






The Letcombe Register



Issue 190

June 2021

VILLAGE DIARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	<p>1 </p> <p>→ Revised Collection</p> <p>Yoga with Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (fully booked)</p>	<p>2 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10 Coaching 10 - 11</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 6pm <u>Book Buffs 8pm</u> <u>Zoom Code</u></p>	<p>3 Pilates with Rachel 9.30 am Village Hall</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10am</p> <p>Junior Tennis Coaching 10 - 2</p>	<p>6 <u>Tennis</u> Mix in 10.00am</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 2pm</p>
<p>7 </p>	<p>8 Yoga with Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (fully booked)</p>	<p>9 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10 Coaching 10 - 11</p>	<p>10 Pilates with Rachel 9.30 am Village Hall</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10am</p> <p>Junior Tennis Coaching 10 - 2</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 1pm</p> <p>'Churches count on Nature' <u>Wildlife Survey</u> <u>St Andrew's Sat & Sun</u> 2-4pm</p>	<p>13 Holy Communion 10am <u>St Andrew's</u></p> <p><u>Tennis</u> 10.00am ** <u>Cricket</u> 1pm</p>
<p>14 </p>	<p>15 Yoga with Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (fully booked)</p>	<p>16 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10 Coaching 10 - 11</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 6pm</p>	<p>17 Pilates with Rachel 9.30 am Village Hall</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10am</p> <p>Junior Tennis Coaching 10 - 2</p>	<p>20 <u>Tennis</u> Mix in 10.00am</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 2pm</p>
<p>21 </p>	<p>22 Yoga with Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (fully booked)</p>	<p>23 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10 Coaching 10 - 11</p>	<p>24 Pilates with Rachel 9.30 am Village Hall</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10am</p> <p>Junior Tennis Coaching 10 - 2</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 1pm</p>	<p>27 Worship together 10am <u>Zoom Code</u></p> <p><u>Tennis</u> Mix in 10.00am</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 2pm</p>
<p>28 </p>	<p>29 Yoga with Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (fully booked)</p>	<p>30 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 9 - 10 Coaching 10 - 11</p> <p><u>Cricket</u> 6pm</p>				

* Most Events shown in the Calendar should still be booked, and may be changed at short notice. Please check the details before attending. (Items underlined in the diary are hyperlinked)

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Message from the Parish Council

This years' Annual Parish Meeting was held on 17 May via Zoom and we were pleased to welcome a number of villagers to the meeting, together with our district Councillor, County Councillor, and Police representative Tom Wallcott Smith. The Parish Council Annual Report is attached, in full, to this Register. The Annual Parish Council Meeting followed immediately afterwards and both myself and Cllr Light were re-elected for a further year as Chairman and Vice Chairman

With the easing of the lockdown it is a good time to enjoy the benefits of the village and a number of our facilities are beginning to open again, including The Greyhound, the Village Hall. The Sports and Social Club and Football Club are co-hosting a family day on 3 July, and the Village Garden Opens Day follows on the 4 July. Whilst we can relax a little please be mindful of the requirements to stay safe by wearing masks, washing or sanitising hands and keeping to groups of 6, or 2 households, and keeping groups to 30 outside. We have been very successful in keeping the virus from our community, and by adhering to the guidance we will continue to do so.

It is the time of year for everything to flourish, so please be mindful to keep hedges and trees under control to avoid issues for those walking. On the issue of pedestrian safety, there have been occasions when vehicles have been parking inappropriately on the pavements. This places pedestrians at risk when they are forced to walk on the roads. Please do not park where you may be causing a risk to others. There is also a recurring problem beside the church where large vehicles, particularly the school bus, have been prevented from passing. Please try to keep this area clear.

We have been advised by the Vale of the White Horse that there is still financial support available for residents in need –

' If any resident is struggling financially the councils is urging them to get in touch, and to do so before they reach crisis point. The Community Hub team are working alongside Citizens Advice and Vale Community Impact to offer help in the form of advice, supermarket and fuel vouchers or through the direct payment of energy or water bills. The support is there for all households: residents needing help do not have to be in receipt of any government benefits and can be given financial support through this funding more than once.

If you need help please call the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Community Hub on 01235 422600 or email communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk

You can also contact

Citizens Advice – 0808 278 7907 (South Oxfordshire and the Vale)

Vale Community Impact – 01235 765348 (Vale residents only)

The deadline for accessing financial support from the Covid Support Grant is Friday 18 June.'

During June every household in the village will be asked to give their view on the possibility of lighting for the Football Club. Please watch out for this hard copy information and be sure to provide your view by returning the paper to the ballot box in the Village Shop. If you are unable to access the shop please contact the Parish Clerk so that support can be offered.

