

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 139 January 2017

Issue Editor: Jo Robson Deadline for next month's Newsletter articles: Thursday 19 January

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CREATIVE CHRISTMAS 2016

What a fantastic turnout – the car parking field was full. Thanks to everyone who came along to the Barn at the end of November to support the efforts of so many to raise funds for three charities.

Karen, Jess and I sincerely thank the following villagers for their support: Lilian Western, Anne Hidson and Joyce Annis (cookery); Rita Remfry and Viv Theyer (cookery and sales support); Harriet Robson and Jessica Remfry (children's sales table and Hamper raffle); Sue Withers (sales support, endless cutting-out, seed collection); Chris Remfry (hot apple juice); Cindy Wiltshire (knitting/crochet, dried orange slices and sales support); Martin Robson (woodworking and event Gofer); Rachel Budd and Sue Ralph (crafting); Des Beeson (consumables financier) and everyone who donated items to the vintage/curios section, fabric, unwanted bottle bags etc. Thanks also to all those who encouraged friends and family to attend.



Viv Theyer and Rachel Budd (including work colleagues) continued sales in their respective hair salons to add hundreds of pounds. Thanks also to Sam and Phillipa Page (Coombe Hill Farm Shop) who also enabled sales right up until Christmas.

In addition we received donations and support from afar:

Warwickshire (Monica & Jack Tomkins), London (Dennis & Liz Brown), Powys (Gill Matthews), Vanilla Hair Salon, Cheltenham (Ben Knight, Jackie Crawford and Kate Westlake) and Surrey (Cyane Sullivan).



Apple Juice sales were fast and furious with over 60 bottles sold – many thanks to the donors/pickers: Wiltshires, Westerns, Withers, Hidsons, Robsons and Beesons

We are delighted to announce that **WE ALL RAISED BETWEEN US** an absolutely unbelievable figure of £4,594 to benefit Cheltenham Cobalt Cancer Unit, Dementia UK and Riding for the Disabled. It gets even better as the Cobalt Unit were part of the The Big Give 2016 whereby any donations received between 29 November and 2 December were doubled – we forwarded them £1k thus making an extra £1k without lifting a cake tin or needle. Therefore, the actual total is:

£5,594



Once again, many thanks, it again exceeded all our expectations – here's to 2018!

Jo, Karen and Jess

THE LEIGH CHRISTMAS POST BOX

On Sunday 18th December at 2pm, 5 of Santa's Little Helpers including Emma-Jane and Georgina Austin, William and Lara Tidmarsh and Harriet Robson together with a little helping paw from Darcy Austin (the Cockerpoo) arrived at Denes Hollow very keen to undertake the task of emptying the village post box ready to sort the mountain of Christmas cards inside. Georgina managed to grab the last batch of cards from inside the box before Darcy jumped in to double check she hadn't missed any!

The Little Helpers efficiently sorted the post into their respective surnames ready for the 'Big Helpers' to tie into neat bundles ready for delivery. After a fun packed couple of hours with laughter and chatter filling the 'sorting office', the Helpers were dispatched on their rounds with their neatly tied parcels.



Our sincere thanks goes to all the villagers who supported us this year and made such generous donations. We are delighted to announce that an incredible total of £160.00 will be donated to The James Hopkins Trust, a charity that we have supported for the last few years, which provides practical help for severely disabled, life threatened and life limited young children, aged 5 years and under, living in Gloucestershire.



As always, special thanks must go to Jane and Paul Austin for hosting this annual event and for providing an assortment of tasty refreshments. Thanks also to Viv and Richard Theyer for 'hosting' the post box at Little Holborn and for emptying the contents of the box each evening.

Finally thanks to Jess Beeson, Annalee Tidmarsh, Jane Austin, Jo Robson and Karen Beeson for their assistance!

Karen Beeson

On a sad note....

Palfrey, Josephine Margaret (Josie) Passed away peacefully on 11th December 2016 at St. Faiths Nursing Home aged 77 years. Dearly loved wife of Graham. Loving Mum to Julie and Kevin. Funeral service to take place at Cheltenham Crematorium South Chapel on Thursday 5th January 2017 at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations for Alzheimers Society or St Faiths Nursing Home may be sent c/o Mason & Stokes, 54 Hewlett Road, Cheltenham. GL52 6AH



Harry Wilks passed away on Sunday 18 December. His funeral will take place on Friday 6 January at 1.30pm, Leigh Church.

