

# The Letcombe Register



Issue 181

September 2020

## CALENDAR

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>Tennis Coaching</i>	6
7	8 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Tennis Coaching</i>	13
14 <i>WI 7.30 pm 'Rock 2 Recovery' Village Hall</i>	15 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Tennis Coaching</i>	20 <i>Tennis Adult Tournament 10 am Courts  Opera Unlocked 5 pm Newbury</i>
21 <i>WI - 7.30 pm Village Hall  PC - 8.00 pm Zoom</i>	22 <i>Yoga with Beth 09.45-10.45am Village Hall</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>Tennis Coaching</i>	27 <i>10.00 am Open Air Harvest Festival Kingston Lisle</i>
28	29	30				

\* Most Events shown in this month's Calendar must be booked in advance, please check the relevant article/advert before attending.

The Register is also available to view, along with much more information, on the village Website:  
[www.letcomberegisp.org](http://www.letcomberegisp.org)

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)

To submit items contact:  
[Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk](mailto:Register@Oldstableyard.co.uk)

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## Message from the Parish Council

We hope that you have all had a chance to enjoy the summer.

Thank you all for your patience over the past few weeks of road repairs. Whilst a full resurfacing was not possible, we are grateful that proper patching repairs have been done prior to the winter weather.

We are still waiting for a proposal from OCC Road Engineers to arrive at a scheme to alleviate the flooding at Bablakes on the lower road to Wantage. Until this is done please take extra steps to drive slowly and safely through any build-up of water to keep yourselves safe and prevent flooding to the nearby house.

As we head into Autumn it is a good time to remind those over 65 years to register with their Gas and Electricity Companies so that they respond quickly to support you in times of power failures. The Priority Service Register ensures energy suppliers provide prompt extra help. Details will be available from your energy provider so please sign up now.

Whilst the immediate threat of Covid-19 has seemingly subsided, please be assured that the Parish Council's team of volunteers are still available to help should the situation change. Currently the Vale of the White Horse has the lowest infection rate in Oxfordshire with 2.68 infections per 1000. This is testament to your adherence to government guidance and we are grateful to all of you who continue to take every step to keep our community safe. All urgent information will continue to be sent via the village email list and links placed on the Village Website to ensure you remain up to date.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday 21 September, 8pm and will be held via Zoom. You are all welcome to join the meeting and to be invited you simply need to let the Parish Clerk know in advance and you will be provided with joining instructions.

Finally the Parish Council were saddened to learn of the passing of Tony Good earlier in August. Tony was a staunch supporter of the village and without his vision and determination we would not all now be enjoying the facilities of the excellent new Village Hall. His management of Segsbury Camp over the past 25 years or so has ensured we have all been able to enjoy the natural landscape in all its beauty, especially the annual spectacular display of cowslips. For this and many other initiatives he will be sadly missed by many, and the Parish Council is grateful for the many supportive contributions he has provided over the years.

Please remain safe

Jeanne Lapsley  
Chairman

## Recent highways work in Letcombe Regis.



You may have noticed the recent works carried out in our village to improve some of our road surfaces. Thank you so much for your patience whilst these works were being completed.

There are more areas within the village that need remedial work completed and there are some future works scheduled.

We will inform you of when they will take place as soon as we get notification.

In the meantime would you **please** report any potholes and areas of concern to the fixmystreet site. This is the best route to instigate action for these issues.

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>





## Letcombe Football Club

The football club have played 6 friendly matches, all at home, winning 4 of them and losing 2. The new season is scheduled to start on 5th September, but may be delayed a couple of weeks as some clubs are still sorting out their Covid19 risk assessment. The F A are allowing clubs to use their changing rooms and clubhouse with social distancing, which limits us to 8 at any one time in the changing room and 16 in the clubhouse. This is no problem in fine weather as we have tables and chairs outside, but will cause difficulties as winter approaches. I assume that visiting teams will have to go straight home after changing.

Who knows how the season will proceed. All the lads are anxious to get playing league matches again, but personal health must be the over-riding factor in all decisions.