Jeanne Lapsley

Chairman

Letcombe Regis Parish Council.

Newbury Street Practice

Newbury Street Practice are upgrading their telephone system and from 10am on Friday 11th June 2021 their new telephone number will be 01235 639521

Letcombe Regis Parish Council Annual Report 2020-2021

This year has been unique in modern times, set against the backdrop of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In a repeat of last year I was re-elected to continue as Chairman with Cllr Loretta Light remaining as Vice Chair for the Year.

Much of this year has been focussed on keeping our Parish informed of, and safe from Covid-19, and with the efforts of everyone we have managed to keep cases to an absolute minimum. The PC wishes to express a huge thank you to everyone for their part, no matter how small, in keeping us all safe. What has been clearly demonstrated time and again is the true Community Spirit which exists within Letcombe Regis Parish.

Inevitably a huge effort has been made to support the village through the Covid-19 crisis. Specifically we have issued regular information and advice through The Bulletin (19 so far) and the PC Website; recruited 40 plus volunteers, each grouped into their local village areas, and equipped with PPE and other equipment; worked with other charities and agencies to ensure the delivery of medicines, shopping ,food etc through our volunteer network.. Recognising the potential for significant isolation the PC personally delivered a Christmas Gift of card and Hyacinth Bowl to all those living alone. We also secured initial grant funding to support this effort.

The usual work of the Parish Council has also continued and our regular 6 meetings have taken place virtually on via the Zoom platform, as well as a huge number of follow up meetings. Apart from the usual Letcombe Regis IT glitches these have proved an excellent alternative to face to face meetings. We are very grateful to both our District Councillor, Paul Barrow, and our County Councillor Yvonne Constance, for their attendance and support at these meetings.

Follow up on issue through the year have included planning, condition of local roads, BOAT issues, lobbying for the re-opening of Wantage Hospital, safety crossings for children, improved road signage, measures to prevent flooding etc. etc.

The Register, in its new electronic form, has remained the main monthly Communication, supplemented by the Bulletin, and the Village Email has been useful in communicating urgent messages. There are a number of people who contribute to keeping us informed and the PC is very grateful for everyone's input.

The Parish remains in a very strong financial position, and again there was no increase in the precept for this year. A number of projects remain committed against our funds, including the significant improvements planned for the PC Burial Ground. We continue to seek our grant funding wherever we can.

Requests for Community Grants have lessened this year for obvious reasons, but we continue to identify funds for this purpose. We have supported a number of local charities who provide direct support to the village or parishioners, including the Letcombe Brook Trust, Young Carers etc. etc.

Planning issues have arisen again this year, and we continue to ensure informed responses are provided in a timely manner to the District Council.

So here are some facts about the Year 2020-2021:

- Zoom Meetings replaced face to face.
- Covid-19 Coordinating Group of Councillors Lapsley, Light and Benton established.
- 40 plus Covid-19 Volunteers recruited, equipped and deployed.
- 19 Bulletins written and issued
- Christmas Gift organised and delivered to the isolated living alone.
- Village Email encouraged with numbers increased to over 300
- BOATS – closed for repair
- Village Fete Group established, Cllrs Hitchcock, Benton and Lapsley(on hold due to Covid-19)
- Bablakes Flooding alleviation – Engineering Scheme negotiated led by Cllr Benton
- Lobbying the Secretary of State for the Re-opening of Wantage Hospital.
- Children's crossing installed at the end of Footpath 8 to access the Recreation Ground
- Burial Ground Improvements – funding deadline extended to take account of the impact of Covid-19 on contractors.
- Introduction of a PC New Lost Property Policy.
- Installation of improved road signage throughout the village, funded by Oxfordshire County Council
- Budget approved meaning no uplift to Precept.
- Community Emergency Plan reviewed and upgraded.
- Emergency equipment enhanced with purchase of dedicated emergency phone, walkie talkie set, foil blankets, high vis vests.
- Millennium Green tree works undertaken supported by some grant funding from the Letcombe Brook Charity.
- Strong Links maintained with PC Darren James and PCSO Tom Walcott- Smith.
- Active involvement in Neighbourhood Action Group. (Represented by the Parish Clerk)

Continued next page.....

Parish Councillors have represented the Parish on:

The Letcombe Brook Project
Association of Local Councils Executive Board Ambulance Trust
Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall Trust Joint PC Meetings re Broadband, Green Lane,
BOATS. Neighbourhood Action Groups
Young Carers
Wantage and Surrounding Areas Community Group.

We have responded to consultations on:

Planning
Future of Wantage Hospital
Covid-19 support needs and feedback,
together with a number of ad hoc consultations received throughout the year.

