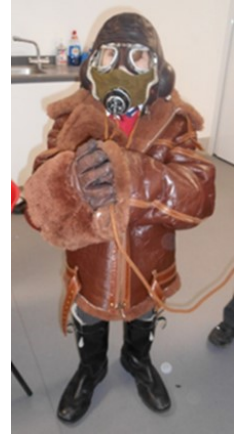
Karen Perkins Club Secretary



LEY HILL SCHOOL

The daffodils are blooming, the sun has been shining and the children at Ley Hill School have fully embraced the beginning of their Spring Term. As always, it's been action packed.

Earlier this year, Year 2 visited St Alban's Cathedral to support their RE work learning about significant places of worship. They had a super day learning about St Alban, Britain's first Saint, how the cathedral was constructed and also had the opportunity to design their own stained-glass windows.



In February, Year 6 took a trip to RAF Hendon, supporting their learning of WW2, where they were able to dress up, visit the impressive planes in the hangers and discover more about the success of the Battle of Britain. They all came back 'buzzing' with excitement and eager to learn more about this period of history.

Forest School is currently in its phase two cycle, having received further support from Chesham in Bloom. After excavating a hidden pond area during the initial process of setting up Forest School, we enlisted the help of Chesham in Bloom to assist us in creating a pond to attract the wildlife. Whilst in its infancy stage, we're starting to see evidence of wildlife visitors to this area already. Last week, we spotted a deer, a fox, a woodpecker and lots of robins, paying a visit to the pond area and having a nose around. The children have really enjoyed the addition of Forest School to the curriculum. One of them said: "I feel creative when I am there and it makes me feel like I have so much freedom around me."



On 12th February, The Friends of Ley Hill School (PTA) hosted a superb 'Sip & Paint' evening for staff and parents. A local artist (one of our lovely parents) taught us how to draw a highland cow (step-by-step) using acrylics, straight onto a blank canvas! The painting was a brilliant experience, supported, quite rightly, with the regular 'sipping' of prosecco!



Everyone had a superb time and I think you'll agree the finished products were impressive!

LEY HILL SCHOOL

On Valentine's Day, the children of Ley Hill School took part in a fund-raising initiative: 'The Ley Hill Lines of Love'. It was a House Competition to see which house could create the longest line with coins, but also which of the lines the most money to buy new playground equipment for everyone to enjoy. Our House Captains and their ambassadors kept the momentum going, cheering their teams on, despite the freezing weather conditions. We raised just over £800, which is incredible.



Our football team did themselves proud last week, having been selected for the National League U11 finals. They represented Chesham United, having won the league finals already. The team were amazing, and made it through to the semi-finals, where they were just pipped to the post to achieve 3rd place winners overall. We are so proud of them, showcasing our school values throughout!



On Thursday 6th March, the whole school embraced World Book Day. This year, the staff decided to dress as characters within the Harry Potter books and throughout the day, the children had to complete a quiz to guess who each staff member represented. The weather was beautiful so we were able to spend time outside, enjoying 'reading for pleasure' and sharing our love of literature within the school community.



Speaking of community, on Tuesday 4th March, a few children from Year 6 paid a visit to the Ley Hill Memorial Hall offering their services to support the elderly residents. They cleared tables, served desserts, teas and coffees; all with huge smiles on their faces. Not only that, but their conversations with the residents and the support they offered was really moving. The children were a real credit to the school and this was communicated to them by the staff that were present. The confidence that they exuded was incredible and I, personally, felt extremely proud of them. An enormous thank you must be extended to the residents who were present, as they raised a further £90 for our school community to go towards playground equipment for our children. Being part of a community is so important and we would like to thank the residents for their generosity. Such acts of kindness are priceless.

Ms Lang Headteacher of Ley Hill School

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

What do you care about?

I take a moment to look around, catch up on the news, scroll through social media, and what I see is a world filled with war, greed, suffering, and loss. These issues stem from individuals seeking power, wealth, and control. Yet, amidst this chaos, there are voices rising up, calling for freedom, consent, equality, compassion, and justice for everyone. These values are crucial for all of us. Imagine how different our world could be if leaders and individuals embraced these principles in their decision-making.

