From the Editor

By Jonathan Batten

With so much in the national media bombarding us with crisis information on a global scale it is perhaps good to have an opportunity to reflect, for a moment, on our local community and life outside the metropolis.

From the first inaugural address of Franklin D. Roosevelt on 4th March 1933 the commonly quoted extract which we all know is:

“So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself – nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.”

But digging deeper into the text, and with some slight editing of one or two words, the following seems like something we can aspire to locally:

“In the field of community policy I would dedicate this village to the policy of the good neighbour – the neighbour who resolutely respects himself and, because he does so, respects the rights of others – the neighbour who respects his obligations and respects the sanctity of his agreements in and with a community of neighbours.”

The Shop and its volunteers, together with other local groups, are leading here, offering help with shopping and other forms of community support. If you find that you do need some help then there are local people you can call; take a look at the leaflet enclosed, follow the government guidelines and keep well.

At the end of March some of us were due to pick up the litter from the roadsides and hedges. Picking up other people’s discarded rubbish is always a joy – when people have the common decency to ‘bin it or take it home’ rather than chuck it out of their car windows it will be even more joyous.

At this time I’m also reminded of the words of old blue eyes’ song:

“That’s life
That’s what all the people say
You’re riding high in April
You’re shot down in May
I know I’m gonna change that tune
When I’m back on top in June

I say that’s life
And as funny as it may seem
Some people get their kicks
Stompin’ on your dreams
But I don’t let it, let it get me down
’Cause this fine ol’ world keeps spinning round

We wait to see whether we are back on top in June but in the meantime please send your contributions for next month’s edition to the editor, Philip Harrison, by 12th April, at theleenewsletter@googlemail.com
Your letters

Youth Club
To the Editor
I used to live in South Heath and in the 50’s my grandfather, V Gerhardi, used to hold garden parties at ‘Winnats’, now ‘Errewig View’, on a yearly basis to raise money for the Youth Club.

The Youth Club building [now the Parish Hall: Ed] was on Lee Clump Road, where the tennis court is now with the former play centre and Scout Hut.

My generation
I was surprised to see there is no mention of garden parties in the history of the village on the website; perhaps this is because it seemed like a big event for me as a small child through to my teens, seeing loads of people descend into the garden each year and meeting Mr Fisher (the local policeman) who taught me the basics of road sense on his bicycle.

My grandfather moved around 1962 and I guess the garden parties ran for around 12 years. During the war years he had moved to The Lee from Southend to run Gerhardi Brothers, the electroplating company doing war work based in Great Missenden (now rebuilt Abbey Walk and part of The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre).

Vic Gerhardi
Aston Clinton
[Editor’s note: If anyone has any information about the youth club such as when it started, when it closed, list of leaders or any other anecdotes, please send them to admin@thelee.org.uk and a Youth Club History page can be added to the website. If you have any photographs we could include, that would be even better.]

To the Editor
I should like to thank everyone for the warm welcome Niels and I received on moving to The Lee.

I am very grateful to those who kept an eye on Niels during his daily rambles in the woods, and in particular, to the lovely lady who waggled her stick at him when he went out without his high-vis jacket. He was delighted by this.

It was wonderful that we could remember him in your beautiful Old Church after his sad death in January.

Ann Toettcher
The Lee

Audley Humphreys trophy
By Adam Speller and John Horsman
Audley John Humphreys 1922-1998

Audley was born in Pond Cottage at the end of Oxford Street in 1922, was brought up in Lee Common and attended the village school.

He was one of three brothers and worked for his father’s building business based around the corner on Ballinger Road, now the site of two newly built semi-detached houses and this was a local alternative to working for the Liberty estate.

Audley married Marjorie in 1947 and they had two sons and two daughters, one of whom is Jilly Carleton-Smith who was born in High Tor on Ballinger Road.

This was built by her father and has recently been up for sale. Audley also built The Lee House on the Green where Liz Stewart-Liberty lived until recently. He was also involved in converting the barns at Hawthorn Farm in The Lee, as well as the barns at Clump House where Audley and Marjorie lived themselves.

He was involved in many local activities, including being on the Parish Council and had an association with Abbeyfield House in Great Missenden together with the Summer School held annually at Missenden Abbey.

