



NEWSLETTER

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

From the Editor

By Jonathan Batten

Winds in March tend to be stronger than other months and the newsletter is running with this theme to blow away the winter blues.

There is scientific evidence to support this as in March there is increased atmospheric instability, usually caused by the increase in stronger sunshine heating the earth's surface, which in turn causes warm air to rise through the heavier cold air giving us strong, gusty winds.

March is the first month of the earliest Roman calendar; it was named after Mars, the Roman god of war. His month, Martius, was the beginning of the season for warfare, and the festivals held in his honour during the month were mirrored by others in October, when the season for war came to a close.

Until the end of the 15th century, 1st March began the numbered year in Russia whilst Great Britain and its colonies continued to use 25th March until 1752, when they finally adopted the Gregorian calendar. Many other cultures and religions still celebrate the beginning of the new year in March.

March is considered to be the first month of spring in the northern hemisphere, so here we are with the windy, spring edition of the newsletter.

Perhaps this will also be the first month of this year when Covid restrictions are removed and the responsibility for our own health and that of our fellow man is passed back to us.

Now you might think that it would be difficult to combine the themes of wind and freedom but with thanks and apologies to the late, great J J Cale here's a song with a loose connection:

*They call me the breeze
I keep blowing down the road
Well now they call me the breeze
I keep blowing down the road
I ain't got me nobody
I don't carry me no load*

*Ain't no change in the weather
Ain't no changes in me
Well there ain't no change in the weather
Ain't no changes in me
And I ain't hiding from nobody
Nobody's hiding from me
Oh, that's the way it's supposed to be*

*Well, I got that green light baby
I got to keep moving on
Well, I got that green light baby
I got to keep moving on
Well, I might go out to Chesham
Might go down to Great Missenden I
don't know*

Please send your contributions for the April edition to the editor, Mary Godfrey, at theleeneewsletter@gmail.com by 12th March.

Your letters

Lost Property

To the Editor

Have you lost something recently? Perhaps a bra? A Costa coffee cup? Your McDonald's wrapper? A windscreen wiper? You'd be surprised the amount of 'lost' property we've found on our beautiful walks around our local area!

As with many people during lockdown we explored our local countryside, by adding in daily walks from our doorstep. The children love nature and the environment, taking pictures, noticing the changing seasons, spotting signs of animals. But, to my dismay, we also spotted a huge volume of human signs – litter.



Having invested in a couple of litter pickers, we began picking up as we walked. Although it's sad that there is a need to litter pick in the first place, I used it as a learning opportunity, to demonstrate first-hand the impact the action of dropping litter has. This swiftly turned into making up stories about the items we discovered.

How do you explain to 10 and 11 year olds, why someone would have thrown their bra and pants along the road? You'll be pleased to know we decided it's because they didn't have time to take it to the charity shop...

If you see us out and about with our litter pickers, mainly walking in the areas of Lee Gate and Swan Bottom, give us a wave or honk – it brightens up our day and, if you have the time, help us find that 'lost' property in our local area.

Belinda Wickenden
Lee Gate

Bird song

To the Editor

On Friday 28th January I settled down to take part in the RSPB's Great Garden Bird Watch, something I have done for several years.

The feeders were refilled and everything was ready but no birds for the first 20 minutes, not one. Eventually a gang of 10 goldfinches, three chaffinches, three blue tits and a great tit arrived. Soon followed by two wood pigeons, a robin, a stock dove and two crows and that was it.

Not a bad number but not like last year. The tally was: 30 goldfinches, 10 long tailed tits along with the blue and great tits, starlings, even a woodpecker and hedge sparrow, two robins, wood pigeons, crows and a pair of stock doves.

What can be the cause? Is it disease or loss of habitat? I don't know.

One only has to look at the bottom of Rocky Lane at the HS2 works with the felled trees and hedgerows, earthworks and heavy machinery and wonder, "Is this the cause?"

We live in a beautiful part of the country, the Chiltern Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, but as one HS2 worker in the orange Land Rover that patrols the area put it, "This is progress".

I don't know. One thing is certain: there aren't so many birds this year.

Johanna Free
Kings Ash

Bridge of spades?

