

LEEK WOOTTON LINK

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

FDITORIAL

Welcome to the March issue of The Link. Since our last issue we have been very grateful to receive donation envelopes at a steady rate, as well as online transfer payments (please can we remind people All funds raised will go towards producing who have given by BACS or online transfer to complete and return the envelope if they would like us to be able advertising and donations.

to claim GiftAid on their donation - just add a note saying, "Paid Online DD/MM/YYYY" - thank you).

If you lose your envelope or need a GiftAid form, please ask via email

link@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk.

So far we have received over 60 donations and will keep the Appeal open until the end of the year - our final donation in 2024 was banked on 31 December!

magazine, which has successfully supported itself bν

> Thank vou again for all your support so far, and vet to come!

> > Helen & Lesley Eldridae The Editorial Team

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:

should Articles photographs be submitted and 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 April issue is:

FRIDAY, 21 MARCH

<u>Advertisements</u>:

The magazine accepts advertising on a monthly or annual basis. For more about information advertising please contact rates. link.ads@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

Advert submissions are due:

1 WEEK IN ADVANCE OF THE MAIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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



Cover Image: "...when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade" John Taylor For full quote, see page 13



Time for a Clear-out

A little over thirteen years ago we moved house from a larger property out of the area to a smaller house in Kenilworth. The house move was a response to retirement and we came back to an area we knew well and with family living close by. However, before our move we had to do a lot of thinking and downsizing. We had been in that house for about twenty years and we had accumulated a lot of 'stuff'. Most of it was hidden in the depths of the garage and loft but we couldn't keep ignoring it, it all had to be dealt with.

Deciding what to keep was a painful process. Some items had sentimental value, some a monetary value and still others were in the category of 'Could be useful one day'. I have a husband who is more sentimental than me so our wedding cards and the birth congratulations cards sent when our children were born are still with us. So are some of the clothes that I can't get into!

De-cluttering is a process and we haven't completed it yet. We are coming into the season of Lent and in many ways it is a de-cluttering time. It lasts from Ash Wednesday, the day after Pancake Day, to Easter. The idea comes from the Jewish tradition of preparing for the Passover season by getting rid of all the leaven in the house and preparing for a time of abstinence. Historically on Pancake Day we would use up all our lovely, unhealthy foods before a period of fasting. Today we may focus less on fasting but more on putting our lives right before God.

One of the ways in which we may put ourselves right with God is to read a little more about him by reading the Bible or following some prepared notes or books based on Biblical thoughts or ideas. Another way may be to reflect upon the ways in which we may have been hurt by others or have hurt them ourselves. This may bring us to thoughts of forgiveness, asking God to forgive us and to ask his help as we forgive others and even ourselves. We may want to think about our values and in some way re-set our priorities. There used to be a phrase particularly popular with the young adults that was written onto friendship bracelets. It read WWJD, meaning What Would Jesus Do and it was a quick reminder when faced with decisions to make – what would Jesus do in this situation, in making this decision...

When we started the process of de-cluttering it made our house move to Kenilworth easier, it made it possible to get all our belongings into a smaller house, but the process is on-going. It's the same in our spiritual lives. We need constantly to be de-cluttering from the things that we accumulate that may hold us back on our Christian walk with God. It may be fear that holds us back, it may be lethargy, it may be lack of knowledge or interest, it may be our past experiences of the Church or Christians within it. Whatever is holding us back, now is the season to give God a bit of time and just see what He can do. You will be amazed!

Christine Haines



All Saints' Church

WHO'S WHO?

www.leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

MAIN CHURCH CONTACT

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Prayer for our Vacancy

May God's blessing surround us each day, As we trust Him to guide us and pray.

As our vacancy plays out, Guard and keep us from doubt.

Give us hope,

Give us peace,

Give us love.

Amen.



