

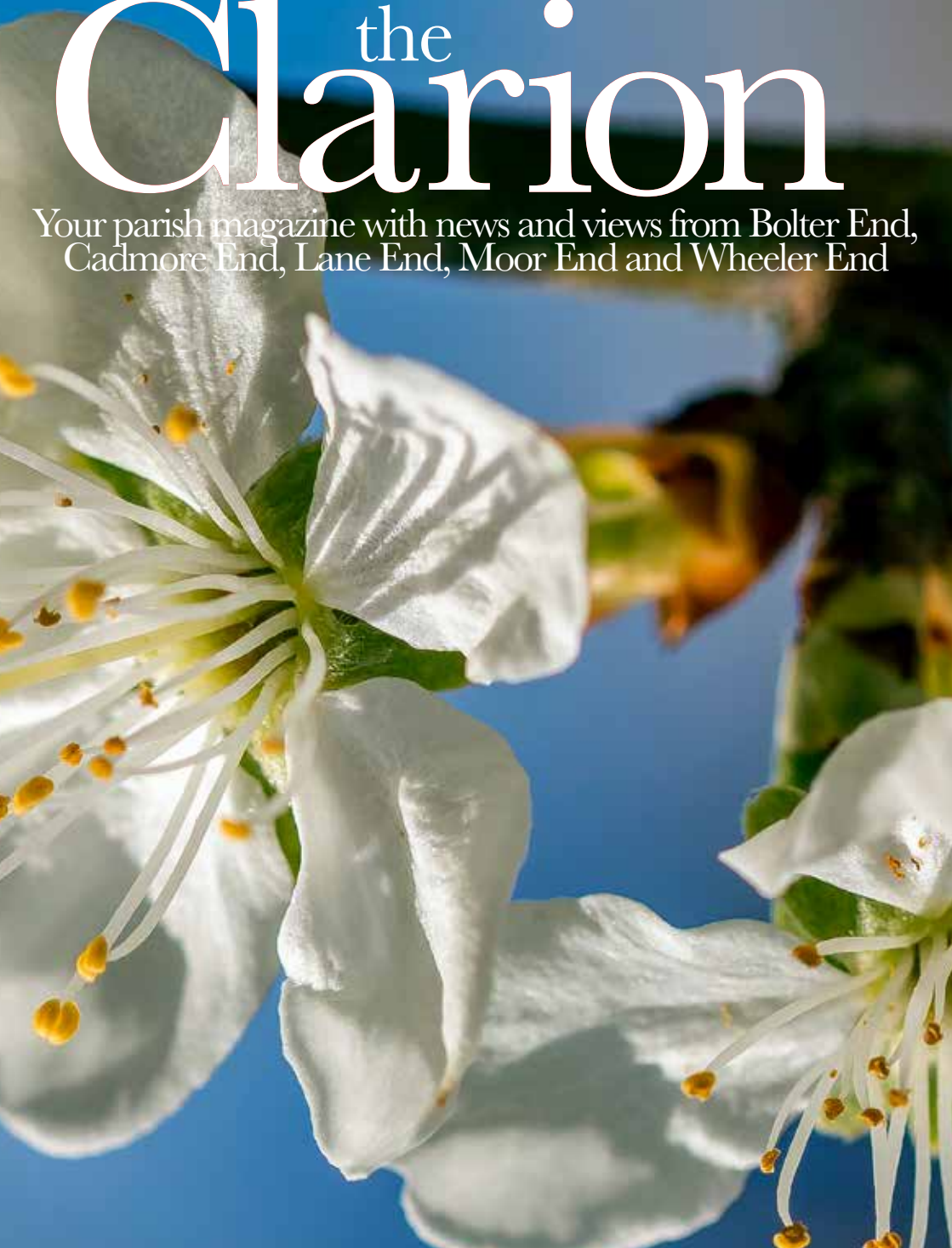
Spring 2020

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the Clarion

Your parish magazine with news and views from Bolter End,
Cadmore End, Lane End, Moor End and Wheeler End



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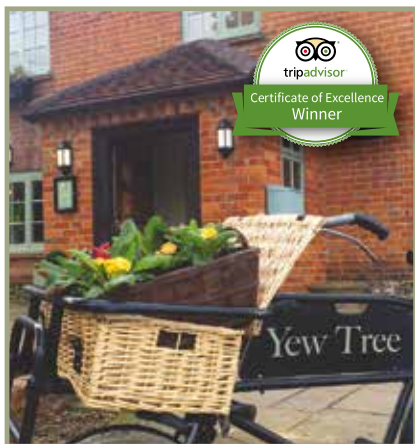
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From the Editor

I'm writing this on that crazy stormy Sunday in February, hoping the slates will stay on the roof and the fence panels stay rooted to the earth. The big evergreen bush opposite is swishing and swirling like an angry octopus. The snowdrops are nodding furiously and the crocuses are bravely trying to flower like it's a normal day on the cusp of spring. I hope everyone stays sensibly and safely indoors. It's not a day for casual wandering.

It will be soon, though. I love the progression of flowers as we move into spring—the stately succession of blooms from snowdrops and cyclamen through daffodils and blossom to snakeshead fritillaries and eventually bluebells.

Our villages are coming out of hibernation too this spring. It's exciting to see the Lane End Sports Association blossoming under new leadership. The Community Centre is holding a grand gala ball to raise funds to continue its good work and Samantha Johnson's got some great interior design tips to refresh your home for the new season. Hope you enjoy the spring issue of The Clarion.

Katy Dunn, editor. katyjdunn@btinternet.com

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Parish Clerk

Hayley Glasgow

Tel: 01494 437111

clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

PO Box 1616

High Wycombe

Bucks HP12 9FS

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Cllr Colin Harries

Cllr William Hunt

Cllr Tim Nolan

Cllr Jane Osborn

Cllr Mandy Sarney

Cllr Callum Stewart

Cllr Keith Wright

Parish Council meetings—

All welcome

All meetings start at 7.30pm and are held at Lane End Sports Association unless indicated on the Agenda issued before the meeting.

Monday 2 March

Monday 5 April

Monday 4 May—Annual Parish meeting. Starts 7pm.

Monday 1 June

Change of address

All future correspondence for Lane End Parish Council should be addressed to:

PO Box 1616

High Wycombe

Bucks HP12 9FS

Planning Applications

The Planning Applications relevant to Lane End Parish Council are updated on the Parish Councils website 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 01494 437111 / clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

Pot Holes / road repairs

You can track and report pot holes/ road repairs through the Buckinghamshire County Council website transportforbucks.net 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

Talk to us

We would love to hear your comments / suggestions / complaints or compliments.

