

Winter 2017

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# the Clarion

Your parish magazine

News and views from Bolter End, Cadmore End,  
Lane End, Moor End & Wheeler End



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to all our readers.

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# From the Editor

When I was a kid I'd roll my eyes when my Gran said: 'Ooh, doesn't Christmas come quicker every year?' 'Uh, no-o,' was the obvious response for a pre-teen. Although obviously I didn't *actually* roll my eyes in front of my Gran. No one would *actually* roll their eyes at my Gran, not even my grandad. Especially not my grandad. He didn't even dare sit in her armchair. Never once did I see him settle himself into its prime viewing spot for the cricket or Morecambe and Wise on TV.

But I'm getting off topic. The point is, she was so right. You hit 40 and somehow the world speeds up like one of those old-fashioned spinning tops where you press the spindle and it zips faster and faster. It genuinely seems like only last week we were choosing fluffy lamb pics for the spring Clarion cover.

So, the point being... the point is.... I guess just to take a moment this Christmas when we're all sat around after dinner, full and toasty in front of the fire and the TV, to appreciate that time with our family. (As long as they're not sat in my chair, obviously.)

Katy Dunn, editor. [katyjdunn@btinternet.com](mailto:katyjdunn@btinternet.com)

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# Your Parish Council



[laneendparishcouncil.org.uk](http://laneendparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Parish Clerk**

**Hayley Glasgow**

**Tel: 01494 437111**

[clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk)

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**High Wycombe**

**Bucks HP12 4LG**

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Cllr Jane Osborn

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Cllr Callum Stewart

Cllr Nigel King

Cllr Mandy Sarney

Cllr William Hunt

Cllr Tim Nolan

## Upcoming Meetings

The next meetings are all on Mondays and start at 7.30pm on:

Monday 4 Dec, Lane End Village Hall

Monday 8 Jan, Lane End Sports Association

Monday 5 Feb, Lane End Village Hall

Monday 5 March, Cadmore End Village Hall

All are welcome.

## Christmas in the Village

The Parish Council will be holding the Christmas in the Village event on Friday 8 December 6.30-8.30pm at Lane End Village Hall. Come along and see the Christmas lights being switched on outside, then return to the hall for carols, music, Lane End Players' Mummers play and complimentary refreshments.

## Allotments

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

## Planning Applications

The Planning Applications relevant to the Lane End Parish Council are updated every Monday on the Parish Councils website.

[laneendparishcouncil.org.uk](http://laneendparishcouncil.org.uk) 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](mailto: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 the situation 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

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# Lane End Playing Fields

## It's all happening!

By Stewart George

Over the spring and summer the Parish Council's investment to reinvigorate the Playing Fields (situated in The Row for those readers new to the area) saw contractors hard at work. Now players are giving their all on match days and enjoying the improvements to the football pitches, the new floodlit 3G 5-A-Side Football Pitch available in the evenings, and the changing facilities.

### Clubhouse

Those who choose a slightly more relaxed approach (and spectators) can now enjoy the newly refurbished Clubhouse. This is open on Saturday match days from 1pm to 6pm and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings from 8pm to 11pm, plus Sunday lunchtimes for great value drinks.

### 5-a-side pitch

The floodlit 3G 5-A-Side Pitch is proving popular for both football matches and training, given the lack of 3G synthetic turf facilities in this part of the world. It's open until 10pm



***The Playing Fields  
clubhouse opens on  
Saturday afternoons  
and Tuesday,  
Thursday and Satur-  
day evenings.  
Everyone  
welcome!***

each weekday and advance bookings are required. This and the other facilities at the Playing Fields are also available for private parties when they are not being used for matches. Contact Colin Harries at [colinharries@hotmail.com](mailto:colinharries@hotmail.com) or 07970 582630 for bookings and further information.

## Bingo

For those who like more sedentary activity, Bingo is scheduled to return to the Clubhouse, fortnightly starting on the evening of Saturday 2 December 2017. Contact Michelle Duffield on 07886 886967 for more information.

## Volunteers to run facilities or activities

During the winter the volunteers who are now responsible for managing the site and its facilities will be planning events and sporting activity for the late spring and summer once the football season has finished. If you would like to give up

some time for running the facilities or have ideas about spring and summer activities for 2018 then contact Stewart George at [sg@intervivos.org.uk](mailto:sg@intervivos.org.uk) or on 07770 933719.

## Dog owners—Clear it up!

A word for dog owners and dog walkers – or three words to be precise...Clear It Up! The few spoil it for the many and scouring the playing areas for excrement is not what anyone would choose to do, but currently has to be done before matches. Keep dogs on leads and respect that the prime purpose of the Playing Fields is to provide safe sporting facilities for people.

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## Wycombe Ladies

It is a feather in the cap of those residents who gave up their time to plan and implement the improvements, as well as those who now voluntarily maintain the facilities and the bar, that Wycombe Ladies – the ‘other’ Wycombe Wanderers— have chosen the Playing Fields as their home venue. They welcome your support at their home matches in the Southern Region Women’s Football League. The Ladies play on a Sunday afternoon at Lane End playing fields and their fixtures can be found on the FA’s website ([thefa.com](http://thefa.com)) via the ‘Womens’ tab.

‘Wycombe Wanderers Ladies have been an established club since 1998 and recently affiliated with their local team, Wycombe Wanderers. This is our third season in Division 1 after being promoted in 2015,’ says administrator Emma Newberry.

## Lane End FC

Alongside Wycombe Ladies, Lane End FC is providing more local interest. To find out more about Lane End FC and their upcoming fixtures contact Mark Lockwood at [marklockwood501@gmail.com](mailto:marklockwood501@gmail.com).

## FC Tradesman (pictured below)

Formed this year, FC Tradesman is a team mainly made of players that are in ‘the trade’ ie. plumbers, builders and electricians. They’re in the premier division of Wycombe District League and are looking to play locally on a Saturday afternoon after working mornings.

‘Also involved, myself included, are staff that work for Grant & Stone, which has provided a great deal of help with sponsorship to buy kit and jackets etc,’ says secretary Eliot Ryan.



## The Riverside (pictured top right)

Eliot is also secretary for The Riverside (formerly The Barn Club) which has reformed last year after a few years out. The Riverside play Sunday mornings in High Wycombe Combination Division 2. Grant and Stone and The Riverside Club have helped a great deal with sponsorship of kits.



involved with. It's important for the future of both clubs and grass roots sport in general. I can't thank them enough for the work they have done to make both clubs welcome. It saves me time so I can focus on running the clubs.

## Thanks go to...

Eliot says: 'The committee of Lane End Playing Fields works tirelessly to give us very much improved facilities and a much-needed home base for the two clubs that I'm

'I must of course also thank our sponsors, as running a club is very expensive and without them the clubs would struggle to continue.'

For more information please use the contacts list below.

# Lane End Playing Field Contacts

## 5-a-side pitch

Colin Harries 07970 582630  
colinharries@hotmail.com

## Lane End FC

Mark Lockwood  
marklockwood501@gmail.com

## Bingo

Michelle Duffield 07886 886967

## Volunteers

Stewart George 07770 933719  
sg@intervivos.org.uk

## Wycombe Wanderers Ladies

Manager: Andy McIntosh  
andy.mcintosh@btinternet.com

Administrator: Emma Newberry  
emma\_newberry@hotmail.co.uk

## FC Tradesman and The Riverside

Secretary: Eliot Ryan  
eliotryan@hotmail.com /  
eliotryan@grantandstone.co.uk

# The lowdown



## Footpaths report

Report by Teresa Hehir

This year has been very mild, and pretty dry really. The brambles and nettles have had a really good summer, and are only just slowing down – my willing team of volunteers have been working very hard at keeping the paths cut back. The paths are only just getting muddy, so enjoy them while you can.

