



## Sales & Lettings

64 High Street Great Missenden

Buckinghamshire HP16 0AN

Tel: 01494 890990

email: [info@jeremyswan.co.uk](mailto:info@jeremyswan.co.uk)

[www.jeremyswan.co.uk](http://www.jeremyswan.co.uk)



# NEWSLETTER

March 2019

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

## From the Editor

By Phil Harrison

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January saw St John the Baptist Church in The Lee full of the family and friends of Leslie Robins, whose funeral service was taking place. It was a turnout that clearly reflected the regard, esteem, respect and fondness in which he was held. As one of the eulogists said, normally when someone reaches their late 90s the crowd is small, but not on this occasion as we came together to say goodbye, pay our respects but more importantly to celebrate his life and time in the community.

Leslie lived in Crocketts, Crocketts Lane. A house originally built around 1650 with all the modern conveniences of the day, such as a well and an earth closet (aka outdoor loo/privy) and doorways upstairs that are 4'10" high; very des res.

Leslie and Margaret moved in during 1978 and lived there for the remainder of their lives and were our neighbours for over 35 years.

Leslie loved his garden, especially his lawn; almost billiard like in its finish after hours and hours of tender loving care, lawn sand, fertiliser, scarifying, rolling and cutting. Even in the weeks prior to his death he could be found in the garden clearing up, weeding or simply pottering about and even

trundling a laden wheelbarrow across the lane to deposit its contents on our compost heap, as that was so much easier than trying to get it all in the green bin.

In the early years he would welcome the boisterous and noisy 'ankle-biters' from Yellow Stocks and Lane End as they dashed over to show him and Margaret their latest discovery, be it bug, butterfly or bush.

Leslie became part of the fabric of the community with his keen eye for things numerical involving him in the accounts of the school, church and the shop, being a driver for the hospital patients' service and generally helping out wherever he could. He was a character and will be missed.

In this month's edition Viv, his daughter, has written about her dad (page 6) and we have also included an article Leslie wrote for the Newsletter a few years ago (page 10). His articles were always brilliantly written with a humorous slant on the world and a pithy point.

Martin the Milkman has written a moving and delightful follow up, stimulated by Revd David Burgess's article last month. Two consultations are also highlighted in this edition for your urgent attention.

Next month's editor is Colin Sully. Please email material for the April edition to [theleenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:theleenewsletter@gmail.com) by 12<sup>th</sup> March or hard copy to Fairleigh, Swan Bottom.

## Your Letters

To the Editor

On behalf of my family can I just thank everyone in The Lee who gave us such strong support over the period of my Dad's illness.

There was hardly a day when a visitor didn't arrive with a lasagne or an apple pie, or alternatively a readiness to join my Dad of an evening as he enjoyed the single glass of sherry we had managed to negotiate with the doctors.

There were also many people who gave us lifts to hospital appointments, some of them found through The Leeway but more often friends who were helping out off their own bat. The same applied to giving me lifts down to Waitrose and ensuring that other essential journeys got made.

It's all been proof, if any were needed, that there is nothing quite like a village community when it comes to giving love and support to people in need in its midst. It was a happy day indeed that my Dad came to The Lee over 40 years ago and happy for me too that many of his friends have become my friends and extended that same support to me. So thank you all!  
Viv Robins  
Lee Common

To the Editor

It is with great sadness that we have heard about the closure of Leaside Nursery. For many years we have enjoyed close links with the nursery and being able to share activities such as Maypole dancing and Christmas nativity plays together. Many of the

children at Lee Common School have extremely fond memories of their time at Leaside, which has played a significant part in their childhood.

We asked those children that had attended Leaside what they remembered about their time there and we thought it would be nice to share some of these happy recollections with you:

*Reading the rainbow fish and big blue whale book*

*The forward running race at sports day*

*Making mashed potatoes!*

*Writing a story about super woofy with Melissa*

*The chicken noodle soup and races at sports day*

*Lots of fun activities like baking, playing games, dressing up, role play and sports days*

*Making new friends there who then went to the same school as me*

*I loved Penny and her hand puppet Nibbles.*

The Governors, Lee Common Church of England School

To the Editor

### Hard Bexit for The Lee?

Reading about the battle raging over the new Unitary Authority in Buckinghamshire, pondering the debacle that is HS2, looking at the state of our roads and reflecting on the steady erosion of local services in the area (mobile libraries, waste disposal sites, bus services, etc)... I'm beginning to think The Lee should apply for 'Bexit' – i.e. to leave the administrative area known as 'Buckinghamshire'.

Just think; The Lee could...

- save millions on taxes which we could then spend on local priorities,
- ban HS2 from passing through the parish... or better still put an international railway station at Hunts Green,

- make Chesham Lane a toll road from Kings Ash through to the Chartridge border,

- convert the village school to take all 3 to 18 year old children resident in the parish and require the older children to teach the younger ones as a part of 'national service',

- register The Lee cricket club with the International Cricket Council and demand Test status,

- raise an import tax on all foods brought into the parish from Tesco, Waitrose and Sainsbury's, and use the funds to expand the Shop at The Lee,

- build a wall around the whole of the parish boundary,

- recruit our own army to patrol the boundary... and also to root-out breaches of planning regulations.

Any other thoughts?

Ann Archist  
The Lee

## Juxtaposition

By Philip Harrison

**Y**our Chesham's' Jan/Feb issue has just landed on the doormat and I couldn't help but be amused by the juxtaposition of an article from Dame Cheryl Gillan MP and the ad below it.

The article is all about the demise of the district councils; the ad is for the Chesham Bois burial ground for 'formal and natural burials'. Sorted!



## BOUQUETTE BED & BREAKFAST

56 Hale Road, Wendover,  
Bucks HP22 6NF

T: 01296 625742

M: 07799 038833

[www.halehousebnb.co.uk](http://www.halehousebnb.co.uk)

## Local Lamb... now available



Free-range, grass-fed  
in Lee Common

Contact:

T: 07966 035802

## Snow trouble at all

By Zoe Berkeley

Like most, I'm torn between the magic of snow and the chaos it can create – especially where we all live, with winding icy roads full of potholes and a whole lot of hills to navigate to the safety of the gritted roads. Whilst the snow personally inconvenienced me by very nearly making me miss an important exam and missing a day of work, I took a walk around The Lee and tried to forget all of that and just appreciate the magic.