In later life, Audley developed a passion for woodcarving, sculpture and stained-glass window creation and...
Forum Freda

By Ruth Fowler

From time to time we get queries about Forum 2020, and fortunately have the support of our very own agony aunt, Forum Freda, to answer your questions. Here’s a selection from her recent postbag.

I can’t explain

Dear Forum Freda: I have tried to get registered but never seem to get any response at all from the forum. Why is that?

Dear User: I advise that you check your spam/junk folders to see if that is where our emails are all ending up.

I have often found that including our email address of forum2020@thelee.org.uk in your email contacts list can avoid them being incorrectly identified. Once you’ve done this then try to login using your email address — if you don’t know your password say you have lost it and you’ll be sent an email with a new reset link which hopefully will now land safely in your Inbox.

Dear Forum Freda: I always used to receive email notifications from the old forum, but don’t seem to have had any since you switched to the new forum.

Dear User: The new forum is completely separate from the old forum, so you will need to set your subscriptions for email notifications again. This can be done by logging into Forum 2020, clicking on Subscriptions in the menu and making your selection.

I recommend that initially you subscribe to receive emails for all New Topics which is the same level as the old forum, and instructions for doing this can be found in the forum’s online User Guide at https://www.thelee.org.uk/old-forum-style-emails/.

If you’ve set your subscriptions but still aren’t receiving emails, it’s probably because they are being wrongly identified as spam/junk. The way around this problem is to add the forum’s email address of forum2020@thelee.org.uk to your email contacts.

Dear Forum Freda: I receive notifications from the forum on my computer, phone and tablet. If I click on the link in the notification received on my computer I can go directly to the forum to see the full trail of posts, but this doesn’t happen on my phone or tablet.

Dear User: You can only click on a link to go directly to the forum if you are logged in to the forum – and logging in on one device will not log you in on another, you have to log in separately on each.

If you click on a link when you are not logged in, you will just see the blue forum menu and an error message. Click Login from the menu, enter your ID and password, and you’ll then be able to see details of all the posts on the forum on this device.

Dear Forum Freda: Why do I have to keep entering my user ID and password when I want to access Forum 2020?

Dear User: We take the security and integrity of Forum 2020 very seriously,
and don’t think it’s wise for people to stay logged in for extended periods. If you click Remember Me when logging in, you won’t be asked to log in again for another two weeks.

Don’t forget – you only need to log in if you want to post something or change your subscriptions; you don’t need to be logged in to receive email notifications.

If you have any questions on how to use Forum 2020, check out the online User Guide, FAQs and the support discussion forum.

If you are still having problems completing your registration or subscriptions, then please email admin@thelee.org.uk setting out clearly the problems that you are having. There will be more from Freda’s postbag next month.

Bridge slam?
By Judy Hart et al

What fun it is to bid and play a slam, as this doesn’t occur very often when dealing cards at the bridge table rather than playing ‘pre-set’ hands.

♦ Q J 7
♥ A Q J 9 7
♠ J 3
♣ K J 3

♠ 8 ♦ 10 6
♥ 5 4 3 ♣ 10 6 2
♣ 8 6 5 2 ♠ 10 9 7 4
♦ 10 9 7 5 4 ♦ A Q 8 6
♦ A K 9 5 4 3 2 ♥ K 8
♠ A K Q
♣ 2

Dealer: West
Vulnerability: Both

How do you think we bid this hand? See page 22.

A river runs through it
By Pirmas Balandis

I am sure most of you will have seen the photograph of the flooding in last month’s edition and no doubt assumed that it was caused by natural phenomena.

However, following an anon e mouse tip off, your intrepid reporter has uncovered a much more interesting story.

The prototype River Lee was, in fact, a trial run of a cunning plan being put in place by The Lee Parish Council (TLPC) to improve the standing of the village in the national beautiful village ratings by incorporating water features.

Testing their overflow efficiency, water was purposely evacuated from the newly constructed HS2 balancing ponds so that it flowed across the fields forming fords across the road from The Lee to Swan Bottom below the vicarage and in the dip between the Cock and Rabbit and Pipers (CARP).

In the dip below the Shop the river flowed across the road creating a new island with Park Cottage picturesquely sitting on it – this will be branded as the Park Island Cottage Neighbourhood Independent Colony (PICNIC).

The trial proved highly successful and in due course the Chiltern Ridges Action Group Extra Terra Tech Engineering Squad (CRAGETTES) will be brought out of retirement to manage the hydrogeological technicalities of the scheme.

