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All quotes: Trip Advisor 2019/20





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From the Editor

I have to thank my husband, Bill, for the Clarion cover—he does all the covers, but always relishes creating the Christmas one. I sometimes have to exert an editorial influence over his wilder ideas, but I think he's outdone himself this time.

There's lots of news in this issue. As well as all the usual columnists, we've updates on helicopters flying over the village, the planning application at Golden Guff and exciting new plans for the village hall.

Also exciting is the potential for our little villages to keep up with the Joneses in Marlow and other larger towns with gigabit fibre broadband. Those of us near the centre of the village do OK for broadband speeds at the moment, but it's not going to stay that way as the demands on our old copper wiring will inevitably increase.

I have to commend the parish council for seizing the opportunity to future-proof us by seeking out and vetting potential providers. Even if you don't want to switch to gigabit fibre now, by registering your interest, HeyBroadband! will be able to claim the Government funding to install the cabling so that when we do want to join, the infrastructure will be there, ready for us. Find out how to register your interest on p16.

Just got room to say Happy Christmas! From Katy Dunn, Editor

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Contact Hayley Glasgow on clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk



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Your Parish Council



laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk Hayley Glasgow Tel: 01494 437111

clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk PO Box 1616

> High Wycombe Bucks HP12 9FS

Councillors

Chairman: Cllr Michael Detsiny

Vice Chairman:

Cllr Graeme Coulter

Cllr Simeon Achurch

Cllr Mandy Dunning

Cllr Colin Harries

Cllr William Hunt

Cllr John Nicolson

Cllr Jane Osborn

Cllr Callum Stewart

Cllr Keith Wright

Cllr Donna Graham

Up-coming Meetings for 2022

Parish council meetings take place on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm.

No meeting in Jan

Mon 7 Feb Lane End Sports Pavilion

Mon 7 March Lane End Sports Pavilion

Council member changes

The parish council is very pleased to welcome Donna Graham as our newly co-opted Parish Councillor. Donna has lived in the parish for 15 years and is very keen on giving back to the community.

Facebook

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with relevant information about what's going on in the Parish.

https://www.facebook.com/ LaneEndParishCouncil/

Website

www.laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

You can read parish council minutes, find archive copies of The Clarion, check on local planning applications and there's even a footpaths map.

Allotments

We have 3 allotment sites: Chalky Field, Marlow Road. Bunkers, Church Road. Sandyfield, Marlow Road.

We have a waiting list for allotments. If you are interested in taking on an allotment plot please contact the Parish Clerk.

Prices of plots range from £21 - £40 per year, depending on size.

Allotment news: After asbestos was found at Sandyfield allotment, the parish council arranged for it to be safely removed.

Planning Applications

The Planning Applications relevant to the Lane End Parish Council are updated on the Parish Council's website

www.laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

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

FixMyStreet.com

If you want to report anything to the council such as things which are broken, dirty, damaged or dumped, go to FixMyStreet.com. You can also report things that need fixing, cleaning or clearing, like graffiti, dog fouling, potholes or street lights that don't work.

All you have to do is type in a postcode and describe your problem.

Various works carried out by the parish council in the last three months

Repairs to the track up to Meakes

Restoration of bench on Cadmore End Common

Tree inspections booked

Perspex installed in Park Lane bus shelter

Sent notices to allotment tenants not using their plot or who have allowed them to get overgrown.

Alerted West Wycombe Estate to the state of the lower duck pond

Arranged for foliage to be cleared from around top pond

Repair of fence around Playing Fields

Supported Strawberry Grove's application to extend the licence to use Harris Garden for café seating

AED unit ordered for Cadmore End village hall.

Contacted Bucks CC regarding speeding on Simmons Way

Mini Christmas trees ordered for the High Street

Lane End village fete date decided upon—Saturday 4 June 2022

Please contact the parish clerk Hayley Glasgow on clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk or tel 01494 437111



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Lane End Players

Report by Ceri Nicolson

Following our much-acclaimed Summer outdoor production of 'Darling Buds of May', the Players launched the Autumn season in the Village Hall with not one, but TWO plays – 'Two' by Jim Cartwright and 'Love Letters' by A.R. Gurney.

It was wonderful to be back in our usual setting. Both plays featured small casts of only two actors and we introduced a new seating arrangement of individual tables for two to six people and reduced audience numbers. We hoped that this would produce an intimate setting for our plays and also make our returning audience feel more comfortable and secure.

It was an overwhelming success and we have received wonderful feed-back from our audiences. If you missed either of these productions or would like to see them again, keep an eye out on social media because we hope to produce them both again as pop-up theatre in different locations.

The Winter season will see the Players very active in the village. Firstly, we are revisiting the Nativity production that was cancelled last year due to Covid restrictions. The date this

year is Saturday 4 December from 5pm and will be combined with the usual Christmas in The Village celebrations hosted by the Parish Council. Last year we were very restricted in numbers, but this year (fingers, toes and everything else crossed!) we can welcome a larger crowd. Don't miss this magical retelling of the Christmas story outdoors on the Church Green.

And after Christmas...

Panto is back!

This year's treat for all the family will be **Aladdin** – set in the mystical Far East and promising to bring you all the usual characters and comic capers of a fun-filled pantomime!



Rehearsals are already underway, costumes bring made and sets being painted. The Box Office opens on Saturday 4 December. The contin-

ued presence of Covid in our community means that we will have reduced audience numbers this year and there will be no Box Office at the Village Hall, so tickets must be reserved online or by telephone 01494 700262. Book now to avoid disappointment!

(To keep up with the latest info about the Players, please visit our website www.laneendplayers.com or our Facebook page.)

Lane End
Evening WI

Report by Ann Carter

Regrettably by the time you read this, the Lane End Evening WI will have been suspended. Like so many clubs, societies etc we have run out of volunteers for the Officers duties and we are all getting older! We are indebted to our founder members Margaret Scott, Betty Twitchen and the late Janet Meakes for taking up the challenge to start a much needed Evening Women's Institute in the village over 50 years ago. They worked tirelessly to make it the success that it has been.

Many friendships have been formed over the years and a lot of fun and laughter have been enjoyed. There has been the serious side

regarding the various campaigns countrywide from saving the honeybees to mental health and every topic imaginable in between. We have met members from all over the country at the Annual Meeting which is held each year. We have learnt new skills and listened to many interesting speakers.

Whilst our formal meetings will end, we will not lose touch with each other and hope to hold regular get togethers. This will start off with a Christmas lunch at the Grouse & Ale on 7 December 2021.

The end of a long chapter but by no means the end of the book!

