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From the Editor

At last, the days feel like they're getting longer. The snowdrops are out and soon the daffodils will be cheering us up.

This is a packed issue of The Clarion, with information about the imminent opening of the new care home in Lane End (p58), how volunteering makes you happy (p36) wonderful news of our parish clerk's new baby (p9) and exciting progress on Lane End's playing fields (p10).

We're so lucky in Lane End to have so much to get involved with, whatever your interest. If you care about how our village looks, there's Lane End Conservation Group. A theatrical sort, there's Lane End Players. If you just want a chat and some company, there's the lunch club at the community centre, or OPAG (Older Person's Action Group) once a month for interesting talks.

Spring is a time for trying something new, why not get involved? Have a look at the What's On pages for inspiration. Please be sure to let me know if things change so I can keep it up to date.

Katy Dunn, editor katydunn@btinternet.com / 883883

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Acting Parish Clerk ♦

Deirdre Hansen

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Cllr Tim Nolan

🦋 New councillor Tim Nolan by Katy Dunn



Lane End Parish Council has a new councillor in the team.

Tim Nolan is a board director, CEO and consultant with a

25 year career in strategy development, governance, risk assessment and commercial leadership for household names like Tesco and Carphone Warehouse.

Tim has lived in Lane End since 2006 after seeing a house he liked the look of on a bike ride in the area. Having started the day with no thought of moving, by the end of the day, he'd put in an offer on a house.

Tim says he 'likes to contribute, to know what's going on and be an active member of the community.' He was impressed with Lane End Parish Council because 'people are doing great work for the right reasons.'

With his passion for sport, Tim has a particular interest in ensuring Lane End playing fields becomes a lively active hub once again and that the new MUGA gets good use. He's also keen to ensure the Wycombe district local plan is done well. Welcome Tim! And thanks for volunteering.

Upcoming Meetings

The next meetings start at 7.30pm on:

7 March Cadmore End village hall
4 April Cadmore End village hall
2 May Annual Parish Meeting Lane End village hall

All are welcome.

Allotments

There are three allotments sites in the Parish, Chalky Fields, Bunkers and Sandyfields. If you would like more information about allotments please contact the Parish Clerk.

Can you help deliver the Clarion?

We need volunteers to help deliver the Clarion. If you can spare an hour or so four times a year to push a few magazine through a few doors, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Planning Applications

The Planning Applications relevant to the Lane End Parish Council are updated on the Parish Councils website www.laneendparishcouncil.org.uk every Monday from the official list of verified applications supplied by WDC.

Whilst the Parish Council does not have the power to determine applications its local knowledge is sought on each and every application.

Street lights

To report a faulty street light please note the column number, the road where the street light is situated and the nearest property and report to the Clerk - Hayley Glasgow 437111 clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

Pot Holes / road repairs

You can track and report pot holes/ road repairs through the Buckinghamshire County Council website <http://transportforbucks.net/report-it-pothole.aspx> or you can call them on 01296 395000 / 0845 3708090 Monday to Thursday 9am-5.30pm and Friday 9am to 5pm.

If you consider this to be dangerous or an emergency, please call BCC on: 01296 382416 (9am-5.30pm Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm Friday) or 01296 486630 (out of hours and weekends).

Talk to us

We would love to hear your comments / suggestions / complaints or compliments. Please contact the Parish Clerk Hayley Glasgow 01494 437111 / clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk



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From a parish clerk

by Deirdre Hansen, Acting Clerk to Lane End Parish Council

When asked all those months ago If I would consider doing maternity cover for Hayley, I thought I could learn a lot from working in such a diverse parish for a few months and it should be fun.

I had just given up one of my parish council jobs to spend more time on voluntary activities, but those could be delayed for a while.

I am clerk to Bradenham and Ibstone Parish Councils as well as clerk to the Chilterns Conservation Board. Lane End Parish is much bigger than my other two, is more urbanised, owns land and there is more going on in a larger community.

Hayley worked up until Poppy arrived and I started with a bang after Christmas. First phone call was about a broken street light! Well, I know nothing about street lights, don't know Lane End very well, but with help quickly worked out what to do. A street map is a wonderful thing.

What was obvious from the start is what amazing councillors you have in Lane End. They work tirelessly, as unpaid volunteers, on a whole range of projects and issues. I am so

impressed with them, they put an awful lot of hard work into making Lane End a welcoming and happy environment. I could not cover the job without their extra efforts. Even Hayley is not 'off' all the time. You are a very fortunate parish.

I have seen a quote about parish councils saying 'knowledgeable amateurs without whom Democracy is impossible', this is so true.

Clerking for a parish council is a funny job. Parish councils are the lowest form of Local Government. Depending on size (small, medium or large) all have the same legal responsibilities, but can take on more if they so wish and small ones due to their size generally have few responsibilities.

The clerk is the 'Proper Officer' of the council and often the only paid employee.

There is compiling of agendas for meetings, doing minutes, accounts, filing, advising the council and actioning the decisions the council makes at meetings. Dealing with enquiries from the public, which can be about anything even gliss

gliss! Daily emails are numerous and life as a clerk is never dull.

I am only working half the hours that Hayley does, so not as much gets done or as quickly. I ask for your patience. The councillors have taken on extra tasks to help out.

At least I am familiar with Wycombe District Council, their planning department and the officers at Bucks County Council.

The first month has been a speedy learning process, with a lot to pick up. My other two councils had meetings in the same week! All matters urgent come at the same time. A month flies by.



Parish clerk Hayley Glasgow has a new baby girl. Poppy was born on 22 December 2016 at 7lbs 9oz. Congratulations Hayley!

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Lane End Playing Fields

Report by Cllr Graeme Coulter

Most people in the village will be aware of the Lane End Playing Fields but sadly fewer people are taking advantage of the facilities that are available there. This is perhaps not surprising because regrettably over the years the standard of these facilities has declined and they are now in need of urgent renovation.

The Clubhouse remains open and continues to host the Lane End football teams as well as offering social events and providing bar facilities. However,

the Clubhouse is in need of renovation and the changing facilities and showers require significant work. The floodlit multi-use games area is no longer in use and is now effectively derelict. In addition, and due to safety reasons, it unfortunately also became necessary to close the Children's Play Area.

The Parish Council is the owner of

the Playing Fields and it has long been aware of the gradual decline in the facilities that are available there. It has always regarded the Playing Field as one of the key community assets that are available within our Parish and determined some years ago that it would prioritise the renovation of these facilities. It was clear however that the sums of money involved to achieve this would be

significant and it was decided to wait until the funds were available to undertake major works rather than spend smaller sums of money on relatively minor improvements.

That time has now arrived and in February, work started on a major refurbishment of the Clubhouse. This work will see the complete refurbishment of the showers and changing rooms as

well as major work to

the outside of the building. During the course of this work a large portion of the existing electrical and plumbing services will also be replaced together with the installation of a new fire alarm system. As always, there is not enough money to do everything and it is hoped that further refurbishment works will follow on in the not too distant future.



At the same time as the Clubhouse is being refurbished, work will start on a replacement for the existing multi-use games area. This will have a football focus and will comprise a new 40m by 22m 3G playing surface enclosed with metal fencing. It will be floodlit by 6 LED Floodlights along the sides and provide one of the few 3G facilities in the area.

It is anticipated that both these works will be completed and available for use by early May. However, in the interim both the Clubhouse and the Playing Fields will have to be closed for a period of time.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that a

large proportion of the funds for undertaking these works have come about as a result of housing developments in the village. The District Council receives a levy from the developers and a proportion of this is passed onto the Parish Council.

As such, the recent developments of the old ELGA Site and the old Culver Graphics Site have both made a significant contribution to the refurbishment works now taking place at the Playing Fields. As further funds are received from new housing developments in Lane End it will be possible use these funds to continue improving facilities at the Playing Fields.



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The lowdown



Lane End Players

Report by Georgie Brooks

A pantomime camel; brilliant costumes and lights; a real cave which opened with a grating noise when you shouted the magic words (Thank goodness there were children and adults to help the forgetful professor!); exciting songs and dances; a comic barber's shop; a mean baddie (Boo! Boo!); a quest (You have to have a quest); a love affair; a song for everyone to sing; and... 'Behind you!!!'. There was absolutely nothing missing from the Lane End Players' 'Aladdin'.

It's hardly surprising that people-in-the-know queued up for tickets on the first day the box office was open in November; that it ran for nine performances up to the weekend at the end of January and that it was a sell out. A retired national drama adjudicator came with her grandchildren because she knows Lane End always do brilliant shows...that's a top compliment!

After the success of 'Ali Baba', our next production will be on April 28/29 and May 5/6 at 7.30 pm. 'Going Green' by David Tristram is a bitter-sweet comedy about a rising politician in the Green Party.



