

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 183 December 2020

Parish Website www.theleighpc.org.uk

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Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2021

To all parishioners of The Leigh, Evington, Coombe Hill and all other readers in the wider community



Counting Down To Christmas...

just a few ideas to help make
this a special time for all



1st

**FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
& DECORATION**

Start planning from the 1st of December onwards. Decorate windows and outside spaces with lights and festive decorations so we can all enjoy our journeys in and out of the village and make it a special place to walk around with children and "bubbles".



12th

**CHRISTMAS CARD
POST BOX**

From 12th December, post your cards into the Christmas post box outside Little Holborn, Church Lane. All cards **MUST** display a surname to help the elves (Jo and Harriet) - no need for addresses. Last post 20th Dec at noon!



18th

**SHARE YOUR
CHRISTMAS CRACKER**

Remember the Walking Quiz we enjoyed in lockdown? Let's try a Walking 'Share Your Xmas Cracker! Put up your family-friendly Christmas cracker jokes either outside houses or inside windows (BIG WRITING). Answers to go up on 21st.



23rd

**CHRISTMAS
SING-SONG**

Hurrah! The government have said outdoor singing is allowed (and aloud!). Come and join in a Christmas sing-song on The Green. Songbooks provided. Bring your own lanterns, seating if required, beverages and voice! Starting at 6.30pm until 7.30pm.



24th

**THE MAGIC OF
CHRISTMAS EVE**

Here's a lovely idea, happening all around the country, shared by Catherine G (see over). At 6pm on Christmas Eve, ring a bell, clap, make some noise, to share Christmas spirit and help Santa fly his sleigh and ending 2020 with a sparkle of magic, hope and togetherness - I can't wait to ring my bell! I wonder what Santa will bring?

Jo R & Stella B

Christmas Greetings from....

(many thanks for the generous donations)

A very Happy Christmas to all friends and neighbours in The Leigh. Keep well and safe and all the very best for a much better 2021. **Andrew B**



Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Laurence, Karen, Charlotte & Pebbles at Prospect House



**DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
AND KINDNESS DURING 2020 -
'IN THESE TIMES',
I REALLY APPRECIATE IT.**

**Merry Christmas everyone and a
Happy and Healthy New Year,
Love from Stella xx**



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and all best wishes for 2021.

Love Chris, Rita & Jessica xxx



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Best wishes
Chris & Hayley**

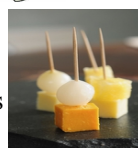
SEASON'S GREETING from everyone on the Parish Council. 2020 has been a challenge for all kinds of reasons but has helped to bring the community closer together. We wish you all a safe, happy and healthy Christmas and New Year. Looking forward to the new challenges that 2021 will bring.



Christmas Sing-Song



I will be bringing a plate of party food on sticks to share.



If anyone else wants to bring something, please make sure it is suitable for socially distant sharing, so single portion items, no cutlery required type thing. **Stella B**

(please take all sticks etc home with you - Jo)

THE LEIGH CHRISTMAS POST BOX

On Sunday 20 December, Daniels Orchard will become "Santa's Sorting Office".



For all of those interested, please post your cards into the Christmas post box situated outside Little Holborn, Church Lane from 12 December. All cards **MUST** display a **surname** to help the elves (Jo and Harriet) - no need for addresses. The last posting day will be Sunday 20 December at noon.

We will need some assistance with deliveries - if you can help, please let Jo know (680257).

Suggested charity donations from £3 would be gratefully received, this year we have chosen The James Hopkins Trust and St Catherine's Church, The Leigh. Please place your donation in a sealed envelope in the post box - should you wish your donation to go only to one charity, please indicate on the envelope otherwise it will be split equally.

The James Hopkins Trust is a charity which provides practical help for severely disabled, life-threatened and life limited young children with nursing needs, aged 5 years and under, living in Gloucestershire.

New Year Walk



The Annual New Year Walk has been postponed – for obvious reasons.

