

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 149 November 2017

Parish Website: www.theleighpc.org.uk

Issue Editor: Jo Robson Deadline for next month's Newsletter articles: Thursday 23 November

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Chernobyl Children's Project



Children visiting Gloucestershire from the Chernobyl children's project, Belarus, and all in remission of cancer, were once again given a warm welcome in The Leigh this August. Particular thanks to Jez and Lucy Chandler who provided a special day "down on the farm", allowing these children the opportunity to experience the enjoyment of being outside in clean fresh air. The day ended with a BBQ at The Church Hall.

Clean air is particularly important to the children who all come from those parts of Belarus affected by the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, when a nuclear power station exploded and leaked radiation into the atmosphere. The impact of this is still evident; children are still presenting with cancers due to living in close proximity to Chernobyl. Research shows that a holiday in the summer, away from their contaminated homeland, boosts the children's immune systems for at least two years, helping them recover from illness.

If anyone would like further details about hosting children for these holidays please contact Roger and Dawn, The Church Hall, tel 680997.

THE LEIGH CHRISTMAS POST BOX

On Sunday 17 December between 2 & 4 pm (thanks Paul and Jane Austin) Denes Hollow will become "Santa's Sorting Office", where village children - and a few helping adults - will sort Christmas cards and then deliver within The Leigh/Evington. All children from The Leigh and Coombe Hill are most welcome.

For all of those interested, please post your cards into the Christmas post box situated outside Little Holborn, Church Lane from 9 December. All cards MUST display a surname to help the little elves - no need for addresses. The last posting day will be Sunday 17 December at noon.

With regard to households with dogs running loose and preventing delivery to your post box, post may be left on your gate etc.

Suggested donations from £3 would be gratefully received, this year we have chosen Kidney Research UK and Sue Ryder Home (Leckhampton) in fond memory of Dan Theyer and Pete Walker. Please also place in a signed and sealed envelope in the post box.

Any enquiries/details of participating elves to Jo Robson 680257 or Jane Austin 680691.



Please don't forget to send in your articles, photos, trivia etc for the Newsletter – it makes it easier and quicker to create.
Thanks. Jo



Quiz 2018



I am hoping to do another quiz in January and I had an idea to include a separate 'Mr & Mrs' Quiz (obviously non-marrieds would also be invited) – do we have any volunteers before I create appropriate questions?
Jo Robson

Christmas is coming to Norton School...!

Please join us on
Friday December 1st
2017 at Norton village
hall

3:15-5pm

Adults £1
Children free entry



Mobile Library

Coombe Hill
3.10pm – 4.10pm
Friday 10 Nov
Friday 8 Dec
Friday 5 Jan
Friday 2 Feb
Friday 2 March
Friday 30 March



Parish Council Meeting dates:

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

NORTON WI

Thursday 16
November
7.30pm
Norton Village Hall

"Badham's The Chemist"

Speaker:
Peter Badham

&
AGM



For further info contact:
Margaret Edwards
01452 731218

Norton and The Leigh Local History Group

Monday 27 November
Our speakers: Virginia and
David Adsett
"Those Were The Days – The
Fighting 40s"
Bring and Share Supper
(finger food only please)



Norton Village Hall
Doors open 7pm for coffee
Talk starts 7.30pm
Everyone Welcome
Contact Sue Phelps
07754 668898

Wainode Walkers

We meet every Friday morning for a walk of
about 4 hours exploring the local landscape
and history. Contact Sue Phelps 07754
668898 for further details.

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS AT NORTON

The next village coffee morning will be on
Thursday 23 November, in the committee
room at Norton village hall, from 10 – 11.30am.

Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of cake with
friends and neighbours. £1 per person, and any left over
funds go to the Village Hall.

Do make a diary date, and bring a friend - the more the
merrier. Liz Curtis

St Catherine's Church Loose Change Boxes

Many thanks again for the contents of these boxes. The
October half-yearly collection amounted to £123.60. It all
helps to keep our church and community building tidy and up
and running. Thank you. Janine.

St Catherine's Church Services:

5 November - Evening Prayer 6pm
12 November – Holy Communion &
Worship Together 10am
19 November - Holy Communion 8.30am
26 November – Evening Prayer 6pm

11 November – Remembrance Services: Sandhurst & Norton 10.45



The Leigh Orchards' Apple Juice 2017

£2.50 p/bottle
all profits to Riding
for the Disabled Association

Available from
Daniels Orchard
(joanna.robson@btinternet.com)

COBALT



Many thanks to everyone
who supported the
Sandhurst Cobalt Card
Sale on 12th October.
On the day, a record £517
was raised from card sales and
generous donations. This money will
help Cobalt continue its vital work of
purchasing state-of-the-art diagnostic
scanners; funding a specialist nurse to
guide teenagers and young adults
through their cancer treatment;
education, and many other services
which supplement NHS provisions in
our local area to help people with
life-limiting conditions.



THE SPITFIRE ENGINE

*Ken Poulton reminded me the other day about the Spitfire that
came down in The Leigh, so, for those new to the village, below
is the story.....*

On 1 February 1945, the Station Commander, Gp Capt
John McDonald, took off from Defford on a flight to St
Davids in Pembrokeshire. En route, directional control was
lost, because a bolt in the control linkage to the rudder had
not been properly secured. Gp Capt McDonald headed
back to Defford, but decided that it would be safer to
abandon the aircraft by parachute than to attempt a
landing without the use of the rudder. Over open country,
he climbed EN915 to a height of 9,000 feet, then baled
out.

Gp Capt McDonald landed safely near Stoke Orchard
airfield, while EN915 dived steeply into the ground at The
Leigh, to the south of Tewkesbury. Surface wreckage was
cleared from the crash site, but all parts forward of the
cockpit were left buried there. When these remains were
unearthed at Leigh Court Farm nearly 50 years later, the
Rolls-Royce Merlin engine was found to have penetrated
the ground to a depth of 12 feet as a result of the Spitfire's
high speed impact (pictured below).