## Yoga with Beth



My yoga classes will be starting back on Tuesday 8th September. I have a Covid Safe policy in place so advanced booking is essential. People can book through my website [beyoga.co.uk](http://beyoga.co.uk) and select classes to see the timetable and guidelines or click [here](#)

*We need yoga now more than ever to maintain our calm, focus and find inner strength during these incredibly challenging times. Many people are noticing an increase in their stress levels and anxiety accompanied by fear of the unknown as they think about the months ahead. The beauty of a yoga practice is that it helps us to be present, to be in the moment and to process each moment as it unfolds'*



## Gardening Club - Topical Tips

As we start September we reach the end of what has been a very weird summer. The biggest beneficiaries have probably been our gardens as we've all had lots more time to spend in them!

To brighten your day why don't you plant some new perennials? This month is a good month to start doing this, as the soil is still warm. You can also lift and divide existing perennials. Crocosmias are a good candidate for this. Over the years the clumps get tired and congested and flowering is drastically reduced.

September is a great month for asters. Their colour brightens the whole garden. However some of them are quite tall and prone to being flattened in strong winds so keep an eye on them and stake where necessary.

You can still have a go at increasing your plant stock this month by collecting seed and taking cuttings of tender perennials such as pelargoniums. Just remember that you're going to need space to store them in the winter, as they won't like sitting outside in the cold and damp!

September is a great time to plant and move shrubs as they will have all winter to settle in but also remember to keep watering any drought stressed shrubs you have as the soil is more likely to absorb and hold the water now.

As far as fruit and veg are concerned the word is 'harvest'. You should now be reaping the rewards of all your hard work.

You can continue to feed your tomatoes and cucumbers but there is no need to feed any other crop at this time.

Continue to keep on top of the weeds and I found a really good and relevant little quote on the Internet recently.

"Hoe when you can't see a weed and you'll never see a weed".

Very true I think!

You can cut off the fruited canes of your summer raspberries now. You can also cut all the foliage off your strawberries to 1 inch above the ground and plant up any runners to replace plants that are over 3 years old.

If your potatoes have succumbed to blight then cut off and dispose of the tops but leave the potatoes in the ground for a fortnight before harvesting to protect them from the spores.

Well I think I will stop 'horticulturally spouting' now and get out into the garden myself so happy September gardening to you all!

## 200 Club results



Springboard – professional coaching, mentoring, management and leadership development

Feel like you are stuck with in a rut with work or professional development challenges? Struggling with barriers to your success? Want to refresh your approaches, develop new skills, recognise areas for personal growth and reinvigorate your professional development? Need support to think through how to deal with change or access new opportunities?

Springboard offers a full range of coaching, mentoring, management and leadership development services to individuals, groups and organisations. Contact Suzy Alder to arrange a discussion about how we can support you or your organisation to thrive in an ever-changing professional landscape. ([aldersuzy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aldersuzy@yahoo.co.uk) / 07774686877)

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

200 Club Draw — No 6		September 2020
40	Rose Gordon LUNDIE	£50
67	Emma & Michael MATTHEWS	£25
33	Bernard LEVY	£15
59	Vivien McCOUBREY	£10
47	John HOWARD	£5
Special Draw:		
110	Jane ELLIS	£25
119	Angela WILDE	£20
84	Mike LIGHT	£10
176	Araminta LAPSLEY-MIKA	£10
42	Julie & Peter BATTEN	£10
178	David MAUNDRELL	£10
123	Sharon BEDFORD	£10
New Numbers draw:		
235	Simon EAST	£5



## Book Buffs

We hope to restart the book club with appropriate social distancing in September. I will notify all members when the date/time/place is settled.

Any queries to Freddie Trotter 767772

## Advertisers Wanted for Updated Village Booklet



A gentle update has been achieved on the small booklet, once circulated locally to tourists, walkers and friends, now out of print.

This is a history of the area, village and church. Originally compiled by Neil McLaurin and Peter Bushell.