PICNIC will be officially opened by Councillor Brisha Tirchley and the three fords across the roads will enable compulsory washing of any passing vehicles to ensure that the effect of muddy roads do not detract from the beautification of our village.

TLPC will also adapt the London ban on the parking of vehicles on pavements by extending this to our green non-pavements – the grass verges.

In the event that water overflow from the balancing ponds runs low, then Thames Water will initiate a mains water leak at Kings Ash so that Rocky Lane will become a tributary.

Won’t get fooled again

If you are uncertain about how you can contribute to the community effort

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LONDON

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in this bid for fame then try re-registering on The Lee Forum to gain access to the programme which will give you further information.

TLPC currently has a casual vacancy and when that is filled the new councillor will be responsible for pushing the project forward, assuming the role of Parish Idyll Liaison Outreach Controller (PILOC).

In readiness, and with the help of Rick Nose, planning permission for the new engineering works has already been fast-tracked through Chiltern District Council before the merger to form the new Buckinghamshire Council on 1st April.

HS2… almost proceeding
By Colin Sully, The Lee Parish Council

HS2 Phase 1 may have been given the Prime Minister’s and the Secretary of State’s support but, according to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State: “The Final Business Case for the first phase of the scheme... must now be formally approved ahead of the intended start of main construction works along the route in April 2020. The business case will... allow a final decision by Government on its viability, affordability, achievability, deliverability and value for money. Approval of the case is a pre-condition of HS2 Ltd issuing Notice-to-Proceed to its supply chain.”

A legal matter

So, the Notice to Proceed to Main Works Contractors (MWCs) has not yet been given and is still dependent on a satisfactory outcome to the continuing negotiations. As a part of this, we are being told that a group of local MPs have held a meeting with the Secretary of State, at which they told him it was vital that the Chiltern Tunnel be extended from South Heath to the north of Wendover. It is understood that further costings are being made by HS2 Ltd.

The Lee Parish Council has written (again) to HS2 Ltd, reminding them of the significant local benefits of such a change and offering help to factor these into a sensible decision!

Local works

Meanwhile, the so called ‘enabling work’ continues apace, with local work progressing to complete the Haul Road, agree a design for alterations to the Link Road and move electricity pylons at South Heath and near the Wendover by-pass (all due to be completed by October 2020). By the time you read this, it is also expected that the new slip-road at the bottom of Frith Hill will have finally been brought into use.

HS2 Ltd is slowly but surely taking possession of more and more land in the area. However, once more there is nothing new to report on the Hunts Green Farm spoil heap or on the Hill-top traffic surveys (is this beginning to sound like a broken record?)

National campaigns

The successful legal appeal over the third runway at Heathrow has prompted wildlife campaigner, Chris Packham to launch a similar legal action against the whole HS2 project, arguing that the decision (to press on) did not take full account of its impact on the environment. In particular, he argues that “the government's approval of the project fails to take carbon emissions targets into account”. The Department for Transport said it was considering the challenge and would respond “in due course”.

Local protests

The number of Chiltern protest camps has now risen to three, with a new camp in Jones Hill Wood, on The Lee / Wendover border. Campaigners also continue to camp next to the Link Road, Great Missenden and near the A413 just south of Wendover. In all cases there appears to be a strong Extinction Rebellion presence, supplemented by Greenpeace and other local environmental groups, activists and campaigners.

The RSPB has urged locals to call the police if they see HS2 contractors putting birds at risk as it accuses the project of ‘worst practice’ in a letter to the Transport Secretary.

In the letter, the RSPB states that “HS2 is falling short of its own environment aims” and that it “will only continue providing guidance to the project if conditions to protect wildlife are met.”
Community and environment

Meanwhile, the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, based at Stoke Mandeville, has been awarded an HS2 Community and Environment Fund grant of £250,000 towards its outreach activities.

The Lee Parish Council was among the first local organisations to receive a grant from this Fund (for the village playground) and it will consider bidding for other local projects, assuming the HS2 project proceeds.

The next local liaison meeting between local Parish Councils, HS2 Ltd and their contractors is scheduled for late April, when we should have a clearer understanding as to whether, when, where and how it will or will not be proceeding.

Services for April

Unfortunately due to the coronavirus all services have been suspended.

