

# The Letcombe Register



Issue 182

October 2020

## CALENDAR

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3 <i>Tennis Cardio &amp; Coaching 9am</i>	4
5  <i>St Andrew's open for personal prayer 9.30 - 5 pm</i>	6 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	7 <i>Tennis Cardio 9am Coaching 10am</i>	8	9	10 <i>Tennis Cardio &amp; Coaching 9am</i>	11
12  <i>St Andrew's open for personal prayer 9.30 - 5 pm</i>	13 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	14 <i>Tennis Cardio 9am Coaching 10am</i>	15	16	17 <i>Tennis Cardio &amp; Coaching 9am</i>	18
19  <i>St Andrew's open for personal prayer 9.30 - 5 pm</i>	20 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall RG&amp;VH AGM 7.30 pm</i>	21 <i>Tennis Cardio 9am Coaching 10am</i>	22	23	24 <i>Tennis Cardio &amp; Coaching 9am</i>	25 <i>Holy Communion 10.00 am St Andrew's</i>
26  <i>St Andrew's open for personal prayer 9.30 - 5 pm</i>	27 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	28 <i>Tennis Cardio 9am Coaching 10am APCCM - Zoom 8.00 pm</i>	29	30	31 <i>Tennis Cardio &amp; Coaching 9am</i>	

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\* Most Events shown in the Calendar must be booked in advance, and could, currently, be changed at short notice. Please check the details before attending.

To submit items email:

[Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk](mailto:Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk)

(They 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: [LETREGISPC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LETREGISPC@GMAIL.COM)

Registers are available to view, along with much more information, on the Village Website: [www.letcomberegisp.org](http://www.letcomberegisp.org)



## Message from the Parish Council

With Government guidance set to tighten in an attempt to curtail the spread of the coronavirus over the coming months, please ensure you remember to:

### OBEY THE RULE OF SIX

- Wear a Mask,
- Keep your distance
- Regularly wash your hands.

We have been Covid free since the outbreak and with your continuing cooperation we can keep our community safe.

The Parish Council met virtually via Zoom on Monday 21 September, and we were joined by our District Councillor Paul Barrow. Cllr Barrow is taking the lead on coordinating the local Parishes to address the issue of inappropriate use of the local byways and also investigate the implementation of restrictions. A meeting has been scheduled for October to discuss this with a view to a joint approach to resolve the issues.

Despite the latest round of road repairs there is still concern over the poor state of some of our roads, including Court Hill Road. Cllr Benton confirmed that we all need to log issues on the councils <https://www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk> webpage, to ensure we maintain the urgency for a fast response. If you see any areas of concern please help us by reporting it direct.

Concerns over speeding around the village continue and the Parish Council has enlisted the help of our PCSO, who will be using the Speed Indicator Device to record the speed of motorists over the coming weeks to identify culprits. Continuing with the topic of roads and pavements we are again seeing an increased poor/sometimes illegal parking particularly at road junctions, on bends and across pavements. Parking in the village is an issue, but please be mindful of other road users and also pedestrians, who on some occasions are being required to step into the road to get past vehicles. Again we are enlisting the help of the PCSO. If you have a garage we would ask that you use it to help alleviate the situation, especially through the winter months.

The Burial Ground Improvements Project is being finalised and the Parish Council are very grateful that Phil Hodgson has agreed to support us through the implementation. Phil's significant engineering expertise will be invaluable in ensuring we achieve a cost effective outcome that will benefit the community for years to come.

Over the recent months a growing number of lost

personal items have been passed to the Parish Council and it has been agreed that the following policy should apply, particularly as we are not in a position to store items for any length of time.

- The Village Email will be used to communicate the find or loss, together with a Facebook notification. This will be actioned by the Parish Clerk.
- Items will be held for a maximum of 3 months, at which time they will be disposed of.
- If you have lost anything please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

During the summer a small group of Councillors have worked to update the Village Emergency Plan and this was approved at the Parish Council Meeting. It will shortly be loaded onto the Parish Website. We are very grateful to all of those who have volunteered to be part of the emergency response team, and for those who have offered to provide 4X4 assistance, etc, should the need arise.