Please contact the parish clerk Hayley Glasgow on 01494 437111

 fixmystreet.com

Report by Hayley Glasgow

FixMyStreet is a website primarily for reporting things which are **broken or dirty or damaged or dumped, and need fixing, cleaning or clearing**, like graffiti, dog fouling, potholes or street lights that don't work.

Is this a council website? No, but FixMyStreet does send your reports direct to your local council.

They are also published online, so that others in the community can read, discuss, and offer advice where needed.

FixMyStreet is an independent website, built by the charity [mySociety](http://mySociety.org). They wanted to make it easier to report problems in your community, even if you don't know who those reports should go to.

All you have to do is type in a postcode – or let the site locate you automatically – and describe your problem. Then we send your report to the people whose job it is to fix it.

FixMyStreet covers the whole of the UK. No matter where you are, the only thing you ever have to remember is the web address –

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Leaves Lane End Village Hall 9.11am

(stops at Simmons Way and The Row)

Arrives Marlow 9.22am

(stops at Dean Street and Chapel Street, Foxes Piece)

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The lowdown

Lane End Sports Association

Report by David Vance

The Lane End Sports Association (based at the playing fields in Lane End) held its AGM meeting in December and has appointed a new chairman to the committee.

New chairman Delaney Hanson has lived in the village all his life and was a founder member of the club in 1985. Since then he has supported the club as player, captain and manager of football and cricket teams for more than 30 seasons, so has more than a little knowledge of what's needed at the club.

Delaney is passionate about Lane End and proud of the village and wants to make the sports association somewhere for the whole village and beyond to enjoy.

He says: 'With the help of the committee, bar manager Anita Hanson, and of course existing and new members, I'm determined to get it right.'

Last year was an exciting one for the club with many new infrastructure projects coming to fruition. Now with excellent facilities and plenty of parking, the club really is a great place to spend time in.

The playing fields pavilion has a

lovely new patio area surrounded by railings and new wheelchair access kindly donated by Dan Barber.

The club has a large new TV with Sky Sports subscription and is available for all members to use. There is plenty of parking

In the bar area there's a juke box with a wide range of music to choose from and a dartboard.

We're looking forward to an equally exciting year this year. The football pitches are well used and there are plenty of bookings for the 4G pitch.

Planning is in progress for a week-end of celebrations for May Day bank holiday (now on 8 May for VE day) with music and food.

You can join the Lane End Sports Association for just one pound. Contact the club on laneendsports@yahoo.com, follow Lane End Playing Fields/ Sports Association on Facebook or call 07775 535542.

Don't forgot you need to keep your dogs on leads in the playing fields please and ALWAYS pick up after them.



Footpaths report

Report by Julie Wetenhall

What can I say, it's been a dismal few months on the footpaths, so muddy, with many places unpassable unless you are wearing waders! I think it will probably be July before we can walk on Moor Common without wellies!

I have noticed just this week at the end of January some snowdrops, catkins and even a few buds on bushes and trees. So far we seem to have had a mild winter with only a couple of frosts. A bit more sunshine wouldn't go a miss, I'm not really moaning, I love all weather and I'm out in it twice a day walking the dogs. →



I would like to thank Peter and Pauline Grosse for looking after the Four Fields area. They have now decided to retire from keeping this footpath and steps in good order.

If anyone would like to join in and take on this or any other footpath (by letting me know if there is a problem or actually cutting back brambles etc), I would be very grateful
julie.wetenhall@gmail.com



I would also like to thank the conservation group, Colin and any other helpers for their tremendous efforts at keeping footpaths open. I am still waiting for the Chiltern society to mend certain stiles which I brought to their attention some time ago.

Lane End Players

Report by Georgie Brooks

Lane End Players' run of The Snow Queen was performed to capacity audiences for most of its shows. We have received many good comments about it. We always do a free special performance before the public ones start. This is offered to groups of people with different physical and learning abilities and those from disadvantage backgrounds, who are so appreciative. We are grateful to Marlow Masons who provide goodies for the children.

LEP will be performing Keep Smiling Through as our spring production, on 24/25 April and 1/2 May. This will be a Second World War themed revue, to coincide with the national celebrations of 75 years since hostilities ended. The performance will focus on the Home Front, rather than the war itself.

The Box Office will open on Saturday 21 March and you can buy your tickets on Saturday mornings at the hall, at www.laneendplayers.com, by emailing lepboxoffice@gmail.com or by ringing 880662. The tickets are priced at £10 Adults/£8 Concessions for the first Friday only and £12 Adults/£10 Concessions for the other performances.



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Lane End Fete

Report by Bob Nix

After organising the fete for the past few years I have decided to stand down from this role this year—2019 was my last year in the job.

It is my sincere hope that someone will take over this role with enthusiasm. The role requires dedication to put together the fete within the early part of the year but on the fete day there is much pleasure and satisfaction to see people enjoying themselves.

Through the pages of this publication I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the many individuals and business who have donated prizes,

run stalls, help with the setting up. I refuse to mention names because I will omit someone, but you all know who you are. However one person who has been my right hand man is my wife Elizabeth Ann.

To you all, thank you, Bob Nix

Late news, just in—we have a successor to Bob in the post of Lane End Fete organiser. Lane End Players' Alison Hartnett is shedding her wicked snow queen persona to become our very own angelic Lane End Fete queen. Thanks Alison!

If you can help with organising the fete in advance, or can help out on the day, please get in touch with Alison on 07919 757355.

Chilterns Walking Festival

16-31 May

Explore the glorious Chilterns on this series of guided walks on subjects from butterflies to archaeology and map reading.

visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest

Hambleton Valley Gardening Club

Report by Janet Collins

Our Speaker in November was Ana Coggan who is a garden designer and also lecturer at Waterperry gardens and school of horticulture. Ana spoke about her passion for the work of the garden designer Piet Oudolf who came to prominence in the 1980s with the Prairie garden concept using mostly grasses. Ana showed us many of his garden designs from around the world and also how his concept has developed over the years.

For our Christmas meeting we all enjoyed our usual mulled wine and mince pies after which we were entertained by a fascinating talk from Russell Bowles whose talk was titled The Capable Mr Brown. He gave us

a potted history of how Capability Brown became a landscape architect of great repute. Mr Brown, who came from quite a humble birth, became a wealthy, sought-after landscape designer whose name is well known even today.

We have three more talks from January to March and then we will start our garden visits. Please make a note now of our **Plant Sale** to be held at Manor Farm in Fingest on **Saturday 2 May from 10.30am to 12noon**. All are welcome to get some really excellent quality and value plants and enjoy homemade tea and cakes in the lovely setting of the Great Barn. Tell your friends and come along and enjoy the morning!

