

LEY HILL & BOTLEY

NEWS & VIEWS

SPRING 2023



Mad March Hares

**The boxing, leaping mad March hares
That chase and dash in umpteen pairs,
That tear through fields, and hare up hills.
All jealous Jacks, or Jacks and Jills
(The femme fatales, the luckless beaus)?
But are they crazy? No one knows...**

Published three times a year by the Ley Hill Memorial Hall Committee

Edited by Anne Birkett

CHURCH CHOIR CHARITY GIG!

LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH
THE GREEN, LEY HILL
BUCKS, HP53QR

Saturday 22nd April

LUNCH: 12PM (SOUP AND ROLL) CONCERT: 1PM

SO THAT WE HAVE AN IDEA OF NUMBERS, PLEASE EMAIL
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all proceeds go to



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TASTER EVENING

FRIDAY APRIL

14TH AT 6PM

9 HOLES FREE

LADIES GET INTO

GOLF OPEN DAY

APRIL 27TH

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AFTERNOON
SUNDAY MAY 14TH
FROM 2PM**



To register your interest email annebirkett@cheshamgolf.co.uk
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Ley Hill Methodist Church

Barn Dance

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Saturday 29th April 6pm – 9pm

At

Ley Hill Memorial Hall



Supper provided, bring your own drinks and glasses

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Children £5

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For information or booking please contact

Samantha.guerin@gmail.com

Tickets reserved on payment



Are you a plumber, electrician, beautician, party entertainer, driving instructor, window cleaner or someone who runs their own business? Or do you work for a company that would like to support a local school by advertising in our Summer Fair programme this year?

Every year, hundreds of people attend our Summer Fair. This year we are offering local companies the opportunity to advertise within the programme which will be handed out to every family on arrival. The event is planned for 1st July.

Half-page adverts are available in the full colour A5 programme for just £20 (15cm x 10.5cm) Spaces are limited! Please send your name, business name and contact phone number, along with your complete advertisement as a pdf or jpeg, for the attention of Claire Leek by Friday 19th May to friendsofleyhillsschool@gmail.com. Payment will be arranged on receipt of email.

If you have any queries, please use the email address above to get in touch.

Thank you for your support

Friends of Ley Hill School

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear All

March has arrived: the snowdrops are in full bloom, the catkins are blowing in the wind and the blue tits are nesting! Spring is on its way! But it's just started to snow! How we love the vagaries of the British weather!

But Spring is a time of new beginnings. Who hasn't thought about a doing bit of decorating, perhaps starting work in the garden or even booking a holiday for later in the year? We've just completed the first Litter Blitz of the year so the village is looking smarter for your spring time walks.

A family, who are starting a new life in our lovely village, are Dom and Julie Gamble– Kempe and family. They have recently moved into Birch Tree Grove. We extend a heartfelt welcome to you and any other newcomers to the village and hope you enjoy living in our very friendly and active community and look forward to meeting you very soon.

And as we welcome a new monarch, King Charles 111, our plans for the village Coronation celebration are well under way now. We think many people will like to watch the coronation so our celebration will start at 1pm on Saturday May 6th once the ceremony has taken place. Look out for further information of the day on the Parish Council noticeboards, email newsletter and social media. Do come along! Ley Hill is well known for its great village celebrations!

I hope to see you there!

Happy Easter!

Anne Birkett (Editor)

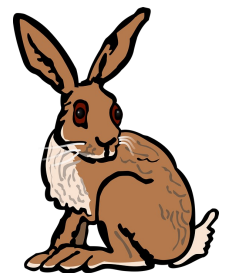
AS MAD AS A MARCH HARE

To be "as mad as a March hare" means to behave excitably and unpredictably and can refer to both people and animals. The idiom, which was first mentioned in the 16th century, describes the springtime escapades of hares, boxing each other and jumping vertically during the breeding season, mainly in March.

An early verbal record of this animal's strange behaviour occurred in about 1500, in the poem Blowbol's Test where the original poet said:

Thanne þey begyn to swere and to stare, And be as braynles as a Marshe hare
(Then they begin to swerve and to stare, And be as brainless as a March hare)

The phrase was popularised in more recent times by Lewis Carroll in his 1865 children's book Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, in which the March Hare is a character.



COPY DATE FOR SUMMER NEWS & VIEWS IS SATURDAY JULY 1st

VILLAGE CLUBS AND GROUPS

Badminton	Tuesday PM Memorial Hall	Amita Carr	778782
Ley Hill Cricket Club	Chairman Juniors Manager	Nick Lee Dave Peters	782813 07970726667
Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club	Ley Hill Common 8am—Dusk	Alex	784541
Toddler Group	Under 3 years & mums Weds in term time Chapel	Sam Guerin	Samantha.guerin@gmail.com
Beavers 1 st Tyler's Hill	6 -8 years Tues 5—6pm Memorial Hall	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
Emily's Dance Sch	2 -18 years Memorial Hall	Emily Harris	07423053556
Scouts 1 st Tyler's Hill	10-15 years Thurs 7 – 9pm Ley Hill School	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
Cubs 1st Tyler's Hill	8-10 years Memorial Hall Tuesday 6.15-7.45pm	Sheila Nardone	sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk
Brownies 1 st Tyler's Hill	7 – 10 years Bangay Rooms Friday 6.30pm – 8pm	Zoe Digby	fluffyowl.tylershill@gmail.com
Guides 1 st Tyler's Hill	10 – 14 years Bangay Rooms Monday 7.30pm – 9pm	Gayle Romney	784305
Coffee and Chat	Second Wednesday in every month 11am –12.30pm	Anne Birkett	773050
Chesvale Dog Training Club	Thursday 6.15 -10.15pm Memorial Hall	Carol Spencer	chesvaledogtrainingclub.org
Well Seasoned Club	Every other Tuesday 2.30pm Methodist Chapel	Lindsay Faulkner	783048
Women's Fellowship	1st Thursday of each month 2 - 4pm Bangay Rooms	Sheila Hart	785003
Youth Express 11years +	1st & 3rd Sundays from 6pm Ley Hill Methodist Chapel	Neil Rees	nwrees@gmail.com 258328
Yoga Class	Tuesday 9 -9.50am Memorial Hall	Emma Traill	hello@breathe-wellbeing.co.uk