St John the Baptist, The Lee

Contacts:  
Lay Minister: Mrs Peggy Sear (07804 697948).  
Churchwardens: Trevor Pearce (01494 837601) and Mike Sherratt (07597 158269).  
Verger: Bill Pearce (01494 785191).  
Treasurer: David Stephenson (01494 867617).

Lee Common Methodist Church

St. Mary’s, Ballinger

Please contact Anne Ellis (01494 837247) or Maggi Cameron (maggi.cameron@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

Please retain this insert

Coronavirus – guidance for residents

This document is prepared by The Lee Parish Council on the basis of public health advice (as of 22nd March 2020). For information on the latest National advice and local support see Page 4.

Social distancing – this guidance is for everyone

‘Social distancing’ involves cutting down on non-essential travel and interactions, and not visiting social venues, in order to reduce the transmission of coronavirus.

In particular, everyone is asked to:

- Wherever practical, stay 2 metres from each other.
- Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus. These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough.
- Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible.
- Work from home, where possible. Your employer should support you to do this.
- Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces.
- Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services.

We strongly advise everyone to follow the above measures as much as you can and to significantly limit your face-to-face interaction with friends and family.

This is particularly important if you are over 70, have an underlying health condition or are pregnant.

This advice is likely to be in place for some weeks.
If I am unwell – what should I do?
For most people, coronavirus will be a mild illness and they will make a full and quick recovery. The most common symptoms are recent onset of new continuous cough and/or high temperature.

The government’s current advice is that if you develop symptoms you must self-isolate. This means you basically have to cut yourself off entirely from the outside world for either 7 or 14 days depending on your co-habiting arrangements and whether or not you are the first person in the house to show symptoms.

For full guidance on the appropriate period of isolation see https://nhs.uk or, if you are unable to access the internet, telephone NHS 111.

Self-isolation: a summary – for anyone with symptoms

- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- If you or someone you live with has a 'new, continuous' cough or a high temperature, you should stay at home for 14 days
- If symptoms persist or worsen, use the online 111 coronavirus service at 111.nhs.uk. In Northern Ireland, call 111
- A medical professional will give you advice on what to do next
- You may then be tested for the virus

If you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then do use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.
What support is available locally?
People are going to need support with practical things like getting medicines, grocery shopping, preparing meals or caring for beloved pets as well as dealing with the social effects of isolation. Many people will also want to help and support others if they possibly can.

Volunteers needed
If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact one of the groups below or, to be pointed in the right direction, contact the Parish Clerk, Hayley Farrelly on 01494 837068 or visit www.thelee.org.uk/coronavirus

Support in The Lee
Local help and support during the crisis can be found by contacting:
- The Lee Coronavirus Support Group - planning to offer a ‘meal preparation-and-delivery service’ for isolated residents, as well as shopping. Contact 01494 837009.
- The Shop at The Lee - will make home deliveries of food and other household items (subject to availability). Contact 01494 83719

Also continuing to support local residents:
- Re-engage (formerly Contact the Elderly) - already keep in touch with the over 80s living on their own. Contact 01494 837372.
- LeeWay - subject to driver availability, will continue to endeavour to help where we can. Contact 07845 029500.

Support within HP16
- Prestwood Area Community Transport - also a provider of volunteer transport in the area. Contact 07968 641427.
- The Church at Great Missenden has produced a list of companies and organisations offering help in the wider area: the list is available on The Lee website at www.thelee.org.uk

Buckinghamshire Council
Buckinghamshire Council has launched a wider online community support hub that can be found at https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus Any vulnerable or older person who is self-isolating and needs support, or anyone concerned about them, is invited to call the Council on 01296 383 204.

National advice
Up to date advice on the virus, its spread, its symptoms and how to deal with it can also be found at Public Health England: https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response

Lee Common School news
By Pam Batty, Chair of Governors
The spring term at Lee Common School saw a multitude of exciting activities being undertaken by our children.

Forest School was a highlight with outdoor learning enjoyed by both Year 1 and Reception children finishing with toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate at the end of their last sessions.

Great fun was had by all on World Book Day where everyone, including the dedicated staff, dressed up as a character from their favourite book. The love of books is such an important aspect of children’s learning and I hope that each child was able to spend their World Book Day voucher on a great new book.