The PC Subscribes to

CPRE
BBOWT
Community First Oxford
OALC

What of the next 12 months?

We will continue to try to keep the community safe
We will continue to fulfil our duties, undertaking our statutory duties and provide support for our community.
We will continue to seek improvements to Broadband.
We will continue to seek improvements to road safety.
We will continue to seek out grant funding where possible.

Summary

This has been an exceptional year and I would like to thank all my fellow Parish Councillors, and Parish Clerk for their dedication and unfailing support in undertaking a huge level of work.

Each has taken specific responsibilities -

Cllr Batchelor – Website, and Social Isolation
Cllr Frewer – Burial Ground Project
Cllr Benton – Roads and Drainage
Cllr Hitchcock – Fete Planning
Cllr Light – Health Issues and Letcombe Brook Project
Cllr Barber – Village Bonfire Night, Millennium Benches

We are grateful to everyone who contributes to our caring and vibrant community, including Francesca Engelmann, Mike Light, Anne Williams Jim Birch and especially all those volunteer who stepped forward to help their neighbours, and those who quietly support the village with their acts of kindness and consideration. The efforts of all have kept our community strong safe and such a special place to live.

Cllr Jeanne Lapsley

Chairman, Letcombe Regis Parish Council
12.5.21

STEP 4

At least five weeks after Step 3, no earlier than 21 June.
By Step 4, the Government hopes to be able to introduce the following
(subject to review):



No legal limits on
social contact.



Nightclubs.



Larger events.



No legal limit on all
life events.



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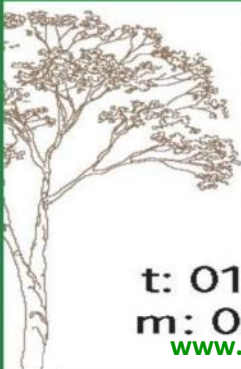


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D K Electrical Services

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Electrician

07817 457832


Daniel-Electrician@outlook.com

City & Guilds

Domestic clients only

200 Club results

200 Club Draw — No 3		June 2021
58	Iain McCoubrey	£50
113	Betty Smart	£25
53	Millicent Hollingworth	£15
52	Ian Johnson	£10
27	Ann Batchelor	£5
Special Draw:		
227	Derek Maundrell	£25
96	Denise Elliott	£20
217	Mary Harwood	£10
26	Sarah Chapman	£10
232	Kent Trotter	£10
32	Doug Frewer	£10
229	Neil Huxter	£10
New Numbers Draw		
136	Judy Vaughan-Williams	£5



Hazel Lee Jones
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HPCP registered, MBDA
 Expert personalised dietary advice for teens and adults. Consultations held at Wantage Osteopathic Practice, 1 Church St. Wantage. To discuss how dietary advice can help you and to arrange an appointment: Tel: 07947 053396 Email: info@reevesdiets.co.uk www.reevesdiets.co.uk

**COMPUTER PROBLEMS?
 CONVERSION TO WINDOWS 10?**
 A locally-based service (from Letcombe Bassett) has been helping people here for the last 15 years
Moderate Rates Same Day Service
Charles Rowe Tel: (01235) 766000 anytime
 Email: ccrowe@waitrose.com

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www.meltaylorphotography.co.uk

Toms Topaz Den
 An independent consultant for The Body Shop At Home offering the full Body Shop Range at a unique price. Based in Letcombe Regis offering free delivery on all orders
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Pilates with Rachel restarted 9.30am in the Hall at the end of last month.

New people very welcome, numbers limited to 10, please call in advance to have a chat. Tel: 07801 824293



Churches Count on Nature Week.

St Andrew's are holding a series of wildlife surveys in the churchyard between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th June as part of 'Churches Count on Nature' Week, a conservation initiative promoted by *Caring for God's acre*, the Church of England and the Church in Wales. There will be one hour sessions for different ages (including adults) in small groups, accompanied children are especially welcome. For further information on what to bring and to register your interest, please contact Christine on cbirch1997@aol.com or 763529. Do join in and discover what treasures may be seen in this special place; you may be an expert already but, if not, members of the Letcombes' Conservation Group will help with identification of flowers, grasses, mosses, lichen, fungi, birds, butterflies, bees, insects and any other wildlife that you see! The records will contribute to a nationwide database of wildlife. Dan Wrench, County Ecologist and Biodiversity Officer for Shropshire, explains 'Why Record' in a short video available to view at <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources/>

Friends of the Letcombe Valley Community Nature Reserve

June is the month for the UK Wildlife Trusts '30 Day Wildlife Challenge'. Participation can be by individuals, families and groups completing an activity related to wildlife each day of the month, for example listening to birdsong, planting seeds, taking a wild photograph or building a bug hotel. A free pack of ideas and inspiration is available from: [30 Days Wild 2021 - Sign up for your pack | The Wildlife Trusts](#) to help you plan the month. So join BBOWT's President, Steve Backshall, and his family in 'simple, fun and exciting *Random Acts of Wildness*'. One activity might be to take part in the Churches Count on Nature on 12th or 13th June (see separate notice in this Register).

