

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 142 April 2017

Parish Website: www.theleighpc.org.uk

Issue Editor: Jo Robson Deadline for next month's Newsletter articles: Thursday 20 April

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EYES DOWN....

I would just like to thank all those who came to my Bingo evening on 18 March.

I am also grateful for all your generous donations of prizes, cake and monies given from those who could not attend. I am proud to announce that our total was an incredible £300. This will be split between St Catherine's Church and Sue Ryder @ Home.

With the amount of support the village has shown me, I might have to make these events a regular thing!

Harriet Robson

Date for your Competitive Diary!!

Quiz

Sat 17 June
St Catherine's Church



More details to follow next month - Jo

St Catherine's Services:

April 3rd Evening Prayer 6pm
April 10th Worship Together, Norton 10am
April 13th Maundy Thursday 'Washing of Feet' 7pm
April 14th Good Friday Walk, Norton 1pm
from The Green to Church
(then Meditation in St Mary's Church)
April 16th Holy Communion 8.30am
April 23rd Evening prayer 6pm
April 30th Holy Communion, Sandhurst 10am

Easter at St Catherine's

During Holy Week there will be a display of 3 drawings in each of the Benefice churches. The 21 drawings are the happenings of this time through the eyes of Jesus. St Catherine's will be open as usual during this time.

Flowers: Anyone wishing to remember loved ones at Easter is invited to place flowers in any of the windows in St Catherine's. There are some vases in the tower. A dedication on a card to accompany the flowers would be lovely.



Sue Roberts/ Hazel Cotton
(clivesueroberts@gmail.com)

So why are we *The* Leigh?

Ever wondered why it is that friends live in places such as Norton or Tewkesbury, but we live in *The* Leigh? How many other places can you name which have the definite article in front of the place name? I found myself wondering why we are "The" as I once sat having a coffee in *The* Hague, another similarly-named place. The only other one I could think of while I passed the time in that coffee shop in *The* Netherlands was *The* Bronx, more accurately known locally as Da Bronx.



The French use 'The' more often than we do; there are dozens of places beginning with Le or La, Le Havre *par example*. The Spanish are not immune to the notion either, think Las Palmas and Los Angeles. The Germans, with the added complication of their having three definite articles, don't seem to have adopted the notion, except in compound town names such as Diekirch.

Surprisingly, there are in fact a couple of hundred other examples of The place names in the UK, including another 15 I found in our own county of Gloucestershire (The Beeches, The Camp, The Eaves, The Fence, The Flat, The Lyd, The Mythe, The Park, The Pludds, The Pound, The Quarry, The Reddings, The Scarr, The Twittocks and The Tynings). My favourite example is a Worcestershire village I dearly wish that I had been born in, The Gutter. Then I could accurately say that "I dragged myself up from..." Bath was apparently known as The Bath until the 19th Century, which must have led to lots of interesting misunderstandings.

It would appear that The is more generally reserved for larger geographical features such as The Solent or The Cairngorms, or for pluralities such as The Plains or The Maldives, but smaller places such as The Leigh still exist as quaint anomalies.

Interestingly, looking at the bigger picture, The has been dropped from The Ukraine, which now wants to be known internationally as Ukraine. It's only ever been Ukraine in the country itself, as there is no such thing as a definite article in either the Russian or Ukrainian languages! That just leaves two countries with The in front to their names, The Bahamas and The Gambia. Why *The* UK and *The* USA? Because they are compound names containing adjectives. Of course...

So why are we *The* Leigh? The most likely explanation is that places which use the definite article when they are not pluralities mark a division between two places, a border if you like. The Leigh would therefore be the area which lies between the hamlets of Leigh and Evington, the two old tithings which now make up our village. And it's been that way at least since our mention in the Domesday Book in 1086.