The kids are alright
Other activities included Inside Out Day where children wore an item of clothing inside out. This was to help children remember the importance of considering how others are feeling on the inside. There was also the introduction of Manner of the Week and a focus on kindness and respect.

Of course, handwashing continued to receive high priority in accordance with government guidelines, which the school followed very closely.

News this term included the announcement that James Edwards has made the decision to resign from his position as Headteacher at Lee Common School and Larks Nursery, leaving at the end of term. We wish James well in the future.

The Lee Parish Council report
By Hayley Farrelly, Clerk
The local elections due to take place on 7th May have been postponed (for a year). For The Lee residents, this includes the elections for the Parish Council, Buckinghamshire Council and the Local Police and Crime Commissioner.

Buckinghamshire Council
It is now agreed that the Shadow Council and Shadow Executive, which were put in place during the transition period whilst the new Unitary Authority was formed, will now continue for a further 12 months. Further details will be confirmed in the next Newsletter.

The Lee Parish Council – a Casual Vacancy
Existing parish councillors have been invited to stay in post for a further period of 12 months. However, with one councillor in The Lee deciding to stand down, we have what is known as a ‘Casual Vacancy’.

Substitute
Anyone wishing to apply to fill this vacancy (without election) is invited in the first instance to contact me at clerk@thelee.org.uk or on 01494 837068 by 17th April.
Climate crisis
By Louise Wadsworth

In these uncertain times I keep thinking about the old adage which says the Chinese word for ‘crisis’ is made up of two characters – one which depicts ‘danger’ and the other ‘opportunity’. Having taken a look on google I find that this is actually not strictly true (for those linguists amongst you), however I still think it provides an important message right now.

Certainly at this moment when we are having to reassess the way we live and what we may have taken for granted, it seems the perfect time to turn our minds again to what we can do to be more sustainable in The Lee villages.

Some of you may remember that last summer a few of us ran a stall at the THE VERMINATOR WE WILL ALSO PROOF YOUR HOUSE/PREMISES TO STOP THEM COMING BACK Pest control services TIM SIMMONS IS WASPS GLIS-GLIS SQUIRREL RATS MICE MOLES ALL INSECTS FOXES RABBITS ANTS FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE LOW PRICES - HIGH QUALITY 07734 649305 Flower Show where we asked people to come up with ideas and suggestions to take this forward and what we could potentially do both as individuals and collectively.

Let’s see action
I was recently contacted by a Kings Ash resident who wanted to get involved and has inspired me to use some of the time the current crisis is affording me to turn my thoughts to this subject once again.

Nine months on from our original initiative the climate crisis is even more in our thoughts. This is partly because since then there have been school strikes and demonstrations, storms, melting of the ice caps, bush fires in Australia and floods in the UK. These apocalyptic sounding events can end up making us feel rather helpless so I have returned to the original questions we asked: “What are we currently doing?” and “What more can we do?”

This article was going to include an invitation to a Village Meeting on this subject but circumstances mean we will delay a get together in person until the summer. In the meantime it would be great to hear from you about what you are doing to address the climate crisis.

We can at least get a dialogue going and learn from what I imagine are some very good examples around our villages. I’m also interested in learning what people are doing elsewhere. I really like this article ‘50 simple ways to make your life greener’ https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/feb/29/50-ways-to-green-up-your-life-save-the-planet

So for now I invite you to get in contact by email mlc@mary-louiseclark.co.uk as a start and let’s hope we are able to find opportunities in this difficult environment. To all our friends and neighbours we wish you well and I know our community will rise to the challenge.

The Lee Flower Show
Saturday 18th July
By Jonathan Batten

April and its glorious spring sunshine can be the real start of the gardener’s year. You will have completed your pruning and perhaps thought about giving the grass a cut, if it would ever stop raining, and later this month the serious stuff begins.

The committee is also on to the serious stuff of organising the show – it is working on the schedules and these should be ready for delivery to your doorsteps in early May.

Another tricky day
We have all had to battle with difficult weather conditions during the winter but forget all that and be ready to enter a variety of things grown, cooked, crafted, photographed and painted.

The Lee Flower Show Dance
Keep up your energy levels and revel in The Lee Flower Show Dance on the night of 18th July.

Laura and Neeta have handed over the organisation to Elizabeth Harris, who very kindly volunteered to continue their good work.

