



NEWSLETTER

For The Lee, Lee Common, Hunts Green, Kings Ash and Swan Bottom

From the Editor

By Phil Harrison

A very Happy New Year. Let us hope that 2022 is a better year than the last two have been, a sentiment undoubtedly shared across the community.

The editorial team's New Year resolution is to encourage a greater and wider level of contributions from across the community (see page 15). We encourage articles, photographs, letters or poems on any subject. We are happy to refine, polish or draft an article for you.

If you don't feel comfortable writing something, drop an email to the editor with your phone number and we will ring you to discuss what you would like to include, so that we can draft an article for you.

Please send any thoughts on any of the articles plus contributions for March's edition to the editor, Jonathan Batten, at theleeneewsletter@gmail.com by Saturday 12th February.

Your Letters

What's in a name?

To the Editor

Why is my house called Ladygrove? It was built by Sally and Michael Reynolds, and we bought it from them in 1969. Sally had been a Miss

Matthews, brought up at Dundridge Manor near St Leonards. On the Dundridge estate there were three woods, called Widow Croft, Stony Croft and Ladygrove. Wanting a link with her old home, on her marriage, Sally called her new home Ladygrove. This much I always knew.

Recently, *The Story of Dundridge Manor* has been published, printed by Orbitpress of Chesham. In it I found to my delight a map of 1581, and there are the three named woods. Of course, this is still a modern house, but it pleases me no end to know that the name Ladygrove goes back to the sixteenth century.

What other house names in The Lee, I wonder, have stories lying behind them?

Diana Morley
Ladygrove

Responsible dog owners

To the Editor

I noticed in the December issue of The Lee Newsletter the horrific wounds inflicted on sheep in the area, yet the same issue shows a picture of walkers in the autumn amble with six dogs and not one of them on a lead.

About two months ago my wife was nipped on the hand by a dog drawing blood; she also had her clothes soiled by two dogs not on leads. She was told by the owner of one of the dogs "It comes with the

territory". What territory this is, I am not sure.

Dog owners should understand that not everyone wants a dog running up to them, but to savage livestock is unacceptable. In public places, where children, adults and livestock may be present, let's have all dogs on leads please.

Stephen Wooding

Lee Common

Comment

By Phil Harrison

Over recent years the newsletter has covered many topics and provided the community with information about activities and people. As part of our evolution, here is a comment piece highlighting an issue in what I hope is a constructive manner. It is trying to raise a point that concerns many but is down to a few to resolve.

The subject of dogs has been a major topic on the forum, in the newsletter and in conversations – whether it is reports of livestock being attacked, walkers being bothered or the fouling of footpaths and fields.

There are many residents who have well behaved and controlled dogs, who 'bag and bin' the mess and ensure their pets don't cause offense.

We need your help to assist those owners who are less responsible, as they are more likely to listen to a fellow dog owner.

Rights and responsibilities

This is not an attempt to restrict the freedom and joy of the country walk with a dog; it is an attempt to highlight the rights and responsibilities that come with enjoying the benefit of sharing the beauty and land around us.

We all know that dog walkers are responsible for their animal at all times, needing to keep them on a lead

or under close control in all areas. Their droppings have to be picked up e.g. to avoid infecting a child's eyes or contaminating the crops. Even when there is no visible livestock in a field, the crops or grass are still being farmed as someone's livelihood.

When crossing a field, everyone, be they adult, child or dog, is restricted to using the footpath only, as they would be trespassing if they deviate away from it. The field is private land.

Dogs are a source of great comfort, companionship and joy to many people. However, this does not apply to everyone, as some people fear them or simply just don't like dogs.

Dogs can sense this and sometimes either try too hard to be liked or become aggressive.

Owners are clearly close to their pet and see it as part of the family. It is a brave person who criticises a dog to its owner (much the same as criticising a child to its parent) – emotionally difficult territory.

An action list

So, what can we do? Maybe a good starting point would be some clarification of dos and don'ts.

- 1) Accept that you are always responsible for your dog's behaviour.
- 2) Always keep the dog on a lead when crossing private land and fields, particularly in proximity with livestock.
- 3) Pick up your dog's mess, especially on footpaths, roads and the verges of both. "Bag it and Bin it."
- 4) Control your dog when around other walkers and do not assume they feel safe or comfortable around your dog.
- 5) Do not overreact if comments or observations are made about your dog's behaviour.
- 6) If you have a problem with someone and their dog, be polite,

be clear about your issue and don't lose your temper.

Undoubtedly many owners will feel that they are being 'got at' for the sins of a few. This is certainly not the intention. Rather it is to try and enlist the help of responsible owners to encourage the irresponsible few to understand the issue and amend their approach.

I hope that this subject fades into the memory quickly, as collectively we help those owners who are currently unaware of their responsibility to become owners we welcome. If you have a different point of view, please write in.

A New Year honour

By Liz Macann

"I'm just doing what I love"

That was Gill Owen-Conway's response to my curiosity about her recognition in this year's Honours List for her work with Drugfam.

Her first thought on receiving the officially headed email was that her invitation to receive the honour was a hoax. "I mean, why me?" Well clearly, some colleagues think that she does something special and nominated her for the British Empire Medal for her personal services to charity. A very crowded field I feel sure, so all the more reason to realise that what she does is important and delivered with her own brand of care and compassion.

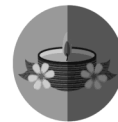
And *what* she does is provide support for the bereaved families of people who have lost their battle with drug addiction. In her words, she helps to empower them in order to cope.

That (very genuine) email was on 2nd December and she was sworn to



Gill Owen-Conway

secrecy while the process wound its way through the bureaucratic channels. Then on New Year's Eve she could spill the beans – or rather



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proud husband Charles could and did. The village was buzzing with the news in no time. (Naughtily the local press who had the information in advance with a strict embargo on it, released it early, before an arranged interview, and with a number of inaccuracies!)

Gill's route to her current role as Bereavement Support Worker and Helpline Training Facilitator began by volunteering her talents as an artist in the Art Department of the Epilepsy Centre in Chalfont St Peter and in the year 2000, she trained as a Samaritan. During that time as Branch Director, Gill heard an inspirational talk by the founder of a relatively new support group, Drugfam. Impressed by the invaluable but largely unsung work of the charity, Gill was tempted to take up the offer to be a volunteer with them. As well as being a Samaritan, Gill also provided training and support to young offenders in Aylesbury who

were selected to listen to others serving prison sentences who were in danger of harming or carrying out suicide. Not much free time for Gill!

So, after 15 years with the Samaritans, Gill transferred her skill set to Drugfam.