Many thanks to my helpers and those who have worked to keep the paths clear, remove some fallen trees, and generally keep the paths safe for everyone. If, when you are out walking our paths you notice a broken gate/stile, or damaged/missing signage please let me know on 881170 or [hehirt@hotmail.com](mailto:hehirt@hotmail.com).

If you would like to join us and take on a footpath (you just need to report any problems and occasionally cut back the brambles) please get in touch.

One great way to get to know our footpaths is to join the Simply Walks groups on Mondays and Thursdays. We go from the sports field at 10am for a walk around the area – the walk is free and open to all. It's a lovely way to enjoy the countryside around us and chat with other people who enjoy a walk.

Lane End Players' pantomimes are always in great demand and enthusiastically attended by people from all over the area.

This year, Lane End Players will present the pantomime 'Little Red Riding Hood' on Fridays 12, 19, 26 January at 8pm and Saturdays 13, 20, 27 at 1pm and 5.30pm.

It's a rare opportunity to see this theme as the pantomime is rarely staged. This version has been written especially for us by one of our members, Tom Everitt, whose 'Jack and the Beanstalk' two years ago won a NODA award.

The performances are often sold out early, especially the 1pm matinee show on Saturdays, but we hope that the time of 5.30pm for the evening show will also be suitable for young children.

The Box office is already open and you can get your tickets at Lane End Village Hall

on Saturdays from 9.30 to 12noon. Alternatively, apply online at:

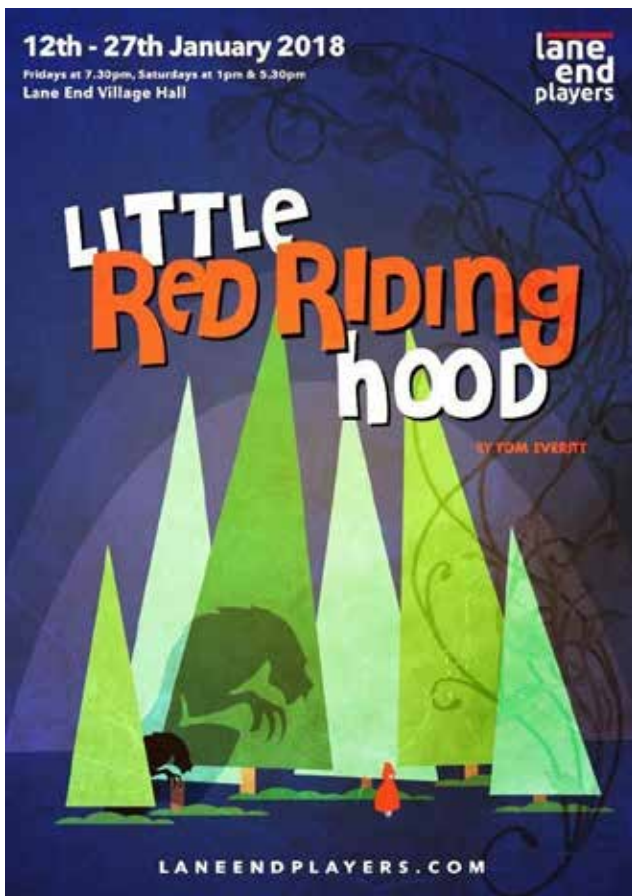
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Call 01494 880662

or email

[boxoffice@laneendplayers.com](mailto:boxoffice@laneendplayers.com).

The prices remain the same at £8 Adults/£6 Concessions for the first show only and £10 Adults/£8 Concessions for the other performances.





'Brilliant!' was the enthusiastic response of the audience to the Royal British Legion's autumn talk, at Cadmore End Village Hall.

This year sees the centenary of the British army's last cavalry charge, led by the Royal Bucks Hussars and our branch invited Professor Ian Beckett of Kent University to speak. A Bucks man himself (his father was born in Skirmett) and as one who has written books on the citizen soldiers of Bucks, it was clearly a talk not to be missed.

Professor Beckett spoke with huge enthusiasm, backed up by a vivid series of slides of the Palestine campaign of 1917. He spoke of the events leading up to the Charge and the background of the Bucks men involved. When Lord Burnham was told by the General to capture the ridge at El Mughar, Burnham replied 'I have

brought my horses from Bucks and have not used them. I would like to make a cavalry charge' and the General responded 'Do what you b..... well like, Burnham. I want that ridge taken'. Little did either man realise what a resounding victory was to come; little did they realise that theirs would be the last charge by the British Army.

The details of the battle were not just described in tactical terms, but were illustrated by accounts from officers and men who experienced it, from diaries and letters, and from verbal accounts given by survivors in the 1980s. The last man who could say 'I was in the Charge' died in 1991. For anyone who missed the talk, Aylesbury Museum's current special exhibition entitled 'The Last Charge' ends on 6 January 2018.

Further to the AGM in November, the Welfare Committee noted that it had received no calls from members with any sort of problems this year. It is still here!



## Lane End OPAG

Report by Jane Osborn

For those who need a reminder, Lane End Older Persons Action Group meets on the first Thursday of each month (apart from January) at 2pm in Lane End Youth & Community Centre, Edmonds Road - so if you are 50+ and free why not come along and join us at the next meeting to see if it's something you will enjoy.

We normally have talks or slide shows on a variety of topics and Val regularly tests our brains with her excellent quizzes – she will be starting us off next year on 1 February. Then in March we have a talk on homeopathy, in April an up-date on frauds and scams and in June a travel talk – so quite a variety.

Those who attended our meeting on 5 October 2017 - when the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) responsible for the Lane End

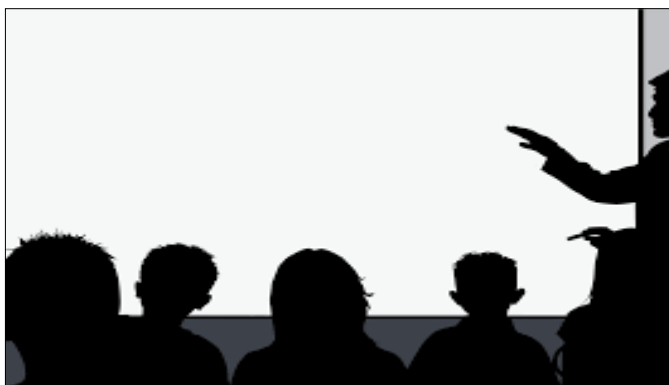
Surgery came to talk to us about changes to health services in Bucks - might be interested to know that the CCG are coming back again to our meeting on 3 May 2018.

So if you want to find out more about these proposed changes or have questions you would like to put to the CCG direct, do please come along and ask them.

We are always looking for different speakers, so if you have led an interesting life / have a fascinating or unusual hobby you would like to share we would be delighted to hear from you – please contact Jane Osborn on the contact details below.

The Committee responsible for running the Lane End OPAG is always looking for new members, particularly someone to take over responsibility for finding speakers – so if you are interested or want to find out more about the Lane End OPAG. contact Jane Osborn :

01494 881641 /  
[janemosborn3@gmail.com](mailto:janemosborn3@gmail.com)).



## Hambleton Valley Gardening Club

**Report by Janet Collins**

Our final garden visit of the year was in September to a garden called The Wind in the Willows in Higher Denham. This was an unusual garden planted with mostly shrubs and trees as the owners were passionate sailors as well as passionate gardeners and so needed a garden that could take care of itself for periods of time.

That said, the garden was full of interesting and unusual mature trees with many variegated shrubs to give year round colour, shape and form. The garden was encircled by two brooks on either side which provided a wonderful natural backdrop for iris and primulas in the spring. There

was also a wide collection of hostas which clearly also liked the situation.

We have started our season of speakers giving their monthly talks at Skirmett Village Hall. Our first talk was a very lively presentation by Anette Pursey from the renowned Waterperry Gardens in Wheatley a (pictured below) about the propagation of plants.

This was a practical session and Anette was able to make the subject not only informative but also good fun. We really enjoyed the evening and came away inspired to save our own seeds and how to deal with the sometimes difficult issues of propagation.