By Liz Ford et al

Bidding, especially when both sides are non-vulnerable, can often become competitive, as happened recently in this hand.

♠ 9

♥ J 6

♦ Q 10 9 4 3

♣ A Q 7 5 2

♠ 2

♥ A Q 9 8 2

♦ K 6

♣ K J 10 8 6

♠ A Q 4 3

♥ 10 4 3

♦ A J 8 7

♣ 9 3

♠ K J 10 8 7 6 5

♥ K 7 5

♦ 5 2

♣ 4

Dealer: North

Vulnerability: None

After North and East passed, South opened the bidding with 3♠. What contract would you end up in and how does it play? See page 21.

Jubi-Lee

Berg

By Phil Harrison

Those of you who subscribe to the forum* will have had the opportunity to participate in a survey about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and a possible community celebration. Over 50 households joined in.

There are several conversations happening about holding celebrations over the Jubilee Bank Holiday (2nd-5th June) with a particular emphasis on



specific street events. There wasn't any collective community event being discussed.

Having lived in the village for 40 years, including running The Flower Show for 15 years and with connections here for much longer, I felt that somebody had to step up and see if there was a desire to have a wider community event, so I put out a survey to test the water.

This is what I learned:

- 100% of responders want a community event.
- A number of (in my terms) new residents volunteered to help (thank you).
- Whilst the Saturday was a marginally more preferred day for the event it unfortunately clashes with a 60th birthday party on the green with up to 90 people, many of whom are local, which would diminish participation in the

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community celebration. The next preferred day was Friday 3rd. Put it in your diary now!

- The ideal time of day for families to get together is between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm which is great as it means that those who want a street party could have one in that early evening or on another day that weekend.

The organising group (I will be in touch to involve you) have a number of super ideas suggested by the respondents to the survey to incorporate into making this a celebration that the children in the village can tell their grandchildren about.

More information will be on the forum and in next month's newsletter.

* If you haven't signed up to the forum you are missing out on information, news and all sorts of opportunities. See Forum Fred on page 21 for the link to the forum if you want to register.

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Creative-Lee

Bora

By Claudia Phipps

Hello, we are Claudia and Mary. We have taken on organising the Creative-Lee (formerly Art4Lee) exhibition which will take place during the Jubilee celebrations this year.

We have lots of ideas for how we can make this village event a big part of the celebration, but we need people to join in! We would like to expand the idea to include all creativity happening locally! Do you have a hidden talent? Would you like to showcase it for the event?

The idea is for individuals to open their gardens to show artwork. However, we'd like to make this a more inclusive event that takes in creativity in all forms. It could be music, circus skills, a special collection (buttons, dolls, cars...), or a passion that you would like to share, such as an interest in birds, flowers or skies! Anything goes.

Of course, anything tasty and thirst-quenching is welcome. If you don't want to open your garden, but would like to be involved, a display by the front gate would be perfect. Open gardens will be indicated with a sign and included on a map that would take us all round the village and outlying areas, so that visitors can include a walk as part of their day exploring our creative community.

As part of the event, a photography competition will be displayed on the theme of 'Glorious-Lee'. This will be open to all ages. Send your entries to Claudia together with your name and age (if under 16).

Please send ideas and offers to contribute, marked Creative-Lee, to me at claudia.phipps@virgin.net

We are looking forward to meeting lots of creative spirits and sharing ideas with you all.

HS2 update

Chinook

By Cllr Colin Sully

Members of The Lee Parish Council have recently attended several presentations on the impact that HS2 construction will have on the local area over the next two years.

Excavations in the AONB



Excavating the cuttings

The first was by EKFB's local construction manager, explaining the plans to excavate along the trace between South Heath and Rocky Lane. They have started excavating the tunnel portal and cuttings at South Heath and will now work their way north, leaving 'plugs' (i.e. ground they won't excavate) at road crossing

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points, which will be removed later. No excavated material will be taken onto the A413, and the project has confirmed that all construction traffic will access the works from the A413 via the Great Missenden, lower Bowood Lane and Rocky Lane construction sites.

Some of the local excavated material will be used to build embankments and bunds between South Heath and Small Dean viaduct.