What really attracted her to their work was the opportunity to properly connect with the families and have an ongoing relationship with them, watching them grow stronger as they developed coping strategies to manage their challenging situations, whereas Samaritans are actively discouraged from that to avoid any one client becoming dependent on an individual volunteer. Initially her work at Drugfam was with both the families of practising addicts and the bereaved families. Now she is one of two volunteers who work solely with the latter.

Supporting the volunteers

In 2019, Gill became Help Line Manager and currently facilitates weekly support groups and one-to-one supervision for those volunteers who need support themselves to withstand the upsetting stories they hear in the course of their work. In addition to this Gill trains other volunteers to man the help line which operates between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm, seven days a week, every day of the year. The demand for this support is that high!

As Gill explained, the families of those taking drugs, experiencing the erratic and sometimes criminal behaviour of family members, are often out of their depth and don't know which way to turn. There is also the sense of isolation a family feels and the fear of stigma and shame from those around them. Drugfam provides a safe space where those affected can share their hopes, despair, anger and fears without judgement. Then if the addiction ends in death, there is the



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heartache and too often the guilt, of the parents or partners left behind... "if only I hadn't said that; what could we have done differently?" All hope has gone and the work then is on rebuilding those left behind. Since the beginning of the first Covid Lockdown, Drugfam has dealt with 220 newly bereaved families, many of them unable to say goodbye except by video link.

The online nature of life during Covid has however provided a wider reach to families in distress, Zoom allowing for nationwide connection rather than just those able to access the offices in High Wycombe.

Maybe empowering others is in Gill's blood, her father was awarded the MBE in 1968 for creating a scheme through his company, Taylor Woodrow, to equip young offenders with skills to increase their chances of employment and decrease the chances of reoffending. He is one person she wishes she could tell about the acknowledgement for her own volunteer work.

Perhaps sadly, Gill won't receive her medal from the Queen because of Covid. She will, however, be presented with it at the home in Penn of Countess Howe, the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire and will be invited to a palace garden party later in the year. They will be occasions for her to feel rightly proud, and as a village we will be with her all the way.

Footnote: Drugfam founder, Elizabeth Burton-Phillips MBE, has written a book highlighting the issues that families of those in addiction or bereaved by it can face. 'Mum can you lend me 20 quid' has been translated into six languages and is being considered by the BBC as a future Drama production.

Bright-Lee

By the Editor

How many light bulbs were there on the Christmas Pud in Oxford St? 1,000, 2,500, 9,000, 15,000, 22,000, 26,000, 30,000? Answer next month.



What are your thoughts and views about the Christmas lights around the



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community? What did you like or dislike? What would you like to see next year? Write in with your thoughts please.

Santa's visit to Lee Common and The Lee was warmly appreciated by young and old. Many people lined Oxford Street and The Lee green to welcome him and join in with the Christmas spirit. He has already said that he plans to return next year as he enjoys these visits. The look of joy and wonder on the children's faces was a sight to behold.

In the meantime, there is a selection of 2021 Christmas' lights scattered through the newsletter.



Crocketts Lane

Suits you Sir

By the Editor

Is one of your New Year resolutions to clear out the old clothes no longer needed? Maybe you have retired and no longer need all that business wear. How many suits are sitting in your wardrobe gathering dust like dandruff on the shoulders?

Seems such a waste to throw them into landfill, doesn't it?

You may have noticed a posting on the forum asking for ideas. An interesting set of ideas was generated.

- Depending on size, what about getting in touch with The Misbourne? There'd be some students there who will have job or university interviews hopefully in months to come who might really benefit from the suits?
- A specialist charity called 'Suited & Booted' helps vulnerable, unemployed and low-income men into employment by providing interview clothing and advice. (www.suitedbootedcentre.org.uk)
- Prison charities are often looking for suits and men's clothes to give to ex-offenders when they leave prison with nothing more than £45 in their pocket. The Prison Fellowship, Bethel of Britain, Langley House Trust and the Nehemiah Project are all well regarded charities working with offenders and ex-offenders. They all have websites.
- In Partnership with Care4Calais, Rotate are collecting clothes for refugees. In 2021 there was a surge in numbers of people who crossed the Channel to claim asylum. They come from a range of countries and typically arrive with nothing. Around 90% are young men, often small / medium sizes. In November alone 1,100 men were given accommodation in the Heathrow area and Care4Calais are trying to make sure they have at least a change of clothes and a coat.

Seems like a good variety of ideas. Maybe someone in the community will step forward to act as a central point /

collection centre to pass these quality clothing items onto people who can use them. If so, The Lee Forum is a great starting point.

Art4Lee

By Ruth Fowler

Last year I had a concept for Art4Lee. For those not familiar with it, the idea was that interested villagers would stage an exhibition of their creativity – be it sculpture, paintings, poetry, pottery or lego models – in their homes or gardens over the weekend of the Early May Bank Holiday. Other residents could then turn this into a social event by walking round the village to view the various exhibits.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances entirely beyond my control, this could not take place.

I have spoken to a number of those who had volunteered to host exhibitions last year and who are still interested in doing so, but unfortunately I am not able to organise an event this year due to other commitments. If anyone would like to step forward to organise the belated inaugural Art4Lee, please contact me at ruth.fowler7@gmail.com and I can pass on details. If not, I think this will be consigned to the scrap heap of good ideas!

New sections?

By the Editor

We have had a suggestion for the return of a column that used to appear in the newsletter, namely a Births, Marriages and Deaths (aka Hatches, Matches and Despatches) announcements page.

Write to us with your views, please.

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Local policing priorities

By Chesham Neighbourhood Policing

In the December 2021 edition of the Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter, we reported the results of a recent residents' survey of their 'Top 5' crime concerns.

For the Chiltern / South Bucks area they were:

- speeding (44% of residents mention in their Top 5)
- residential burglary (37%)
- fly-tipping (36%)
- anti-social behaviour (34%)
- drug dealing (21%)
- parking (20%)

All other crimes were mentioned by 10% or fewer residents (e.g. dog fouling 10%, cybercrime 6%, theft of vehicles 5%).

We also reported the 'Top 5' concerns by Community Board Area. The Lee is in the Chesham and Rural Villages area, for which the 'Top 5' (in order) were residential burglary, fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour, drug dealing and speeding.

Following our local policing issues meeting, the areas of crime for the local Neighbourhood Police to focus on over the next four months were agreed as:

- serious acquisitive crime
- speeding
- anti-social behaviour.

[Ed: How does this feel to you? Did you complete the survey? Does it reflect the things you are concerned about? Do let us know and keep an eye open for the next survey at: [Chesham | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://Chesham | Police.uk (www.police.uk))]

Managing wildlife naturally

By Ken Mitchell-Gears

There is new thinking on how we manage our wildlife and there is clear evidence around the world that there are other options available to us.