We have lots of interesting Speakers and Talks to look forward to over the coming months, please look at the Events page for more information. New members are always welcome, please call 01491 638691



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# Lane End Scouts

Report by Ian Harris



**1<sup>st</sup> Lane End Scout Group**  
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## Growing Pains

The summer, normally a break for a majority of the leader team, has been one of contemplation, and changes within the Group for me.

Our Explorer Scout section, which was a year old in October has grown its Leader team with the addition of two new leaders, one new to Scouting, but already making a major difference to our activities and another with 25 years of Scouting experience in a Group locally.

This leader commitment gives us the opportunity to provide a wider range of activities to those 14 – 18 year olds who are attending our Monday night sessions and we welcome them to the Group with open arms.

During the summer we received two certificates from Buckinghamshire

Scout HQ, congratulating us on our growth within the General Scout Group and our Explorer Scout Section and I would expect us to receive another in the New Year.

Part of my contemplation over the summer has resulted in us opening a new Cub Scout Section to try and shorten our waiting list. The new section which begins on Monday 30 October has an opening membership level of 18 young people **In A New Section!**



It's testament to the popularity and ongoing success story of Lane End Scout Group and I would expect that by the end of this term we will have in excess of 100 young people through our sections every week.

This is not without its challenges for us. There are the obvious calls of 'we need more leaders' which are a constant in the voluntary sector and are no less in our Scout Group. We certainly need some more help in that area (CALL ME), but we require some assistance in the back office area also.

Our executive committee is responsible for the upkeep and finances of our Victorian School HQ. We have a brilliant Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary, but we're in need of some non Scout leading volunteers to help coordinate the operating function of the Group.

This is mainly to assist us in managing some of the improvement projects we are undertaking (CALL ME) so that the current uniformed Leaders can concentrate on delivering first class programs and activities to the growing number of young people we are experiencing.

Right now 51,000 young people are waiting to join a Scout Group across the UK, with a current membership of 475,000, all being supported by a mere 145,000 adult volunteers - the latter figure widely publicised in the national press as being a crime!

Volunteering in general, but specifically in Scouting has so many benefits, socially, mentally, motivational-ly, professionally, in building personal confidence. (CALL ME). It's non selective—male, female, young, not so young. There are few restrictions, no tests, no minimum level of ability, our volunteering opportunities are all flexible and fit around you. All you need is a can-do attitude, enthusiasm and a spark of interest in being involved in an amazing local success story, the oldest voluntary organisation in our Parish. A precious community asset.

## GET INVOLVED

### CALL ME

*We welcome support in many ways, not just volunteering to be a leader, you might be a plumber, electrician or carpenter who could help us with some 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.*

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

laneend@chilternvalescouts.org.uk

Tel 880617

## Lane End Conservation Group

Report by Jane Osborn

By the time you read this, the Group will have held their 2017 AGM, elected a new Committee and I will have ceased to be Hon. Sec. – so this will be my last contribution as LECG's 'Clarion correspondent'. Margaret Adnitt is also stepping down as Hon. Treasurer at the AGM – and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the commitment she has brought to her role.

Not only has she carefully looked after the Group's funds, but has also been the driving force behind the care of the many miles of public footpaths within the Parish – for many years she was also the Chilterns Society Footpath representative in the Parish.

Since Robert Briggs stepped down as Chairman (to become a deer farmer in Thailand), Margaret has kept an eagle eye on the condition of these public footpaths and provided guidance on necessary maintenance for each month's action day.

Can I add yet another 'thank you' to this last piece – and that is to my husband, Ross who, as an ex-copy writer, has frequently 'edited / re-written' and certainly improved my contributions to Clarion!

In the meantime, can I wish the new Committee, and more particularly my successor as Hon. Secretary, a rosy future and a reinvigorated membership.

## Lane End WI

Report by Ann Carter

We are pleased to have welcomed some new members recently. If you think you would like to come and join us, do come along to one of our meetings in the Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall on the last Monday of the month (unless there is a Bank Holiday) at 8pm.

On 30 October Roger Shaw takes us on 'The Oregon Trail', and on 29 January we will 'travel' to Iceland with Sheila Keating's beautiful slides.

We have our Christmas Dinner at Parmoor on Monday 4 December, which is always a very happy occasion. On Tuesday 5 December we hold the annual Christmas Tea Party, with entertainment, for older members of the village. If there is anyone who you think would like to join us please do contact Ann Carter – 01494 881987. We do try to include everyone but obviously some people slip through the net!

We wish everyone a very happy Festive Season.

## **Ditchfield Common** **seasonal bring and buy**

**Report by Paul Thomas**

The Ditchfield Common seasonal produce sale held in September raised £658 for the village hall. The money will be used to buy new gazebos for the village fete next June.

Villagers were invited to come to lower Ditchfield Common and bring along a home made or home grown item for donation.

The rain stopped just as the first people rolled up and the event began. Villagers brought jam, cakes, puddings, pies, cordials, home grown fruit and vegetables and bags of firewood.

Delicious tea and cakes were enjoyed whilst children played on the common. The heavy rain returned just as the last raffle ticket was drawn.

Many thanks to all contributors, helpers and growers of produce for a wonderful turnout and lovely afternoon.



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When I last updated you about the goings on at Frieth Cricket Club, the first and second teams had just 5 and 6 league matches to complete respectively, and the firsts had a final in the Knock-out Cup to on the horizon.

In case you've not kept up to date with the Mid Bucks League, I'm sure that you'll be delighted to learn that the Frieth Cricket Club first team won Division 1 fairly comfortably, and will be promoted to the Premier Division for the 2018 season. Unfortunately they were unable to overcome the strong Premier Division side, Monks Risborough CC, in the Knock-out Cup, but the contest did whet our appetite for the challenges that will be presented next season.

The seconds consolidated their league position in Division 3, and look forward to a league structure next season that is more conducive to regular and reliable fixture.

The Sunday side continued to play well, and we were pleased to welcome a couple of new faces to the Club for the last few fixtures.

We restructured our Social Calendar this year and brought our end of season dinner forwards from No-

vember to the end of September.

This enabled us to recognise the contributions and achievements of the players whilst they were still fresh in people's minds, and before they got reclaimed by their families for the winter months.

We enjoyed a relaxed and entertaining evening with members, friends and family of the Club, and with some generous donations and bidding were able to raise over £350 towards the Frieth Cricket Club New Pavilion Fund. Thanks must go to Lane End Conference Centre, who were very helpful and flexible in accommodating our event at short notice, due to a cancellation by our primary venue.

A club such as ours relies on the generosity and patience of volunteers and members of the community. Many people have supported us this season, by playing, preparing the ground and providing donations of money, food and drink.

The drive to raise money does, of course, continue (I'll come to this shortly), but at this point it is only proper to thank the patrons of The Grouse and Ale and the Price Albert for their support, Spadeoak for their sponsorship of our Club and the wid-

er community for helping us to continue to develop as the up and coming Club in the Chilterns.

There are lots of ways that you can support us. One of the most simple, and cheapest ways that each and every reader can help is via any online shopping that you might do, especially as the festive season approaches. Were you to register at, then visit your online retailers through [easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friethcricketclub](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friethcricketclub), you can generate donations to us, at no extra cost to yourself. John Lewis, Amazon, Toys R Us, Waterstones, Bookings.com and many other websites

can be accessed via EasyFundraising, and as a regular user myself, I can vouch for how simple the process is. We'd really appreciate it if you could take a few moments to have a look. If you have any questions about EasyFundraising, or about any other way that you think you can support our club, please do email us at [friethcricket@btinternet.com](mailto:friethcricket@btinternet.com).

On behalf of everyone involved with Frieth Cricket Club, I thank you for reading this article and for taking an interest in us. We look forward to welcoming you to our Club in 2018, however, in no rush to get there, we wish you the very best for the forthcoming festive period.