Hopefully we can try and make up for it in the Spring when things are better and more of us can join in without breaking any rules. **Nicky W**

CHRISTMAS CARDS We are unable to hold coffee mornings in the Church at the moment but are still making cards in the hope of some income as we still have bills to pay. We have two boxes of mixed Christmas cards that can be browsed through. We are keeping the cost at 8 cards for £1.00. If you would like to buy cards please let Sue or Hazel know and we can arrange to get a box to you.

Sue R 01242 680835

& Hazel C 01452 2857180



Neighbourhood Development Plan

I am sure many of you are wondering what progress has been made with The Leigh Neighbourhood Plan. Well I am relieved to say that after much consultation and rewriting we are expecting to publish the first draft for public scrutiny and comment during December.

We will be notifying every Parish resident on the publication date, and a full version will be put on the village website. In view of the current Covid restrictions we are hoping most people will use the website not only to access the report but also to feed back any comments. For those who do not have access to a computer a few printed versions will be available from Kate Tilling, Parish Clerk.

If you are not registered on the Leigh website I would strongly recommend you do so by connecting to www.theleighpc.org.uk and registering yourself. Increasing amounts of information to do with our community is posted in the website.

A Merry Christmas to all as we look forward to a better 2021. **Colin W**

Goosey Goosey Gander.....

Whilst out walking I found this injured goose in Phillips Field – I called Vale Wildlife Hospital & Rehabilitation Centre who came out immediately. On initial inspection, the Officer thought the leg was shattered and took it away to the wildlife centre for assessment and treatment.



Vale Wildlife gets no government funding and relies purely on donations and fundraising. There are many ways to support them (valewildlife.org.uk) for which they would be extremely grateful. **Sue W**

Vale Wildlife are appealing for old newspapers (no magazines, computer/office paper) as they have almost 200 hedgehogs in care and need the newspapers for bedding. Please drop off to Sue W (Todpool).



Christmas in the benefice



Christmas is looking a little different this year, without our normal nativity planned we have been thinking of new ways of keeping our Christmas spirit going in these strange times. What better way to do this than with scarecrows...

This year we are asking you to join in with a nativity built of life-size scarecrows! As a church we have Mary, Joseph and Jesus covered... but we would love for you to create your own life-size nativity character which you can display in your gardens during December to create a whole village nativity! Then on Saturday 19th December, we are asking for your nativity scarecrow to make the journey to Sandhurst village green, where they will find the stable with Mary, Joseph and Jesus inside. We can't wait to see your kings & camels, shepherds & sheep, angels & stars and stable animals!



There will be someone from the church on the green on Saturday 19th December between 12am - 3pm to welcome you and your scarecrow as they make their journey to the stable with a simple blessing of the crib at 3pm. Any queries please contact Reverend Suzanne.

Tel: 01452 731994 or email suzanne.skepper@hotmail.co.uk

Please make sure your scarecrow is able to stand without you and that you are able to secure it yourself on the green.

Christmas Charity Face Masks



Cindy W and Karen M have been busy again making Christmas masks, this time in aid of The Jordon Wilson Tribute Fund which supports the Bone Cancer Research Trust and Reach – helping children with upper limb difference live life without limit. On sale at Coombe Hill Farm Shop. Well done. Jo R



On Christmas Eve at 6pm it's been suggested that we all go outside to our doorsteps & ring a bell for 2 minutes to spread Christmas spirit and to help Santa fly his sleigh.

Coombe Hill Kitchen Had a lovely take-away curry from Coombe Hill Kitchen. Local produce used and our Massaman and Thai Green Curry were excellent (and piping hot); also it's great to support local business and not have to travel into town. Highly recommended, menu and ability to order online: coombehillkitchen.co.uk **Sue W**

Saturday 5 December

9am – 12pm

TASTER MORNING

Browse and sample some delicious products – even pick up a Christmas tree!

Joined by:

The Baking Bird

Cow Shed Garden & Antiques

Doodling Lucy

Mumford Crafts



Chocolate Orange Place Settings (cute!)



COOMBE HILL FARM SHOP



Sunday 13 December

10am – 1pm

POP-UP CREATIVE CHRISTMAS

Handmade gifts for all occasion with 100% of every item donated to charity



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Newsletter in 2020. Also thanks to Anita for proof-reading and to the many volunteers who deliver each month.