FROM THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Chairperson is Sarah Peterson (776086)

Deputy Chair: tbd	David Darvell (786995)	Steve Thorp (785130)
Secretary: Chris Lewis (786958)	Margaret Faulkner (783048)	Catherine Harardi
Treasurer: Pete Churchill (776157)	Angela Gregory (773659)	Sally Greenhill
Booking Secretary: Claire Randall (783235)	Joe Walsh (786638)	Katie Naylor
	Neil Branscombe	Lesley Tinine

FRIENDS OF THE HALL

Some Hall Committee Members have decided to step down from the Committee after years of service and allow some new members to join. We are very pleased to welcome Katie Naylor (from Jasons Hill), Sally Greenhill (from Botley Road), Neil Branscombe (from Jasons Hill) and Lesley Tinine (from near the Hen & Chickens).

Those that have stepped down, along with some other lovely volunteers would like to be kept in touch with hall activities etc and to be able to help out at times. Therefore, we have set up a 'FRIENDS OF THE HALL' group that anyone is welcome to join. The 'Friends group' will be kept up to date with village events and activities by email.

If you or anyone would like to be a Friend of the Hall, please send you details (name and email) to my mobile (07799 478825) - we look forward to hearing from you, thank you,
Sarah (on behalf of the Memorial Hall Committee)

CLASSIS CARS ON THE COMMON



SAVE THE DATE FOR CLASSIC CARS ON THE COMMON 2023

Sunday August 13th 2023

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Spring hopefully will have sprung by the time you read this and the Coronation of King Charles III will be only a matter of weeks away. It has come round very quickly. However you will be pleased to know that, wearing one of her other hats, our very modest Editor of this erstwhile publication, Anne Birkett, got off to something of a flyer back in early January in her capacity as Chair of Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council to galvanise all the usual Ley Hill community groups into planning a typical Ley Hill celebration of a significant royal event, on Saturday 6 May. Keep it free.

Some details are still to be finalised but suffice it to say there will be plenty for everyone to enjoy on Saturday 6 May throughout the day. Without wishing to duplicate contributions elsewhere in this edition the Memorial Hall will play its part, hosting attractions for children as well as providing some refreshments. It turns out that contrary to possible expectations there is not to be a nationwide beacon chain lighting to mark the event. It was apparently considered, by the powers that be, to be too soon after the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to repeat this. There was a reluctance to be seen to be copying last year's celebrations.

Our event will be focussed at 'this end' of the Common, much of it in the area outside The Crown, and on the common land between the Crown and The Hall. Both the Hall and Chapel will be in use for activities on the day. There will be plenty of musical entertainment courtesy of The Crown and a huge variety of food and drink available to suit every taste. So look out for further details as the big day approaches and start praying please for a fine one weather-wise.

On the final Monday in January every year the Hall's governing body, The Ley Hill War Memorial Institute, holds its Annual General Meeting and thank you to those that came along. It is an opportunity to look back on the year just gone and it was a pleasure to see the use of the Hall in 2022 back to pre-Covid levels. The Jubilee weekend was probably the highlight but some one-off social events ran it close, notably the Classic Cars show which took place on a blazing hot day and amongst other things raised over £1,000 for Thames Valley Air Ambulance via a bucket collection. The Petersons ran two of their amazing quiz events, including supper, one of which paid for much of our Jubilee expenses and the second raised nearly £1,500 for the Rennie Grove Hospice. Local charities also benefitted from The Luvvies' Christmas Show and our Carol Singing event. Well done to all involved, notably Paul Woodstock and David Darvell respectively for the two Christmas events and of course Sarah and Dave Peterson for their fun quizzes. Our Classic Cars extravaganza has now become a major event in the annual calendar of vintage motor enthusiasts, something that Neil Lamond and his team can be extremely proud of. This was born many years ago after Sarah met Richard Johnson one day driving his mini steam engine up the golf course!



Ian Walter

NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

Like most organisations, an AGM often is the time for personnel change and there are a number of these to report. We were delighted that our plea in the last edition of News & Views for a few more volunteers to step forward and serve on the Management Committee did not fall on deaf ears and we have welcomed Steve Thorp, Katie Naylor, Sally Greenhill, Neil Branscombe and Lesley Tinine to our team. Thank you all. We are also starting up a new informal group, 'Friends of the Hall', who we can call upon to help out as required. Sarah Peterson has written separately about that in this edition. Why not make every reader of this magazine a Friend of the Hall! The more the merrier!

We have also had some notable goings too however. Lindsay Faulkner has been a Trustee of the Hall for longer than anyone can remember and a member of the Management Committee going back to the 1970s we reckon. His service to the Hall over half a century has been incredible, as we have made the most of his building industry experience in maintaining both our old wooden hall and the new hall which was finished for the Millennium. Lindsay would always volunteer to repair or modify something and probably saved the Hall many thousands of pounds in the process. His always cheery 'can do' demeanour lit up many a meeting.

I remember in particular his contribution to the Hall re-build. He was an invaluable member of the Re-build Committee, managing the tendering process when we had finally obtained the financial resources for the project to go ahead and working very closely with our builder, Wally Chesworth, throughout the project. Yet more thousands of pounds were saved thanks to Lindsay's knowledge and experience! Not only that, the project was completed on time ... just!

Lindsay has now decided to stand down as a Trustee and we shall miss his input enormously. On the plus side, his lovely wife Margaret is still on the Management Committee and over as many years has also contributed hugely to the Hall, not least in the catering department for 'umpteenth functions and for many years as Hall Booking Secretary. Lindsay and Margaret are the ultimate 'Friends of Ley Hill' and their contribution to Ley Hill's community for decades extends way beyond the Hall, as most of you will know and appreciate. Thank you Lindsay and long may your enormous input continue Margaret.

Another stalwart of the Management Committee deserving of mention here is Mike Appleby. Having recently retired as a renowned local GP Mike was looking for something to help fill his retirement and jumped at the opportunity to help the Hall out. After 15 years on the Management Committee he has decided to stand down but I am delighted to say he is continuing as a Trustee. Meanwhile we are delighted to welcome Anne Lee on board as a Trustee to replace Lindsay and bring our number back up to twelve. Anne too, was also a member of the Re-build Committee, albeit at least one generation and in some cases two generations, younger than the rest of it! Finally, if anyone has a burning desire to start up a new club or group and needs a venue, please contact our wonderful Bookings Secretary, Claire Randall. If you fancy starting something different ... indoor bowls perhaps, a film club, a photographic society, etc, please ask us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Ian Walter (ianwalter@btinternet.com), Trustee

1st TYLERS HILL BROWNIES

1st Tylers Hill Brownies have had another busy few months. In the last part of the Autumn term we thought about our promise and how we can make sure we keep it in our daily lives. We also continued our activities around teamwork and communication. We planned out things we might do in the future and discussed how everyone will do different things at a different time; and worked in teams to build a house of cards. We particularly enjoyed communicating via the medium of sculpture by playing 'Pictionary' with salt dough instead of drawing. A good (and rather sticky !) time was had by all; and we completed our Stage 2 Network skills builder badge.



We also celebrated Bonfire Night with a campfire, and decorated the bushes outside St George's Church with baubles ready for Christmas.

Our Christmas meeting was cancelled when the snow turned Tylers Hill Road into an ice rink but, not to be defeated, we made woolly Christmas trees in January and redesigned the planned reindeer hot chocolate cones into rabbits for Chinese New Year !

This term we are working on some fun challenge badges.

For the Rainbow Challenge, we had a very busy meeting playing a game and singing a song for every colour of the rainbow – we just managed to fit them all in to the meeting ! Since then we've made origami frog cup-and-ball toys (green), learnt how to light a candle (yellow), made sunset silhouette pictures (orange) and toasted marshmallows on a campfire (red).

We marked Thinking Day (the annual celebration of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world) with a world map scavenger hunt, a discussion about the Guide World Centres, and a beetle game building the promise badge from sweets to remind us what the difference elements of the badge represent.



As we move towards Easter we are starting on the Chocolate challenge badge – we expect this one to be very popular with the girls !!!

We've had lots of Brownies working on interest badges in the last few months – well done to Jenna, Fin, Polly, Eliza and Rachel who have all completed badges recently.



Thanks as always to Scops, Snowy and Swift for all their hard work and to the Brownies and parents for their enthusiasm.

If you have a daughter interested in joining Brownies, please drop me an email or register your interest at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter>

Fluffy Owl (Zoë Digby) Leader, 1st Tylers Hill Brownies fluffyowl.tylershill@gmail.com

1st TYLERS HILL GIRL GUIDES

Last term the Guides filled Christingle boxes and these were presented at St George's Christingle service in December.



Snow messed up the end of term but Zoë and Rosemary 'walked' the girls to Guides and they had a fun evening! Thanks Zoë and Rosemary. We then did our Christmas evening in January – making candy canes and peppermint creams.

This term we have completed the Smores Challenge – including toasting them on a fire pit in the car park – Guides (and Leaders) do enjoy having a real fire! We have also been doing UMAs and Skills Builders enabling Guides to complete 'Theme' awards.

In May we will be joining King Charles III's coronation celebrations at Ley Hill and a camp is being planned for June.

We are still a small unit and would welcome some more members. Parents of interested 10-14 year old girls should visit the Girlguiding website www.girlguiding.org.uk to express their daughter's interest and I will contact them.

Thanks, as always, to Rosemary, Zoë and the parents for their support giving the girls the opportunities that Guiding provides.

Gayle Romney Guide Leader gayle.romney@ntlworld.com

QUIZ AT THE CROWN EVERY SUNDAY

Join us for the Fun Quiz that is held every Sunday evening at The Crown!
An evening of relaxed quiz questions with fun in mind and cash prizes.
The quiz starts at 8.30pm and finishes at 10.00pm.
Try it and you'll want to do it again!!



Dave Peterson

ARE YOU LOOKING TO UPSIZE OR DOWNSIZE?

A couple of existing Ley Hill & Botley residents have mentioned that they are looking to move within the village area to either upsize or downsize. We wondered if it would be useful to set up a contact point for anyone in that situation which would enable them get in touch with anyone else in a similar situation that might want to do a house swap (or similar arrangement).

If this would be of any use to you, please text or call 07879 442118.

PHOTO CLASSES FOR THE FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW 2023

1. SUNSET
2. CORONATION

So head out and take some photos in preparation for the Show on Saturday 9th September.
Good Luck!

Sue Woodstock

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Spring Time: New Life



I'm sitting in front of the computer with an ever-growing to-do list facing me, yelling, screaming overwhelmingly. Distracted by what seems to be the impossible task of being motivated to try to tick one,

In constant battles with the energy company, who believe we owe an extreme amount of money too, children growing fast out of their clothes, and the cold, dark weather that seems to be a constant, I can feel a sense of hopelessness and despair.

Then I look up and stare into the world around me, and as I write this, the sun is shining, and its warmth, for the first time in a long time, is penetrating the glass and warming my skin. There are signs of new growth in the garden, and I am praying they are not weeds but plants and flowers regrowing after the frost destroyed all that I planted.

There are new sounds: birds singing their chorus as green inhabits the branches of trees, including branches that were naked and dead.

Seeing all this new life and new growth reminds me of our creator, who said that through death there is new life. That through Jesus' death, I am no longer condemned, and through His resurrection, I too have new life in Him.

Through Jesus, my feelings of hopelessness and despair evaporated into nothing. Yes, I am still fighting with the energy company, and my children will not stop growing, and yes, life is not a bed of roses, but the one truth remains that I am loved by God so much that He gave up His life for me to rise again so that I can live this life with joy and peace that cannot be taken away, and that this life is so brief in comparison to eternity in paradise.

This is what we remember and celebrate over Easter, that we are all invited to receive this new life and this new hope. We invite all of you to St. George's Church Tylers Hill to come and celebrate with us or to start that journey by asking all those questions that you have.

John 3:16 ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

You are all loved and welcome to join us,

Our services are every Sunday at 11:15 a.m., followed by refreshments.

As well as our services, we have the following that we would like to invite you all to.

Sunday, March 19th (Mother's Day) Afternoon tea and cake from 2pm until 4.30pm

Saturday, April 22nd, St. George's Day Spring Fayre from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with a ploughman's lunch

Sunday, May 21st A fun dog show at the Hen and Chicken from 1pm

If you have any questions, please contact me at vicar.darren@gmail.com

Sunday 19th February marked the first afternoon tea at St George's Church Hall, the Bangay Rooms. Walkers and well behaved dogs from Chesham and surrounding villages took advantage of the late winter sunshine to enjoy a ramble through our stunning countryside and were welcomed in to sample hot drinks and a selection of cakes. The hall was buzzing! Some even had a table outside in the sunshine. So successful was it that we're going to trial running a similar event on the 3rd Sunday of each month for the foreseeable future. Look out for reminders both in the local free monthly magazines, on the village notice boards and online. The next event will be on Sunday 19th March, Mothering Sunday. *Julie Rennard*

NATURE NOTES

FEATHERS! As spring unfolds with fresh colours, its glorious hues include the many different plumages of our garden and woodland birds. Feathers are the defining feature of birds, setting them apart from all other animals since the time of dinosaurs. Essential for flight and display, feathers also provide insulation and protection. To do this, birds have evolved a range of feather types, each with unique adaptations and functions.



The most basic feather type is the down feather, which provides insulation and warmth. These are found all over a bird's body and of course are important for young chicks, which are more vulnerable to the cold.

Contour feathers are the most visible and give birds their shape and aerodynamic profile. They have a central shaft with barbs that interlock to create a flat, smooth surface and provide a waterproof barrier. Contour feathers are found on the wings, tail, and body of birds and vary in size and shape depending on their location. Their overlapping structure also provides a measure of protection against predators and helps absorb impacts.

Flight feathers are a subset of contour feathers and provide the lift and propulsion needed for flight. They are found on the wings and tail of birds and have a rigid, asymmetrical shape that creates a curved surface. This allows air to flow over the wing, generating lift. Flight feathers are particularly important for hunting, navigating and escaping predators. Owls have specially shaped feathers that, along with large wings compared to their body size, generate significant lift to allow slow, silent flight.

The colours and patterns of feathers also play an important role in their owners' survival and reproduction. Brightly coloured feathers serve as a form of display, to attract mates or deter rivals. More muted colours allow birds to blend into their environment and avoid predators. Birds of dusk and dawn often have drab upper plumage to help them rest unnoticed during the day, but bright white patches beneath to aid display in poor light.

Whether for insulation, flight, display, or protection, feathers are an essential component of the avian anatomy and a testament to the remarkable diversity of nature. Happy Easter!

Andrew Garth

OBITUARY—BRYAN K PAVEY

It's with great sadness I have to share the news my father passed away on 15th Nov 2022 after a long battle with cancer leaving a huge whole in our lives. Bryan lived in Botley Road for over 50 years and was a much loved member of the community. Always one to help when needed, full of knowledge, information and history he would happily share. He would always be there to help anyone if they needed it. He had a zest for life and loved being a father, gramps and great-gramps! Bryan also loved the outdoors, shooting clubs, garden and of course the Botley Boozers! I am sure he will be sadly missed by all who knew him but also greatly remembered by his family and friends.

Matt Pavey



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BEGINNERS & MIXED ABILITY PILATES: Mondays at 5.45pm, Tuesdays at 10am,
Wednesdays at 11am, Thursdays at 5.45pm

SAGALATES (Chair-based Pilates/Stretch): Thursdays 12.05pm

HIGHFIELDS STUDIO, 169 BOTLEY ROAD, LEY HILL, HP5 1XR

Call or e-mail Trish Baptist for information or to reserve your place

01494 [771055](tel:01494771055)/tbaptist@btinternet.com/07758 382528

DRAWING CLASSES

Ley Hill Memorial Hall 9:30-12:30 Thursday mornings

Suitable for all abilities. Tuition given. £150 per ten week term.

Contact: Hilary Sussum BA MA on 01494 771708

MORNING EXERCISE BOOT CAMP

Ley Hill Common - for any level of fitness; (just outside the cricket club)

Every Saturday 9.30am—10.30am

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Just £5 a session; FIRST SESSION IS FREE

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THE SWAN UPDATE

Since the owners announced in 2016 that they planned to sell The Swan, it has been, and continues to be a long process. SOS was formed in 2019. Following 3 failed planning applications for Changes of Use and a rejected Appeal (in October 2022), SOS contacted the owners again, this time asking if they could keep us updated and could we rekindle negotiations once they had decided on their plans.

On 23rd January, the Parish Council were notified by Buckinghamshire Council that the owners intend to proceed with the sale of The Swan pub. Since The Swan is listed as an Asset of Community Value, any Community Interest Group can register an expression of interest to bid for the property. In order to do that, SOS (LHCPL) must have registered an interest before 3rd March 2023. This would then action a 6 month moratorium period (starting from 20th Jan 2023). During that time the owners can continue to market the property and enter into negotiations with other interested purchasers but contracts cannot be exchanged until after the six months period has finished.

We were in the same situation two years ago and spent more than 6 months trying unsuccessfully to negotiate a purchase price. This time, it does follow 3 failed applications for change of use plus a failed Appeal. The owners have acknowledged that SOS is able to submit a bid and have said that we can do so by writing to them. After careful consideration, SOS have decided not to notify the Council because (1) SOS can still offer a bid without triggering the moratorium period (2) other potential buyers can progress interest at any time and (3) the owners are under no obligation to accept any bid from SOS even if the moratorium period were triggered.

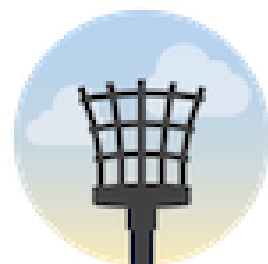
Pubs are struggling at the moment and some are closing but those that provide a good offering are still busy (eg Queen's Head, White Lion, Red Lion, Green Dragon, White Hart and many more). Community focussed pubs and other community enterprises are continuing to be very successful. It's a tough job being a successful landlord but we know that there are people out there wanting to do it and to provide a community facility.

The aim of SOS has always been to maintain The Swan as a pub for the Community and are still hoping to negotiate the purchase of the property. However, in parallel, we would also welcome any other purchaser to buy The Swan so long as it is kept as a pub. Since negotiations between SOS and the owners to date have been unsuccessful, if you, or anyone you know, might be interested in buying The Swan as a pub, please encourage them to contact the owners directly since they have told the council that they intend to progress with the sale of The Swan.

If you have any comments/ ideas/feedback please contact us.

Thank you again for your patience and continued interest.
We wish it could be a faster process!

The SOS Committee Ley Hill Community Pub Limited
info@leyhillcommunitypub.co.uk



LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

To the left of Ley Hill Memorial Hall as you face it, is a small church building known affectionately as "the Chapel". It has stood in that spot on the Green since 1887, and generations of local people have been married there. Now it's all modern inside with comfy seats and heaters. The chapel is used by a local church community of people mainly from Ley Hill and Botley, and some come from Bovingdon and Chesham too. It says "Methodist" over the door but in fact the church has people from many Christian traditions like Brethren, Baptist, Anglican and Catholic, or none at all. We are not worried about that - only some would class themselves as actual Methodists. We are in good relations with other local churches.

The church community has all ages. There are toddlers, children, and grown-ups and some into their 90s. Some of them are new to the village, or new to faith, and others have been coming generations. The worship combines modern songs and the best of the old, led by a music group. There is even a choir you can join, which puts on concerts from time to time. If you are a Christian in the village and have not tried us, or never said hello yet, please come along and introduce yourself, or if you are just curious a welcome will be made for you. There is a service every Sunday at 11am, and after the service there is a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits and a chance to say hello and chat. There is a notice board outside the chapel if you want to see what's on or who to contact.

Sundays:

11 am church service including Sunday School
6pm Youth Express for secondary school children.

Tuesdays (Alternate)

2:30pm Well Seasoned group

Wednesdays

10am Toddlers group
7:30pm Fellowship Group

Easter Events

Friday 7th April - Good Friday service at 3pm Rev. Andrew Brazier

Sunday 9th April - Easter Sunday service at 11pm. Rev. Caroline Weaver

Saturday 22nd April lunch and choir concert at 12 noon in aid of The Big Community Takeaway

For more information email leyhillchoir@gmail.com

Saturday April 29th Barn Dance in Memorial Hall 6-9pm

For more information email Samantha.guerin@gmail.com

Saturday May 6th Concert with Songs for the Coronation at 3.30pm

For more information email leyhillchoir@gmail.com

Sunday May 7th - United Churches Service at 11am by the Beacon. In the Memorial Hall if wet

Neil Rees



LEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

At the time of writing this, the weather is fluctuating between cold, wet and just plain cold. Soon winter will fall away, and spring will appear. Like a mysterious scratch card – its not that life was absent, it just got hidden. Language is bothering me at the moment. I am not even sure what to call these bits of the year that are neither Christmas nor spring; and which simply act as padding in the calendar. In the church these 'gaps' are referred to as 'ordinary time.' When you've celebrated every possible part of the Christian journey, the remainder is ordinary time.

I am sure that at first glance this just looks like a random rant, but I have a real affection for ordinary time. Life's great roller coaster would be unbearable without the plateau's of peace when we can take a breath, read a book and finally get round to the laundry. Cliché suggests that we should take time along the path to smell the roses, but they are not even in flower yet. Now is the time to sit with a warm cup of tea and dream of the roses to come, the adventures ahead. There is a lovely bible reading that says, 'Aren't five sparrows sold for two pennies?^[1] Yet not one of them is forgotten before God.^[2] **In fact, even the hairs on your head are all numbered. Do not be afraid;^[3] you are more valuable than many sparrows.'** (Luke 12:6-8) If we could trust that simple statement, maybe we could calm down and assume that just 'being' us was enough. Imagine not having all that pressure, of being free to be you? There is an ordinary version of all of us and it's a comfortable place to be. Between changing the world, we need to be able to settle back into a consistent shape.

The film 'About Time,' suggests that we be much more aware of our ordinary days as we go through them. Instead of treating them as a burden, we seek all those special moments hidden amongst the banal. The passing smiles and glances, the little things we miss, the humour. It suggests we train ourselves to enjoy every moment regardless of how ordinary. So at the time of writing there is a bird sitting on the tree looking down on the new stems of daffodils breaking through the icy ground. The sun is easing through the grey sky and lighting a low mist over the fields. This ordinary day is still and calm. The dawn has come, and nothing is required except that we see it. God the artist painting a new world.



WELL SEASONED CLUB

Meeting in the Methodist Chapel on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm.

In the past when groups of retired folk have met together socially, they have often been referred to as the "over 60's". In our group now we have two youngsters in their 70's, otherwise we need to be known as the "Over 80's and 90's". Such is modern day living.