Tickets are already available online at www.laneendplayers.com,

Or by emailing

boxoffice@laneendplayers.com

and by telephoning 01494 880662.

The Box Office at the Village Hall will be open from 25 March at 9.30 – 12noon. The prices remain the same at £8 Adults and £6 Concessions for the first Friday only, the rest of the performances being £10 Adults and £8 Concessions.

The Summer Show will be on 23 and 24 June, with lots of songs and sketches from the Eighties. Watch this space for more info.

Lane End Horticultural Society

Report by Daniel Lacey

The date for this years annual show has been moved to **Saturday 2 September**, to be held in Lane End Village hall. The show is a day full of competitions including baking, best in class for vegetables, cut flowers, best allotment, kids competitions and many more.

The competitions are open to anyone and new entrants are always encouraged! Look out for the Show Programmes and competition lists in August (These will be available from Londis Lane End, McColls, Kings Cards and Laceys Farm Shop).

The society is now in its 126th year. For the last 25 years, Trevor Perrin has been the secretary, but retired at the end of last year. The President and committee would like to express their thanks to Trevor for all the hard work and commitment he has put in to the society for such a long time, and he will be hard to replace!

Anyone interested to find out more about the society and show day please contact the President for further details. Daniel Lacey 01494 882230.



Lane End OPAG

Report by Jane Osborn

This is the time of year when many people's thoughts turn to warmer climes – so if you are 50+ why not come along to one of our talks on such varied topics as the First World War or travelling in Ethiopia (do you know what wild hyena breath smells like or have you seen the Ark of the Covenant procession?) We also hold regular quizzes to keep our brain cells active.

These meetings are always stimulating so do come to Lane End OPAG. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in Lane End Youth & Community Centre, Edmonds Road - to meet other interesting people and enjoy a cup of tea.

Alternatively, if you have led an interesting life / have a fascinating or unusual hobby we would be delighted to hear from you. To find out more about the Lane End OPAG - contact Jane Osborn (881641 / janemosborn3@gmail.com).

Lane End Conservation Group

Report by Jane Osborn

By the time you read this, Lane End Conservation Group will have been re-launched.

We will have participated in the Great British Spring Clean over the weekend of 3-5 March and we are hoping that many of our fellow residents of the Parish of Lane End will also have taken part.

Just think what a difference it will make to the look of our Parish if every resident just went outside their house and cleaned up any rubbish they saw lying around – and it is never too late to do so!

If you would like to get more actively or regularly involved in looking after our wonderful village, please take a look at our website:

laneendconservationgroup.co.uk

Contact Margaret Adnitt
882609 /
margaret.adnitt@gmail.com) or

Jane Osborn 881641 /
janemosborn3@gmail.com).





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The British Legion was founded in 1921 as a voice for the ex-service community. It was a merger of four organisations:

the Comrades of the Great War, the National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers, the National Federation of Discharged and Demobilized Sailors and Soldiers and the Officers' Association. It was granted a Royal Charter on 29 May 1971 to mark its fiftieth anniversary which gives the Legion the privilege of the prefix 'Royal'.

The Lane End Branch was formed on 27 June 1921. Over the years, the Lane End Branch has organised many events to raise funds for ex-servicemen and women. The most important of these events have been the Poppy Appeal and the Remembrance Day Parade in Lane End.

Last year, during the Poppy Appeal, we collected and sent in a total of £4702.51.

There were 16 foot collectors. We were grateful for all the shops, public houses, businesses and especially the three schools (Lane End, Cadmore End and Frieth) for taking static poppy boxes. Our Poppy Appeal Organiser, Andrew MacTavish,

01494 881948, is always looking for new volunteers to become a foot collector.

As is traditional, we placed crosses on the eight war graves in Lane End churchyard, and we placed a wreath and crosses on the Widdington Height Lancaster memorial stone.

As usual, at 11 o'clock on the 11th of November we held two minutes silence at the New War Memorial and put wreaths on the Memorial.

The parade at Lane End Village Hall on Remembrance Sunday was bigger than ever with over 250 villagers and local dignitaries attending.

The Legion on parade were joined by members of our local Territorial Army from Booker, 871 Postal and Courier Squadron, Royal Logistics Corps, and by a recently retired member of 2nd Rifles (the descendants of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry) who laid a wreath in memory of a friend who died in Afghanistan.

Peter Philp's Book, Four Pubs and Two Duck Ponds has a photo of the Parade in 1960, page 39, showing only about 60+ persons attending.

This is interesting, as we have noticed that while the appetite for fund-raising events has reduced, the Poppy collection and the Remembrance Day attendances have increased each year recently.

Lane End Fete

Report by Bob Nix

This year, by popular request, the much-loved Lane End fete will revert to its traditional second Saturday on 10 June 2017.



As always we hope to produce an afternoon of joy and delight and it's a great opportunity to bring the village together.

The organisers always welcome new ideas and input to keep the event enjoyable, as well as helpers to organise and sort out the traditional events on the day.

OK, you're stumped for ideas? Here is a novel one. Contact any member of the village hall management team or Bob the fete organiser on 01494 881000 and give some time on the day.

We always appreciate offers of

help and it is nice to allow stall holders a chance to enjoy the afternoon and look around if someone mans the stall for an hour or two to give a short relief.

Have you a charity you support or are you a local organisation who wants to fundraise? There is always room within the fete to take a pitch and raise funds. Whilst we stage the event to help maintain the village hall, we always welcome other fund raisers at the fete

(the pitch fee is very reasonable).

For any further details contact Bob Nix on 01494 881000 or Nix682@btinternet.com.



Lane End WI

Report by Ann Carter



We hope you have seen the clock on the front porch of the Village Hall and maybe synchronised your watches by it! We presented this to the Village to celebrate 100 years of the WI in England & Wales (1915 – 2015).

In early December we had a very enjoyable Christmas Dinner at Par-moor followed the next day by the Christmas Tea in the Village Hall. Approximately 75 people attended and were entertained by The Black Dog Band while they tucked in to a sumptuous tea.

In January we 'travelled' with Polly Scott to Bali and Indonesia and in February Mike Dewey talked about Our Village in the Great War. Our Annual Quiz is on 17 March and then on 27 March we are trying our hand at card making with Edna Szulc.

You can be assured of a warm welcome if you would like to come along to the Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall at 8pm on the last Monday in the month (unless it's a Bank Holiday). Contact Ann Carter on 881098 for information.

Hambleden Valley Gardening Club

Report by Janet Collins

Our final talk of the year was presented by award-winning Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Show exhibitor, Jackie Watson. She showed us how to make the most stunning table Christmas decoration, making it all look so simple! As usual, we finished off the evening with mulled wine and mince pies.

Our first talk this year was presented by John Catton on the fascinating subject of bees. I had no idea that we had so many different types in this country, around 250 species of which 225 are solitary bees, 24 are bumblebees with just one honeybee. Not only did John describe these different bees but gave us ideas on how to encourage their survival and even how to make a simple bumblebee nest. We are greatly anticipating our February talk which will be presented by Fergus Garrett.

Please check What's On for our club events and pencil in the **Plant Sale** to be held this year at a **new venue** of the Fingest Great Barn at Manor Farm, Fingest. Bargain plants donated by members and a chance to sit in the lovely surroundings of the Great Barn with a cup of tea and homemade cake. All welcome! Please call 01491 638691.

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I'll cut right to the chase, because I'm certain that you've been waiting since the last edition of The Clarion to find out about our plans to enter a second league side into the Mid Bucks league structure. Our request was approved in December, therefore you'll see Frieth Cricket Club in Mid Bucks League Divisions 1 and 3 for the 2017 season – a fantastic achievement for our Club.

The step up in league teams does create more than just a need for 22 cricketers each Saturday, we're also working hard to recruit extra umpires, scorers and assistant grounds-people. League points are awarded to teams who provide an umpire and scorer, and two teams does of course mean that our needs have doubled.

Additionally, more teams means more fixtures, which in turn means more work will be needed to prepare and maintain pitches for our matches. If you have any time, skills or experience that you can offer in terms of umpiring, scoring or ground keeping, we'd love to hear from you; we'll be able to pay for formal train-

ing if this helps to sweeten the deal! Ring us on **07879 855353** or email friethcricket@btinternet.com for more information.

We'll now have a total of three teams playing per weekend – two on a Saturday and one on a Sunday. Each team will offer different playing experiences, therefore players of any ability or competitiveness will be catered for this season. The Saturday teams place more significance on the result, and this in turn reflects on the cricketing ability of the players,

whereas our Sunday side is a very social group, with the cricket a side-effect of a group of people getting together for a chat and some exercise during the afternoon.

Some people may fancy having a go, but are

anxious about whether they'll be good enough - I was the same when I started playing in 2009. To give you a chance to meet some of our players and to have a go with 'nothing at stake', we are organising some cricket nets that run until the end of April in Marlow. Anyone is more than welcome to come along and have a go,



and there'll be no need for you to commit to anything until you're completely comfortable. If you'd like to play, or come along to our net sessions, please do contact us!

