



All Saints' Church Parish Magazine

LEEK WOOTTON LINK

Leek Wootton | Guy's Cliffe | Hill Wootton | Chesford | Goodrest | Wedgnock | North & Middle Woodloes

EDITORIAL

Wishing you a happy New Year, and welcome to the February issue of *The Link*.

Over the past two or three years the new homes at The Pavilions on the edge of Kenilworth have gradually been absorbed into our delivery system and we are very grateful for the help of at least three new distributors.

All of those who sort and count, and/or walk the sometimes long delivery routes, are volunteers, and we feel sure that those who post their news and information in the

magazine will join with us in thanking them all for their time and commitment.

The properties at The Pavilions fall into the church parish (as do those at Wootton Grange) and just before Christmas the Vicar was able to organise carol singing on the new recreation area. Sadly, we don't have a pictorial record of the event, but we have tried to provide an overview of some of the happenings in and around the parish for the past couple of months and look forward to more in 2024.

*Helen & Lesley Eldridge
The Editorial Team*

All Saints' Church

WHO'S WHO?

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE LINK, INCLUDING SUBMITTING MATERIAL,
ADVERTISING OR APPLYING TO RECEIVE BY EMAIL, SEE BACK PAGES



FROM THE VICARAGE

“In the bleak midwinter ... a little light and warmth”

The 19th century Christmas Carol ‘In the Bleak Midwinter’, written by Christina Rossetti, speaks of Christ coming to a cold, hard world - but with its focus on the weather, perhaps the carol reflects a British winter rather than a Bethlehem one.

February can often seem to be a pretty bleak month. Christmas - even in the church calendar - is finally over with the celebration of Candlemas on Friday, 2 February (although we’re stretching it out for another couple of days and celebrating with our Christingle Service on the Sunday - see details on page 4). The daylight hours, while beginning to lengthen, still seem short - often with leaden skies, frosts and wintry weather. The news from around the world looks likely to still be filled with the horrors of war and the plight of suffering civilians and desperate refugees - and the church starts to focus on issues such as sin and repentance, and stops some of the more joyful parts of the liturgy - as well as not having flower arrangements - as we move into the season of Lent.

But the reality is not as ‘bleak’ as it seems, because the truth of the incarnation - as told in this Carol - continues to speak into these experiences and makes the same call for a hopeful and positive response from each one of us.

As I enter what I expect to be the final year of my time as Vicar of Leek Wootton before retirement at the start of 2025, I am acutely aware that this is Christ’s church, not mine. That the incarnation of God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is for every church member, not just those in recognised positions of leadership. As the children at the school know, the light of Jesus is not just for shining ON us, but IN us and THROUGH us. Everyone who claims to be a follower of Jesus should and can be bringers of his light - and with it, the warmth of his love - to others.

Even in the ‘bleak midwinter’, signs of spring will be showing as the snowdrops come to full bloom and the daffodil bulbs send their strong shoots up through the ‘earth ... hard as iron’. As last year, Nicola will lead us (Sunday, 11 February, 2:30pm) on a walk to see the intricate wonder of nature, which reflects the wonder of the Creator, as shown in the huge variety of beautiful snowdrops, following which we will enjoy the goodness of God, as experienced through food and fellowship, at our Pancake Feast. I hope you will come and join us for this. There is information on how to book for the walk elsewhere (see page 30).

The final call of the Carol is to offer to Jesus the gift of our hearts – in other words to trust him with everything - including our faults and failings. As we enter the season of Lent, this is a heartwarming experience - knowing that this is all he asks of us in return for the gift of eternal life with him.

Jim Perryman



The
Children's
Society



Let's come together to **celebrate** **Christingle**

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

Come and join us!

Location: All Saints' Church, Church Lane,
Leek Wootton. CV35 7QZ

Date: Sunday 4 February **Time:** 4.00pm

To find out more, contact: Jim & Nicola Perryman
admin@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

christingle.org

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Scan the
QR code
to find
out more.





www.leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

CHURCH SERVICES / EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Most 10:00am Sunday services, and the Mosaic group, will be 'hybrid' with a live stream, enabling the housebound, the holidaymaker, or anyone else who is not able to attend in person, to still be part of the congregation. Some other services will also be available in this way.

Sunday, 4 February

NO MORNING SERVICES

ROAD CLOSURES due to Warwick Half Marathon

4:00pm CHRISTINGLE for Candlemas (marking 40 days after Christmas)

Sunday, 11 February

10:00am Holy Communion + MOSAIC - *Livestreamed on Zoom*

2:30pm Snowdrop Walk (see page 30)

Sunday, 18 February

8:45am Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00am All Age Worship 'Faith and Life' - *Livestreamed on Zoom*

6:30pm CTKD Taizé Worship

Wednesday, 21 February

10:30am Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday, 25 February

10:00am Holy Communion + MOSAIC - *Livestreamed on Zoom*

TO JOIN US ON ZOOM, EITHER follow the 'LIVESTREAMS' link on the menu of the church website, where you will also find the order of service for the day, **OR** use the link: www.cv35.uk/lwzoom, **OR** use the Zoom Cloud Meeting App with Meeting ID **645 991 3128**. The Passcode is **110720**.