In Yellowstone, USA wolves literally changed the course of rivers! Instead of culling the deer by shooting they reintroduced wolves to do the job, which is of course the job they would have done before humans shot them all. The deer numbers dropped and moved away from their preferred grazing grounds as they were too open and, in their absence, trees and natural vegetation grew which now supports a wide variety of nature.

In the UK wolves have been considered. However we have reintroduced something much smaller, a needed predator to protect our broadleaf woodlands.

Pine martens have now been introduced into the Forest of Dean and their introduction has been so successful it is thought they will spread around the UK. The pine marten is a native species and will have a positive impact on our ecosystems.

More and more UK landowners have planted pine trees as the revenue returns are greater than broadleaf and not subject to destruction by wildlife, but pine does not offer the support for wildlife or provide the carbon absorption we so desperately need. However, the pine marten has proved very successful in reducing numbers of grey squirrels and driving them out altogether in places, reducing the



The humble pine marten

threat they pose to our broadleaf woodlands. The pine marten does not have an effect on our native red squirrel as they are lighter than the grey and can stay safe on the smaller twigs, where neither the pine marten nor the grey can venture.

This should encourage landowners to plant more broadleaf woods and we may even see a greater number of our native red squirrel.

New Year resolutions

By the Editor

Have you made any? Here are some suggestions for your consideration:

- sign up to The Lee Forum
- send an article or letter to The Lee Newsletter
- be a responsible and respectful dog owner
- enter something into The Lee Flower Show.

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The Reflective Vegan

By Diana Taylor

“Let’s do ‘Veganuary’”,
the family emails said
“And let’s do it all together.
Then meat and fish we’ll shed.”

I looked up on the internet
To find some foods to suit
Expecting rice and spuds and veg
And nuts and even fruit.

But what I got was something strange?
‘No meat meat’ and then ‘no bacon
bacon’

There seemed a most enormous range
Of new foods to be taken.

Even ‘no chicken chicken’
And also some ‘no cheese cheese’
I looked at these in earnest
Though not one seemed to please.

What’s more the supermarkets
Seemed in need of eco-friendly trainers
As much of these ‘save the planet’ foods
Come in plasticised containers.

Contacting a stalwart vegan friend
To address my vegan needs
She recommended porridge -
With Goji berries and Chia seeds.

“But what’s for lunch?”
I heard my plaintive husband cry
So I conjured a chickpea filling
For my “no butter” pastry pie.

“NO!” he said “You should make
some pasta”
But this could not be made with egg
Plodding on, I served it with ‘Bolognese’
Made of chopped kale and other veg.

(It’s no good buying mayonnaise
To make salad seem more usual
It could contain forbidden things
And labels are so confusional.)

So ... at 4am this morning,
We had a “marital” talk
And reflected on “Veganuary”,
Its Falafel and its Quark.

Could we really, truly justify
Processing Soya things
Or should we revert to proper cheese,
Real meat and free-range chicken wings?

Should we give in to butter,
Yogurt and double cream
Should we taste animals again
And lose our vegan self-esteem?

Maybe, in Feb., we’ll try to stick it out
With the ‘no sausage sausage’ and rice
But I’d be vegan-fully grateful
For any villager’s advice.

Perhaps you could hold a seminar
For would-be vegans in The Lee
To teach how to make a vegan
sandwich,
Scone or a cake to have for tea.

I DO want to save the planet
And I don’t want to make a fuss
But I’m not excited about my dinner
Of curried cauliflower with beans
and humus!



Christmas reflections at Clump Pond

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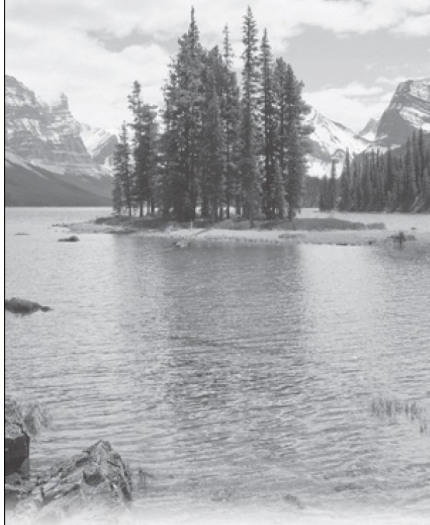
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Bridge too far?

By Judy Hart et al

Correct bidding doesn't always mean that the contract can be made. This recent hand seemed straightforward to bid.

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

Dealer: North
Vulnerability: N-S

How would you bid this hand? What contract would you end up in and does it make? See page 29.

The VFG

By Erica Cheetham

Have you got a lovely big Goggle Box (TV)?

Our 'Vintage Film Group' (VFG) invites our local older friends to spend a weekday afternoon once a month enjoying a movie together. It's a spin off from our Re-Engage group (formerly Contact the Elderly).

During the pandemic sadly we've had to postpone our regular movie screenings. As we are soon to resume them, I notice only three of our hosts have perfect ground floor rooms with

very large TVs and internet streaming, fast broadband or linked DVD players. Perhaps there are more of you!

I'm looking for a few kind people who could offer their lounge or cinema room occasionally for Vintage Film Group screenings to our incredibly appreciative guests.

Can you help? Please email or call me to chat about it. Our VFG afternoons are great fun and spread a lot of joy. Our hosts are called on just occasionally throughout the year!

Email erica@kingsvalefarm.com or telephone 01494 837188.

French Connection

By Michael Dubus

In a newsletter article (November 2018) about the effects of the 1914-1918 war on two families, I commented on how my grandmother told me about her experiences during "La Grande Guerre" (the Great War) as it will always be to me. In that article I remarked that her adventures were a tale for another time. I feel that time has now arrived.

Elisa Dubus was born in Wattrelos, France, on 7th November 1895. Her family owned land on the French / Belgian border, too small to be a farm, but, with two or three fields and a barn, it was large for a smallholding. They kept goats, a couple of cows and various other animals.

Elisa led a contented life while growing up as the oldest of five sisters and five brothers. There were trips to Roubaix, Lille, Brussels and a rare visit to Paris. Sadly, during this period her father died and she took on many responsibilities. As 1914 dawned the



Elisa Dubus

future seemed good. She had fallen in love. She then found that, although unmarried, she had fallen pregnant. This, in a small Catholic village community, was a difficult situation. Elisa was, however, a very strong and determined young woman, as she was to show during the following years. She decided she would not rush into anything but wait until she was sure she wanted to marry the baby's father.

At this time the political situation in Europe was simmering and finally exploded after the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand in Sarajevo in late June. War quickly followed in early August. The nations mobilised and Elisa's young man went off to war and was killed.

By early October the Germans had occupied land as far west as Lille and my grandmother and family were now French civilians behind German lines.

It was from this point onwards that the events occurred that many years later she narrated to me.