The snow crunched underfoot as I walked through a wintery wonderland and our little village covered in a blanket of soft white. The winter's naked tree branches coated in snow above the tyre marked winding roads. Snow flurries dropping from those branches as singing birds cautiously settle on them to drink melting snow water. I do wonder if they feel cold and if they are able to get enough food when their world is frozen, but they sing and chirrup just like they do on a summer's day, so I assume they are doing okay.

My feet sink deep into the grass as I brave off the roads lured by the joyful

sound of children's laughter. What a wonderful day to be a child, with the schools closed. It was a day to play outside, falling over without tears, only laughter. Some were sledding, there was



snowball chasing and snow angel creating in the cold ground and the laughter literally echoed through the white land.

I wander past a pair of snow-covered lost gloves on the ground and I'm thankful for mine as my freezing rosy cheeks lie exposed beneath my bobble hat, and snowflakes begin to settle on my eyelashes. The village shop is open as usual, never letting us villagers down and I cross paths with the milkman and his van full of clinking glass bottles as he braves the snowy roads to make sure our milk is delivered.

Just a few days before I had been admiring snowdrops and purple crocuses peeping through and feeling excited for spring, now all colour was hidden under a thick coating of white snow. All colour was muted, yet there was still pure beauty to be seen. I wander back home following trails of footprints in all sizes and paw prints of all varieties and grab some hot chocolate from the shop because hey that's what you do on a snowy day, isn't it?

# Pilates

@HOME

'FLEXIBLE TO THE CORE'

1 to 1 Pilates... in the comfort and convenience of your own home

Mat Pilates for all abilities  
Improves posture, flexibility,  
core strength, muscle tone  
and sports performance

Individuals [or small groups of up to 4]

Qualified Mat Pilates instructor for  
Beginner, Intermediate and  
Advanced Levels

*"In ten sessions you will feel the difference,  
in 20 you will see the difference and in 30  
you will have a whole new body"*

... Joseph Pilates

If you are interested or require further  
information please contact:

Karen on 07790 081670



Email: [info@karensabsolutepilates.co.uk](mailto:info@karensabsolutepilates.co.uk)  
[www.karensabsolutepilates.co.uk](http://www.karensabsolutepilates.co.uk)



## Bake on

By The Lee Flower Show Cream Tea Committee

With the winter months behind us (hopefully!) and the run up to the Cream Tea season in the village (The Flower Show in July) we are introducing a monthly 'Top Tips for Caking Baking' column which we hope will appeal to all ages and abilities.

Cream Teas in the village would not exist without your baking contributions. Whether you are a novice or expert, please share your top tips (or top frustrations!) with us each month as we approach the cake-baking season. We are fortunate to have a couple of 'Star Bakers' who will be sharing some (not all!) of their top tips and secrets to baking in the coming months.

They will be happy to receive any questions you may have. Please email Kelly at [Kelly.stone3@btinternet.com](mailto:Kelly.stone3@btinternet.com) and we will share your questions/answers in the next edition.

## Leslie Robins: a life well-lived

By Viv Robins

**M**y Dad had an inauspicious start in life. He very nearly ended up in a Dr Barnardo's home after his mother died shortly after childbirth and his father panicked at the prospect of bringing up a child on his own. Fortunately some distant cousins who lived in the same tenement building in Paddington took him in and treated him as their own son, although they never formally adopted him.



In 1931 the family moved to the wide open spaces (as they then were) of South Harrow and my Dad took up a place at a London grammar school, though lack of money meant that a university education – for which he

would have been eminently well-suited – was never on the cards.

With the outbreak of war in September 1939 he joined the RAF and served in Egypt, Italy and Yugoslavia as a Squadron Adjutant. When he left he was presented with a watch to which, he was told, every man on the squadron had contributed. He often liked to describe this as the best day of his life, and the watch continues to keep perfect time on my wrist today.

### Life after the War

After the War he married my mum Muriel and I was born in 1947 and my sister Chris in 1950. He had a good career in the old Chief Inspector's branch of the Inland Revenue but sadness entered his life when my mum became ill with cancer then died in 1974. He had some very lonely years living on his own in Pinner, a London suburb where people showed none of the empathy and support that you find in a place like The Lee. My sister and I used to call him the "Boil in the Bag King" as he lived entirely on that pioneering brand of ready meal, which came in a thick polythene pouch you boiled up in a saucepan. Fortunately this melancholy period came to an end when he met Margaret through a colleague in the Revenue, and after their wedding in 1978 there came what Newsletter readers may view as the seminal moment of his life – they moved to The Lee!

### Happy days at Crocketts

Dad and Margaret had a wonderful life together in Crocketts, a cottage and garden they both adored. My sister's three children loved staying there, eating Margaret's superb meals



and listening to Granddad's readings of Sherlock Holmes. The rules of Crocketts, such as no horseplay in the bedroom, were applied but largely ignored.

Dad retained his health and energy well into old age and played a big part in village life, more especially perhaps after Margaret's death in 1997. For over 20 years he drove for the Chesham Hospital Car Service and was given a special award for volunteering in 2007. He told me he once picked up a patient who said in a quavering voice as he got into the car: "I'm 83 you know!" to which my father replied "Well I'm 87!"

His facility with figures was turned to good account as Treasurer (and school governor) at Lee Common School and later for the Parochial Church Council. When at my prompting he finally gave this up after

more than 20 years, lo and behold he was persuaded by certain forceful individuals to take on the self-same task for the newly created Parish Shop!

### Late-flowering career

Alongside all this was of course his late-flowering literary career for The Lee Newsletter. His gently humorous articles were widely admired and a few years ago he collected the best of them together for a special booklet which he then sold in the Shop in aid of Cancer Research, and raised more than £400. It even went to a second print run!

When his efforts earned him the award of Newsletter Person of the Year he remarked that he had always hoped his literary efforts would lead to his being buried alongside Geoffrey Chaucer – but that to win the



# KINGSHILL

CARS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

 <p style="margin: 0;"><b>CHILTERN</b></p>	 <p style="margin: 0;"><b>AIRPORTS</b></p>
 <p style="margin: 0;"><b>LONDON</b></p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>01494 868699</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Email: <a href="mailto:bookings@kingshillcars.co.uk">bookings@kingshillcars.co.uk</a></p>

Newsletter award was beyond his wildest dreams!