The band has been booked and the tables are being laid ready to give you the best night of your lives this year, so make sure you are there on the night.

Well, that’s the plan as of today...

Pilates @HOME
‘FLEXIBLE TO THE CORE’
1 to 1 Pilates... in the comfort and convenience of your own home
Mat Pilates for all abilities: Improves posture, flexibility, core strength, muscle tone and sports performance
Individuals [or small groups of up to 4]
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“In ten sessions you will feel the difference, in 20 you will see the difference and in 30 you will have a whole new body”
...Joseph Pilates

If you are interested or require further information please contact: Karen on 07790 081670
Email: info@karensabsolutepilates.co.uk www.karensabsolutepilates.co.uk
The Natural History Museum plays an important role in highlighting such issues, both through the well-known public displays and educational activities but also by providing expert advice that informs government policy, consulting to industry in relation to environmental impacts and sustainability, and by developing a deeper understanding of what makes our planet work, via research.

Most people do not realise that the museum is a leading international research institute with over 300 science staff involved in research on a wide diversity of subjects in the Life and Earth Sciences. New discoveries happen every day – for example, 412 new species of plants, animals and minerals were described by museum scientists in 2019.

I live in The Lee and am a geologist by training with a first degree in Geological Sciences and a PhD in geochemistry. As one of the research scientists ‘behind the scenes’ at the museum, I lead a research group that investigates how mineral resources form in the Earth and work with mining companies to develop lower risk, more environmentally sensitive and efficient methods for exploration, mining and mineral recovery.

To many, mines are blots on the landscape that contaminate the environment but it is important to remember that mining underpinned the industrial revolution in Britain, and that minerals and metals, extracted from mines, are needed for every aspect of modern life, in particular renewable energy generation.

It is difficult to think of things in your home that do not contain any metal, stone, concrete, glass or colour pigments... A smartphone contains 75 different elements, all of which are ultimately extracted from mines. Even the food we eat is grown with the use of fertilisers like potash that are extracted by mining.

The seeker

The mining of metals is about to see a major renaissance because of the so-called ‘energy transition’ as the planet moves away from carbon-based (oil, gas and coal) electricity

Mike Lake

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generation to renewable and nuclear sources. These require significantly more metal than conventional power – for example, about eight times as much copper is needed for renewable energy generation than is currently used in conventional power stations.

This cannot be delivered by recycling alone; predictions of the amount of copper that will be needed in the next 30 years is more than has ever been mined in the whole of human history.

I love the work I do which is endlessly interesting, involves travel to many amazing places around the world, requires the use of state-of-the-art analytical equipment using lasers and scanning electron microscopes, and has a relevance to some of the biggest challenges facing our planet today.

In my role at the museum I have had the opportunity to meet many senior government advisors and some ministers in order to highlight these challenges so they can hopefully inform government policy and make a difference. I also supervise PhD students and lecture to undergraduates at Imperial College London, helping to train the next generation of geoscientists who will really be the ones to tackle the problems ahead.

Working at the museum, with its amazing 140-year history and stunning building, always feels a privilege. The ability to walk the galleries out of hours, with nobody else around, is a great perk of the job. Nothing has yet come to life (!) but the exhibits and the messages they convey are a powerful reminder of what we all need to do to preserve the planet for future generations.

One of the main things we work on at present is the origin of copper deposits in the Earth, especially those that formed beneath ancient volcanoes in subduction zones, where two tectonic plates of the Earth’s crust meet and one dives down beneath the other.

If you have children who might be interested in minerals and mineral resources and our work on copper deposits, we have produced an outreach article that is freely available at: https://futurumcareers.com/magma-detectives-studying-volcanic-arcs-to-find-valuable-minerals-in-earths-crust.

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The Shop at The Lee prepares
By Symeon Economou
What a difference a week makes! Having originally written quite a cheery bit for this month’s Newsletter I am now rewriting it in quite a different frame of mind.

As you may be aware, the volunteer base at Shop at The Lee has an age profile – without putting too fine a point on it – towards the upper end of the curve. Under the current circumstances therefore, it is understandable that many of them have elected to stand down for the time being.

In actual fact those over 70 and/or of a vulnerable disposition account for over 60% of the volunteer force and this presents a massive challenge.

However, happily and not surprisingly, our subsequent call to the community for help has produced a massive response. At time of writing this we have had over 20 offers of help and more are still coming in.