Although the winter months have put a stop to our on-field exploits, work has continued behind the scenes to prepare the Club for another year of strong fundraising for the New Pavilion Fund. A large part of this planning is based around our Social Calendar, and we are close to confirming a number of cricket, and non-cricket based events throughout the

year. It our hope that we can finalise our diary in early March – if you'd like to receive details when they're confirmed, let us know and we can add you to our mailing list.

On behalf of everyone involved with Frieth Cricket Club, I'd like to thank you all for your historic, and anticipated support this coming season. We look forward to welcoming you to the Club, and to representing cricket in Frieth, Lane End and the surrounding areas throughout 2017.



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Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory

EASTER 2017 Playscheme

Wednesday 5 and 12 April
2017, 10am-3pm.

6 yrs plus - £10 per child
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Art, crafts, cooking, sports, games,
stories and so much more. Places
go fast, so book yours now!



Thursday Lunch Club 12-1.30pm

What a fabulous Christmas lunch day we had. We enjoyed arrival drinks, a delicious full Christmas dinner and pudding, followed by mince pies and tea/coffee. Some fun entertainment was organised by Val and Sylvia and a great raffle.

Thank you to the volunteers for helping on the day, and of course thanks to all the regulars who attend lunch club each week.

Maybe you would like to join us this year? Every Thursday we welcome you into the Centre for a two-course cooked dinner with tea or coffee for £5.50. We currently have a small group of volunteers who take turns



each week to provide approximately 20 people a delicious hot meal. We are always looking for people who can help, cook or serve at this club, maybe you have two hours a month you can spare to help out, if so please get in touch.

Computer Club Every Thursday 11.30am-2pm

This club is run by Charmain who is on hand to help with any computer/tablet/iPad problems you may have.

It is a 'drop in' session with no formal structure. If you need help with setting up/retrieving emails, internet security, downloading and editing photos or any IT query, Charmain will be on hand to point you in the right direction!

This is a FREE facility but we do appreciate a donation if you can afford it when you visit, pop in with your laptop or use one of ours,

everyone is welcome!

Coffee Shop Mondays 10.30am-12noon

Do you want to meet new local people? Then come along to our coffee morning, every Monday at 10am. All ages welcome.



Children's Bingo

Easter egg bingo on Monday 10 April 2017

Both sessions start at 1.30pm, with tickets on sale at £2.50 per child at 1pm. Don't forget the tuck shop will be selling all your favourite sweets and drinks. No need to book just pop along!



dents. Pop into the Centre or call anytime to check availability and prices for private hire.



Please add 'Lane End Youth & Community Centre' on Facebook, ask to join the group and you will become one of the first to find out about all our latest events! Don't forget to check out our wonderful website too www.leycc.co.uk

An entertaining evening of mediumship - Saturday 13 May

Once again Wonky Wand are proud to announce an evening with Natalie the medium at LEYCC. Doors open at 7.30pm. Licensed Bar available. Tickets are £12 each and can be purchased at ticketsource.co.uk/date/334198

Having a party? The Centre is so versatile and can be used for many different events and celebrations. We are very competitively priced, offering discounts to Lane End resi-



Disco night

50s & 60s themed disco – Sat 17 June. Bring your own drink and nibbles, raffle, tickets £7 per person

Remember the Centre is here for the community, please support it!

Lane End Youth & Community Centre,
Edmonds Road, Lane End, HP14 3EJ
Tel: 01494 883878 / 07932 326046
Email: leycc@hotmail.co.uk
Charity Number: 1101360

Lane End Scouts

Report by Ian Harris

We can be heroes, just for one day.

We are very lucky here at Lane End Scouts to have a very inclusive leader team across the four Sections we run. Everybody has a section to which they are attached and weekly they attend that meeting night running the programs they so diligently plan each term.

On occasions, additional help is required for an activity, or because a leader cannot make a meeting night. It is at this point that the guys from the other sections step up to help out what has become to be known as their 'Scouting family'.

Our Leaders all come from different walks of life, have different personalities, different opinions, but share one common goal and that is the development of well-rounded young people from our communities.

We all attend the same training, all adhere to the National Scouting

guidelines, but at Lane End the magic happens because we are that supportive, inclusive team. The picture below shows us at our Group Christmas Dinner held at the Grouse and Ale, where not only was the food brilliant, (as was the one very small schooner of dry sherry I had) but the feeling of fun, respect and belonging all these Local Heroes embody made for the most enjoyable evening.



We are lucky to have a number of Heroes in our community and not just from a Scouting perspective. Laura Pettifer, the owner of Gateway Barbers in the Village, chooses a charity to sponsor each year and using social media, challenged our community to nominate a local charity for 2017. After a hard fought battle, which by all accounts went right down to the wire, 1st Lane End Scout Group just emerged as the most

nominated by a nose. The also excellent Youth and Community Centre (another cohort of local heroes) were mere inches behind and so close was the final result, Laura has committed to supporting them during 2018 - Thank you to Laura, the Youth of our village appreciate your support massively.

Two of our Explorer Scouts are doing their Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme through their secondary schools and both have to carry out six months community volunteering as part of it.

They have elected to do that within the younger sections of our Scout Group. They have committed (in a busy time for them educationally) to help support our Scouting Family on a weekly basis and that in itself demonstrates that our goal of developing well-rounded young people is working and makes them Local Heroes in their own right.

And so to matters Scouting; the Beaver Section is full, The Cub Scout Section is oversubscribed, the Scout Section is the largest we have had for many years and only has four spaces left, and the newly formed Explorer Scout Section is 50% full, representing a massive growth of attendees across the Group in all sections.

These figures, whilst brilliant for us as a Group also give us a new set of challenges and we have a grow-



ingly urgent need for a few more Local adult heroes to come and join our Scouting family. Please if you have ever considered getting involved, even if it's just for a few nights a year, give me a call.

We welcome support in many ways and in whatever form not just volunteering to be a leader, you might be a plumber, electrician or carpenter who could help us with maintenance on our Victorian Headquarters. You might even be a generous millionaire! If you'd like to get involved in any way with this long running and priceless youth community asset, then please give me a call.

Many thanks

Ian Harris - Group Scout Leader
1st Lane End Scouts (est, 1909)

Lane End Scouts and Guides
Registered Charity 308008

Contact Ian Harris
Group Scout Leader
1st Lane End Scouts (est 1909)

laneend@chilternvalescouts.org.uk

Tel 880617

Nature notes

Swifts Update

Article by Tim Grout Smith

In the last edition of The Clarion, I asked for help in a project to set up nest boxes for swifts in Holy Trinity tower. As many of us have observed, the sound of summer swifts has been getting fainter in the village in recent years. This could be due to a shortage of suitable nest sites, as buildings get renovated. The bell tower seemed the best potential site and the Parochial Church Council willingly gave permission. The Bucks Bird Club made a generous grant for materials, and our Clarion call brought forth lots of willing helpers.



Ross Osborn, a former architect, agreed to make up the plans we needed, and I spent some hours scrabbling around in the tower while balancing on a four inch beam and avoiding the bells.

To complicate matters, the oak louvres were set into the tower openings at forty-five degrees, probably over a hundred years ago, so have warped somewhat in the interim.

But Ross made wonderfully detailed drawings, which I took out to our five volunteer carpenters, prior to buying the plywood. But when I delivered it around the village a few days later, I was de-

Email: katyjdunn@btinternet.com and **share** here any local photos, wildlife stories or interesting nature encounters...

lighted to find that both Mel Davies and Peter Sears had already acted on the plans and produced beautiful, meticulously-finished boxes. Paul Thomas, Bob High, Arthur Twitchen and I will need to be on good form to match them!

The picture shows me preparing to install the first two boxes in the west face of the tower. Given the irregular spaces, I will probably need to make some on-site adjustments to ensure the boxes fit snugly, but so far we look on target to have some of the best-housed swifts in Bucks!

It is very heartening to get such support for these superb birds, which enrich all our lives, and I'd like to express my thanks again to all who have contributed.



Six things you might not know about bluebells

1/ The bluebell has many names: English bluebell, wild hyacinth, wood bell, bell bottle, Cuckoo's Boots, Wood Hyacinth, Lady's Nightcap and Witches' Thimbles, Hyacinthoides non-scripta

2/ It is against the law to intentionally pick, uproot or destroy bluebells

3/ If you plant bluebells, you should make sure it's the English bluebell, not the Spanish version. This is a more vigorous plant and could out-compete our delicate native flower

4/ Almost half the world's bluebells are found in the UK, they're relatively rare in the rest of the world

5/ Bluebell colonies take a long time to establish - around 5-7 years from seed to flower.

