

# The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 186 April 2021 (online only)

Issue Editor: Jo Robson Deadline for next month's Newsletter articles: Friday 16 April

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## PARISH LITTER PICK – SATURDAY 20 MARCH

WOW! What a wonderful turnout for the Litter Pick - 25 volunteers armed with red and blue rubbish bags spread out along the A38 and around the village filling around 60.....yes 60 bags!!



Bags of bottles, cans, plastic containers, hub caps, tyres, buckets and everything in between. It was a great achievement but a sad one, to think that there are people who think nothing of dumping all this over our beautiful countryside.



A big **THANK YOU** to you all for donating your time and making our little bit of Gloucestershire, tidy again.

Thank you also to Cindy who couldn't make it on the day but managed to collect a bag of rubbish from along Blacksmiths Lane. Also Pippa H who collected 2 bags of rubbish between The Wharf and along the A38 towards Tewkesbury. Sarah R



### EASTER WEEKEND

Eggstra funny Egg trail of jokes and puns (yolks and buns) around the village

Fill your garden & windows with Easter decorations

ENJOY Your Easter Walk!

Remember last Easter? Little did we know we'd be in lockdown a year later. Let's try and make Easter as much of a celebration as possible and decorate our village again, this time making it even more uplifting and colourful. The Easter Bunny (aka Harriet R) and I will be putting out a walking trail, so please come out and enjoy everyone's decorations and share the Eggstra Fun!

Stella B

## NEWS FROM LEIGH END FARM

Lockdown is over – well, for the cows!! On 3 March, the top fields were dry enough and we let them loose - they look to be enjoying the grass and space.

Please remember to be mindful of the cows. They can be very nosey and Edna is very friendly and will follow, if you have a banana. Please shut gates and adhere to the countryside code when out walking.



(Editor's Note: Well done George, you have seen the light – sheep ARE better than dairy cows!!!)

There is a new farmer in the village. George C has a small flock of 6 lambs which he is busy hand rearing. Lucy C

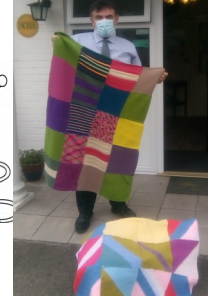
## THE BLANKETEERS FINALE!

Some people learned to knit or crochet especially to take part in this and went on to make either a couple of squares or even a full blanket, while others churned out several fully completed blankets on their own. In total we made 34 blankets using almost 15,000 metres of wool and around 2,000,000 stitches!

Blankets were displayed in a walk past exhibition outside Cyder Press Farm on a sunny Saturday. Villagers passed by on foot, horses and bicycles or drove past at a crawl to admire our handiwork.



The blankets were then packed up and taken by Sarah R to Ashchurch View and Knightsbridge Nursing Homes while I took the rest to Tewkesbury Fields. An email saying, 'Thank you, it's so lovely that you have chosen us for your blankets...I've given them out, and the ladies were very, very pleased and happy with them,' came from Paula at Tewkesbury Fields and sums up all three nursing homes, who were all delighted with the uplifting colours and designs.



I think I speak for all the Blanketeers when I say this project was just as uplifting for us, as it really helped to pass the time during lockdown and several of the team are continuing to knit and crochet other things. Well done everyone!

Stella B





# CHURCH NEWS



- **PALM CROSSES** will be in the church porch from 21 March - please take one.

- **EASTER MORNING** The benefice is hoping to hold a Holy Communion at Sandhurst at 9.00am.

- **SUNDAY WORSHIP** continues on zoom at 10.00am every Sunday.

- **EASTER TRAILS AND SCAVENGER HUNT** During Easter there will be 2 trails around the benefice, something at every church. Also a scavenger hunt around Sandhurst, Norton and Sandhurst Hill. Details on the Seventowers facebook page.

- **WANTED!** Has anyone got an old lockable filing cabinet they no longer use? We need one to keep church records in. Please contact Sue R or Hazel C.

- **REVD SUZANNE** was presented with a picture of a tree that was made from words associated with the benefice, a breadmaker (for Chris Skepper!) and a cheque. Thanks to all who contributed. The process of appointing a new Rector has begun with meetings with Diocesan personnel and churchwardens. [Sue R \(680835\)](#)

Norton, Leigh & District Horticultural Show

## PLANT SALE

Sunday 9 May  
Daniels Orchard's Yard  
10am – 3pm (or whilst stocks last!)

Honesty Box – cash only  
Social Distancing MUST be observed and  
Covid safety measures will be in place

Open to Parishioners – their family and friends



Just a reminder that the Newsletter will be requiring a new Editor from September 2021!