Those Cllrs co-ordinating the response to the pandemic are continuing to meet and monitor the situation. We are mindful that with the winter approaching there is the possibility of even greater isolation for some and we have been seeking ways of supporting those most vulnerable in our community. To help the functioning of two of our regular village groups, the Gardening Club and the Book Club, the PC was pleased to approve a Community Grant for the purchase of a Zoom License so that meetings can continue, albeit on a virtual basis. If you feel you would like regular social contact and would like a befriender to be available please contact us via [letcomberegis.virusupport@btinternet.com](mailto:letcomberegis.virusupport@btinternet.com). (All contacts to this email are confidential).

With winter fast approaching we are advised that the arrangements for Flu jabs are well in hand. Those who are patients of Newbury Street will be receiving information on the process for making appointments, but those who are patients of Church Street will need to check with their website. If you fall outside these two groups you can make your own arrangements at participating local chemists.

Finally you will find elsewhere in the Register, information from the Fire Service who are offering safety checks for electric blankets. Please be sure to have these items checked before you start to use them.

Please continue to STAY SAFE.

Jeanne Lapsley  
Chairman

## Wednesday Morning & Saturday Coaching Sessions

Courses are:-

### Saturdays

9am to 10 am	Adult Cardio Fitness and Coaching class
10am	Red Ball 5 to 7 year olds
11am	Orange / Green Ball 8 to 11 years old
12pm	Yellow Ball Juniors 11 +
1pm	Yellow Ball plus Juniors 14 - 18
2:45 pm	Red Ball 5 to 7 year olds

### Wednesdays

9am to 10 am	Adult Cardio Fitness class
10am	Adult All Ability Coaching

Visit NTA's Junior and Adult Coaching pages to register, click [Adult & Junior coaching](#) or ring 0800 888 6030.

All courses are run by LTA minimum level 3 accredited coaches, provided by the National Tennis Association.

### Club Sessions

Every Sunday morning one of our committee will be at the courts from 10am to 1 pm to meet and knock up with you, so please come along, weather permitting, to play a friendly game, find out more or just knock a ball (what -ever you want!).

Note Wednesday evening Club Roll-up sessions will cease for the winter as from 19<sup>th</sup> of October.



## Message from David Johnston, MP

I spent the parliamentary recess visiting as many individuals and organisations as I could. I met with the founders of innovative companies like Rosemor and Aquobex, whose cleaning and flooding solutions respectively attract custom from around the world. I visited hotels like the Bear and Milton Hill House, hotels being one of the sectors of the economy that has been particularly badly hit by lockdown, with some people being more reluctant to return to their previous way of life. At gyms like tfd Health and Fitness and Fitness Space people *are* keen to get back their previous way of life – and as a gym-goer myself I understand them! – they just have to book in advance and adhere to a higher standard of hygiene than perhaps they did previously. No bad thing, in my book.

At Farmer Gow's I saw not just what a great family day out the farm is for young and old, but also met the proprietors of successful businesses that Anne Gow has as tenants on the site, from LissieLou, the cake decoration business, to Bark and Berry Dog Grooming and the Oxford Yurt, a pretty impressive glamping site – I've never been glamping myself, but if you like doing so I'd check them out. I was pleased to make my first visit to the Westmill Wind and Solar Farm and delighted they were successful in their bid for Government funding for a new visitors' centre that will increase the number of visitors 6-fold.

Along the way there were lots of other independent businesses, like Didcot Glass and Glazing, Emma's Vintage Style, 30 Something and Bob's Butchers. Charities too, like Children Heard and Seen, which supports the children of prisoners – more on that in a future column. On my Facebook page (davidjohnston4wantage) you'll see I've started 'three questions' with the owners of different organisations to spread the word about organisations people might not have heard of.

On my week off, we went to the Lake District, but unfortunately I crocked my knee on a crag and am currently on crutches! It's my first real experience of having restricted mobility and it does bring home quite how many places are inaccessible for those who need to use crutches or a wheelchair to get around, something I've understood only theoretically before. Parliament is probably one of the worst examples, although I'm grateful I've temporarily been given an office nearer to the House of Commons to reduce the walking I have to do. As ever, if I can help with anything then do get in touch via [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)

## 200 Club results

200 Club Draw — No 7		October 2020
226	Peter COLLINS	£50
23	Reg & Margaret PIKE	£25
189	Frances RHODES	£15
140	Fran ENGELMANN	£10
164	Thérèse CLARKE	£5
Special Draw:		
206	Patrick CABLE-ALEXANDER	£25
204	Jacque BERRYMAN	£20
90	Mark & Alison McCLINTOCK	£10
4	Tim ECCLES	£10
91	Steve & Anne WILSON	£10
112	Steve SIMMONDS	£10
73	Phil HODGSON	£10
New Numbers draw:		
137	Kesia PULLINGER	£5



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**Coaching unlocks a person's potential to maximise their own performance.**

### Rental Property Wanted

4 bedroom (or large 3) rental house needed which would also allow a dog and 2 cats, starting from end November/ beginning of December.