After Margaret's death I divided my time pretty much equally between Crocketts and my flat in London, and although my Dad and I got on very well there were a few areas of conflict. For example he was an aficionado of what we might now describe as the Duke of Edinburgh school of driving, careering round local lanes to a chorus of irate hoots until he finally agreed to give up the car four months before he died. Well into his 90s he also had a habit of taking an electric hedge-trimmer to the very high hedge at the front of Crocketts, although this practice was supposedly banned when I was not in residence. Fortunately I had a network of well-drilled neighbours to inform on him.

### King of the crosswords

But Dad was also a fan of more sedentary pursuits, in particular reading fiction – though nothing written after 1900, obviously – and, most famously, doing the Times crossword. Although he grumbled if he couldn't complete it by coffee time we think he secretly enjoyed the ones that took him all day to finish – especially if that segued into the evening when it was time to crack out the sherry. Neither my sister nor I

### MARTIN THE MILKMAN

Refrigerated delivery of fresh milk, dairy produce, bread, eggs, fruit juices and more.

To place an order call

**01442 833944**

PHONES MANNED 4 PM – 6 PM  
ANSWERPHONE AT OTHER TIMES

inherited the crossword gene unfortunately but he loved time spent with his son-in-law Gordon and grandchildren wrestling over the clues.



There was also his love of classical music and of opera in particular, though sadly this was badly compromised by the increasing deafness of his later years – one of his few abiding sorrows I would say.

But all in all as I think he would agree his was a good life, well-lived. Even his final illness was blessedly short and the level of care he received from the doctors second to none, as they constantly proposed new treatments and procedures which helped keep hope alive. In his final days in hospital he was busy inviting the nurses to his one hundredth birthday party (causing one to exclaim that he "didn't look a day over 80!"). Sadly that was not to be. But the family have decided to celebrate it anyway – so all are welcome to raise a glass with us on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020, in memory of an exceptional Dad.

## Bridge too far?

By Rita Sully et al

At our recent Bridge evening this hand was interesting as everyone got to make a bid.

♠ K 5 2

♥ A J 10 6

♦ A K 8

♣ J 7 2

♠ 10

♥ K 9 5 4

♦ J 10 9 5 2

♣ Q 6 4

♠ A 7 6 3

♥ Q 8 7 2 5

♦ Q 6

♣ A 8 3

♠ Q J 9 8 4

♥ 3

♦ 7 4 3

♣ K 10 9 5

Dealer: East

Vulnerability: N-S

Who do you think won the contract? See page 23.

## Bridge drive

By Judy Hart

What a wonderful way to spend a cold January afternoon: Bridge with friends and a marvellous tea provided by a hard working team of ladies. 56 people obviously thought so too on 23<sup>rd</sup> January at Ballinger Hall.

40 of the bridge players were local. Are there any more of you out there who would like to join in next year?

Jane Neal and her team did an amazing job arranging everything and the tea provided could definitely give the Ritz a run for its money.

£883 was raised for St John the Baptist Church, The Lee, which is

much needed as it costs over £40,000 annually to keep the church going. A lot of money for a small congregation to raise. So many thanks are due to all those who came to the bridge drive and to the team of bakers for providing such a good tea.

## Rights of way

By the Editorial team

Bucks County Council have announced that they are reviewing the rights of way in Bucks with a view to producing a new rights of way improvement plan.

They are asking for views on how public rights of way can be improved for everyone. To find out more and to become involved visit [www.buckscc.gov.uk/rowip](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/rowip). The consultation closes on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

## Pippa Hart Photography



Natural & Informal  
Black & White  
Portraits

01494 837340  
[www.pippahart.com](http://www.pippahart.com)

## How can I help you?

By Leslie Robins

**M**y name is spelt with one 'b', but most people seem to think it ought to have two. I've got used to that, but when I started to get cheque books and bank statements addressed to Mr Leslie Robbins, I thought it was time to rebel.

I rang the bank up.

"Thank you for calling the Imperial Bank. Please listen carefully. You will now be given six options. If you want... press 1... 2... 3... 4... 5... 6."

I listened hopefully, but not a word about spelling mistakes. A reproachful silence, and then:

"Sorry, you do not appear to have followed our instructions. Please hold the line while we put you through to one of our advisers."

(Twelve minutes of Handel's *Water Music*).

"Hello, Imperial Bank, Angela speaking. How can I help you?"

"Hello, Angela. You take your time answering the phone, if I may say so. Never mind, nice to talk to you now you're there. My name is Robins, spelt R-O-B-I-N-S, and all I want..."

### Mike Lake

Friendly & Local

### Painter & Decorator

For that professional touch

Interior & Exterior

Also Property Maintenance

For a free quotation please call:  
01494 866873 / 07723 017005  
mikelake42@talktalk.net

"What is your account number, sir?"

"964694. All I want..."

"And the branch sort code?"

"71-64-72. All I want..."

"And your post-code?"

"HP16 9JR. All I want..."

"Sorry, sir, but we don't appear to have an account in that name. We do have an account for a Mr Leslie Robbins, with two 'b's, but you'll appreciate that we can't discuss another customer's affairs with you."

"But that IS me, Angela. There's only me. I'm me. Honestly."

"Please hold the line while I consult my manager."

(Several minutes of unidentifiable music, possibly part of a string quartet by Janáček.)

"Hello, sir? My manager suggests you open a new account in the name of R-O-B-I-N-S. I'll send you a form for that but you'll need two referees..."

"Look, Angela, I don't want a form, I don't want a new account, I just want my old account, but with the name spelt properly. Who is this idiotic manager of yours? Let me have a word with him."

(Twenty-four bars of Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture* whilst the word goes round the Bank that there is a difficult and possibly deranged customer on the line. Then a new voice cuts in:)

"Sorry, there appears to be a fault on this line. Please hold while we reconnect you."

"Hello, Imperial Bank. Naseem speaking. How can I help you?"

"Naseem? Are you Angela's Manager?"

"No sir. There's nobody here called Angela."

"Forgive my curiosity, Naseem, but where exactly is 'here'?"

"New Delhi, Sir."

"New Delhi? Good Lord! No wonder Angela isn't there. How come you know all about my affairs in New Delhi?"

"Bank has world-wide computer, sir. Very infallible."

"I wouldn't count on it, Naseem. Anyway, see if you can find Angela's Manager for me, there's a good chap."