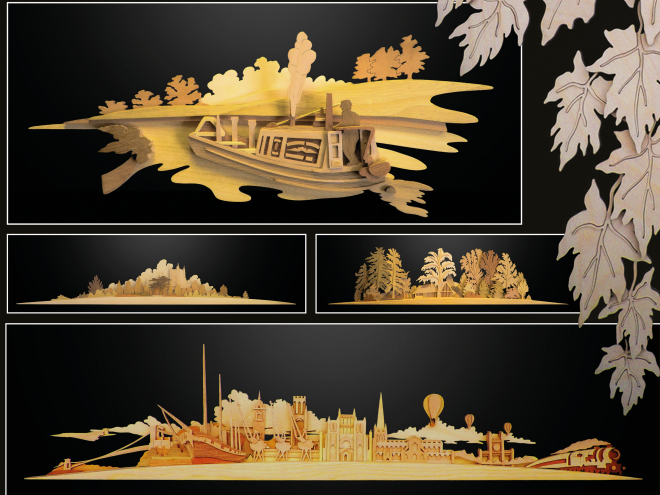
Derek Brandon

GRAHAME R. TUCKER

SCULPTOR AND PRINTMAKER

INSPIRATIONS

A COLLECTION OF NEW SCULPTURES



25TH - 30TH APRIL 2017

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

NATURE IN ART

WALLSWORTH HALL (JUST OFF THE A38)
TWIGWORTH • GLOUCESTER • GL2 9PA

WHOLE MUSEUM ALSO OPEN • FREE PARKING • COFFEE SHOP • GIFT SHOP • WHEELCHAIR USER ACCESS
WWW.NATURE-IN-ART.ORG.UK • WWW.GRAHAMETUCKER.CO.UK



Norton and The Leigh Local History Group
Norton Village Hall
Monday 24 April

'Childhood Employment
in Gloucestershire'
Speaker: John Loosely

£2 entrance to include coffee and biscuits
Doors open 7pm, talk starts at 7.30pm
Details: Sue Phelps 01452 731280

Everybody welcome

NORTON WI

Thurs 20 April
7.30pm
Norton Village Hall
"Hanging Baskets"
Speaker: Robert Champion



Open Meeting, all welcome, non-members £3 on the door to include refreshments

For further info contact: Margaret Edwards 01452 731218

Newsletter Articles

Thank you to everyone who produced articles for this month's publication at short notice – most appreciated. Jo



Wainlode Walkers

A new informal group of keen walkers, we have been meeting every Friday since November for a walk of about 4 hours exploring the local landscape and history. We have also started a Tuesday walk of about 2 hours. Walks start at 10am. If you would like to join us and want more details please contact Sue Phelps 07754 668898

Has the Wayleave for electricity poles on your property run out?

Did you know..... how easy it is to set up a Wayleave Agreement with Western Power direct? All you need to do is send a simple request including your address to the details below. They will send you a plan for you to mark your boundary and any apparatus within it and once received they will calculate the amount due (including back pay). You can opt for an annual payment or a 15/25 year term and there will be no commission due to an outside agency!

wpdwayleavesmidlands@westernpower.co.uk
01332 827393
Western Power Distribution
Pegasus Business Park, Castle Donington, DE74 2TU

Nicky Walters



Early Memories Recalled

Reading this week of the death of Chuck Berry reminded me of one of the fantastic days I spent in my youth in the 60s.

I was at College in London in July 1969 when with a group of friends we went in the morning to Portobello market to sell pictures painted by our friend Per. Then we went on to Hyde Park for the free Rolling Stones concert along with over 250000 other people—and yes it was free!! In the evening we had tickets for the Albert Hall where the first half act was Chuck Berry and the second half The Who. Finally we drove to Weymouth for a party which went well in to the early hours of Sunday.

What a day but that was London in the sixties. Several free open air concerts, clubs where you could be close to the stars of the days—Manfred Mann, Long John Baldry, the Stones and The Who, Donovan and many others. I saw Martin Luther King give his only UK talk in a Methodist Hall, saw the Beatles in their first Christmas Concert, and every Saturday night there were parties you could gatecrash.

I am sure we all remember our youth with fondness but for me the 60s were really special times that I am delighted to have experienced and now can tell my grandchildren all about!!

Colin Withers

Norton Rugby Club

Dinner and Dance

Saturday 13 May
7pm – Midnight
Norton Village Hall

3 course meal
Music all night



Tickets: Jeremy Chandler 07979483324
James Maher 07500919196

PLANTS PLEASE

Any donation of plants would be gratefully received by the end of April – willing to come around and dig-up!!! Jo & Hortie Cttee

Norton, Leigh & District Horticultural Show

Annual Plant Sale

Friday 5 May 2017

Norton Village Hall * 7.00 – 8.00pm

Annuals * Bedding * Herbs

Hardy Perennials * Vegetable Plants

Everyone Welcome, Free Admission

All proceeds to help stage the Horticultural Show on Saturday 12 August 2017.

Over 90% of plants are less than £2.00



Next Full Parish Council
Meeting/AGM:
10 May 2017
@ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
St Catherine's Church,
The Leigh

Mobile Library

The Swan, Coombe Hill
15:10 – 16:10
28 April 2017
26 May 2017
23 June 2017