In late September she was walking along the edge of a field, her ankle length dress brushing against the unharvested crops, when she heard a horse neigh. Looking up she saw an Uhlan (cavalry troops armed with lances). In terror, she threw herself full length into the crops. The German soldier sat on his horse laughing heartily, before riding off with some of his comrades.

As winter approached, life became very difficult. The French found their produce being taken by the German forces. These conditions forced the various local villages into clandestine smuggling of goods. Elisa, because of her pregnancy, was thought to be a safe carrier of such goods. In November this led to a near disaster.



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She was intercepted by a German soldier and was pursued when she tried to escape. He pushed her into a river. Fortunately, she was pulled out by some villagers, but the after effects of the shock of the freezing cold water and the fear she felt turned her hair white and her unborn baby, my father, suffered from a facial tick for the whole of his life. About one month after this event my father was born.

Resourceful temerity

For much of 1915 she cared for her newborn son and life was generally quiet. There was one incident when her eldest brother, who was then 15 and physically mature for his age, was taken by the Germans along with others to dig trenches, latrines and similar. Elisa dressed herself in some of her brother's clothes and went to search the camp where she believed her brother had been taken. On finding that he was there, she had the temerity to approach the German officer in charge. She was lucky that he was a kind, considerate man, who listened to her story about a widowed mother's grief, that her first born son had been taken from her. He ordered her brother to be returned into Elisa's care and they went back to their joyful mother.

As the war dragged on there were various other incidents. By this time food was very scarce and the French civilians were near starvation point.

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They would eat anything they could snare, such as rabbits, birds, and even rats. During this period some good neighbours invited some of the Dubus family to lunch. At the end of the lunch Elisa remarked she had not seen their dog. The host said, "we have just had meat".

There was a second incident when she was again smuggling goods. I know that one of the items she was carrying wrapped around her waist, under her smock, was a roll of material. She was apprehended and taken to German headquarters. Whilst waiting to be summoned to appear before an officer, a young German guard asked her why she was there. She explained to him the situation and he asked what she had been carrying. When she told him that she had material secreted about her, he quickly told her to remove it and give it to him, because this was a product that could lead to her being shot. It is possible that his goodness saved her life.

Reflecting on life

She died when she was 90 years old. I was fortunate to have had many long conversations about so many things with her – politics, art, religion and every other subject under the sun. She had the greatest influence on me of any person in my life. On one occasion, this was after I was married when I stayed with her in London, she mentioned one of her in-laws had recently lent her a book called *The Spanish Farm* by R.H. Mottram. She said that, when she read it, many of the events described seemed as if the author was portraying her life in those four years in France.

After her death in December 1985, I decided to try to trace a second-hand copy of *The Spanish Farm*. Having tracked one down, when I read the book, it was true – so much of it seemed like her story.



Oxford Street



Newsletter review 2021

By the Editorial Team

Every few years, the Newsletter Editorial Team gets together for a general review of where we are, how we got here and where we want to go next. At the end of 2021 we held our latest meeting, welcomed our new team member Hannah Lane, who is taking over the advertising role from Paul Apicella, and said goodbye and thanks to Zoe Berkeley.

Whilst the review concluded that there was no call for any radical change to the style or content of the Newsletter, we did identify a number of directions in which we would like to take the Newsletter in 2022. These included:

- Encourage more debate in the newsletter on important local issues, linking where appropriate to ‘hot topics’ discussed on The Lee Forum.
- Contact a wider range of local groups and societies to encourage articles on what they are doing.
- Try to source a regular, or occasional, local farming input.
- Start thinking about the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.
- Review the presentation of the online version of the Newsletter.
- Revisit and possibly rationalise some of the distributors’ lists.
- Move the Newsletter Annual Dinner to early June.

If you have any thoughts on these issues or anything else you would like to contribute, please contact the Editor at theleenewsletter@gmail.com

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Discovery

By Revd Chris Haywood

We're now well into 2022 but let me take this



opportunity to formally wish you all a Happy New Year and express my wish that as we look forward to the year ahead it is full of hope and expectation.

I also trust that Christmas was as joyous a season as it was possible to be this year, and wasn't too impacted by Omicron anxieties and accommodations. Taking my lead from Bishop Stephen, the Bishop of Oxford, who exhorted the church to 'go for it', I advocated very much to go ahead with as full a church service programme as we could, with appropriate and proportionate measures in place. It was my view that we should give opportunity to attend a range of Christmas Church Services and allow

people to assess the risk themselves regarding attendance at them. Certainly some were cautious (with good cause) whilst others were keen to attend and worship. There were mixed views but I felt that given the choice between being dammed if we do and dammed if we don't, I rather be dammed if we do, so to speak! We were pleased so many joined us to worship and engaged in the services, helping make Christmas a special time of hope and wonder. The theme was 'come and investigate', as the Shepherds and Wise Men did, and we were encouraged that many did just that. I believe the Christmas story is a message of hope that merits such enquiry.

Looking ahead

Our thoughts are now quickly turning to Easter and preparing ourselves to celebrate this festival through Lent. With this in mind, we're looking to join in the Oxford Diocese, 'Come and See' agenda for Lent – continuing our enquiry theme. If you'd like to join in and receive the resources to support you on your journey through Lent towards Easter exploring what the Christian faith is all about and the significance of Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection for your own life, do let me know and I'll ensure you receive the materials to support your journey of discovery.

We're also planning on running a weekly Lent course, where we will gather in people's homes to explore together the Christian faith and how we live it out, encouraging each other in our enquiry, learning and its application. Groups will be weekly through Lent, starting the week beginning 13th February, and can be arranged to fit your circumstances. The initial group will be a chance to get to know each other. We will

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incorporate Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday (a service of reflection on things we regret) into the schedule. If you'd like to join a group do let me know rev.chrishaywood@btinternet.com or 01494 837566.

Finally, I was really encouraged by the engagement at the meeting recently exploring the pattern of services at The Lee. I've been aware for a while that we haven't been providing enough opportunities to worship at The Lee or a range of service types to accommodate different preferences. I was grateful for the feedback and will now look to schedule more services to give opportunity to engage and worship at The Lee, establishing a regular pattern going forward. Watch this space for the new service schedule.

With best wishes from Georgie and me for 2022, hoping very much it's a year of new beginnings and discovery.

February Services

St John the Baptist, The Lee
20th 11:00_{am} PC Common Worship

The Lee Old Church
6th 8:00_{am} HC Book of Common Prayer

Full information relating to all our services will be published on The Lee Forum.

Contacts: *Vicar:* Revd Chris Haywood (01494 837566)
Churchwarden: Trevor Pearce (01494 837601). *Treasurer:* David Stephenson (01494 867617). *Old Church Secretary:* Pam Garner (01494 837501).