Mass haul strategy



Excavations at South Heath, showing the start of the tunnel portal in the foreground

The second presentation was on how the remaining excavated material (a significant amount) will find its way from South Heath and The Lee to the Wendover cut-and-cover tunnel and beyond. The plan was for this material to move along the trace as far as Rocky Lane and then over the Small Dean viaduct, when built, thereby avoiding putting any additional HGVs onto the A413.

However, delays in finalising the design of this viaduct mean that it will now not be ready in time to do this. So, HS2 now plan on putting a temporary conveyor in place (for two years) to carry this material from the area north of Rocky Lane, over the A413 and the Chiltern Line railway. Subject to approvals by Buckinghamshire Council, this conveyor overbridge is due to be constructed during the first half of 2022, with some Easter closures of the Chiltern Line and one or more A413 weekend closures. More details next month and on The Lee Forum.

Leather Lane

The final presentation was rather different; it was by the Leather Lane Campaign Group, setting out why it believes the re-aligned Leather Lane overbridge should be sited to the north of the existing lane, rather than to the south. There are three linked issues on which agreement is still being sought.

- 1) Legally, what more does the HS2 project need to do to mitigate the environmental impact in this area?
- 2) Is there a reasonable, feasible way of building the re-alignment on the north side?
- 3) What planning / legislative process would need to be followed to bring about such a change?

At the time of writing the campaign group and HS2 Ltd have still to meet to resolve these issues.

Other local HS2 news

- EKFB have confirmed that Bowood Lane will be closed to all vehicles from 1st March 2022 for two years. The footpath carrying the Chiltern Way through this area will remain open (albeit diverted).
- Align, who are building the tunnel portal at South Heath, are planning to hold a community event on the

design of the North Portal in Great Missenden in mid-March: date/time to be confirmed.

- Further open events are also now being planned as we come out of Covid restrictions, including possible visits to the area by a mobile exhibition vehicle.
- The feedback on the inclusion of the Traffic Guide in the February Newsletter, was very positive – that is to say positive about the inclusion of the information, not positive about the implications; as one resident commented: “very helpful but depressing”.

Community engagement

Parish Councillors continue to press Buckinghamshire Council and the HS2 Community Engagement Managers on local issues such as excessive lighting, traffic signs, noise, road sweeping etc. At times we could be forgiven for thinking that there is a general disregard amongst HS2 construction staff as to the impact this project is having on the local population. All residents are therefore encouraged to complain to HS2 whenever they see or hear anything which they think could be better mitigated.

There is an updated note on “How to complain about HS2” on the website at <https://www.thelee.org.uk/HS2complaints/>

Shop AGM

Khamsin

By Katie Michaelson-Yeates

This is a formal note to inform all Shop at The Lee shareholders that this year's AGM is to be held on Sunday 20th March at 12:00 noon in The Lee Parish Hall.



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The Parish Hall

Etesian

By Pippa Hart

After two years of disruption we are very happy to see a resurgence of bookings at the Parish Hall.

Children's birthday parties, christening parties and charity fundraisers are finally making their way back into the diary again, as well as the usual local meetings and shop events that the hall hosts.

Steve Moody's upholstery classes continue to have a waiting list and occupy the hall for three to four sessions a week. We are grateful to Steve, not only for providing a regular income to the hall, but also for having a regular pair of eyes on the building ensuring that we are on top of its upkeep!



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We have also been delighted to welcome a new hirer to the hall. Busy Kids in Bucks, run by primary school teachers, Emma Mellor and Vicki Bowdon have been holding 90 minute Mother and Child sessions every Wednesday morning in the hall since early January, and parents are coming from far and wide to take up this opportunity for children under five years old.



With so many toddler groups and play groups shut in various lockdowns, there are many under three year olds who have had very little social interaction outside their immediate families – it has been particularly hard for first time parents to socialise with their babies and so we are very glad that the hall can provide a venue for this type of activity. The hall is so well suited to young children and the recent new paving under and to the side of the covered area at the back of the hall has enhanced one of our most child-friendly areas.

[Booking details for the Parish Hall can be found on page 23]

The Lee Flower Show 2022

Foehn

By Jonathan Batten

The wind of change is blowing through the flower show committee and I am pleased to report that our articles in the December

and February newsletters produced some encouraging responses.