Please look at the What's On pages to see what further meetings and visits we have planned. New members are most welcome, please call Celia Warren on 01491 638691



How to beat hay fever naturally

Report by Lilli May

Do you anticipate the arrival of spring with mixed feelings because you suffer from hay fever? According to NHS England up to 20% of the population suffers from this condition each year, which ranges from being a mild nuisance to making your life a misery. Conventional treatment with anti-histamines can cause drowsiness, dizziness, dry mouth and sometimes moodiness or confusion.

There are various natural alternatives which can help reduce symptoms without any unwelcome side effects. One popular natural treatment is to take a teaspoon of local honey each day leading up to and throughout hay fever season. This is said to desensitise you to local pollens and to help alleviate symptoms.

Local honey is available to buy at Laceys farm shop or Anya the Garden Fairy has honey for sale at various times of the year harvested from bee hives in her Lane End garden.

Various plants have been shown to have anti-histamine properties, including root ginger, elderflower



and chamomile, whilst others can boost your immune system, for example raw garlic, turmeric and echinacea. A useful preventative measure is to put vaseline around your nostrils when going outside as this reduces the amount of pollen inhaled.

Another natural alternative which can be very effective is Homeopathy, a system of medicine that has been around for over 200 years and is used by millions of people worldwide. It can offer not only relief of symptoms but can reduce the severity of symptoms year on year, leading to a progressive cure (for research evidence see britishhomeopathic.org)

Homeopathy is a holistic and individualised form of medicine which means there are many different homeopathic hay fever remedies depending on your particular symptoms. For example burning, itching or watering eyes; a bunged up, itchy or constantly runny nose; a sore or tickly throat; a headache from congested sinuses or flu-like fatigue. Each combination of symptoms will require a different remedy.

It is possible to buy over-the-counter homeopathic remedies but treatment is more likely to be successful if you visit a homeopath who will match a remedy to your particular symptoms, and can also address the underlying

imbalance in your system which makes you susceptible to hay fever.

This may be hereditary, or if you have developed hay fever as an adult, due to stresses in your lifestyle. Homeopathy is gentle and has no side effects as it works by stimulating the body's own self-healing potential.

If you are interested in trying homeopathy to treat hay fever or any other chronic health conditions please contact me for further details.

Lilli May 07950 005233

lilli.may@zen.co.uk

www.lillimayhomeopathy.com

The advertisement is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. At the top, the text 'The Genuine Gardener' is written in a large, bold, green serif font. Below this, 'Garden Maintenance Services' is written in a smaller, bold, green sans-serif font. In the center, a list of services is provided: 'Lawn Mowing • Hedge Cutting • Garden Clearance Weeding • Planting • Grass Strimming • Turfing' in a bold black sans-serif font, followed by 'Many other garden services' in a regular black sans-serif font. Below the list, the text 'For a FREE QUOTE call Tom Everitt on 07834 767314 or email thegenuinegardener@gmail.com' is written in a black sans-serif font. On the left side, there is a green illustration of a plant with two long, thin seed pods. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a wide, dense band of green grass blades.

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Lane End Evening WI

Report by Ann Carter

The Buckinghamshire Federation of Womens' Institutes celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year. There will be a programme of activities throughout the year including on 28 April, teas at Denman (the WI college, at Marcham, Nr Abingdon) with a demonstration of celebration cake decorating. On 12 May there's the BFWI Annual Council Meeting in Aylesbury which always includes some excellent speakers. On 21 May there's a parade of banners through Aylesbury and in June there'll be a Scarecrow Village Trail.


The main highlight will be a Garden Party at Waddesdon Manor on Tuesday 7 July.

At Lane End WI we have some interesting speakers throughout the year. On 30 March Miss Merier Duncan will speak about the honourable honey bee. On 27 April Graham Lawrie will tell us about Roald Dahl's War. In May we will have Magic & Humour with Clive Peacock. Do come along to the Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall at 8pm on the last Monday of the month (not bank holidays).

We'll be at the Village Fete with our tombola on Saturday 13 June in the village hall. It is always good to welcome familiar faces and catch up with old friends.

Contact Ann Carter on 881987

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Lane End Conservation Group

**Report by Pauline Cavell-
Northam and Margaret Adnitt**

Despite the wet and muddy conditions, thanks to the care of the people who look after the footpaths, they are at least 'walkable'. There are signs of spring everywhere.

The Action Group is planning to replace the wooden bench on the Four Fields footpath in memory of Don Greswell. We plan to have it in place within the next few weeks and will hope to show you a photograph in the next Clarion.

Litter remains a big problem and especially alongside the main roads leading to and from the village. In January the extension of Park Lane, towards the motorway and beyond, was especially disgraceful. However, the litter was cleared within a few days by volunteers, unknown to us, and we would like to thank them most sincerely for their very noble

work. Several sacks of rubbish were collected but sadly, within a few days, more litter was beginning to accumulate. Please respect our beautiful countryside and take your rubbish home.

In early January several members of the LECG enjoyed a very memorable walk through the private areas of Finings Wood. The walk was led by Paul Thomas who is very anxious that the Wood should belong to the village and therefore become open access. The idea is certainly supported by the Conservation Group as it is by the many walkers who enjoyed this new experience. Well done Paul for your great initiative.

The Conservation Group is always happy to welcome new members, either just to support us or to join our Action Team. The subscription is only £5! If interested do get in touch with Margaret on 882609. Meanwhile enjoy your walking in our magnificent Chiltern countryside.





In the last edition of the Clarion, Seddon Parmoor described the organisation of the annual Poppy Appeal in the village. This

takes place over several months but we are now in a position to publish the results.

Thanks to the of the members of the branch plus the volunteers from the village who assisted with the house-to-house collecting and the generosity of the villagers £5,826.07 was raised. Our thanks to all concerned.

In addition to the above, the branch organises events throughout the year to raise money for the Poppy Appeal. These are fun events for the enjoyment of our members and on many occasions are open to non members.

Our plans for this year include a quiz in May, a barbecue in July, our annual Officer's Talk in October, and of course, the Poppy Appeal in November. Also in November are the Annual Remembrance parades. Watch out for further information in

future issues of The Clarion.

In addition to the three memorials in the village referred to in the last edition of The Clarion, there is also a memorial to the crew of the Royal Canadian Airforce Lancaster bomber RF 150 which crashed on 5 April 1945. The memorial approximately marks the crash site, and is situated near the reservoir in Widdenton Park Wood.



The Legion's role is twofold; to raise money for retired members of our armed forces and their dependants, who have fallen on hard times, and maintaining National Remembrance for the fallen.

Royal British Legion is open to all. It is a charity, military service is not a requirement. New members are welcome.

For further information, please contact
Seddon Parmoor at 881662,
Andrew MacTavish at 881948,
or me, Bruce James, on 01494
881079 or 07771 766774.



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Report by
Ben Smiley 

Here we go!