**Nikki Annable** Dip FH MCFHP MAFHP MSc

T:07714 207 180 E:[annablen324@gmail.com](mailto:annablen324@gmail.com)

# Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory



**Saturday 2 Dec**

**Karaoke Night  
7.30pm til late**

Do you sing in the mirror with your hairbrush, or sing your heart out whilst driving? Fancy a night out with friends before the month of December becomes bombarded by Christmas? Then along to our Karaoke night, £10 per person which includes a jacket potato with chilli or cheese. Bring your own drink and some extra cash for raffle and a little bingo! Tickets available now from the Centre.

## **CHRISTMAS**

### **Thursday Lunch Club**

#### **Thursday 21 December**

The Centre is hosting our Christmas Lunch festivities for our regulars from 'Thursday lunch club' on 21<sup>st</sup> December. Drinks on arrival at 12.30pm. A traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings served at 1pm. Followed by a choice of pudding, plus tea/coffee and mince pies. All this for £8.50. Plus a little bit of light enter-

tainment and a raffle. This Christmas lunch is available to our Thursday lunch regulars and anyone over 50 who will be on their own over Christmas. Places are to be booked in advance.



## **New Years Eve**

### **Sunday 31 December**

Join DJ Bruce for a disco on NYE, for the over 50's. Bring your own drink and nibbles, plus some cash for a raffle.

Tickets cost £7.50 and

can be purchased from the Centre office.

## **EVENING AVAILABILITY**

The Centre has a regular evening slot available should anyone be interested in hiring the centre for a weekly class/group every Wednesday. We offer a very versatile, modern building that is competitively priced, contact Emma to discuss if interested - 883878.

## **\*\*Opening hours over the Christmas period –\*\***

Closed from Sunday 24 December until Saturday 30 December.

Office re-opens on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

We would like to thank all our regular hirers and wonderful people who have supported the Centre throughout 2017, the Centre is here because of you and for you all. We hope you all continue to enjoy the facilities in 2018. We welcome anyone who would like to get involved at the Community Centre, whether that

be, joining our committee, who are desperate for volunteers to help fundraise, or if you would like to attend one of the many activities we offer on a weekly basis. On behalf of everyone at the Centre, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Not sure what we offer, take a look at our weekly schedule.

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

<b>Mondays:</b>	10.30am–12.00pm	'Drop In' Coffee morning – All welcome
	2.00pm–3.00pm	Gentle Exercise for the over 50's
	6.00pm–8.00pm	Pilates with Lauren Fois
<b>Tuesdays:</b>	Daytime available for hire	
	6.30pm–8.30pm	Senior Youth Club 11 yrs +
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Daytime AND evening available for hire	
<b>Thursdays:</b>	11.30am–2.00pm	Computers @ the Centre – FREE to everyone
	12.00pm–1.30pm	The Drop-in Lunch
	2.00pm–4.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs of the month – LEAOPAG
	7.30pm–10.00pm	Soundforce Big Band Rehearsal
<b>Fridays:</b>	9.30am–10.30am	Circuit Training
<b>Saturdays</b>	9.00am–12.00pm	Bells and Whistles dog training
<b>WEEKENDS AVAILABLE FOR HIRE</b>		

**Call LEYCC on 07932 326046**

# Plans for more housing in Lane End

Report by Katy Dunn

Last year, The Clarion reported on the consultation for Wycombe District Local Plan, in particular, what it meant for new housing developments in Lane End. An amended version—the Wycombe District Council New Local Plan was released in October 2017.

WDC's stated aim for rural areas is 'to cherish the Chilterns.' The challenge, they say, is to: 'support the economic and social wellbeing of local communities whilst respecting their distinct character and safeguarding the Chilterns and the Green Belt which extends across much of the area.

About Lane End, the Plan says: 'Lane End is a village in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which has Green Belt on its northern and eastern side... The sensitivity of sites in relation to their impact on (these) has been a key factor in determining the sites proposed for (housing) allocation in this plan.'

## Three development sites

Several sites around Lane End have been considered for development, but the three sites being taken forward appear to be:

- 1/ The field south of Finings Road, across the road from Lammas Way, next to Kew Cottage.
- 2/ Land south of Chalky Field alongside Marlow Road
- 3/ Sidney House site

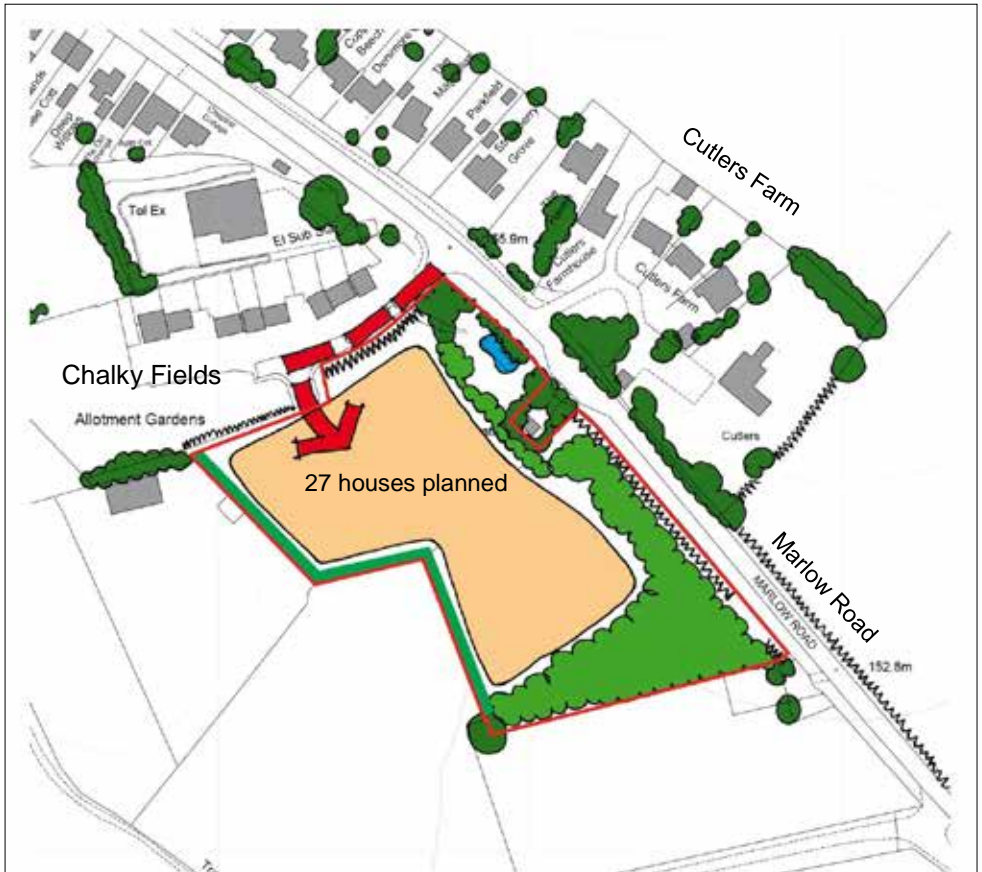




## Field south of Finings Road

This site of 0.86 hectares is situated in the AONB, it is bounded by Fining Wood ancient woodland to the west, Finings Road and Kew Cottage to the north, White Gable Cottage to the east and a footpath into Fining Wood to the south.

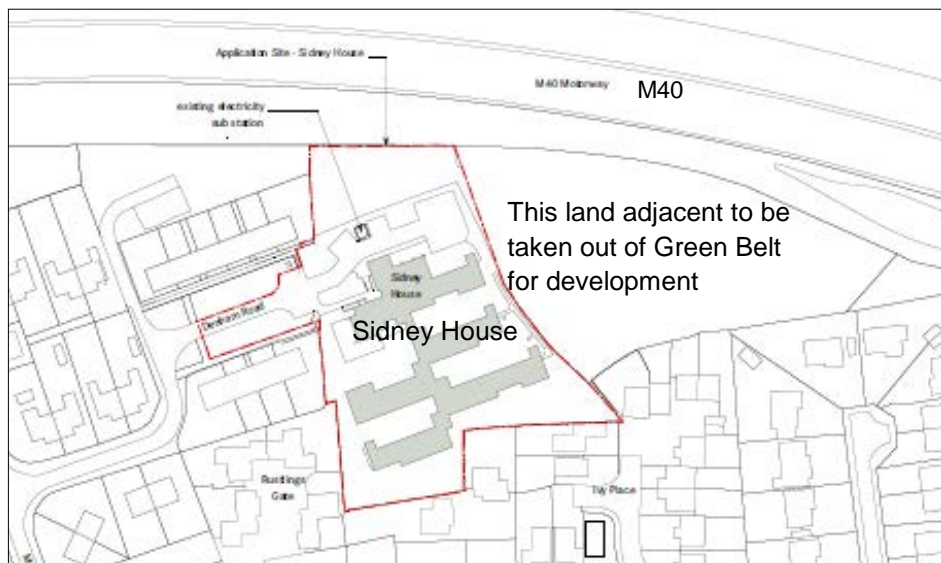
The plan is for 19 dwellings on this site.



## Land South of Chalky Fields along Marlow Road

This site of 1.27 hectares is situated on the southeast edge of the village in the AONB. To the north is Chalky Field and some allotments, to the east is Marlow Road and to the west and south is open countryside.

The plan is for 27 dwellings on this site.



## Sidney House site

Sidney House was historically sheltered housing but was vacated in 2004. There was a plan in 2013 to convert the existing buildings, but they were considered in too poor a condition to redevelop.

A new planning application has been submitted to demolish the existing buildings and erect in their place two terraces of three, two terraces of four houses and one terrace of five two story, two-bedroom houses with car ports.

The New Local Plan element is to take the adjacent 1.4 hectares of land out of the Green Belt for development.

Your day by day  
guide to local  
meetings, clubs  
and events



# What's On?

To include your event or group meeting (free) email: [katyjdunn@binternet.com](mailto:katyjdunn@binternet.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

**Extend... fun exercises to music**—2-3pm - Karen 07702 498924

**Rainbows and Brownies**—4.30-7.30 Frieth Village Hall. Email [friethbrownies@hotmail.com](mailto: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

### Monday events

Parish Council meetings:

4 Dec @ Lane End Village Hall

8 Jan @ Lane End Sports Association

5 Feb Lane End Village Hall

25 Dec—Christmas Day Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church 9.30am

25 Dec—Christmas Day service Elim Hope Church 10.30am

# Tuesdays

## Regulars

**Child Health Clinic**—First and third of the month, 9.30-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 475456 Just turn up

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

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

**Junior youth club (7-11yr olds)**—LEYCC, 6-8pm. call Rebecca Acres on 07714 866837

**Bingo** — 7.30pm Sycamore Room Lane End Village Hall

**Slimming World**—7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Call Marion on 07887 607987

## Tuesday Events

5 Dec—Hambleden Valley Gardening Club, 7.30pm Skirmett Village Hall. Talk about the Chelsea Physic Garden followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Tel 01491 638691

9 Jan—Hambleden Valley Gardening Club, 7.30pm Skirmett Village Hall. 'Propaganda and Propagation' chair of Wargrave Horticultural Society. Tel 01491 638691

6 Feb—Hambleden Valley Gardening Club, 7.30pm Skirmett Village Hall. 'A culture is o better than its woods' by the Chief exec of the Sylva Foundation. 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

**Gracewell of high Wycombe open day**—10am-4pm

**Bridge Club**—1.30pm Lane End Village Hall

**Sticky Kids**—2-2.45pm, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 475456 Just turn up

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

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

**Intermediate French Conversation** 8-9pm (starts 13 Sept) at La Cabane at Samedi in Lane End. Contact flexitalk@yahoo.com or 881919

## Wednesday events

13 Dec—register for RSPB Big Garden Bird-watch at [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)

# 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 1.45pm in Lane End Village Hall. Visitors £6. 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

21 Dec—Thursday lunch club Christmas dinner, 12.30pm. Tel 07932 326046

# Fridays

## Regulars

**Circuits**—9.30-10.30am LEYCC

**Pop in and play**—10am-3pm, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 475456 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

**Forget Me Knot Café**— 2-4pm, last Friday of every month at Gracewell of High Wycombe

## Friday Events

**Friday 9 Dec—Christmas in the village** Lane End Village Hall, 6.30-8.30pm

12,19,26 January—Lane End Players' pantomime Little Red Riding Hood, 8pm. Call 880662 or [boxoffice@laneendplayers.com](mailto:boxoffice@laneendplayers.com)

# 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

**Wycombe Ladies**—Saturday afternoon at Lane End Playing Fields.  
emma\_newberry@hotmail.co.uk

**Bingo**—Lane End Playing Fields clubhouse every fortnight starting 2 Dec. Call Michelle Duffield on 07886 886967

## Saturday Events

2 Dec—Lacey's Christmas Fair at Lacey's Family Farm, Bolter End.

2 Dec—Karaoke night at LEYCC, 7.30pm til late. £10 per person inc jacket potato. Tel 07932 326046

13, 20, 27 January—Lane End Players' pantomime Little Red Riding Hood, 1pm and 5.30pm. Call 880662 or  
boxoffice@laneendplayers.com

# Sundays

## Regulars

**Holy Eucharist**—8am fourth Sunday of the month

**Parish Communion**—9.30 Holy Trinity Church Lane End

**Elim service**—10.30 am at Elim Hope Church, Edmonds Road, Lane End

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

**Lane End Players**—7.30pm Village Hall Tel 483359

## Sunday Events

3 Dec—Lacey's Christmas Fair at Lacey's Family Farm, Bolter End

17 Dec—Elim Hope Church carol and nativity service 4pm

24 Dec—Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church, Lane End 8.30am

24 Dec—Christmas Eve service Elim Hope Church 10.30am

24 Dec—Christingle, Holy Trinity Church, 5pm

24 Dec—Midnight Mass, Holy Trinity Church 11.30pm

31 Dec—New Year's Eve over 50s party at LEYCC. Tickets £7.50. Tel 07932 326046

# A welcoming Christmas

by interior designer Samantha Johnson

As Christmas approaches, I have some simple pointers on how to care for your front door area and create an impact. Your home's entrance creates a first and lasting impression and is one of the easiest areas to decorate when moving home or simply having a refresh.

Nothing echoes a Yuletide tradition or radiates the beauty of this heart-warming season more than an inviting, festive wreath on your front door. Wreaths were used symbolically for centuries. The circle or ring shape signifies eternal life, with the shape having no beginning or end.

In ancient Rome, this symbol became so powerful that people used decorative wreaths as a sign of victory and honour.

Wreaths and other decorations during long winters were often made of

whatever natural materials that looked good during this bleak time of year—candles, firs, evergreens, holly, berries, and forced blossoms.

These are easy to make using wire wreath frames which can be picked up from crafts shops. Use pine cones, nuts, cinnamon sticks and holly to add texture and fix them to the frame with wire or glue.

Here are some ideas for your wreaths along with other simple but effective ways of celebrating Christmas in your porch area.

Falling snowflakes cascading down the windows made using cotton wool and fishing wire

Glow lights in the tree made from scrunched up chicken wire and then threaded with lights

Seasonal star made of twigs with a



touch of evergreen or lit with battery operated lights

Festive stickers on the window panes

Unusual containers filled with evergreen foliage or a Christmas tree in a galvanized container with lights or simple outdoor decorations

I do hope these simple suggestions help and I look forward to looking out for your festive homes as I stroll the streets with our two dogs Daisy and Dixie.

Happy Christmas and all the best for 2018!