The committee is growing, with a number of younger members joining up to play a part, so that we can move forward with renewed vigour and enthusiasm to make the show relevant to the past and the present.

Thank you to all who have contacted us and offered your help and input – we will make sure we do our best to put it to good use.

The next few months are about planning for the show on 16th July and praying that we can pull it off after the hiatus of the last two years.

Current activities are centred on the entries schedules to provide you with a wide variety of seasonal vegetables, flowers, fruits, handicrafts, cookery, photographs and more so that you can enter into friendly competition. These should be drafted and ready for the printers by the end of this month.



There's the usual work to be done in setting the documents, amendments, proof reading and corrections before we are ready.

The schedule will be the first physical evidence that you, dear reader, will see to indicate that the flower show is alive and kicking again when its brightly coloured cover quietly slides through your letter box in early May – but more of that in next month's edition...

In the meantime please give some thought to coming to the dance and helping in the tea tent – both these are an integral part of the show which will need your commitment and passion as well as shoes and a basic knowledge of cake etiquette!

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Springtime in Fromelles

Mistral

By Jean-Gabriel Masson
Maire de Fromelles

[For our readers who may perhaps be unaware of the connection with Fromelles then 'prenez un grip', visit the website at www.thelee.org.uk/friends-of-Fromelles/ to learn all about it. Ed]

At the last time (in France) to send my best wishes for year 2022, I would like to give news from Fromelles.

Here, we are now at a high level of Covid Omicron variant. In France, it's around 4% positive cases of all inhabitants a week.

But, as most of us are vaccinated except young children, it has only few impacts for the health, here in Fromelles.



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We have only few restrictions except for the non-vaccinated.

Last week children from the school went to the Vosges Mountains for skiing. It was a wonderful trip for them, with snow all around!



They need to get away from these bad vibes.

The festivities are reduced to the minimum, with no way to do my traditional wishes ceremony in January to the inhabitants.

But we plan other festivities for spring (if the situation is better): classical concert including the pupils, cultural festival, school fair...

Here in Fromelles, in 2022, we still pay tribute to all fallen here in Fromelles.

- Anzac Day: 23rd April 10:00 am
- Rouge Bancs battle: 9th May 3:00 pm
- Battle of Fromelles: 19th July 6:00 pm (to be confirmed)
- Armistice Days: 8th May and 11th November 11:00 am



We are also about to finish our big project of sports hall. It's supposed to be delivered in spring. I'm sure that would develop the sport practice in the village.

To conclude, I wish the best for you, stay safe and positive (but not from the Covid). Enjoy your families and your friends.

Hope I would see you in the near future in Fromelles!

Be Prepared

Haboob

By Enzo D'Alessandro



This year has seen us back in the hut more regularly, and it has been a welcome change. The activities can be more varied, as we can shelter from the bitter cold some of the evenings and we can work on a different set of skills.

An evening of drama, where the Scouts had to put on a 'sudden production' in 20 minutes and then act it for the troop, generated masterpieces such as 'Renegade Riding Hood' (a modern, edgy retelling of the immortal Red Riding Hood story, a compromise between some who wanted to set up a production focused on the realities of war in the trenches and some who wanted to play a more traditional story) and 'Forever Frozen' (do I need to explain?). The wolf was captured by the FBI and blown to smithereens and Anna was saved in the nick of time, in between the laughs and the many scene changes.

The highlight so far this year is, of course, a hike: we said goodbye to the older Scouts who have moved on from the troop in the beautiful setting of Coombe Hill Monument – our favourite spot for ceremonies. We were surrounded by lights on a clear winter night: stars above us and a twinkling Vale of Aylesbury below (let's not mention the face-numbing, finger-freezing bracing wind).



This already special event was made all the more exciting by (a) the fish and chips waiting for us when we got to Wendover and (b) the Scouts' bus! Yes the Scouts' bus is out again, and it was just great to be back riding in it after so long.

We are now starting to prepare for the Queen's Jubilee coming up. We have a few ideas to contribute to the celebrations in The Lee in our typical Scouts way – watch this space!