Here we go, another year, another season. It's been tricky to get to the ground recently, because of the damp weather, however reports are that the renovation has been very successful, and there has been good germination of the new grass during the winter. Earlier germination means that the grass has more time to set a stronger root before the wear and tear of the season, which will hopefully create a more durable square and a better, more consistent bounce for the players.

There's been no cricket on these shores since September, therefore there is little for us to report in terms of results or league positions. We can, however, announce that after a lot of inward looking, we've decided to enter just one team into the league for the coming season.

It is our hope that this move will allow us to arrange more social and friendly events that will better serve our community than a raft of competitive league matches that haven't presented these same opportunities in the past. As such, we have more capacity at our ground to host friendly cricket matches between companies, families, pubs and the like, and would love to hear from you if you'd be interested in using our ground at times during the year.

As well as our league successes, and cup win during 2019, last year was successful in other ways for Frieth Cricket Club. Not only were we a World Club Cricket Club, but we hosted record numbers of children into our Junior Section and were able to pay for some coaching to take place in Frieth CE school.



We'll be running these coaching sessions in early summer again this year.

We also raised lots of money for our New Pavilion Fund through our T20 cricket evenings, Frieth Cup (inter-pub match), Race Night and End of Season Dinner. These events will all be running again this season, and we'll publish details for them in due course.

More passive fundraising continues all year round, and you can help here too. We're linked to EasyFundraising, and any online purchases that you make through this website will generate a commission for Frieth Cricket Club, at no extra cost to you.

It is a really simple site to use, and most of the major online retailers and insurance companies are signed up, so please do have a look at easyfundraising.org.uk/friethcricketclub.

For regular readers, you'll be aware of our regular plea for players, officials, scorers and other volunteers who might be able to offer some expertise or time at a more strategic level. If you are interested in helping us, or joining our ranks, please contact us at friethcricket@btinternet.com or on 07879 855353. Thanks in advance of your support this season – we look forward to welcoming you to the Club.

Nurtured Beauty

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From Oléron

Report by Terry Dennett

On behalf of the Oléronaise, may I wish all Lane Enders a healthy and vibrant 2020. Despite some appalling weather, the Oléron Christmas Market went ahead in the covered market in St Pierre. Sadly, only the Twinned towns from Germany and Spain attended. Beryl and I were accosted frequently by local people asking where were the Lane Enders? Great fun was had by all with a strolling jazz band, jugglers, dancers and pony rides. Of course everyone imbibed the Spanish wine and ham, German Bratwurst and beer and the local Pineau and oysters.



Recently, daily storms and rain have become commonplace and sea levels continue to rise. Coastal erosion on Oléron is now becoming a major issue. According to a map published locally by Climate Central, by 2030 the Atlantic coast will have reclaimed a lot of the Charente Maritime coast. The whole of Oléron will face flooding! Brouage, close by, might even become a port once again as the marshland will be inundated. This is now all quite worrying, but we shall see.

There is no better way to shake off these blues than to join in the fun at the Annual Mimosa Festival on the island over the weekend 14-16 February. The cheerful yellow flower is celebrated each year with free concerts, special rides on the Petit Train Touristique, a grand parade with dressed floats, bands and dancers. This year the Philharmonique Oléronaise will open the weekend.

Finally may I give you another date for your diary. On 6 June in La Rochelle, Red Bull will holding again their Cliff Diving competition from the Towers in the old harbour; it is quite a spectacle and very scary. That is all until next time so best wishes to you all.

Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory

regulars

February half term Play-scheme

February half term playscheme is back on Tuesday 18 February, 10am—3pm.

Afternoon tea

Thursday 9 April 1-3pm.
£10pp, booking essential.

Easter Playscheme

The Easter playscheme runs on Tuesdays 7 and 14 April, 10am—3pm

Easter egg family bingo

Easter egg family bingo is on Wednesday 15 April, 11am—1pm.
£3 per child plus hot dogs, drinks and all your favourite sweets to buy.

Lunch Club

We continue to run our ever popular Thursday drop in lunch club.

Monday morning coffee

LEYCC hosts Monday morning coffee and biscuits where everyone is welcome.

Classes

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Book your tickets now for the Lane End Youth and Community Centre fundraising ball. Saturday 13 June at Harleyford Marina. £40pp Includes welcome drink, hot and cold buffet, music from The Band with No Name, and dancing with resident DJ Bernie. There'll also be an auction, raffle and tombola. Book now as tickets are going fast—07932 326046



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End Youth and Community Centre?



Birthday party

Exercise/fitness

Coffee with friends

Christenings and Wedding celebrations

LEYCC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mondays:	10.30am–12pm	'Drop In' Coffee morning, all welcome
	2pm–3pm	Karen's Exercise for the over 50s helpathome1@outlook.com
	6pm–8pm	Pilates with Lauren Fois 07709 430634
Tuesdays	Free all day	Daytime available for hire
	7–8pm	Pilates fusion with Nicky nicola3616@hotmail.com
Wednesdays	Free all day	Daytime available for hire
	6-8pm	Youth club
Thursdays:	12noon–1.30pm	The Drop-in Lunch Tel 883878
	2pm–4pm	1 st Thurs of the month – LEOPAG
	7.30pm–10pm	Soundforce Big Band Rehearsal
Fridays:	9.30am–10.30am	Circuit Training 07884 154081
	10.30-12noon	Line dancing
	6–8pm	Bells and Whistles dog training 07703 020344
Saturdays	9am–12pm	Bells and Whistles dog training 07703 020344
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Blossom in the Chilterns

By Hugh Mothersole

One of the great treats of springtime is to walk among blossoming trees and shrubs as they put on their fragrant floral display. It is one of nature's show-stoppers; one of the most exquisite delights of the English spring that also provides a valuable source of food for our native wildlife.

Blossom is the first stage a plant goes through in the production of fleshy berries and fruits, which encase stones. These will be dispersed by animals, and given the right conditions, they will germinate into new plants the following year.

Like all flowers, blossom is an important part of a plant's reproductive process. The flowers contain pollen and nectar which attract insects such as bees, butterflies and beetles, as well as small birds and mammals. As these animals drink the

nutritious, sugary nectar, the pollen sticks to their bodies and they carry it to the next tree leading to cross pollination.

Blossom in the Chilterns Countryside

Wild blossom can be seen in the spring all around the countryside in the spring. A particular delight is the avenue approaching West Wycombe from the west.

Wild Cherry

In April, wild cherry trees will come into flower. Wild cherry has clusters of white, cup-shaped flowers with five petals (pictured below). Bees love the pollen in the blossom, and the cherries are devoured by song



thrushes and blackbirds. Any fruit falling to the ground is quickly eaten by badgers and mice. The wild cherry tree is different from the bright pink ornate cherry blossom you often see in parks and gardens. These are cultivated varieties originating from Asia.