Anyway, anyhow, anywhere

The task now will be to train the new volunteers as soon as possible. An equal challenge is that our footfall and therefore our sales have risen dramatically and this presents a problem in keeping the Shop stocked with the right produce. It remains to be seen how well wholesalers are able to fill the currently empty pipeline.

In the Shop we are adopting measures based on the best advice to protect volunteers and customers alike. To assist with this we ask customers to pay by contactless card wherever possible and to maintain a sensible distance from others.

Everyone involved will do their utmost to ensure the Shop fulfils its rightful role in the community at such a time. What is for sure is that if we do have to go through something like this, there is no better place to be than The Lee and its associated villages.
Dear Diary

The fastest way to let everyone in the Parish know about an event you are arranging is to publish it right here in the Newsletter. Contact the Editor by the 12th of the previous month (see contact details on page 1).

Not coming soon

The following events are unfortunately all cancelled

Thursday 2nd April. The Lee Walking Group.
Thursday 2nd April. Horticultural Society Spring Show and talk on Bulbs.
Friday 3rd April. Lee Common School Association coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel.
Sunday 5th April. The Lee Old Chirch AGM.
Tuesday 14th April. Ballinger Evening WI.
Friday 1st May. Lee Common School Association coffee morning.

Bridge-end

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<td>1♥</td>
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<td>2♠</td>
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<td>3♦</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>5♣</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6♥</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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South’s jump response promised 16+ pts and a 6+ card suit. South bid Blackwood and found one ace is missing, so bid the small slam.

Directory of local contacts

Ballinger Horticultural Society
Chairperson: Katherine Hersee 07801 948650
kherssee@googlemail.com
Membership Secretary:
jennywooding@btconnect.com

Ballinger War Memorial Hall
Bookings: Jane Ogden, 837379

Ballinger Evening WI
Contact: Frankie Little, 837659
frankie.little@btinternet.com

Lee Common C of E School
School office, 837267
office@leecommon.bucks.sch.uk

Lee Common Methodist Church
Marian Tomkines, 837479

Lee Common Scouts
Scout Leader Thomas Brockett: 837294 or brockettt8@hotmail.com

Shop at The Lee
Symeon Economou, 837195
shop@thelee.org.uk

St John the Baptist Church
See centre pages.

St Mary’s Ballinger
Contact: Anne Ellis, 837247
anne.ellis1004@gmail.com

Tennis Court @ Parish Hall
Bookings: Judy Morgan 837787

The Arts Society Ballinger
Chair, Lesley Wickham, 865480
ballinger@theartsociety.org

The Lee Cricket Club
www.theleecricket.org.uk
Secretary, Mike Harris 07788 345555

The Lee Flower Show
Chairman, Jonathan Batten 837450

The Lee Newsletter
theleenewsletter@gmail.com

The Lee Old Church Trust
Secretary: Pam Garner 837501

The Lee Parish Council
Clerk: Hayley Farrelly, 837068
clerk@thelee.org.uk
www.thelee.org.uk/pc

Allotments: Alison Weir, 837529

The Lee Parish Hall Committee
Bookings: Anne Barnett, 837796
Chairman: Tony Lea, 837237

The LeeWay
Contact: 07845 029500

Vocal Lees (village choir)
Jeannette Batten, 837450

Lee Common School Association coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel.

Friday 8th May. VE Day events at the Shop.
Tuesday 12th May. Ballinger Evening WI.
Friday 5th June. Lee Common School Association coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel.
Friday 3rd July. Lee Common School Association coffee morning at the Methodist Chapel.

To book the Parish Hall or Scout Hut

‘phone Anne Barnett on 837796

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rates</th>
<th>9 am - 1 pm</th>
<th>2 pm - 6 pm</th>
<th>6 pm - midnight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon - Fri</td>
<td>£30 or £10/hr</td>
<td>£45 or £10/hr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun</td>
<td>£12/hr</td>
<td>£70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Holiday</td>
<td>£12/hr</td>
<td>£70</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Car park only</td>
<td>£10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crockery/cutlery</td>
<td>£15 (hire outside the hall)</td>
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Membership Secretary:
kjhersee@googlemail.com

To advertise or place an insert, please contact Paul Apicella on 837377 by the 12th of the previous month.

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