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MEMBER

# Nature notes

## Join the Big Garden Birdwatch

Article by Katy Dunn

For more than 35 years the RSPB has been running the Big Garden Birdwatch. It allows the RSPB to monitor trends and helps them to understand how birds are doing.

With 35 years' worth of data and more than half a million people now taking part, the Big Garden Birdwatch is extremely valuable to scientists and allows them to create a 'snapshot' of bird numbers across the UK.

There are some scary changes, such as the reality that we've lost more than half our house sparrows and three quarters of our starlings. But there is good news too, such as blue tit (pictured below) numbers increasing by 20 per cent and the wood pigeon population has rocketed by 800 per cent.



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

## **When is it?**

27-29 January 2018

## **What do I need to do?**

First you need to register at [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk) to join in. Registration opens 13 December 2017.

Then, on 27,28 or 29 January choose a good place to watch your garden. Through a window is best so you don't get cold—you'll need to sit there for an hour, so make sure you've got drinks and snacks to hand too.

Count the maximum number of each species you see at any one time. For instance, if you see a group of three house sparrows together and later another two, and after that another one, the number to submit is three. That way it's less likely you'll double-count the same birds.

## **How do I know what the species are?**

There's a handy guide on the RSPB website.

## **How do I record them?**

There's a clever counting tool on the RSPB website to help you keep track of what you've seen.

You can then return to the Big Garden Birdwatch website to record your sightings online, or download a paper form, fill it in and return it for free.

## **What happens to the results?**

When all the results are in, it's number-crunching fortnight for the RSPB scientists.

Data scientists collate the results and check the data for accuracy and anomalies. The results will then be 'cut' in different ways, for the whole of the UK, for different counties and local authorities.

The RSPB scientists will then compare the birds' abundance and distribution (how many of each species and where they live) with past years' results to see where there has been a decline or increase in population.

Join in at [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk) from 13 Dec.



# Build a bird box for winter

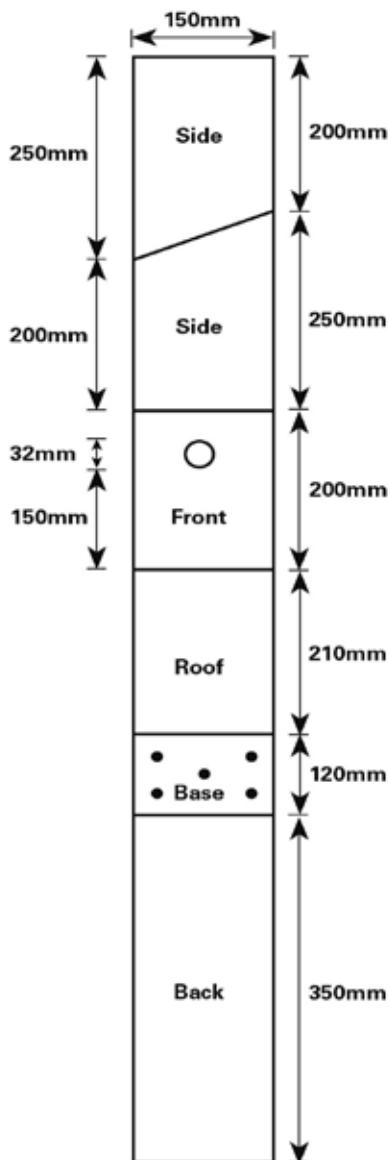
**Report by Tim Grout Smith**

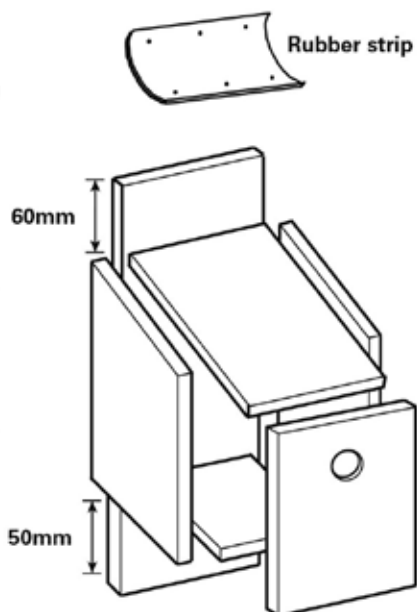
It's time to think about bird boxes, even hedgehog and dormouse boxes, and there are plenty of great plans on the web. A quick google brings up a whole raft of plans.

Thick wood, not plyboard, is best, but one thing many sites don't tell you is the need to fortify the nest hole against woodpeckers. They will eat eggs and nestlings and easily bore open the hole to get access.

It's simple to armour the hole by taking the lid from any tin, fixing it firmly with a clamp to your table or work bench and then drilling a hole in the centre to match the box hole and four screw holes around that. File off the rough edges and screw onto the box front and it will deter any woodpecker. (Ed: Only do this if you're experienced in using power tools, or get help from someone who has skill in this area.)

While cleaning out any boxes, do be careful not to disturb hibernating dormice, which we have in several locations in our area. If there's a big domed mass of moss or grass without a nest indentation in the box, then it's possibly housing a dormouse, and best left till spring.





Giving a bit more waterproofing to nest boxes is also a good idea, and easily done by tacking some leftover shed roofing felt to the box lid.

Wrens will happily roost together in a nest box, and dozens have been found together huddling against the cold. Our gardens are great places for birds, and a nest box can help the smallest of them through the worst of the coming months.

These plans pictured are for a house sparrow nestbox and they are available from the rspb website, [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)

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# Milk Men

with Will Lacey 



## Christmas Fair 2/3 December

Autumn this year on the family farm has been a tough one, with the sad passing away of Vera Lacey (my granny aged 89) and Brian Lacey (my great uncle aged 83) .

They were the last of a generation of Laceys that were born before the war, and have seen agriculture and our farm change so much during their lifetimes.

When Brian was born, the youngest son to Percy and Ada (Vine) Lacey

in 1934, the farm was much smaller, and the number of cows you had was determined by how much water you had access to.

There was no mains water supply on the farm so they had to rely on collecting rainwater, and any ponds, streams or wells on the farm. Farming was a much tougher job, all the jobs we do today in a comfy tractor were done by hand or horse and every member of the family, young and old had jobs to do.



I loved to hear stories of what the farm was like when they were young, Brian said it was his task as a young boy at the end of the day to take the working horses down to the pond at Hanover Hill and make sure they were fed and watered. Today once we finish work we simply turn the tractor off and go home!

Vera married Ted in 1950. As she came from a long line of butchers, Vera was particularly pleased in 2016 when we opened the butchers shop on the farm, and she was always on hand to give advice and chat through new ideas.

Every time I wrote a piece for the Clarion I would read her my article, and she would check I'd got it

right! They both will be dearly missed.

As always, it does not matter what is going on outside of the farm, the cows still need to be milked and fed, as well as all the other daily tasks. This autumn has been rather stop-start on the field work as August and parts of September were so wet it made ground conditions unsuitable for harvesting this year's crops (barley and maize) and getting next years crops planted (barley).

Thankfully we managed to get a few days of nice weather to get the harvest finished by 2 October and all the barley was drilled by mid October.



ber. The warmth and moisture in the ground during October and November means the barley has germinated well and is growing away nicely. It's also allowed the grass to continue to grow so the cows were still happily out grazing well in to November.

We have brought the cows indoors for winter now. A few of the boys will stay out for the whole winter, they will grow a thicker coat of hair and be quite happy outside but we do bring the majority of animals inside. The grass stops growing when the weather gets too cold so the cows are dependent on us feeding them each day. If they were all out in the fields they would make it all a mess and mud would be everywhere, which would ruin our grass

crops for next year. By bringing the cows indoors we give the fields a rest, and make the cows more comfortable for the winter.