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From the Vicarage

By Revd Chris Haywood



Attentions are very much beginning to turn to Easter in the church year and this month sees the beginning of Lent – our time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter Day.

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 2nd March which we will mark with a service at 7:30 pm in the Old Church. During the service we will undertake the imposition of ashes, marking everyone who wishes to come forward with an ash cross on the forehead as a sign of repentance and penitence. It helps put us in the right frame of mind for Lent and Easter as we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf and the salvation he makes possible.



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To help us on our Lenten journey we will be hosting a Lent Course in the Vicarage on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm. We will be exploring the meaning of the Lord's Prayer together to help inform and enable our discipleship – what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Do join us if you'd like to be a part of this journey of discovery.

Similarly we will also be running a Confirmation Course on Sunday afternoons during Lent starting on Sunday 6th March. If you'd like to explore what it means to be a Christian in greater depth with a view to making a commitment to follow him, please do be in touch. You'd be welcome to join the group.

Following a meeting held in January we decided to increase the number of services at The Lee, both in the Old Church and the New Church. I am keen to provide a weekly opportunity to worship at The Lee and the new schedule enables that. It also provides some variety. Most notably the introduction of a Family Service on the first Sunday of the month at 11:00 am in the New Church. Do join us for our first such service on Sunday 6th March.

We will also be adding in an additional 8:00 am Book of Common Prayer communion service on the third Sunday of the month to provide a further opportunity for this congregation to worship. Similarly, I have increased the provision of Parish Communion services, scheduling services on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11:00 am in the New Church. I hope this helps provide more regular and a better variety of worship opportunities.

Finally, Sunday 27th March is Mothering Sunday which we will mark with a special service, which will be especially sensitive to many of the emotions we might experience on this day.

Services for March

St John the Baptist, The Lee

2 nd	7:30pm	HC	Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion in the Old Church
6 th	8:00am	HC	Lent 1 BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	AA	Family Service
13 th	11:00am	PC	Lent 2 CW Parish Communion
20 th	08:00am	HC	Lent 3 BCP Holy Communion
27 th	11:00am	PC	Lent 4 Mothering Sunday CW Parish Communion

All services conducted by Revd Chris Haywood.

HC	Holy Communion (said)
PC	Parish Communion (sung)
AA	All age service

Further information will also be posted on The Lee Forum.

Contacts: *Vicar:* The Revd Chris Haywood (01494 837566).
Churchwarden: Trevor Pearce (01494 837601). *Treasurer:* David Stephenson (01494 867617).

St Mary's, Ballinger

6 th	09:30am	Morning Prayer followed by refreshments
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Contacts: *Associate Churchwardens:* Anne Ellis (01494 837247) and Maggi Cameron (01494 864790) or maggi.cameron@hotmail.co.uk.

History of St Mary's

Despite the uncertainty of Covid and the arrival of new variants, Maggi and I are gradually opening up St Mary's to events other than our regular, socially distanced services.

Currently the WI hold their monthly games' afternoons on Tuesdays throughout the winter and a new supper club started in February.

Carol Addison has provided some fascinating information about the history of St Mary's in all its various guises (mission room, village hall, school, church, events venue) and the people associated with this special building. All of which comes at an opportune time as St Mary's (together with Lee Common School) will be 150 years old in 2023. We will undoubtedly hold celebrations to mark

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this milestone but more on that to follow in future newsletters.

Since it was built in 1873, St Mary's has remained an invaluable community asset, is available for everyone to use and provides the perfect venue for gatherings both large and small.

Once Carol has completed all her research we are intending to produce a booklet detailing the history of the building, together with notelets, both of which will be on sale in the coming months.

The cold, wet weather brings its own challenges and there is no doubt that the fabric of the building has suffered and now needs some attention. Fortunately, Dave Lamb was able to tackle the worst of the exterior window frames before the temperature really dropped. Although the pandemic curtailed all our fund raising activities we still need to tackle the front render which is letting in damp and also repair and restore the rest of the window frames both inside and out, all of which will cost several thousand pounds. For this we will need extra funds and so if you are able to contribute financially in any way at all we would be extremely grateful.

We are really hoping to have it all made watertight by next winter and certainly by the 2023 celebrations.