Blackthorn

One of the first wild blossoms you will see in early March is blackthorn; a thorny shrub that develops numerous tight clusters of small, white flowers with pink anthers that contain pollen. The flowers appear before the leaves.

Crab Apple

Crab apple also flowers from mid- to late spring, with distinctive pink and white blossom. The sweetly scented flowers are pollinated by bees and other insects. The blossom eventually develops into small, yellowish green apple-like fruits around 2–3cm in diameter.

The fruits are bitter but they can be used to make a tasty golden-coloured jelly.

The crab apple arch at National Trust's Greys Court near Henley is pictured below.



Hawthorn

One of the best known spring blossoms is hawthorn, which is also called whitethorn, May-blossom or May-flower.

Hawthorn looks very similar to blackthorn but it blooms later in the season, often in late spring as the name implies. However, unlike blackthorn, the flowers of hawthorn bloom after the leaves have appeared. Hawthorn is a rich food source for birds and insects, including many caterpillars. Dormice love eating the flowers. In autumn, the bush will produce berries called haws, which are strong in antioxidants and favoured by mice and voles and by visiting birds such as fieldfares, redwings and thrushes.

Elderflower

The clusters of cream elderflowers in late May and early June are a sign that summer is upon us. These

flowers and autumn fruits are wonderfully fragrant and can be used to create traditional cordials and desserts. Both flowers and berries are eaten by birds and caterpillars. It is thought that the term 'elder' comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'aeld' meaning fire, because the hollow stems were used to blow air into the centre of a fire.

Apple

Cultivated apples are distant relatives of the native crab apple and the blossoms look fairly similar. Eating and cooking apples have been grown for thousands of years in Europe, but it's thought that they originate from Central Asia.

Several recent genetic studies have demonstrated that the modern apple is a hybrid of at least four wild apple populations. Researchers have hypothesised that the Silk Road trade routes were responsible for bringing these fruits together.



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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

Karen's exercise for the over 50s—2-3pm LEYCC Tel 883878

Rainbows and Brownies—4.30-7.30 Frieth Village Hall. Rainbows tel Lesley 882665, Brownies tel Katherine 07545 549910

Pilates—6-8pm with Lauren Fois at LEYCC. Tel 07709 430634

Lane End Evening WI—Last Monday of the month at 8pm in Lane End Village Hall. Tel 881987

Bridge Club—7.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Monday events

30 March—talk by Miss Merier Duncan on the honourable honey bee. Lane End Evening WI. Tel Ann Carter 881987

27 April—talk by Graham Lawrie on Roald Dahl's war. Lane End Evening WI. Tel Ann Carter 881987

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

Tai Chi—2-3pm Lane End village hall. £6 per session. Tel 532088

Slimming World—5.30pm and 7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Call Marion on 07887 607987

Pilates fusion—7-8pm LEYCC. Tel 07378 338803

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

Circuit Training—7-8pm Frieth Village Hall. Tel Fraser 07884 154081

Bingo—7.30pm Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall. Tel 01494 882467

Tuesday Events

3 March—Gardening talk 7.30pm Skirmett village hall. Rachel Seigfried talks about growing cut flowers for a living. Hambleton Valley gardening club Tel. 01491 638691

Wednesdays

Regulars

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

Gracewell open day—10am-4pm. Tel 412252

Bridge Club—1.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Senior Circuits—11am-12noon. Lane End Village Hall, £4 per session. Tel 07940 358371

Junior Youth Club—6-8pm LEYCC Tel 07787 402636

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

Wednesday events

22 April—2.15pm garden visit to Wittington House Medmenham. Tour with Head Gardener of the rose garden, herbaceous borders and arboretum. Hambleton Valley gardening club 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.

The Drop-In (Social lunch) - 12-1.30pm LEYCC 883878

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. Tel 01628 476971

LEOPAG—First Thursday of the month 2-4pm LEYCC 883878

Lane End Players—8pm Village Hall Tel 483359

Thursday Events

Fridays

Regulars

Morning Prayer—9.15am Holy Trinity Church Lane End

Circuits—9.30-10.30am LEYCC 883878

NEW Introduction to Spanish - 6 week course beginning 1 March. 9.30-11am £90. La Cabane Lane End. Tel 881919

Pop in and play—9.30am-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Just turn up. £1 suggested donation.

Forever Friday Café —2-4pm at Gracewell care home on The Row. Tea, coffee and cake. Bring puzzles and books to donate, buy or just socialise. All proceeds to Alzheimer's Society. All ages welcome.

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

Bells and Whistles dog training—6-8pm LEYCC. Tel 07703 020344

Friday Events

24 April / 1 May—Keep Smiling Through, Lane End Players performance at Lane End village hall. Tickets £12 880662 / lepboxoffice@gmail.com

Saturdays

Regulars

NEW French for little ones—9.45-10.15 starting 29 Feb . £30 for 6 weeks. La Cabane, Lane End. Tel 881919

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.

Lane End Conservation Group—First Saturday of the month, 10 am 'doctors' car park

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

Wycombe Ladies—Saturday afternoon at Lane End Playing Fields.
emma_newberry@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday Events

25 April / 2 May—Keep Smiling Through, Lane End Players performance at Lane End village hall. Tickets £12 880662 / leinboxoffice@gmail.com

2 May—Plant sale. 10.30-12noon Manor Farm, 5 Chequers Lane, Fingest. Hambleton Valley gardening club Tel. 01491 638691

Sundays

Regulars

Holy Eucharist—8am fourth Sunday of the month

Parish Communion—9.15 Holy Trinity Church Lane End (1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month)

Jump 4Joy—10am Holy Trinity Church Lane End (2nd Sunday of the month) This service is designed for young families, but everyone is welcome.

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

Big Garden Birdwatch

Sunday 26 January was the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, which encourages us all to spend an hour during the day observing and recording the birds we see in our gardens.

I managed to see 15 species, plus a pair of buzzards and a small flock of black-headed gulls flying over Golden Guff, as well as a covey of pheasants foraging across it.



Last year, the RSPB reported that for the 16th consecutive year, despite its overall decline, the house sparrow took top spot ahead of the starling, closely followed by the blue tit and the blackbird. The woodpigeon flew in at number five, followed by the goldfinch, great tit, and robin at number eight. The chaffinch landed at number nine and the magpie crept in at number ten. I wonder what will change when this year's results are in.

In the afternoon I gave a talk on birds at Gracewell, which included two bird identification quizzes, one by pictures and one

by bird song. The residents and guests were pretty good on their garden birds! In the UK we host 267 species of bird, which ranks us 149th in the world for bird diversity, way behind the number one, Colombia, which has 1,884 recorded species.

After our extremely wet winter, let us hope for spring sunshine with plenty of birdsong to invigorate us every morning. The Dawn Chorus is one of nature's joys, beginning in earnest in March, as male birds stake out their territories and sing to attract a mate.

Females gravitate towards the loudest and longest singing males, although ironically, if you hear a strong song later on, it may be some forlorn bachelor who has failed to secure the 'girl' of his dreams! And of course, listen out for a chiffchaff and keep an eye open for swallows, the harbingers of summer.



Lane End resident Jerry Gray is author of a darkly humorous satirical novel set in the recruitment industry. He's also a keen birdwatcher.

Finings Wood

Report by Paul Thomas

An impressive group of 42 people turned out on Saturday 4 January for a walk in the woods. This was a chance to take a close look at **Finings Wood** and how it might become a close and accessible woodland destination that Lane End could be proud of.

Finings Wood lies on the left as you drive out of Lane End and before Lacey's Farm. This 60 acre area of woodland stretches from near Finings Road to near the Prince Albert on the Fingest road out of Frieth. It has been under tree cover since before 1600 AD.

The wood is a paradise for wildlife and is in part very beautiful with beech, oak, ash, cherry, along with foxgloves



and bluebells. There are several woodland species indicative of ancient woodland. Other than a single public footpath/bridleway, this privately owned wood is out of bounds. The owner has been contacted and he may be in a position to sell.

A growing group of local people believe the beauty of precious Finings Wood should be made accessible to everyone.

Lane End Parish Council (LEPC) may be in receipt of money from the sale of the Chalky Fields development site on the Marlow road out of Lane End. Ideas on how to use this money for Capital projects were

requested in The Clarion last year. We believe some of this money should be allocated to buy **Finings Wood** and make it accessible to all in our village.

Join us for a walk in Finings Wood

Saturday 28 March, 9.30am at Londis or 9.45am at the surgery

We'll take in parts of the woods you don't usually see from the footpath and including 'The Forbidden Wood'. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for mud, we should be out for 1.5-2 hours.

Keep a look out for further news.

Paul R Thomas 07770 821553

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There will also be an auction, raffle and tombola to raise funds.

The funds raised contribute to the ongoing provision and maintenance of this vital community facility which supports a whole range of activities for the young and older people in our community.

Your ticket fee will be donated to the charity along with all proceeds from the auction and raffle after minimal expenses associated with production.

Tickets are £40 per person
Includes hot & cold buffet and welcome drink

Harleyford Golf Club, Harleyford Estate,
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7.00pm - Midnight
Dress Code: Formal/cocktail

Tickets available from:
Lane End Youth & Community Centre, Edmonds Road
or Gateway Barbers, High Street
or Sue Atkins tel: 07941504143 or email planet_susie@hotmail.co.uk

The Square of Lane End, 1913

Report by Andrew McTavish

This year we celebrate our Village Hall, built and opened in 1920. So what did the Hall site look like before that time?

This remarkable picture is dated 1913 in what was then 'The Square'. It was taken from an upstairs window of what is now McColl's newsagents. It shows cavalry troops taking a break on the grassy square where the Hall now stands. It looks as if they have been there some time.

They have slackened the girths of the horses and taken some equipment off.

Rifle butts can be seen sticking up on horses to the left and right, but other rifles have been taken from their holsters. One is propped against the telegraph pole and another lies in front of the group in the centre, together with a spade and entrenching tools.

The soldier leaning against the sign-



post smokes a cigarette. One to his left studies a newspaper. Two small boys sit fascinated, watching. Others stand around, including a group of girls in the background in their white smocks. A soldier walks briskly towards the motor car on the right.

There is no indication of which army unit this was. The white ribbons on the soldiers' caps are the only clue. We can only assume that this picture was taken on the occasion of the military exercises on Ditchfield Common when King George V was photographed there on his horse in battledress.

Some things have changed very little since then. Daisy Cottages still look the same, except with porches today.

Aldersyde House has had a couple of extensions, but the roof and windows are the same. Out of the picture to the right the houses formed another side of the square.

So The Square in Lane End was a square, an open, grassy area where village events could take place, and passing troops could cause excitement for the children of an otherwise remote Chiltern village.



Since writing this article, Andrew MacTavish researched the 1913 military exercises further and discovered the manoeuvres were not always quite so relaxed as this image suggests→



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→ With the shadow of the First World War looming in 1913, we now know that a huge army exercise took place in South Bucks. It involved 50,000 troops in four infantry divisions and included cavalry and heavy artillery.

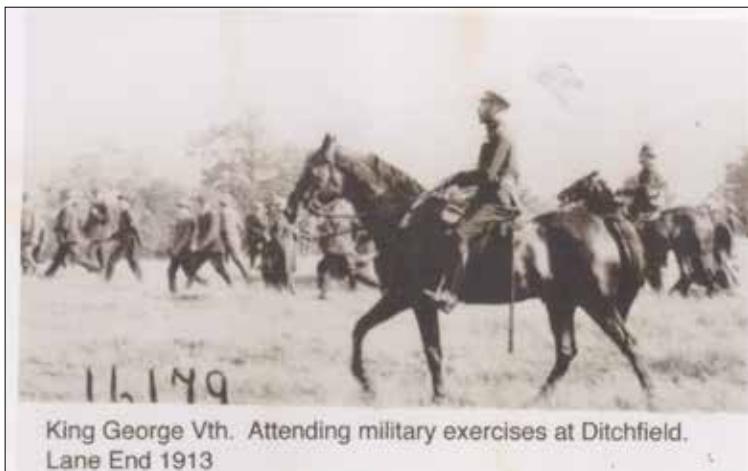
Starting on 15 September, the troops began to cross the Thames at Medmenham by pontoon bridge. However, an accident occurred when a gun team slid into the water. Remarkably, the moment was captured on camera (right). Two horses drowned, and the crossing was made at Marlow bridge instead.

'The Times' and other newspapers reported that the troops then fought their way through Lane End, Stokenchurch and West Wycombe. Infantry were photographed blocking Clay Lane. King George V viewed troops on Ditchfield Common (image below). Hundreds of people turned out to follow the engagements and

Stokenchurch windmill was used as an observation post.

The exercise advanced north and gunners toiled to drag the new 4-ton field guns up the slope to Radnage in the heat of the late summer. The exercise finished at Aylesbury on the morning of 19 September. Many lessons were learned: lorries were tried and found useful, but the experimental use of two aeroplanes was less so. They were good for observation but it was difficult to report what they had seen as they had no radios and 'dropping missives was useless in the wooded countryside'.

A year later, the First World War had started and the horrors of the next four years made people forget the 'war games' of 1913 - which is why we have been puzzled as to what a squadron of cavalry were doing in the middle of our village.