Mr Mackenzie kept forgetting his PIN



“Lenten Reflection”

Sunday 18 February 2024

6.30pm

**All Saints' Church
Leek Wootton**



www.lovekenilworth.uk



www.covmu.org

LEEK WOOTTON MU

Contact : Janet Jackson

e : mu@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

Thursday, 15 February 2:00pm

at St John's Church Hall

A talk by Rosie Lee and Anne Short about their trip to Kapsabet, Kenya and about its link with Coventry Diocese

Gifts for Prisoners' Children

Thank you to those who donated gifts for the families of prisoners at Onley. Prisoners were able to give presents to their children during the Christmas family days that MU support. A thank you card was received saying there would be some very happy children



and dads. We are particularly thankful to Peter and Jane Savage who bought 30 new gifts of toys and games for youngsters from babies up to 16 years and arranged to bring them up to the village Toddler Group to be passed on. The picture shows a display of donated toys at the MU Cathedral Advent Service.

Prayer

For the Time of Valentines Day, a Poem included in the Mothers' Union gift for couples married at All Saints' Church:

THE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE

It can't be bought, it can't be sold,
it can't be measured in silver and gold,

It's a special wish that God above
will fill your heart with peace and love -
the love of God, which is divine,
that is beyond what words can define.

So you may know the comfort of
God's all-fulfilling grace and love.

Amen

Activism against Gender-Based Violence

For the recent campaign it was the turn of the MU in Coventry Diocese to host an exhibition raising awareness of and speaking out against domestic violence through shoes. *'The Souls of our Shoes - A journey in and out of Domestic Abuse'* displayed quotes by women who had experienced such violence next to a pair of shoes chosen by them to resemble ones they'd worn at the time. Churches taking part in the campaign received shoes and quotes and the picture shows the display at All Saints' Church. The quotes were:

"Domestic abuse goes on behind too many closed doors."

"I tried to keep up appearances."

"I love to dance - the magic stops when the key turns in the lock."



2024 Subscriptions

The Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. If you would like to support MU by paying 2024 subscriptions do find out more by contacting our President, Karen at Karen.Morris@Coventry.Anglican.org or Janet. Thank you.



1918-1993 THE ANNIVERSARY MAP

If you have ever been into the upstairs room at All Saints' Church, you may have noticed a large print of a map of the County of Warwickshire, showing the churches, parishes, landmarks, history, roads and rivers which are all present in the Diocese of Coventry. (Those of you of my age will remember that until the 1970s Coventry's address was Warwickshire not West Midlands).

Christine Browne had a career in Ordnance Survey, was a Fine Arts student and mother of two when the challenge came to produce a map which should express the life of a diocese celebrating its 75th Anniversary.

In June 1993 Canon Guy Cornwall-Jones and I, along with other parish Cathedral Liaison Officers, attended the dedication of Christine's finished map at Coventry Cathedral. We bought two of the 750 signed prints and I had them both framed, one for All Saints' and one for myself. Do look at the map, it is a fascinating collection of images which, if studied closely, will take some time to appreciate all the detail and understand the references, the architecture, the histories and the legends. Where Leek Wootton should be recorded, the words read 'This map depicts Coventry Diocese as seen from the 20thC'.



Image: www.coventry.anglican.org

OPEN TO ALL; DIFFERENT IMAGES OF LOVE

Wednesday, 31 January - Thursday, 29 February, 10:00am - 4:00pm in the New Cathedral

God's love is at the centre of this painting exhibition. Artist and theologian, Elizabeth Gray-King will exhibit thirteen of her canvases in the Chapel of the Servant and in the Nave. Resurrection is the hope at the heart of Elizabeth's work, exploring the equality and inclusivity of God's love.

and in the Chapel of Unity

HIDDEN HARDSHIP EXHIBITION

Tuesday, 30 January - Monday, 26 February, 10:00am - 4:00pm in the Chapel of Unity

An interactive exhibition of illustrations by Beth Waters following research into people's experiences of hardship in rural north Cotswolds. Free and suitable for all ages.

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE AT COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

There are a number of ways that the Cathedral has made this possible.

In-Memory - Adopt a Day - choose a special date which will be marked by presenting your personal message on a dedicated display in the reception area.

The Book of Remembrance - a deceased loved one's name added to be held in a permanent form.

Forever In-Memory Millennium Screen - have your loved one's name etched on the glass.



LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Council : Helen Eldridge

t : 07646 017573

e : clerk@leekwootton.org.uk

The Parish Council met on Wednesday, 3 January 2024, at Leek Wootton Village Hall. Discussion included the following:



RESIGNATION OF CLLR STEPHANIE ALLISON

The Council was sad to receive Cllr Allison's resignation in December and recorded its thanks for all of her hard work and commitment over nearly 3½ years on the Council, especially her work on *Community Live!*

The *Community Live!* initiative was Cllr Allison's idea and she has worked tirelessly to bring together groups, clubs and societies for the benefit of the whole community. She has confirmed that she would like to continue to head this up, with the full support of the Parish Council, and this year's event is scheduled for Saturday, 7 September.

RECRUITMENT

Membership of the Council has been an ongoing matter for discussion since the elections in May 2023, when only 6 of the 8 available seats were taken up. The Council is now depleted to 5 and consequently the workload on individual Councillors means that it is harder to provide a meaningful service to the community.