"Please hold the line, sir."

(Three verses of *Smoke gets in Your Eyes*.)

"Hello, Imperial Bank on-line banking service, Paul speaking. Please key in your security code."

"But I haven't got a security code."

"You haven't got - then why have you come through to me?"

"I wish I knew the answer to that, Paul, I really do. The thing is that the Bank keeps spelling my name wrongly..."

"You want Customer Services, sir. I'll get you transferred."

(Five minutes of the Adagietto from Mahler's *Fifth Symphony*, evidently reserved for customers reaching the end of their tether.)

"Hello, Imperial Bank, Toby speaking. How can I help you?"

"Listen, Toby, I'm going to give you an opportunity to make a friend for life. I might even leave you something in my will. My name is Robins, R-O-B-I-N-S, but the Bank keeps spelling it with two 'b's. All I want you to do is to find my account, get out your pen and cross out that second 'b'."

"I'm afraid I can't do that, sir. There's nobody in the Bank now with a pen. It's all done on a computer - more reliable."

"Who are you kidding, Toby? Anyway, can't you just tell the computer to stop doing it? Doesn't it understand English?"

"It's very irregular, sir, but I think if you were to swear an affidavit before a Commissioner for Oaths, saying that you were Leslie Robins, also known as Leslie Robbins, and then made an appointment to show it to the Area Manager..."

"Forget it, Toby. Don't give it another thought. You've made me see how unreasonable I'm being. Thank you, and please be sure to thank all your helpful colleagues for me. Goodbye."

I rang off and instructed my solicitor to arrange to change my name by Deed Poll to Leslie Robbins. It seemed simpler.

TIM SIMMONS IS

## THE VERMINATOR

PEST CONTROL SERVICES

WASPS  
GLIS-GLIS  
SQUIRREL  
RATS  
MICE  
MOLES



ALL  
INSECTS  
FOXES  
RABBITS  
AND  
ANTS

**FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE**

LOW PRICES - HIGH QUALITY

**07734649305**

**WE WILL ALSO PROOF YOUR HOUSE/PREMISES TO STOP THEM COMING BACK**

## HS2 local enabling work

### From Fusion JV on behalf of HS2 Ltd Relocation of power lines (A)

**U**K Power Networks will have started work on the haul road site at Great Missenden in February to relocate power lines which currently cross the path of the planned haul road. These works should be completed by the end of February.

[Note: this is NOT the main 400kV Grid Pylons.]

### Widening of Frith Hill (B)

Our contractors BGCL (Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd) will be widening the Frith Hill exit onto the A413 roundabout, creating two lanes coming down the hill onto the roundabout. In mid-February BGCL will carry out some investigations into buried utilities like electricity and cables below ground. These investigations will take approximately one week and will require traffic light controls to protect road users and the workforce between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm.

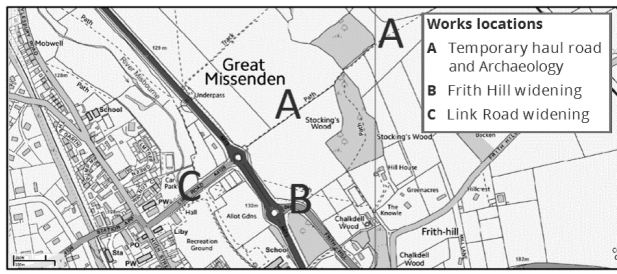
Once these investigations are complete the lights will be removed for a period, with the widening work starting at the beginning of March 2019. This will take approximately seven weeks to complete.

### Widening of Link Road (C)

The widening on Link Road at Greta Missenden is now expected to begin in late April / early May 2019 depending on the progress of the work on Frith Hill. We will not begin these works until the works on Frith Hill are completed. As with Frith Hill we will need to carry out some further preparatory investigations into buried utilities before the construction works begin. These are expected to start no sooner than the end of February and will take approximately two weeks.

The widening of Link Road and the section of the A413 heading towards Wendover will take us approximately three months in total to complete.

We are currently working with the Highways team at Buckinghamshire County Council regarding the preferred method to try to minimise delays to road users while these works are being carried out.



If you have any questions about this notification of works, please get in touch via:

Freephone 08081 434 434 (24/7)

Minicom 08081 456 472

Email: [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Write to: FREEPOST

HS2 Community Engagement

Website: [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit: [www.hs2.commonplace.is](http://www.hs2.commonplace.is)

## Flight paths

By the Editorial team

**H**eathrow's third runway will impact us as new flight paths are created to cope with the extra flights.

Heathrow has announced a public consultation involving a number of options; The options range for example from whether flight paths should operate in the same airspace everyday during core hours to operating on alternate days for longer periods.

The consultation offers you the opportunity to add your thoughts and views, but be quick; the consultation closes on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The plans do affect us, particularly on take-offs as the altitude will be lower overhead and take-off engine noise is louder. Landing altitudes are approx. 2,000 ft higher and engine noise is quieter. As you may gather, the plan is no longer just having planes stacking overhead but also involves take-off and landing flight paths. Remember we are 600 ft above sea level so already closer to the planes and noise.

Have your say at <https://feedback.heathrowconsultation.com/step/topic/1>

## Looking to travel Down Under...

Travel Impressions and Prestige Holidays cordially invite you to our exclusive Australia and New Zealand event



Join us on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** from 3pm-7pm at our office (next to Costa Coffee in Tring High Street) to learn more about these wonderful destinations and receive advice to help plan your trip. Spaces are limited so please call on **01442 890265**, or email [enquiries@travelimpressions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@travelimpressions.co.uk) to book your place.



Travel Impressions

EST 1989  
**PRESTIGE**  
Explore | Dream | Discover

01442 890265  
[enquiries@travelimpressions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@travelimpressions.co.uk)  
[www.travelimpressions.co.uk](http://www.travelimpressions.co.uk)

Suite 4, George House, 64 High Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 4AF

# Services for March

## St John the Baptist

3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00am	HC	Rev'd Ian Ogilvie Old Church
	10:00am	AA	Joint Service at Lee Common Methodist Church
6 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	HC	Ash Wednesday Rev'd Ivor Cornish
10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	PC	Rev'd Ivor Cornish
17 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Matins	Lay-led
24 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	PC	Rev'd Ivor Cornish
31 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am		Mothering Sunday at St Leonards Rev'd David Burgess

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

**Contacts:** *Vicar:* The Rev'd David Burgess (837315). *Churchwardens:* Roderick Neal (837264) and Trevor Pearce (837601). *Vergers:* Bill Pearce (785191). *Treasurer:* David Stephenson (867617).