6/ Bluebells can take years to recover after footfall damage. If a bluebell's leaves are crushed, they die back from lack of food as the leaves cannot photosynthesise.

Chiltern Walking Festival

Report by Jackie Ellis

There's a new Chilterns Walking Festival taking place this year from 15-29 May. It features more than 70 walks and activities over 15 days.



Enthusiastic local guides and walk leaders will be sharing their deep love and understanding of the Chilterns countryside. There will be new themed walks including Chilterns food and drink, Iron Age Hill-forts and Midsomer Murders film locations.

There'll be walks for young families, for people with limited mobility or with a particular interest.

The May festival is one of six taking place over three years in spring and autumn thanks to LEADER grant funding by the Chilterns Conservation

Board in association with The National Trust, The Chiltern Society and ramblers groups.

A full programme is available on the website visitchilterns.co.uk but highlights include:

- * A guided walking tour of Midsomer Murders film locations around Henley-on-Thames
- * Leisurely days of countryside cycling on an Electric bike tour
- * Woodland walks with bushcraft, foraging and breadmaking in the Chalfonts
- * Learning about watercress-growing in Bovingdon thanks to the Boxmoor Trust
- * An ancient feast with an Iron Age menu.





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What's On?

To include your event or group meeting (free) email: katyjdunn@btinternet.com
Please also be sure to inform me of any changes

Mondays

Regulars

Simply Walk—10am Meet Lane End Playing Field's car park. Walk and chat for 1-2 hours

Drop-in coffee morning—10.30-12.30am, LEYCC, Edmonds Road, Lane End. Tel: 883878

Gentle Exercise for over 60s—2-3pm LEYCC

Rainbows and Brownies—4.30-7.30 Frieth Village Hall. Email friethbrownies@hotmail.com

Lane End Evening WI—Last Monday of the month at 8pm in Lane End Village Hall

Pilates with Lauren—6-8pm LEYCC £50 for 6 week course. Tel 07709 430634

Bridge Club—7.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Lane End Runners—meet 6pm Lane End Playing Fields car park. Contact Chrissie Quinn, misschristina@talktalk.net

Monday events

10 April—Easter children's bingo. 1.30pm LEYCC, £2.50. Tel Emma on 883878

15-29 May—Chilterns Walking Festival. Visitchilterns.co.uk for details.

Tuesdays

Regulars

Child Health Clinic—First and third of the month, 9.30-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 472121 Just turn up

French for Little Ones (Babies and pre-schoolers) - 1.50-2.30pm. Just turn up. Tel 01628 472121

West Wycombe WI—Third Tuesday in the month (except August) 2pm in West Wycombe Village Hall. New members and visitors welcome. Tel Janice 881049

Hambleton Valley Gardening Club—7.30pm, First Tuesday of the month, Skirmett Village Hall. Tel 01491 638690

Senior youth club— LEYCC, 6.30-8.30pm, call Mark Lockwood 07787 402636

Bingo — 7.30pm Sycamore Room Lane End Village Hall

Slimming World—7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Call Kathy on 07776 285071

Parish council meetings—10 Jan 10, 7 Feb 7 March, Cadmore End Village Hall

Tuesday Events

7 March—7.30 Skirmett village hall. Talk on delphiniums by Graham Austin. Tel 01491 638691

30 May—7.30 Skirmett village hall. Visit to Tythrop Manor gardens with guided tour by head gardener. Tel 01491 638691

Wednesdays

Regulars

Pacey—(for childminders and nannies) 9.30-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 472121 Just turn up

Bridge Club—1.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Sticky Kids—2-2.45pm, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 472121 Just turn up

School of Traditional Medieval Fencing—7.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Junior youth club (7-11yr olds)—LEYCC, 6-8pm. call Mark Lockwood 07787 402636

Beginners Jive classes, Frieth Village Hall. Doors open 7.30pm, class 8pm. Fun & friendly class, no partner required. £5 the-rockingrebels@gmail.com or 07947 106607

Wednesday events

5 and 12 April—Easter Playscheme LEYCC Tel Emma on 883878.

21 June—Visit by coach to Upton Wold garden with guided tour. Exceptional collection of trees and shrubs. Tel 01491 638691

Thursdays

Regulars

Simply Walk—10am Lane End Playing Field's car park. Walk and chat for 1-2 hours

Coffee Stop—Village Hall 10-12noon. Coffee and chat. All welcome, run by Methodist Church

Computers@The Centre—11.30-2pm LEYCC

The Drop-In (Social lunch) - 12-1.30pm LEYCC

Four Ends Flower Club—Fourth Thursday of the month 2pm in Lane End Village Hall. Visitors £5. Flower arranging demonstration, raffle, tea and cake. Contact 482724

LEOPAG—First Thursday of the month 2-4pm LEYCC

Lane End Players—8pm Village Hall Tel 483359

West Wycombe Guides—7.15pm Piddington Village Hall

Twinning Association—first Thursday of the month at the Grouse & Ale 8pm

THURSDAY Events

16 March—Gracewell of High Wycombe, Open Home event. 10am-4pm.

23 March—Gracewell of High Wycombe. Dementia Friends advice session. 1pm

Fridays

Regulars

Circuits—9.30-10.30am LEYCC

Pop in and play—10am-3pm, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 472121 Just turn up. £1 suggested donation.

Craft group—first and third Friday of the month in Lane End Village Hall. Tel 01993 837078 for details

Friday Events

28 April and 5 May—Lane End Players' Going Green by David Tristram. 7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Tel 880662

Saturdays

Regulars

Coffee Shop—Enjoy coffee and cake on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 10am-12noon, Lane End Village Hall.

The Twinning Association runs the first Saturday in the month, Holy Trinity the third.

Whistles & Bells dog behaviour school—9-12noon LEYCC, Tel Jenny 07703 020344

Lane End Football Club—11am-12noon, Lane End Playing Fields. All welcome, anitahanson11@yahoo.com

11+ tutoring—with Alison Taylor 10am-12noon. Email alisontaylor@pass11+co.uk

Saturday Events

29 April and 6 May—Lane End Players' Going Green by David Tristram. 7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Tel 880662

13 May—10-12noon, Plant Sale at Fingest Great Barn, RG9 6QE. All welcome. Tel 01491 638691

13 May—An evening with a medium. 7.30pm LEYCC. £12 tickets from ticketsource.co.uk/date/334198

10 June—Lane End Fete in front of the church. Call Bob Nix with suggestions and offers of help. Tel 881000

17 June—Disco night. BYO drink and nibbles £7 per person LEYCC. Tel Emma on 883878

2 Sept—Lane End Horticultural Society annual show (more details tbc) Tel 882230

Sundays

Regulars

Holy Eucharist—8am fourth Sunday of the month

Parish Communion—9.30 Holy Trinity Church Lane End (except second Sunday of the month when all are invited to the Methodist service.)

Elim service—10.30 am at Elim Christian Centre, Edmonds Road, Lane End

Sung Eucharist/Family Service—11am St Mary's Church Cadmore End

Morning Service (Methodist)—11.15am Holy Trinity Church Lane End

Sunday lunch—Grand International Buffet and traditional carvery at The Tree, Cadmore End. £12.95 Book on 881183

Evensong—6pm at Holy Trinity Church Lane End

Lane End Players—7.30pm Village Hall Tel 483359

Sunday Events

My love of wallpaper

with Samantha Johnson 

It seems that wallpaper has been around forever — or at least for 2,000 years, when the Chinese started to hang decorated rice paper on their walls. Since then, wallpaper designs have changed to reflect the fashion of the times.

When modernism came into style in the last part of the 20th century, white walls with little embellishment were popular and wallpapers fell out of favour. Today, wallpaper is fashionable again and its role in the overall decorative scheme is a vital one. The choice of wallpaper affects the mood and style of a room, and can influence the choice of other furnishings.

William Morris recognised the importance of wallpaper when he advised in one of his lectures;

'Whatever you have in your rooms think first of the walls for they are that which makes your house and home.'

Wallpaper has a range of price points but often it is the easiest and least expensive way to drastically transform a space. Old patterns were surface prints that had no texture and were limited in pattern, style, and colour range. These days, companies explore different ways to

introduce colour, textural surfaces, and contemporary detailing.

Wallpaper also adds to the longevity and durability of your walls. Even when working with solid colours, wallpaper is beneficial as it adds a protective layer to the wall that is cleanable and washable. It can also add very subtle texture and depth which cannot be achieved with just a simple flat coat of paint.

Most wallpapers are washable with a light sponging or there are also many with scrubbable surfaces. With the new 'paste the wall' technology you can peel it off the wall in a single strip so when you come to change your scheme there is no mess.

Research has shown that wall coverings can last five times longer than paint. A painted wall chips and cracks over time, and requires more frequent cleaning to keep it looking fresh. It is also likely to need repainting after a few years whereas wallpaper has a lifespan of 10-15 years.