Email [Alison@burnt.net](mailto:Alison@burnt.net)



## Letcombe Football Club

The football club have played a number of friendly matches during July and August, always bearing in mind the restrictions required by Covid19. The young reserve team have already played 3 league matches, winning all of them. They beat Saxton Rovers reserves 1-0 at home, an excellent result as Saxton have won the league for the last few years. This was followed by a 4-1 victory at Stanford in the Vale and a 3-1 away win against Faringdon `A`.

Letcombe first team open their competitive season on Saturday 26th September with a Hellenic cup tie at Adderbury. This is followed by two home league fixtures, against Wallingford Town reserves on October 3rd and a local derby against Wantage Town development on October 10th, both 3.00pm kick offs.



## Friends of Letcombe Valley Community Nature Reserve

More exciting news regarding the local otter population. On the evening of Sunday 20 September, Glen Adam saw an otter by The Granary near Mill House. It ran across the road, up on to the brick bridge and into the Letcombe Brook. So keep your eyes open and please take special care to go slowly when driving round the sharp road corner as you enter Letcombe Main Street. It would be tragic to have another of these precious animals become roadkill as happened on the A338 in Grove in October 2019.



October is the month when it is usual for most of the overwintering Little Egrets to return to the Community Reserve. Their numbers in the Reserve have gradually risen each year; during October to December 2019 mainly single birds were seen until late December when five were recorded at Warborough Farm, and six were seen on Christmas Day. Twenty-five years ago Little Egrets in the UK would cause a stir in the ornithological community, but now the RSPB website records around 4,500 over-wintering birds present from October to March and around 700 pairs breeding pairs annually, so they are relatively common.

However, already this year a much rarer winter-visitor, the Great White Egret, has been seen in the Community Reserve, of which the RSPB has recorded only 35 birds over-wintering in the UK whilst The British Trust for Ornithology has recorded just double that number. The Great White Egret looks similar to the Little Egret though larger and has a yellow beak for most of the year and black feet compared to the black beak and yellow feet of the Little Egret. Their feeding techniques are different too, the Great White spearing fish, insects and frogs with their long, sharp beaks like a Grey Heron as opposed to the rather more ungainly flapping of Little Egrets whilst they stir the mud with their feet to disturb prey. The British Trust for Ornithology have a short video at <https://www.bto.org/develop-your-skills/bird-identification/videos/bto-bird-id-little-egret-and-great-white-egret> on how to distinguish between Great White and Little Egrets, and on the differences between the former and 'white' or leucistic Grey Herons.

Both Egrets are in the same bird family as the Grey Heron, of which two were observed in the Community Reserve in December 2019 and on the Letcombe Brook through the year being resident UK birds. In the early 20th century, past owners of the lake at the Mill House would pay six old pennies for a dead heron to protect their fish stocks. Of course, today all the birds in the heron and stork family are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

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**October 2020**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Grey Landfill Food Waste			Green Recycling Brown Garden Waste Food Waste			



## Collection Calendar

Detailed information about the Vale of the White Horse waste collection services can be found [HERE](#)



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### Toms Topaz Den

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TopazDen>

[tomsutherland92@gmail.com](mailto:tomsutherland92@gmail.com) 07747535917

### The Barn Tea Rooms, Court Hill Centre

Homemade cakes, light lunches.  
Just off A338 on the Ridgeway - and it's all downhill on the way back!

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Tel: 01235 760253

### Registered Dietitian

**Liane Reeves, BSc (Hons) Nutrition, MSc Allergy**  
HCPC registered, MBDA

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### COMPUTER PROBLEMS? CONVERSION TO WINDOWS 10?