With three vacancies, if you are passionate about this parish, have innovative ideas for the Council or concerns about a specific issue and may be interested in volunteering, please let us know. Contact the Clerk, or any of the sitting Councillors to find out what the role involves, or check out our website page <https://www.leekwootton.org.uk/becoming-a-parish-councillor/>

BUDGET 2024/25

The Budget for 2024/25 was approved by the Council and the Precept set at £31,000, which equates to £58.04 Band D equivalent.

This is an increase on 2023/24, but having had a large number of unplanned expenses for various reasons (reports and legal advice to support planning responses, tree inspections and related works) over the last 2 years, which have depleted the Council's modest reserves, this will enable the Council to better respond to ongoing and future issues affecting the community.

DEVELOPMENT AT WOODCOTE (POLICE HQ)

At the time of the meeting, the Public Inquiry was due to resume on 4 and 5 January, and is due to sit again on 22 January at Honiley, with closing submissions scheduled for 30 January by on-line session.

The future and extent of the development of the site is dependent on the Planning Inspector's judgement, which will follow the conclusion of the Inquiry.

LEEK WOOTTON WAR MEMORIAL RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK

The Finance Committee laid out the various funds that relate to the recreation ground and car park. The Parish Council has agreements with the other stakeholders (the Village Hall, Sports Club and Trustees) that all four will make an annual contribution towards an ongoing maintenance fund.

In the meantime the car park refurbishment has developed a Phase II, being the installation and improvement of the lighting. The Council is also continuing to look into improving the bay markings.

The Council and Trustees also plan to install plaques acknowledging community involvement, including fundraised additions and trees that have been planted.

The Parish Environment Group will be leading when it comes to establishing the biodiversity areas, including the wildflower meadow.

COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE

The Council's grounds maintenance contractors have withdrawn from their contract, which was to run for another year, with effect from the end of February, so the contract will be re-tendered. This comes at an opportune time as the car park refurbishment requires variations to the contract.

Drain repairs in Hill Wootton have been undertaken and appear to have been effective, with the exception of an ongoing issue at the neighbouring property's driveway entrances.

The Clerk has reported a number of defective or unlit street lamps in The Elms and Woodcote Lane, and the Council has also been involved in discussions to investigate overgrown vegetation around street lamps, which diminishes the effectiveness of the lights. **Please remember: if you spot a street lamp that is not lit, on during the day, or otherwise defective, please let the Clerk know, giving the street name and lamp number, and this will be reported to the appropriate authority for repair.**

The Clerk also twice reported flytipping partially hidden in a hedgerow on Hill Wootton road, which was eventually removed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 7 February 2024, at Leek Wootton Village Hall.

Minutes of all Parish Council meetings, when signed, are published on the website at www.leekwootton.org.uk. Any local issues can always be raised at meetings under Public Question Time or by contacting any of the Parish Councillors or the Clerk, details of whom are listed on all noticeboards, the Parish Council website, in the Parish Directory and the Bulletin.



<https://issuu.com/leekwoottonlink>

LEEK WOOTTON LINK

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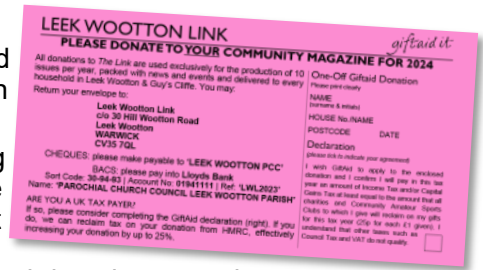
Annual Donation Appeal

It's that time of year again and you should find, inside your magazine, a donation envelope.

Leek Wootton Link's voluntary supporting team compiles, edits and distributes the magazine like a well-oiled machine, but there are still costs and the only sources of funding are the advertising and this annual donation appeal.

The team strives to gather news and information to deliver to every household in the Civil Parish (Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe) and Ecclesiastical Parish (Leek Wootton), so the magazine remains primarily a physical object (although you can opt to receive via email, if you wish). Printing costs have increased, along with everything else over the last year or two, but the combination of advertising and donations has kept us 'afloat' so far.

You will find instructions for donating on the envelope, as well as a GiftAid declaration (which, as always, allows us to claim a bit more back from HMRC). Please be assured that any donations made to *The Link* will be used for its ongoing publication and nothing else.



LEEK WOOTTON VILLAGE HALL

TODDLER & BABY GROUP

A warm welcome is extended to parents, grandparents, and carers.

Baby area, crafts, mat and ride-on toys, music, and activities for all age groups from baby to pre-schoolers. Also fun outdoors in our woodland play area.

Just turn up and join us for a friendly and relaxed morning.
£2 per family. Bring your own snacks.