We have a full programme now until the end of May, including our Easter Lunch on 28th March at 12.30pm.

New members are always welcome, no age restrictions either way!

Best springtime wishes, Rita 785935, Lindsay and Margaret 783048



LEY HILL AND BOTLEY CARERS

Ley Hill and Botley Carers are volunteers who are organised to help their neighbours in the local community to cope with emergencies not normally handled by statutory or other voluntary services.

We can help in the following ways:-

- Visiting** - if you are ill
Transport - to doctor, hospital, health centre
Help at home - shopping, prescription collection, gardening.

If you need assistance phone 01494 785935



LEY HILL TODDLER GROUP

Ley Hill toddler group meets at the Chapel, every Wednesday morning during term time, 10am until 11.30am.

We have a fabulous selection of toys, craft table, bible story time and singing. We serve tea, coffee, homemade cake and provide snacks for the children.

You will be made very welcome and it is a great way to meet other parents and carers and also for the children to make friends before going to nursery and school.

Please contact Sam to check availability. Samantha.guerin@gmail.com



KING CHARLES 111 QUIZ

1. On what date was King Charles 111 born?

- A) 14th August 1948
- B) 14th September 1948
- C) 14th October 1948
- D) 14th November 1948

3. At which university did Charles study at?

- A) Cambridge
- B) Oxford
- C) Durham
- D) St. Andrews

2. When was Charles first named Prince of Wales?

- A) 1958
- B) 1959
- C) 1960
- D) 1961

4. Where was King Charles 111 born?

- A) Windsor Castle
- B) Buckingham Palace
- C) Clarence House
- D) Sandringham House

CHESHAM & LEY HILL GOLF CLUB

Your local golf club is continuing to enhance the Ley Hill community.

Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club is continuing to enhance village life and get prepared for the new golfing season. Over the winter months the greenkeepers have been making improvements to the pathways and renovating and adding new steps to the teeing areas. They have also started to improve the greens with a new vertidrain machine which is intended to improve the drainage and conditions of the putting surfaces. Given the recent dry and inclement weather the green keepers will be very busy in the coming weeks and months leading to the start of the main golfing season in the spring.



These changes are intended to improve the course for the golfers but also make the course more appealing to villagers and visitors to Ley Hill and so enhance the reputation of the course as an asset to the village. We are also investigating whether adding new signage on each hole will help orientate local walkers to where they are on the course so that we can continue to build on the great relationship that we have developed over the years between the golfers and the locals who enjoy walking round the course. We hope the signs will enhance the experience for everyone and will prove to be mutually beneficial. We will of course be discussing these enhancements further with the relevant authorities.

Going forward the club remains committed to playing our part to make Ley Hill a great place to live. The club, as always, wants to thank all the volunteers at the club who give their time and energy to make improvements to the club and the common year on year.

Well done to all members of Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club who raised a staggering £2,510 for "the Pepper Foundation" Charity last year. Pictured is Nigel Ford, last year's club captain, who presented Ruth Proudfoot, (Community Engagement and Corporate Lead) with the cheque. The money will be used to fund nearly 90 hours of specialist nursing care for a local child with a life limiting condition.



Rik Rankin

Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club Thursday April 27th

Ladies Get Into Golf



11am — 1pm

Open day



No need for clubs!

Give Golf A Go!

To register email

anneblrkett@cheshamgolf.co.uk

or go to www.cheshamgolf.co.uk

Ladies

Why not give golf a try?

Come along to our Open day on Thursday April 27th 11am until 1pm and try putting, chipping and driving with our PGA professional, Dave Marsden.

You don't need to have your own clubs!

You can sign up for a series of beginners lessons or enrol on our GIG programme!

The Ladies at Ley Hill are a really friendly and helpful group of ladies and are always happy to advise. Hope to see you there!

MY FAVOURITE RECIPE

Chicken With Basil

(can be made with meat free mince, beef or turkey mince)

- 2 tablespoons oil
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 2 small fresh chilies, finely chopped
- 175g minced/chopped chicken
- 2 tablespoons fish sauce
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 20 basil leaves



Method

1. In a wok or frying pan, heat the oil and fry the garlic and chilies, stirring well until the garlic begins to brown.
2. Add the minced meat and stir fry over a high heat, mixing in the garlic and chili.
3. Add all the remaining ingredients and continue to fry until the meat is cooked through.
4. Turn onto a dish and serve.

Claire Randall

KING CHARLES 111 QUIZ

5. What was the name of the book Charles published in 1980?

- A) The Old Man of Lochnagar
- B) Inside the Castle Walls
- C) The Royal Pup

7. Which of these names could Charles NOT choose as his regnal name?

- A) George
- B) Arthur
- C) Albert

6. What does the Welsh phrase “Tywysog Cymru” mean?

- A) Prince of Wales
- B) Protector of Wales
- C) King of Wales

8. What is the name of King Charles’s charitable organisation?

- A) The Royal Trust
- B) The Prince’s Trust
- C) The Wales Trust

1st TYLERS HILL SCOUTS

Reflections on being a Scout Leader

by Joanna Jennings, 1st Tyler's Hill Scout Leader 2012 to 2022

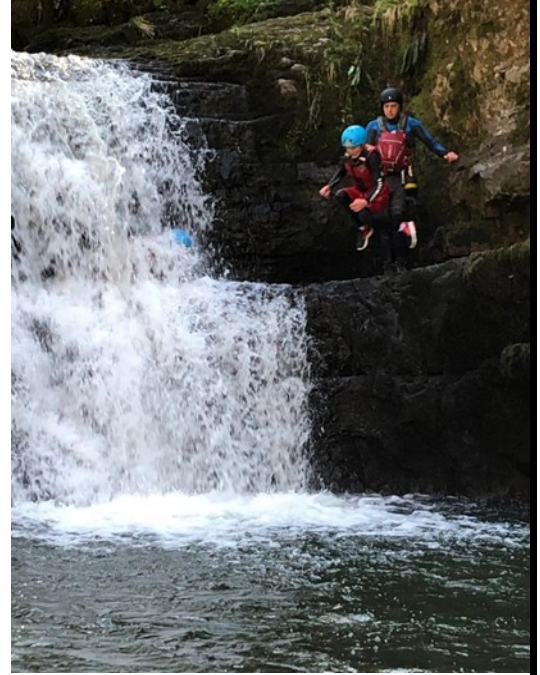
'I remember warmly being a Venture Scout, spending time camping, hiking and making friends for life, so when my own children began as Beaver Scouts, the obvious move was to volunteer as a Scout Leader.

During my ten years as a Scout Leader, I have had the opportunity to enable and facilitate hundreds of young people to enjoy numerous activities ranging from night hikes, ice skating, camping, and craft activities.

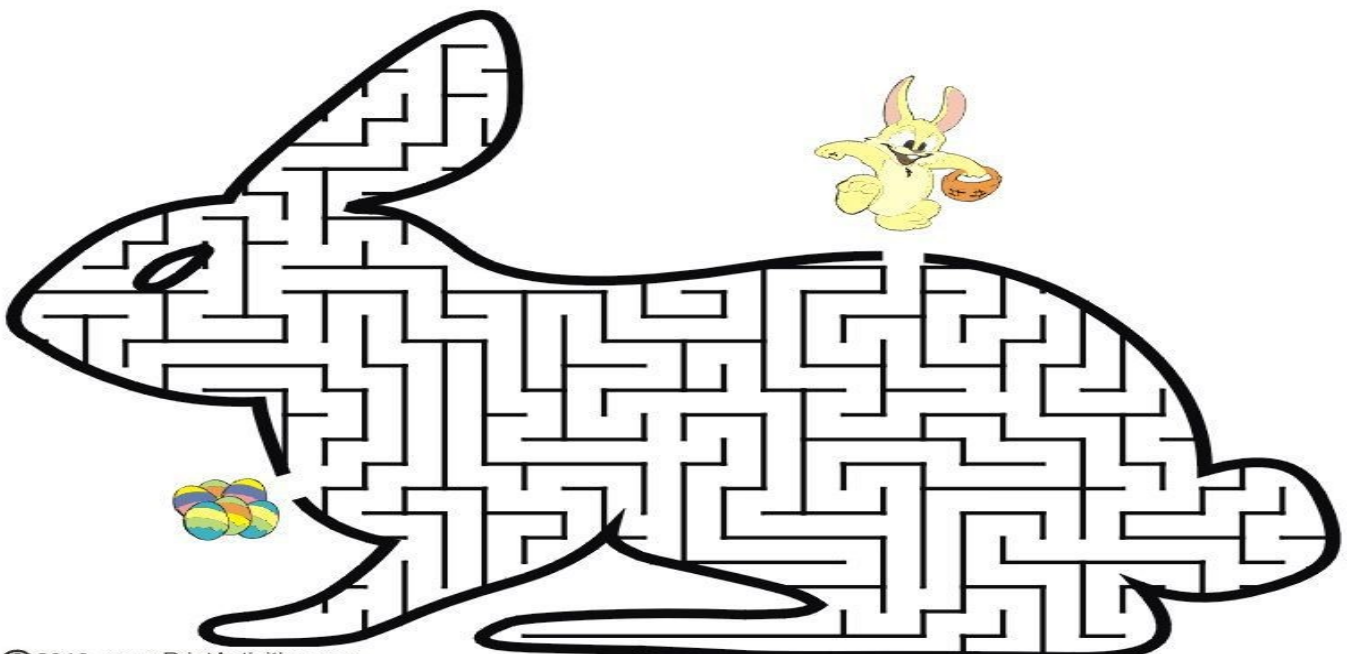
A highlight for me would be canyoning through the Brecon Beacons. Seeing 15 young people (and a couple of enthusiastic leaders) challenge themselves in freezing waters by jumping off the rocks into the river, something most would never get the opportunity to do.

Leading the Scouts to experience and enjoy something they may have never tried before, be it learning the skill like hiking, map reading in the dark to the chip shop or washing up continuously gave me that warm fuzzy feeling, making every effort worthwhile. It's not only fun for the Scouts!'

If you would like to volunteer with scouts, there are a range of roles. Please contact Sheila Nardone, Group Scout Leader on sheilanardone@hotmail.co.uk or 07729 33604.



Guide the Easter Bunny through the maze to find the Easter Eggs



LATIMER & LEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

March is a busy time of year for Claire, our Parish Clerk as she prepares the Parish Accounts for the annual audit and we plan for the **Annual Parish Meeting**, which will be held this year on **Wednesday April 26th in the Methodist Chapel**. This is the time when we look back on our achievements over the past year and look forward to continuing our work to make life in our community a little bit better. So what did we do in 2022 as a result of your survey suggestions?

1. We initiated the resurfacing of the track from Kiln Lane to the Village hall car park which was also resurfaced. I'm sure you will agree this is a great improvement?
2. We continued our efforts to combat speeding on the roads in and around our parish, through the use of the MVAS and the Community Speed Watch sessions
3. We tried to replace the ailing fence in the Burial Ground with a yew hedge but unfortunately the hot summer didn't allow the yew whips to take.
4. The road and street signs were cleaned several times by a willing Parish Councillor.
5. A very kind parishioner painted away graffiti on the bus shelter on Rushmere Lane.
6. We installed a new dog poo bin near the Beacon and a covered litter bin on Botley Road and continue to try to have a dog poo bin installed near St George's Church.
7. We helped to organise Ley Hill's very successful Jubilee celebrations in June.
8. We organised the Spring and the Autumn litter blitzes as well as engaging Sunnyside Rural Trust to clear litter from Blackwell Hall Lane, Horse Hill and Bovingdon Road.
9. We continue to report locations of fly tipping on Fix My Street. Please help us with this too.
10. We continue to protect our common land by reporting any misuse.
11. We hold a monthly Coffee & Chat morning 11am, the second Wednesday of the month, in the Memorial Hall, for anyone who may like to join us.
12. We organised a Community Christmas Lunch in December aided by children from Ley Hill School.
13. We organised a public parish meeting in November with local town and county councillors, allowing parishioners to put their points of view forward.
14. We continue to nag the County Council to cut back hedges and prune vegetation on the Green!
15. The bird boxes in the activity trail have been cleared and monitored by willing parishioners.
16. We continue to monitor planning applications and enforcement notices.



In order to complete all these tasks there is a great, willing, hard working team of Parish Councillors and volunteers from the local community. I am continually grateful for their help.

CORONATION MEMORIES

THREE - PRONGED CORONATION CELEBRATIONS.

As a result of a public meeting held in the village recently a committee was set up to arrange celebrations for the coronation in Ley Hill and Latimer North. When the committee held its first meeting at St. George's Church Rooms, the Chairman of Latimer Parish Council (Mr. A. L. Wright) was appointed chairman and treasurer, and Sister Evill as secretary.

Representatives of several organisations — the village, the Institute, the Women's Institute, Golf Club, and churches met to discuss arrangements. It was decided to hold a fancy-dress parade, a children's tea, and a social evening open to all residents in the village. Funds will be raised on a voluntary basis by the organisations concerned; a target of £50 being aimed at. Subscriptions will be received on behalf of the committee by Mr. Wright, Trail End, Jasons-hill.

LEY HILL

CORONATION PLANS FOR LEY HILL.

Thanks to excellent support from the local interests represented on the committee, Ley Hill's Coronation plans are well forward, and a happy co-operative spirit is being shown.

At their latest meeting last week to decide on details, the Ley Hill Coronation Committee were able to draw up provisional plans. It is hoped to have a **Fancy Dress Parade** through the village from the Chesham boundary to the Village Green, where entries will be judged in classes from under sevens to over seventies. **Children's Sports** for all ages will follow on the Common, and a **Coronation Tea** for children in the Village Institute, kindly lent for the occasion by the committee. A **Grand Social** will follow for the grown-ups in the Institute Hall during the evening, and further plans are under discussion.

Money is coming in very well from village activities, Golf Club, Cricket Club, Parent-Teacher Association, the Memorial Institute, the Women's Institute, and the local churches having all helped promptly and generously. Efforts by villagers and youth organisations have swelled the funds, and some private donations have been received by the Treasurer, Mr. A. L. Wright, who will gratefully acknowledge any further offerings to make Coronation Day a very memorable occasion in the village.

LEY HILL

GARDEN PARTY.

St. George's Church Garden Party at Grooms Farm, Ley Hill, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Saerlein, on Saturday, June 26th, opened at 3 p.m. by Lady Burrows. Music by The George Gilbert Trio. Flower Show, Stalls, Competitions, Hoop-la, Teas, Ices. Admission: 8d; children 3d. (If wet in Ley Hill Institute.)

A NEW SEAT.

At the final meeting of the Ley Hill Coronation Celebrations Committee, held on Tuesday last, it was reported that a fairly substantial balance remained in the funds. It was therefore decided to purchase a present for each invalid unable to attend any of the celebrations, and to use the remainder to purchase a seat to be placed on Ley Hill Common for the use of villagers and visitors.



These are cuttings from the Bucks Examiner, dated January, April and June 1953.

And 70 years later in March 2023 we have just held our third Coronation Celebration planning meeting with representatives from all the local organisations. Time moves on but many things never change! Look out for the new coronation bench in coming weeks!

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS MAY 6th 2023

Ley Hill's Coronation Celebrations will take place on the actual day, Saturday May 6th from 1pm.

Plans already made are outlined below but look out for posters and emails for more details soon!

At the Crown— BBQ, Fish 'n chips, Music from 3pm, Tea and cakes

At the Chapel—exhibition of 1953 Coronation Memorabilia, Spring Concert 3.30pm

At the Memorial Hall—Bouncy Castle, Make & Take Crafts, Toasted Marshmallows

On the Golf Course—Maypole Dancing, Tug of War Competition

See you there!



Looking for a Mother's Day treat then come for

Tea & Cakes

at

St George's Church,

Tylers Hill



(the little church in the woods)



Sunday 19th March

2 - 4pm

(well behaved dogs on leads welcome)

Cash or card accepted

Are you struggling with food, fuel, bills and finances?



If you or your family are in need of support, on low income or experiencing a financial emergency or crisis, find out what help is available.

Let us know if:

- you are struggling to afford food or fuel
- you cannot keep on top of your bills
- you are in debt
- you are struggling to pay for essential goods in your home

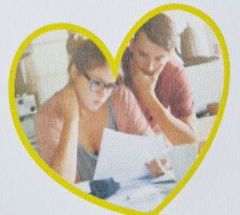
Get in touch

- 📍 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand
- ☎ 01296 531 151

Our phone lines are open:

- Monday to Thursday (9am - 5:30pm)
- Friday (9am - 5pm)

In an emergency our out-of-hours team can be contacted on 0800 999 7677.



St George's Day

Spring Fayre

Saturday 22nd April

11am to 2.30pm

at

St George's Church

Tylers Hill

St George's Day Fun, Side Stalls & Raffle

Refreshments

including Ploughman's Lunches

All Welcome

Join in & celebrate our Saint's Day



Have fun with your dog at

A Fun Dog Show



hosted by St George's Church at

The Hen & Chickens Pub

Botley Road

(By kind permission of Helen)

Sunday 21st May



Entries at 1pm

Judging at 2pm

8 classes (£3 per dog per class)

Dogs on leads at all times - Bring a chair

All Welcome



**The Coronation of
King Charles III & the Queen Consort
May 6th 2023**



God Save the King!