→ Hambleden Valley Gardening Club

Report by Janet Collins

Our last visit of the year was to gardens at Haddenham – Turn End. Though these gardens are on a plot

of just one acre, space is used to create an illusion of size. The house has a courtyard with a naturalised pool, a small woodland area around 100 year old apple trees and curved a glade leading to a series of garden rooms, sunken or raised. The house and gardens were designed by the

present owners in the 1960s and they also contain two studios; one with an artist in residence and the other with a photographer both displaying their works. The head gardener was also on hand to answer any queries

We had a really enjoyable first night back at Skirmett Village Hall to start our winter program of Speakers and Talks. We celebrated the occasion with some 'fizz' and our speaker was Helen Yemm, the well known, author, journalist and gardener, who really set the evening of relaxed and amusing entertainment. We started the evening with members asking Helen queries about their horticultural dilemmas and then she presented a talk on creating lasting colour on the garden through autumn.

We will be able to have our usual Christmas meeting where we can share a glass of mulled wine and mince pies. Also we have a good selection of speakers to take us through the winter so keep a watch out on the What's On pages.



Lane End Older Persons Action Group

Report by Jane Osborn

Lane End OPAG meets on the first Thursday of each month (apart from January) at Lane End Youth & Community Centre at 2pm for a talk, quiz – all 50+ are welcome to come and join us.

In November, Sheila Keatinge gave a talk entitled 'In Search of the Northern Lights'. On 2 December, children from Lane End Primary School are coming to sing to us. For some of those who attend, this marks the beginning of Christmas – prior to our Christmas tea.

On Thursday, 3 February 2022, Val Martin will be quizzing and on Thursday, 3 March, Linden Porter will be giving an illustrated talk about one of her travels.

If you are 50+, do come along and join us – for more information contact Jane Osborn – 01494 881641 / janemosborn3@gmail.com





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Finings Wood

Report by Paul Thomas

By the time you read this the programme of six walks in Finings Wood followed up with a meeting with woodland specialists at Cadmore End Village Hall will have completed. But there's more to come.

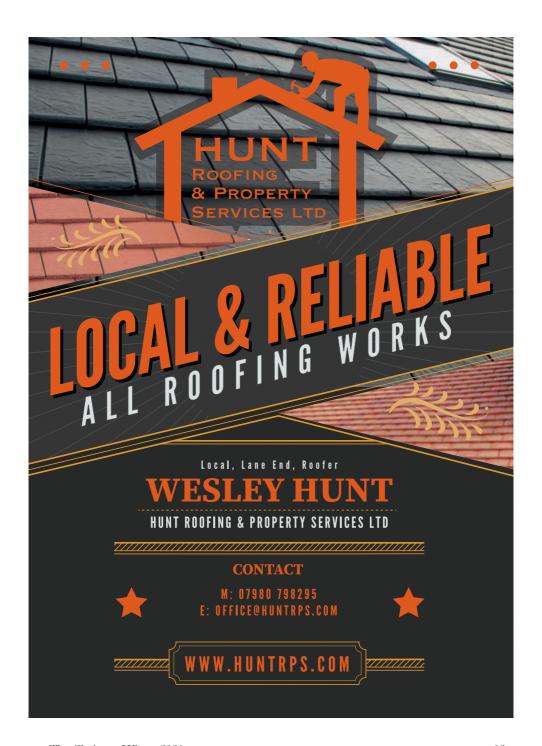
We have benefitted greatly from Dr Tim Harrison's knowledge of the geology and ecology of Finings Wood, pointing out why a particular plant grows in one place but not another or why the landscape is hilly. Or how can Finings Wood be set up as a community woodland.

Keep an eye out for news about the proposal for Lane End Parish Council to buy Finings Wood. To Preserve, Involve, Nurture and Enjoy: PINE if you should forget!

Do have a look at the Facebook page: Lane End, Finings Wood Group and add a picture or comment about Finings Wood. It is becoming an interesting archive of ideas and thoughts.

Email and confidential pledges finingswoodfriends@gmail.com





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Royal British Legion

Report by Andrew MacTavish



Remembrance Sunday 14 November. Brilliant! Massive crowd - three hundred? 350? which spread down Ditchfield Common.

The drumhead altar and cross was placed in front of the church gate with the microphone to the right. The vicar was flanked by the two Scout readers framed by the wrought iron gateway. The flagpole and Union Flag was erected on the right with the bugler and to his side, the members of the Legion joined by uniformed members of 871 Royal Logistics Corps from Booker.

Sixty Scouts and Cubs were drawn up in straight ranks in front with the Beavers to one side (and how smart and steady they all were!) The coun-

cillors and officers laid the wreaths and the people of the village spread down the slope to the very bottom

The church bells rang out from the tower, a half-muffled peal with the sharp sounds of the down stroke followed by the moving echoes on the return. Then 'Nimrod', played through the loudspeakers, just as it was being played in London at the same time.

The moving words of the service was followed by the dignified dipping of the flags and standards on the Last Post. There was just the song of a small bird in the yew tree in the two minutes silence before the final singing of the National Anthem.

Covid has led to many readjustments to our lives, but it has made one great improvement to life in our village. Remembrance outside the Village Hall has passed. It was fun to block the road. It was fun to march from the car park. But it was cramped, jammed.

In Ditchfield Common there is a view for all, and the bells and PA system of the church can add a new dimension to our Remembrance. The Covid cloud has shown us a silver lining. (*Pic from 2015*)





→ A message from

and

fibre & Wireless

As many of you will have noticed, Hey!Broadband is trying to gather enough support to future-proof Lane End and the surrounding villages with gigabit-capable fibre. We're working with Lane End Parish Council and F&W Networks to hopefully bring 1000 Mbps to the premises network in Lane End parish.

All you have to do is say that you want it, by registering via the QR code or website below. You're not committing to anything by registering your interest in this way.

Is there a catch?

No catch. The UK government has launched Project Gigabit to deliver fast and reliable broadband to everyone in the UK. It recognises that the

conventional copper lines that currently serve the Lane End parish will not be enough to support future technologies. Some of the residents that live further from the existing copper cabinet are already struggling with poor speeds.

The excellent news is that Lane End is eligible to participate and take advantage of the Gigabit Voucher Scheme programme.

What does this mean, how does it work, and what do you as a resident have to do?

The Gigabit Voucher Scheme is a financial incentive provided by the UK Government to attract companies like F&W Networks / Hey!Broadband to build brand new future-proof infra-



Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

GIGABIT BROADBAND **VOUCHER SCHEME**

structures. To claim that financial incentive, 430 residents need to have registered their interest. In other words, 430 people need to support the idea to build the new network in Lane End parish.

The Government's financial incentive represents less than 20% of the project's total cost. F&W Networks and Hey! Broadband will finance the other 80%. It's an opportunity for Lane End and the surrounding villages to secure a modern fibre network and keep up with technological advances.

As a resident of Lane End parish, all you have to do is use one of the available means to register your interest by filling a form with your name, contact details and address. We'll do the rest and keep you updated. You are not engaging in a contract.

We need the community's support to make this scheme a success so we can start building your new gigabit network as soon as January 2022! Don't let the Lane End community fall behind. Once the network is built and live, you can connect your property if you wish, at any time.