We are looking for small ads for the back cover.

Interested please call Mora Abell - 01235 763883

## Delayed October Register



As things stand, I shall be taking a break at the end of September which will mean the October issue may be delayed by a couple of days. Please accept my apologies in advance. Francesca Engelmann



**Hazel Lee Jones**  
**Holistic Beauty Therapist**

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gardening advice?

Whatever your gardening needs, please email:

[helenajwhall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenajwhall@hotmail.com)



## Women's Institute

We are delighted to be able to meet again on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>, when Luccia Rennie will be telling us about her epic walk from John O Groats to Lands End to raise money for the charity Rock to Recovery. This is a charity that supports service people with PTSD. She will tell us of her encounters and experiences that she had on her journey, which was a huge undertaking as she walked alone, carrying all she needed on her back. She is an interesting and entertaining speaker and welcome any questions you may have.

We very much hope to welcome all our members, but it will not be a normal meeting. Everyone must wear a face covering and we will arrange the hall with a separate entrance and exit, so there is less chance of dangerously close encounters. Chairs will be 2m apart. We shall not be serving any refreshments, but you are welcome to bring your own drinks and biscuits. No sharing!

There will be a raffle, as usual. It would be very helpful if you brought the right change to avoid handling money too much.

See you there!

# Opera Unlocked

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Book online at [www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on](http://www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on)

Shaw House, Church Road, Newbury RG14 2 DR, Tel. 01635 279279

Don't forget that I have made every effort to 'hyperlink' any email addresses or websites shown in the Register (including in the adverts). If you hover your mouse over them in the PDF it should give you the option to click on them and be taken straight there, rather than laboriously typing everything out. If you come across any that don't work then, please let me know, and I will try to rectify for the next issue.



Francesca



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### CONVERSION TO WINDOWS 10?

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### The Barn Tea Rooms, Court Hill Centre

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HCPC registered, MBDA

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## St Andrew's, Letcombe Regis

Anne Williams is stepping down as Tower Captain. Anne was first approached to be Tower Captain in 1982 and she has taught and encouraged a whole generation to ring and celebrate our festivals and life events. It was in January 1999 that Anne recruited a new team of bell ringers to train and ring for the new millennium. She has been bell ringing off and on since 1955! Anne, you are an inspiration to us all. Congratulations and thank you so much for your contribution to the life and worship of St. Andrew's Church over so many years.

Delighted to announce that our curate, The Revd Andrea Colbrook is to be priested on Sunday 20th September. This service will be livestreamed from Dorchester Abbey. The ordination ceremony was originally planned for June so we are so pleased that this is now going ahead.

Bishop Colin has given us dispensation from church services until the end of September. St. Andrew's will continue to be open for personal prayer on a Monday and the theme for our Prayer Stations is Harvest. Most of our services in September will be via Zoom but a hearty thank you to the Marments of Kingston Lisle who are enabling us to gather in the open air to celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday 27th September. Further details of our services will be in the September edition of Signpost. (A copy of Signpost is posted on the church noticeboard, inside the porch).

Bishop Colin will be retiring in October. He has been Bishop of Dorchester for twenty years and a great supporter of rural ministry. He has visited St. Andrew's Church on a number of occasions, most recently at the beginning of this year when he dedicated a new altar cloth in memory of Edgar Boyes. (It was through Edgar's generosity that we were able to invite Andrea to be our curate). This month Bishop Colin commissioned Gill Thompson as an Anna Chaplain to the Ridgeway Benefice at Sparsholt Church. Congratulations and our grateful thanks to Gill as she begins this exciting new ministry. For more information <http://www.annachaplaincy.org.uk>

Last but not least our thanks to Vivi McCoubrey as she steps back from contributing to the Register on behalf of St. Andrew's Church. I am pleased that Vivi will continue to write her interesting and informative articles on the saints.

Blessings,  
Rector Leonora



## Saint of the Month - Saint Michael

In the hierarchy of angels of the major Western religions, especially Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the Archangel Michael is right up there at the top. In the Bible he is St Michael the Archangel; in the Quran he is Mikal.