However, this brings us to another challenge: how do we define and measure these values? Just like a goldfish may not recognise the water it swims in, these values shape our culture and are deeply rooted in biblical teachings. They are the very essence of our existence. We strive for equality for all, and we have a God who sacrificed Himself for everyone, reminding us that regardless of our rank, race, religion, or gender, we are all part of the human family. If we believe that every life is sacred, that each person possesses inherent dignity and equality, and that no one should be oppressed simply because they are smaller, weaker, or less fortunate, then we are truly standing on a foundation of biblical principles. These values are important to you because they hold significance for God, who made you in His likeness.

At St. George's, we warmly invite you to join us this Easter to explore and experience the love of this caring God for yourself.

Keep up to date with our website stgeorgestyleshill.co.uk

Every Sunday 11:15

Palm Sunday 13th April 11:15

Saturday 19th April 8pm an All-Age Service of light

Easter Sunday 20th April 8am Holy Communion 11:15 All-Age

Peace and Joy *Rev'd Darren*



LEY HILL SCHOOL



**PHOTOS FROM THE SENIORS
LUNCH**

**WITH CHILDREN FROM LEY HILL
SCHOOL**

RECIPE FOR VE DAY 80

Orange and Ginger Cake

The Official Women's Institute recipe for VE Day 2025 is for an Orange and Ginger Cake.

This recipe has been provided by Nancy Birtwhistle, a former winner of the Great British Bake Off. She says, "This is a simple and classic bake and is made using the Rubbing In Method – not often seen these days. It's a recipe used by my grandmother who had lived through two world wars and requires no specialist mixer or whisk and the batter will not curdle – a handy recipe if you have little or no equipment. Just as women during World War II would have made it."

You will need: a mixing bowl and a 7 inch round cake tin greased and base-lined with paper or reusable baking parchment.

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees (fan) – 350f – gas mark 4



Ingredients

200g self-raising flour	pinch salt
40g butter at room temperature	40g lard room temperature (or use all butter)
100g caster sugar	1 heaped tablespoon marmalade
Finely grated zest of 1 large orange plus the juice	1 tsp ground ginger
100ml milk	1 egg
80g stem ginger (from a jar of stem ginger in syrup)	

1 tbsp demerara sugar or sugar nibs to sprinkle over. Alternatively add 3 tbsp icing sugar to a bowl, add 1-2 tsp orange or lemon juice, stir until smooth and runny then drizzle over using a spoon or piping nozzle.

Method

1. Start by prepping the stem ginger – wash under the cold tap, dry on kitchen paper then cut into small dice and place into a bowl.
2. Take then 1 tbsp of the recipe's weighed self-raising flour, add to the ginger and stir around to coat thoroughly. Set aside.
3. In a medium sized bowl place the self-raising flour, salt, butter and lard then rub in together just as you would for pastry. The mixture needs to be looking like fine breadcrumbs.
4. Add the ground ginger, sugar, zest, juice and marmalade and give a stir. Add then the egg followed by the milk which should be added a little at a time until you achieve a soft dropping consistency. You will probably need all of the milk but add it gradually just in case. If the batter is too thin the ginger will drop to the bottom of the cake whilst baking.
5. Finally fold in the chopped ginger.
6. Transfer to the prepared tin then sprinkle over either the demerara sugar or the sugar nibs or once completely cool drizzle over a simple icing.
7. Bake for 35-40 minutes until the cake is golden, risen and springy to the touch.
8. Leave to cool in the tin for at least 20 minutes before turning out onto a wire tray to cool.
9. Wrap in foil and store in a tin for a couple of days but if you just cannot wait to eat it – enjoy!

LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Following the success of last year we will again be holding our Annual Parish Meeting at Chesham and Ley Hill Golf Club on Middle Lane, Ley Hill HP5 1UZ. on Thursday April 24th at 7pm. All parishioners are invited to attend and we will also be inviting representatives from all the parish clubs and organisations. Please come along to see what opportunities the village has to offer as well as finding out what the PC achieved last year and their plans for 2025/26 and enjoy some refreshments. Gareth Williams and Joseph Baum from Chesham Town Council and our ward councillors will also be attending so do come along with your questions!

TREES

You may remember that in 2022 we planted nine trees around the village for the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth. Unfortunately we lost some of them due to a very hot spell and three on the golf course were actually stolen! Well after receiving a generous grant from Chesham and Villages Community Board recently we will purchase some larger and sturdier trees which will replace the lost ones and be planted later in the year.