CHURCH SERVICES

Sun 1 Jan - Benefice Holy Communion at Boddington 10am
Sun 8 Jan - Worship Together 10am (venue tbc)
Sun 15 Jan - Holy Communion St Catherine 8.30am
Sun 22 Jan - Evening Prayer St Catherine 6pm
Sun 29 Jan - Benefice Communion 10am (venue tbc)

MESSY CHURCH: 5 Feb, Down Hatherley Village Hall



NORTON WI

Thurs 19 January
7.30pm

Norton Village Hall

"Working Police Dogs"

Speaker: Sergeant Geoff (and Bear)
From Gloucester Constabulary



For further info contact: Margaret Edwards 01452 731218

Church Magazine 2017

For those who subscribe to the Parish Church Magazine, the subscription for 2017 will remain at £6 and is due in January.

GUIDE DOG FOSTERING

This village Newsletter once published a telephone number and a request for volunteers for guide dog brood bitch holders. As a result we fostered a dog called Maria who works for the British Guide Dogs as a brood bitch. Our lovely dog joined the family in 2014 as a one year old - well bred and well trained yellow labrador.

Summer 2015 she had her first litter of 11 puppies WOW! - we never had so many visitors. All qualified for puppy walking and have done really well.

This August we received a call from Guide Dogs, one of Maria's puppies had qualified as a brood bitch.

"That's great news" I said.

"She needs a home" they said. (Oh clearly I'm not that bonkers?!?)

My better half brought Topsy home, she had been gone for exactly one year and settled straight back in. I guess she recognised the place. As for our Maria, she loves having another dog around, they get on great.

Maria (not so well trained anymore) is fat, her second litter is due very, very soon - so a very busy time ahead. We now have two fantastic family dogs, I think for us it's completely worth the trouble - I have read and listened to people's personal stories of how a dog changed their lives for the better, much better - this far outweighs any effort on our part.

The Guide Dogs always put the animal's health and welfare first, offering continuous support to all their volunteers. The National Breeding Centre has amazing facilities and do scheduled tours.

There are many ways you could help, if interested please visit www.guidedogs.org.uk (brood bitch holder) or call 0845 3727 432



Lucy Chandler

St Catherine's Church, The Leigh Loose Change Collection Box

Your contribution in these boxes for this half-year amounted to £196.19. Many thanks to everyone, it all helps with the upkeep of the church. Anyone who I didn't find at home and wishes the contents of their box to be included please contact me.

Janine Bramley 01242 680336

WAINLODE WALKERS A new informal group of keen walkers, we have been meeting every Friday since the end of November for a 3 - 4 hour walk exploring the local landscape and history. Anyone interested in joining us, contact Sue Phelps 07754 668898



Norton and The Leigh Local History Group
Norton Village Hall
Monday 23rd January

Our speaker will be Tony Conder
Gloucester Docks - Then and Now

Doors open 7.00pm for Coffee and biscuits
Talk starts at 7.30 pm
Everybody welcome
Details Sue Phelps 07754 668898



Parish Web Site Launched

We are delighted to announce that our first web site is now finally launched. Over time content will be added but we hope everyone will find the site useful and informative. If you have any news or events you want to publicise please let Kate Tilling Parish Clerk know. The address is <http://theleighpc.org.uk/> Take a look over the Christmas break.
Colin Withers

Next Full Parish Council Meeting:

February 8, 2017 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
St Catherine's Church, The Leigh



The Leigh Orchards Apple Juice 2016 £2.50 p/bottle

Apples grown in The Leigh
Juice extraction & pasteurisation in Woodmancote

Available from Daniels Orchard:
joanna.robson@btinternet.com/680257
All proceeds to Riding for the Disabled (Hartpury)



FOR SALE £20

Reproduction concrete staddle stone, left out in the weather to take on a natural stone appearance
24" diameter 20" high approx
All proceeds to Cheltenham Cobalt Cancer Unit as part of Creative Christmas



ADVANCE NOTICE

As part of my Duke of Edinburgh Award, I need to complete a community activity and am hoping to do a Bingo Nite in the Church on Saturday 18 March for charity.

Further details in the February newsletter - I do hope you can attend.

Harriet Robson

THANK YOU TO ALL NEWSLETTER DELIVERERS:

Colin & Cindy Wiltshire, Pete and Katie Hawkins, Lynn Davies, Josie Wragg, Janet Gilder, Jez Chandler, Janine & Brian Bramley and Lynne Tucker