He is the holy warrior, God's Commander-in-Chief, who triumphs in the battle between good and evil, between light and darkness. He is the hero of *Paradise Lost*, conquering the rebel angel Lucifer, rebranded as Satan, and driving him out of heaven. (Although if you read *Paradise Lost* - does anybody read it nowadays? - you can't help but notice that Milton makes Satan more charismatic and gives him the best lines: "Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven.")

Saint Michael as a triumphant warrior is a favourite subject in religious art, especially the scene where Satan lies defeated below his sword or spear. One of the most impressive modern depictions is Sir Jacob Epstein's bronze sculpture of Saint Michael's victory over the devil for Coventry Cathedral. This vast statue, 25ft high with a wingspan of 23ft, adorns the east wall and symbolises the triumph of good over evil. Although Michael is usually depicted conquering Satan singlehanded, sometimes he is shown leading other archangels: Raphael, Gabriel and the rather lesser-known Uriel.

His feast day, Michael's Mass or Michaelmas, on September 29<sup>th</sup> is an important day in the secular calendar as well as in the Church's. As it falls near the equinox, the day is associated with the beginning of autumn and the shortening

of days; it used to be said that harvest had to be completed by Michaelmas. In England, it is one of the "quarter days" when rents were due and debts had to be paid; new magistrates were elected and legal and university terms commenced. The City of London's livery companies are summoned to Guildhall on Michaelmas Day to elect the Lord Mayor of London.

As St Michael triumphed over darkness, prayers are said at Michaelmas to ask for his protection during the coming dark, winter months. It was the tradition to celebrate his feast day with a "stubble goose", fed on stubble from the harvested fields, and goose fairs were common around Michaelmas. Nottingham Goose Fair has been a huge event for over 700 years but, sadly, cancelled this year. St Michael is celebrated especially in Cornwall where, according to legend, he appeared to some Cornish fishermen in 495 AD. St Michael's Mount is named in his honour. The mount, incidentally, was said to have been built by the Cornish giant, Cormoran (not Strike!)

Michaelmas daisies, amongst the last flowers to bloom, are said to represent St Michael shining in the darkness:

*"The Michaelmas daisies, among dead weeds/ Bloom for St Michael's valorous deeds."*

And September 29<sup>th</sup> is the last day when it is safe to pick blackberries. Satan, falling from heaven, landed on a blackberry bush and cursed it. Exactly what will happen if you pick blackberries on Michaelmas Day is unclear - but better not try.



## The Letcombes Conservation Group

The Canada geese and their offspring have gone from the deer field pond, but there was excitement over the appearance of some exotic birds. A Bustard was sighted near Bishopstone and in the Devil's Punchbowl over the summer; then followed the interesting RSPB headline, 'Rosy starlings bloom all over the UK'. Similar in size and shape, the Rosy versions of the species have a pinky\ white 'vest' on their front and back and the males also have a shaggy crest on their head which is often on full display during the breeding season. These birds spend most of the year in Eastern Europe and Asia, only visiting our shores on rare occasions after warmer springs when their preferred food source, insects, travel further west. Though definite sightings had been reported elsewhere in the UK this year, local sightings were reported as leucistic



(Dumfries & Galloway, Caroline Legg, May 2020)

or juvenile starlings with very pale plumage prior to developing adult feathers. (right).



(South Yorkshire, Tim Melling, June 2020).



However, the bird spotted in East Challow was tracked down by Ian Taylor and definitely confirmed as an adult Rosy starling by its magnificent plumage.

Rather less enthusiasm greeted the news from BBOWT that HS2 took legal possession of a large part of the Calvert Jubilee nature reserve to begin clearance works. The reserve has been managed for 50 years as a quiet haven for wildlife and people with overwintering waterfowl and waders, bittern, tern, blackcap and the rare nightingale. The eastern part of the reserve, to be destroyed totally to make space for the railway, is a renowned home to all five UK species of the rare Black and Brown Hairstreak butterfly, as well as flower-rich grassland and important scrub habitats.