## Methodist Church

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00am	AA	Joint service with St John the Baptist at Lee Common Methodist Church
10 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm	HC	
17 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm		Gerald Tomkins
24 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm		See notice-board
31 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am		Mothering Sunday at St Leonards

Our **Coffee Mornings** continue on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10:30 am to 12 noon. All are welcome.

## St Mary's, Ballinger

3<sup>rd</sup> 9:30am Informal Communion followed by refreshments.

# The power of prayer

By Martin the Milkman

**I**t's 5:30 am, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February and I'm sitting safe, sound and warm reading the February edition of the Newsletter; in particular the piece by Rev'd David Burgess, about Prayer and how relevant the power of prayer is in today's world.

I write to endorse David's answer that prayer is as important today as it has always been and that God still listens and acts when we seek his help.

On the Friday morning just gone (1<sup>st</sup> February) I looked out and was filled with dread to see snow falling heavily adding to an already significant amount of settled snow. I filled with fear as I thought of my day ahead and so I prayed to the Lord that he would keep me safe and free of accident or injury and let me complete my round, reaching those relying on me for their milk. After 14 hours of slipping and sliding around I arrived home safely.

Saturday morning saw laying snow, frozen roads and black ice. I once again prayed for God's help and felt his presence throughout the day, guiding me on my way. Once again, after 12 hours I was home and safe, in time to see England beat Ireland in the rugby (another prayer answered).

I'm not sure how many of you are familiar with the poem '*Footprints in the Sand*' by Margaret Fishback Powers when the person questions God because in the most troublesome times of trial there is only one set of footprints in the sand and God was asked "*Lord, you said once I decided to follow you, You'd walk with me all the way. But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me.*"

*The Lord whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you, never ever.*

*During your trials and testings, when you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."*

Thank you Lord for carrying me. Amen.



their special delivery. More often Morph acts as co-pilot but sometimes he's the Snow Patrol.

# Martin and Morph

By Giles Robertson

**M**artin and Morph, his trusted companion – man and dog both bringing new meaning to endurance. No conditions are too harsh or holidays too important for

**Digital & Litho Printing** Brochures  
Business, Social & Wedding Stationery  
**Business Cards** Invoices Roller Banners  
Large Format Prints **Booklets** Photocopying  
**Leaflets** Plan Printing Finishing Services  
Photographic Services **Scanning** Restoration



[www.orbitpress.co.uk](http://www.orbitpress.co.uk)

You can find us on Facebook and Twitter

11 Market Square Chesham HP5 1HG  
01494 778053 info@orbitpress.co.uk

# Carolyn Widera Soft Furnishings



Curtains, Roman Blinds & Pelmetts  
Lampshades, Cushions & Loose Covers  
Window Seats & Headboards  
Armchairs, Dining Chairs & Footstools

01494 837794 / 07708 702023  
[carolynwidera@hotmail.com](mailto:carolynwidera@hotmail.com)

[www.carolynwidera.com](http://www.carolynwidera.com)

Carolyn-Widera-Soft-Furnishings

@CarolynWidera

## New church electoral roll



By Rod Neal

**U**nder the Church Representation Rules, a completely new Electoral Roll needs to be prepared this year for St John the Baptist church. The Roll is a means of recording all those lay persons both resident and non-resident in the parish of The Lee and adjoining parishes, who wish to be entitled to take part and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

The APCM is concerned with the appointment of members to the Parochial Church Council and representatives to the Deanery Synod; the election of churchwardens and sidesmen; receiving financial and other reports and general discussion on matters concerning the church and parochial affairs. For anyone interested in getting involved in the local parish church, the APCM is an obvious opportunity.

Compilation of the new Electoral Roll will start from 31<sup>st</sup> March until

### THE LEEWAY – YOUR VILLAGE SUPPORT TEAM

If you have difficulty getting to your doctor or the hospital, doing your shopping or would like a home visit and a friendly chat, then please ring:

**01494 837177**

Mon - Fri: 10 am - 4 pm. Sat: 10 am - 12 noon. Please give us reasonable notice of your requirement to help us organise it.

14<sup>th</sup> April and anyone interested in enrolling should complete an application form available at the back of the church or from me at my home address (Byways in Ballinger) or via email: rodandjane.neal@gmail.com.

Applicants should be sixteen years of age, baptised and can declare themselves to be a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and resident in the parish, or if not resident, have habitually attended worship in the parish during the last six months, or additionally been a member of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Anyone who is currently on the Roll will need to re-apply for enrolment.

### The APCM

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 11:30 am in the parish church, immediately following the 10:00 am service.

## St Mary's

By Anne Ellis

**L**ife at St Mary's moves on apace and our little church continues to flourish; all our ventures have been well supported and Christmas services were packed, with squashing room only. Many commented on the comfortable new chairs, which were first choice for those who arrived early.

Heartfelt thanks go to our band of unsung heroes who 'decked the hall' with an advent wreath, nativity, holly, ivy, trees (courtesy of the Xmas Tree

Festival at St P and St P) and candles – so that it really glowed. Christmas Eve 2018 was also the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the carol 'Silent Night' and it was especially moving to sing it that evening, in fact a wonderful start to the seasonal festivities.

However, a New Year brings new projects and as usual, we have several on the go, as you will read below...

### Outside the church

Maggi and I have planted lots of bulbs, tidied up the hedges and checked the environs and fabric of the church. Stephen Crawley (our Quinquennial Inspector) has left us a comprehensive list of items requiring our attention which we will tackle as the weather improves. We also welcomed a young family from The Lee who have temporarily moved into Jess's cottage.

### Inside the church

Back by popular request was our January coffee morning and even before the doors officially opened we had customers. From then onwards until early afternoon, the place was full of chatter, laughter, fun and friendship. We managed to raise over £260 and would like to thank Salon 92, Origins, Roald Dahl and all others who provided raffle prizes, Usborne Books, Lucy and Judy plus the many individuals who baked cakes and who supported this venture so generously.