In the farm shop, things are really geared up for Christmas now. Orders are coming in thick and fast for Christmas meats, you still have time to get your orders in, but the sooner you can do it the easier it is for us to plan. The weekend of 2 and 3 December we will be having our usual Christmas Fayre, with calves and a pregnant cow for you to see. There are all kinds of food, decorations, Christmas Trees and Wreaths on display for you to choose from. This weekend will have special offers on Christmas Trees so make sure you don't miss out!

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and once again, you the customers have helped to make  
it fun and enjoyable for the whole team.

From all of us we would like to wish you a very  
Happy Christmas and a fabulous New Year.

*The Lacey Farm Shop Team*



**CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS:**

Saturday 23rd 8.30 till 6.00  
Sunday 24th 8.30 till 1  
Monday 25th CLOSED  
Tuesday 26th CLOSED  
Wednesday 27th CLOSED  
Thursday 28th 9 till 3

Friday 29th 9 till 3  
Saturday 30th 9 till 3  
Sunday 31st CLOSED  
Monday 1st CLOSED  
Tuesday 2nd CLOSED  
Wednesday 3rd 8.30 till 5

**01494 881660**



# Christmas Services

## Elim Hope Church, Lane End

Sunday 17 Dec 4pm

Christmas Carol and Nativity Service

Sunday 24 Dec 10.30am

Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day 25 Dec 10am

Christmas Day Service

Sunday 31 Dec 10.30am

New Year's Eve Service

## Holy Trinity Church, Lane End

Sunday 24 Dec 8am

Holy Communion with Canon Cavell

Sunday 24 Dec 9.30am

Holy Communion with Rev Peter Viney

Sunday 24 Dec 5pm Christingle

Sunday 24 Dec 11.30pm Midnight Mass  
with Venerable Guy Elsmore

Christmas Day 25 Dec 9.30am

Holy Communion with Rev Peter Viney



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# Christmas in the Village

Friday 9 December, 6.30-8.30pm

Lane End Village Hall

Everyone welcome

Christmas lights switch-on

Free festive food and drink

Music and carols

Mummers play



Courtesy of Lane End Parish Council

# The Mummers' play

By Andrew MacTavish

Christmas! And it's now six years since the Lane End Players resurrected the Wheeler End Mummers' play and acted it at the Chequers Inn.

Last performed in the early 1900s, the text was found in the appendix of an old book, and a Mummers group was formed to present it in the village at Christmas. The play has its roots in history. It is similar to many other Mummers' plays in different parts of the country and, like them, is somewhat bewildering. 'Yes, great! But what was it all about?' Well, you had to have a degree in Ancient English Folklore and Customs to answer that!

So this year a new play has been written. The Lane End Players are lucky enough to have Tom Everitt in their numbers. Tom wrote the script for last year's hugely successful 'Jack and the Beanstalk' which won the coveted National Operatic and Dramatic Association's 'It's Behind You' Award for pantomime.

And he's written this year's January panto 'Little Red Riding Hood'...and now he's written a new play for the Mummers.

OK, so it's arguable whether a totally new play is a 'Mummers' play, but you can guarantee that (a) it will be funny (b) it will be Christmassy and (c) it will be understandable. Parents who bring their children to the performance at Christmas in the Village on 8 December will be able to give a proper answer to 'Dad, what was that about?' instead of saying 'Er... Get on with your mince pie!'



(The play can be seen at the Prince Albert after the Village Hall performance, and later at The Chequers and The Grouse and Ale.)

# Seven ways to get your kids out on a winter walk

Report by Katy Dunn

The difference between an indoors-all-morning child and the same one after a walk is immense. It's the reason we conquer our qualms about bundling up to get out of the door. It's why we embrace the pile of muddy clothes to wash when we return. And it's why the National Trust is such a blessing at this time of year.



A child who has run around in the fresh air is so much nicer to be around. And if it's in a beautiful place then we're happy too. But persuading a child away from a screen in a cosy room into the cold outdoors for a walk can be tricky. Here are a few tips:

## **1/ Call it a welly walk**

(Or a rain race if they're welly and/or walk-averse.)

What you call your walk makes a difference. Think about how 'little trees' served us well with broccoli. It could be a 'parachute walk' if it's windy. You can all hold your coat

tails up in the air to make a parachute to catch the wind as you run down a hillside.

It's all part of trying to make a virtue of the negatives. 'Cold? Yay! It means we can wear our scarf and gloves.'

## **2/ Make an obstacle course**

Suggest a simple walk from A to B and your head will hurt from the whining. Suggest an obstacle course in a woodland and your ears will hurt from the cries of glee. Use logs as balance beams, trees as slaloms and sticks laid on the ground to hop over.



### 3/ Look for animal tracks

Mud is great for stomping through in wellies to make footprints. Before you wade in though, check to see who has been there before you. It could be a duck, deer or dinosaur. OK, maybe not the latter, but you could always make your own dinosaur footprints.

### 4/ Borrow a dog

It doesn't work if it's your own. Dog-walking soon loses its appeal if it's a daily occurrence. Borrow someone else's though, and it turns into a treat. The novelty and responsibility of holding the lead is a huge thrill to children.



### 5/ Take binoculars

Winter is a great time for birdwatching. Birds are so much more visible without leaves on trees to conceal them. Take a spotter guide and tick off the birds you manage to spot.



### 6/ Make it a scavenger hunt

Set out on a walk with a list of items for the child to find. The obvious things are acorns, twigs, beetles or woodlice, beech mast, conkers, crisp brown leaf, forked stick. Who doesn't love the satisfaction of ticking things off a list? →

## 7/ Litter pick

Buy a cheap litter picker tool off the internet. Kids love them. They can see the point of going out litter picking and gives them things to find. And there's a marvellous halo effect. I can see yours shining already!

Head to national-trust.org.uk/  
chilternscountryside for downloadable walks with step-by-step instructions for great winter walks near you.



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# Schools



As always, things are extremely busy here at Cadmore End and we are looking forward to the sound of Christmas carols echoing around the school.

Extra-curricular clubs are taking place daily with archery and fencing in especially high demand. Our Forest School is up and running, with all classes participating each week. Activities range from the children exploring the world of minibeasts, to making their own bows and arrows or playing traditional conker games.

In class, personalised learning has had a significant impact on individual pupil progress, both academically and personally; with all pupils meeting their aspirational targets.

Our open mornings for prospective parents have been hugely popular and this term alone, we have had an additional eleven pupils join us in years 1-6!

In addition to the new eleven pupils, we have gained Bear, our Reading

Dog. Bear joins us weekly as a reward for pupils who have been working extremely hard on their reading – which I'm happy to report, appears to be the whole school!

Before and after school care has helped raise money for our Friday Enrichment Hour, enabling all pupils to enjoy a range of activities decided upon by our new Head Girl and Head Boy, with assistance from our School Council.

We still have open mornings scheduled for December and January. If you are interested in your child joining Reception Class in 2018 or are intrigued by how Cadmore End has a truly unique approach to learning and growing together, please come along, or personal tours can be arranged. Find out more at: [cadmoreendschool.org](http://cadmoreendschool.org)

Wishing you all a safe and happy end to 2017 and looking forward to sharing more Cadmore news in 2018!



At Frieth school this term, School Council has been choosing events for Children in Need, such as

wearing spotty clothes and bringing in old £1 coins.

JRSOs are Junior Road Safety Officers. They've been teaching pupils and parents about road safety and parking safely at drop-off. The JRSOs and Yr 6s have also been working with the neighbourhood police on Community Cop Cards. These are stickers that you collect for tasks that you complete, for instance first aid, local history and community events. The school that

completes the most tasks gets Lego-land tickets for the whole school.

We enjoyed harvest festival and collected canned food for the One Can Trust charity. Every year group performed a little piece such as a song or speech to tell the audience about One Can Trust and harvest. Year 6's performance didn't go so well, because we got confused and it ended when one of the children had had enough and said: 'it's the end now.'

We're looking forward to Christmas. This year we're doing a play and at our Christmas Fayre we'll have the Xmas Factor, when the students perform their talent in front of their friends, parents and scary judges.