Register your interest today by heading to the website

https://heybroadband.co.uk/lane-end/

Or clicking on the QR code below:



—Village Hall refurb plans

Report by Andrew MacTavish

The Village Hall has come back to life! Once again clubs and societies are busying themselves - noise, laughter, singing, exercising.

The older people huffing and puffing under excited young fitness specialists; the youngest rolling their cars and trains under the eyes of watchful mums. The wildest practising the arts of the medieval swordsmen; the quietist admiring the beauty of flowers; the most thoughtful pondering over the mysteries of bridge. And the stage technical experts roosting once more in their lighting box, and the hammering of the stage design team and the production of costumes and songs and dances because the Lane End Players are back in residence.

There's going to be a PANTO again! Our Village Hall, centre of the life and soul of our village is breathing pleasure once more, and all the clubs and societies are active!

The Village Hall is over 100 years old now. We all missed out on the Centenary lunch. It should have been a year ago, 2020, the year that forgot itself. We planned the lunch - and the plans evaporated like morning mist.

It's too late now. But in the Hall's lockdown committee's meetings, we

stepped back and looked at our empty, closed Hall, and we realised.... a hundred years is impressive but a hundred years needed upgrading.

A Hall built for the early twentieth century needs improving in the twenty first century. And it surely does. It does us well but it needs modernising.

So a Working Party has been set up. They are hearing from all the many users of the Hall. They are considering everything: the internal layout, the facilities, the décor, the insulation, the external structure... We are determined that this, the most significant building in our village, the one that brings most pleasure to the widest age range of all people, shall be improved. And we want everyone to know.



Foreign travel update

Report by Amy Powell

"Fill your life with experiences, not things. Have stories to tell, not stuff to show."

With the world starting to reopen, this quote is more apt now than ever. We have all lived under various forms of lockdowns over the last 18 months, which has meant that our thirst for travel and experiencing new things has been severely restricted. However, I am happy to say that this is starting to change.

The UK government has been reducing its restrictions on travel, first we saw the removal of the amber list, and over the last couple of weeks, we have seen all countries

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removed from the red list. This therefore means that you can now travel anywhere in the world from the UK. There are however different restrictions per country which need to be considered when organising any trips

Despite the UK relaxing its rules, not every country is at the same stage of reopening. As such, every country has different policies and processes for entering their countries, so careful planning is required.

As a result, there is a huge demand for holidays in 2022, but with limited capacity due to the airlines reducing their staff and aircraft and hotels reducing capacity, availability is selling out fast. Therefore, booking early will be critical.

So, let's start creating stories again, give me a call to book your next experience and I will help you navigate around the current steps that are in place.





Report by Ben Smiley

At this time of year, cricket clubs around the country are taking stock of the past year, and putting plans in place for the next.

The warm October has enabled us to reseed and so the grass has time to establish a strong root system before winter. This means we'll be in a good position to "weed and feed" the square before our season starts in early May.

This is essential for next season, because there will be a league match every Saturday, with Frieth Cricket Club and the Farnham Common Cricket Club 3rd Team using our Club facilities. This is a superb opportunity for Frieth Cricket Club, and the ground hire that this arrangement will generate is crucial for a Club like ours.

When I last wrote in The Clarion, our season had not yet finished, and Frieth Cricket Club was locked in a battle to avoid relegation from Mid Bucks League Division 1. I had hoped that I could say how successful we'd been, however we don't actually know yet! We finished second from bottom after a heroic, yet nar-

row defeat to the league winners. Once the league receives notification of Clubs that wish to withdraw from the competition, or enter extra teams, we'll then know our league for 2022. Regardless of the outcome of the season, we are proud to have put a team out for each match.

The Sunday team continued to be an excellent way for players young and old, new or experienced to play cricket in a social way. Our Juniors played on Sunday mornings in July and August, supported by funding from the ECB's Inspired to Play grant. Numbers were lower than we'd hoped for, however we have plans to formalise this part of the Club ahead of the 2022 season. Coaches, parents and children will all be required to come and help make this a success! To support these efforts, we offered coaching to Frieth CE School and Lane End Primary School, and hope to be able to do this again next year.

We've not been able to run all of our usual social events this year, but
The Frieth Cup, finally won by The
Grouse and Ale, was a fantastic event. We were pleased to support

the fundraising efforts of the Grouse team, who were raising money in the name of Wayne Maryon. Between us, we raised enough money for 3 Rocking R Gaming machines to be donated to the Royal Marsden Hospital's Children's Unit.

Regular readers of The Clarion will know that we are always trying to raise more funds for the Club. Besides the events... yes, it's the usual EasyFundraising speel! Easyfundraising is a commission-based fundraising platform that generates donations from referrals and sales made through their system. If you access your shopping website through

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/
friethcricketclub, and make your purchase as usual, you'll generate donations for Frieth Cricket Club at no extra cost to yourself. The donations all add up, and we've now raised over £630 for the Club – please help us raise more through EasyFundraising. To learn more about our fundraising efforts, you can email us at friethcricket@btinternet.com or call on 07879 855353.

We hope that you enjoy a wonderful Christmas and New Year. On behalf of everyone involved with Frieth Cricket Club, thank you for your support of the Club during the last year.



Playing Fields Report by David Vance

The club has been busy with the start of the football season with a good variety of different teams using the facilities at the club.

Lane End football team and manager are having a great season. So far they have won every match and are top of their division 2 Sunday league. Home and away games are always advertised on social media (search for Lane End Playing Fields on Facebook). If you would like to come along and support them, then join them in the bar afterwards for a couple of drinks, everyone is welcome. They would like to thank everyone

who comes along each week to the home and away games.

The club also shows premiership football games on Sky Sports every weekend. Each match is advertised on our Facebook page. There's also a very up-to-date jukebox on the premises along with a dartboard there to be used.

The club has a couple of darts teams as well. One team play on a Tuesday evening the other team play on a Friday evening and there's always a good atmosphere while darts are on.

There have also been a few birthday celebrations at the club over last few months, so if you would like to hold an event there please get in touch by emailing laneendsports@yahoo.com

or call Anita Hanson 07775 535542.



Helicopters update

By Richard Wetenhall

Since the last update advising residents to write to the Air Park if they are being bothered by helicopter noise, it seems quite a few people did so!

Moreover, a number of Lane Enders turned out in force at the most recent Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meeting, to let the operators there know of their concerns. Certainly, the Air Park are not in any doubt about the level of disquiet in Lane End over recent helicopter activity.

The good news is that the Air Park are now taking action to address the situation and, hopefully, get things under control again. They have:

- Stopped using the new helicopter routing that ran more directly across Lane End village, conceding their trial had not been effective:

- Banned the large Agusta helicopter from flying on the circuit around the Lane End area, as it leads to too many complaints about noise;
- Established a sub-group of the JCC to address the problems arising in Lane End, with representation from Bucks

Council (Dominic Barnes) and Lane End Parish Council (Mike Detsiny) among others;

- Offered to run a demonstration day on 19 November, where the correct helicopter routes will be demonstrated to all interested residents, in order to establish clearly where the designated routes are;
- Agreed to re-think and update the noise complaint procedure, so that noise complaints will always receive a response. There is a recognition that there have been shortcomings in this area. Further, the Air Park management team will produce a simple guide to registering a noise complaint, and move the response timeframe from the current 10 working days to five;



 Undertake to produce and publish a new pilot briefing procedure for both fixed-wing and helicopter operations.

