

Summer 2023

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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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From the Editor

We have so much to look forward to in our villages this summer. Lane End Music Festival kicks off the season at the Playing Fields on 3 June (info on p11). Lacey's follows with their Open Farm Sunday on 11 June. It was really popular last year, so be sure to pre-book your time slot as there are restrictions on numbers for safety. Head to p49 for info and how to book.

Lane End Fete on 17 June is another not-to-be-missed day in the social calendar. With the ever-popular Zippy Dipper, dog show, live music, food and drink stands, stall-holders and more games than ever, it's going to be a fun day. Then in July, the Lane End Players are staging their Summer Show of three decades of music, skits and sketches over three days at the village hall.

The cost of living crisis is affecting many people in the village and the work of organisations like Community Matters, run by the churches of Lane End and Cadmore End, and LEYCC's Food Hub are more important and valued than ever. Please support them with donations if you can. More info on p12.

And if you find yourself at a loose end on a sunny day—go for a picnic! It's such a nice thing to do—and cheap! Ideas on p24.

Katy Dunn, editor—email 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

Councillors

Chairman: Cllr Graham Coulter

Vice Chair Cllr Callum Stewart

Cllr Mike Detsiny

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 unless otherwise stated.

Monday 5 June – Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Monday 3 July – Cadmore End Village Hall

There will be no Parish Council Meeting in August

Monday 4 September – Lane End Village Hall, Sycamore Room

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 three allotment sites: Chalky Field, Marlow Road. Bunkers, Church Road. Sandyfield, Marlow Road. Prices range from £21-40 per year, depending on size.

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

If a street light is shining directly into your windows, you can apply to

Scottish and Southern Electricity for a shield to be put on the light.

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.

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What LEPC has done for you

Chairman's report and snapshot of works carried out by the parish council in the last three months.

At the annual parish meeting of Lane End Parish Council, the Chairman Mike Detsiny retired, and Graeme Coulter was elected as Chair, with Callum Stewart as Vice-Chair.

In his final Chairman's report, Cllr Detsiny paid tribute to the work of the Bucks County Councillors representing the parish; Cllr Stewart for his problem-solving ability; Cllr Nicolson for his work to improve broadband in the villages; Cllr Wright for the allotments work; the planning team of Cllrs Stewart, Hunt and Achurch for their work checking in person each and every planning application in the parish; to the Clarion editor, and to the parish clerk for her sterling work and always cheerful outlook in the face of a huge workload.

Cllr Detsiny noted some of the achievements of LEPC this year, among them some internal policies around environmental sustainability and working principles—a set of behaviour standards to improve how councillors work with parishioners. There was work to replace old streetlights and bulbs with LEDs which has already reduced the parish council's electricity bill by 40%.

Cllr Detsiny ended on a personal note about what he'd like to see the parish council focus its efforts on in the future. He said: 'I believe there is a huge difference between projects people want and projects our community needs.' Cllr Detsiny believes that facilities for children and young people should be top of the agenda.

Some work completed around the parish in the last three months:

Street lights repaired.

Tree safety works carried out around the parish.

Donations to Holy Trinity Church, Lane End Twinning Association and Lane End Fete.

Bollards installed on Ditchfield Common to prevent vehicles driving across the grass and damaging it.

Proposals drawn up for improving the access to Lane End Playing Fields from The Row.

Cllr Graham gave talks to Primary Schools about pollinating insects.

Trees removed around the electricity substation in the village hall car park.

Ward Report — Chiltern Villages

Report by Zahir Mohammed



Pictured: Dominic Barnes, Zahir Mohammed and Mark Turner

Buckinghamshire Council Unitary Councillors

Since we last reported in *The Clarion*, we three councillors have attended many meetings including our first in-person Community Board meeting held in Princes Day Centre, Bourne End in February.

It was well attended and we discussed topics including deploying grants to local organisations and charities within the community board area. Guest speakers included local police and a representative from the Buckinghamshire Fire Authority.

Police

The Thames Valley Police Sergeant outlined the areas covered by the Neighbourhood Policing Team: fraud prevention, safeguarding, school

talks, knife crime, violent crime, burglaries, anti-social behaviour, rural crime, violence against women and girls, licensed premises, night-time economy, social media and communication.

Of these, the community agreed four priorities: anti-social behaviour, speeding and anti-social driving, burglary and rural crime. You can find out information for any area of the Police on the following website.

<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area>

There's also an online reporting tool for residents to use on the Thames Valley Police website <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime>

Fire service

The four community safety priorities for the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority are Safer

Homes, Safer Neighbourhoods, Safer Roads and Safer Environment. Our nearest full-time stations are High Wycombe and Beaconsfield.

Most of the finances for the service come from council tax and the remainder from business rates, revenue support grant and other specific grants.

High temperatures and dry weather last summer resulted in two major incidents in Milton Keynes and Wooburn Green. Future concerns include HS2, climate change, developments within Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, and the Fire Reform White Paper.

Roads

Buckinghamshire Council has pledged £100 million to fix Buckinghamshire roads and in our Budget Council Meeting at the end of February, a further £5 million was drawn from reserves to pay for further pothole repairs. We continue to work with the Buckinghamshire Local Area Technicians on this and technicians are out clearing gullies, fixing potholes and resurfacing roads.

If wish to report potholes, broken streetlights or signs, traffic signal faults, flyposting or graffiti, salt and gritting please use fix my street www.fixmystreet.com.

Other priorities

Zahir is currently the Deputy Cabinet

Member for Public Health. As part of this role, he has been working on vaccination take-up and measures to improve residents' health through reduced smoking, active lifestyles, blood pressure monitoring, cardiovascular disease and so on across Buckinghamshire.

Our local Community Board (South-West Chiltern) continues to be very active, working through our action groups - Environmental and Climate Change, Economic Recovery and Development, Community Engagement, Transport and Highways. We also took the opportunity recently to meet with the new volunteers at Lane End Youth Club that reopened after a period of closure. Zahir is the Chairman and Mark is the Vice Chairman of the Club.

For information on how to get involved please email swccb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or join the Facebook Group at www.facebook.com/South-West-Chilterns-Community-Board.

If you would like to talk to us on any of these issues or anything related to the Ward, please contact us by email at:

Dominic.barnes@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Zahir.mohammed@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Mark.turner@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Four Ends Flower Club

Report by Margaret Croxson

Four Ends is a long running flower club and belong to NAFAS. We have a demonstration or talk every month except August. The demonstrations are held in the main hall at the Lane End Village Hall starting at 12.45pm. We are a small friendly club and everyone is most welcome to join us.



The misconception often is you need 'to do something' but you don't! Just watch amazing flower arrangements come together from our demonstrators with great interactive chat along the way. We finish each meeting with tea and cake.

In July we hold our mini show and start with a buffet lunch. Members can enter the competitions and these

are judged by a NAFAS judge. Again not mandatory!