LITTER BLITZ

As mentioned in the winter edition the Autumn litter blitz turn out was disappointing. We are hoping for more volunteers for our Spring clean up on Saturday March 15th especially as the main roads are looking very littered at the moment. The Parish Council feel that although the general areas in the village are kept relatively free of litter, the problem areas of Bovingdon Road, Blackwell Hall Lane and Horse Hill where litter is thrown from drivers' vehicles continue to be a real problem, not least because it has become very difficult to clean up these areas safely. We have budgeted to pay Sunnyside Rural Trust to clear these areas but this would only be once a year. If these areas are to remain clear and relatively litter free then we have to rely on volunteers to help us. If anyone is interested in taking on the organisation of litter blitzes in the future we would love to hear from you.

THE GREEN

Many of you have commented on the state of the shrubbery on the Green. And for the last 3 years I have been nagging Bucks Council to clear brambles, prune trees and generally make it a useable area for parishioners. However to no avail! We have obtained a quote from a local tree surgeon to proceed with the work but wondered if there was anyone out there who could help us out. We could organise a few working parties if there were enough volunteers. If you are willing to help please contact Claire parish.clerk@latimerleyhillparishcouncil.co.uk

COFFEE AND CHAT

If you have a spare half an hour on the second Wednesday of the month we would be very grateful for someone to put up tables in the village hall and drive some people to the hall.

CHESHAM AND LEY HILL GOLF CLUB

As the spring sunshine tempts us all outside, plans are being made for the new season when we welcome not only new members to the club but also new people to the great game of golf! If you haven't played our beautiful course before, which is set amongst mature oak woodland then why not try out first as a visitor, and if you really enjoy the game why not join as a member?



Visitors can book tee slots online via our website - www.cheshamgolf.co.uk

Membership allows you to play at any time and we give access to members to our tee booking system where they can book tee slots up to 2 weeks in advance. As a member you can enjoy playing in club competitions, roll-ups and social events. Our Ladies section is extremely active with competitions every Tuesday throughout the year for those that wish to play 9 or 18 holes. The main day for the Vets Section is a Wednesday when Swindles and other competitions are arranged. If you are new to golf, we can assist you with gaining an official handicap.

In 2024 we introduced a Lifestyle membership which is designed for golfers who do not play enough golf to justify full membership. This membership gives you many of the full membership benefits at an affordable price. You can find more information about membership by visiting www.cheshamgolf.co.uk/membership

Ladies

After two very successful Women In Golf events and subsequent Ladies Academies we have refined our offer for 2025. On Sunday April 6th we are inviting ladies and girls over 14 years to our Women in Golf Afternoon from 2pm until 4pm. Ladies and girls with some golf experience as well as absolute beginners can try out their swing with our attached PGA golf professional, Dave Marsden, and learn how to chip and putt with some of our best players.

Some ladies may wish to join the club as a full member, some may like to try our lifestyle membership if their time is limited and some may wish to join our very successful Ladies Academy which will start from May 1st. Please message Anne Birkett at

annebirkett@cheshamgolf.co.uk if you have any questions or you would like to take part in our Women in Golf Day or find out more about membership of the Academy.

If you would like a member of the Membership Team to contact you, please email membershipadmin@cheshamgolf.co.uk with your name and telephone number and we will get in touch.