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Once the warmer weather arrives we intend to tackle the interior walls and paintwork of the building as it has been several years since it was decorated. To this end we intend to organise a working party, so look out your rollers and paint brushes and join us to really spruce up St Mary's. More details to follow in due course...

The search for a new vicar for Great Missenden is still underway and, until one is appointed, we at St Mary's, remain in an interregnum. Many thanks to everyone who has made it possible for us to continue our regular pattern of services during this period.

The Lee in Living Memory

As part of the Millennium celebrations, an oral record was made to capture village memories of life in The Lee parish in the nineteen hundreds. In 2018, some of these memories were published in the book 'The Lee in Living Memory – Voices from a special Chiltern parish'.

Here we publish an extract from the book, copies of which remain available at Shop at The Lee.

Lilian Breese (1919 – 2005)

Lilian was born in Swan Bottom and lived later at Sly Corner and then Manor Cottages. She records:

"We had two very dry summers and very few houses were 'on tap'. All the wells in our gardens were dried up and we had to use the village well. We watched them letting these huge buckets down the well and filling up peoples' baths and buckets. There was a big zinc bath which was filled with water and carried by two men to all the cottages for drinking or washing

water. One bucket went down the well as the other came up. It took two men to wind. I've never tasted such gorgeous water in my life.



They watered the allotments with it as well. We were self-sufficient and grew all our own vegetables. Our family never went hungry because my father was a real old poacher. He'd catch rabbits. He'd come in and say, "Mum, (he always called my mother that) get my gun. I've just heard one cock up." He meant a pheasant. Pheasants were as common for us as chickens are today.

"At the Lee Flower Show we used to march with the Chesham Silver Band. They went first wearing their blue uniforms. The Methodist Chapel went next wearing red, the Baptist Chapel had yellow and the Emmanuel Hall had green. We carried flags and they were taken to the church to be consecrated. Then we had a service. Then we marched through the Manor Gardens and through the gate into the Park, where the Flower Show was. All the children were given a free tea of bread and butter, plain cake and what we called Fly cake – currant cake. The adults could have a tea for a shilling each. We'd have races, and in the evening the grown-ups would dance to the Silver Prize Band."

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Well, how did we get on?

Harmattan

By Diana Taylor

Are you wondering how we coped
With those 'Veganuary' foods?
We managed, we got used to them
And we reduced 'meat craving' moods

And just to help us on our way,
We started making bread
In every size and shape it came
Light as a feather or heavy as lead

The dentist said "Not sourdough crust!
I warn you, it causes teeth to break"
Then the dietitian said "Not gluten, or else
Gut pills you'll need to take"

So, with, rye and wheat and oats as well
(We even tried some spelt)
Our bread was often eaten warm
With vegan 'no butter butter' caused to melt

We added seeds, and nuts and fruit
As our tummies grew in sizes
From the ciabatta, pizza
And our other home baked prizes

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The delivery from the flour mill
Seemed to bend the kitchen shelves
But we plodded on rejoicing
In our new found baking selves

But now we have a yogurt maker
Guess what we're making now?
We can tell you there are types of milk
That have never seen a cow

We've almond, oat and coconut
Soya, cashew milk too
A thermometer and instructions
That tell us what to do

But the trouble is, beans, milk and bread
Make meals seem rather funny
And lacking in something not so vegan
Like a spoon or two of honey

So then, seeking something sweet
Came our study of keeping bees
But our neighbours soon were worried
As we share fences, plants and trees

So an email soon was sent off
To that famous cook, Trish Swain,
Who advised how to make marmalade
For something sweet to gain

Alright for Trish, an expert
And, with her marmalade, so clever
But our attempts seemed to boil rock hard
Or at best could be chewed like leather

Still – no matter, we must try to save
the Earth
And give nature a helping hand
To turn The Lee and its surroundings
Into a New Age Promised Land

And if you want to be a pilgrim
Stop detergent, wash clothes with conkers
Burn potato skins instead of wood
And join us – we're going vegan bonkers.

The Highway Code 2022

Levant

By the Editorial Team

Most readers will be aware that changes have recently been introduced in the Highway Code... but how many of us know in detail what they are? And how do they affect The Lee? Here are some key points to consider.