A locally-based service (from Letcombe Bassett) has been helping people here for the last 15 years

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### Hazel Lee Jones

### Holistic Beauty Therapist

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[Mrsjbeautyhealing@gmail.com](mailto:Mrsjbeautyhealing@gmail.com)

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## Garden & Plant Design

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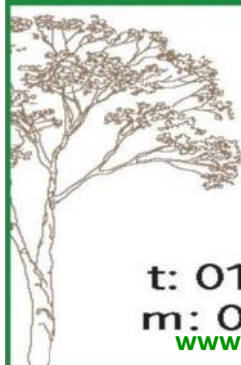
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## Saint(s) of the Month Saints Crispin and Crispinian



*“This day is call'd the feast of Crispian  
He that outlives this day, and comes safe home,  
Will stand a tip-toe when this day is nam'd,  
And rouse him at the name of Crispian.”*

On 25<sup>th</sup> October 1415, the young king Henry V was leading an exhausted and vastly outnumbered army facing almost certain defeat by a superior force of French knights near the town of Azincourt in northern France. Writing nearly 200 years later, Shakespeare gives Henry V one of the most stirring speeches in the English language as he exhorts his rabble army not to despair. What makes the speech so memorable is that the king tells the wretched soldiers that they are his equal, in this together, “we few, we happy few”; not so much a monarch commanding his troops but a “band of brothers.”

It's stirring stuff. So much so that during the dark days of World War Two, Winston Churchill invited Sir Laurence Olivier to film a version of Henry V. Financed by the government, it was an outstanding success as morale-boosting propaganda. (You can still see Olivier's version of the Saint Crispin's day speech on YouTube. Despite being filmed in 1944, it's as spine-tingling as ever.)

But who were these saints who are immortalised by Shakespeare? Not a great deal is known about them other than that they were twin brothers, called Crispin and Crispinian, born into a noble Roman family in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. Records show that they were very successful shoemakers. They may have been the Jimmy Choo and Manolo Blahnik of their day, making fabulous shoes for the elite of Rome. Sadly, no evidence

remains to tell us what kind of shoes they made but what is known is that they made a great deal of money. Instead of spending it on themselves, they gave it all away to the poor to whom they also preached Christianity.

This aroused the fury of the emperor Diocletian and the brothers fled to Gaul to escape persecution. Here they continued to preach and to donate the profits of their shoemaking business to the poor. They are described as preaching by day and making shoes at night. Eventually the governor of Gaul, one Rictus Varus, had them arrested and put to death. There are two accounts of their martyrdom: in one, they had millstones tied round their necks and were thrown into a river. In another legend, they miraculously survived this and swam ashore, only to be beheaded by Rictus Varus anyway.

Wherever possible, in Saint of the Month we've tried to find some British connection. A 16<sup>th</sup> century manuscript claims that the brothers briefly lived at Faversham before settling in Gaul. Faversham Abbey has an altar dedicated to Saints Crispin and Crispinian which may support this theory but it's a rather dubious claim.

Although very little is known about them, apart from their shoemaking and their steadfast faith, they are celebrated not only by Shakespeare but also by Wagner. In his opera *Die Meistersinger*, the shoemakers' guild enter singing a hymn of praise to Saint Crispin. They are the patron saints not only of shoemakers but also of tanners, saddle makers and leather workers. Shakespeare's father, being a glover, would have been very familiar with them. But it is Henry V's words which make their names live on:

*And gentlemen in England now a-bed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here  
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.*

## Women's Institute

We were very disappointed that last month's meeting had to be cancelled, and it looks as if this will be the state of things for some months to come. Under the Rule of Six, any meeting would be extremely sparse! But during the fine weather, we have enjoyed several delightful small garden tea parties while observing the regulations, and our thanks are due to Judy for organising them.



So, no meetings for the foreseeable future, but we will be in touch with everyone when we are allowed meet again. Stay safe!



## The Letcombes Conservation Group

In September some members assisted Anne Williams in checking the spread of creeping ivy (*Hedera helix* subspecies *hibernica*) through St. Andrew's churchyard to maintain the wildflower areas. Common in woodland, ivy is the country's only native evergreen shrub, but *Hedera helix* ssp. *helix* (the climber) is a thoroughly misunderstood plant. Its climbing habit is supported and facilitated by tendrils from the stem that cling, but are not parasitic like Mistletoe, on the tree. Ivy gets nutrients and water by its roots in the ground around the tree. Ivy does become established on trees that are no longer in full health and its leaves will compete with the tree it overtakes for available light, perhaps explaining the association of ivy with the demise of trees. However, ivy has some very beneficial features which include sweet-scented flowers in autumn when nectar and pollen from other sources are scarce.



