

# The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 148 October 2017

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

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Parish Website: [www.theleighpc.org.uk](http://www.theleighpc.org.uk)

## PETE WALKER

We would like to give a big thank you for all the cards, flowers and support given to us on hearing Pete had passed away.

A special 'thank you' to Andrew, Ruth, Bob and Jan

Joan, Chris and Rob

## Our Dad

When there was a party he would be there  
(In his shed without a care)  
"You comin in?" our Mum would say  
"Well bu\*\*er that – on yer way"

Around the village he would stride  
His trusty gundog by his side  
Or in a hedge or running off -  
Ruddy dog (or worse) he'd scoff

Shrewd in business and very clever  
But blow his own trumpet? Not once, not ever  
A more generous, honest man we'll struggle to meet  
With a happy smile he would usually greet  
(unless you had pee'd him off)

As a family we all tried to do him proud  
But, "you've done a good job" was never said out loud  
Dad may have retired a long time ago  
But there's only one boss as all of you know

When at Twigworth, his beloved yard, word went out "Pete's here"  
Grown men got really nervous, their faces filled with fear  
His presence was like being with a mafia don  
He may not still work there, but respect's never gone

Now at last our Dad can rest  
And, as Dads go, he was the best  
As he says goodbye to his family and mates  
I can just see him now welding new pearly gates.

*Composed by Rob and read at Pete's Celebration of Life service on 30 August*



## HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

22 October 2017  
St Catherine's Church  
6pm

Everyone is welcome to help with decorating the church with flowers or produce on Friday 20th or Saturday 21st.  
Personal dedications can be added to arrangements if wished.



**COFFEE MORNING**  
St Catherine's Church  
28 October 2017  
10am

Packs of Christmas cards will be in the church from mid-October.

## New Dawn at Norton

Now that the house building is finished, the Kings Head at Norton has undergone a revamp and reopened as The New Dawn Inn. The country pub that Leigh residents used to enjoy on Friday night get-togethers has been transformed into a light and bright bistro, with an enticing menu of freshly-cooked food ranging from locally-sourced steaks and free-range chicken, fresh fish and vegetarian specials to four home-made desserts and a great-looking cheese board. Main courses run from £10 to £18. There is a small drinking area just inside, and plenty of parking has been retained.

The restaurant is run by Martin and Sue Hand, who villagers may remember from their time running the Queens Head at Longford. The restaurant is closed on Mondays but otherwise available for lunch and dinner.

Anita and I really enjoyed a meal there on a recent Thursday night when there wasn't a free table to be had.

Derek Brandon



## KEEPING TRADITIONAL SKILLS ALIVE

The Leigh perry makers (Barry, Nicky, Bob, Martin and Rob) hard at work whilst Jan did the important job of keeping them fed and watered.

'Legal' scrumping was done by kind permission of the Westons, Smiths and Austins.

Results expected next May!!  
(will they wait that long?)



Shame about the weather and the need to cancel the village rounders. We will try again in May – if it rains then, at least we have June and July!

## Mobile Library

Coombe Hill  
3.10pm – 4.10pm

13 October



### Parish Council Meeting dates:

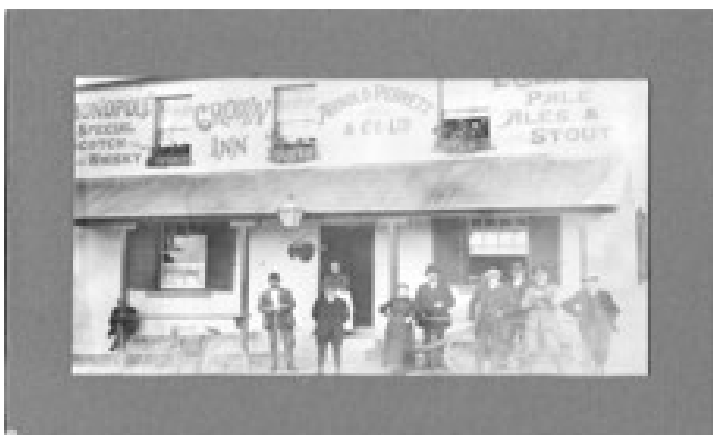
Wed 11 October (additional)  
Wed 8 November (full)  
Wed 13 December (additional)  
Wed 14 February 2018 (full)  
Wed 9 May 2018 (Annual)  
St Catherine's Church,  
The Leigh 7.30pm