In spite of The Wildlife Trusts' best efforts and vigorous campaigning, the environmental costs of HS2 in its current form, which will exacerbate the nature and climate emergency, have been disregarded. The Wildlife Trusts' Report assessed the damage as '108 irreplaceable ancient woodlands, which have been around since the 1600s, 33 Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 693 Local Wildlife Sites and 21 Local Nature Reserves, among other precious habitats'. In this country, people are free to have opinions and the right to object to development on any scale. The Wildlife Trusts are urging constituents to write to their MP -

(David Johnston, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)) to request that if HS2 must go ahead it

- 1) should be seen as a nature restoration project as well as a transport project;
- 2) must have a 1km green buffer strip either side of the HS2 corridor and green bridges to connect green spaces; and
- 3) there must be a large-scale commitment to the communities, landscapes and wildlife that HS2 fragments. You might also wish to read and point our MP to the report 'What's the damage? Why HS2 will cost nature too much.'[https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/What%27s%20the%20damage%20-%20Full%20Report%20digital2\\_0.pdf](https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/What%27s%20the%20damage%20-%20Full%20Report%20digital2_0.pdf)

The Calvert Jubilee Reserve





# Friends of Letcombe Valley Community Nature Reserve

Currently the Reserve has a distinctly autumnal feel with hazel nuts and berries filling the hedgerows. Many native hedgerow shrubs are important for wildlife. Hawthorn can support more than 300 insects as a food plant, the berries being a favourite of migrating birds, such as redwings, fieldfare and thrushes, as well as small mammals. Hawthorn is associated with two contrasting myths; as a fertility symbol it was used as a Maypole and for garlands, but hawthorn blossom indoors in medieval times was believed to herald illness or even death – smell the blossom scent to realise why. The splendid translucent, red berries of Guelder rose, accompanied by leaves that will turn red soon, often indicate an ancient woodland. The berries are an important food source for birds, including bullfinch and mistle thrush, but are mildly toxic to humans despite the common name of European cranberry. The shrub is also called 'Cramp bark' because the bark was used in a tincture to relieve muscle cramps.

Hazelnuts are eaten by dormice to fatten up for hibernation and also by nuthatches (recently observed in the Reserve), woodpeckers, wood pigeons, jays and small mammals. The Hazel has a reputation as a magical tree with many uses such as water-divining sticks, the woven wattle in old houses to which the daub was applied, thatching spars, net stakes, pea and bean sticks, hurdles and furniture. When hazel is coppiced, the open, wildflower-rich habitat supports species of butterfly, particularly fritillaries, and provides shelter for ground-nesting birds, such as the nightingale, nightjar, yellowhammer and willow warbler. Elderberries are also a food source for birds, dormice and other small mammals, such as bank voles. In the past, elder wood was not burnt for fear of summoning the devil, but an elder planted by your home would keep evil spirits away.

The dogwood is another shrub with small black berries eaten by many mammals and birds. The name originates from the smooth, straight crimson twigs used to make butchers' skewers. The name means 'skewer wood' as skewers were called 'dags' or 'dogs'. The wood is very hard and the bark, like all *Cornus* species, is rich in tannins and was used in a tea-like drink to treat pain and fevers, while the leaves were made into a poultice to cover wounds. Blackthorn wood is also hardwearing and traditionally used for making walking sticks and tool parts. Its foliage is a food plant for the caterpillars of many moths, including the swallow-tailed and yellow-tailed, and used by black and brown hairstreak butterflies. Traditionally, blackthorn was used in many remedies that made use of the blackthorn's bark, flowers and fruit. Being the ancestor to the cultivated plum, sloes are still used to make wine, preserves and sloe gin, but do leave those in the Reserve for birds to feast on this autumn.



## Photographic Club invitation for October issue



The Letcombe Photographic Club would like to invite Letcombe photographers to submit images for display in the Register. Of those submitted, the club will select a small number to be published each month.