This is vital for the survival of bumblebees, butterflies, hoverflies, wasps and numerous other insect species. The pollinators' work results in shiny, black fruits by January that form an important mid-winter food source for resident and over-wintering birds including thrushes, blackcaps and starlings. The dense growth also provides habitat for many insects including beetles and cover in dry, shady ground. Perhaps consider a native species or cultivated variety with their focus on leaves of differing size, lobes and colour for a patch in your garden.

The common lizard is a reptile more usually associated with grassland, heathland, woodland edges and moorland rather than basking in spots of sunshine in English gardens or on walls like this one photographed in Regis in



September. These 'cold-blooded' reptiles rely on the warmth of the sun to heat their bodies and remain active. Although the common lizard is a widespread species in the UK, numbers are in decline due to habitat loss. They are protected under UK law making it an offence to deliberately sell, trade, injure or kill a common lizard. Lizards in warmer parts of the world lay eggs, but the UK common lizard has evolved to carry up to 10 eggs for longer, providing the heat they need for incubation before laying them in July when they are about to hatch. At this stage the eggs have flimsy membranes and the young break free immediately, leading to the mistaken belief that they give birth to live young and their name *Zootoca vivipara* (from the Latin *vivus*, to be alive, and *pario*, to give birth).

The common lizard is usually brown with a pattern of stripes or spots, but colours vary from black to vivid green. Males have bright yellow or orange-speckled bellies whereas females have paler, plain undersides. Adults are 10-15cm with a small, pointed head and a tail being half the length. If attacked by a predator, such as a bird of prey, crows and other large birds, foxes or cats, the lizard can escape by shedding its tail, which continues to move as a distraction. The common lizard hunts by day for small invertebrates such as flies, spiders and even snails using sight and scent. You might be lucky and spot a common lizard before they hibernate beneath rocks and logs in autumn to emerge in spring as temperatures rise. A similar size to newts, lizards are distinguished by a scaly skin rather than smooth or 'warty' skin like a newt. If you have a chance for a close look you might count the five toes on the front pair of legs of a common lizard, whereas newts have four toes. If you could catch it, it's a newt with slower, lumbering movements; common lizards are much more likely to scurry away very quickly when disturbed.

## Photographic Club invitation for November issue



The Letcombe Photographic Club deadline for submission is the 20th of October and the subject for November is: **'Autumn'**

Please send your images (max 2 per resident) as an attachment to [stevemikarics@gmail.com](mailto: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 October photos ('creatures in your garden') can be found below (page 9).



Creatures in your garden



A Cinnabar caterpillar—Paul Batchelor



Muntjak and Magpie—Iain McCoubrey



Spider in Web—Iain McCoubrey



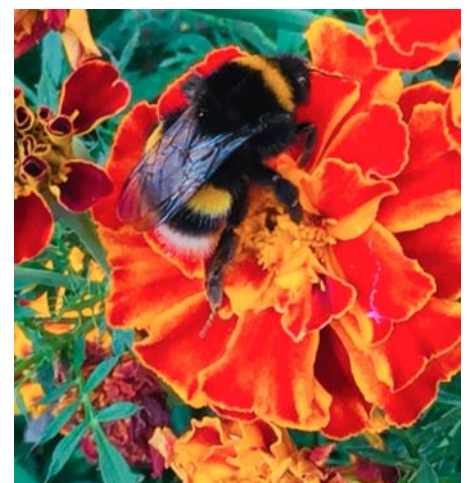
Bee in Verbena - Jane Watters



Charlie and Kerry - Jane Watters



Mr Toad - Karen Angela Ash



Bee in Marigolds- Karen Angela Ash



# St. Andrew's, Letcombe Regis

It was wonderful to be able to host the wedding of Benjamin Prior & Melissa Downing on 12th September. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers for this first wedding of the year, not only for St. Andrew's, but the Ridgeway Benefice. It was very special to welcome Melissa and the guests to Ben's village church.

Saturday 12th September was also the official date for 'Ride and Stride' that raises money for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (OHCT). We like to support the charity every year not least because they have been very generous to us. We had a number of cyclists and walkers visiting St. Andrew's on the day.

The following week there was much to celebrate too as Andrea was ordained priest at Dorchester Abbey. Huge thanks to The Revd Mary Harwood and Letcombe Regis Village Hall for livestreaming the service so a number of people were able to see Andrea's ordination who otherwise would not have been able to access the service.

Unfortunately our open air Harvest Festival for all the villages of the Ridgeway at Kingston Lisle had to be cancelled and quickly organised on Zoom. Our Zoom services during lockdown have proved quite popular with over thirty people joining us each week. We will be continuing to host two services a month via Zoom whilst each parish in the benefice will now begin to host Holy Communion each month. St. Andrew's will be hosting the service at 10:00am on the fourth Sunday of the month. We are

continuing with the prayer stations in the churches and this month we continue the theme of Harvest. Information regarding the different opening days for our churches are on the noticeboard in the church porch or in Signpost.

The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) that was postponed from April will now take place on Zoom at 8:00pm Wednesday 21st October. We very much welcome nominations for Churchwarden and membership of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Nominations form are available from the rector. If you live in the parish of Letcombe Regis you are welcome to join us for the Vestry meeting where we elect the churchwardens. Please contact the rector [revd.lahill@btinternet.com](mailto:revd.lahill@btinternet.com) for Zoom ID and Password. (If you are on the electoral roll details will be automatically sent to you). At the APCM there will be a presentation on the questionnaire that we sent out over the summer and also the opportunity to discuss the seasonal orders of service that we began to use before lockdown. Following the APCM there will be a meeting of the PCC.

We wish Bishop Colin and his wife Sarah a very happy retirement. A service for Bishop Colin will be livestreamed from Dorchester Abbey at 3:00pm Sunday 4th October.

Thanks and blessings,  
Leonora  
Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice

## Gardening Club - Topical Tips

As I write this it is definitely beginning to feel like autumn. There is a chill in the air and the leaves are starting to turn. I don't think we can compete on the colour stakes with New England (we can plead wrong trees and not the right climate) but we can give it a fairly good go if we plant thoughtfully. For instance the autumn colours of Liquidambar and euonymus alatus really set the garden on fire and cercis canadensis also looks pretty stunning.

Well I'd better get down to practicalities. At this time of year tasks tend to turn to maintenance. You can still lift and divide perennials in October. Cut back any of those that have died down and are looking bedraggled but remember that you don't have to do a complete clearance job here. Seed heads look really attractive in the frost and no harm is done by waiting and cutting them down at a later date.

Make sure you keep a wary eye on the weather forecast and move all your tender plants inside at the first mention of frost.

If spring bedding is your thing then you can plant up, for example, violas, wallflowers and, dare I say it, forget-me-nots now. Just be aware that forget-me-nots leave a legacy in their wake!

This month is an ideal time for moving and planting trees and shrubs. You may be able to buy them bare-root which is cheaper than containerised.

We can't end without mentioning propagation! If you're in that frame of mind then you could have a go at hardwood cuttings. Roses, cotinus and salix all work quite well. Just remember you have to be patient with them. They take longer to root than softwood cuttings.

Now let's turn our attention to fruit and veg. You can sow overwintered broad beans this month as long as your soil isn't too soggy. Plant them reasonably deep so the mice can't get at them!

You can also divide your rhubarb crowns.

Other than that it's more of a tidying job on the veg plot. Remove any yellowing leaves from brassicas to help prevent disease, and stake sprouts and purple sprouting broccoli as they get taller so they don't keel over in the wind.

I think you've got quite an easy job this month so enjoy browsing the seed catalogues and looking forward to what you're going to grow next season. Have fun!



Cyclamen in Judy Vaughan-Williams' garden



# HOW SAFE IS YOUR ELECTRIC BLANKET?

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**Monday 5 – Friday 9 and**  
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## Film Club

When we submitted our copy for the September Register, we were very hopeful of re-starting Film Club in November. Feedback from our regular customers was generally positive about coming out to enjoy a film show in the village hall, but a lot can happen in a month. Given the resurgence of COVID and general advice not to gather in large groups, we have decided that its best to be cautious and postpone until at least the new year, when we will take stock again.

Many thanks to all who responded to our survey. We look forward to seeing you all again at Film Club, hopefully in the New Year.

Best Wishes from Anne, Barb, Nick and Eileen

## Book Buffs



Regretfully, it seems wiser to defer the plan to meet in the pavilion on 30 September until the restrictions are clearer and we have a better feel for the wishes of the members.