The above at least shows once again that, when Lane End puts its mind to it, its voice can be heard. That said, from the list of actions above, several remain to be done and will take a little while to complete. But some concrete steps have already been taken and we should be able to achieve more.

Finally, it is worth noting that the Air Park have offered residents up to four 'respite days' each year, when they will avoid flying over or near agreed places. The intention being that these should coincide with significant local events (such as Lane End Live, or the Village Fete). If you are running an event that would like to take advantage of a respite day, please take this up in the first place through Lane End Parish Council (clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk)

Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory

As I write this on a cold blustery afternoon its only 4.45pm and already dark, I can't believe it is WINTER already. Where did Summer go? So with Christmas appearing from around the corner, we are full steam ahead with our festive planning...

Christmas holidays can be so stressful for parents who are rushing around, buying presents, wrapping gifts, preparing food, cleaning the house ready for the big day. Let us take care of the children to give you a child-free day.—it's

Playscheme's Christmas party time!

We are offering a Christmas themed playscheme starting at 10.30am with crafty activities and Christmas music. We will provide a delicious lunch, followed by a traditional children's disco plus a visit from Santa (please bring a suitable present for your child – with their name on it!) Your child will be ready to be collected, exhausted from a fun-filled day, at 4pm. All this for only £20 per child.

Let the magic of Christmas start at the Centre on **TUESDAY 21 DECEMBER 2021**.



Book places by emailing leycc@hotmail.co.uk

On THURSDAY 23 DECEMBER -

We will be holding our annual Christmas Day lunch for anyone who will be alone this Christmas or is aged over 60. We will be providing a full traditional Christmas dinner, a choice of pudding, finished off with mince pie and tea or coffee. We hope to enjoy some entertainment and see who wins the big hamper in the raffle. All this for only £8.50 per

person. Places must be booked in advance just email leycc@hotmail.co.uk or pop in during the week.

We run a coffee morning every Monday and Thursday 10.30am—12noon, all ages are very welcome, plus our lunch club on Thursdays from 12noon for the over 60s. It is a great place to meet friends, grab a second hand book and check out what classes are on offer each week.

We are always looking for people who can spare a couple of hours to either:-

Join the committee to help organise fundraising events

Join the Thursday lunch club rota to help cook/serve once a month

Hire the hall to run a class or workshop – we will offer any new regular hirer an introductory FREE first session.

Our committee is looking for someone to fulfil the position of Secretary and Treasurer.

Those winter party bookings are steadily filling up the diary, so if you are thinking of holding some kind of celebration please do get in touch. Please feel free to pop in and say hi!

Happy Christmas Lane End, we look forward to seeing you all in 2022



Lane End Twinning Association

https://www.laneendtwinning.co.uk





@laneendtwinning



So Much More Than Just a Sign

As I write these few words, Oléron is experiencing wonderful weather leading up to the clocks going back one hour on 31 October. Winter is coming.

At the moment, the Oléronaise are scrutinising the proposal to build an initial park of 50-80 wind turbines off the coast of Oléron. The park is projected to generate between 500MW and IGW for usage in the Charente Maritime. The park's proposed site will be situated about 15kms of La Cotinière and employ 50/100 locals in turbine maintenance. As you can imagine there are many objectors being led by local fishermen (plus ça change!)

You will be pleased to hear that the first stage of the harbour improvements at La Cotinière are complete with the second stage starting in November.

Those of you who remember Roland Papineau will know that after Twinning, his main passion was the building of the replica frigate, Hermione. Sadly Hermione has had to cancel her spring 2022 voyage to northern Europe as urgent repairs are needed. The work will be undertaken at Bayonne as there is no

suitable dry dock in Rochefort; this is a nod to French maritime history between Rochefort and Bayonne. Both ports were chosen by Colbert in 1666 to establish the King's only two arsenals in SW France.

Oléron is also celebrating its 'Eternal Flame'. The 12th century 'Lanterne des Morts', which is in Place Camille Mémain in St Pierre, is the tallest in France and has been given a 'Monument Historique' listing. You may recall the story and court case involving Maurice the cockerel who lived in St Pierre with his owner.

(Ed—in case this one passed you by - Maurice was a cockerel whose owner was taken to court over his early morning crowing. He gained international support and became a symbol of campaigns to protect the sounds of the French countryside. In 2019 a court ruled in Maurice's favour and he lived out the rest of his days at home on the Isle of Oleron. Sadly, Maurice died in May last year.)

The surprise of the summer involved the conductor Julien Masmondet, who has ties to the island of Oléron. He offered two performances on 14 and 15 July of his rural opera paying tribute to the gallinaceous bird that lived amongst the Oleronnaise.

Another reminder for you travellers; the UK has introduced a new rule specifying that if you intend to drive a British vehicle in the EU, you will now need a UK sticker, as the official international sign has changed from GB to UK. Full details are given at the UKGOV website. By the way there are no queues here in France for fuel!



By Terry Dennett in Oléron

PS. I have just discovered the following: 'On Monday evening 25 October, Oléron Bridge Club played Naphill Bridge Club, near Lane End, remotely using 'Real Bridge Online'. Oléron proved to be the winners!

Did you know that on the island, the Bridge Club has 2 world champions: Sylvie Willard and Aymeric Lebatteux? They both played and as you can see from the scorecard Sylvie did better than Aymeric. Do any Twinners recognise any of the players listed?'



Include your events here.

Email details to:

katyjdunn@btinternet.com

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

Church Services

Sundays 10.30am Elim Hope Church

Sundays 9.15am Holy Trinity church, Lane End

Sunday 11am St Mary le Moor church, Cadmore End



Crib Festival

6,7,8 Dec, 4-8pm—Marvel at the Christmas crib scenes displayed in the church.

Christingle

Please book tickets
for Christmas Eve
Christingle to avoid
overcrowding. Contact Sheila from
1 Dec on 882437 or email
Sheila.keatinge@gmail.com

Hambleden Valley gardening club talks

Tues 7 Dec—Christmas meet with gardening quiz, mulled wine and mince pies.

Tues 11 Jan—John Anderson, Keeper of the Gardens, Windsor Great Park.

Contact Celia Warren 01491 638691

Help tidy the village and look after our green spaces

First Saturday of every month—The Lane End Conservation Group meets in the village (doctor's) car park at 10am. No previous experience necessary, everyone welcome, young and old. Litterpickers also meet here at the same time and place.

Tai Chi

Tuesday 2pm in Lane End Village Hall, £6 per session. Contact Dr Sue Stuart, <u>sastuart@globalnet.co.uk</u> 01494 532088

Café at the Community Centre

Mondays 10am – 12noon for coffee and homemade cakes by Charmain and Thursday 11am – 2pm for toasties, paninis, homemade cakes and hot drinks.