### Job Description:

- going forward it could be a single Editor or a Job Share
- basically gather stories and photos: some are offered, others need creating
- create Newsletter (currently use Star Office)
- recommend newsletter needs proof-reading - someone else in the Parish could do this?
- currently 95 printed (Parish Council do have a budget), deliver to volunteer deliverers in The Leigh, Pancake Lane and Coombe Hill
- upload onto Leigh Parish website

Obviously the Newsletter format etc is not set in stone – you would make it your own.

Happy to talk through with any interested parties. [Jo \(680257\)](#)



### GENTLE PAWS

A gentle Dog Walking service for your Pooch.

For further details, ring Sally 01242680249 or 07974303426



### Beryl Weston

Beryl Weston, whose family lived in the village for many years, died peacefully at Tewkesbury Fields Nursing Home. She was 96.

Anne H

### Temporary Part Road Closure at The Wharf, Coombe Hill

Please be aware of a part road closure at the junction of The Wharf and Tewkesbury Road on 4 May (10pm) to 5 May (6am) to allow the inspection of Openreach chambers.

Any queries: Gloucestershire Highways 08000 514 514

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting:  
**Wednesday 14 April**  
Zoom meeting details will be circulated



Open:  
Wed & Sun 10am – 1pm  
Thurs 10am – 2pm  
Fri & Sat 9am – 2pm  
(closed Easter Sunday)



Open for  
takeaways only  
of drinks and  
homemade cakes  
on  
Fridays  
Saturdays  
& Sundays  
at the Farm Shop

### The Gloucester Old Spot

We have just short of two weeks to go until we can get back to the pub. We cannot wait to welcome customers back on Monday 12th April in our recently renovated garden for al fresco drinking and dining.



We have 40 socially distanced tables in our fantastic beer garden waiting patiently for your return. We have some sheltered tables within our large outdoor space, and these are bookable for our diners. If you aren't too fussed about being under the open marquee, or in the barn, we still have our tables on our lawns.

As you probably know, we made the most of having all this time to better our offering, and our facilities. Lockdown 1.0 saw the complete renovation of our garden and car park, and the rebranding of our lovely country pub to The Gloucestershire Food Pub, championing all things Gloucestershire, and the neighbouring counties.

The short time out of action in November saw the refurbishment of our outside barn to "The Smokery" - our sheltered outside dining space and new home to our Smoker, where we will be smoking our own meats and cheeses. We moved our existing cellar to a newly built outbuilding, along with more garden storage, in preparation for our kitchen extension and renovation.

Lockdown 3.0 arrived and it was our time to complete the kitchen. The last three months has been spent converting our ground level cellar to a "prep kitchen" with butchery unit and new washing-up facilities, creating more room in the existing kitchen for our wonderful and talented chefs. We are so very hopeful that the end of restrictions is on the horizon and can't wait to welcome all of you back to our very special pub! [Lucy J Bookings via eat@thegloucesteroldspot.co.uk](#)

Sophie H (Church Lane) has undertaken a 'case study' of local refill/zero waste shops – she thought it may be of interest to us all:

## Shop Local and Less Waste

### Guide to local, small businesses and zero waste shops

By Sophie H

#### What is a zero-waste shop?

A zero-waste shop is a shop that usually sells its products without packaging, instead you take your own containers from home and have them filled-up in store.

#### How does it work?

Take your own reusable containers and/or bags to the shop and depending on how the store is run, you or the cashier will weigh your container and then weigh out the products you want into it. You can buy exactly the amount you need, and you can use any container you have available to you, Tupperware, old take away pots, jars and reusable loose bags.

#### Why shop zero-waste?

The zero-waste method of shopping reduces waste in many ways, it gives you the ability to buy only what you need. So, for example, no more buying a whole jar of one spice for a recipe that only needs a teaspoon. There is also less packaging waste. It is a more environmentally friendly and sustainable way of consuming products.

#### Why shop local and support small businesses?

Shops like these usually try to source their produce as locally as possible, thus the products having a lower carbon footprint and the goods tend to be more ethically sourced where possible. Supporting small local businesses can also help the local economy, create jobs and usually help form a closer community. (Department for Business, 2020)

#### In this edition, I am showcasing:

#### Food Loose - Cheltenham

16 Portland St, Cheltenham GL52 2PB <https://foodloose.co.uk/>



The staff were extremely friendly when I visited the store, everything is clearly labelled with product names and prices and there are a full range of household supplies on offer. There are non-perishable food goods (left hand photo above), such as flour, sugar, coffee, spices and lentils, bathroom supplies (right hand photo above) such as cleaner, shampoo and conditioner and kitchen products such as cleaning utensils, hand wash and washing up liquid. There are also shelves full of other personal goods including safety razors, reusable sanitary products, plastic-free water bottles and lunch boxes.

The store also offers a click and collect service and local delivery service.