THURSDAYS (TERM TIME) 10-11:30AM

[FACEBOOK.COM/BABY & TODDLER GROUP - LEEK WOOTTON](https://www.facebook.com/baby-toddler-group-leek-wootton)



FREE VALUATIONS and CONSIGNMENT DAY

St Francis of Assisi Church Hall,
110 Warwick Road, Kenilworth, CV8 1HL

Thursday 8th February 10-2pm

**Bring along your Antiques, Toys, Jewellery,
Silver, Gold, Watches and Collectables**

Items may be consigned into auction on the day

Refreshments in aid of Charity

Free Home Visits for large/multiple items, house clearance
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For further information please contact:

Hansons Warwickshire 07470 459309

www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk

Hansons Derbyshire, Heage Lane, Etwell, Derby, DE65 6LS



Mobile – 07399516197 email – udell353@gmail.com

Level 2 Qualified Mobile Hairdresser local in Baginton

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Perms – 10.00

Setting styles – 10.00

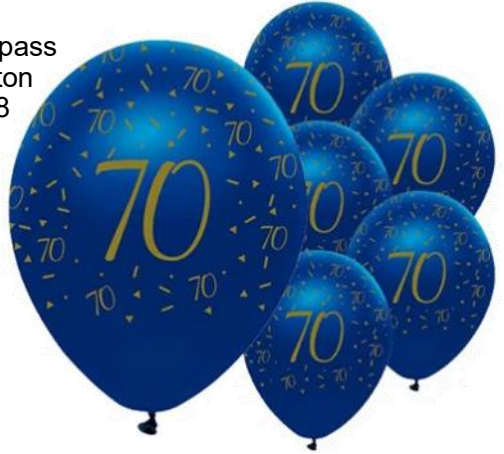
Highlights/Foils/cap – 30.00

Cuts – 15.00



Congratulations!

We couldn't let one special birthday pass without mention; Jonathan Kingston celebrated his 70th Birthday on 18 January and we are pleased to send him, slightly belated, best wishes.



THE LINK QUIZ By Norman Rogers
(answers on page 40)

British Wildlife

1. Not counting a privately owned herd of Reindeer in Scotland there are 6 species of deer in the UK, but only 2 are indigenous. What are the 6 and which 2 are indigenous?
2. In what century was the last recorded sighting of a wild Wolf officially seen in Scotland?
3. There are 5 species of Owl in the UK, can you name them and the one non-indigenous one introduced in the 1800's.
4. Name the 4 species of Snakes in Britain. One was only identified in 2017 as a separate species. Which is the only poisonous one?
5. Name the 3 native Lizards found in the UK.
6. Other than being killed by dogs and foxes to protect their territory, Hedgehogs have only one food predator in the UK. What is that?
7. There are estimated to be only 400 pure bred species of these left in the Scottish Highlands that have not interbred with a near relative species. What is it?
8. This rare Mustelid, (stoats, weasels, polecats, etc) is now in serious decline and are only found in small numbers in Scotland, Northern Ireland and the North of England. Name that animal.
9. According to the RSPB what is the most common bird in the UK with 11 million pairs?
10. There are 7 bird species of Tits in the UK, one of which is only to be seen in Scotland. How many can you name?



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MONDAY - SATURDAY: 10AM – 4.30PM
SUNDAY: 10.30AM - 4PM



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to give our customers a great
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For more information see our website at:
www.hintonsnursery.co.uk

fält gardens



contact us for your spring gardening jobs:
winter tidying • pruning and transplanting
spring container planting • wildlife care

e: info@faltgardens.co.uk m: 07415 064139



<https://lwhsociety.cv35.uk>

LEEK WOOTTON GARDENING CLUB

Secretary : Steph Jones e : lwhsociety@gmail.com



Wreath Making Workshop

After a successful wreath making session in November 2022, we decided to repeat the event and add a morning and afternoon session for 2023. After gathering a mammoth amount of foliage, spruce, cones, ribbon and even sourcing eucalyptus from a Coventry wholesaler, we were ready. Meg Handler very kindly came along to give us some tips on how to add small bunches of foliage to a straw wreath, but then it was up to everyone to be creative. Each person produced an amazing individual wreath which, I am sure, looked wonderful on their front door.



Many thanks to all that attended and supported us, we hope you enjoyed the occasion.



Photographic Categories

ANNUAL SHOW - Saturday, 17 August 2024

The photographic categories for this year's Show will be **Daily Life in Leek Wootton** and, in collaboration with the Environment Group, **Wildlife in your Garden**. We look forward to seeing your photos at the Show in August.


We found this poem posted on *Pricklebums Hedgehog Rescue's* Facebook page in memory of Benjamin Obadiah Iqbal Zephaniah, who died on 7 December.

We thought it would make a lovely tribute to him, and a St Valentine's Day tribute to our own local hedgehog rescue.


Pricklebums is a hedgehog rescue centre in Ludlow, undertaking the same work as Sally, here in Leek Wootton.


[...Eds.]


Luv Song




I am in luv wid a hedgehog
 I've never felt this way before
 I have luv fe dis hedgehog
 An everyday I luv her more an more,
 She lives by de shed
 Where weeds and roses bed
 An I just want de world to know
 She makes me glow.







I am in luv wid a hedgehog
 She's making me hair stand on edge
 So in love wid dis hedgehog
 An her friends
 Who all live in de hedge
 She visits me late
 An eats off Danny's plate
 But Danny's a cool tabby cat
 He leaves it at dat.



I am in luv wid a hedgehog
 She's gone away so I must wait
 But I do miss my hedgehog
 Everytime she goes away to hibernate

Benjamin Zephaniah.

Image from www.facebook.com/pricklebumshedgehogrescue/

ADVERTISING



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LEEK WOOTTON HEDGEHOGS

Contact: Sally Ellis

m : 07771 996952



Happy New Year from the Leek Wootton hogs.

The final numbers of hogs coming in for assessment and care here ended up at 318, about a third of all the group's admissions for the year! We are all hoping that 2024 won't be as busy, however, I have already had 5 hogs admitted. Around 15 hogs remained in care over Christmas and the New Year. Many of them are too small to be released yet, but hopefully some will be if the weather conditions and temperature permit.

There will be many hogs hibernating at the moment in (as I write this) freezing conditions. If the weather warms up, as it is expected to, some may wake and be on the search for food. If you usually put food and water out for them, please continue to do so, you never know when they might need a snack to keep them going. If the weather goes cold again they may well go back into hibernation so topping up their weight will help them greatly.

I always try and update my hedgehog care knowledge and I recently attended a two-day international conference for hedgehog rehabilitators at Hartpury University. Eleven countries were represented including Denmark, Malta, Turkey, France and Germany where the European Hedgehog also resides. It was a great opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with fellow rescues from around the UK as well listening to some excellent presentations, on many topics from treatment to conservation, from leading hedgehog researchers which will inform and improve what we do.

Spring will bring us some new challenges and new patients for sure and I will let you know more about how to support our local hogs in forthcoming editions of the Leek Wootton Link.

Thank you for continued support for your lovely prickly friends. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have concerns about a hedgehog.

Sally 07771996952





LEEK WOOTTON VILLAGE HALL

Booking Secretary : Sigrun Fewtrill

e : lwwh@outlook.com

t : 409641

Hiring Charges

Main Hall

		Parish Organisations / Events	Other Parish Users	Non-Parish Users
Category 1	Mon-Fri 9:00-6:00pm	£8.00 ph	£13.00 ph	£18.00 ph
Category 2	Mon-Thu 6:00-11:00pm	£8.00 ph	£14.00 ph	£18.00 ph
Category 3	Fri, 6:00-11:00pm Sat & Sun	By arrangement	£16.00 ph	£22.00 ph

Hire charges: from 1 Sep 2023

Committee Room

Maximum 20 Persons

Parish Users: £7.00 ph

Non-Parish Users: £9.00 ph

Full day rates at Committee's discretion.

30-min setting-up charge, plus 30-min clearing-up charge is added to ALL bookings (except for regular parish users).

Hire of the Main Hall or the Committee Room is for that room only.

An additional charge of £10 is payable for the cooker, or £15 is payable for use of the cooker, dishwasher and heated cabinet.

We are very proud of our Village Hall and would appreciate your help in maintaining it in its present condition; all users should leave the hall, kitchen and toilets clean and tidy.

ALL litter must be taken home. Please do not leave bags of rubbish in, or outside, the hall.

BOOKING INQUIRIES TO MRS S FEWTRILL

(e : lwwh@outlook.com | t : 01926 409641)

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE HALL



Leek Wootton Village Hall Regular Users

Organisation	Contact	Activity Times
Bump2babyReality	Sally Seddon e: sally@bump2babyreality.co.uk m: 07960 323874	Wednesday 10:00am
Kenny Art Group	Barbara Kenny e: skbk267@yahoo.co.uk t: 01926 852413	Wednesday 1:30pm
Leamington Spa & District Twins Club	Elizabeth Daniels e: liz.daniels86@gmail.com m: 07872 900312	Tuesday 10:00am
Leek Wootton Beavers and Cubs	Jo Elsy e: mail@jelsy.myzen.co.uk t: 01926 854623	Monday 5:30pm
Leek Wootton Brownies	Hazel Turner e: leekwoottonbrownies@hotmail.com m: 07970 908073	Tuesday 6:00pm
Leek Wootton Guides	Hazel Turner e: leekwoottonguides@hotmail.com m: 07970 908073	Tuesday 7:30pm
Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council	Helen Eldridge e: clerk@leekwootton.org.uk m: 07464 017573	First Wednesday of each month 7:30pm
Leek Wootton Village Hall Committee	Genny Wilson e: genny@klasinski.co.uk m: 07921 132079	Wednesday every 3 months 7:00pm
Line Dancing	Annie Murray e: anniedanceuk@aol.com t: 01926 864554	Tuesday 1:45pm
Maria Textile Design	Maria Manuel e: mariathomastextiles@gmail.com t: 01926 853794	Monthly on a Friday 9:30am
Stay and Play	Janet Jackson t: 01926 258264 e: toddlers@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk	Thursday 10:00am
Viva Theatre Arts	Claudia Temple e: claudia-temple@hotmail.com m: 07977 493563	Friday 4:00pm
Leek Wootton Women's Institute	Lesley Kirkwood w: https://warwickshirewi.org.uk/wi/leek-wootton m: 07855 518315	Third Tuesday of each month 7:30 pm

DECEMBER & JANUARY IN PICTURES...

Please submit your photos to link@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

www.facebook.com/Bringbackguyssciffe



The Sports Club,
6 Dec →
↓ Tree sapling
management at Avon
Wood, 3 Dec



Image by [LW&GC Parish Environment Group](https://www.facebook.com/LW&GCParishEnvironmentGroup)



www.facebook.com/LeekWoottonSportsClub



The WYFC Christmas Tractor Run,
12 Dec →

← The Advent Wreath at All Saints' Church

↓ Father Christmas visits Leek Wootton, 14 Dec

Christmas fun at Adventure Sports →



www.facebook.com/adventure.sports.warwick



www.facebook.com/warwickshirepolice



www.facebook.com/GuideDogsUK



↗ Born on Christmas Day: Staff at Guide Dogs UK helped Pebbles' deliver 7 puppies, 25 Dec

➔ Two Guides were lucky enough to make their promise in front of the tiger at London Zoo, 16 Dec



www.facebook.com/LWbrowniesguides



www.facebook.com/LeekWoottonJuniorsFC

↑ A superb Christmas game at Leek Wootton saw a highly competitive, yet fun friendly match between the LW U11 SHARKS and Kenilworth Wardens U11 TIGERS! 23 Dec



Image by Jan Ramsley



Image by Gary Craine



Guy's Cliffe

Image: www.facebook.com/Bringbackguyscliffe

So far, January has already brought rain and severe flooding, followed by a spell of frosts and freezing temperatures.

Guy's Cliffe Walled Garden, 'Après le Deluge' ➔

Appreciation for the greenkeepers' work during the toughest part of the year ↓



Image www.facebook.com/berry.meatyrd



Image by Gary Craine



www.facebook.com/thesaxomill

The Saxon Mill



www.facebook.com/warwickshiregccc

LEEK WOOTTON SPORTS CLUB



We offer the use of the Function room and for smaller occasions the Snug. The Function room is suitable for a wide range of uses including:

- Family occasions, birthdays, wedding receptions, anniversaries, christenings, funeral wakes etc
- Community meetings and annual general meetings
- Training and business events. Clubs, classes and workshops and other activities
- Try your hand at skittles.

Competitive hire rates and use of our 75 inch TV for your presentations.



To book contact the Clubhouse direct or email harry.wilson@me.com
07973 661218



<https://warwickshirewi.org.uk/wi/leek-wootton>

LEEK WOOTTON WI

President : Lesley Kirkwood

m : 07855 518315

e : gestureswithspoons@googlemail.com

Having recovered from the Christmas festivities, it was great to see forty of our members at our January meeting where we heard all about how to be 'on alert' for possible scams.

After an incredibly interesting talk we came away much more aware of possible approaches and are definitely going to 'Take 5' before replying or signing up to anything that we are not comfortable about.

In complete contrast our February meeting will be a Skittles Evening at the Sports Club. I am sure we will see our enthusiasm matched by incredible skill and technique!

We are always delighted to welcome new members and to give you all a taste of our varied programme here is a list of this year's talks:

February	Skittles
March	Myton Hospice
April	Photographers Britain
May	Resolutions and Social
June	The Millenium Way
July	Summer Social
September	Robert Dudley, Queen Elizabeth, and the Kenilworth Entertainment of 1575
October	AGM and Social
November	Making a Christmas Floral Arrangement
December	Christmas Party

Please get in touch if you would like more information

Lesley Kirkwood

07855 518315

or email: gestureswithspoons@googlemail.com

www.macmillan.org.uk

MACMILLAN

Chairman : Ros Commander

t : 511373

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Justina

The Macmillan Cancer Support Committee invites you to join them for their annual Fashion Show by *Justina* of Wellesbourne on Wednesday, 13 March. Tickets available now from Ros Commander at roselyncommander@yahoo.co.uk.

Sean @



Carols at the Anchor

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that supported this event on Christmas Eve. Not only did we all have a great evening but thanks to your generosity we raised **£375** for **Air Ambulance**.

Thank you from Sean, Mike & Duncan



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KENILWORTH PROBUS 1 CLUB

Chairman : Brian Wilson

Hon Secretary : Mike Cheeseman

t : 852976

The Club met for its first monthly meeting of 2024 on Tuesday, 16 January at its usual venue of the Sports Club. After a short element of Club business our attention was turned to our speaker for the morning, Martin Gower, whose talk was entitled “NHS a Jewel in the Crown or a Patient in Need of Therapy”.



Martin's career started in media, until 2008 being CEO/MD in several major media companies in UK, USA and Ireland (including Coventry), Proprietor of his own Business Management Advisory Company, Chairman of the local Institute of Directors, Chairman of Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust and of Midlands

Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. He was therefore highly qualified to present the statistics and comments on the NHS and where in his view it is successful and where it fails.

His very thought-provoking talk was very well received and his conclusions and ideas of how the service should be improved and organised for the 21st century were appreciated, though how they might be implemented was not clear.

The next Club meeting is on 20 February when the talk will be on the History of Orthodontics.

Kenilworth Probus 1 Club is a gathering of retired or semi-retired gentlemen who have generally held positions during their working life in professions and businesses and get together once a month to hear talks on a wide range of topics, enjoy a good chin-wag over a drink at the bar, possibly followed by lunch together to continue discussions at The Anchor and occasional visits to places of interest including local factories etc.

Any readers living within a reasonable distance of the parish who feel that one morning, once a month, in the company of like-minded men and learning about a variety of subjects, sounds of interest contact Mike Cheeseman, Club Secretary, 01926 852976.

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charlottedigby4@gmail.com 07771 576856 or rdigby4@gmail.com 07717 603242



CANCER RESEARCH UK LEEK WOOTTON

Secretary : Diane Wilson

m : 0752 8518841



Thank You - £1,256.14 Raised

What a way to finish our programme for 2023 with the Black Country duo 'Dandy' on 21 October at the Village Hall. Laughter throughout the evening with wine, pie, peas and mash, raffle prizes and a Mystery Tombola to raise an amazing sum of £1,256.14. Thank you to all who attended and for your continued support for Cancer Research UK.

OUR 2024 CRUK EVENTS, SO FAR ...

Skittles Evening with Fish & Chip Supper

Thursday, 21 March @ 18.30 - Leek Wootton Sports Club - Tickets £15.00

An evening to enjoy a friendly competitive game of skittles, with a Fish & Chip Supper from St John's Fish Bar, and raffle prizes - purchasing your refreshments from the Bar of the Sports Club.

Tickets may be purchased from Kay Wakeman - 01926 851670.

The Big Breakfast

Friday, 10 May @ 09.00 until 12.00 - Leek Wootton Village Hall - Donations on the Day

A special date in our CRUK Leek Wootton calendar, we know many of you look forward to, our annual 'Big Breakfast' event. A chance to catch up with friends and neighbours and enjoy a fabulous breakfast and refreshments. Please note the slight change in times for the event.

Local Representation in Antigua!

Whilst innocently watching the *News at 10* at the beginning of December, an eagle-eyed resident in Waller Close spotted a familiar name in the background during the Cricket report from Antigua.



The flag belongs to Charlie Yeomanson, who travelled to support the England team playing the West Indies. He says he will be travelling again to support them in India in 2024, so cricket fans, keep your eyes peeled!



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LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Coordinator : Cllr David Elsy e : environment@leekwootton.org.uk

Woodcote Lane Migratory toads crossing Can you help?



We know that in decades past Woodcote Lane was the site of high numbers of migratory toads, during the months of February and March. After spending 2/3 years in the East Lunch woods maturing, the adult toads would make their way across the road to the lakes on Police HQ land. Sometimes the males hitching a lift on the back of the larger females; all in the hope that their sperm would fertilise the female eggs once they reached the lakes.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you drive along the lane in the evenings of February and March please take care and look out for these lovely amphibians. They are particularly fond of migrating when it is dark, damp and mild.

Either driving or walking, if you do see any toads, you can safely pick them up and help them across, just wash your hands afterwards. Please do send any sightings of dead or live toads to the Environment Group. We would love to know how our local population of toads is doing.

What is the difference between a toad and a frog?



TOAD on the left has grey, dry warty bumpy skin.

FROG on the right has more colourful, smooth slimy skin and longer legs than the toad.



Snowdrop Walk

(weather dependant)

Sunday 11th February 2024

Meet at 2:30pm
at All Saints' Church,
Leek Wootton

All ages welcome, not suitable
for pushchairs or wheelchairs

Followed by a Pancake Feast

Those with limited mobility could
enjoy the snowdrops in the
churchyard and then drive down to
the arboretum.

Snowdrops are often the first flowers of the year and are seen as a sign of hope as they flower even in frost and snow. They can be in flower from early January until March and can offer a source of nectar for early flying bees.

To book go to www.cv35.uk/snowdrop





CHURCHYARD MATTERS

Contact : Jonathan Kingston, Churchwarden

Dogs on leads

At a recent PCC meeting it was agreed that, regrettably, it will be necessary to request that all dog owners and walkers have their dogs on a lead whilst travelling through the churchyard.

We still welcome all dogs and owners, but this is to keep the churchyard as an area of respect to all those buried there and will apply to all dogs. Yes, even Willow and Bracken!

Coffee and

We would like to invite all dog owners and walkers to come for coffee, biscuits and a Bonio in the churchyard on Thursday, 4 and Friday, 5 April from 9:00am-10:30 am.



Come and join us for a cup of coffee and a biscuit, with doggy treats for our canine friends.

Jonathan Kingston

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LEEK WOOTTON SPORTS CLUB

President : David Allison
Secretary : Harry Wilson

e : harry.wilson@me.com

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Please note that your 2023 membership has been extended from 1st January until the date of the next AGM, scheduled for the 19th of April 2024, at no extra cost.

We will, at the AGM, notify you of the 2024 revised membership fee. Your 2024 membership will take effect from the 1st May 2024.

Thank you



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SATURDAY 4.30PM KICK OFF
COME EARLY TO GET YOUR VIP SEATS

4 FEBRUARY 2024



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OR CALL - 07973 661218

Your Club needs you!

Leek Wootton Sports Club sits at the heart of our community. The community which we love.

Whilst we continue to grow, we need your help!

We are looking for a couple of volunteers who can "lend a hand" in the following areas:

- Event planning and organisation
- Bar / catering work
- Maintenance (and a little general DIY!)

If you would be interested in helping in any of the areas listed above, please have a word with a member of the committee who will be happy to provide more details.

Alternatively, please feel free to email below and we will contact you. Thank you

harry.wilson@me.com



'Young at Heart'

This wonderful vibrant group was started in 1999.....24 years ago by Jenny Kimberley and Hillary David. In the beginning, with 12 members it has now grown to 18 members. And what a group of ladies they are..... their average age they said was 21 and 3/4. They have recently welcomed another senior club member Roy Joiner into their fold.