Junior youth club

Wednesdays 6-8.30pm at the Community Centre.

Children's role play

Tuesdays 9.30-10.30am and 11-12noon. Role play sessions from

birth to 10 years old. £6 per child, £4 per sibling, £3 under 1s. More info at rolecity.co.uk.

Contact sc@rolecity.co.uk

Self defence classes

Self defence classes. Sunday mornings with Ultra Krav Maga at the Community Centre. <u>Ultra-kravmaga.com</u>

Toddler Forest School

10 December 1.15-2.45pm. £7 with Christmas theme and fair afterwards. Cadmore End School. Contact

jhazell@cadmoreendschool.org

Puppy classes

Saturday mornings 9am-12noon. Bellsandwhistlesbehaviour.co.uk

Outdoor fitness for adults with little ones

Buggybeat with Megann runs every Saturday in Lane End at 9.30am. £35 for 6 passes or £7 per class. Contact Megann for more details on 07944 116547



Birdlife by Jerry Gray

Rareties ~~

Our summer visitors have flown away and as I write, we await the influx of our winter migrants from rapidly cooling northern climes: flocks of Redwing and Fieldfare will appear in the fields; geese and waders will descend on estuaries, lakes and marshes. Every now and then, the media will report the sighting of a rare bird which has been blown off course and makes landfall on our shores.

At this, a whole subculture of collectors clicks into overdrive, sending people scurrying from all over the UK to the location of a hapless visiting bird: these are 'Twitchers', obsessive birdenthusiasts whose lives revolve around lists of birds which they have seen, when and where. Their aim is to 'tick off' each bird by seeing it, however fleetingly, where-ever it has landed. Whilst such behaviour will seem odd, even manic, to most of us, I must admit that seeing a rare bird or a bird where it shouldn't really be, is exciting to the ordinary bird-watcher like



Photo of a black redstart by <u>Proinsias</u> Mac an Bheatha on <u>Unsplash</u>

Footpath report

Report by Julie Wetenhall

me.

Before I gave up the London ratrace, from my last office window I was amazed to see a pair of Black Redstarts (birds of rocky slopes, scree and crags) seemingly quite happy catching flies from the roof of the next-door building. Peregrine falcons famously have colonised many of our cities, living atop swish apartment blocks, offices and cathedrals, attracted and kept well fed by the innumerable feral pigeons.

I have mentioned before the ravens of the Hambleden Valley, a barheaded goose and little egrets near the Thames. This summer I was twice delighted to see on fences surrounding two of Lacey's fields, a female wheatear. Then a visit to Otmoor, the RSPB Reserve just outside Oxford yielded a pair of cranes, which had raised a chick there this year, reportedly the first crane hatched in Oxfordshire for 300

THE HEADHUNTER

F.I. GRAY

Lane End resident Jerry Gray is author of a darkly humorous satirical novel set in the recruitment industry. He's also a keen birdwatcher. Autumn is upon us. I love this time of year. Walking the paths there is so much hedgerow fruit, a forager's dream; blackberries and apples for pies, sloes for gin and mushrooms for breakfast (if you know what you're picking – I'm not brave enough).

Then there is the colour! I love the trees, looking up, the yellow ochre, cadmium orange and burnt sienna leaves against a cerulean blue sky or the carpet of colour under your feet. Take time to look.

After the recent rain the footpaths are just starting to soften up and get muddier. Please could bike-riders refrain from riding on the soft paths as tyre tracks form ruts, making the paths muddier. Cyclists, please use the bridleways.

If you come across any problems on the paths please let me know on julie.wetenhall@gmail.com - until the New Year at least as I am pleased to announce that, as I've completed five years in the role, Nigel and Anna Bacon have offered to take over the Footpath monitoring role.

They will start in the New Year and I wish them every success and happy walking.

Saving Golden Guff

By 'Swampy'

By the time you read this, the battle will probably be over, planning permission will have been granted and Shanly Homes will be about to dig up Golden Guff (the meadow opposite the entrance to Lammas Way towards Bolter End). The objections of 127 petitioners and numerous others including Lane End Parish Council will have been ignored.

Central Government' has an obsession with building 300,000 homes every year, regardless of location, with a resultant onus on District Councils to accept top-down quotas.

We see the horrors of creeping urbanisation around us, witness Aylesbury, Stoke Mandeville and Haddenham for

example.

Senior citizens of Lane End recall playing in the field as children, and we have grown used to the sight of Lacey's prize-winning cows ambling in the meadow to produce the dairy goods sold in the Farm Shop. The field acts as a village bookend to Finings Wood and as a wildlife corridor and upland natural soakaway, feeding surrounding ponds, streams and the associated flora and fauna.

That Golden Guff is to be destroyed for the sake of ten dwellings is a microcosm of the misguided policy outlined above. The plan to build on Golden Guff was hatched years ago and materialised in the WDC 2017 Local Development Plan. However, it is interesting just how out of kilter the idea is of destroying this field now.

National Planning Policy Framework states that major development (defined as ten dwellings) or more should be avoided in AONB and our



new unitary Buckinghamshire
Council repeats these calls to
preserve our natural assets. Our
elected district and local councillors
support our objections; the Chiltern
Conservation Board objected strongly with very specific rebuttals of the
Shanly application.

Politicians talk about how AONB and greenbelt must be preserved and Housing Minister Michael Gove has been urged to give local residents a greater say in proposed developments in their area.

Given all of the above, will the new Bucks Council's planning department have listened? We shall see...









The future of Holy Trinity Church in Lane End

We have a beautiful Church in Lane End. We want more people to enjoy it, and the message of love it stands for, so that it can continue to flourish into the future. We are seeking the views of Lane End villagers to help us decide what we should do next. Please help us by filling in this **village survey** and returning it to the box in Londis, McColl's or Holy Trinity Church porch, or online if you prefer at https://www.holytrinitylaneend.org.uk/

1) Have you ever been inside Holy Trinity Church, Lane End?

Yes No.

2) The Church in village life

a) On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being very important, how important is the continued existence of Holy Trinity Church to you? Please circle:

5 4 3

b) What would you miss if the church closed? (Please tick all that apply)

Wedding venue
Place for funerals
Baptism/Christening service
Sunday services
Christingle
Bells ringing

Messy Church (Children's activity sessions) Quiet place to sit / pray Jump for Joy (Children's service) Food bank Family graveyard

3) Changes: We are considering making changes at Holy Trinity with the aim of continuing to be an important part of our village life. **Please tick** any changes or additions which might attract you into the church.

a) Services

Services later in the day on Sunday Services on weekdays Shorter services Children's services or Youth services

Simpler language Modern music Focus on Meditation / mindfulness or prayer

(b) The Building

Replace pews with chairs Provide cushions Indoor loo Coffee machine More heating

Other (give as many as you like)

(c) Understanding Christian life

Sunday school Faith discussion groups Bible study Drop-in advice centre

Alpha Groups

Christian instruction

Other (give as many as you like)

4) New uses for the Church Building: please tick any that appeal to you.