The deadline for submission is the 20th of September and the subject for October is:

### *'Creatures in your Garden'*

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.

September photos can be found on next page (10)

The Architecture of Letcombe



Timber and brick gable - Karen Angela Ash



It's a Flat World—Stephen Mika



A good hat - Mike Light



Single Glazing - Stephen Mika



The Church - Kristine Hitchcock



Double Glazing - Karen Angela Ash





## Film Club

Summer definitely feels like its over and to cheer up our winter weeks we are thinking about if/how we can restart Film Club in the Village Hall, in a way were we all feel safe and secure.

Cinemas are now reopening with limited numbers and social distancing in place, including wearing masks. We are discussing with the Trustees what measures we would need to take if we are to restart Film Club. We believe it is possible to run Film Club with restrictions in place - limited numbers, pre-booking, leaving contact details for track and trace, social distancing measures and probably wearing masks in the Hall. We are also looking at options for providing refreshments safely.

The big question is whether you, our customers, would want to come to the Village Hall to watch a film under these far from 'normal' circumstances. Please let us know what you think and whether you would like Film Club to return by emailing: - [letcombefilms@outlook.com](mailto:letcombefilms@outlook.com).

We will feedback in next months Register - if we have enough interest and pending government advice, we will go ahead with Film Club in October or November, pending government advice.

We hope to see you back for films again soon.

## Sports & Social Club Report

*We are pleased that the reopening of the Sports & Social Club has been a success. In particular the "Pizza at the Pavilion" event, and the "Friday Fun Football".*

*We would like to thank all the people who attended on Friday 7th August, and had such a wonderful afternoon/evening, whilst being extremely sensible and maintaining Social Distancing, and respecting the signs inside the Clubhouse. We have planned a repeat event for Friday 11th September, all we can hope for is the weather to be kind to us again.*

*The "Fun Football" has been a great success, with more than 30 different children with ages ranging from 6 - 13 primarily from Letcombe and Childrey being coached and entertained by members of the Football Club. Over the 8 weeks, there have been more than 130 attendances, with an average of 16 each week. Particular thanks must go to the Letcombe First Team Manager, Garry, Secretary, Des and goalkeeper Dillon. The kids especially enjoyed the "Lightning" knockout game that Dillon played with them. So much so, that the kids kept asking for "more"! We will plan for this to come back again next summer.*

**DELICIOUS WOOD FIRED PIZZA**  
— AT THE PAVILION —

**ALL WELCOME**  
BAR OPEN AT 4PM  
PLEASE FOLLOW SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES IN PLACE

IN FINE SPIRITS pizza menu and order details will be available on:  
[www.facebook.com/infinespirit](http://www.facebook.com/infinespirit) or call 07789 722138

PLEASE **PRE-ORDER** YOUR PIZZA ON THURSDAY

**DATE: FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER**  
**TIME: 4.00pm - 8.30pm**  
**AT: Letcombe Regis Sports and Social Club**

**IN FINE SPIRITS**  
Retro VW Mobile Bar & Street Food

We will be taking orders from Thursday between 10am to 3pm. If we are unable to answer (or outside of these hours) please text and we will get back to you. We will be offering slots for collection every 15 minutes to ensure social distancing can happen safely - please let us know your preferred time when calling. Please also advise us of any allergies. Payment will be taken cash only upon this phone at the time of order to allow for a contactless collection. Telephone 07789722138 or visit [www.facebook.com/infinespirit](http://www.facebook.com/infinespirit)



## ***Autumn Adult Tournament.***

Adult American Doubles Tournament (Alias “Fun Social get together”). Fun event, OPEN to all Abilities, on ***Sunday the 20th of September*** Drinks and snacks provided 10:00 am > 13:00pm. To just come for a drink or take part, please either: ring **Anne Jones on 763969**, book on line:- <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/LetcombeTennisClub/Events> or email Letcombe tennis. This is the perfect opportunity for new and rusty members to join in and have fun.