King George Vth. Attending military exercises at Ditchfield, Lane End 1913



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10 interiors tips to start the year

Report by Samantha Johnson

Here are 10 interiors tips to bring cheer to you and your home, most of them at little or no cost.

1 Finish the odd jobs – unless you live in the ‘perfect’ house, we all have small jobs we’ve been meaning to do for ages. That odd bit of painting that never got finished, the door handle that needs fixing, the picture that needs hanging... they’re not essential, which is why they get put off. But they bug you, so why not **JUST DO IT?** Often they don’t take as long as you think and it is **SO** satisfying when they’re done (I usually wonder why on earth I didn’t just do it months or even years ago!)

2 Clear out some clutter – this doesn’t need to be a mammoth operation; just make a start on one shelf, drawer or cupboard. Pick the place that makes your heart sink every time you look at it and cheer yourself up by sorting it out once and for all. Clear out the old newspapers piled up on the coffee table, tidy up your make up drawer, get rid of chipped crockery languishing at the back of the cupboard.....
Be ruthless!



3 Sell stuff – this really is a win-win as not only do you get rid of things you no longer need, but you can also make a bit of spare cash. My favourite site is www.preloved.co.uk and I’ve used it to shift everything from furniture to a lawn mower. Take some good pics, write an accurate description, look at similar items for sale to gauge the asking price and don’t forget to say ‘buyer collects’ if it’s a big item.

4 Start spring cleaning –

probably not high on most people's list of favourite activities, but think how good you'll feel when your house is clean. Cobwebs and dusty corners are pretty depressing.

5 Clean the windows – and pull your curtains right back to let in as much light as possible. When they're open, curtains should hang in front of walls, not windows. A common mistake is fitting curtain poles that are too short, or not fixing the brackets close to the ends of the pole, so the curtains obscure the precious light. If you can't change your pole, try adding some simple rope tie backs to hold the curtains back.

6 Use warm white light bulbs –

when buying bulbs, look for ones marked Warm White, or with a colour temperature rating of 2700K or less. Bulbs with a higher number than this will give off a harsh white light that can feel depressing.

7 Take a good long look at the accessories in your home –

are the cushion covers in need of a good wash, badly faded, with broken zips and fraying holes? If so, get some new cushions for a fresh new look. You've only got to thump an old cushion pad to see just how much dust comes out of it. Lampshades are another item that show their age and need replacing when they're faded or dented.





8 Experiment with changing your furniture around – friends are always asking me if they should swap the position of their sofa and dining table around. ‘Why don’t you just try it?’ I say. It’s a five-minute job. If you don’t like it, you can change it back. You can do this with artwork and accessories too.



9 Start planning a new project for your home — even if you don’t have the budget available yet. Do some research, get quotes, send for samples so that you have a plan ready for when your bank balance is in a better place. Every house I’ve ever owned has been a work in progress’ for several years – I have yet to buy a place and have the budget to do everything I want right from the start, but I love planning what we’ll do. I finally had my new kitchen last year after living with a make-shift kitchen for four years!

10 Treat yourself at home – light some scented candles (don’t keep them ‘for best’) or luxuriate in a long hot bath full of bubbles. Forget the winter blues and look forward to the coming of spring with the cheery sight of fresh daffodils.



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Milk Men

with Will Lacey 



Laceys on Countryfile!

Soon after writing my piece for the Clarion last time we got a phone call asking if a camera crew could come and film at the farm. As there are not many dairy farms around, and even less with a website and public contact details, this is the kind of request we get quite regularly.

Most come to nothing, with location managers and directors looking at many different sites and invariably

changing their plans. I rang back the number I had been given to see what they might want to film, and the voice on the phone was very keen to come and film with us, and even had potential dates ready!

It turned out she was from the crew of Countryfile, BBC 1's prime time 'farming themed' show. Not only have I heard of this, I was on it a few years ago. Countryfile were planning





on filming a piece for the show with the Country Trust – charity that goes in to schools to teach children about farming and the environment.

The Countryfile team said they had been following our farm and been trying to get an opportunity to come and see us, and this timed in well with the Country Trust and work they were doing with Beechview academy in Wycombe. So after a site visit and lots of risk assessments a date was set for the visit.

As a working farm it is not always safe or practical to have visitors on the farm. With lots of machinery and livestock, there are many hazards. The cows like a strict daily routine,

and any changes to this can upset them, so we try to keep this to a minimum.

On the day, Matt Baker came out to film the piece. He had just finished his Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge a couple of days before, and I would have understood if he had just turned up, filmed the piece and left, but he did not.

He was genuinely a really nice guy. He took time to meet everyone and had a real interest in what was going on. Matt and the team arrived first, we had some filming to do before the children arrived.

We did some interviews by the cows

and took films of tractors at work. Once the children arrived the instructions were brief – just show them around and we will film you. So we had a tour round the yard, culminating with the cows in the milking parlour.

Acting is not my strong point, so when they asked me to redo some lines so they could get it on film I was a bit concerned. Turns out my concerns were justified, as my acting must have been too wooden, as none of these bits made it to the final edit!

Once the cows had been milked it was time to wash hands and wellies and send the children back to school.

The piece was aired on TV the Sunday before Christmas. We were still milking when it came on TV, but I knew it was on by the numbers of text messages I received from all my friends, mainly calling me 'Farmer Will' as Matt Baker had done. I was pleased how the piece came across. It was more about the Country Trust and the children this time, but I am trying to persuade them to come back again to film the farm.

Anyone wanting to watch the programme, it is still available on the BBC iplayer.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000cfpr/countryfile-buckinghamshire>



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Ask the: plumber

with Bill Blake 



Bill— I have water running from a pipe at the side of my hot water cylinder. It's a vertical pipe with a strange-looking black plastic funnel arrangement in it. The water is running from the pipe into the funnel. What's going on?

This sounds like a modern high-pressure hot tank. These tanks are usually white steel tanks, unlike the standard low-pressure hot tanks (the ones with the thick foam on the outside). High-pressure tanks work at 'virtual mains pressure' which means that all the water in the tank is at about 3 Bar pressure. For safety reasons, these tanks have three pressure relief valves in case the main valve fails, or to relieve an over-pressure situation. Then the water runs out of the valve and into the tundish (that's the black plastic thing).

This situation usually requires replacing the failed valve, but it could be more serious. This type of cylinder must be serviced regularly to ensure safety.

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On the land

with Bryan Edgley 



Agriculture Act 2020

The new Agriculture Bill has been described in the Farm Business weekly bulletin as being “*The biggest shake-up in domestic farm policy in living memory*”. It’s the first such new legislation since the Agriculture Act of 1947.