Food bank centre Cooking classes Art exhibitions Centre for action for the

environment Music concerts Meditation classes
Debates or talks
Singing in a choir
Community meeting pla

Community meeting place Other (please give as many examples as you like)

Please would you indicate your age group

12-20

20-30

30-40

40-50

50-60

60+

Thank you. If you would like to discuss any of this, please contact Jo at jodonachie1@gmail.com

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For a no obligation chat to see if homeopathy could help you, contact Lilli May on 07950 005233 or at lilli.may@zen.co.uk

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Make a Gingerbread House

Report by Katy Dunn

Anyone can buy a gingerbread house kit, but it's really not that hard to make the biscuit yourself and half the fun is being creative with your design and cutting out the template. Plus the wonderful Christmas aromas that scent the house whilst it's baking.

This recipe comes from my colleagues at the National Trust who made this:



But I suggest you start a little more modestly with something like this!



25 mins prep, 15 mins baking time

Ingredients

1kg plain flour500g butter3 tsp bicarbonate of soda250g light brown sugar3tsp ground ginger1tsp ground cinnamon

,

4 eggs

200g golden syrup

Add the flour, butter and bicarb of soda into a bowl. Rub in until the mix resembles breadcrumbs, then add the spices and sugar and mix by hand or in your mixer.

Lightly beat the egg and syrup together, add to the dry mix and continue to mix until it forms a dough.

Roll the dough to 4mm thickness on a sheet of greaseproof paper to avoid it sticking to your work surface.

Plan out the shape of your house and draw all the pieces you need on to paper. Cut them out to use as a template for your gingerbread.

Cut your required shapes into the dough and repeat until you have used all the dough. Don't forget to add doors and windows



The build!

OK, here are some top tips for building your gingerbread house.

Working with gingerbread

Make sure you trim your pieces whilst the gingerbread is still warm, but ensure it's completely cool before assembling.

Prop the walls

There are several ways to fix your gingerbread houses together. You can use royal icing, caramel or chocolate. Whichever you choose, be sure to prop up your walls carefully whilst you wait for your 'glue' to set. A can of baked beans works well. But at this stage, patience is key.

Start small

Start small and work your way up to a masterpiece. Try making a simple

house to start with until you find the best way to build and stick for you. Then you can always try something more adventurous—even build your own house in miniature

The fun bit

Decorating your finished house is the fun bit, so get creative! You can use sweets or chocolates, but other things can give your house an exhiciting finish. Flaked almonds or rose petal roof tiles, maybe fresh herbs to give your house its very own miniature vegetable garden. You could also put an electric tea light inside for that warm and cosy glow.

Have fun and good luck!



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LEYCC NEEDS YOU!

LEYCC is a registered charity and relies on a small but dedicated team of volunteer committee members to ensure its future.

We have a vacancy for a Treasurer that we urgently need to fill:

Are you:

- Passionate about your community?
- Motivated?
- Pro-active?
- Business minded?

We are looking for a volunteer, ideally from a financial background to manage our finances i.e. accounts, salaries, petty cash and book-keeping.

You must also be willing to attend seven/eight evening meetings per year and produce a financial report for this meeting.

This voluntary role would ideally suit someone who is either retired or working part-time.

If you have a few hours spare each week and would like to get involved in your community and fulfil this vital role, then please get in touch.

01494 883878 or 07932 326046

e-mail: leycc@hotmail.co.uk



Milk Men

with Will Lacey



Carbon footprinting

As farmers we play a big part in managing the local landscapes and what we do can have a big impact for years to come. After the war, the country was struggling to feed the nation and farmers were encouraged to grow more food. Government incentives to plough up land and improvements in technology and

science were all encouraged as the government thought food security and feeding the nation was of national importance.

Fast forward 70+ years and the focus today has changed. Farmers are now being asked to look at the way they farm. With global temperatures rising since the industrial revo-



lution, the impact of global warming is starting to hit home. Food production is no longer the main priority of British agricultural policy, but how we farm, support the environment and reduce our impact are the major driving factors.

So how does this influence what we do on our farm in Bolter End?

For a number of years now we have been carbon footprinting our milk production. But what is carbon footprint? A carbon footprint is a measurement of the total greenhouse gas emissions caused by an individual, event, organisation, service, place or product, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent. This year we have begun to footprint our whole busi-

ness, so we can then use this to help make informed decisions going forward on reducing our impact.

How do we carbon footprint our milk production? From growing the crops, rearing the calves to milking cows there is a lot involved with milk production, and for us to footprint our milk production we need to look at all the inputs (power, machinery, livestock, energy, fuels, foods, soil, crops, landscape, climate, efficiency, infrastructure, transport, etc) and work out a figure of carbon dioxide equivalent.

By looking at the way we farm, improving efficiency and being aware of our impact, the aim is to reduce this figure.





How can we implement change?

It takes years to build up data that is reliable and useful. Arla – the milk buyer we sell our surplus milk to— has been collecting this data from all its milk producers across Europe for a number of years now and their early results suggest no single farming type is more carbon efficient than another. It depends on so many factors, many of which are unreliable (weather and climate).

However, it does highlight the need to get full potential out of all the inputs. Sounds obvious, but getting the maximum out of all our inputs, and an attention to detail on all aspects of our business will be beneficial to reducing our environmental impact.

With this in mind we needed to buy a new drill this year for sowing the

seeds for our crops. In the past we have always ploughed the fields (turning the soils over like digging your garden) and then used a machine called a power harrow to help make a nice seed bed for small seeds.

This works very well, but with our thoughts on reducing our carbon footprint how could we change this? Soils hold a lot of carbon from the microorganisms and decomposing plant matter, and every time we plough, we are releasing some of that carbon back in to the atmosphere. The tractor used to pull the plough, fuels, as well as all the wearing parts (plough metals, tyres etc) also contribute to our carbon emissions.

The drill we bought is a direct drill. Rather than ploughing the soils we can go straight in to the stubble of the previous crop. It has a number of legs that will disturb the soil only on the place where the seed will be delivered, so we are reducing soil disturbance. This also reduces our fuel use and wearing parts, as the tractor and machinery has less work to do. All these factors combined mean we are significantly reducing the carbon footprint of establishing these crops.

This will not work on all crops/soil types/seasons, but using this technology where appropriate, is just one way we are making progress in the impact of our farming!

Elsewhere on the farm the cows are now in the barns for the winter. We

have a busy time between now and the new year for calving cows, so the new calf shed I spoke about in the last article will be filling up quickly.