Given the greater numbers attending services at St M. we are going to increase our available hymnbooks by twelve. They are currently £11.50 each and to that end



we are inviting people to gift a book with the option of having an inscription in the flyleaf. So far we have eight sponsors and if you would like to donate a book please contact me at [anne.ellis1004@gmail.com](mailto:anne.ellis1004@gmail.com)



### Great Missenden Supported Living

A warm, friendly, house for the elderly, in the picturesque centre of the village.

Come and take a look to see for yourself and have a chat with Carol Lauder-Ross (Manager)

Tel: 01494 865026

or email for a brochure [info@abbeyfieldgreatmissenden.co.uk](mailto:info@abbeyfieldgreatmissenden.co.uk)

Find out more on our website [www.abbeyfield.com](http://www.abbeyfield.com)

## HS2: still OK?

By Colin Sully

I continue to share these HS2 national news stories with you, not to depress you, but simply to illustrate how difficult it is to get anyone senior enough in the Cabinet to pull the plug.

### Another man over-board!

Kier Group are part of the Eiffage-Kier consortium, which is due to build the HS2 line from South Heath all the way to Warwickshire.

In January, the chief executive of Kier was "...stood down with immediate effect", just months after the company launched a poorly received £264m emergency rescue rights issue (see February Newsletter).

### Land costs out of control?

In 2012, HS2 Limited estimated that land and property acquisitions would cost just £1.1 bn. In February, a forecast based on a Freedom of Information Response from HS2 Ltd predicted that the final total for the cost of land and property for Phase 1 had now risen to around £5 bn, five times more than the original budget presented to Parliament.

### What is the final cost?

Appearing before a Select Committee in January, the former boss of HS2, Sir Terry Morgan, claimed that "nobody knows" what the final cost of the high speed line, that was approved by Parliament, will actually be – not HS2 Ltd, not the DfT, not the Government. There is a budget that has not yet been spent, but no-one actually has a handle on the eventual overall cost of the agreed scheme.

This prompted, the current Chief Executive, Mark Thurston, to also comment in February that "*We will (only) know what it costs to build HS2 once we've got all our contractors mobilised, all our supply team mobilised.*" i.e. when it's too late to stop!

### Birmingham only?

After suggestions that Phase 2 of HS2 (to Leeds and Manchester) may not be built, Chris Grayling, the Transport Secretary felt it necessary to say that scrapping the northern sections of the HS2 rail line would be a "huge betrayal of the people in the Midlands and the North".



### Dispatching HS2?

The Channel 4 programme on HS2 in mid-February made the case for cancelling the project, pointing out that other transport projects represented a much better investment of public money.

Andrea Leadsom MP, Leader of the House of Commons, was also reported as "ratcheting up the pressure on the Prime Minister to ditch HS2, expressing fears that the business case for the rail link may no longer exist".

However, after the Channel 4 programme was broadcast, the Prime Minister's official spokesperson said: "*The PM remains fully committed to HS2.*"

Cancelling HS2 still looks as difficult a job as it ever did.

## Money honey?

From Groundwork UK

Two more local projects have been awarded funding as part of the HS2 Community, Environment and Business Funds.

[See also December 2018 Newsletter.]

### Chilterns AONB

The Chilterns Conservation Board has been awarded £240,000 to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and increase public understanding and enjoyment.

The 'Chalk, Cherries and Chairs' project will create new opportunities for people to investigate and celebrate the cultural and natural heritage of the area.

### Colne Valley 'Open for Business' campaign

The Colne Valley Park CIC has been awarded £72,200 to deliver a promotional campaign to reinforce the message that the Colne Valley is open for business during HS2 construction.

The campaign is aimed at retaining an estimated two million annual visitors and supporting rural businesses.

The community and business funds are administered and managed by the independent community charity, Groundwork UK.

For more information on Groundwork and the funds that might be available please visit: [www.groundwork.org.uk](http://www.groundwork.org.uk)

---- ADVERTORIAL ----

## Buckmoorend

Christmas orders were up 58% at Buckmoorend Farm Shop and Kitchen this year with one of many happy customers saying the 'Beef was out of this world' and another that the fillet steaks were 'heavenly'.

The new kitchen, open at weekends, has already become a firm favourite with walkers, guided groups and cycling circuits. Steph, Daniel and Anna were proud to be a water and banana drop off point for Gary King's charity walk on 6th January for Youth Concern. They also provided free cakes to the some 200 who took part and were pleased to donate a proportion of takings too.

~ MEAT THAT'S GOOD TO EAT ~



HOME REARED MEATS



LOCAL PRODUCE

KITCHEN OPEN AT WEEKENDS

Chequers Estate, Missenden Road

Butlers Cross HP17 0UT

SHOP: Wed-Fri 10-6 Sat/Sun 10-4

[www.buckmoorendfarmshop.co.uk](http://www.buckmoorendfarmshop.co.uk)

~ CALL US: 01296 622 472 ~

## CAB @ home

citizens  
advice

From the CAB

Citizens Advice provides a valuable service to anyone needing advice and guidance through today's jungles of bureaucracy and funding.

Citizens Advice Chiltern, based in Chesham, are now providing an advice at home service for the over 65s. The service is free and can help with information such as which social groups are active, help you check if you are receiving the correct benefits or even give you a little bit of help with looking at your energy bills.

If you, a relative, neighbour or friend would like to access this service

### Mervyn's Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Services

Independent carpet cleaning specialist with over 30 years experience.

CARPETS. UPHOLSTERY.  
RUGS. HARD FLOOR.  
CARPET PROTECTION.  
FULLY INSURED.

Friendly and reliable service.  
Most work by recommendation.  
Environmentally friendly  
cleaning materials.

For a no obligation quote 'phone  
**01525 371724** or **07975 847027**  
Email: [mersu@btinternet.com](mailto:mersu@btinternet.com)

then please telephone Max on 07809 408195 or 01494 774748 or email [homeadvice@chilterncab.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:homeadvice@chilterncab.cabnet.org.uk) to arrange an appointment.

## You're never too old to learn something stupid

By The Editor

Paraprosdokian is a figure of speech, which though little known, is well understood by satirists. The key feature is that the final words cause you to reinterpret the first part of the sentence. Here are some examples that may make you smile and who knows, stimulate an article for future editions.

- A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.
- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- A fool and his money are soon elected.
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

- Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others, whenever they go.
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
- When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Brigade usually uses water.
- Two guys walked into a bar. The third one ducked.
- Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.
- We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.