In instances where you want to hide a wall because it is damaged, cracked, uneven, or not perfectly square, wallpaper can be helpful to mask these imperfections. Both paint and wallpaper have the ability to

liven up bland spaces but wallpaper goes a step further with its ability to disguise flaws. This can be much less time consuming and tedious than fixing all the little or big imperfections throughout the wall.

Wallpaper can help bring warmth and depth to a room that cannot be achieved by paint alone. It can also give you the ability to really show off your personality and style.

Metallic wallpapers play with light, others with intense patterns from small to medium to large can visually alter the shape of the room. There are

wallpapers that replicate everything from grass to cloth, linen, glass beads, flock, textural vinyl and even digital wall murals (very on-trend).

So come on, just give it a go!



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MEMBER

Volunteering makes you happy

Report by Katy Dunn 

Volunteering kindles happiness. It's been proven in many different studies by many different organisations. The right match reduces stress, finds you friends, teaches new skills and gives you a fantastic sense of pride and purpose.

Many people have that altruistic urge to help people and give back, but life takes over and it can be one of those new year's resolutions that never quite gets put into action. Others already feel overwhelmed by a busy life and can't imagine where they would fit it in. For many, it's simply not really knowing what to do and where to start.

First of all, it's not just for those with time on their hands. A couple of hours a week or even a month can

make a huge difference both to the organisation you're helping and to your own feelings of self-worth.

Gemma Carter goes litter-picking with the local conservation group in her village on the first Saturday of every month.

'You might not think it, but it's actually very therapeutic,' she says. 'We're given a 'grabber' and bin bag and a patch of area to cover and off we go for an hour or two. I'm quite shy but the conversation is somehow easier because you're doing something else at the same time. I've had some lovely chats with people in the village I'd otherwise never meet. It's also really satisfying to see the difference an hour's litter-picking can make. The place just looks more cared for.'



Gemma started volunteering with the conservation group because she was always complaining about the litter in the village. Eventually her daughter challenged her to do something about it. Everyone has a different motivation for volunteering and a different way in.

How do I start?

If you're at the 'where do I begin?' stage, first ask yourself if there's something specific you enjoy or want to achieve. Gemma's aim was less litter in the village. Yours might be fewer hungry homeless people on the streets (why not volunteer at a homeless shelter). Or it could be a more personal aim to improve your digital media skills to get a different job. A period of time volunteering to

help manage the website at a charity could give you the necessary skills and experience to put on your CV.

Your aim may be to learn something completely new, or you might want to share your skills in something you're good at. When Hugh Mothersole was asked by a friend who worked at the National Trust if they could use one of his photographs on their website, 'one thing led to another.' Now Hugh's photography hobby is saving the charity thousands of pounds in professional fees and his talent is getting the recognition it deserves.

Alternatively, you might love animals but work or home circumstances mean you can't have a pet of your own. Dog rescue centres like the



one at Stokenchurch always need dog walkers to exercise and socialise their dogs.

Riding for the Disabled (rda.org.uk) is another charity where you could indulge your love of animals and help people at the same time. Volunteer groups organise activities such as riding, carriage-driving and show-jumping for people with disabilities and it's a great way to enjoy working with horses and helping people at the same time. Maidensgrove Riding for the disabled group is use The Grove riding school in Lane End, so you don't even have to travel far.

What if I can't commit?

We all lead busy lives and can't always commit to a regular time schedule, or worry about adding another thing to the to-do list. But there are less structured ways to get involved. For instance, most charities will hold fund- or awareness-raising events that need many volunteers to help organise and run on the day. You could offer to be on their volunteer list and then when you get the call it's up to you to decide whether or not you can fit it in.

There are other things you can do at home. For instance, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, based at Saunderton (hearingdogs.org.uk) would love you to hold a Barking Bake Off cake sale or Paws for Coffee to raise money for their cause.



What opportunities are out there?

There's a role to suit every interest and personality type. Most charities have teams on hand to give you all the training and support you need to get started. You'd be amazed at what you could do.

At the National Trust for instance, there are some incredible volunteering opportunities. As a house volunteer or room guide, you can indulge your passion for heritage and enjoy behind-the-scenes access to some of the country's most beautiful places. You could indulge your green-fingered hobby in the garden or arrange flower decorations in the house. If you love nothing more than muddy boots and fresh air, you could help the rangers with conservation work in woodland and on heaths and meadows. The best way to find out about National Trust opportunities is to go on the website national-trust.org.uk/volunteer or call your nearest National Trust property.

Help close to home

Lane End Community Centre is a registered charity that opened in 2004. We rely on the residents of Lane End and surrounding areas to use our facilities as much as possible.

The committee is run by a very small group of volunteers. In 2017 we aim to continue to provide wonderful services plus hold some new fundraising events. However, without more volunteers on the committee, this won't happen. Could you spare a couple of hours to help organise an event? Or perhaps you can attend an evening meeting once every eight weeks? You may even consider filling the vacancy of secretary for the committee. It isn't as scary as it sounds! You just need to be able to take notes and type up the minutes.

We welcome anyone who is interested to find out more to join our next committee meeting, call Emma on 01494 883878 or email leycc@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Can we help? Or can you?

We are a group of volunteers from Lane End.

We offer a service providing transport to hospitals, shopping, a visit for a chat or just a trip out. Our aim is to help the 'more mature' members of our community

We cover Cadmore End, Lane End and some surrounding areas.

As the cuts in the NHS services, lack of buses and the number of housebound people rises, we are desperate for more drivers.

PLEASE. If you are interested in helping in ANY way, the more drivers we have, the less often we have to go out.

Please contact Jil Runge on

881329 / 07791 676412 or jilrunge99@gmail.com



We are still in winter here, not as bad as you folks have, but many days of dark and cold. There are the occasional days where it perks up and we have beautiful clear skies where the sea sparkles and the birds return. And regrettably sometimes other animals – I just lost two of my lovely laying brown hens to a fox which has taken up residence in the abandoned builder's yard next door. I miss them fossicking around amongst the fallen leaves.

Oleron is about to take part in the elections for the socialist candidates for the coming presidential elections here. The election of the new President of France may well have an effect on we British expats: Marine Le Pen of the *Front Nationale* is a strong contender, and is of course anti-immigration, so combined with

the possible influence of Brexit we may soon be in Confucian interesting times.

Meanwhile the local debate about a toll on the crossing to the Ile d'Oleron goes on. The arguments for and against include strong objections from people who live on the mainland but work on the Island, but support from those who say that whilst a toll may reduce the traffic to the Island, it would reduce the number of cars in the Summer. (Well, it would, wouldn't it?) But others point out that since 80% of the Island's income is from tourism, perhaps this might not help much.

We look forward to the first signs of spring and hope you will come to visit Oleron this summer. I'll let you know the outcome of the toll debate!





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Milk Men

with Will Lacey 



Final four in the rural Oscars

Spring is upon us now and the fields and woodlands around the farm are bursting back to life after a long winter. Its an exciting time, winter can be long, plodding around in the wet and the cold. Spring brings change, and a different list of jobs.

Many of the jobs that occur on the farm are routine, either daily, weekly, or annually. We are bustling around at the minute doing many of the annual jobs on the grassland to help the grass grow well. I always tell people grass does not grow by magic, it takes a lot of looking after to establish and maintain a healthy grass crop.

A top football club employs a team of groundsman to manage a small patch so people can run about on it once or twice a week. We need to grow enough grass to feed 300 cows 365 days a year, so if we don't get it right in the spring, it will affect us for a whole year. We will be muck spreading, chain harrowing, rolling, aerating, and fertiliser spreading

over the next couple of weeks.

We don't have many sheep, so in the winter, when all the cows have come indoors, our neighbour, James Jackson at Fingest brings his sheep up to the farm to graze. This is a deal that works well for both of us. He likes to get his sheep off his fields so there is fresh new grass ready for when the ewes lamb in the spring.

We like it because cows are fussy eaters, they will pick at grass and eat only the bits they want to, whereas sheep are like lawnmowers, they come in and clear anything that is green! This leaves the fields uniform, so when the weather warms up, the field will have a nice even crop of grass. We now have the additional benefit of buying lambs from James for our butchers counter. We know how and where they have been reared, and that they are some of the best lambs you'll find.

Over the past few years we have

had more and more problems with dogs getting in with the sheep and maiming and even killing some of the ewes (Sheep that are heavily pregnant). I am pleased to report that there have been fewer reports of this on our farm this year. I am very grateful for all who use the foot-paths and tracks in and around our farm for being considerate, and hope this may long continue.

The cows are still inside for winter, we are hoping in the next few days if the weather is right that we can start to let them out to graze during the day. To start off in the spring the cows will go out for a few hours in the day time, the ground conditions can be very soft, and we do not want to spoil a field by over-grazing it so early in the year. The cows will come back to the yard for milking in the afternoon, and then stay indoors over night as March nights can be cold and wet.

We calve cows all year round so have a new born calf every couple of days (unless they all wait til the weekend, like they seem to like doing at the moment!) We are always hoping for a heifer calf (a girl) so that she can be reared to one day join the milking herd.

Gideon's favourite hobby is rearing bulls to hopefully sell on to other

farms for breeding, so if a bull calf is good enough then he will be reared for that. Different farmers will look for different traits with in a bull. We have two bulls at the moment, one was selected before he was born from our top cow family. He's a cow that farmers all over the word want to have in their herd. The British Guernsey Cattle Society selected his mother and father as two of the best in the country, and the hope is the

offspring will be even better! We will wait and see.

Finally I want to tell you about the Countryside Alliance Rural Oscars. They're the annual celebration of rural produce, skills, and enterprise and

look for businesses that are pushing the industry forward. It is publicly nominated, so we were thrilled to hear we had been nominated before Christmas.

I am pleased to update you that we have progressed to the next round, and are in the final four, for the Best Local retailer in the South East. At the start of January we had the judges out to look round the shop and interview us, and are now waiting for the results. The winner of the South East will go on to compete for the title of the Best Local Food Retailer in the UK at a black tie dinner in the Houses of Parliament! We are keeping our fingers crossed!



Ask the: Vet

with Clare Hamilton 



During the winter months, humans and animals can suffer from a flare-up of osteoarthritis. Osteoarthritis is the progressive destruction of cartilage within a joint and the associated inflammatory changes. Osteoarthritis affects many animals as they become older due to normal age related wear on their joints. Occasionally osteoarthritis can be caused by the body's own immune system attacking the joints, termed immune mediated arthritis.

The symptoms displayed by animals suffering from osteoarthritis include exercise intolerance, lameness, reduced range of movement of joints, pain on manipulation of joints, inability to jump, difficulty in getting up or generalised stiffness.

In many cases osteoarthritis develops from previous injuries or inherited conditions. For example, a dog suffering from hip dysplasia may go on to develop secondary osteoarthritis. Once damaged, cartilage cannot heal and a cascade of inflammatory changes are triggered within the joint resulting in osteoarthritis.

Signs of arthritis include pain on palpation and manipulation of joints,

reduced muscle mass, reduced range of movement, lameness and swelling within a joint. A vet can make the diagnosis, but to investigate further, radiographs under general anaesthesia can identify affected joints and underlying problems.

Certain factors can predispose animals to developing arthritis: age, breed, traumatic injury to the joint and importantly obesity.

The treatment of osteoarthritis at Cherry Tree Vets involves a combination of therapies including steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs that provide both pain relief and anti-inflammatory effects on the joints. Sometimes opiate pain killers can also be used and injectable joint supplements are also available. Epidural injections of steroids can also offer relief.

Specialist surgical treatments involve correction of any underlying injury or instability within the joint, the use of arthroscopy or in extreme cases, a total hip replacement. Weight management in overweight animals is an important factor in the control of osteoarthritis. Physiotherapy under the guidance of an ACPAT veterinary

physiotherapist (which is available at Cherry Tree Veterinary Practice) can also help improve mobility, build muscle mass and help with weight loss. There are many dietary joint supplements available that can also

be of benefit for example glucosamine and chondroitin, green lipped muscle and omega 3 oils. Therapies can give an animal huge relief from pain and give them a better quality of life particularly in old age.

Pet of the month—Ruby




Ruby is a lovely, six year old, Red Labrador who was involved in a traumatic road traffic accident earlier this year.

She fractured the radius and ulnar in both of her forelimbs. Ruby's legs were surgically stabilised at Cherry Tree Vets using a combination of orthopaedic pins, plates and wires to allow the fractures to repair. Ruby has made fantastic progress! She is using her legs really well and has regular physio to hasten her recovery.



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Schools



Our most exciting news this issue is the completion of our Learning Café which is now open for children

to enjoy. This is our fabulous new library and research facility which is packed full of books. We have installed a new Learning Cloud and all of the books have been catalogued so that children can browse online from home and check out their own books.



The refurbishment and installation of the Learning Café has been a costly project and we have a number of organisations and people to thank for their generous funding: firstly we

were awarded £15,000 by the Department for Education Character Awards in 2015 which was our prize as the winning primary school in the south east of England.

Our most generous funder was Wooden Spoon – The Children's Charity of Rugby. Our beautiful new books were purchased with the help of a grant from Foyles, the bookshop people and finally our parents generously sponsored myself and another member of staff on our Three Peaks Challenge.

Perhaps not surprisingly, we have a huge focus of reading and writing this term and we'll be approaching Reading Week with a new sense of excitement. We will be celebrating World Book Day with a performance of *The Selfish Giant* from Image Theatre and will end the term with a Book Fair.

If you are considering schools or nurseries for your children please do come in for a visit. Contact us at office@laneendprimary.co.uk or on 01494 881169 to arrange a visit.

little explorers nursery

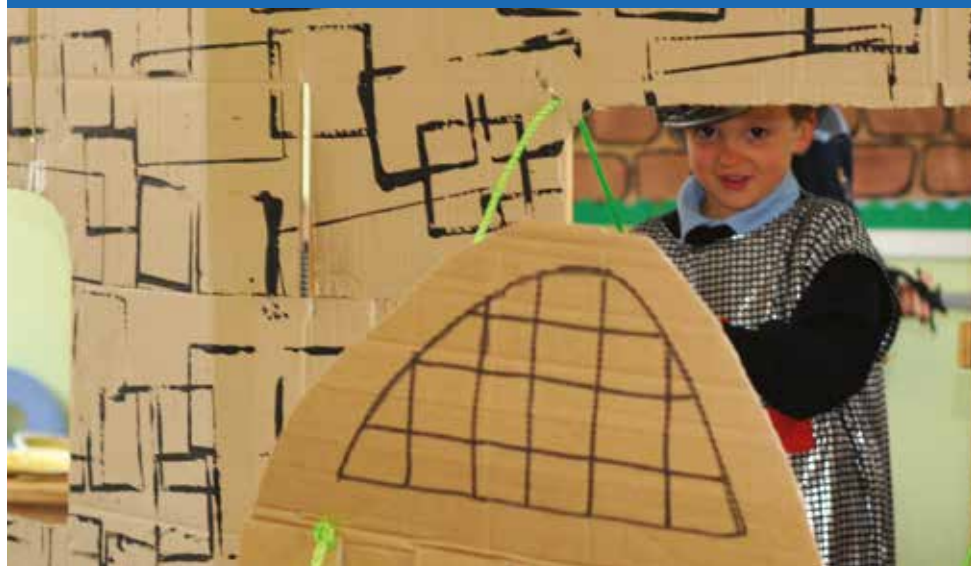
Choosing the right nursery for your child is essential. At Little Explorers Nursery we treat each child as an individual, nurturing their talent, skills and confidence so that they can flourish. We have a bright and spacious setting. Inside, there's sand and water, messy play, painting and crafts, cooking, role play and music. There are quiet areas too for reading, computers and maths. Outside, the Nursery has two play areas: one for riding bikes and scooters and another where we enjoy playing, climbing and digging, growing fruit and vegetables and exploring the log pile for mini beasts!

The Nursery is led by a qualified teacher supported by experienced and qualified staff. Full or part-time places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Call us to arrange a visit on 01494 881169 or email us at office@laneendprimary.co.uk

"Children make a good start in the Early Years Foundation Stage and thrive in the caring and stimulating classes."

OFSTED April 2014

Little Explorers Nursery at
Lane End Primary School
Edmonds Road, Lane End
Bucks HP14 3EJ





Cadmore End

Church of England | Combined School

My son Noah woke and before opening his eyes properly asked if he was going to school today. When I replied that he was, the biggest smile took over his sleepy little face. Noah has just started Nursery at Cadmore End School where he has been desperate to join his older brother Zachary, now in reception class. This is Noah's second week of nursery and so far I'm pleased to say his excited expectations are being met!

Noah's first morning fell on a Forest School Day. He was delighted to pack his wellies and take his treasured Tractor backpack to school. Noah chose to wear the school uniform and came home pleased to have eaten his red pepper snack and found a worm on his wood walk.

I found Cadmore End having disliked my catchment school despite it's good Ofsted report. I wondered how on earth you choose a school but can honestly say my decision was made very easily as I stepped into the reception area of Cadmore End. There was such a friendly welcome that I felt I hardly needed the tour of the School which followed.

The school sits amongst beautiful woodland and the integrated Nursery and Reception children share a love-

ly garden with sandpit, mud kitchen, wendy houses, cars etc. I wanted my son to be able to play and learn outdoors as much as possible.

Zachary painted, planted seeds, chalked the playground and told me facts about woodland animals (especially hedgehogs who are apparently excellent climbers!) and made friends. He soon learnt to write his name and recognise numbers 0-5 using tailored tractor flash cards.