If you would like more info email- margaret@ihcvenues.com – or turn up and enjoy a great afternoon.

Playing Fields

Report by Stewart George

It's good news for the Playing Fields Darts team who won silverware in Wycombe Division 1, were runners up in Division 2 and won the Wycombe and District Pairs. Congratulations to them.

Lane End Football Club's first team won the league cup!

Congratulations to them all. It was also a good season for the Reserves Team who won the division 4 league. Both teams would like to say thank you to all their supporters.

The focus for the Playing Fields is

now the second Lane End Music Festival on Saturday 3 June 2023.

Our aim is to make it a great day and evening out with good music and entertainment, building on last year's event that was first of its kind.

This year there's an exciting line up:

- Live music from a number of local bands and artists, with sessions throughout the afternoon
- Wrestling! Highly rated last year
- Drinks and snack foods with not one, but TWO bars to speed up the service of drinks
- Ice cream and other food offers
- Evening background music

Up to date information can be found on Facebook, Lane End Playing Fields/Sports Association

Tickets are available now at £5 per person from the Sports Club or the Grouse and Ale, with accompanied under 18s free.



Lane End Food Hub at LEYCC

Report by Katy Donaghue

The cost-of-living crisis is affecting all of us, as we juggle our monthly bills. Sadly, there are Lane End residents struggling to feed their families and in need of your support.

After a lot of hard work by the Lane End Youth and Community Centre Manager, Emma, and a team of volunteers, the Lane End Food Hub was launched in early February and is proving popular.

We're open every Friday, 8.45am – 11am at Lane End Youth & Community Centre, Edmonds Road, HP14 3EJ, for any local resident in need of a top up to their weekly shop.

How can you help? We really need donations to keep the shelves stocked, as trying to secure a regular weekly delivery from supermarkets has proved challenging.

There's a collection bin outside the front door to LEYCC or alternatively the Centre is open for drop-offs:

Monday: 10am – 1pm

Thursday: 10am – 1pm

Friday: 8.45am - 11am

We've teamed up with the charity: www.bankthefood.org – a free app is available to download from their

website, or by using the QR code below. Search for the Lane End Food Hub, using the postcode finder (HP14 3EJ), follow us and it will tell you what items we need the most.



If anyone would like more information or would like to volunteer, please email: leycc@hotmail.co.uk or contact us via Facebook or Instagram.

Thanks so much for your support, every donation you give will make a difference to a local family in need.

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THE LANE END LITTER MAGNETS

The Great British Spring Clean was fairly well attended. 10 Lane Enders participated and we gathered 24 bags of rubbish.

I really appreciate all the 'Likes' we get on Facebook so thank you. However, it would be lovely to see more people at our monthly litter picks. Our current contingent of helpers can't cover all the roads in Lane End so I am calling for more help. We only litter pick for an hour so it's not a huge commitment!

I realize that it may be difficult for some to join in on a Saturday morning. If you want to litter pick at other

times and need kit then please message me via Facebook

Nitrous Oxide cylinders – update:

The issue of discarded Nitrous Oxide cylinders (the large blue ones) continues to be a problem. I have arranged with Gary (who empties the roadside concrete bins) that we will leave them next to (rather than in) the bins. This means he doesn't have to dig them out of the other rubbish in the bins as they have to be recycled separately. So if you come across any cylinders and want to help to keep Lane End litter free, then please leave them by a bin.



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Lane End Players

Report by Ceri Nicolson

'April is the cruellest month' according to TS Eliot, but for the Lane End Players it was a month of success and celebration. We kicked off with our first ever entry into the All-England Drama Festival, with our production of 'Two' by Jim Cartwright at the Maidenhead Drama Festival. Many of you saw this play when we performed it in Autumn 2021 and lots of Lane End residents came along to support us on the night. We thank you all and hope you'll continue with us on this journey.

The play is the story of a warring landlord and landlady and featured Alison Hartnett and Ben Sansum, playing not only the lead roles but every other customer who came into the pub - a real acting tour de force! We competed against 10 other teams from five different counties. As newbies we had no expectations, but were delighted to be awarded both the Adult Winners of the Lynda Whitworth Trophy and the Biggs Challenge Trophy. We will compete again at the Eastern Regional Final at the end of May. Onwards and upwards – fingers crossed!

At the end of April, we welcomed our customers into the Village Hall for our Spring play 'A Bunch Of Amateurs'. Contrary to the title, Eve Ber-



ry's production of this hilarious comedy by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman was hugely professional and drew in large and appreciative audiences. The play was accompanied by music composed by our in-house musicians, Dave Bowden and Nigel Bacon, performed by cast members, with the lyrics by the Bard himself! A great example of the multi-talented Lane End Players at their best.

Our next production will be our ever-popular Summer Show, produced by Tom Everitt. Here's what Tom has to say: 'This year's summer show is called 'Greatest Hits', a selection of our favourite songs and moments from the previous four summer shows (Hats off to the 60s, Super Sounds of the 70s, Totally Awesome 80s and Boombastic 90s).

'This will be a fun show for all the family, with music, sketches, videos and a live band to make the songs sounds brilliant. We have a mix of music including songs from Elvis, The Beatles, Status Quo, Wham, Take That and Prince. Not only that but some hilarious sketches and videos. We look forward to welcoming audience along to the village hall yet again for our next instalment and can guarantee you an entertaining evening.'

Dates for your diaries: 13, 14 and 15 July 2023.

For more info and to book tickets go to:

Laneendplayers.com





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Royal British Legion

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

Report by Andrew MacTavish



On Tuesday 16 May, the Royal British Legion celebrated the end of National Service sixty years ago. A huge memorial parade was held at the National Arboretum with veterans from all over the United Kingdom and from all the services attending.

Conscription lasted from 1947 to 1963. In that time two and a half million young men were called up. Six thousand went in every fortnight to do their two years, a compulsory

break from education, or university, or the workplace.

Most served in the army, one in five went into the RAF and a very few into the Royal Navy. Despite the usual pictures of soldiers on parade, drill and marching was not common once the basic training was completed. The young men were trained in many useful and valuable areas: wireless, railway operation, electrical and



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mechanical repair, accounting ...the list is surprising and endless.

Many gained professional qualifications in the services. Many travelled to parts of the world they would otherwise never have seen. Then there was sport and what one might call 'Duke of Edinburgh' type expeditions. And we must not forget that anyone who was illiterate was immediately taught to read and write, the services achieving what schools had failed to do.

There was pride in one's unit, companionship, and living with all sorts of people from all sorts of backgrounds. There are very few NS men who do not look back with warm memories. Many decided to sign on as regular servicemen, and two of these rose to the rank of Field Marshall.



At the same time, we must not forget that there were many trouble spots in the world, which is why there was National Service in the first place. Many saw active service in Korea, Malaya, Kenya, Egypt and a host of other places. It is a sobering thought that 395 young National Servicemen died in these wars.