Hierarchy of Road Users

The 'Hierarchy of Road Users' is a concept that places those road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy. The road users most likely to be injured in the event of a collision are pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists, with children, older adults and disabled people being more at risk.



It is important that all road users are aware of The Highway Code, are considerate to other road users and understand their responsibility for the safety of others. *[A copy of the Code is available at [The Highway Code - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) as well as from online retailers and all good booksellers.]*

Some rules from the Code

1. Those in charge of vehicles bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to other road users.
2. Cyclists, horse riders and drivers of horse drawn vehicles likewise have a responsibility to reduce danger to pedestrians.
3. Always remember that the people you encounter may have impaired sight, hearing or mobility and that this may not be obvious.
4. Drivers, motorcyclists, horse drawn vehicles, horse riders and cyclists at a junction should give way to pedestrians crossing or waiting to cross a road into which or from which you are turning.
5. You must give way to pedestrians on a zebra crossing, and to



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pedestrians and cyclists on a parallel crossing.

6. You should give way to pedestrians waiting to cross a zebra crossing, and to pedestrians and cyclists waiting to cross a parallel crossing.
7. Cyclists should give way to pedestrians on shared use cycle tracks and to horse riders on bridleways.
8. Only pedestrians, including wheelchair and mobility scooter users, may use the pavement.
9. Pedestrians may use any part of the road and use cycle tracks as well as the pavement, unless there are signs prohibiting pedestrians.
10. As a driver, you should not cut across cyclists, horse riders or horse drawn vehicles going ahead when you are turning into or out of a junction or changing direction or lane.
11. Do not turn at a junction if to do so would cause the cyclist, horse rider or horse drawn vehicle going straight ahead to stop or swerve.

Application in The Lee

Of course, there are no zebra crossings in the parish and only tiny stretches of pavement, so rules 6, 7 and 9 will have little local impact. However, The Lee roads are used extensively by pedestrians, cyclists

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and horse riders, as well as motor vehicles, so rules 5, 8, 10 and 11 are particularly relevant. For example:

- A driver coming out of Oxford Street near the shop should give way to any pedestrians crossing the road. (Rule 5).
- Cyclists should be prepared to stop if they come across a pedestrian or horse rider on a road or bridleway (Rules 7 and 9).
- A driver at the Swan Bottom crossroads should give way to pedestrians crossing the junction (Rule 5).
- Do not overtake a cyclist or horse-rider immediately before a junction you are turning at, if to do so would cause them to stop or swerve. (Rule 11).

It is also worth a reminder that footpaths are only for pedestrians (and dogs). Unlike bridleways, they are not for cyclists or horse-riders. If you are in any doubt as to what is a footpath, a

bridleway or a BOAT in The Lee, get a copy of an Ordnance Survey map or a Chilterns Society local footpath map (available at Shop at The Lee).

Respect and care



A lot of it is simply a combination of common sense and courtesy. What the new Code does is enshrine the rights of those most vulnerable into the structure of the Code. Don't forget, whilst the rules of the Code are not legally enforceable in themselves, failure to adhere to them could be seen as dangerous driving and, if there were to be an accident and it was shown to be caused by your lack of adherence to the Code, you could be held legally liable for the consequences.

So, drive, walk and ride carefully and with respect to others!



The Arts Society Ballinger



Leveche

By Jane Fawcett

The Arts Society (previously known as NADFAS) Ballinger is a society which is of interest to those who enjoy all aspects of the arts.

We hold monthly lectures which are given by lecturers who are specialists in their field and have had to pass several auditions to be accepted by the Arts Society's list of accredited speakers. There is always a PowerPoint presentation show in conjunction with the lecture.

We meet in Ballinger War Memorial Hall on the last Thursday of the month

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(with the exception of March). The lectures commence at 8:00 pm and the hall is open from 7:30 pm.



Our society is very friendly and we have regularly held social gatherings and provided outings to places of interest. These have, of course, been severely restricted due to Covid but we are planning to provide at least one outing this year.

In 2023 it will be Ballinger's 25th Anniversary and plans are afoot to celebrate this.