Zachary has had a smooth and happy transition into school life from being settled in the nursery. I am amazed that on completing one term my child can blend sounds and read and write simple words. He brings home huge cardboard creations and I love my children's imagination and enthusiasm and can see it is being nurtured by the teachers.
(by a parent, Rebecca)



Last month, Frieth School choir took part in the largest school choir concert in the world!

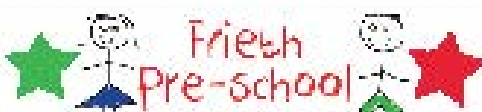
Crowds of thousands cheered them on at the Birmingham Genting Arena, whilst the children sang and danced with incredible enthusiasm.

'Young Voices' is a national scheme giving children the opportunity to perform live with a choir of thousands of other children, as well as a number of star performers. Revenue raised supports music therapy charity Nordoff Robins.

Jo Reid, Head Teacher said: 'Young Voices provides an amazing opportunity for a small village school choir


to experience singing with a massed choir of over 6,500 pupils. They will never forget the experience and it will hopefully encourage a lifelong participation in music. At Frieth we work hard to provide our pupils with a wide range of exciting extra-curricular opportunities, and our children could not have made us more proud!'





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My first marathon

By Paul Eaton

‘How, rapidly approaching my 41st Birthday, have I found myself training to run the London Marathon?’ I ponder to myself as my legs burn and I struggle for breath, fighting up yet another hill in the Chilterns Countryside?

Let me start at the beginning; I’ve always viewed running as something that was only really useful to support my lack of effective timekeeping – running for the train, running for a flight, running to the bar so I don’t miss last orders, etc.

Having played football all my life, I was always relatively active and fit, and therefore any form of additional exercise was not only unnecessary but actively frowned upon. Alas, the unedifying gait and associated limp that would stay with me for numerous days after every game, as well as lads half my age running rings around me, led me to the decision to hang up my football boots.

Ninety mins of playing football matches was replaced by 90 mins of watching – with accompanying snacks and beverages of course. The outcome was inevitable and irresistible - the onset on the dreaded

‘middle aged spread!’

Now, I have nothing against a middle aged spread, especially when you have so much fun acquiring it, and given the financial investment that goes into maintaining it – however, two factors conspired to motivate me out of my sedentary lifestyle.

Firstly – I have very unforgiving friends, who needed little excuse to remind me I was built for comfort not speed. The second factor is my partner Megann.

Megann is the kindest, most caring person I have ever met, and she would love me whatever I looked like (I haven’t actually verified this), but Megann is also a Qualified Fitness Instructor.

Resisting Megann’s influence proved futile as her motivation didn’t come in the form of nagging, or moaning, or through sly digs or passing comments. Simply, when you witness your partner come home sweating, out of breath, absolutely committed to keeping fit and healthy you suddenly become very self-conscious about the pork pie you’re about to consume.

A commitment to getting fit was made!

Given the various aches, pains and ailments that 35 years of football has led too, any form of bending, flexibility, agility or indeed co-ordination were vetoed, however the prospect of moving in a straight line, with minimal additional motor skills required was very appealing and my mind was made up – I'd be a runner!

Let me be clear, I'm not a good runner, or a quick runner, or an elegant runner, but the fact that I get from A to B, quicker than walking makes me a runner all the same.

I love getting out into the countryside, I love having time out from work and the day to day hectic schedule, I love catching up on music and podcasts, and despite my contentment with my old friend 'the spread', I love feeling fitter and healthier – and less guilty when it is time to indulge!

So as my legs burn and I struggle for breath, the reason I find myself here is because I want to be. It hurts and there are many days I want to stay in bed, but I simply can't wait for 23 April, to compete in the most famous challenge in the World, to raise money for a fantastic Charity and to say 'I did it'.

I am raising money for:

getkidsgoing.com

a national charity which gives disabled children and young people the wonderful opportunity of participating in sport.



If you would like to sponsor me you can do so here:

[uk.virginmoneygiving.com/](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PaulEaton13)
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Thank you for your support!

On the land

with Bryan Edgley 



What are farm subsidies?

I am sometimes asked what farm subsidies are all about – a subject which will be greatly influenced by the Brexit vote for Britain to come out of EU control.

This was debated at the Oxford Farm Conference in January, and also in the very same week at the alternative 'Oxford Real Farming Conference' where it was suggested by an environmentalist that *'supporting farmers to produce food is morally wrong'*.

This has prompted me to take a close look at the issue of EU support for the UK Farming Industry, which in recent years has equated to roughly the same value as total net profit for British farms. Thus, if there had been no direct farm support (either from the EU or from the UK Government), nearly all food production in Britain would have ceased.

It is only incidental that many farms

would probably have continued in business, with farmers earning a living from their farms by providing facilities such as horse riding, B&B accommodation, farm shops, turning farm buildings into workshops or factories, field sports, providing 'nature trails' or Go-Cart tracks, and charging the general public for outdoor recreation.

In Britain we had an example of what happens if food supply is left to the global free market in the second half of the 19th century. Food production in Britain declined catastrophically following the Repeal of the Corn Laws. These were introduced with the Importation Act 1815 were subsequently repealed in 1846.

This was a time when wheat was grown cheaply on the newly farmed Prairies of USA and imported to Britain at a cost below the cost of production of wheat grown on the smaller fields of Britain.

This decline of home-grown food production was accentuated when larger ships were developed, thus further reducing the cost of freight, so that British farming reached such a low point by the 1860s that there was extreme poverty in all rural areas of Britain (other than for the aristocracy), and many farms became derelict in that pre-First World War period.

Following declaration of war in 1914 a primary objective of Germany was to win the war by causing starvation in Britain, hoping that this would lead to its capitulation.

At that time, German U Boats were successful in sinking many British merchant ships in the convoys bringing the food to the UK. Farmers in Britain were urged to recommence food production, and started to receive adequate payment for producing food at a price that enabled them to stay in business.

After the First World War, the UK Government could not control world wide depression, and yet it had a responsibility to prevent starvation amongst its people. So, by the end of the 1920s it was politic to get the cheapest food possible from somewhere, whether it was from home

farms, or from overseas farms with cheaper land, labour and food production resources. Thus British farming declined again, arable crop production nearly ceased, and those farmers who survived largely turned to 'dog and stick' farming – a system in which they did not cultivate anything, but just kept some livestock for beef or lamb production on the grass meadows.

“Support for food production is a subsidy that provides cheap food for everyone.”

When the Germans tried to starve out Britain in the Second World War, the UK Government launched the critically important and successful 'Dig for Victory' campaign.

(In which my grandfather took on an allotment in addition to his own vegetable garden, and my father dug up a grass tennis court to grow extra vegetables on it.)

This was as critical as the front line troops in saving our nation - by growing enough food, in conjunction with food rationing, to feed us all.

Then, just after the Second World War ended, the Labour Minister of Agriculture, Tom Williams, brought in the very sensible Agriculture Act 1947 – declaring to Parliament its aim as being :-

→

"To promote a healthy and efficient agriculture capable of producing that part of the nation's food which is required from home sources at the lowest price consistent with the provision of adequate remuneration and decent living conditions for farmers and workers, with a reasonable return on capital invested".

The author's final comment on this subject of Government support for growing food, is that direct farm support (funded in recent years by the EU for Britain, but with most other countries in the world, including USA, having their own support systems) enables ordinary citizens to buy food, with a certainty of availability at price that is less than cost of production. Direct farm support for food production is therefore really a subsidy that provides cheap food for everyone. There is also the further advantage that the countryside and wildlife can continue to be looked after by farmers as a by-product of the production of this food.

It is difficult to take an interesting photo of a debate, and harder still to take an interesting photo of a subsidy. So this photo is from recent

study days on farming and grain production. It was taken at the flour mill of FWP Matthews Ltd at Chipping Norton where this mill, still managed by the Matthews family, has been milling wheat, much of it from local farms, since 1912.

The event was the Oxford Diocesan Plough Wednesday – a training day in January for clergy and others involved in rural ministry. All we delegates had to put on the white overalls, high visibility jacket and blue hair covering seen in the photo as part of the routine hygiene precautions at the mill, where the production manager was explaining to us the process involved in milling wheat to make flour.



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Ask the: plumber

with Bill Blake 



Q— Why does my bath takes so much longer to fill now I've got new bath taps?

We're almost back to my article in December's Clarion. Most bath taps are $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (taps have never gone metric for some reason). All the pipework to them is either $\frac{3}{4}$ inch or 22mm (pipes did go metric). All good so far.

Following our last instalment, with taps getting smaller on the outside, bath taps also seem to be getting smaller on the inside. Recently, I have seen a lot of so-called $\frac{3}{4}$ inch taps with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch internal parts – and not just on cheap taps either. Some well-known, quality brands are also doing this.