There are very few memorials to National Service, but High Wycombe has one. Set back from the pavement in the garden by the old library it reads:

This memorial is to honour those young people of this District conscripted for National Service from 1945 until 1963. They served in all the Nation's Armed Forces In search of some peace, some only finding death on active service

Long may their contribution be appreciated.

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Footpath report

Report by Nigel & Anna Bacon

We are nearly at summer and hopefully the footpaths will begin to dry up after quite a wet spring. The paths were very muddy and slippery.

As I write this, the wildflowers are beginning to come out: there are some carpets of celandine, wood anemones, dog violets, stitchwort with the bluebells now beginning to bloom. We have also noticed comfrey and borage near some footpaths.

We monitor the footpaths but are unable to clear big obstructions,



such as fallen trees but we can report such to either the landowners or the Chiltern Society who will endeavour to clear the paths.



If you come across any problems on the paths, please let us know on:

nbacon@doctors.org or
annabacon@thamesinternet.com

The countryside code can be found at <http://www.gov.uk/countryside-code> and gives helpful advice on how to make sure walkers enjoy the outdoors. It includes the following advice:

- do not light fires – extremely important during dry spells
- take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit
- always keep dogs under control and in sight, and clear up any mess they leave
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

A footpath map is available on the Lane End Parish Council website:
[https://
www.laneendparishcouncil.org.uk/
footpaths.php](https://www.laneendparishcouncil.org.uk/footpaths.php)

Enjoy walking the footpaths!

Places to picnic around Lane End

Report by Katy Dunn

Picnics are so underrated. And are an often overlooked pleasure these days. When was the last time you went on one?

When our kids were small, getting them out on a walk was sometimes a chore. But say we're going on a picnic, and their grumpy faces would light up with glee.

Yes, it's a bit of a hassle to load up backpacks—but you'd be making the food anyway. It's not such a stretch to put the sandwiches in some reusable plastic boxes or bags. Throw in a couple of packs of crisps, batons of carrot and cucumber, a few grapes, some water bottles, biscuits or cake and there you have it—a fabulous picnic!

When you'd like to see friends or family and can't quite face the expense, or the stress and hassle of tidying the house for entertaining at home, a picnic is a great way of sharing the load. Everyone contributes and a simple lunch becomes a varied feast.

Children love it because they get a taste of freedom. They feel secure enough to play and explore, because you're anchored to your picnic blanket and not going anywhere.

There's a relaxed atmosphere because you're outside in nature - even the grumpiest can usually be persuaded into a spot of frisbee.

Tempted? Of course you are! So the next thing is to decide where to go. The mistake is making this decision a bigger deal than it needs to be. You don't need to go far to benefit from all the great things about a picnic when you live where we do.



We have so many commons around us that are protected by laws that expressly enable us to play and picnic and roam about on them wherever we like.

Here are some great options for picnic venues where you won't have to walk far:

Ditchfield Common by the church

If you're facing the front of the

church, veer left and you're on Ditch-field Common. Halfway along you'll come across a bench. It's a great spot to stop and have a picnic. There's a road, but the grass and flowers are left to grow long around the perimeter of the common so there's a natural barrier.

There's plenty of room to run around and play frisbee or football as half of the common is regularly mown. The other half is kept long as orchids and other interesting flowers grow there in summer. See if you can spot the beautiful bee orchid—when you see it you'll see how it got its name.

Moorend Common

On the road to Frieth just before you get to the crossroads, there are two laybys. Either walk down there, or park in either layby and follow the paths into the meadow. It's a dreamy place to while away an afternoon. The road is close, but it's very peaceful and there's a line of trees to stop anyone straying onto the road.

You can wander into the woods or stay on the meadow. There are or-

chids to spot here in June too, or in July keep an eye out for the Purple Emperor butterfly, which you might see as a flash of royal purple.

Picnic wins

✋ They don't cost a thing

✋ They get your children out on a walk without the tantrums

✋ Tea party snack food, what's not to like?!

✋ A great way to get friends / family together without the stress of entertaining at home

✋ Spending time outdoors reduces anxiety

✋ Happy-tired kids at the end of the day



Wheeler End Common

A bit bigger and more open on the Piddington side, there's plenty of room to run and play. Children are often intrigued by the forest school area in the dip, and the old gnarled trees which border it.

Cadmore End Common

Cadmore End Common is a rambling wooded common accessible from over the motorway bridge by Kensham Farm, from two places on Bolter End Lane; just after the motorway bridge and further along where the Wheeler End track meets the road.

I always find that I'm ever so slightly lost on Cadmore End Common. It's not a scary feeling, because it's not big, and there are several houses scattered amongst it and you can always orient yourself from the sound of M40 if you need to.

It feels quite mysterious and exciting to explore because you'll be walking through the woods and then come across a glade with a collection of pretty cottages in it, or a magnificent gnarled veteran tree, or once, we came upon a brilliantly exciting rope swing which arced out over the slope of a former chalk pit.

There are several ponds in Cadmore End Common with places you can picnic overlooking the water.



Easy picnic tart recipe

Ready-made puff pastry sheet

Splash of olive oil or slice of butter

2 leeks

100g crème fraiche

3 eggs

1 lemon, zested

Pack smoked salmon trimmings

Soft herbs of your choice

To make:

Heat the oven to 180C

Chop the leeks into rounds

Heat the oil/butter and gently fry the leeks with a pinch of salt until soft.

Whisk the crème fraiche with the eggs, zest, salt, pepper and herbs

Unroll the puff pastry sheet onto a large baking tray and score a 2cm border lightly around the edge.

Spread the leeks then scatter the smoked salmon evenly within the border.

Carefully pour over the egg mixture and bake for approx 25mins until the pastry is puffed up and golden at the edges.

You could use chopped ham instead of smoked salmon if you prefer.

A picnic can be as simple as you like, but here are some things you might like to take with you:

Laceys' sausage rolls, samosas

Small sandwiches

Quiches or tarts

Crisps or breadsticks and dips such as hummus

Carrot and cucumber batons

Apples, grapes, melon slices
drinks

Beware chocolate biscuits or
buttercream-iced cakes as they
can melt in the sun

Sanitising gel, kitchen roll or wet
wipes for sticky fingers

Knife with knife cover if you're
taking a cake (or pre-slice)

Forks for salads

Re-usable plastic cups / plates if
needed for salads

Bin bag for taking rubbish home

Hat and suncream

Bite and sting cream (because
someone nearly always ends up
in the nettles!)



the gardener

When you need a green-fingered hand, get the gardener in.

- ✓ Beds and borders groomed and maintained
- ✓ Planting, pruning, weeding and turfing
- ✓ Pots & planters to pondcare & hedges
- ✓ Quality composts and soil delivered

One-off visits and regular arrangements

Warren Detsinyi
the.gardener@hotmail.com
M: 07703 342671
The Willows, Frieth



Finings Wood update

Report by Katy Dunn



Sponsored walk

Thanks to everyone who supported the sponsored walk on 23 April to raise money to help buy Finings Wood for the community. We were nervous when the black clouds were gathering in the morning, but in the end the conditions were perfect for a challenging and glorious walk.