## Pet of the month

By Giles Robertson

Maggie and Alfie



This month, the lady dog is Maggie who loves hanging out with her friend Alfie. The 'Pride of The Lee', Alfie has learnt some manners from Maggie although The Lee would be less fun without them chasing about. Look out for them on their 'play-date' on Fridays.

---- ADVERTORIAL ----

## You couldn't get more local!

We are blessed locally in that each of our villages and hamlets is surrounded by farmland. Sometimes it is all too easy to take this patchwork of Chiltern beauty for granted.



The sheep and the cows, the barley and the corn that we see growing each year all go to feed the nation's appetite. However, some of the produce stays really local. Take for example, the sheep belonging to Bassibones Farm that we see grazing the fields around Lee Common.

The Godden family have been farming at Bassibones Farm since 1980. For over 60 years they have also run a butchers business from their Chesham base.

Every year, in conjunction with the Crawley-White Farm at Chartridge End, they rear lambs in the fields around Lee Common, which are typically available to local customers from October to March.

For more details, contact 07966 035802.

## Shop @ The Lee

By Symeon Economou

A lady came to the shop this week to gather information for an article she is writing about us for a regional magazine. During this brief conversation I tried to convey what I consider to be the essence of the shop and, looking back, I'm not sure I did a good enough job.

I believe that all of us who are involved with it do not see it so much as on the outside serving the community but rather as an integral part of the community and, as such, everyone, volunteers, customers, suppliers, should take credit for making it what it is.

A fly on the wall in the parish hall on Tuesday night would have got a good chance to observe one aspect of

## Cromar Carpets Ltd

CARPETS, VINYL AND  
WOOD FLOORING  
SUPPLIED AND FITTED

9-11 STATION APPROACH  
GREAT MISSENDEN  
01494 862125

this when 30 or more volunteers got together for a very informal meeting on how the shop is doing, celebrate the things we are doing well, and look at ways we could do it better. For just a glass of wine and a few crisps everyone gave up their time to get involved and have a say in keeping this vital village resource fresh and relevant.

One of the facts which came out of the meeting was that, although sales are healthy and still on an upward trend, the footfall has remained virtually the same for the last two or three years. We are looking at ways to spread the word more widely, our recent foray into the (to me) mysterious world of Facebook being just one example.

Saleswise, we will repeat the established events and we are already planning the Greek Food event for the spring. We will continue to look for new exciting deli style produce and we are refreshing our range of frozen ready meals. One or two volunteers rashly offered to give the shop a bit of a facelift and we will look at what we can do to improve the frontage of the shop as well. Any ideas on how we can achieve this would be very welcome.

On a more nitty gritty level we have been very lucky to attract the attention of Don Baker – who used to live at Kings Ash Farm – to help us with the 2018 accounts and, more importantly, to bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a computer-based accounting system. We are never averse to free expert advice!

Finally, whilst we strive to understand our customers' needs, please let us know if we can do better for you and, if you like what you see, please tell your friend. After all, word of mouth is the best advertisement.

## The Lee Parish Council news

By Hayley Farrelly, Clerk

March sees the start of our long anticipated children's fort rebuild. Behind the scenes we have been working for many months with our supplier to refine the design of the new fort so that it has the widest appeal to children of all age groups.

The contractors will start to move onto the site on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March until Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, when they will dismantle the old fort and replace it with the new one. During and immediately after the works have taken place the fort will be out-of-bounds and fencing will be installed to prevent children using it. The new mounds of earth need some time to settle and new grass will be laid. We look forward to officially opening our new fort to the community as soon as possible.

### Road improvements

Oxford Street residents will be pleased to hear that repair works are due to take place to re-surface parts of the road. In addition we have been in discussions, for some time now, with Transport for Bucks (TfB) to introduce white-line painting on the sides of the road that are parking-sensitive areas near the school. We have not had the dates of when these two projects will be done yet but have asked TfB, if at all possible, to fit this around school holidays to reduce the impact of road closures or one-way systems during school pick-up and drop-off times.

Finally, our Annual Parish Meeting is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May and will take place in Parish Hall at 7:30 pm. The agenda will be published in due course.

## Bridge too far?

At our table the bidding went:

W	N	E	S
		1 NT	-
-	Db1	-	-
2 ♦	Db1	-	2 ♠
-			

West lead ♦ J

N/S had the points and eventually won the contract although North's penalty double would have been a problem for East if West had not made a rescue bid of 2♦.

**Rural crime prevention week**  
with the local neighbourhood police team & community safety

Monday 4 March 2019  
10am - 1pm

South Heath Garden Centre  
Meadow Lane, Great Misenden HP8 9SH

Shed security

Defensive planting

Tool marking

Rural crime prevention sessions

THAMES VALLEY POLICE  
Working together for a safer Chiltern and South Bucks

## Personal-Lee

By Zoe Berkeley

In this new feature, each month we meet a different Lee resident to answer our questions about their own personal experience of The Lee.

We would love to hear your experiences: if you would like to be our next subject for 'Personal-Lee', contact theleenewsletter@googlemail.com.

**Ruth Fowler**, who has kindly agreed to be our first willing volunteer, has lived in The Lee since the 1980's. She is a parish councillor and part of the HS2 liaison group on behalf of the council. Ruth is on The Shop committee, as well as being a volunteer and is responsible for setting up The Shop's Facebook page! She has also recently joined the Newsletter editorial team.

### SHORT-TERM RENTALS

From £295 per week (all inclusive)

**Self-catering holiday or temporary accommodation at Lee Common**

#### Moving house?

- Completion dates don't coincide?
- House sale falls through?
- Builders outstaying their welcome?

#### Expecting Visitors?

Need extra accommodation?

*Self-contained Period Property:  
sleeps four guests*

**Tel: 01494 837798**

e-mail: lowerbassibones@yahoo.co.uk

#### Who's in your household?

My husband Graham and myself; our son, Tommo, was born and grew up here, but now lives in London.

**Where did you grow up? Why the move to The Lee and how long have you lived here?**

I grew up in North West London and moved here with Graham in 1987. We were vaguely familiar with the area and were looking for a property in a hilltop village between Chesham, Great Missenden, Tring and Wendover.

We ended up here and have lived in our house ever since. One of the selling points of our house was the old forge, giving me a separate workspace. I was working at home at the time in software development and it was nice to have some separation between home and work even though the office was only across the drive.