Saturday, 8 March

International Women's Day Prayer

We pray today for women throughout the world who are building up their own communities. Help us to stand united as we work to ensure every woman and girl is treated the same as her brother. Together may we work against genderbased violence and equipping women to transform their own lives and lift themselves out of poverty.

From the MU Prayer Diary 2025

Diocesan President, Karen Morris handing a goodbye gift to MU member The Rev Jim Perryman and Nicola

The Gateway Homeless Project

We are collecting items of clothing especially for men, also baby/toddler equipment to pass on to Paul Morris, husband of our Diocesan President. Karen, who is involved with homeless charities in Coventry.

Please bring to the Village Hall during Leek Wootton Toddler Group mornings - Thursday between 10:00am and 11:30am. Thank you.

15-17 March

UN Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW)

MU has accredited representation at the United Nations; this year the Society will have a virtual delegation, including CEO Bev Jullien and board members Mathilde Nkwirikiye, June Butler and Julia Jamieson. We are delighted that Margaretta Kanu, from Freetown in Sierra Leone, will be attending in person.

Sunday, 30 March

Mothering Sunday

MU's 2025 Theme is 'Peace for Mothering Sunday': There are faith resources (www.mothersunion.org/ mothering-sunday-resources) and Gifts of Peace (www.mothersunion.org/make-

mothers-day-2025) available to raise funds so that families can have a

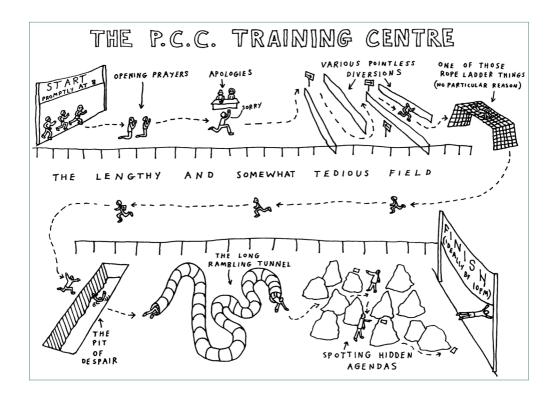
better life.

CHURCH SERVICES / EVENTS FOR MARCH

Sunday, 2 08:45 10:00	<u>P March</u> Holy Communion All Age Worship + Baptism				
<u>Sunday, 9</u> 10:00	March Holy Communion				
<u>Sunday, 1</u> 10:00	<u>6 March</u> All Age Worship				
<u>Wedneso</u> 10:30 19:30	day, 19 March Midweek Holy Communion Parochial Church Council [PCC] Meeting				
Sunday, 23 March					
10:00 11:00	Holy Communion Annual Parochial Church Meeting [APCM]				
Sunday, 30 March		Mothering Sunday			

All Age Parade Service

10:00



Parish Future Update

On 6 February, the Churchwardens and PCC met with the Archdeacon Missioner, Barry Dugmore. An Open Meeting was then held in Church on the following Sunday, 9 February to explain some of the options for the future. Below are some brief notes.

It was explained that we are unlikely to be left without a new minister. There are two basic options, a part-time priest (a 50% post) for 3 days a week + Sunday, as per Jim, or a 'House for Duty' position, which is where the priest is able to live free of charge at the Vicarage but works in the parish for 2 days a week + Sunday. One of the differences to the parish would be in the amount of Parish Share that would be paid to the Diocese. No decision has yet been made as to which option we will advertise for, and it was explained that the process is likely to take at least 9 months, but realistically we could expect it to take at least a year.

Services will continue as usual during the vacancy, and enquiries for funerals/weddings/baptisms etc should be made to **admin@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk** and they will be forwarded to the Churchwardens. Current links with the school and uniformed groups will be maintained. During the vacancy it is likely that the Vicarage will be let by the Diocese, which is responsible for the building.

To start the process of looking for a new priest, the parish needs to write a document called a Parish Profile in which we can explain about our parish here in Leek Wootton, our vision for the future, what good things we can celebrate, what stories we have to tell, how we share God in our community, and ask what we would want from a new incumbent to lead us to achieve this vision.

An advert will then be placed in the *Church Times* and if suitable candidates come forward, interviews will take place. I am sure there are more questions you may have individually, so please do speak to either Nigel or myself. A further chance for discussion will be at the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) on Sunday, 23 March at 11:00am to which all are welcome.

Jonathan Kingston

All Saints' Church Leek Wootton APCM Sunday, 23 March, 11:00am



The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held as above. Annual reports will be received, and the Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected.

There will also be a further opportunity to discuss the Parish future.

Jonathan Kingston / Nigel Stallard



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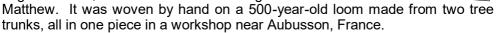
A TALE OF TWO TAPESTRIES

with ST MARY'S GUILDHALL and COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

Tuesday, 8 July – Tuesday, 7 October

Have you seen it? At first sight you may take it to be a huge painting. It measures 23 metres by 12 metres and weighs almost a ton, taking up the space on the entire East wall behind the altar table. (Of course, it is not really east as a compass will tell you.) This magnificent tapestry was a key part of Basil Spence's design for Coventry Cathedral. He had admired the religious artwork of Graham Sutherland and in 1951invited him to design the tapestry, which was a challenge that took 10 years to complete.

The theme placed the focus of the risen Christ in the glory of God in heaven. Also depicting St Michael overwhelming the devil; the four framed beasts representing the four evangelists, the lion of Mark, the eagle of John, calf of Luke and a winged man for



It was hung for the first time in the Cathedral in 1962, which is when I was first shown it as a member of the confirmation class before the building was finally finished.



In the nearby Guildhall the medieval tapestry has recently been refurbished and is hanging in a new cabinet in St Mary's Hall. It was stitched in 1510 to honour Henry VI and Margaret of Anjou, his consort. The design of the tapestry is full of symbolism showing the power of the mayor at that time. The Guildhall and the Cathedral are offering a new kind of

tour 'A Tale of Two Tapestries'. It will last approximately 1 hour and cost £10pp. Please contact the Guildhall for more information - https://stmarysguildhall-tickets.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173645959.

WISH YOU WERE HERE:

<u>A 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION (Plus Dark Side of the MOON)</u> Saturday, 8 March, 8:00pm – 10:00pm, The New Cathedral

Everything Under the Sun will return to Coventry Cathedral with their 2025 show celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Pink Floyd's iconic 'Wish You Were Here'. Featuring the Cathedral organ as part of the 7-piece rock band. Doors open 7:00pm, Tickets £25.

Advance Notice:

WOOD: ST MARK PASSION

Friday, 18 April, 6:00pm, The New Cathedral

Coventry Cathedral Chorus presents Charles Wood's St Mark Passion, a "little known musical gem", which includes the Passion narrative. Directed by Luke Fitzgerald with tenor Evangelist Joseph Benagee. The performance will conclude with Finzi's beautiful 'Welcome, Sweet and Sacred Feast'.

Concert will last approximately 1 hour, tickets from tickets@coventrycathedralchorus.com or ring Jill Pacey 01676 532436.

Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Cou WHO'S WHO?	ıncil
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Paul Eldridge (Vice-Chairman) t: 854347 e: CllrEldridge@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk	Planning (LEAD) Guy's Cliffe Emergency Planning Finance & Risk Cttee Planning Cttee
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Joy Morgan m : 07971 446354 e : CllrMorgan@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk	Community Development Emergency Planning All Saints' Academy
VACANCY	
VACANCY	
Helen Eldridge (Clerk to the Parish Council) 1 Anchor Cottages, Warwick Road m: 07464 017573 e: clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk	

LEEK WOOTTON LINK | MARCH 2025

www.leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk



LEEK WOOTTON &

GUY'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

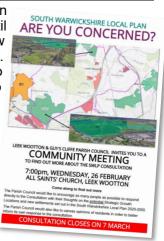
Clerk to the Parish Council : Helen Eldridge t : 07646 017573 e : clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk

The Parish Council met on Wednesday, 5 February 2025, at Leek Wootton Village Hall. Discussion included the following:

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN: PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION

The SWLP will decide the strategy for development in both Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon Districts until 2050 and proposed Strategic Development Sites, New Settlements and Smaller Sites do affect this parish. The Council decided to hold a Community Meeting to encourage as many people as possible to respond to the consultation and also so that the Parish Council can inform its own response from the community.

The meeting on 26 February at the Church will happen after this magazine goes to press, but the consultation CLOSING DATE is 7 MARCH 2025, so please respond if you haven't already done so www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/preferred-options.cfm



DEVOLUTION WHITE PAPER

It has been announced that Warwickshire has not been selected for the first phase of the Government's devolution plans. The 2025 Warwickshire County Council elections will now take place on Thursday, 1 May 2025.

DEVELOPMENT AT WOODCOTE (POLICE HQ)

There is currently no further news about the CALA new homes development at Woodcote (Ref: W/24/1006). Various objections have been raised with the existing plans and these will require a response.

Meanwhile, Warwickshire Police has submitted a planning application (Ref. W/25/0038) for various external works at the Woodcote site, including landscaping, resurfacing, new car parks, footpaths, external lighting, CCTV and security gates. This application sets out the immediate future plans for the Woodcote site.

All planning applications are published on the PC website at: **leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk/parish-council-business/planning-applications**, where you can find links to the Warwick District Council Planning Portal to view accompanying documents and submit comments.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

26 MARCH at ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LEEK WOOTTON

The Annual Parish Assembly is a PARISH MEETING, NOT a Parish Council Meeting, and is an opportunity for residents and organisations to take part in an open forum discussion.

For more information, please see poster on page 21.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

The PC has been working with the Churchwardens and the History Group towards an event to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in May. Further news about this will be published in due course, but the PC did make the decision NOT to hold a Parish Summer Fête in 2025. The PC is committed to holding *Community Live!* on 6 September and would prefer to concentrate on this one other event in 2025.

COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE

Issues recently reported to WCC Highways include:

- Overgrown ivy on pavement of Warwick Road near the Old School
- Misaligned signposts on Warwick Road, which have now been moved back into place
- Need for the road sweeper to clear Woodcote Lane and Hill Wootton Road of leaf debris
- The PC is also investigating the replacement of footpath signs and fingerposts as more than one in the parish is currently 'down'.
- The PC is working with our County Councillor to get a grit bin installed, and included in the refill schedule, in Woodloes Lane.

PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

There was a discussion about communications in and around the parish. The Parish Council is often notified of issues that may be of interest to residents and is looking at how information can be best disseminated. There was much debate about the pros and cons of traditional v new media, and it was decided that the matter should be discussed with residents at the Annual Parish Assembly on 26 March.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 5 March, at Leek Wootton Village Hall.

Minutes of all Parish Council meetings, when signed, are published on the website at www.leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.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.

OBITUARIES

We publish here brief obituaries for members of the community who have died recently. We send condolences to their relatives, and to all who have recently been bereaved.



Robert 'Bob' Cooke 1950-2025

Bob was born and raised in Sheffield. Cancer and been caugh Polytechnic, he got a job in Wimbledon at the National Physical Laboratory. He moved to Coventry in 1972, and then to Leamington Spa where he grandchild pioned a local badminton club and met his future wife Cathy. They settled in Leek Wootton in 1988 where they raised their two children, Alice and flowers, fo Andrew.

Bob loved sport, and was often seen cycling through the village in his bright green lycra and matching helmet and bike. He ran the 2 Castles race twice and more than 50 Park Runs. He played squash at Wootton Court with his Sunday School Squash team, and when that closed he moved to the Kenilworth Tennis and Squash Club where he was a member for over 30

years. He loved playing squash, racquetball, padel and tennis, which he did several times a week with friends, followed by a drink in the bar afterwards.

Bob was also a member of the Leek Wootton and Ashow Handbell Ringers, and an active participant in village life.

Unfortunately despite being so fit, he was diagnosed with a rare bladder cancer and although he was told it had been caught early, it was sadly very aggressive and Bob passed away on 24 January. He leaves his wife, children, daughter-in-law Megan, and grandchildren Freddie and Ella, whom he adored.

Cathy and her family would like to thank everyone who has sent cards, flowers, food and lovely messages of support at this sad time.





"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

'Great Expectations' by Charles Dickens

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Hiring Charges	Main Hall	Parish Organisations / Events	Other Parish Users	Non-Parish Users
Category 1	Mon-Fri 09:00-18:00	£8.00 ph	£15.00 ph	£18.00 ph
Category 2	Mon-Fri 18:00-23:00	£8.00 ph	£15.00 ph	£25.00 ph
Category 3	Sat & Sun 09:00-18:00	By arrangement	£17.00 ph	£25.00 ph
Category 4	Sat & Sun 18:00-23:00	By arrangement	£17.00 ph	30.00 ph

Committee Room (Maximum 20 Persons)

Parish Users: £7.00 ph Non-Parish Users: £10.00 ph

Kitchen: £10 payable for the cooker, or £20 for the cooker, dishwasher and heated cabinet

- Hire of the Hall, or the Committee Room, is for that room only
- Please make sure that you take home all belongings
- Please ensure that you take all your rubbish away with you as there is no council rubbish collection from the Hall

Your help is vital to keep the Hall in its present condition for all users!

BOOKING INQUIRIES TO MRS S FEWTRILL

(e : lwvh@outlook.com or t: 01926 409641)





LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE

NEWS

f LWandGC **☐** LWandGC_Community

Rev Jim's Farewell Service

Sunday, 26 January 2025

All Saint's Church was filled with people to give Jim a warm send off on his final Sunday as our Vicar before retiring after 16 years in post. The congregation was made up of members of his family and the wider church community. The occasion was also supported by members of Ashow Church;

Mothers' Únion; the School; the Parish Council; Bell Ringers; the Christmas Choir; Children's Uniformed Groups and many, many others.

During the sermon, in a moving Holy Communion and Parade Service, Jim channelled his inner Frank Sinatra by singing his own creation, 'I did It God's Way'.

A gift of a James Grieve apple tree was presented to Jim and Nicola to plant in the garden of their new home as a reminder of their time spent in Leek Wootton.

After the Service everyone was invited to a Reception at the Sports Club to continue the happy celebration.





Committee Secretary Needed!

Slightly amending the inaugural address of J.F. Kennedy, "ask not what your 'village hall' can do for you, ask what you can do for your 'village hall'."

Would you like to be more involved in your community and join our sociable and friendly group?

Do you have 1-2 hours free a month?

Do you have attention to detail?

Do you have Microsoft experience?



If your answer is **YES!** to the above, then you could be a great help to the Village Hall, and the Management Committee of volunteers.

Our current Committee Secretary will be stepping down in the Spring of this year, and is keen to mentor their replacement. If you think this might be of interest, and would like an informal chat to simply learn more, then please contact Genny Wilson on **genny@klasinski.co.uk** or m: 07921 132079



BOOKING EMAIL: treasurerlwsc@gmail.com

MORE INFO:

www.leekwoottonsportsclub.com

YOUR LETTERS

If you would like to write to us, please email the Editorial Team at: link@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk



Thank You

We want to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone for your kindness generosity to us as we leave our role at All Saints' Church and move out of the Vicarage. The move is progressing, and we plan to be clear of the Vicarage by the end of February, but there is still a lot of sorting out to be done. The plan had been to write more for this edition of the Link but time has overtaken us so we will say a proper Thank You next month with some more photos.

For those who have asked for the words of my song, which I sang to the tune of 'My Way' at the final service, they are included here \rightarrow .

Jim & Nicola Perryman



And now, the end is near
So I conclude my final sermon.
My friends, I've made it clear
Stating my faith, of which I'm certain.
We've journeyed sixteen years
Through times of joy, and times distressing
And, by the grace of God,
We've known his blessing

Regrets? I have a few.
In pastoral skills I need tuition
To those I may have hurt
I ask forgiveness for my omission
I've tried to use my gifts
To serve my Lord and bring you new things
To help you to enjoy
God's richest blessings

Yes there were times, more people came to worship God and praise his name, To hear the word, and pray for all, To grow in faith, and hear God's call. May this return, and All Saints learn To seek God's blessing

I've loved to work with you
In church and school, and in the parish
The children I've baptised, and watched grow up
I'll surely cherish
The dear ones who have passed
Have touched my life and taught me great things

Have touched my life and taught me great things.
Abide in Christ and share
God's richest blessings

For what is a priest? Just one who serves both God and man as they deserve. They speak as Jesus gives them voice And share with all, the need for choice: So this I plead, choose Christ indeed And know his blessings.

Eternal blessings.





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Film Fun

Guess the film from the clues: there's a theme running through the titles to help you.

- 1. 1973 film adapted from the book by Frederick Forsythe; James Fox plays a British assassin hired to kill General de Gaulle and the French security services' attempts to prevent him.
- This 1975 darkly comedic film stars Jack Nicholson as an inmate in a psychiatric hospital. It was much acclaimed and won all 5 of the major Oscars. Directed by Miloš Forman, Louise Fletcher plays a domineering head nurse.
- 1980 biographical drama based on the life of Joseph Merrick, set in late 19th Century London. Merrick, who is a severely deformed man, is played brilliantly by John Hurt. With supporting roles by Anthony Hopkins and Anne Bancroft.
- 4. This 1962 legal drama starred Gregory Peck as lawyer Atticus Finch in depression-hit Alabama. He defends a black man accused of raping a white girl amid the rampant racial prejudice of the times. Peck won the Oscar for Best Actor, and it was adapted from the best-selling book by Harper Lee.
- In this 1968 film from a book by Alistair MacLean, a U.S. submarine is sent to the North Pole to rescue the crew of a British scientific weather station. Starring Rock Hudson, Ernest Borgnine, Patrick McGoohan and Jim Brown.
- 6. This 1988 crime comedy starred John Cleese, Jamie-Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline and Michael Palin. It's about a gang of robbers who double-cross each other in their attempts to find a hidden stash of diamonds.
- 7. This 1990 western, produced, directed and starring Kevin Costner won 7 Oscars including Best Film it was a big box office hit.
- 8. This 1964 film directed by John Huston and set in Mexico, was adapted from a Tennessee Williams stage play. It starred Richard Burton as a tour guide, Ava Gardner and Deborah Kerr, who was in charge of a group of nuns one of whom Burton is accused of seducing.
- 9. This film was a 1998 romantic drama directed by and starring Robert Redford, Kristin Scott Thomas and a teenage Scarlet Johansson. City-dwelling mother and daughter come out to the country after the daughter (Johansson) has suffered severe mental and physical injuries sustained in a serious fall from her horse. Redford, a local cowboy, helps the daughter overcome her fear of horses. Redford and Scott Thomas fall in love, but she ultimately decides to return to city life and her husband.
- 10. 1991 psychological horror film directed by Jonathan Demme starring Anthony Hopkins who plays the cannibalistic serial killer Hannibal Lecter,

and Jodie Foster as a young trainee FBI agent.

- 11. This 1941 film-noire thriller is adapted from a book by Dashiell Hammett and was John Huston's directorial debut. Humphrey Bogart plays private eye Sam Spade with Mary Astor as the femme fatale, with Sydney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre cast as the villains. San Francisco is the backdrop for Sam Spade's desperate hunt for a jewel-encrusted statuette.
- 12. This iconic and much acclaimed 1978 US war movie won 5 Oscars including Best Film, and starred Robert de Niro, Christopher Walken and John Savage. The plot centres around three best friends who are sent out to the Vietnamese war, are captured as POWs and escape when forced to play a terrifying game of 'Russian roulette'. One of the men is crippled in the escape attempt and on their return all of them suffer with PTSD in their struggles to adapt to civilian life.

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LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Assembly

Wednesday, 26 March 2025 7:00pm All Saints' Church



The Annual Parish Assembly is a meeting of the parish electorate. It is not a meeting of the Parish Council, although it does organise it. The meeting is to give the Parish Council, and other local organisations an opportunity to let local residents know what they have been doing over the past year. The meeting is also an opportunity for electors to have a say on anything they consider valuable to the people of the Parish.

THERE WILL BE NO SPEAKER THIS YEAR
I ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND I

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction & Welcome
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2024 2a. Matters arising from minutes
- 3. Parish Council Chair's Report on 2024/25
- 4. Public Forum
 - 4a. Community Infrastructure Levy [CIL] Money
 - 4b. Community Resilience & Parish Communications
 - 4c. Open Forum

An opportunity to ask local Councillors questions or raise concerns about any issue affecting the community

5. Closure of meeting

Refreshments will be provided





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https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/leek-wootton-local-committee

CANCER RESEARCH UK **LEEK WOOTTON**

Secretary: Diane Wilson

CANCER RESEARCH

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Jean and Jim's Big Breakfast

Friday, 16 May @ 09.00 until 12.00 - Leek Wootton Village Hall Donations on the day

A date to look forward to in the CRUK Leek Wootton calendar, and in the community, is Jean and Jim's Big Breakfast. Chat with friends and neighbours and enjoy a fabulous breakfast and refreshments.



Leek Wootton CRUK Fundraising Page and QR Code

us with our own fundraising page and QR code (see left). Any funds raised via this route will go straight to CRUK but will be attributed to the fundraising efforts of the Leek Wootton CRUK committee. It does mean, that should you be unable to attend an event, there is a route to donate, should you so wish.

Please note this Fundraising Page is not for ordering tickets for any future events.



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The School Trust

Some members of our community will remember that, in the 1990s, we came together to raise funds for a new school building so that a primary school would remain in Leek Wootton and move from the Old School (opposite the Village Hall) to the current site.

The community fundraising efforts were so successful that some funds were left over and held in a Trust for the benefit of the school and its pupils on an ongoing basis. Over the years, the Trust has helped by providing grants primarily for capital projects such as classroom decoration and lighting, school hall refurbishment and fencing.

The current Trustees are delighted to report that we have recently made two substantial grants to the school, one for some new dining tables to improve lunch times and one for equipment for the pupils in Reception to use in their outdoor area.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the fundraising campaign over 30 years ago - your efforts are still rewarding the pupils of All Saints' Academy!

Trustees Charlotte Digby and Joy Morgan





Leek Wootton History Group's archive contains images and articles about the parish and community, including this item

from the Coventry Evening Telegraph, 12 January 1994. (Thanks to Mary Murdoch, who donated her scrapbooks to the archive).



historygroup@leekwoottonandguyscliffe.org.uk



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

LEEK WOOTTON WI

President: Lesley Kirkwood

e:gestureswithspoons@googlemail.com

Despite the winter weather we enjoyed another month of cinema, walks, lunches, book group and fun for the members of the LWWI.

From lunch at Harringtons to a beautiful Monday walk at Clifford Chambers (working off those calories), a visit to see the new Bob Dylan film and an opportunity to discuss the 'classic' novel, The Color Purple, we covered many interests for our members.

The County WI organisation also offers many opportunities for our members both educationally and socially.

If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 18 March, when our speaker will be talking about Investigative Journalism.