St Marys Church, Ballinger

6th 9:30_{am} HC

This service will be a special communion to mark the 70th anniversary of the accession of HM The Queen to the throne.

Our services are on the first Sunday of every month at 9:30 am. You are very welcome to join us.

Contacts: *Associate Church Wardens:* Maggi Cameron 01494 864790 and Anne Ellis 01494 837247.



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Christmas notes

By Bernice Fuggle, St Mary's, Ballinger
Christmas Tree Festival

The St Mary's 'Bits and Bobs Tree' joined the array of trees at St Peter and St Paul, all of which were beautifully decorated by various community groups around Great Missenden. The decorations for the tree were made entirely from reused and recycled materials by Bernice Fuggle using cardboard packaging, magazines, milk bottle tops, buttons, etc. It was decorated in situ by Bernice, Maggi Cameron and Mary Gould.



Maggi Cameron and Bernice Fuggle at the 'bits and bobs' tree

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Advent Carol Service

This service was led by Roger and Bernice Fuggle and we sang the traditional advent hymns, reflecting on the prophecies of old, as well as looking forward to the future with hope. The message was a simple one – how great it would be to turn away from the hustle and bustle of Christmas, to still our hearts and contemplate God's love for the world in sending his son to be among us.

Christmas Eve Carols in the garden

With the exponential rise in Covid cases we decided to cancel the Christingle service, as in the past we have had as many as 70+ people squeezed into our little church. Instead, and for the second year running, we held a carol service in the garden which is proving very popular. Once again, the weather was inclement, but despite the heavy rain over 30 people turned up to heartily sing their favourite carols, accompanied by Gerard and Pauline Hallows.

Christmas Eve Mass

This service was taken by Tricia Neale, our Licensed Lay Reader. Although, we were smaller in number due to Covid, the singing was joyous and celebratory with some strong voices amongst the congregation and this despite everyone wearing masks. The church looked very welcoming, decorated with holly and ivy and illuminated by the soft glow of candlelight

Epiphany Morning Prayer

Our first service of the New Year was led by Sally Clark and Roger Fuggle from the Worship Team and was on the theme of the Epiphany.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

By the Editor

The Jubilee Bank Holiday is on Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. How would you like to celebrate it? A national Big Jubilee Lunch is proposed for Sunday 5th June as detailed in the Parish Council update (page 22).

If you have any memories of any contacts with HM The Queen or royal stories that resonate locally, please let us know. Maybe memories of the Silver Jubilee and how that was celebrated?

Let us have any ideas, suggestions or even plans already underway. Ideas put forward so far include:

- a tree by the play area on the allotments with a suitable plaque
- a village picnic in that area to include a tug of war and 5-a-side footie competition
- street parties in closed lanes such as Princes Lane, Crocketts Lane, The Lee green, Cherry Tree Lane, Sly Corner, St Marys Close, Field End Lane
- a children's party on the Sunday after the Flower Show.

Busy Kids

By Emma Mellor

Fancy trying something new and a little different with your little ones in 2022? Busy Kids in Bucks launched a weekly Under-5s activity group at The Lee Parish Hall on Wednesday 5th January.

We are a local business run by two mums with over 20 years of teaching experience and children are at the heart of everything we do. Our carefully planned activities ensure all

the little ones who come to our sessions can explore, imagine and create. Free flow activities both inside and outside, games, singing, parachute play and so much more!

Mums, dads, grandparents, childminders or nannies, a warm welcome and a free hot drink awaits you!

- No block booking, drop-in weekly sessions when the date suits.
- Sessions will run every Wednesday 9:45 am to 11:15 am.
- Babies six months and under are FREE. Over six months £8 per child, sibling discounts available.

Due to covid safety we are limiting our numbers. Pre-booking is advisable but dropping in on the day is also most welcome.

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Farewell to the Milky Way?

HS2 and night blight

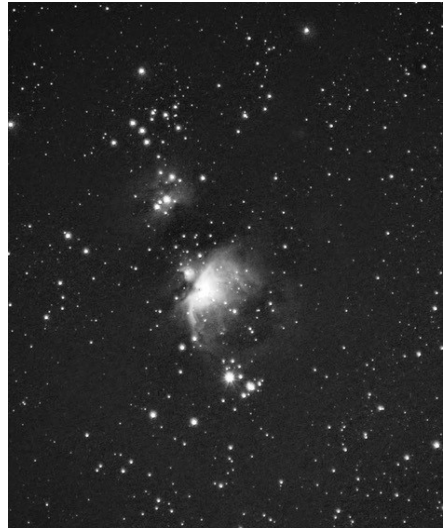
By Philip Worman

The night sky above our heads is one of the last remaining wildernesses, one that we often take for granted. We are lucky enough to live in a relatively darkish pocket of countryside nestled between the skyglow of High Wycombe, Aylesbury and Amersham.

You may have stumbled back from the Swan or the Cock and Rabbit and looked up on a clear night to see a surprising number of stars, and often the ghostly band of the Milky Way. It's one of the closest spots to London where you can still see the arms of our own galaxy. In winter it arches across v-shaped Taurus, the twin stars of Gemini and magnificent Orion. Look south-south west in the early evening this month and you'll see Jupiter, the brightest 'star' in the sky. A pair of binoculars will show its four moons; train them on the 'sword handle' below Orion's belt and you can see a glowing nebula and new-born stars over 1,300 light years away. This picture of the Orion Nebula was taken from Swan Bottom with a standard telephoto lens, clearly showing the blazing star Sirius.

Night blight

This amazing natural environment is under threat on three fronts and once it's gone, it's hard to recover it. Night blight – or light where it isn't needed – not only wipes out the night sky, but it affects our sleep patterns, disrupts wildlife and it doesn't really achieve what it intends to (i.e. keep us safe).



Orion

More people are using high intensity LED lights to flood their gardens and homes – these are bright, often left on all night, and cast a wide beam of blue light (similar to daylight, which can contribute to insomnia) into the sky, lighting up dust and moisture and causing 'skyglow'. A heartfelt plea – angle all your lights down and please put them on a timer or motion activated. Christmas fairy lights are absolutely no problem at all.

HS2's contribution

If you've driven past the HS2 sites at South Heath, Leather Lane or Rocky Lane, you will see that the industrial lighting is now completely out of control. I have written to the HS2 stewards and they in turn put me in touch with Caroline Brennan at EKFB communications – she told me that "*We have recently carried out a review as well as a series of briefings with site operatives, and we have requested that tower lights are lowered and redirected away from*

residential properties (in line with our Code of Construction Practice requirements). At the Durham Farm site close to The Lee, we are only using three tower lights at night to secure the site and these are pointed away from local villages”.

There is also some mention of timers and a ‘dark sky policy’. That said, I haven’t noticed any difference at all so I will continue to write and I would urge others to as well; email (Engagement@ekfb.com).