## ***Wednesday Morning Adult Sessions***

We have convinced our coaching partner NTA, to continue the Wednesday Fitness and All Ability Coaching 1 hour sessions, as from the beginning of September.

The Cardio Fitness sessions (holding a racket and running around the court, occasionally hitting a ball), has proved a great way to get into / back to, tennis, while getting some enjoyable exercise (you can do as much or little as you like).

This will be followed at 10 am by an All Ability Coaching session, where basic strokes / serves will be developed and some Singles and Doubles tactics demonstrated and practiced.

Already there are 7 villagers signed up, but we need an additional 3 for the courses to run! To encourage anyone (you do not have to be a club member) to register NTA are offering the **1<sup>st</sup> month free** (if it is then not for you it has cost you nothing!!, thereafter it is £7 per 1 hour session).

Register today by clicking [Adult coaching](#) or ring NTA on **0800 888 6030**

## ***Relaxation of Coaching rules***

As from the 10th of August the number of participants allowed per coaching session has been relaxed and is now up to a maximum of 10 per session, therefore we have reorganised the sessions as follows:-

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

Visit NTA’s Junior and Adult Coaching pages to register, click [Adult & Junior coaching](#) or ring **0800 888 6030**. 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** (weather permitting) to meet and knock up with you, so please come along, to play a friendly game, find out more or just knock a ball about.



## Letcombe Regis Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust

Hall usage has still not resumed over the summer months, but the Trustees and Claire, the Co-ordinator, have been working to put the Covid-19 signs, sanitiser and procedures in place ready for the first Hall users in September.

Many people have still been taking advantage of the open spaces of the Recreation Ground, which is pleasing to see. Particularly well attended and received was the "Pizza At The Pavilion" event on the 7th of August. There is a repeat of this planned for Friday 11th September, with pre-booking of Pizzas needed the day before. More details on the advert on the previous page of the Register. If anyone is interested in becoming a "Social" member of the Sports and Social Club, or is just interested in finding more about it, then please contact the Secretary via email - [letcombesportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:letcombesportsclub@gmail.com).

Some of you would have seen the pleading message on Facebook from Dennis, who maintains the football pitch, about the continued dog mess situation, and I personally have had to put the brakes on when cutting the cricket outfield to

remove an "unwanted pile" more than once. The Trustees will continue to discuss solutions to this problem where a tiny minority are either being irresponsible, or just not paying attention. Fines can be imposed for either not picking up, or for not carrying poo bags, and we have requested some random surveillance by the Vale Council, which will be happening at some point in the near future.

The Trust Annual Meeting was meant to take place in May. We are now planning for this to take place on Tuesday 20th October 2020, and it will take place physically in the Village Hall if we are allowed to. More details will be sent out in the October Register, but please make a note in your diary. Attendees will be expected to notify the Secretary in advance that they plan to attend, as I am sure we will still be needing to implement "Track and Trace".

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



We are so fortunate to live in such a lovely environment. It is therefore really disappointing, distressing and against the law when some dog owners do not clean up their dogs' poo.

It is the dog that does the poo, but it is unfair to blame the canine population; it is the responsibility of the dog owner to ensure that the dog's mess is cleaned up.

faeces is toxocarasis which can cause inflammation and granuloma to form on the retina, causing significant visual

symptoms such as abdominal pain and pyrexia. It can also cause a **blindness**.

**Fines will be imposed on those dog owners seen not picking up their dogs' poo and dog owners walking their dog and not carrying poo bags.**

**If you witness any such behaviour, please collect any evidence (photos etc.) and report it.**

You can of course report it on <https://www.fixmystreet.com>

Cllr. Michelle Benton

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.*

**THE GREYHOUND INN**  
LETCOMBE REGIS · OXFORDSHIRE



**Eat out with us in September  
and continue to save**



**Please see website for details  
and to book a table**

**THE GREYHOUND INN**  
Main Street, Letcombe Regis,  
Wantage, OX12 9JL

Telephone: 01235 771969  
[www.thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk](http://www.thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk)