

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

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October/November 2024

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News from Coombe Hill and The Leigh residents is welcome by email, deadline for next issue is Nov 19th, 2024



Italian Evening

The event at St Catherine's Church was a great success with almost 40 pizzas produced on the two authentic wood burning stoves thanks to the Dale family, Karen and Angela. What a brilliant effort! Proceeds go to St Catherine's. We had a range of tempting puddings after the main course and a head scratching Italian themed quiz to keep us guessing. **Phil C**

Next events: 2nd Nov No Bang Bonfire Party.
9th Nov Coffee Morning with Carol and Kate featuring their famous sausage rolls!



Parish Council Meeting

The next full Parish Council meeting is: Wednesday 13 November at 7.30pm at St Catherine's Church, Church Lane, The Leigh. Please check the Parish Council website for minutes, planning, newsletters, news and updates **theleighpc.org.uk**

Most readers know of the cyber attack on the Borough Council's website that caused planning applications to be delayed and disrupted. Hopefully, everything is now back to normal, but it's a good idea to check if you have submitted any documents that they are where they should be.

Handmade Christmas cards for Sale

Lynne and I have been working hard to make up an exciting selection of Christmas and greetings cards that will be for sale on 17th October. The money raised will go towards funding Cobalt's specialist Breast Cancer Research Nurses.

In recent years the charity has been able to fund a team of specialist nurses, a senior research screening radiographer and a research support officer at the Thirlestaine Breast Centre, Cheltenham. This makes it a significant research centre, attracting high calibre staff and enabling some patients to take part in one of the clinical trials, which allows the clinicians to offer the most up-to-date treatments.

In the last year, 1,300 patients have taken part in the BRAID (Breast Screening; Risk Adaptive Imaging for Density) Trial. This a national trial taking place across 9 centres, including Cobalt, Cheltenham Imaging for this trial includes Contrast-Enhanced Mammography (the CEM equipment has been purchased by Cobalt) and Abbreviated Breast MRI scans (AB-MRI). The use of these combined scans is crucial in revealing cancer present which does not show up on more conventional scans.



Cobalt
Medical Charity
Diagnosis • Research • Education

Celebrating our
60TH
ANNIVERSARY
supporting the NHS with innovation
in medical diagnosis and treatment

Once again, Cobalt will be taking part in The Big Give Christmas Challenge, which means that all the money raised by card sales made by our little Sandhurst group will be matched by a benefactor and, therefore, doubled!

See you there! Between 10.30 am - 6.00 pm on Thursday 17th October at The Dovecote, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst GL2 9NR. If you're unable to come, and would still like to buy some Cobalt cards, please phone me on 01452 731519 to come and choose from whatever I have left after 17th October. **Yvette M**

Ryan and Otis are top dogs!

Pictured is Ryan and our wired haired dachshund, Otis, from Lapwing Meadows. They entered a Dog Show, in celebration of International Dog Day at The Gloucester Old Spot's August Bank Holiday event and were placed 1st in 'Looks Most Like Their Owner' and 3rd for 'Best in Show'. The day raised much needed funds for local charity, Cheltenham Animal Shelter. **Amber S**



The Deerhurst Dragon.

The following report is out of Rudder's Printed in 1779:

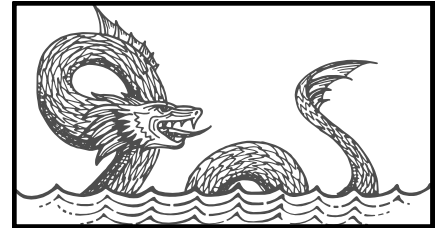
Common occurrences are improper for history, because uninteresting; and the marvellous and wonderful are to be admitted with caution. Finding the following story in Sir Robert Atkyns, is my only reason for giving it a place in this account.

The story is, that a serpent of a prodigious bigness was a great grievance to all the country about Deerhurst, by poisoning the inhabitants and killing their cattle. The inhabitants petitioned the king, and a proclamation was issued out, that whosoever should kill the serpent t should enjoy an estate on Walton-hill in this parish, which then belonged to the crown. One John Smith, a labourer, engaged in the enterprise, and succeeded. For having put a quantity of milk in a place to which the serpent resorted, he gorged the whole, agreeable to expectation, and lay down to sleep in the sun, with his scales ruffled up. Seeing him in that situation, Smith advanced and striking between the scales with his axe, took off his head. The family of the Smiths enjoyed the estate, when Sir Robert compiled this account t, and Mr Lane, who married a widow of that family, had then the axe in his possession.

There is a field on the north side of the canal with a hump in it called the Dragons Tump.

Thank you, **Frank W** for this fascinating tale. You can see carvings of the dragon's head at Deerhurst Church.
Another story is...

The Coombe Hill Sea Serpent



A large sea monster came up the River Severn and settled on the riverbank. At first it hunted sheep and poultry but it soon began preying on children. A local lad, Tom Smith (perhaps related to the Deerhurst dragon slayer), began feeding it until the monster trusted him. Then, when feeding the serpent a large marrowbone, he smashed it on the head with an axe, killing it instantly. His reward was limitless free beer in the village pub!

Bonfire Party
Save the date for
an evening of
Fire, Sparklers,
Hot Dogs and
Great Fun at
St Catherine's, a
new take on
Bonfire Night,
starting 5pm
so all the family
can join in .

Sparkle, No Bangs

Saturday 2 November
St Catherine's Church, The Leigh
5pm - 7pm
Free Admission

Firepits &
no fireworks!

ON SALE:
Hotdogs
Jumbo Sparklers
Hot Chocolate

Please bring your
own drinks, chairs
and thermos mugs!

Warm clothes
and outdoor footwear

For catering purposes,
please drop either
Karen (07711 632256)
or Hazel (01452 857180)
a text if you hope to attend - thanks



If you are planning to set off fireworks, as a courtesy, please let your neighbours know in good time in case extra arrangements need to be made for dogs, cats, horses and sheep! Thanks. Jo



In our growing community we would love to have your photos and junior news. For example, personal achievements, fund raisers and special events.

Simply send a good quality photo as a high resolution jpeg or PDF and tell us about the picture. Don't forget to include first name and just the initial for the surname (GDPR) and age, if you think it's appropriate.

Send to Jo for consideration at
jorobsonmailbox@gmail.com

Wheelie Good Boys!

Henry (9) and Hugo (6) took part in the mini HONC (Hell of the North Cotswolds) race held at Sudeley Castle with their cycling club, the Cheltenham Town Wheelers (CTW).

It was a 3-hour endurance, 4 person relay team event, off-road course. It was an exhausting and incredible effort from them both. They come 3rd overall despite having one of the youngest members. The boys came away with medals, blisters and a lot of bruises but still big smiles!



Pictured left:
Henry, aged 9
and brother Hugo,
aged 6, displaying
well earned medals.



Above: In another event, Hugo P came 3rd in his Western League cycling race for under 8's.



Apperley Cricket Club

Jack P - winner: Coaches' Player of the Year, Under 11s
William P - winner: Batter of the Year, Under 9s

New members are welcome - both girls and boys
Last month the U15s Apperley CC Girls team won the T20 National Cup at Lords - well done girls!

Christmas is Coming!

A fundraising **card sale** will be held between 10.30 am - 6.00 pm on Thursday 17th October at The Dovecote, Sandhurst Lane, Sandhurst GL2 9NR (past church and follow signs)

Complimentary tea, coffee and **CAKE!** Bring your friends
In aid of Colbalt Appeal Fund



The Leigh's Christmas Charity Postbox:

The postbox will be outside Little Holborn, Church Lane, between 8th and 15th Dec. Please include an envelope with a donation for 'postage'. Suggested amount £5. Volunteers to do deliveries appreciated. Please contact Jo.



Christmas messages Printed in the Newsletter:

For Christmas Greetings messages in the Christmas Newsletter, please leave a charity donation in an envelope at Daniels Orchard, Blacksmith Lane, together with your name and Christmas message (**As pic above**) Deadline 19 Nov. Donations will go to a friendly little charity, **Forest Sensory Services**, who provide support to those with sight & hearing impairment. **Jo R**



At The Farm Shop

Sweetpeas Doggie Deli

Fri 18 Oct, Fri 1 Nov & Sat 16 Nov

Mini Christmas Dog Photoshoot

Saturday 16 Nov

sammiepalmerphotography.com

Creative Christmas Charity Sale

Locally-made gifts and vintage/curios selection

Sunday 17 Nov

100% goes towards the Cheltenham Cobalt Cheltenham Cancer Unit (handicrafts) & Dementia UK (vintage china)

Dove Cote Willow

Sat 23 Nov Xmas Stars, mini reindeer and Christmas trees
www.dovecotewillow.co.uk



AT COOMBE HILL

Coombe Hill Service Station

Open everyday, 6am - 10pm

Petrol, newspapers, basic groceries, frozen foods, alcohol, BBQ charcoal, firewood. Evri ParcelShop

Approved Car Buying Centre

Offers instant valuations, car collection service, and same-day payments. please contact Shaun Taylor on **07836 777268** or info@approvedcarbuyingcentre.co.uk

Coombe Workshop

Monday - Friday: 8am - 6pm

Saturday: Appointment Only

Highly qualified vehicle technicians.

Honest, trusted, friendly and skilled MOTs, services and repairs. Specialists in classic and performance vehicles, tailored to our customers' needs. **01242 896333**
info@coombeworkshop.co.uk

Coombe Hill Kitchen

Catering for all party and event needs. Hot or cold. Delivered dinner parties. Afternoon tea. Try before you buy.

Call Kate on **07971 064872** or email kate@coombehillkitchen.co.uk

The Swan Inn

Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 10pm

Sunday 12 - 6pm

Monday - closed

Specials and discounts!

Tuesdays - Steak Night Special

Thursdays - Burger night Special AND

over 60's 25% discount. Loyalty cards.

Blue Light 10% off for NHS, emergency services and members of armed forces.

Coombe Hill Farm Shop

Thursday 10am - 2pm

With Cow Shed Garden & Antiques

Friday & Saturday 9am - 2pm

With Cow Shed Garden & Antiques and The Baking Bird

Sunday 10am - 1pm

With Cow Shed Garden & Antiques and The Baking Bird

Farm Shop sells fresh fruit, vegetables and locally reared meat. Free-range eggs. Chiller/freezer selection. Baked goods. **Cow Shed Garden and Antiques** sells a fascinating collection of decorative pieces, garden antiques and collector's items. A treasure trove of gift ideas.

The Baking Bird serves delicious homemade cakes, artisan coffees, speciality teas, hot chocolate (try a Bobby Dazzler!) and refreshing cold drinks.

Church A/V screen and projector progress

The faculty application is moving forward with Gloucester Diocesan Advisory Committee (first level of planning team) having approved the application. It now awaits approval of the Diocesan Registrar. We are almost there and the installation will commence shortly.

Church Services

Note: Access to St Catherine's will be maintained via Church Lane during the proposed closure by Western Power Distribution.



1st Sunday in the month – 10am - Family Benefice Holy Communion.

3rd Sunday in the month – 6pm - traditional Evensong with your favourite hymns. Remembrance Day Service.

There will be a Short, said Service of Remembrance at St Catherine's on **Remembrance Day, Monday 11th November** starting at 10.40am – all welcome.

Borough Council's change of name

Tewkesbury Borough Council has voted to change its name to:

North Gloucestershire Borough Council.

The name was chosen to more accurately represent the borough's location and to avoid prioritising Tewkesbury over other areas. The change will be implemented in stages, starting in December.

Norton & The Leigh Historical Society

Monday 28 October - Building a Mediaeval Cathedral.

Speaker, Peter Petrie, will be basing his talk on the construction of Gloucester Cathedral.

Monday 25 November - The history of Christmas and Wassailing

Speaker Robin Burton

The meetings are held at Norton Village Hall. Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start. Cost is £3.00 per person, cash on the door.



Fresh eggs!

Choose your own colours! With three different breeds, our hens offer a choice of pretty coloured eggs. Pop down to the Wharf and you'll see them for sale with an honesty box, at £2.50 per half dozen. We also sell honey from our own bees, both here and at the Farm Shop. **Adam S**

Nature in Art Gift & Craft Fair

**Sat 26th & Sun 27th
October 2024**



Over 45 stalls selling handmade gifts and crafts

£3 entry

Includes museum

10am - 5pm

SEE ARTISTS & MAKERS AT WORK

**Free for children under 8 and
Friends of Nature in Art**



Coffee Morning

Saturday 9 November

10am – Noon

St Catherine's Church, The Leigh

Coffee and Homemade Cakes
by Carol and Kate!

All Welcome



The Leigh and Coombe Hill Newsletter

We hope this newsletter helps our growing community connect. Please contribute stories that might be of interest to other residents. Simply send in a good-quality photo and an outline of the story - we'll do the rest!

To minimise our impact on the environment, please opt for a digital copy by email.

Otherwise, one of our volunteers will deliver a printed version to you. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter at all, either let your delivery person know or email Jo R.

The newsletter is bi-monthly and is produced, printed and delivered by a team of volunteers. Deadline for the December edition is **November 19th**. Email all communication to **jorobsonmailbox@gmail.com**