The future’s bright...

Elon Musk is intent on flooding space with satellites – his Starlink satellites go past 20 at a time as seen through binoculars. If you look up at night, you’ll see a satellite every few minutes. But this is more of a problem for orbiting astronauts, so we’ll leave that one for now. Just please no adverts in space.

If I could leave you three recommendations:

- get a pair of binoculars and look at the Orion nebula this winter
- check any floodlights you have and ask yourself if you really need them
- write to HS2 and complain about specific lights.

I’ll leave the last words to Sara Teasdale who, in 1920, wrote a poem called *Winter Stars*:

*I went out at night alone;
The young blood flowing beyond
the sea
Seemed to have drenched my
spirit’s wings
I bore my sorrow heavily.*

*But when I lifted up my head
From shadows shaken on the snow,
I saw Orion in the east
Burn steadily as long ago.*

The Lee Parish Council update

By Hayley Farrelly, Clerk

Memorial to Barnaby Usborne

I have mentioned previously The Lee Parish Council’s proposal to plant an oak tree in the plantation area opposite the football pitch in memory of Barnaby Usborne. To make it easier for Barnaby’s friends and neighbours to contribute, a collection tin will be placed in the shop throughout February, along with details of how to make online payments.

Budgets and precepts

It’s that time of year when, in common with other councils, TLPC is finalising its budgets for 2022/23 and

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determining the level of our precept to be collected via Council Tax. Whilst some expenditure in 2021/22 was met from reserves, and the same is likely to be the case in 2022/23, reluctantly the decision has been taken to increase the precept to £19,000, which very roughly equates to a total precept of a little over £1/week for each household.

So, what does all the money get spent on, I hear you ask?

The largest item of expenditure is the Clerk's salary (*TLPC Chair's note: a significant part of the increase stems from an increase in the hours paid to the Clerk, to reflect the increased workload now expected of her*).

Additionally, the Parish Council is responsible for maintaining the gates and fences in the playground/allotment area as well as cutting the grass and hedges. They also maintain the playground equipment, War Memorial, Jubilee Well and roadside benches, host the village website and forum, make a small contribution to the costs of this newsletter – and of course there are general overheads such as insurance and audit fees.

To supplement the precept, the Council is also looking for funding for various specific improvements from external sources to try and minimise costs for residents – more news on this in future newsletters.

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TLPC has a small number of available allotment plots so, if you have always wondered about becoming an allotment holder, please contact me at clerk@thelee.org.uk or 07704 909324 for further details.

Big Jubilee Lunch

The government is encouraging everyone to come together with local events to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth on the afternoon of Sunday 5th June. Is there a person, or a group of people, out there who would like to organise an event for the whole village?

Potholes etc.

The Parish Council always encourages residents to report problems using FixMyStreet, but there have been occasions in the past where a report has been closed without being fixed, thus prompting creation of another report. We have been advised that sometimes issues are closed on FixMyStreet when they are accepted and scheduled to be fixed, as they are then managed in a different system to which residents do not have access. We have asked that this is made clear to everyone reporting issues and defects, to reassure everyone that their problems are not being closed incorrectly without any action. The reporting process does seem to have improved in recent weeks – long may it last.

Planning applications

Finally, a reminder that the Parish Council continues to post notices to The Lee Forum, as we receive them, of all planning applications within the parish, with a reminder to residents that if they have specific comments to make, they should respond directly to the planning authority. If a resident wishes to make planning-related comments to the Parish Council, they should contact me at 07704 909324 or clerk@thelee.org.uk. Such comments will be taken into account by the Parish Council when forming its own view and will be unattributed.



Crocketts Lane

The Lee Flower Show 2022

By Marilyn Burrows

Have you really missed The Lee Flower Show during the Covid crisis? If we're over the worst, I'm sure we'll be anxious to celebrate this important event in our village year, focussed on 16th July!

The show committee has for a few years been 'teetering on the brink', coordinating the many aspects of the show, from January to July, with

limited help and resources in the early stages of planning.

We aspire to be creative and resourceful, whilst respecting its valuable heritage and important horticultural traditions. It is, after all, a cracking afternoon of family fun, which brings us all together, rain or shine.

Please consider how you can assist us in producing this year's show, so that it rises 'like a phoenix from the ashes'. We need support for four teams: the amazing tea tent; the evening's celebratory dance; the sideshows and showground organisation, and the marquee exhibits and set up.

For the long-term success of this iconic show, we must have more community involvement from start to finish. Do call me (secretary to the committee) on 837434 for an informal chat about how you and your family can make a much appreciated contribution to our plans in the months ahead.



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Forum Fred



Two years on...

The new online forum for The Lee, Forum 2020, was launched exactly two years ago. It now has over 700 registered users; with half living in The Lee parish (most of the rest live in Potter Row, Ballinger and South Heath – all parts of Great Missenden parish). If you haven't registered yet, just visit <https://www.thelee.org.uk/new-user> and follow the 'New User' instructions.

With so many subscribers to the Forum, it can at times be busy with postings, not all of which will perhaps be of interest to everyone... at other times the Forum is very quiet. We hope that, by constraining the forum to The Lee residents and those in directly connected communities, we are getting it about right.

Subscription levels

When you join, by default, you don't receive email notifications for any new posts. Instead, you have to set subscriptions to indicate exactly when you would like to receive notifications:

- for all new topics
- new topics only in certain forums
- all new topics and all replies
- replies to specified topics.

These options are discussed at: www.thelee.org.uk/subscriptions

All notification messages to which you subscribe are sent by <forum2020@thelee.org.uk>. If you are not receiving them (and believe you have set a subscription level), please make sure that your junk mail settings allow these messages and they aren't wrongly identified as spam. The simplest way to ensure this is to add <forum2020@thelee.org.uk>

to your email contacts or whitelist the forum's email address.

Searching past postings

As well as posting new messages, the forum also allows you to search through previous postings. This can be particularly useful if you are looking for a recommendation, for example, for a plumber or a seamstress; simply type 'plumber' or 'alterations' or something similar into the Search bar. You may be pleasantly surprised.

If you need some specific advice, please email giving details of the problem. Don't forget that answers to various questions can be found on the Common Problems page of the website at <https://www.thelee.org.uk/common-problems/>. Not yet a member of the forum? Complete the application form at <https://www.thelee.org.uk/new-user>

HS2 update: early 2022

By Cllr Colin Sully

There can be no doubt that 2022 will see significantly more HS2 construction activity in our local area than we saw in 2021. Not so much tree felling, but a great deal more engineering works, including ground excavation, embankments, bridge building and concrete laying – with all the associated lorry movements. In 2022, local to The Lee, we will see:

- extensions to the internal access roads from South Heath through to Rocky Lane, together with the crossings at Leather Lane and Rocky Lane
- excavation work at the North Portal of the Chiltern tunnel at South Heath and in the cuttings near South Heath, Potter Row and Hunts Green



The North Portal construction site

- construction of ‘barrettes’ (deep concrete piles) at South Heath near the former Weights and Measures building, to support the Chiltern tunnel portal.
- preparation works for the Small Dean viaduct, on the A413 near Rocky Lane.
- preparatory works for the Wendover Dean viaduct near Jones Hill Wood / Durham Farm.

Local issues of concern

Traffic on the main construction route: A413/A355

We await the outcome of Bucks Council’s appeals over the Planning Inspector’s decisions with respect to six local traffic applications. Meanwhile HS2 traffic on this construction route will now significantly increase to/from all the local sites. Just before Christmas, the two main works contractors locally (Align and EKFB) produced a local Traffic Information Guide covering the first quarter of 2022. We are distributing a copy of this guide with this newsletter. The latest estimates of traffic suggest it will probably peak this year.

Leather Lane tree felling and overbridge design

The local campaign group are continuing in discussions with EKFB on the alignment of this lane: we await a final decision. Meanwhile, the actions of this group have already resulted in some rethinking of the

design and a significant number of trees will be saved.

Rocky Lane

With increased traffic at the junction of Rocky Lane and the A413, we have again raised the issue of mitigation at this sensitive junction – so far to no real effect!

Hill-top traffic monitoring

Partial and inconclusive information on traffic monitoring was provided at a November meeting with HS2. TLPC has asked for further and more regular updates. We have also requested ‘**No HS2 traffic**’ signs at four key locations on roads off the A413 and B485. Again, we await a response.

Road closures

In the second half of January, residents will have seen further lane restrictions and weekend, night-time, closures of the A413 near Rocky Lane. These are expected to continue into the

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first few weekends of February – look out locally for signs. Bowood Lane is scheduled for a long-term closure (18 months) from March 2022 and there are also likely to be shorter closures of Leather Lane and Rocky Lane in 2022, as the work there progresses.

Archaeology

The digs at Grims Ditch, accessed via Kings Lane, have come to an end.

Jones Hill Wood

Further winter tree-planting is currently taking place in this area.

Community Engagement

TLPC Cllrs continue to meet the HS2 Community Engagement Managers on a fortnightly basis. However, Covid continues to delay the resumption of general face-to-face meetings between the project team and local communities. It is hoped that such opportunities might resume by the early spring.

Bright-eyed

By Symeon Economou

Well, the Shop survived another Christmas Eve. We supplied 60 orders, including vanloads of turkeys and meat from Kings, bread from Darvells and fruit and veg from Bob the Veg, as well as carloads of other goodies. For the second year in succession Covid dampened the atmosphere but there was still plenty of festive spirit to carry us through. I'm certain the amazing team that made this happen were exhausted but exhilarated on Christmas Day.

One very heart-warming aspect of these times has been the impact that the Chesham Food Bank box has had in the shop. Especially in the run up to Christmas it filled every few days, thanks to the generosity of our



customers and, indeed, the children of Lee Common School who filled up two boxes whilst singing carols around the tree.

Our complement of volunteers continues to thrive and, no offence to us oldies, but I am pleased that we seem to be attracting some young blood as well. The number who do so much behind the scenes is also increasing so, although you might not see them in the shop their work is an invaluable contribution to keeping us going.

Speaking of volunteers, if there are one or two early risers out there, I would love to hear from you. A role awaits to turn up at the shop at crack of dawn and get it ready for the day (milk, newspapers, bread, cash), all done with a spring in the step and a smile.

Bucks Council



By Cllr Tricia Birchley

The New Year is a good time to look forward, and whilst we face uncertainty over Covid, we must plan for the future and make the most of the year ahead.

Like many others, my family is waiting for exam results and preparing for A levels next summer. This is a particular ordeal in 2022 because our students haven't sat exams for a good while. Nonetheless, the Buckinghamshire

results last year enabled many young people to achieve the university or job of their choice. Furthermore, we are working hard to ensure all children with special educational needs achieve their full potential.

The Council Cabinet has approved the budget and spending plans for 2022/23 and it goes without saying that Covid has created extra demand on our services at a time when councils are already experiencing major financial pressures. Bucks has a strong reputation as a financially prudent council and we are much better placed than many other local authorities. Taking into account feedback from our budget consultation we will invest more than £100 million in our roads and pavement programme; over the next four years: nearly £120 million will be spent on strategic highway improvements, including flood prevention. In 2022/23 we will clean out 85,000 gullies to prevent flooding and improve the environment.

We have a budget that proposes spending money on what matters most to our residents and are conscious that we are spending your money – on your behalf. This makes decisions difficult sometimes, and we have decided to dip into our General Fund Reserves to use £1.36 million on a one-off basis rather than cut our services. The Council is proposing a general increase in Council Tax of 1.99% to cover inflation (currently 5%), plus an increase of 2% solely to cover the large increase in social care costs. Social care alone is predicted to cost the council £300 million in 2022/23 even though 65% of our adults fund their own care. The budget will next go to public scrutiny and then to council for approval on 23rd February.

In January, Covid rates in Bucks were the highest they've been although generally lower than the rest

of the county in Chiltern. The rise in cases amongst older people has been a concern, as have pressures on our local hospitals. To date they have not been overwhelmed to the same degree as elsewhere, but our social care officers support their discharge staff to prevent unnecessary bed-blocking.

Last, but by no means least, the Bucks Employment Fair will be held on 5th March at the Elgiva Theatre in Chesham. Many large companies have signed up and it is part of a strategy of creating new jobs locally. It will be an excellent opportunity for job seekers to come along and meet prospective employers from Bucks and the surrounding counties.

Pinewood Studios, Silverstone Technology Park, Waitrose and Asda are among a large number of potential employers attending. I hope to publish more information next month, but it will be widely advertised.

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What is village life?

By Tom Brockett

On a wet and mild afternoon, I was chatting to a friend in the community about what our community has to offer.

“What exactly is village life? What exactly does it mean to be part of our villages?” we asked ourselves. Obvious and simple questions, which we probably fail to ask as often as we should due to our busy 21st century living.

As I had recently joined The Lee Flower Show committee, we discussed the flower show committee, The Lee Church fete, our local Scout group, etc. How the same people keep popping up on every committee; the need for new and fresh vibrant ideas, new people to take these events on.

It is a fact of life that we cannot wait until our stalwarts with decades in the community fall off their perch to replace them, as it will be too late and traditions, memories and the spirit within the community will be lost. We need the next generation of villagers as well as new villagers to learn about the community, its traditions and events with a view to taking on the mantle for the next generation.

A conversation that would be familiar to previous generations.

This is not a moan, rather something to stimulate thought and hopefully action.

Looking back... and forward

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is to slow down the high pace of life and look closer at our surroundings and not miss out on small pleasures of life. Village life, community life, neighbourhood life has a different meaning to each of us.

Not so long ago, you'd be able to walk through the community and know exactly who lived where. Backdoors were left open; you could pop in anytime for a cup of tea with Mrs Bloggs and catch up or pass on the latest village gossip. Old stories and traditions were passed down through the ages. Everyone worked within the village or in the locality of the village. People married within the community and celebrated births or mourned the passing of the elders together.

As time has gone on and new technologies have come about, that big world out there has got smaller and closer. New jobs mean families might be in an area for a limited amount of time and then move to a new community.

Somehow our little ecosystem up here, around The Lee, has stood the test of time.

Village bonds

When I was a child I could play with my mates in Chiltern Road, Ballinger with no fear of traffic; we would roam the woods, make up all sorts of adventures, build shelters or sledge down the many hills in the snow. We knew when to be back home for meals, neighbours knew who we were, so no excuse to misbehave.

I was very lucky to have been at a good primary school in Lee Common. The teachers gave me a great foundation of learning and memories that I took into later life. I remember Miss Coldham writing us letters from the Borrowers that lived under the hall floorboards. I remember my dad helping at lunch times, with craft or sport classes. There was no red tape, any help was appreciated. Mums shared car lifts to school. Getting covered in paint in Mrs Ash's art classes. Being part of sports day at The Lee Cricket club grounds. For me,

as I became an adult, the links remained. They were more than just a teacher; they were in the village and were family friends as well. That bond of a community was established over many years and life stages.



Miss Coldham and kids

When I became a Scout leader at Lee Common, I got to know the young people as they progressed through the group, being taught the skills for life. I would see them around the villages outside Scout hours and they would give me a wave, with a smile that said “oh look it’s my Scout leader” as they waved frantically. That to me is a symbol of village life.

No doubt many villages around the country have their unique ways and events. They have their bonds with the past and pass these through the generations.

Modern day 21st century means that our village is constantly being refreshed with new neighbours due to our proximity to London. Rural life and city working are an intoxicating combination.

As I said at the beginning of this article, it has struck me how much of the fabric of the village is maintained

by the same group of stalwarts. We need to be addressing this by bringing new people with fresh ideas and energy into these groups to positively adapt our community traditions that are best fitting for the times, at the same time not forgetting where we came from rather than just where we are going.

Bridge too far?

At our table, we bid as follows:

W	N	E	S
	pass	1♠	pass
1NT	pass	2♥	pass
2♠	pass		

In practice neither 2♠ nor 2♥ can make, given the number of spades held by South and the inability of East to get to West’s clubs.



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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).

February

Tuesday 1st. Ballinger BATS meets in Ballinger War Memorial Hall every Tuesday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

Thursday 3rd. Village walk. Meet on The Lee green at 9:30 am.

Saturday 5th. LCSA Quiz Night. 8:00 pm at the Parish Hall. More details from LCSA-leecommon.school@outlook.com

Tuesday 8th. Ballinger Evening WI. Mike Payne talking about 'Locations of Downton Abbey'. 8:00 pm.



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Santa visits BATS

Coming soon

Thursday 3rd March. Village walk. Meet on The Lee green at 9:30 am.

Thursday 3rd March. Ballinger Horticultural Society. Meeting tbc.

Saturday 5th March. Bucks Employment Fair all day. Elgiva Theatre, Chesham.

Tuesday 15th March. The Lee Parish Council Meeting. 7:30 pm at the Parish Hall or online (tbc).

Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. Jubilee Bank Holiday. See page 19.

Saturday 16th July. The Lee Flower Show. See page 23.

Directory of local contacts

Ballinger Babies and Toddlers Group

Sophie Underwood, 07970 022190

Ballinger Horticultural Society

Chairperson: Katherine Hersee

07801 948650, kjhersee@gmail.com

Membership Secretary:

jennywooding@btconnect.com

Ballinger War Memorial Hall

Bookings: Jane Ogden, 837379

Ballinger Evening WI

Contact: Jo Laurie, 863492

watercolours@kitty4.co.uk

Lee Common C of E School

School office, 837267
office@leecommon.bucks.sch.uk

Lee Common Methodist Church

Graham and Susan Evans, 580016

Lee Common Scouts

Group Scout Leader, Chris Nevill;
864881, gsl@1stleecommon.co.uk

Scouts, Enzo D'Alessandro;
scouts@1stleecommon.co.uk

Beavers, Karen Bruton;

beavers@1stleecommon.co.uk

Cubs, James Bruton;

cubs@1stleecommon.co.uk

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: Pippa Hart 07785 323232
(ideally WhatsApp)

The Arts Society Ballinger

Contact: Suzanne Baker, 864893
ballinger@theartsociety.org

The Lee Cricket Club

www.theleecc.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, 07704 909324
clerk@thelee.org.uk
www.thelee.org.uk/pc
Allotments: Alison Weir, 837529

The Lee Parish Hall Committee

Bookings: Pippa Hart, 837340
Chairman: Tony Lea, 837237

The LeeWay

Contact: 07845 029500

The Newsletter

The Lee Newsletter is published 10 times a year and distributed free to all households in the parish... and a little beyond. The views expressed in it are not necessarily those of the Editor.

We welcome letters and articles of interest and relevance to The Lee. Copy should be sent to the Editor of the month (see page 1) by the 12th of the month before publication.

Letters should ideally run to no more than 200 words and articles to no more than 700 words; material may be edited and may appear on the village website www.thelee.org.uk unless consent is specifically withheld. Anonymous contributions are not accepted.

To advertise in the newsletter or place an insert, please contact Hannah Lane at hannahcmlane@gmail.com or on 07747 114640, by the 12th of the previous month.

If you have photographs for publication please contact Jonathan Batten on 837450 or email battenjonathan@hotmail.com

For queries regarding distribution contact Phil Harrison on 837469.

Other members of the Editorial team: Paul Apicella, Ruth Fowler, Mary Godfrey, Liz Macann, Jen Ogley, Adam Speller and Colin Sully.

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01494 778053.

To book the Parish Hall or Scout Hut

'phone Anne Barnett on 837796

Rates	9 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 6 pm	6 pm - midnight
Mon - Fri	£30 or £10/hr	£45 or £10/hr
Sat/Sun	£12/hr	£70
Bank Holiday	£12/hr	£70
Car park only	£10	
Crockery/cutlery	£15 (hire outside the hall)	

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If you are looking to buy, sell or let in High Wycombe or the surrounding Chiltern villages then contact an estate agency that is motivated by your success and talk to The Wye Partnership.

wyeres.co.uk

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01494 711 284
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From Town to Country