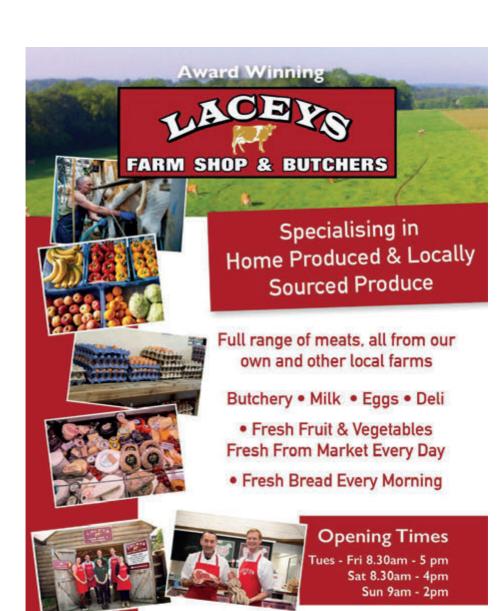
We have had a reorganisation around the farm shop to make car parking safer and easier.

Many supermarkets around the country have struggled to keep fully stocked over the past few weeks as labour shortages and rising fuels prices have hit them hard. Working with small local producers we have managed to keep fully stocked at all times, and will all over Christmas so you can rest easy!

Happy Christmas and have a great 2022.



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Laceys Farm Shop & Butchers Lane End, High Wycombe, Bucks HP14 3LP

Telephone: 01494 881660







Helping Hand

By Martin Tett, Leader, Buckinghamshire Council

If you're experiencing severe financial difficulties this winter, Bucking-hamshire Council's Helping Hand programme is here to help with food and bills.

Government has given us a £2.4million Household Support Fund to help the most disadvantaged in Buckinghamshire. At least 50% of this funding is for families with children up to 19 years old and the rest will support other households experiencing or at risk of poverty. The Council wants to ensure that families and vulnerable people in Buckinghamshire don't go cold or hungry this winter.

Some specific aspects of the scheme are:

- · Food vouchers in school holidays for those eligible for free school meals
- · Supporting vulnerable households with food/utility bills, essential white

- goods, bedding or winter clothing directly through the Helping Hand programme
- · Supporting households with costs through partnership with other schemes including Heart of Bucks and the Fuel Grant Payment Scheme operated through the Citizens Advice Bureau
- · Grant support to relevant voluntary and community group projects (eg food support organisations, hot meal schemes).

I would urge anyone who thinks that they may qualify to contact Buckinghamshire Council. Our 'Helping Hand' is there for you.

Residents can request help from Helping Hand directly. Contact: buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helpinghand

Helpinghands@buckinghamshire.gov.uk; 01296 531151.



Please continue to keep Bucks safe and tidy

Litter-picking

By Linden Porter

First of all I would like to say a big

thank you to the growing army of people who are now litter picking on a regular basis. Anyone else wanting to join in then please do. It runs at the same time as the Lane End Conservation Group Action Day—10am on the first Saturday of the month.

Our three Bucks Councillors

– Mark Turner, Zahir

Mohammed and Dominic

Barnes - have also been
participating in the monthly
litter-picks and I'm working
with them to get a better supply of
litter-picking equipment.

The Playground.

In the last few weeks Red Kite have carried out some improvements to the Playground. A new see-saw has been installed and clearance of weeds, debris and broken glass has also been undertaken.

Work has started on cutting back the foliage blocking the path between the playground and Simmons Way and, at the time of writing, I can confirm that Red Kite also intend to carry out



more improvements.

These include:

- New signage for the children's area
- Better litter bins
- Cleaning the equipment
- Removal of graffiti
- A regular weeding regime

I would like to thank Red Kite for their new commitment to improve the area.

I hope to report on further developments and initiatives in the next edition of The Clarion.









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On the land

with Bryan Edgley



Harvest Festival services in Church are normally held towards the end of October; this year in St. Mary-le-Moor Church at Cadmore End there was a packed church on Sunday 17 October, at which the traditional form of Evensong from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer was held. Four of those well-loved Harvest hymns were sung lustily.

The best remembered of those hymns was first written in German by Matthias Claudius who lived from 1740 to 1815, more than two centuries ago:-

We plough the fields, and scatter

The good seed on the land.....

One can then ask if anything from two hundred years ago is still relevant in this modern fast-moving age of technology, broadband, manufactured products, and food bought in supermarkets? The answer is that mankind's most basic need for food, and clean water with which to prepare and eat the food, is just the same as it was in those days. And it

is a farmer's job to grow it, not only for himself and his family but also for that majority of the population who now live in towns, where there is insufficient land to grow food.

However, over the centuries since the hymn was written farmers have had to tweak the growing process, to provide sufficient food for an enormously increased world population. The main commodity which we now grow at Kensham Farm is 'milling wheat', that is best quality wheat suitable for making bread. It must have high protein and a good level of gluten, so that when it is milled to make flour for bread making the loaf of bread will rise nicely when baked rather than turning out to be stodgy. Some of the detail of growing such wheat nowadays is: -

'We plough the fields....'

In recent years we have tried to reduce use of the plough, since the job of turning all the soil over releases carbon from the soil and is slow and heavy work for the tractor. It consumes a lot of the costly diesel fuel, which emits greenhouse gases that

trap heat in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

One of the main objectives of ploughing used to be to bury the weeds that had grown up in the preceding crop. Nowadays we try to control any weeds in the crop by spraying with herbicides.

If the crop is clean the stubble will be clean without weeds, so that it will no longer be necessary to turn the soil over to bury weeds and trash from the preceding crop. We can use a shallow cultivator on the stubble immediately after harvest to produce a tilth, in which any weed seeds, or 'volunteer' grain which came out of the back of the combine, can chit. Then later in the autumn, late September or October, those young vol-

unteer cereal plants, and any young weed seedlings, can be killed off with Glyphosate spray ('Roundup' is a well know brand) immediately before seeding the new crop.

Defra's Environmental Land Managements Scheme (ELMS), formulated under the Agriculture Act 2020, has three tiers of policy objectives with different scales and scope. The entry level tier that is designed to be accessible to every farm business is called the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI). The middle tier that requires groups of farmers working together in a 'Cluster' is called Local Nature Recovery (LNR) and the final tier that will operate over thousands of hectares is called Landscape Recovery.



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Kensham Farms is taking part in the SFI pilot before it is launched in 2022 and working with Defra to help shape the scheme and provide feedback on everything from online application process to soil management practices in the field. To this end we planted around 200 acres of our stubbles with a cover crop of mustard, buckwheat and stubble turnips. This mixture will prevent leaching of nutrients, assist drainage with large tap roots and provide organic matter when incorporated into the soil.

Our Tipping Shaw field shown in the photo had already been seeded with this cover crop, which had been grown and was then killed off with Glyphosate spray just before seeding time, all within the space of just over two months after harvest 2021.

The photo shows the seed drill at work drilling direct into the cover crop, which has already been killed off, even though it still looks green.

'... and scatter, the good seed on the land'

At the time when the hymn was written the 'good seed' meant seed that was as free from weed seeds as was possible in those days. This would indeed have been scattered by hand from a bucket or basket on most farms. But that was to be superseded by a horse-drawn seed drill, the first practical design of which had been perfected in 1701 by Jethro Tull. However, this was not introduced onto most farms until the 1800s.