This new Bill was announced in January 2020. After scrutiny and debate in the House of Commons and then the House of Lords it will be enacted as law. At that stage it will become the Agriculture Act 2020.

In an earlier edition of *The Clarion*, the merit of the Agriculture Act 1947 was described. It was intended to promote a healthy and efficient agriculture capable of producing the nation’s food at the lowest price, whilst preserving decent living conditions for farmers and workers.

That was just after the end of the severe shortage of food during the Second World War, which the writer

remembers well. Food rationing was a part of everyone’s lives in the UK from the beginning of the war until 1954.

The food shortages were caused by German U Boats sinking the convoys of ships carrying food from overseas to the UK. This had happened before in the First World War. Between the wars, the Government had allowed the UK agricultural industry to become so run down that some farms became almost derelict.

Our politicians are too young to remember food rationing, and lack the caution to realise that the same thing could happen again.

Their new policy for the future of farming in England, set out in this Agriculture Bill, appears to be based on the false thinking that we could always import plenty of food from overseas in the future, and that global warming and the environment are



the only important things with which Defra, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, should concern itself.

Global warming is a concern, and one certain factor is that there are now an unsustainable number of humans living on the planet. We are using the earth's natural resources at a rate that is bound to lead to their eventual exhaustion.

A primary task for politicians should be to ensure a reliable supply of high quality food for their electors. This is the same task that we farmers want to achieve. But it will be hard for

British farmers to compete in an unregulated market with imports of food from other countries where governments subsidise food production but have less regulation and lower standards.

Since Michael Gove's initial 2018 Consultation Paper, farmers have been lobbying through their Members of Parliament (the photo above shows those of us at Kensham Farm with Steve Baker MP after one such meeting in May 2019). This has resulted in some good changes within the Agriculture Bill, but there are still some serious shortcomings. →

Here are some of the points farmers consider good or bad compared to the earlier EU farm policy:

Good Points are the intention for: -

Government support to become less bureaucratic than in the EU

The contribution that farmers make to the environment to be recognised, with the introduction of a new Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)

Government to become more collaborative in developing a new support system

Changes to be brought in gradually, phased over a seven-year period

More opportunities for new entrants into farming as a career

Policy, including food security, to be reviewed at five-yearly intervals

Unfortunate Points are: -

The food production side of farming is given insufficient backing – Government will only consider any support in the event of '*severe disturbance in agricultural markets*'

Trade policy may allow imports which are cheaper, but have been produced using methods not permitted here

Most countries other than New Zealand support farmers, so that effectively food can be provided in the shops for consumers at less than cost of production. Direct farm support in England will cease under this new Agriculture Bill, so British



farmers are likely to face unfair competition

Defra statistics show that most farms depend on direct support payments in order to stay in business. When this is cut off, farmers will have to cut corners to balance their books, and the first corner to be cut is likely to be farmers' current work maintaining the environment and landscape of rural areas.

Pictured left: 2016 Chiltern Vintage Tractor Run crossing Kensham Farm

The Edgley family has farmed at Kensham Farm, Cadmore End since 1955

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Schools



Lane End
Primary School

You may have
noticed press
reports about the
change in

Ofsted's approach to school inspection. The new model is more focused on the broad education of children with an emphasis on giving children a wide range of knowledge and experiences to prepare them for life ahead. This is music to our ears as it matches our long-held view of what primary education really should be.

Last term our Year 6 class spent a week to PGL Osmington Bay, Dorset. It's a great bonding experience and they enjoyed lots of new outdoor experiences including kayaking, building rafts, abseiling, climbing and had great fun in the evenings with campfires, quizzes and songs.



Our children have the option of joining a range of after-school and lunchtime clubs – everything from gymnastics to chess. The running club is very popular and in January, children competed with other schools in the Thames Valley Running League. Weather conditions were far from ideal but, despite the mud, the children completed the course with smiles on their faces.

Following workshops for each class learning about rock band instruments, budding musicians have been rehearsing weekly in their groups. In December we were treated to a fantastic concert by our very own Rocksteady Rock Bands who put on an incredible show.

Reading is crucial to academic outcomes and we are delighted to have introduced Accelerated Reader. This monitoring system assesses reading skills and matches books to pupils' needs and interests. Children take a computerised quiz to ensure they have understood their book and earn points as they progress.

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How to create a garden

with Anya the garden fairy

Follow me on Instagram @anya_thegarden_fairy



To have a stunning garden, you really don't need an army of professional gardeners or thousands of pounds!

I created our garden by propagation and by growing plants from seeds. You can easily do the same. With a few packs of seeds and probably less than £30 spent, you can create hundreds of plants.

The natural world always fascinated me and I get so much pleasure from seeing plants thrive, especially the ones I grow from seed.

Short days and dark evenings at the beginning of the year can be tricky and planning your summer garden is a great way of lifting your spirits.

Before you buy your seeds, I would like to share one of the biggest secrets of successful gardening. It's all about choosing the right plant for the right conditions. This simple rule will save you precious time and money.

You also need to understand the difference between annual, biennial and perennial plants and the aspect of your garden.

Some plants will complete their life cycle, from germination to the production of seeds, within one growing season, and then die. They are called annuals.

There are advantages to their short life, like the fact that you can add many different varieties of plants every year. You can experiment with colours and textures and choose some fabulous annuals. If you like them, you can grow them again, if not, you can find something else.



There are thousands of plants you can grow from seeds, but I would like to highlight some of my absolute favourites.

If you grow plants from seeds, you can discover so many fantastic varieties, like Cleome for example (pictured below left.) Years ago I fell in love with it and if you decide to grow this exciting variety, you will understand what I mean.

Cleome is a low maintenance plant that prefers a sunny position and will grow well in average garden soil.

Many plants need two years to complete their biological lifecycle and this group is called biennials.

In the first year, the plant grows leaves, stems, and roots, then it enters a period of dormancy over the colder months, to finally flower the following year.

One of the most iconic biannual plants is Digitalis (pictured below) commonly called foxgloves. It's very important to know that this plant isn't going to flower in the first year, so don't be disappointed!



The last group are perennials. Perennial plants live more than two years. They grow and bloom over the spring and summer, die back every autumn and winter, and then return in the spring from their rootstock.

Perennials plants are expensive, but they can also be easily grown from seeds and if, like me, you need a large amount of plants, you'll really appreciate the fact that with just few packs of seeds, you can fill your garden with most spectacular plants.

One of my favourite perennials is Echinacea. It prefers well-drained humus-rich soil in full sun.

All the plants I mentioned need to be sown in spring or early summer and this time of the year is perfect for doing it.

Growing something new from seed is one of the most exciting things a gardener can do. There's nothing better than a summer afternoon in the garden you created yourself.

For more gardening ideas and advice please follow me on Instagram:

@anya_thegarden_fairy





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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.

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