*By Cassidy Dunn Yr6*



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It is hard to believe that we've only been back at school for half a term, so much has happened in such a short space of time.

**New class** A new classroom means that we have a dedicated class per year group.

**50 Things** One of our most exciting initiatives this year is our *50 Things To Do Before You Leave Lane End Primary School* project – throughout the school children are collecting experiences for their 50 Things scrapbooks. We hope that this will encourage our children to have a go and try lots of new and exciting things during their time with us.

**The Wetland Centre** Topaz Class went on a school trip to The London Wetland Centre. They enjoyed pond dipping, collecting different creatures.

**A visit from the Dentist** Amethyst class had an exciting visit from Stokenchurch Dental Care this term. They learnt all about good oral hygiene and the importance of keeping their teeth clean and avoiding sugary drinks.

**A head full of rhymes** Writing week was punctuated with a visit from Adisa – a performance poet who inspired the children to produce some fabulous poems in his workshops.

**Gracewell** We are planning lots of activities with the new Gracewell care home. Our children in EYFS have already visited residents who joined in with their songs and actions! Year 2 will be sharing their Remembrance Day assembly with them. Gracewell have very kindly given the school a lovely bear that the children can take home with a diary and write down all the things they have been up to in order to share with the residents!

If you are considering school or nursery choices for your child please do come to have a look around. Please call the office on 881169 or email [office@laneendprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@laneendprimary.co.uk) to arrange a visit.



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# On the land

with Bryan Edgley 



## Mop fairs, food security and ploughing

Michaelmas Day, 29 September, was one of the Quarter Days with origins as religious festivals. The others were Christmas on 25 December, Lady Day on 25 March and then Midsummer Day on 24 June. On the Quarter Days in ancient times debts and unresolved lawsuits were not allowed to linger on – a reckoning had to be made and publicly recorded.

But for farming Michaelmas Day had far more significance, in that it was the day in each year when Mop Fairs were held, sometimes called Hiring Fairs, when both male and female agricultural servants would gather in order to bargain with prospective employers, and hopefully secure a position for the coming year.

They had been held since 1351 when labour was short after the Black Death and continued until a hundred years ago, when such fairs

were still being held by the Guildhall in High Wycombe. Then the Corn Production Act of 1917 was enacted, for the purpose of ensuring that there was sufficient food available to feed the nation during the First World War. It achieved this by guaranteeing a minimum price for wheat and oats, and it set up the Agricultural Wages Board, with a minimum wage for agricultural workers, thereby ensuring stability for both the farmers and the workers on the farms.

With the recent Brexit vote, once again Government is having to give thought to those objectives, to ensure stability of food production in this country, rather than just relying on imported food. The last in depth review was in 2001 when Defra, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, set up the Policy Commission on the Future of Farming and Food, under the chairman-

ship of Sir Donald Curry – but its terms of reference had to be consistent with the Government's aims for CAP Reform, enlargement of the EU and increased trade liberalisation for food imports from other countries.

The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Commerce and Manufactures (the RSA) has recently set up a similar new review - the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission, most appropriately while the UK negotiates its future relationship with the European Union. But the big difference this time is that the Commission's work is not being funded by Defra or any other Government department, it is being funded by the Esmee Fairburn Foundation, a charity which provides major grants for projects for the national good, and will be administered by the RSA.

So this new Commission has no obligation to Government or any political party - its terms of reference are to prepare the Commission's Report within two years, and to come up with recommendations that should secure the future of food, farming and the countryside in Britain. It was good that at the launch event the Chairman, Sir Ian Cheshire, finished with the following words:-

***".....we cannot have farming without farmers and the rural economy in the broader sense of the word and I absolutely take the point that will include the subsidies and payments. The nature of this model is going to be multiple and complicated, but we have to have a genuine long term future for farmers. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind about it."***

Concerning local events, rather than matters of national importance, on the first Wednesday in October the annual Ploughing Match of the Royal South Buckinghamshire Agricultural Association took place. This year it was in Lord Parmoor's field, farmed by the Connell family, between the Frieth old horse pond crossroads and Fynamore Wood.

RSBAA is a historic association formed after the Board of Agriculture undertook research to formulate poli-



cies 'to improve agricultural practices and economics'. This led to the association being formed in 1833 when King William IV was on the throne, before Queen Victoria.

This year was the 173<sup>rd</sup> RSBA Annual Ploughing Match, at which six teams of horses were ploughing, as well as modern tractors and ploughs, and several dating from the 1950s. One of the photos shows a horse team at work on Show Day, the pair of horses pulling a single furrow



plough. That type of ploughing was hard work for the ploughman, who had to walk in the furrow behind the plough all day, and also required great skill in setting up opening ridges and closing furrows, since the plough always turned the soil over in the same direction, towards the right, whether it was going up the field or down it.

The modern six furrow reversible plough shown above not only covers more ground in a day than the horse plough would cover in a couple of

weeks, but has the advantage of not needing opening and closing furrows. This is achieved by using the left hand mouldboards shown at work in the photo when going in one direction, then at the end of the field the tractor hydraulics twist the plough over so that the right hand mouldboards are used on the return run along the field.

At lunch following the RSBA ploughing match, it was my great pleasure to present Long Service

Awards of 55 years at Kensham Farm for Nigel Rogers, and 18 years for his son Paul Rogers.

So I am pleased to report that the headline 'Farm Foreman Retires after 52 years' in a 2014 edition of the *Clarion* was not in fact accurate. Nigel continues to drive our combine harvester. Records of RSBA show that the

longest Long Service Award ever was to James Lesley in 1882, when he received 15 shillings in recognition of 58 years of service – so there is a great incentive for Nigel and myself to continue for a few more years.

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with Bill Blake 



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Usually there is a rubber collar that stretches tightly around the back of the toilet outlet. Unfortunately, this collar can be damaged by the over-use of bleach, sometimes causing it to split or, more often, actually dissolve. Invariably, the bottom edge of the collar is the part that fails since this is where the water and bleach mixture collects between flushes.

What to do? Use a little less bleach and, when you do use it, double-flush when you rinse the bleach away. This will ensure the bleach/water mixture doesn't sit in the problem area and cause damage.

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# Gardening

with Dave Dunbar 



## Farewell and thanks Dave

Sadly the time has come for me to pass over the pleasure of writing for the Clarion readers, to make opportunity for a new garden enthusiast, whomsoever they shall be! My first edition began in March 2010. 'I know!' I'm surprised it was seven years ago, how time flies when you're enjoying yourself. The cycle of plants for us as gardeners is, generally speaking, on a yearly basis, so seven growing seasons is not that long considering the oldest known *Sequoiadendron giganteum* ring counted at 3,500 years old...mad!!

### Seasonal Top Tips

Well it seems Dahlias are back in fashion, I'm surprised they went out. They have prolonged summer flowering, especially so with regular dead heading. They come in all colours, and are of varied heights, from 1-6ft depending on variety. But the best thing is they can be cut down end of autumn, dug up and overwintered in a frost free area, glasshouse

or garage, and replanted the next year producing even bigger plants again....Boom!

### Favourites

So... while we are on Dahlias, here is just one of my favourites....but there are thousands. This one's called 'Black Beauty'.



One last favourite plant, the Fuchsia, probably my most favourite as it was one of the first introduced to me in

my mum's garden where it all began, this one looks just like it...it's called 'Blue Eyes'.



## Dave's Mystery Plant:

I am a gargantuan evergreen coniferous towering specimen, growing to an average of 150-300ft, reaching the spire height of Notre-Dame.

I have thick deeply ridged bark which is very fire resistant for natural survival. I'm naturally from California, but you can find one of me, if I'm correct, on the Finings road junction to Lammas Way...What's my name?

*Answer: Sequoiadendron giganteum. (Giant redwood/Sequoia)*

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

Send copy to [katyjdunn@btinternet.com](mailto:katyjdunn@btinternet.com)

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