Anne Hyde—Secretary Chesham and Ley Hill Golf Club

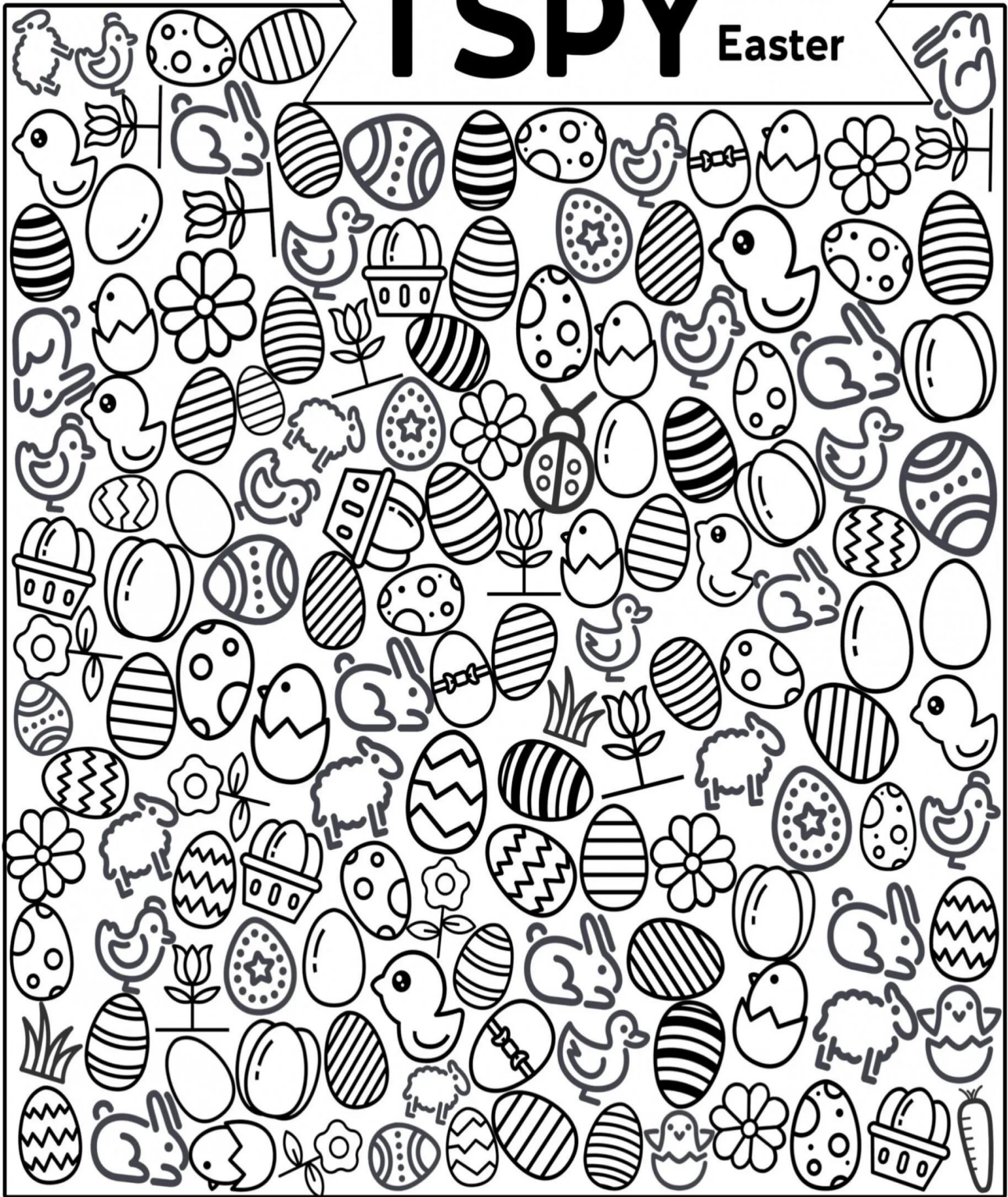
COFFEE AND CHAT in the Memorial Hall

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

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

See you on **APRIL 9th, MAY 7th, JUNE 10th**

I SPY Easter



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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VE DAY 80—MAY 8th 2025



On 8 May 2025, Ley Hill will mark the **80th anniversary of VE Day**, and join the nation to celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of World War II in Europe. VE Day 80 is not only a tribute to those who fought for freedom but also a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that have defined our country ever since. Our proposed programme is as follows:

9.00am Raising of the new VE DAY flag at Ley Hill Memorial Hall by Neil Lamond

Tribute from children at Ley Hill School

6.30pm Let the bells ring out! Church bell at St George's Church to be rung

9.00pm VE Day 80 Proclamation by Paul Woodstock

9.30pm Lighting of the Beacon by Margaret and Lindsay Faulkner

Tribute by representatives of St George's Church, Ley Hill Methodist Church, Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council, Ley Hill School, Ley Hill Memorial Hall, 1st Tyler's Hill Girl Guides and 1st Tyler's Hill Scouts

I vow to thee my country lead by Ley Hill Methodist Church choir

Finale - the National Anthem sung by all.

Together, we honour the past and celebrate a future built on unity, hope, and peace.

Everyone is welcome! Come and join us!



Also **Monday May 5th**—Street Party at the Crown— More details to follow soon

**V
E**
DAY
80