So, why less water? Taps are all about flow rate. If your tap only has a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose for the water to pass through instead of a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hose, then inevitably less water can flow into your bath.

If you are buying bath taps, make sure they take a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch washer, or look down the tail of the tap to see if it is the same size at each end. (The tail is the threaded bit you don't normally see). If the tap narrows down at the washer end, it's only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. If you want a strong flow rate from your taps, then demand a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch internal tap from your retailer.

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The lost parish of Ackhampstead

Report by Andrew McTavish 

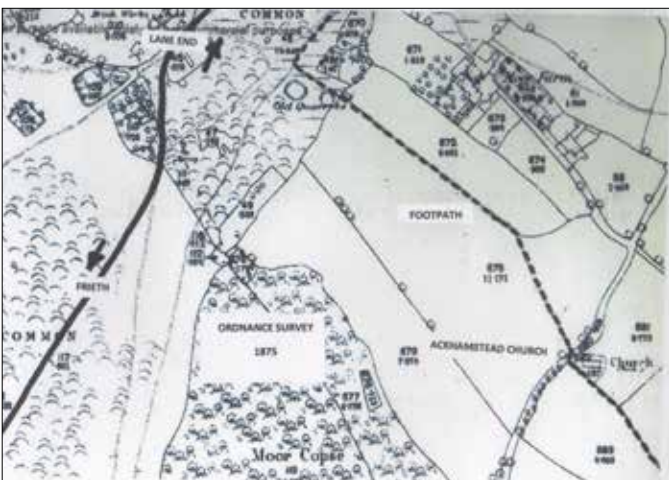
Ackhampstead? A couple of hundred years ago you would have known where that was. Just a mile down the road from Lane End. A parish with a chapel. The local walking groups today cross the fields from Frieth Road and King's Corner to Finnermore and pass a small copse in the middle of empty fields. It's marked 'Chapel, remains of' on their maps. That was

ry. In 1052 Edward the Confessor gave Lewknor to the Abbey of Abingdon 'from sorrow at the undernourishment of the younger monks'.

Records from those times give details of the owners of various pieces of land there, and the rents and tithes they paid: William de Lega handed over Adam de la Stokke and his wife Leticia a croft called

Rowecroft at a rent of two shillings. By the reign of Henry III the initial 'H' of the name was dropped and the spelling became more recognisable.

The first mention of the chapel comes in the records of Aston Rowant in 1242. (At that time there was no other church in the area. Lane End



the centre of the settlement.

Ackhampstead belonged to Lewknor. It was a little parish in its own right, a little detached piece of Oxfordshire, about a mile long by a mile and a half wide. It was referred to as 'Lewknor-up-Hill'. The hamlet had a long histo-

ry. The church was not consecrated until 1832 and Frieth not until 1849. This 1242 document noted that the vicar or curate of Lewknor was required to hold a service in Ackhampstead chapel every Sunday and on the feasts of the apostles.

There is no picture of the chapel. It was said to be rectangular, six or seven feet smaller than Frieth church, with flint walls, lancet windows, and some Aylesbury limestone in the construction. In 1965 tests showed it had had an earth floor sealed with plaster. A brick found at that time had the size and shape of bricks made at the latter part of the 13th century. The belief is that the chapel was built about 1412. Locals called it 'The Moor Chapel'.

How big were the congregations? They clearly varied over the centuries. We tend to know when things went wrong. In 1530 there was a report that 'in Akamstede chapel' there was 'no masse songe sometimes in vi wekes together'.

In 1605 the chapel was in a poor state and was repaired by the local inhabitants and the vicar of Lewknor. From papers dated 1685 we know that the chapel collected tithes and that the expected Easter offerings were two pence from each person. The baptismal record from 1786 to 1812 is still extant and shows that 84 children were baptised in that period. Marriages were held but the chapel had no burial ground.

Eventually, the population dropped off in this out of the way area. In 1847 the people of Cadmore End called a meeting. They had no church. They said there were more of them than there

were parishioners of Ackhampstead and that the chapel was remote and ought to be moved. A Diocesan court was held in 1849 and, after lengthy arguments, it was decided to demolish Ackhamstead chapel and use the materials to build a church at Cadmore End. So this was done, and Cadmore End church (pictured below) was consecrated in 1851. It was dedicated to St Mary le Moor to preserve the link with the old Moor Chapel .

Brambles and hawthorn grew over the foundations of the old chapel and trees took root. In 1885 the parish of Ackhampstead was officially merged with Hambleden. The name fell out of use and faded into the mists of time. Today the foxes roam undisturbed over the open fields where Adam de la Stokke and Leticia had their croft.

(With acknowledgements to the research by the late Sidney Smith and Dr G Wyatt whose paper on Ackhamstead is held by Frieth Church



Gracewell care home opens soon in Lane End

Gracewell of High Wycombe, the new care home in Lane End, is soon to open its doors, providing residential, nursing and specialist dementia care in the local area.

The home will provide en-suite accommodation for 72 residents who will have access to a hair and beauty salon, spacious lounges to relax and unwind and a cinema showing films and sporting events. There will also be a café to catch up with friends and family and a wheelchair-friendly sensory garden – as well as a large car park for visitors and staff.

The home will provide around 80 jobs, becoming a significant employer in the area. We'd be very pleased to hear from local applicants, who can contact us on the number below.

Gracewell homes aim to be major community hubs wherever they are built. Gracewell of High Wycombe will frequently open its doors for free events that local residents can attend, with opportunities for community groups and schools to come and participate.

In fact, there are a number of events already in the calendar. The home will be open to the community with

an Open Home event from 10am to 4pm on Thursday 16 March, and a Dementia Friends advice session, organised in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society, on Thursday 23 March from 1pm. All members of the local community are w.

Gracewell of High Wycombe will open in early summer 2017.

Michael Burke, Senior Director of Operations for Gracewell Healthcare, said:

'We are very excited to become part of the community here in Lane End. It is fantastic to think of the relationships we will build in the local area over the coming years, whether with residents and families, new team members, or local residents.

'We pride ourselves not just on the standard of care we provide but in becoming community hubs in the areas in which we are based, and are looking forward to contributing positively to this beautiful part of the world.'

To find out more about Gracewell of High Wycombe, including jobs, beds and events, call 01494 412 252.



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Gardening

with Dave Dunbar 



Make a start on the lawn

....When all at once I saw a crowd, A
host, of golden Daffodils, Beside the
lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering
and dancing in the breeze.

(William Wordsworth)



Keep an eye on the lawn, you can cut it early but if it's long, don't cut it too short immediately, remember the more you cut off in one go the more time it will take to recover. Try and keep on top of it for the first month while it goes crazy, say once a week minimum, then it will slow down a little after April.

From a hard landscaping point of view, no doubt many patios are green with algae and require scrubbing or jet washing. You can buy materials which can be applied to

help clean patios, but generally jet washing does the job.

The main thing to be aware of is blowing the pointing out, and it's likely this will happen, so avoid going too close to joints. If pointing does need repairing you might have to grind out old weak areas and replace with new,

I use a 3 to 1 sand to cement ratio, which is a very strong mix to ensure it lasts. You can also use tubs of gel which can be washed in with high quantities of water, it is adhesive based but will go rock hard over time, although the finish is not quite as smooth.

The dogwoods and willows can be cut back now, especially those grown as shrubs for their colourful stems. If cut to the ground now it will promote young fresh stems, and the new stems will be brighter than the old. This one is *Cornus alba* 'Sibirica'.



Dave's Mystery Plant:

I am a fast growing deciduous shrub with tall upright stems which can very quickly reach three metres or more. I have fragrant flowers of different colours ranging from whites to lilac, blue, purple, and pink, in long conical shaped uprights seen at the end of the summer. Generally, at this time of year I can be cut back fairly hard, in preparation for 1-2 metres of growth before flowering. My flowers are a particular attraction to butterflies....oops, have I given it away?

(bush)
Answer: Buddleia davidii (Butterfly)

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Any copy submitted to The Clarion may be edited for space, content or style. By sending information or articles to the editor for inclusion, you are accepting these terms.

We welcome any news or diary dates from community organisations and letters from individuals. The next copy deadline is 1 May and the next issue will be delivered in June.

Send copy to katyjdunn@btinternet.com

Or call Katy on 01494 883883 for more info

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NHS Direct	111 / 0845 46 47
Lane End Holy Trinity Church	01494 882644
Lane End Primary School	01494 881169
Little Explorers Nursery	01494 881169
Lane End Village Hall	01494 881152
Frieth Village Hall	01494 881176
Lane End Youth & Community Centre	883878 / 07932 326046
Elim Christian Centre	01494 882587
Cadmore End Village Hall	01494 881735
Cadmore End C of E Church	01494 882644
Cadmore End Primary School	01494 881460
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