We had wonderful feedback from people who had lived in the area for years but had never explored some areas of the route, they said we'd 'opened their eyes to the beauty of the area'.



This picture reminds me that it wasn't all plain sailing—some of the direction arrows were removed and torn up—presumably because some walkers thought there was going to be a bike ride directed along footpaths. This was because a Marlow cycling club had kindly lent us their signs. Thanks very much to Allen Lewis for organising the arrows for us, and for taking these lovely pics. Fortunately, most people managed to find their way along the route OK.

Thanks also to Louise Meakes who organised and manned the BBQ, plus the Twitchen family who ran the

cake stall and all the other volunteers who helped out on the day. Particularly 10yr old Arthur Bowley who was a fiendishly good salesman on the cake stall.

Thanks to everyone's hard work, we made more than £2,500 for the fund to buy Finings Wood. Hedgebeard was very happy with that.



Grant applications are in

In other news, Finings Wood Community Group committee have lodged not one, but two substantial grant applications in the last couple of months. One is to the Government's Community Ownership Fund and another to the National Lottery.

Anyone who has ever submitted one of these grant applications will know that there's a lot of research and work involved in preparing them. We really hope that one or both are

successful, wish us luck!

As a reminder, or for anyone who's reading this for the first time—we've set up a charitable organisation to raise funds to buy Finings Wood. It covers a swathe of land between Lacey's Family Farm and Lane End village, up the rise and down the valley towards Frieth Road.

The woodland is up for sale and we're concerned about it being bought by wood-lotters, who would split it up, restricting access and having a detrimental effect on nature and wildlife.

We have lots of great plans as to how the community could make more use of the woodland for activities, recreation and learning about nature.

The next events we're looking forward to are Open Farm Sunday at Lacey's on 11 June and Lane End Fete on 17 June. Do come along and see us at one or both of those. We'd love to hear your views and tell you more about the wonderful place that is Finings Wood.

finingswood.org.uk

Follow **Lane End Finings Wood Community Group** on Facebook

Donate to the purchase of
Finings Wood via Paypal at
paypal@finingswood.org.uk

Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory

01494 883878

leycc@hotmail.co.uk

www.leycc.co.uk

Do you attend a weekly class at the Centre? Have you attended a party in the main hall? Does your furry friend enjoy dog agility here every Saturday morning? Do you socialise with friends over coffee or lunch in our Maher room? Do you drop your children to Playscheme during the school holidays?

If you answered NO, then you don't know what you are missing. The Centre is located next to Lane End School, near Londis, and is waiting to welcome you to join us.

We are a registered Charity, but we rely heavily on income from private hires and fundraising events to cover running costs and to enable the building to continue providing a service for our community. Next year we will be celebrating the Centre's 20th Birthday and have lots planned for the whole neighbourhood in the celebrations – watch this space!

Please add 'Lane End Youth & Community Centre' on Facebook, The Centre is here for the community, so please support it.

40 People enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea over the Easter holidays. Local families loved the Easter Egg bingo and tuck shop. EVERY single child left winning a prize, it was a great success.

Playscheme enjoyed a surprise visitor who brought chocolate gifts, plus we took 30 children on a coach trip to the Bowling Alley – it was so much fun and the children were perfectly behaved.





Having a party? - The Centre is so versatile and can be used for many different events/

Celebrations. Drop Emma an email at leycc@hotmail.co.uk to check availability and prices.

FOOD & TOILETRY DONATIONS URGENTLY REQUIRED.

Email -
leycc@hotmail.co.uk
 if you can help or need some help.



On at Lane End Youth and Community Centre:

Monday	Coffee morning 10am—12noon Gentle exercise 2.30—3.30pm Meditation and Breathwork 7.30pm
Tuesday	Self Defence with Ultra Krav Maga 7pm
Wednesday	Junior Youth Club 6—8pm
Thursday	Zumba Gold 10.30—11.15am Drop-in lunch 12noon
Friday	Lane End Food Bank 8.45—11am
Saturday	Dog training with Bells and Whistles
Sunday	Self Defence with Ultra Krav Maga 9am

» Include your
events here.

Email details to:
katyjdunn@btinternet.com

What's On?

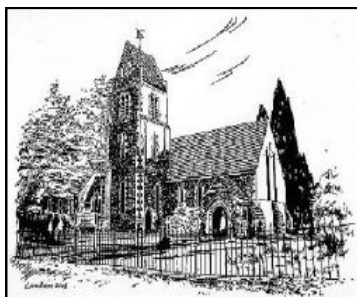
To include your event or group meeting (free) email: katyjdunn@btinternet.com
Please also be sure to inform me of any changes on katyjdunn@btinternet.com

» 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



» Village tidy

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

» Tai Chi

Monday 2.30-3.30 Gentle Tai Chi
LEYCC Community Centre.

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

🌸 Lane End Music Festival

Saturday 3 June. Live music, wrestling, two bars, ice cream and street food. Tickets £5 from the Sports Club at the Playing Fields. Keep up to date by following Lane End Playing Fields on Facebook.

🌸 Coffee morning

Mondays 10am – 12noon for coffee and homemade cakes, and Thursdays 12noon for drop-in lunch. LEYCC Community Centre. Tel 883878

🌸 Junior youth club

Wednesdays 6-8.30pm at LEYCC 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 / sc@rolecity.co.uk

🌸 Self defence classes

Self defence classes are Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings with Ultra Krav Maga at the Community Centre. Contact Marc on 07774 633209
[email raretalent@me.com](mailto:raretalent@me.com)

🌸 Drop in lunch

Anyone welcome to join us, Thursdays 12 noon at LEYCC community centre. Tel 883878

🌸 Meditation and Breathwork

Mondays 7.30pm LEYCC Community Centre. Contact 07958 119910 / bedouinbreathwork@gmail.com

🌸 Dog training

Saturday mornings at the Community Centre 9am-12noon.
Bellsandwhistlesbehaviour.co.uk

🌸 Little Fishes baby group

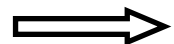
Baby and toddler group for children aged 0-4 years and their parent/ carer at Elim Church Lane End every Wednesday morning in term time. 9-11am. Free, with coffee and snack provided, songs, bible crafts, toys and stories.

🌸 Lane End Players

Summer Variety Show 13/14/15 July
Book via the website:
laneendplayers.com

🌸 Zumba Gold

Low-impact classes, on Thursdays 10.30am-11.15am in Lane End Youth and Community Centre. £6 or buy 5 classes and get 6th class free. Contact Jennifer, 07595869012, jennifer.morais.zumba@outlook.com



Forget me knot café

Last Tuesday of every month 2-4pm, Ridley Manor. Helping people and families living with dementia. There'll be a discussion topic, guest speaker or presentation as well as light refreshments each session. Come along for a chat and meet with others who understand

what it means to live or care for someone with memory loss.

Language classes

'Français à pied' 11-12 on the first Friday of the month. A walk around the village to practise your spoken French. We speak (almost!) exclusively in French during this session as we stroll.

German 'Kaffeeklatsch': 12-1pm on the Second Tuesday of the month. Coffee and chat usually about a social interest or a current affair issue.

Contact FlexiTalk on 07974 738266 or head to www.flexitalklanguages.webs.com for details.

Socratots

Football for ages 1-4 in Lane End village hall Thursdays 9.30-10.10 am. Tel 07545 148201

Lane End food bank

Every Friday 8.45-11am. Everyone welcome, take what you need or donate what you can. LEYCC

Four Ends Flower Club

Demonstrations are held on the fourth Thursday of the month starting at 12.45pm in the main hall in the village hall. £7 for visitors. No meeting in August and the December meeting is the second Thursday. Email margaret@ihcvenues.com for details.

Takeaways

Oliveros stone-baked pizza van in the village hall car park every **other** Thursday. Order via Oliveros.co.uk

Howe & Co fish & chip van—Tuesday eves in Lane End and Bolter End. Track the van at: howeandcofishandchips.co.uk

Home library service

If you are a full-time unpaid carer or find it difficult to visit your local library due to age, poor mobility or health we can arrange for a volunteer to visit you with books, audiobooks or large print on a regular basis.

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Lane End fête 17 June

By Alison Hartnett



The fete team has been working hard behind the scenes with the preparations for this years fete and dog show which will be held on Saturday 17 June 2023 12 - 4pm.

The 1st prize for the Grand Draw this year is a whopping £200 in cash. Plus other prizes including a Fixed Wing Flying Lesson at Booker Airfield, a haircut from Gateway Barbers, a cream tea from Strawberry Grove and many, many more.

Tickets will be available on the day

and they sold out very quickly last year. If you would like to pre-order and pay before the fete, contact the organiser Alison Hartnett, details are below.

The zippy dipper will be back in action as will the ever-popular dog show, judged this year by Cherry Tree Vets.

A lot of local community groups will be there to meet and greet, such as Finings Wood Community Group, Lane End Primary School, Elim Church, The Lane End Players, Lane End Community Centre and Food Hub and more.

There will be lots of games to take part in and a lot of our stall holders are returning again and will be selling their wares.

There will be food and drink and Rebellion Beer will be flowing at the bar. Sepia Tone Folk Collective will be providing live music throughout.





To celebrate their centenary, North's Garage will be sponsoring us. All the proceeds of the fete and dog show go towards the upkeep of Lane End Village Hall, which is a registered charity and is reliant upon charitable donations.

All we need now is some good weather to make this another great village day. So come on down on the day and support your local communities and businesses and take part in the fun.

Volunteer!

It's not too late if you would like to take part in any capacity. Volunteers are always welcomed and if you would like a stall send a message to:

LEVFADS@outlook.com

Facebook - Lane End Village Fete and Dog Show

Instagram - Lane_End_Village_Fete



Bird call ID app

Although belied by the current temperature in late April, Spring is here and the birds are active, producing early every morning our wonderful dawn chorus. Our gardens usually feature robins, wrens (pictured), blackbirds, song thrushes, chiffchaffs and other, harder to spot species. The daylight hours are filled with the chatter of returning swallows and house martins, and the screams of swifts.

It got me thinking: a fledgling and observant bird-watcher will quickly recognise our most common and prominent birds as they go about their daily business, but how do you spot and identify the more reclusive types, especially as the leaves grow out and hide them?



Using ears as well as eyes is the answer but this is much more difficult. You can Google individual birdsong to try to memorise at home, but it is very different when you are 'in the field' and catch only snatches of birdsong, often being transmitted simultaneously with other species.

The answer is to use an App on your phone and I discovered the best one recently: Merlin Bird ID, published by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in the USA. Once you have downloaded the birds of Europe or Great Britain, you can switch on sound identification when you hear a bird and it will tell you which bird it is.

On walks, I often switch it on for ten minutes to see what it picks up and you can check what you have or haven't seen. It also will play professionally recorded songs of the birds in question, so you can compare your recording.

Mind you, it is not infallible: at Otmoor near Oxford recently, it told me I had heard a loon, or diver, of which three species can be seen in seas around Britain, but mainly off Scotland! In a Surrey wood, where I definitely heard a blackcap, it identified that as well as a nightingale: I wonder...

Lane End Conservation Group

Report by Katy Dunn

I'm a member of Lane End Conservation Group, but an infrequent visitor on Action Days due to Saturday morning child taxiing commitments. However, I always enjoy it when I do go, as it's so friendly and there's a way to get involved for every level of strength, fitness and interest.

If you're a keen walker and keeping the footpaths clear is important to you, you can head off with some secateurs and/or loppers with path clearing group.

The green-fingered gardeners get

great satisfaction from keeping the Harris Garden (on the corner between the pharmacy and McColls) looking beautiful. And it really does—hats off to them.



If you like to see our village looking tidy, you can head out with Linden and the litter pickers. She has plenty of spare picker-upper devices (I'm sure there must be a name for them) so you don't have to get your hands dirty or keep bending over to pick up the litter.

Sometimes a group will head down to Moorend Common (which I'm so grateful for as I'm volunteer warden for this designated Site of Special Scientific Interest). There, the team really get stuck in to some serious conservation work, working up a sweat clearing scrub with bow saws or, like last time, monitoring squirrels. We were looking for squirrels, drays and signs of bark damage on the trees.

It's interesting, active and varied work, so do join us!

Get Lane End buzzing

Report by Donna Graham



A Lane End Parish Council Environmental Initiative was launched in March with the 'Get Lane End Buzzing – Nectar Fuel Station Project & Earth Week Poster Competition'. This project's aim was to encourage community participation to address the reduction in the last 20 years in pollinating insect populations.

660 envelopes containing British wildflower seeds were distributed to the three local primary schools, the village scout group, local community, and church groups to plant in window boxes, pots, or half-metre square area of gardens. Once germinated, the seeds will act as nectar fuel stations supporting the populations of pollinating insects across our parish.

The uptake was so positive that a further 600 packs were provided for residents to collect from Lacey's Farm Shop, Strawberry Grove, and Panache Hair and Beauty.

In conjunction with the 'Nectar Fuel Station Seeds' project, Lane End Primary school children were invited to participate in an Earth Day poster competition. We had a wonderful response with over 140 children submitting their posters.

Well done to the runners up: Phoebe, Darcey, Eleanor, Andre, Hannah, and Elliott.