The design of seed drills has been constantly improving over the years. We now use a Dale seed drill which

has a working width of 10 metres, and we use seed which has been cleaned to be free of any contamination prior to being dressed with seed dressing to protect against fungal diseases. The second photo of this was taken in West Wycombe Park on 22 October, drilling our final field of the 1,650 acres of winter wheat to be seeded this autumn, ready for harvest in August 2022.

We prepared this field without ploughing or cover crop after harvest, just with cultivation of the stubble and Glyphosate spray to kill off any weeds or volunteers. The small octagonal building that can be seen in the photo is 'The Temple of the Four Winds', which is a 3-storey tower at the southwest corner of the garden of West Wycombe Park. Our seed trailer and Kramer forklift for loading the one tonne bags of seed into the drill can be seen in front of it.

Nowadays after seeding we care for the health of the crop while it is growing in a way that would not have been possible in earlier times. Such treatments are with fertiliser, lime to neutralise acidity in the soil, spray treatments for control of weeds and fungal diseases, growth regulator to make the stem short and the roots deeper and insecticide against aphids.

Despite all these modern crop protection treatments, the hymn goes on to remind us of all those things which have never changed: -

But it is fed and watered By God's almighty hand; The warmth to swell the grain,

The breezes and the sunshine,

And soft refreshing rain.



-Schools



We were delighted to welcome the whole school and their families to our Harvest Open Day in October. What a fabulous turnout! The children demonstrated some great crafting skills by turning wooden spoons into scarecrows which were the focus of our Great Scarecrow Hunt. We were entertained by some fabulous singing and dancing and were really glad that the sun came out for the afternoon. Thank you to everyone who came along.

This year we are delighted to be part of the Oracy 21 project. Excellent spoken language skills are essential to children's success in school and in life beyond and our aim is to raise the profile of oracy across the school in the coming year.

School life has felt much more 'normal' this term and we have once again been able to enjoy lunchtime clubs and school visits. Years 5 and 6 recently enjoyed a visit to Waddesdon Manor, Rocksteady have returned and we have recently held elections for our first ever School Parliament!

This term our nursery and reception classes had a visit from some incredible visitors: Zoolab visited early years with some amazing animal friends including Jilly the tarantula, Mike the hissing cockroach; Rex and Raptor the rats and probably the most interesting – Speckles the green tree frog! The children learned about their bodies, their origins and how we relate to other species through a variety of fun and creative animal handling activities.



If you are looking for a school or nursery place for your children please do phone to arrange a visit. Our early years classes provide a great start for school life with a broad and exciting curriculum in a safe and spacious setting with lots of dedicated outdoor space. We have a limited number of nursery spaces for 3 and 4 years old starting in January or April. Contact us at office@laneendprimary.co.uk or call us on 01494 881169

Debbie Williams. Headteacher





Edward Briscoe MIPW



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

"Children make a good start in the Early Years Foundation Stage because of the good provision." OFSTED March 2012

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





Ask the: plumber

with Bill Blake



Bill—Please would you come and unblock my kitchen sink?

I always say 'yes – no problem, I'll be there in half an hour'. The 'no problem' can be famous last words. I've had a real spate of these recently.

The most common cause of kitchen sink blockages is fat poured down the sink. Everyone always tells me they 'never put fat down the sink' but you'd be surprised just how much of the stuff I clear from pipework.

I'm not here to lecture people, however I am going to encourage everyone to emulsify the fat you have in your pans by using lots of detergent and hot water and bit of energetic scrubbing to break down the fat bonds. Follow this with plenty more detergent and lots of hot water to flush the emulsion down the sink.

A more entertaining recent case of sink blockage was rice. Boiled rice had been put into the in-sink waste disposal unit. It had gone down into the waste pipe, expanded and blocked the pipe solid for about 2 ft / half a metre.

Finally, a gentle reminder to isolate your outside taps and then turn on the tap to protect them from frost damage. If you're not sure about tap isolators, don't hesitate to call me.

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Planting tulips ~~~

with Anya the garden fairy

Follow me on Instagram @anya_thegarden_fairy



Who doesn't like tulips? They are such uplifting spring flowers bringing us all so much joy. Tulips look lovely when grown in pots or in the garden and are also great as cut flowers with a vase life of seven to ten days if cared for properly.

But not everyone knows that most tulips are bred to perform well and produce strong blooms only in their first year. Sadly most tulips aren't perennial and it's best to treat them this way.

I have tried to dig them up, store and replant the following year, but they have never been as good as in their first year.

There's also some good news for those who really want their tulips to flower for longer than just one season. Some tulips do well for few years but it's important to read the description to understand the reliability of the variety you are buying. Tulip bulbs aren't cheap and you should know what you get for your money.

Tulips that will perform for longer than just one year:

Tulip 'Groenland' / 'Spring Green' / 'Artist' / Shirley / Ballerina / Daydream / Bleu Aimable / Negrita / Apeldoorn / Purissima (White Emperor) / Sprengeri

When to plant tulip bulbs

Tulips don't need to be planted until late October or November. Planting your bulbs late will also protect them from diseases.



Tulip collections in pots

If you decide to plant your bulbs in pots, you can choose just one variety to grow in each pot, or you can plant few different types, mix colours and shapes to add extra interest.

I usually go for three different varieties of tulips that flower around the same time. You can create your own collections and select varieties you like, or you can buy ready mixed collections.

A few varieties of tulips in a large pot are like a floral symphony to me. Absolutely gorgeous.

How to plant tulip lasagne in pots

I create three layers of bulbs and I plant the latest flowering in deepest

on 10-12cm of compost mixed with grit. I placed my bulbs with about 8cm of compost between each layer. I plant the earliest flowering on the top.

Other plants that go well with tulips

If you wish, you can plant your tulip bulbs with other spring flowers. Contrasting colours and shapes of mixed



planting will bring out the beauty of your tulips. It'll also hide the untidy foliage when your tulips have passed their best.

My favourite flowers that look attractive when planted with tulips include Muscari, Wallflowers, Forget-me-

not. I also really encourage you to experiment with other plants.

Just remember and if you go for mixed planting, you should choose plants that require the same conditions as tulips. Fertile, well-drained soil and full sun in a sheltered spot, protecting your plants from strong winds. For more inspiration, please follow me on Instagram

@anya_thegarden_fairy where I share lots of practical and easy to follow advice on how to create a beautiful and productive garden.



Lane End Conservation Group

ACTION DAYS

We meet 10am in the 'doctors' car park on the first Saturday of the month

Please help to keep our village tidy and its green spaces green

The Clarion is the Parish of Lane End's non profit-making magazine, for the sharing of information about Parish activities. Neither the editor nor the Parish Council, whilst sponsoring the magazine, takes responsibility for the statements and/or views expressed herein.

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

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

Send copy to katyjdunn@btinternet.com

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Feel free to pop in and say hello.

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