## Coombe Hill

There was an ale house in Evington in 1755, and in 1839 the parish had four Inns including the Swan at Coombe Hill; The Crown which is now known as the Corner House and a further two down at The Wharf.

I believe that one was by the old pill box which was used by the Home Guard (on the left going down The Wharf) during the war and the fourth was the middle one of the cottages at the bottom of The Wharf round to the right, mainly used by the boatmen.

By 1923 The Swan was the only remaining one.



These are the only photographs that I have of the Crown Inn, the bottom one is about 1925 and both Inns sold petrol and oil.

Frank Wragg

Editor's Note: a gentleman left a message on my answerphone which cut off mid-stream with details of more Coombe Hill history – please could you call back. Thank You.

## NORTON WI

Thursday 19 October  
7.30pm

Norton Village Hall

**"Christmas Lanterns  
& Other  
Decorations"**

Speaker: Sue Ralph

This meeting is open to all, non-members, £3 to include refreshments. Please come and enjoy learning some new skills among friends

For further info contact:  
Margaret Edwards  
01452 731218

### Norton and The Leigh Local History Group

Monday 23 October  
Our speaker: Barry Simon  
and his subject is  
The History of Local Church  
Architecture



Norton Village Hall  
Doors open 7pm for coffee  
and short AGM meeting  
Talk starts 7.30pm  
Contact Sue Phelps  
07754 668898

Please contact Henry  
or Richard at  
The Lodge, Blacksmith  
Lane or call 07810  
831546

**GLOUCESTER  
YOUNG FARMERS**  
PRESENTS A  
**HALLOWEEN  
HARVEST SUPPER**  
FEATURING ENTERTAINMENT  
PROVIDED BY OUR JUNIOR MEMBERS  
AT  
**NORTON VILLAGE HALL**  
ON  
**SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**  
DOORS OPEN 7PM  
PLOUGHMANS SUPPER, PUDDING, TEA AND  
COFFEE SERVED AT 7.30PM  
£10 A TICKET CONTACT  
ANNA TURNER (07768905834)  
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

### COBALT CHRISTMAS AND GREETINGS CARDS SALE

10.30 am - 6.30 pm  
Thursday 12th October

at



The Dovecote  
Sandhurst Lane  
Sandhurst GL2 9NR  
(past church and follow signs)

*Complimentary coffee and cake*  
Please come and bring your  
friends

### Second-Hand Shed Wanted

- happy to  
dismantle  
and  
remove



## MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS AT NORTON



Get to know other local people or just make a bit of time to spend with friends. Norton Village Hall hosts a monthly coffee morning to which everyone is welcome. The next one is on Wednesday 18 October from 10-11.30 am. There is a charge of £1 to cover the hire of the room and tea/coffee, with any surplus going to the NVH funds. As a bit of a fundraiser we will have a sale of good quality modern paperbacks, so have a bit of a shelf clear out. For your diaries the date for November is Thursday 23rd.

Liz Curtis

## Anyone for Wimbledon Tennis 2018?

In order to enter the Public Ballot for The Championships 2018, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to AELTC, PO Box 98, London, SW19 5AE between 1 September and 15 December 2017. **Good Luck!**

### St Catherine's Services:

1 October - Evening Prayer 6pm  
8 October - Worship Together 10am (TBC)  
15 October - Holy Communion 8.30am  
22 October - Harvest Festival Evensong 6pm