So come along for tea, cake and wonderful company in the Function room every Monday afternoon 2 - 4pm,

LEEK WOOTTON SPORTS CLUB



What to Expect from an Outdoor Bootcamp Class

Join our fitness sessions at the Sports Club, from 6.00pm every Friday evening (regardless of the weather) to 6.30pm. Just drop in, pay £5 for the hour and have professional Bootcamp trainers lead the sessions which are aimed at any adult, male or female, regardless of current fitness levels.



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All in the month of February

100 years ago, on 5 Feb 1924, BBC Radio broadcast the 'six-pips' Greenwich Time Signal for the first time.

Also 100 years ago, on 12 Feb 1924, George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* was performed for the first time, in New York.

75 years ago, on 22 Feb 1949, Niki Lauda, Austrian racing driver was born. He was Formula One World Champion in 1975, 1977 and 1984.

70 years ago, on 23 Feb 1954, the first field test of the polio vaccine began in Pittsburgh. It grew into a year-long national trial involving 1.8 million children.

65 years ago, 3 Feb 1959 became 'the day the music died', when American

rock-n-roll performers Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper were killed in a plane crash in Iowa.

60 years ago, on 7 Feb 1964, the Beatles arrived in New York for their first US tour. They were met by thousands of screaming fans.

40 years ago, on 14 Feb 1984, figure skaters Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean won the gold medal in ice-skating at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. They scored the first perfect 6.0 in Olympic history.

20 years ago, on 4 Feb 2004, Facebook, the social media networking platform, was launched.

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THE LINK

Leek Wootton Link is published ten times a year, monthly (doubles: July/August, December/January) free of charge, although all readers are invited to make an annual donation towards the magazine.

Submitting Articles or Letters for Publication :

Articles and photographs should be submitted by email to: link@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk, or they can be hand delivered to 30 Hill Wootton Road (Please note: the Editorial Team reserves the right to shorten or edit any material that is submitted for publication).

The deadline for editorial submissions for the March issue is:

FRIDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2024

Advertisements for *The Link* or for www.leekwoottonchurch.co.uk:

The magazine accepts advertising on a monthly or annual basis. For more information about advertising rates, please contact link.ads@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk or call **Jim Perryman** on **01926 850610**

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Other ways to read *The Link*

If you would like to be added to either the email or postal distribution lists, please contact link@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

The Link is now published on issuu and some back issues are available to view at:

<https://issuu.com/leekwoottonlink>



OUT & ABOUT IN LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE

See main articles for further details

- Every Friday -
Chess Club

From 17:30 at the Sports Club

Outdoor Bootcamp

18:00 at the Sports Club

Sunday, 4 February

Warwick Half Marathon

www.warwickhalf.com

- Every Monday -
Young at Heart

14:00 at the Sports Club

Wednesday, 7 February

Parish Council Meeting

19:30 at the Village Hall

Wednesday, 7 & 24 February

Bingo Night

20:00 at the Sports Club

Sunday, 11 February

Snowdrop Walk

14:30 at All Saints' Church

Tuesday, 13 February

Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday, 14 February

Ash Wednesday

St Valentine's Day

Saturday, 17 February

Quiz Night

20:00 at the Sports Club

Sunday, 18 February

PCC Meeting

11:15 at All Saints' Church

Tuesday, 20 February

Kenilworth Probus Club

see page 25

Leek Wootton WI

Skittles at the Sports Club

Wednesday, 21 February

Slava Knit

18:00 at the Sports Club

Saturday, 17 February

NGS Snowdrop Open Day

https://hillclosegardens.com

AND LOOKING AHEAD IN 2024...

Friday, 1 March

St David's Day

Wednesday, 13 March

Macmillan: Annual Fashion Show

see page 23

Thursday, 21 March

CRUK: Skittles Evening

see page 27

Thursday & Friday, 4 & 5 April

Coffee & Bonio

see page 31

First Sunday of May-September

Church Teas

Sunday, 5 May

Teddy Bear Parachuting

14:30-16:30 at All Saints' Church

Friday, 10 May

CRUK: Big Breakfast

see page 27

Saturday, 15 June

LW&GC Parish Summer Fête

14:00-16:30 at the Village Hall

Saturday, 17 August

LW Gardening Club: Annual Show

see page 15

Saturday, 7 September

Community Live! 2024

at the Village Hall

- FOR PHOTOS PLEASE SEE CENTRE PAGES -

THE LINK QUIZ ANSWERS

From page 13

1. Red and Roe (indigenous), Fallow, Muntjac, Sika and Water Deer | 2. 17th Century. Killed by Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel in 1680. There were unconfirmed sightings in the 18th and 19th Centuries | 3. Barn, Tawny, Long Eared, Short Eared and Little Owl (the non-indigenous one) | 4. Adder or Viper, Common Grass, Barred Grass and Smooth Snake. The Adder is the poisonous one | 5. Common or Viviparous, Slow Worm and Sand Lizard | 6. The Badger | 7. The Wild Cat or Highland Tiger (not the feral cat which it cross breeds with) | 8. Pine Marten | 9. Wren | 10. Blue, Great, Long Tailed, Coal, Marsh, Willow and Crested Tit (Scottish only)(Whist proof-reading, Jim tells us that there is also the Bearded Tit, but is no longer considered as a species of tit [...Eds])