This is the time of year when fledglings sometimes get separated from their parent birds and may appear distressed. Mark Bradfield, Letcombe Brook Project Officer, has some advice to anyone finding a lone fledgling, 'Please don't immediately take birds away from the scene and try and 'rescue' them - just put them in a hedge/tree somewhere safe and leave them for the parent to care for - they are usually somewhere nearby! Birds can be incredibly hard to care for and wildlife rescue places just end up full up with fledging birds that didn't need rescuing in the first place.' Recently Mark was notified of a young Tawny owl perched very close to the ground and next to the brook at Letcombe. The bundle of feathers was popped up in a nearby tree out of the rain and away from potential predators for the parent to find and feed when the fledgling started calling. Mark thought the parent bird would be feeding three or four siblings as well, probably spread around the nearby trees. The colouring of its soft, young plumage against the wood gave the fledgling remarkable camouflage, (photo credit: Mark Bradfield).

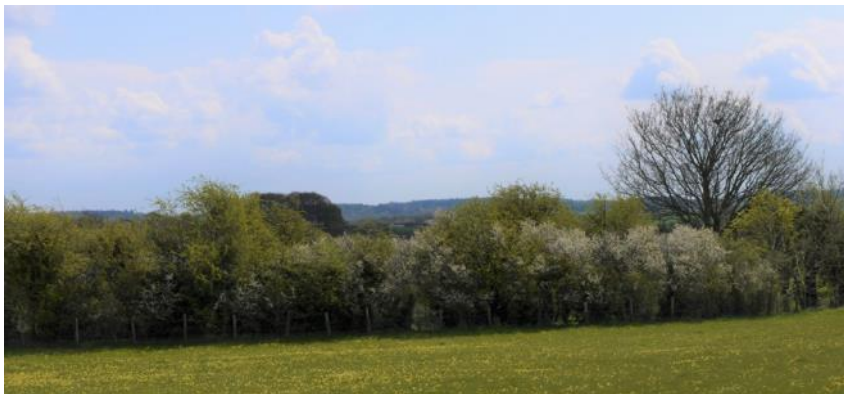


BBOWT hopes to make a cautious return to working parties in their reserves after May 17th when government regulations permit gatherings of up to 30 people outside, though sensible precautions will need to be observed and a month-by-month approach will be taken. Fortunately there is already a full list of volunteers for the Letcombe Valley Community Nature Reserve who will be emailed with details of any forthcoming work parties; if you wish to join as a regular volunteer, please contact the organisers via letcombevalley@gmail.com.



The Letcombes Conservation Group

Archaeological evidence of implements from prehistoric and Roman Britain suggest that hedging has a long history whilst Anglo-Saxon charters date some hedgerows from AD 800. Once in existence, hedges were used for stock control and feed, shelter, firewood and coppice timber, wild foods like blackberries and hazelnuts, and small game especially birds. By medieval times such items were codified in law, 'hedgebote' being the right of commoners to use hedgerows for fuel and winter feed for their stock.



Hedgerows along old trackways, such as through Segsbury Camp (photo above), are ancient features with species diversity and double hedges are often associated with ancient parish boundaries with a central gap maintained to serve as a path. Other hedges date from the enclosure movement which gradually changed the open landscape from the 16th to mid-19th century. Hedges around early enclosures were between six and ten feet wide, linear thickets rather than tidy hedges, and planted to provide for the needs of the community, including the poor, with a variety of wood, berries and nuts. Advice in

1607 on the best 'quick set' method was to mix together seeds of oak, thorn and ash in straw to bury along the top of a bank. By the 18th century the Parliamentary Inclosure Acts usually stipulated that newly enclosed lands be marked by boundary ditches, four feet deep and two wide, and planted with double rowed hedges on the central bank within six to twelve months of the award. These later enclosure hedges had to be quick to plant and to take, 'quickthorn' becoming the dominant shrub in the hedges. Mabey has estimated that around 200,000 miles of hawthorn hedge was planted in the parliamentary enclosures of the 18th and 19th centuries. Early 19th century attitudes no longer saw the hedge as a means to augment the dietary and fuel needs of the poor, but simply as a livestock barrier. Similarly, road verges reflected the diminishing tolerance shown towards the poor, destitute, and itinerant. The General Inclosure Act of 1801 included Letcombe Regis, the award followed in 1804. In this area hedges were not required on the downs nor around much of the old open fields that became arable land, so often the characteristic pre-enclosure landscape was retained. Tithe surveys produced from the 1840s show every farm, field and hedge in parishes giving a basis for gauging hedgerows that are of more recent planting. Though many field hedges in this parish are later additions, all contain a variety of native plants.



The scented white/pale pink blooms of the Hawthorn, commonly called May tree, white or quickthorn, has replaced



the white froth of Blackthorn blossom. Common it may be, but each tree can support more than 300 insects and it is the food plant for many moth caterpillars. The sweet almond-scented flowers, white with five petals, of Bird Cherry, *Prunus padus*, clustered along racemes (photo above credit: Iain McCoubrey) attract insects seeking nectar and pollen including bees, as do the clusters of two to six hanging flowers of the Wild Cherry (photo left). The slightly confusing botanical name of Wild Cherry, *Prunus avium*, refers to the propagation role of birds in dispersing the seed in cherries.

Another native with scented flowers is the Wayfaring Tree, *Viburnum lantana*, distinguished by its small, identical flowers of five cream petals held in large, flat-topped umbels or flowerheads (photo right). These trees were given their common name by Gerard, an herbalist, who first noticed them in 1597 on the chalkland routes between Wiltshire and London.



The spectacular greenish-yellow flowers of the non-native Norway maple (photo left) also provide nectar and pollen for insects and the leaves are food for a number of moth caterpillars. The species was introduced to the UK in the 17th century for ornamental parks but may be seen in local thickets.

Hedgerows are the most widespread semi-natural habitat in England and critical to the conservation of farmland and woodland birds and also to mammals. Connected hedgerows facilitate movement through the landscape and are particularly important for flying insects like butterflies which need warm, sheltered conditions to be able to gain, and retain, the heat necessary to fly. Green lanes, typically two parallel hedgerows separated by a vegetated track, provide particularly favourable conditions. The conservation of rare species is linked to hedgerows in the landscape, notably the dormouse, most species of bat, five species of uncommon and rapidly declining bumble bee, two hairstreak butterflies, the Ciri bunting and the declining Turtle dove. Also the role hedgerow trees and shrubs play in carbon capture, so vital to stem climate warming, should not be underestimated.



David Johnston, MP

We've had 2 Cabinet Ministers visit the constituency in the past month. First up was Priti Patel, Home Secretary, in support of Matt Barber's (successful) campaign to be the Police and Crime Commissioner. She visited Great Western Park, where residents have had considerable problems of unauthorised traveller camps. This is something I have raised in the House of Commons on more than one occasion and something that Matt has campaigned against with people like Cllr Ian Snowdon. GWP residents appreciated meeting her as she is bringing forward the new laws on this problem.

The second was Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for BEIS. This came about after I told him about Johnson Matthey's new flagship site at Milton Park to develop and test the next generation of electric vehicle batteries; he said he'd be pleased to visit. After the official opening I took him to Greencore Construction's Springfield Meadows development in Southmoor. I have already brought the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation to see their impressive homes and set up Greencore to meet the Government's Net Zero Champion, too, but I am keen for as many in government as possible to see how they've built not just net zero but carbon-positive homes.

While on the subject of the environment, I am holding a pre-COP26 summit for constituents on 1st July at which we'll talk about some of the key issues we need to make progress on, showcase some of the great local organisations we have locally – including Greencore – and agree ideas to send to Alok Sharma, President of COP26, ahead of the summit.

It has been good to be able to have more face to face meetings and visit more places as lockdown has eased. I have had very enjoyable visits to all sorts of shops, pubs (such as the Radnor Arms in Coleshill) and restaurants (such as the Fish in Sutton Courtenay). Other highlights have included Tom Brown's School Museum in Uffington, still in its original 1617 school building, and Flowers from Molly in Faringdon, which allows you to nominate someone to receive a bunch of flowers or a letter of hope if you think they could do with a lift.

I have secured the cross-party support I needed to be able to hold a debate in parliament on the performance of Royal mail; it is clear we are not the only area that has been having problems. It is now just a question of when the debate can be scheduled. I read in the paper that in Wantage and Grove some residents have just received post from up to 13 years ago as a former postal worker had it in their home this whole time, but I don't think that accounts for the problems we've had!

As ever, if I can help with anything then do let me know via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk



Letcombe football Club

The football club have finally played some games. The Hellenic league introduced a mini competition with eight leagues each containing five teams. We drew with Hungerford Town Swifts and Wantage Town development and beat Kintbury Rangers and Shrivenham development. This meant that we finished second in our league and qualified for the last sixteen. We beat Tuffley Rovers development 4-1 at home, and then won 2-0 away in the quarter final against Long Crendon reserves. This gave us a home semi final against Flackwell Heath development, but with our centre back not available, we were beaten 5-1. A disappointing end to the season, but we did well to reach the last four from the 40 teams entered.

Village Hall

We anticipate being able to fully reopen from 21st June.

Please check the website for all updates.

We have kept all bookings in place for the time being, but feel free to email me with any queries. The office is being manned, as usual on a part-time basis only, and we will respond at the earliest opportunity, but this may take a day or two.

If you are emailing about Hall Availability, then please check the Hall Calendar here - <https://www.letcomberegishall.org/availability>, which should allow you to see when the Hall is busy/free.

Alternatively, you can call the Hall mobile phone on 07434 405074, but mobile phone signal in Letcombe isn't always reliable.



Nearly 1:1 Adult Coaching Available

Our Wednesday Keep fit & Coaching sessions have only 3 & 2 attendees respectfully. The GOOD news is that for just £7 / hour session, you get considerable 1:1 coaching (the coach circulates to each individual, so at present you would get 20 minutes personal coaching)

The BAD news is that these low numbers are on the cusp of being unviable and may be cancelled unless we can get 1 or 2 extra (Ps you do not have to be a club member).

Please POP along for a FREE taster session any Wednesday morning at 10 am

There is a Keep Fit class from 9 am and an All Ability Stroke Clinic from 10 am, both sessions are great fun and very relaxed, the coach Molly will ensure it is as easy or hard as you want!!

No tennis experience necessary, it is great to exercise as much or as little as you like, in the fresh air. If from time to time you cannot make the Wednesday session, just join in on the Saturday one or vice versa.

A full range of Junior coaching (for 5 years old up to 18), is run on Saturdays from 10 am

Please ring **NTA** our resident coaching team on **0800 888 6030** to join any session or book on line via our web site www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/letcombetennisclub (>coaching > Letcombe Tennis school>Cardio / Adult Coaching).

Too Browns

A record number of entrants took part in our *Spring Adult American Doubles Tournament, last Sunday*, with 72% participation from Letcombe Regis.

It was a very close contest with William Brown just beating his Dad Jason, by 1 game, decided at by the very last game point, with Lidia Dhorne (ex Greyhound star) coming a close 3rd.

Maintaining his amateur status, William agreed to share the bottle of Bubbly with the whole family.

Sunday morning Mix In

At last we have got 4 or 5 members that come regularly, so you are guaranteed someone to play with and we are looking for a few more to make up numbers, Starting at 10 am and running to lunch time, everyone is welcome to pop along for a gentle knock up or a random game.

Please join us even if you are not a member we are all local and not very good, but love the exercise and FUN way of meeting fellow villagers.



Photographic Club

The subject for July is '**Anything goes**'. The deadline for submission is the 20th of June.

Please send your images (max 2 per resident) as an attachment to stevemikarics@gmail.com

Please use ONE of the following formats for your image - Bitmap (.bmp), JPEG (.jpg, .jpeg), PNG (.png) or your own camera's format.

The July edition will contain the last image page for the Register for this year as we come out of lock down. I would like to thank all those who contributed with images and hope that readers have been inspired by the photographs shown.

Last month's '*Letcombe History*' photos can be found on the next page (9)

Film Club Returns!

Keep this date in your diary for the return of films to the Village Hall. We will be back on the second Weds in the month, starting on **Wednesday September 8th**. For this we will show a feel good movie, to help us celebrate being able to get back to 'normal'. All pending continuing good progress with relaxing COVID restrictions.

Full details next month, with the list of films we plan to show till Christmas.





The Letcombe Lunch Club —J Stanley, S Keets and ? Powell



A Letcombe Ride

Original Letcombe images copied and enhanced in Photoshop by Stephen Mika



Letcombes Gardening Club

Topical Tips

I've been holding off writing this until the weather gives some hint that summer is almost here but I can't wait any longer now and the sun is shining at the moment so here goes.

June is traditionally one of the highlights of the gardening calendar in Britain when a lot of the cottage garden plants are 'strutting their stuff'.

You need to keep hoeing to control those weeds unless, like me, you shoehorn so many plants in that there's no room for them, as they enjoy the sunshine just as much as your prize specimens.