Congratulations to the three winners: (shown consecutively below):
Ida, Lottie and William





Lane End Twinning Association

<https://www.laneendtwinning.co.uk>



@laneendtwinning

LANE END

Twinning with
St Pierre d'Oléron

So Much More Than Just a Sign

Like the UK, France prepared for King Charles's Coronation, and Oléron was no exception. Cocktail parties were held together with the provision of large galettes emblazoned with the King's cypher. I do hope that Lane End had a big party.

Further news from the island is that Oléron's Hotel and Holiday Accommodation Collective will be in the Constitutional Court on 27 May to insist that Airbnb are forced to pay over 30 million Euros in taxes. You may not be aware but Airbnb has come under sustained attack in France for their business model and particularly in major cities.

Other interesting news is that since the New Year, 186 sacks of wine corks have been collected from islanders for recycling. This would seem to suggest that wine still remains the favourite tippie for the Oléronaise; will Lane Enders join them in the enjoyment of wine?

Another talking point on the island is the 15% increase in the price of oysters. Furthermore, many oyster growers are concerned about the importation of immature oysters from Ireland. These oysters are then 'grown on' and sold as oysters from

Oléron and Marennes. It is all very interesting.

I am pleased to say that for the very first time, local British residents were invited to remember Flight Lieutenant Richard CURLE RAF who died exactly 80 years ago and is buried in the cemetery at Chateau D'Oléron.

Full details of his death on 4/5 March 1943 are given at <https://aircrewremembered.com/curle-richard.html> The picture shows the ceremony at his graveside. Furthermore, invitations have also been received for the afternoon of commemorations on 30 April at Le Grand Village Plage for the liberation of the Oléron from German occupation in April of 1945!

May I wish you all an enjoyable time at the Lane End Fete and Dog Show on 17 June!





Beekeeping in Lane End

By Richard Hicks



June is the high tide of the beekeeping year in Lane End. The hive is at its most populous, the queen is laying at her maximum rate of almost 2,000 eggs per day and a busy hive can contain almost 50,000 bees. Growth on our commons and fields is at its peak, with orchids, blackberries and a wealth of flowers colouring the fields and roadside verges.

Whilst bees forage for pollen and nectar in every month of the year if the weather allows, there are only a few relatively short periods where enough can be collected to store as honey – these periods are known to beekeepers as a ‘flow’. There’s a flow in early spring when the first flowers appear and one in autumn comprising mainly of ivy nectar.

The spring flow is mainly used to rear broods and seldom produces enough of a surplus for the beekeeper to use. And the ivy honey gathered in autumn is usually left to keep the bees going over winter.

The summer is the when the most prolific flow occurs and the biggest surplus is stored.

The old beekeepers used to refer to a ‘June gap’ as the period of time between the spring flowering period and the summer flow. With little to do the bees spend a lot of time in the hive and can become quite spiteful. Any hive inspection is always exciting. Woe betide you if you accidentally forget to zip your beesuit!

Everything changes around 25 June. There is then a period of around three weeks when frenzied activity overtakes the hives and the bees fly from dawn to dusk gathering nectar. During this period a strong hive can gather 70lbs of honey - this is when the beekeeper earns his money for the year! Whilst bees are wild creatures, the art of beekeeping is to ensure that the hives are ready to take advantage of this annual bounty by managing swarming and choosing the fittest queens.

We are very lucky in Lane End to still be surrounded by commons, woods and grassland that has not been ploughed. This provides a wonderful variety of nectar sources but generally bees, like humans, look for the

greatest payback for the least effort. Those plants that provide the greatest volume and most concentrated nectar are worked preferentially by the bees.

Watching the bees as they arrive back at the hive with their pollen loads on their back legs enables you to see by the colour which flowers they've visited. I suspect that in our area blackberry with its light grey pollen provides the majority of the nectar used by the bees in the summer.

The different soils in Lane End contribute to the variety of plant species – the clay on Moorend common being more resistant to drying out in hot summers and the chalk grassland in the Hambleden valley supporting clover and other nectar rich species.

Around 14 July it is almost like a tap has been turned off. The majority of summer flowers have finished and in many years the remaining plants become desiccated in the summer heat. Most of the worker bees that were born in April and May live around 36 days and literally work themselves to death and die out in the fields.

The queen, sensing the shortening of the days and the reduced flow of nectar, lays fewer eggs and the hive numbers start to fall. The young bees born now will live six months and fly again in the spring. The bee-keeper then turns his mind to the laborious job of honey extraction but that's another tale.

If you'd like to buy some of our Lane End honey, please email me on richard.hicks50@btinternet.com





New film studio at Booker gets the go-ahead

Full planning permission has been granted for the new eight-stage film studio at Booker Airfield.

Stage one has already been built, tested and is ready for production. The rest of the campus, including workshops, production offices, rehearsal and support spaces will be complete in 18 months.

As one of the closest new studio developments to London, it's in a perfect location with many film industry suppliers and crew based in High Wycombe. It will support around 1,200 jobs including training opportunities for young people who want to

enter the film industry.

James Enright, CEO of Stage Fifty, said: 'Wycombe Film Studios will be a unique creative space that works for everyone. We'll deliver the same high level of service and personal attention to clients here as we do at Farnborough Film Studios and Winnersh Film Studios. Across our UK locations, we'll offer the industry over 20 sound stages supporting a combination of large, medium and small-budget films and HETV, from Hollywood blockbusters to independent film and television. We also plan to build live broadcast sound stages for homebound unscripted television.'



Stage Fifty has developed new technologies and innovative ways to build its studios more sustainably. Wycombe Film Studios claims impressive eco credentials, with green spaces designed throughout the site, creating new habitats for wildlife.



Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, said: Buckinghamshire is the home of the UK's film industry, so we're delighted that planning permission has now been granted for Wycombe Film Studios. With its state-of-the-art facilities, the studios will be a hub of creativity. They'll also be a catalyst for economic growth in the area, generating around 750 di-

rect jobs and a further 450 indirect jobs, as well as providing new opportunities for education and training.

'Buckinghamshire has a rich history of attracting TV and film productions to the county, thanks to its vibrant towns, historic buildings and picturesque landscapes – and the new studios are sure to build on this success.'



Milk Men

with Will Lacey 



Open Farm Sunday 11 June

Sunday 11 June is our annual farm Open Day. This is something we have done for a number of years now, and really pleased to be able to do. Last year was the first time since Covid and the demand was huge! We had 2600 people come and visit the farm, meet the animals, have a ride on a tractor and trailer and visit the farm shop, and it doesn't look as though this year will be any smaller.

Open Farm Sunday is a national initiative to get people on to farms and learn about where their food comes from and what happens in your local countryside. We are so lucky in this area to have such beautiful countryside, and we get to work in it every day. It is wonderful to be able to show that off, and talk about how we manage the land in the best interests of our cows and our native wildlife.