**What do you like most about the area?**

The fact that it is still a rural agricultural village and I can look out of my window and have the view that I do. There is a great sense of community and everybody knows everybody here. Many years ago, a lady called Bessie Austin used to live in our house. When we first moved here and people asked where we lived, they didn't recognise the name of the cottage but once we said we lived in her home, everybody instantly knew our house. We lived in 'Bessie Austin's house' for the first few years.

**What has the village given you and what have you brought to it?**

The village has given me a sense of community and belonging. When we first moved here, we were definitely newcomers for many years as there are many people who've been here for

several generations in comparison. People were so welcoming from the beginning. We moved in just before Christmas and within the first week we had already been invited to two Christmas drinks parties by our neighbours. People really made an effort to introduce themselves. As our son went to the local school, we met lots of people that way and got involved in school events. We won the cup in the walking treasure hunt one year too.

In terms of what I have bought to The Lee, I hope people would say "participation."

#### What's missing?

Powerful broadband - when we moved in there wasn't internet and there weren't mobile phones, but I feel our communication infrastructure still needs some improvement.

**What is your favourite local building or house?**

My own house, because it's home! Whilst there are lots of lovely houses around, there isn't one I'd rather live in.

**How would you spend your perfect day in The Lee and surrounding areas?**

A perfect day would involve it being summer and a walk in the sunshine, followed by a pub lunch.

**What is your favourite village event?**

The Fayrfax Consort Christmas concert in the Old Church is really special.

**Do you have a favourite locally based anecdote or story?**

We had held a party here for my parents' ruby wedding anniversary, back in the early 90s. Many of the guests were from London, predominantly elderly and already slightly bemused by

being in the countryside. We were in the garden with the side gate open when a bunch of Hell's Angels wandered in (this was when The Gate was still a bikers' pub). After the initial shock of seeing a group of hairy men in leathers at a sedate afternoon tea, it turned out that they had joined us to inform us that one of their Harley's had broken down outside and was awaiting recovery. No sooner had they left than the party divided into two clear sections: those who just needed a quiet cup of tea to recover from the shock and those who went to drool over the bike.

**What tips would you give to people moving to the area?**

Get involved in village life as you are missing out on so much if you don't. Sign up to The Lee Forum, as it's a great way to exchange information and ask questions.

### J Brown Funeral Services

67 Woodside Road, Amersham, HP6 6AA  
01494 727474 (24 hours)

*A truly independent family funeral directors*

Bespoke and traditional services

- Private chapels of rest
- Pre-paid funeral plans
- Off street client parking
- Home visits



Contact Jason Brown on: 01494 727474  
jason@jbrownfuneralservices.co.uk



Recommended by  
The Good Funeral Guide

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> of the previous month (see contact details on page 1).

## March

*Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>.* **Coffee Morning** at the Methodist Church.

*Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>.* **The Lee Walking Group.** Meet at 9:30 am.

*Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>.* **50s and 60s Legends Night** at Ballinger Hall. Live golden oldies music with dinner and dancing.

*Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>.* **The Lee Parish Council Meeting.** Parish Hall 7:30 pm.

*Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** 'Building Georgian Towns': Adam Smith. 8:00 pm.

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup>.* **Children's playground.** Scheduled start of fort replacement work (see page 23).

*Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>.* **Gregorian Chance at The Lee Old Church.** See February.

*Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>.* **Litter pick-up.** See February Newsletter.

*Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>.* **The Arts Society Ballinger.** 'From Bronzes to Banksy - an armchair tour of public and street art.' 8:00 pm. Guests £8.

## Coming soon

*Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April.* **The Lee Walking Group.** Meet at The Lee Green at 9:30 am.

*Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April.* **Coffee Morning.** Methodist Church 10:30 am to 12 noon.

*Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** 'Volunteering in Cambodia': Carol McCutcheon. 8:00 pm

*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.* **The Lee Old Church AGM.**

*Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April.* **Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** 11:30 am in the parish church (see page 16).

*Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** The Thames Path: Jo Laurie.

*Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May.* **Annual Parish Meeting.** 7:30 pm - agenda later.

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.* **Art Exhibition** at St Mary's, Ballinger featuring work by Jo Laurie's painters.

*Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** 'Seated Flexibility Exercises': Joan Cooper. 8:00 pm.

*Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June.* **The Lee Church Fête.** Save the date!

*Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** Bagels and Bacon: Jeff Rozelaar.

*Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July.* **The Lee Flower Show and Dance.** Save the date!

*Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.* **Ballinger Evening WI.** 'The Disappearance of Major Glenn Miller': Tony Eaton.

*Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.* **Bonfire night!**

*Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November.* **Roving Supper.** Save the date!

## Directory of local contacts

**Ballinger Horticultural Society**  
Chairperson: Brenda Gover  
info@ballingerhorti.co.uk

**Ballinger War Memorial Hall**  
Bookings: Jane Ogden, 837379

**Ballinger Evening W.I.**  
Contact: Frankie Little, 837659  
frankie.little@btinternet.com

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 or place an insert, please contact Paul Apicella on 837377 by the 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Barnaby Osborne on 837382.

Other members of the Editorial team: Peter Archer, Zoe Berkeley, Ruth Fowler, Phil Harrison, Liz Macann, Jen Ogle, Adam Speller and Colin Sully.

Printed by Strongs: 01442 878592.

### To book the Parish Hall or Scout Hut

'phone Anne Barnett on 837796

Rates	9 am - 1 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)	

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

**Lee Common Methodist Church**  
Marian Tomkins, 837479

**Lee Common Scouts**  
Scout Leader Thomas Brockett:  
837294 or brockett8@hotmail.com

**Leeside Nursery**  
Nancy Stephens, 837719  
www.leesidenurseryschool.co.uk

**Shop @ The Lee**  
Symeon Economou, 837195  
theleeshop@yahoo.co.uk

**St John the Baptist Church**  
See centre pages.

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

**The Art Society Ballinger**  
Chair, Lesley Wickham, 865480  
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@googlemail.com

**The Lee Old Church Trust**  
Secretary: Pam Garner 837501

**The Lee Parish Council**  
Clerk: Hayley Farrelly, 837068  
theleeparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk  
www.thelee-pc.org.uk

Allotments: Alison Weir, 837529

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

**The Leeway**  
Contact, 837177

**Vocal Lees**  
Jeannette Batten, 837450