It should be perfectly safe to plant out summer bedding now if you haven't already done so although, who knows, this year we may get snow in June!! You can also plant out your dahlias and cannas. If you have some gaps then it's not too late to direct sow some fast growing annuals like calendula.

If you have any spreading or trailing plants that are starting to look tatty then feel free to chop them, as this will encourage new growth. You should definitely chop off the spent flower heads of euphorbias and this is particularly important for euphorbia amydaloides var. robbiae as the stems tend to develop mildew.

If you grow chrysanthemums then pinching out the leading shoot will encourage the plants to become bushier.

Now here are some propagation ideas for you. You can collect hellebore seeds although remember that progeny will not look like their parents! You can also take cuttings from pinks and any plant with fresh new shoots.

Lets move our attention to shrubs. You can prune any early flowering shrubs now. This will give new growth time to harden ready to flower next season. You can also clip evergreen hedges.

Give your shrubs and roses a treat by scattering fertilizer at their roots.

Here's a tip for those of you who are rose mad (or anal??). If you have hybrid tea roses you can spend time disbudding them. This means removing all the smaller flower buds to leave one central bud that will develop into a huge bloom. Is life too short here?

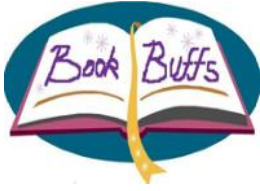
Moving swiftly on to something that may be of more general use lets have a quick chat about fruit and veg.

It is now completely safe to plant out your courgettes, squash, indoor raised beans, cucumbers, corn and outdoor tomatoes. You should be harvesting things like beetroot, radish, lettuce, cabbage and spinach and remember that some of these can be sown in succession to give you later harvests. With some it's worth starting them off inside in trays and then planting them out.

Hoeing is really important in the veg patch as weeds can quickly engulf veg.

You also need to keep an eye open for pests. If you want to deter carrot root fly and the need to 'sculpt' every carrot you pick, then put up a two-foot barrier around your carrots or cover them in fleece.

Anyway, I think I've rambled on for long enough now so I'll leave you to get outside and enjoy your garden!



Book Buffs

The next meeting will be held via Zoom at 8pm on Wednesday 2nd June.

We shall be reviewing *'The Road Back'* by Liz Harris and the delayed library book *'A Country Road, a Tree'* by Jo Baker.

The new library book is *'The Story of Beautiful Girl'* by Rachel Simon which will be delivered to you. As an alternative I suggest *'All among the Barley'* by Melissa Harrison.

Please return *'A Country Road, a Tree'* to the blue box outside Blandy's Barn as soon as you can.

Letcombe Sports and Social Club



SATURDAY 3RD JULY
LETCOMBE FUN DAY

RAISING FUNDS FOR LETCOMBE SPORTS CLUBS SERIOUSLY INJURED PLAYERS CHRISTY AND JOE

FAMILY FUN UNTIL 5PM
PLUS • ALL DAY BBQ • CIDER & ALE TENT
WIN A BARROW OF BOOZE • PARAGLIDERS
BIG RAFFLE • PUTTING COMPETITION
KIDS PENALTY SHOOT OUT • BOUNCY CASTLE

LIVE MUSIC 6PM-LATE
LOCAL BANDS PLUS ELVIS TRIBUTE

ELVIS IN TROUBLE

Design by Seven Design Associates www.sevendesign.co.uk

May was, as we all know, a rather wet month, but we did manage to open on Fridays, which allowed our Members to enjoy the new patio area. We have had very favourable comments, and with the gradual relaxation of the rules, we are allowed inside again, although with restrictions.

The Darts Team has started practicing, and hope for League Darts to start again for the Winter Season, with probably some friendlies played against a few other local pubs and clubs.

We have a Village Event planned for Saturday 3rd July. The "Family Fun Day" is being hosted in conjunction with the Football Club, who are raising funds for two footballers who were badly injured over the past two seasons. See the adjacent poster for details, but there will be a fete during the afternoon, and then some live music from late afternoon through to the evening, ending at approximately 11pm.

There will also be a return of the "Pizza at the Pavilion" events as well. The first one will be on Friday 30th July, but more info will appear in the July Register.

If you want to know more about Membership, then please contact the Secretary by email on letcombesportsclub@gmail.com. People who are members of the Sports Clubs who use the Sports Pavilion are automatically Members of the Sports & Social Club, but purely Social Members are welcome to join for £12 per year.

Richard



Issue 190

Letcombe Cricket Club

Cricket has started with several rained off or abandoned matches. The play that has managed to take place has resulted in 1 win and 1 defeat for the Saturday Team, 1 win for the Wednesday Team, and 1 win for the Sunday Team.