This year we will have our milking demonstrations - join the cows in the milking parlour to see how calm and relaxed the cows are. Tractor and trailer rides will take you on a tour of the farm to see cattle grazing in the fields, different crops that we are growing and some of the environmental work we are doing. Back in the barn we will have cows, calves, sheep, chickens and a horse for you to meet, tractors to sit on and loads of information about our farm and farming in general.

We will have a BBQ, bar and refreshments and the farm shop will have a number of local producers on display, as well as a great selection of produce and special offers. Tickets must be booked online, which you can access via our website.

There are 30min time slots for entry to help us control the crowds, but you are welcome to stay as long as you like once you are in. Please book early as we are expecting to sell out.

Elsewhere on the farm, we are still hoping for some dry sunny weather. Although rain is good for grass growth, the lack of sunshine and warmth is slowing the speed at which grass is growing (which should be at top speed at the minute) and delaying some of our field work.

As I write this, we are still waiting to plant our maize seed. The conditions are too wet to get the drill across the ground to plant the seed - at least there is some moisture for



the seed once we can get it planted. We are hoping it dries out this week so we can begin harvesting grass next week for winter cow feed.

In the farm shop we have seen a big interest in BBQ goodies in the few small windows of sunshine we have had, and with plenty of Coronation parties, fetes and BBQ it has kept our whole team busy. Our butchers are always busy checking the weather forecast as much as the farmers to try to predict what our customers might like to buy.



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LEAF Open Farm Sunday is managed by LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming). Charity no 1045781

Martha's baking column

By Martha Foster-Will



Lemon Cheesecake

Hi! I thought that I would share a family favourite of mine: lemon cheesecake.

This is an easy recipe with a fabulous end result. With the combination of the sweetness of the base and sour savouriness of the top, it comes together to form a delicious pudding.

Method:

1. First, crush up the digestives and gingernuts by either putting them in a bag and smashing them with a rolling pin or use a food processor. Then melt the butter in a pan, take off the heat and add in the brown sugar and crushed biscuit crumbs.
2. Line a baking tray with baking parchment and push the crushed biscuit mixture into the bottom, creating a firm base. Place this in the fridge while you make the top.
3. Beat together the cream cheese, caster sugar, lemon zest and lemon juice until smooth and creamy.
4. Spoon the cream cheese mixture on top of the crushed biscuit base and smooth it over.
5. Leave in fridge to chill for a few hours.
5. Serve fresh and return to fridge once finished serving. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 55g gingersnap biscuits
- 55g digestive biscuits
- 50g butter
- 350g cream cheese
- 75g caster sugar
- 25g light brown soft sugar
- 1 lemon, zested
- 90ml lemon juice



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Scouts



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308008

Whilst writing this, the weather is showery, some heavy, others just irritatingly wet. That doesn't stop us here at Lane End Scouts getting ready for our summer camps in June as we all know, preparation is key in everything we plan.

On one of those typical rainy April evenings, the Scouts practised camp cooking on open fires, Trangia's and gas. They need to be prepared to carry this out on camp where sometimes weather conditions can be challenging, so they soldiered on with the planned evening.

We start with the basics, so porridge and eggs for breakfast and we'll move on to lunches and dinners as the term progresses, using all manner of methods to cook with. Among them is an earth oven that will be used on camp for the older sections.



At its most basic, this is a pit dug into the ground which traps heat to enable baking, smoking, and steaming of food.



The scouts will prepare the oven and the fire using traditional methods and a stew to cook within it and move off for the day to undertake a hike, returning many hours later to uncover the cooking pot full of slow cooked goodness. This method of cooking has been in use for thousands of years and has assisted in proof of settlements by archaeologists.

Food prep and the ability to cook are an integral element of being on camp, as is the washing up. What is being taught to these young people

now will stay with them as they carry out hikes, travel, move on to university and set up homes themselves.



We'll also be attending the village fete later in the year, where we will have a number of frustrating side-shows on offer, toilet golf being a firm favourite. We will assist with the set up for the Lane End Branch of the Royal British Legion, who are our officially affiliated partners.

Numbers at the group are now back to pre-pandemic levels and we have been lucky in our recruitment of new leaders to support our growing group. Three new members have come on board this year already. One is a former member of the group who has now finished university and wants to come back and continue their Scouting as an adult.



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On the land

with Bryan Edgley 



This is the time of year when the fields which are growing cereal crops will have already received most of the treatments that they need to yield well. There are two main categories of treatment. Firstly those to provide fertility, and secondly those designed to protect the growing crops from peat or plant diseases.

Fertiliser supplied in a bag provides plant nutrients, supplemented by farmyard manure, crop residues or green crops incorporated into the soil to boost the natural fertility of the fields. Protection from plant diseases or pests, or competition from weeds, is normally provided by sophisticated products, developed by agricultural research scientists since the Second World War.

Most of our winter wheat has come through and looks promising as we come into the summer, but a few of the chalkier fields have suffered from frost lift. This occurred when the soil was saturated after heavy rain, then when frost followed it froze the wet soil, thus lifting the young wheat plants and damaging their root system.

Looking now in more detail at these treatments—last season on one of our typical fields, a wheat field of 12.9 hectares (32 acres) known as Herrings, a sequence of crop treatments can be listed as:

August 2021

When harvesting the previous crop, we chopped the straw into short lengths spread out evenly, with a fan inside the combine harvester, over its full cutting width of 30 feet. Soon after harvesting, this chopped straw was incorporated into the soil, using a shallow cultivator, to add to the natural humus and fertility of the soil.

Late September 2021

Volunteer seedlings from the previous crop were sprayed off with Roundup herbicide, based on glyphosate, with an insecticide to guard against aphids, mixed together in the tank of the sprayer (a 'tank mix')

October 2021

We seeded the seed wheat on 8

October 2021, in preparation for harvest 2022. We used our Dale seed drill, which makes a shallow trench only 3-4cm deep into which it meters out the seed wheat. These new seeds were then rolled in with our Cambridge ring roller.

On 12 October, four days after seedling, we sprayed pre-emergence herbicide. This leaves a light coating of herbicide on the soil, before the new crop emerges, which will kill any emerging weed seeds as they try to poke through the soil crust. However the emerging shoots of the new wheat seedlings are stronger, and will not be adversely affected by the thin crust of pre-emergence spray.

November 2021

During a crop inspection, some aphids had been seen on the growing seedlings, so an insecticide was sprayed, to prevent the aphids from causing barley dwarf yellows in later stages of the crop development.

March 2022

The first crop treatment after the

dormant winter months was applied on 14 March 2022, when we sprayed a second treatment of herbicide to control blackgrass and other grass weeds in the growing crop.

April and May 2022

The crop grows rapidly in April and May and needs constant vigilance, so that any mildew type conditions can be controlled with fungicide before it gains a hold. The first spray treatment in this critical period of growth was on 9 April, with a tank mix of a fungicide mixed with two different types of growth regulator.