Guests are always welcome at £8.00 per lecture. Have a look at our next five lectures to see if anything is of interest:

- 24th March – Shimmering Splendour: Silk in Southeast Asia. By Denise Heywood
- 28th April – Imperial Easter Eggs of Carl Fabergé: Part 1 – Before the Revolution. By Toby Faber
- 26th May – The Healing Power of Plants. By Timothy Walker
- 23rd June – Magnificent Mosaics: Windows into the Colourful Roman World. By Christopher Bradley
- 28th July – Music in Art. By Sophie Matthews

You can visit our website at www.theartssocietyballinger.org.uk and contact us by email at ballinger@theartssociety.org

Forum Fred



The Lee parish online

Last month we reported that around half of the 700 forum members live in The Lee parish, with most of the rest living in the nearby parts of Great Missenden parish (Potter Row, Ballinger and South Heath). Of the 355 members living in The Lee, 200 get emails sent to them for all new topics, 11 have subscribed to individual categories and 144 have no email subscriptions, so will only see posts when they log in.

In 2011 there were 698 residents of The Lee parish. This means that around half of parish residents are members of the forum and around 30% receive email notifications of all new topics, probably accounting for around 50% of all parish households.

The forum clearly provides a quick and effective way of communicating within the parish, but the Newsletter is definitely the only way to go for full parish coverage.

Reminders: when replying

When you reply to a message, please be aware of the following:

1. Replying to the email notification from the forum (e.g. by simply hitting 'Reply') does not post a reply to the forum – it just sends an email to the forum's inbox, which is not actively monitored.
2. If you want all forum members to see your reply, then click the link in the notification to be taken directly to the forum topic, so that you can post a reply on the forum.
3. If your reply is intended solely for the person who has started the topic – for instance if buying or

selling an item – then please reply to the contact details supplied in the original post, rather than posting to the forum.

4. If you click the link and do not get taken straight to the forum topic, it may be because you are not logged in. Click *Login*, enter your username or email address and password. You should then be good to go.

*If you need some specific advice, please email admin@thelee.org.uk giving details of the problem. Don't forget that answers to many questions can be found on 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>*

Spade stoppers

Sirocco

At our table, West doubled (showing in theory support for any unbid suit); East then bid 3NT (with good spade stoppers).

N	E	S	W
pass	pass	3♠	Dbl
pass	3NT	pass	pass
pass			

There was no 'good' lead for South, who at our table chose J♠, losing to East's Q, who then made 10 tricks.

4♠ bid by North risks going three or even four off.

The answer

By the Editorial Team

On page 5 of the February edition, the question was posed as to how many lights were on the Christmas Pud in Oxford Street – the answer is 26,000.



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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).

March

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.

Thursday 3rd. **Ballinger Horticultural Society.** Meeting topic tbc.

Friday 4th. **Lee Common School Association.** Afternoon tea 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. The Lee Parish Hall.

Shop at The Lee



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Sundays: 7.30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Tel: 01494 837195
shop@thelee.org.uk

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

Tuesday 8th. **Ballinger Evening WI.** Ballinger Memorial Hall. 8:00 pm

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

Sunday 20th. **Shop at The Lee AGM.** 12:00 noon at The Lee Parish Hall.

Thursday 24th. **Arts Society Ballinger.** – Shimmering Splendour: Silk in Southeast Asia. By Denise Heywood.

Coming soon

Thursday 7th April. **Village walk.** Meet on The Lee green at 9:30 am.

Thursday 28th April. **Arts Society Ballinger.** The Imperial Easter Eggs of Carl Fabergé: Part 1 – Before the Revolution. By Toby Faber.

Tuesday 17th May. **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 pages 3 and 4.

Saturday 16th July. **The Lee Flower Show.** See page 8.

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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To book the Parish Hall or Scout Hut

'phone Pippa Hart on 837340

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
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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.

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Prestwood
01494 868 000
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Great Missenden
01494 868 000
missenden@wyecountry.co.uk

Naphill
01494 565 555
naphill@wyecountry.co.uk

Stokenchurch
01494 509 377
stokenchurch@wyeres.co.uk

Lettings High Wycombe
01494 358 358
lettings@wyeres.co.uk

Lettings Great Missenden
01494 864 225
lettings@wyecountry.co.uk

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