The seasons fixtures were posted in the Register last month, but if you want a copy of the fixture card, or to check on fixtures, then please contact the Secretary on letcombecrick-etclub@gmail.com, or visit the web site at <http://letcombecc.co.uk/>

The weather looks to be improving for the beginning of June, and we have 18 home games in the space of just over 2 months, so if you want to watch some cricket, then there will be plenty to choose from.

Richard
Secretary, Letcombe Cricket Club.

Letcombe Regis Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust



We have welcomed back many of our regular users to the Village Hall this month, and look forward to when we can lift all the restrictions. If you are looking to book, then please check the online calendar first to see what dates/times are available - <https://www.letcomberegishall.org/availability>

The old Riding Field which was leveled off last month will get sprayed once the nettles start to grow. When this happens, notices will be put up reminding people of this, so they can be careful when using that part of the recreation ground. We will then get it rolled and seeded, so it is in a usable state for whatever use is decided.

We will be revisiting the planned work to improve and refurbish the Children's Playarea. We are grateful for the village volunteers who have offered to help with the coordination of this work, and will be back in contact with them in the near future.

Karen Johnson and Eddie Jenkins have decided to stand down as Trustees. We are extremely grateful to Karen and Eddie for the time they have given up to be a Trustee, and for their hard work. We welcome two new Trustees, Alison McClintock and John Castle, so we are at our full complement of 9.

The AGM will take place in July, and should be in the Village Hall, all being well. Details will be posted in the July Register, along with the Accounts for the previous year.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions for improvements to the Recreation Ground area, the Village Hall or the Sports Pavilion, then please contact either the Secretary, or the Chairman on letcombehallsecretary@gmail.com, or letcombehallchair@gmail.com

Richard Taylor
Chairman, Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall Trust

BABYSITTER AVAILABLE

Charlotte (Charlie) Reed
07341 280137
17 years old * COVID tested twice a week
Lives in Letcombe Regis
Evenings and weekends
References available

Letcombe Regis Open Gardens 2021 Update



Although a degree of uncertainty surrounding the relaxation of restrictions concerning Covid still remains, the plans for Open Gardens are in place. Nine gardens are opening on 4th July between 2.00pm and 6.00pm. Volunteers to help with catering at the Village Hall and assisting with the parking arrangements are welcome. Please get in touch with Paul Batchelor at the Old Manor Stables if you can help (Tel. no.: 763935).

THE GREYHOUND INN

LETCOMBE REGIS · OXFORDSHIRE



NEW EARLY SUMMER FLAVOURS

Every weekday try our à la carte

Lunch for Less

2 courses £20 3 courses £24

Available 12-2:30 pm Monday to Friday

Every Wednesday evening from June 9th

The Midweek Fix

2 delicious courses for only £18

www.thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk
email: info@thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk
Tel:01235 771969

Public Engagement Exercise on Floodlighting for the Football Pitch



The Parish Council has been approached by Letcombe Football Club concerning floodlighting for the football pitch. The success of the club has meant that should it wish to accept promotion, floodlighting is a requirement to play in a higher league. In order to help guide the Parish Council on the decision of whether to allow the development, it is seeking the views of parishioners through a public engagement process. Each household within Letcombe Regis will be getting a form asking for their preference concerning floodlighting, details of which are available on the Parish website (<https://www.letcomberegispc.org>).

The form will be distributed to each address the week beginning 31st May. A 'ballot box' has been made available at Richmond Village shop and the completed form needs to be submitted by 19th June. The shop is open Monday through to Saturday between the hours of 10am and 4pm.

The results of the exercise will be announced at the subsequent Parish Council meeting in July.

The views expressed in the Register do not necessarily reflect the view of Letcombe Regis Parish Council

Deadline for inclusion is the 27th of each month.

Items will generally appear in the order they were received

IF YOU ARE NOT **ALREADY** ON THE VILLAGE EMAIL LIST AND WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE, NOT JUST THE REGISTER, BUT ALSO UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES, DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR INBOX, PLEASE CONTACT THE **PARISH CLERK** DIRECT: LETREGISPC@GMAIL.COM

Past Registers are available to view, along with much more information, on the Village Website: www.letcomberegispc.org

Francesca Engelmann,
2, The Old Stables,
Letcombe Regis,
OX12 9LD
Register@oldstableyard.co.uk
01235 769310

Waste Calendar

Download your own copy of the 21/22 Vale of the White Horse Waste calendar [Here](#)

Once you click on the download it will take you to a PDF along with the holiday collection changes too.

June 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
Green recycling Garden waste Food waste				Landfill Food waste		

Vale of Whitehorse Waste collection information can be found [HERE](#)