Growth regulators are crop protection chemicals, which cause the growing plant to grow shorter but stronger, with a stronger root system. Growth regulators were first developed by scientists in 1965. They are now so commonly used that we rarely see any lodged crops, which have outgrown their own strength, and have thus been flattened by wind, especially in a wet season.



The second tank mix applied in this period was on 28 April, when we sprayed a tank mix of two different fungicides, mixed with two different growth regulators. Then on 17 May the crop was sprayed again, this time with a tank mix of three different fungicides and two different broadleaf weed herbicides, mixed with a wetting agent.

June 2022

The final crop protection treatment applied was on 7 June, with a tank mix of two different fungicides.

We use the crop protection product best suited to the condition of the individual crop in question, so that we can achieve good yields. All quite similar to modern medicines, which enable most of us to live long lives in good, or moderately good,

health. I am reminded of the short lives that were the norm in the time of our forebears, before the development of modern medicine, by one of the early pages of the original Burial Register in the archives of Holy Trinity Church. In that register each page has eleven entries, and on one of the pages in the mid-1800s only one of the eleven persons lived to the age of 46 years.

Current Work, in Spring 2023

The photos were all taken on 26 April. I do not want to confuse readers (or the editor!) with too much technical information, but agricultural engineers have made such huge improvements to the implements which are necessary for modern arable farming, that it is interesting to consider them, and perhaps mar-



vel at the way in which electronics have been harnessed to improve efficiency of production with large machines operated by a small, but highly skilled, workforce.

We now use an Amazone spinning disc fertiliser spreader, with spreading width of 30 metres. This is towed by the tractor, to which it is attached with two hydraulic pipes, to provide the drive for spinning the disc, together with several wires, linking the computer on the tractor with the mechanism on the spreader. This enables continuous weighing of the fertiliser remaining in the 8-tonne capacity hopper, so as to monitor and adjust the rate of fertiliser being spread over the 30 metre width which it covers.

Another photo shows the hopper being refilled by Kramer forklift truck, which lifts and loads two one-tonne bags at a time.

The photo of the sprayer, also made by Amazone, shows how its internal computer and monitoring control system is able to blank off some of its nozzles when a narrow part of the field is reached, so as to avoid overlapping and thus giving part of the crop a double dose of the necessary crop protection treatment.

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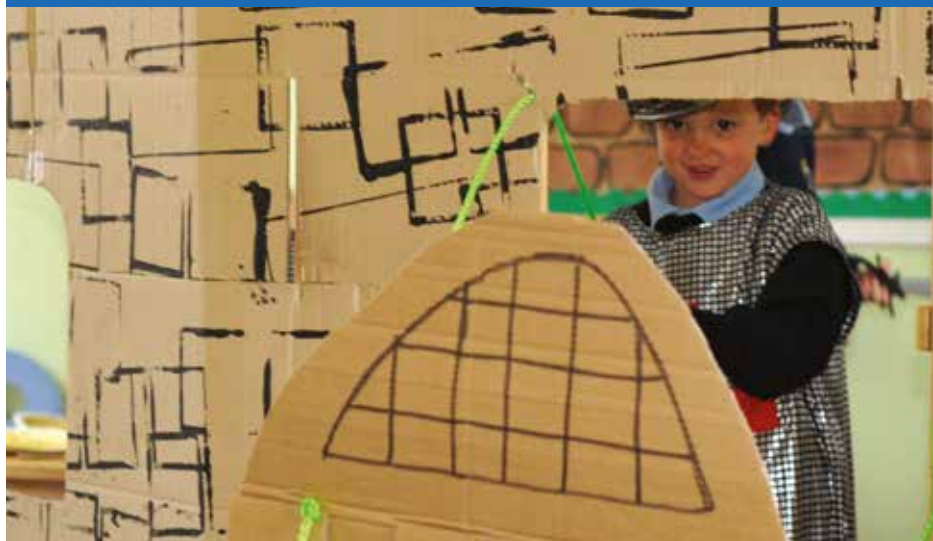
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Ask the: plumber

with Bill Blake 



'Bill – I think I may have a leak in my loft tank. There's water dripping from the ceiling at the top of the stairs.'

This is actually not an uncommon problem. In fact, I once had over a dozen in one month in Lane End alone, but not one of them turned out to be a leaking tank. All of them did, however, turn out to be a small hole in the top of the casing of the float operated valve that fills the cold water storage tank in the loft.

This is often a casting problem, leaving a thin spot in the casing. Hey presto, forty odd years later they all start wearing out causing a spout of water to shoot out of the hole at the top of the valve every time the valve opens.

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If there was one plant I could take to a desert island, it would be *Erigeron karvinskianus* 'Profusion'. There are plants that tick all my boxes, and this is one of them.

I discovered it a few years ago and I can't imagine a garden without it.

Erigeron can be grown directly in the ground and in pots, but what makes it even better is the fact that *Erigeron* will gently self-seed and grow anywhere, including in cracks of old

walls and between the paving slabs. *Erigeron* will soften the look of many corners of your garden, making even concrete look pretty. Seedlings can be easily transplanted if they grow in the wrong place and shared with friends and family, saving them money. *Erigeron* is not a cheap plant and if it hasn't self-seeded, propagating it is a very good idea.



WHEN AND HOW TO DO IT

To propagate, cut strong and healthy four inches long stems without buds on them in spring or summer.



Remove all the leaves from the lower two inches of the stem and place in a glass of water or in a pot with some general-purpose compost mixed with horticultural grit. Keep your cuttings in a light place, but out of direct sun. Your cuttings should easily root within 2-4 weeks depending on the conditions provided.

Erigeron is also very easy to grow from your own seeds. If you don't have this plant growing in your garden, you can collect seeds from friends and family or buy them online. Seeds can be collected from the moment your plants start flowering in spring until the last flower before the winter arrives. As the flowers fade, the seeds are produced and can be collected daily. Seeds

should be stored in a dry, dark and cool place.

Collecting your own seeds makes sense in case your plants get killed by the frost in winter. Erigeron is a tough plant, but I have lost my plants in the past. By collecting your own seeds, you'll become self-sufficient, and you'll never have to spend money on this plant again.

Your seeds can be sown under cover between February and April or directly in the garden between April and July.

Erigeron will thrive in full sun and well-draining soil, but it will also tolerate partial shade. This plant will flower between May and November and is also loved by pollinators.

Erigeron will look particularly lovely when planted in containers mixed with some ornamental grasses such as *stipa lessingiana* or with other plants such as *gaura*, brown fennel, *bacopa* or dahlias.



To get maximum results, I water my plants regularly and feed them once a week with my home-made comfrey feed.

Erigeron will benefit from pruning just after your plants came out of dormancy in spring or after flowering in late summer/ early autumn. Happy summer gardening!

For more inspiration and tutorials please follow me on Instagram @anya_thegarden_fairy where I share lots of practical advice and show you how to create a stunning and productive garden for a fraction of the cost.



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

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