The library is reissuing books again and a new title will be delivered to you soon.

Keep safe  
Freddie

## Letcombe Regis Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust

Although the Hall has been in use now by several different groups, we are currently still under strict government rules on what can take place in the Hall, and how many can attend. If you plan to use the Hall, then please contact the co-ordinator.

It is with regret that the Trustees have made the decision that there will not be any Bonfire or Fireworks this year. The bonfire site is being levelled out, so please do not put any rubbish on it.

The Village Hall and Recreation Ground Annual General Meeting which was deferred from May because of the Covid-19 pandemic is now scheduled for Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm. We do not know whether this will take place physically in the Hall, or via a Skype session, so any villager who wishes to attend needs to register their intention to attend with the Secretary by Tuesday 13th October, so we can manage numbers, and also notify those who plan to attend whether it will be in the Hall, or via a Skype meeting. The Annual Report, together with the Accounts and all the Sports Clubs reports went out in the June Register, but if you need a reminder of these reports, please contact the

Secretary. The Secretary can be contacted via email - [letcombhallsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:letcombhallsecretary@gmail.com).

We have a new Trustee - Paula Broad, which now means we are up to our full quota of 9 Trustees. That being said, if anyone is interested in becoming a Trustee, then please contact the Secretary for details, as the Trustees get elected/re-elected at the AGM

For those of you who plan to use the Village Hall, please take note of the Covid-19 rules in place, and scan the NHS "Test and Trace" QR Code if you have a compatible smartphone.

We have received several compliments from villagers on how wonderful the Recreation Ground looks, which is a credit to all the Clubs who keep it tidy and mown. I am sure those of you who use the recreation ground would agree, but as ever, there is always room for improvement, so if you feel there is anything that could be done differently or better, please let me know.

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



## Letcombe Sports & Social Club

Thanks to all the villagers who came and enjoyed the "Pizza at the Pavilion" event on the 11th September. Although the weather wasn't quite as warm as the month before, it was an extremely enjoyable and successful event. The new flood lights helped those outside to enjoy the evening even when the sun had set.

We now have 45 social members, with the majority ( 34 ) from the village and most of the others from the surrounding villages of Childrey, Challow and Hendred.

Covid-19 restrictions mean that we close at 10.00pm on our regular opening days of Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and our thanks go to those members who are helping out and obeying the new rules. We do hope, as everyone else does, that we do not have to stay with these restrictions for too long, but none of us have a crystal ball.

If you are thinking of becoming a member, or would like to know a bit more about the Sports & Social Club, then please contact the secretary on [letcombesportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:letcombesportsclub@gmail.com)

Richard  
Secretary, Letcombe Sports & Social Club.

## Letcombe Cricket Club



After waiting for what seemed like an eternity for cricket to start, with the extremely curtailed season, it's all over far too quickly.

The Saturday team got through to a Cup Final, at Hendred, but unfortunately didn't perform to their best, and ended up losing fairly comfortably to Hendred.

Sunday friendlies were played in the usual spirit, with the emphasis on trying to make sure everyone got a game, whether batting or bowling. The Chairman's XI v President's XI match on Sunday 6th September was a most enjoyable affair, with the BBQ as ever excellent - our thanks go to Jake the Chairman for yet another fine spread.

There were only a couple of Wednesday evening matches, but at least this was better than none at all.

The cricket club has purchased a new mower, which has allowed us to cut the outfield slightly lower and better than previously. The teams who have played at Letcombe have complemented us on the quality of the outfield, and the pitch.

We look forward to 2021 with hope, and expectation, that there will be a full season of cricket. The fixtures will be published on the Sports & Social Club calendar here - <http://letcombesports.ddns.net/> The calendar also has the bar opening times, as well as any other events which may be on.

One piece of Letcombe Cricket Club history. I was speaking with a gentleman, who lives in the village, who opened the batting for Letcombe between 1957 and 1977. I am not sure exactly, but think he started ( and possibly finished ) playing before any of the existing players were born. He complimented me on how good not just the Cricket Pitch, but the whole of the Recreation Ground looked.

Richard  
Secretary, Letcombe Cricket Club



Francesca Engelmann,  
2, The Old Stables,  
Letcombe Regis,  
[Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk](mailto:Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk)  
01235 769310

*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.*



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