Leslev Kirkwood

m: 07855 518315



KENILWORTH PROBUS I CLUB

Chairman: Brian Wilson e: probusleekwootton@gmail.com

Kenilworth Probus I met at Leek Wootton Sports Club on Tuesday, 18 February, and after brief Club business settled back for a talk by member. Richard Coates, entitled 'The Anglo Zulu War'.

As a South African by birth and a retired schoolteacher, Richard is well versed in the history of the colony. His talk started with a history of the African continent in the 19th C and how various land interests, and the South African area in particular, were commandeered. He then explained some history of the Zulu peoples, their rulers, their way of life and the armament of their fighters.

He went on to explain the political rivalry and

skirmishes that continued in the area amongst the Zulus, Boers and British. He also spoke of the personalities involved at the time from Benjamin Disraeli, the Prime Minister. to the various generals and diplomats that were charged with the job of controlling the and area stopping the need to provide such numbers of military personnel.



The Last Stand at Isandlwana by Charles Edwin Fripp

Image: National Army Museum (SA,

As part of these intensions, in 1878 an order was given by Sir Bartle Frere, High Commissioner, that the Zulus were to succumb to the British rule of law, dismantle their military system and the autonomous state. As part of these requirements a contingent of 5,000 troops under the command of Lord Chelmsford crossed into Zulu territory at Rorke's Drift in January 1879 and proceeded 12 miles forward to Isandlwana where they set up an unprotected camp. Lord Chelmsford received reports of the Zulus massing to the north and marched off with 3,500 men to face them, but the report was incorrect, and some 25,000 Zulus set upon those left behind and slaughtered 800 of the British.

Those that escaped retreated to Rorke's Drift where they set up a barricaded compound around a 'hospital' and store to fend off another Zulu force. They were largely successful in their defence and after a hour fight the Zulus retreated losing 500 to the 120 British soldiers.

News of the slaughter at Isandlwana back in London was a major shock to British prestige, but the defence at



The Defence of Rorke's Drift, by Alphonse de Neuville

Rorke's Drift was praised as a great victory and Queen Victoria awarded 23 Victoria Crosses to participating soldiers. Fighting with the Zulus continued until July 1879 when the Zulu warriors were finally slaughtered at Ulundi, the home of their chief.

This talk, which was most enlightening and taught many of us a lot of facts that we had not known before, was received with rapt attention and praise.

NEXT MEETING

The Club will next meet in March, when Jonathan Ratcliff will speak about the importance of the health of senior management. His talk will be entitled 'A Blind Spot in Leadership'.



Kenilworth Probus I Club welcomes retired, or semiretired, PROfessional and BUSiness men. meet once a month to hear talks on a wide range of topics and enjoy a good chinwag over a drink at the bar (possibly followed by lunch at The Anchor, to continue discussions), and occasionally visit places of interest, including local factories, etc.

If you would like to come along to a meeting and/or find out more, please scan the QR code or send an email to probusleekwootton@gmail.com.



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Secretary: Steph Jones e: lwhsociety@gmail.com

AGM - Leek Wootton Village Hall

This year's AGM will be held on Wednesday, 19 March at 7:30pm, all are welcome.

Posie Making for Mothering Sunday

Saturday, 29 March



We would like to invite children to a Jam Jar Posie making event in celebration of Mothering Sunday. They will be able to choose from a selection of spring flowers and foliage and create an arrangement to give as a gift. Ribbon and tags will be available.

There will be two sessions running in the morning of Saturday, 29 March: 10:30am start or 11:30 am start and each session will last approximately 45 minutes. The price is £15.00 per child, which will include spring flowers, jam jar, ribbon, tags and refreshments for them.

If you would like to book, please contact: **LWHSociety@gmail.com** by 17 March.

Grow your own salad

Growing your own salad is easy and March is the ideal time to sow. You will need a shallow tray, compost and speedy salad mix, mustard mix or just mixed lettuce. Put a little compost into the tray, water the compost and then sprinkle the seeds on top. Add a small amount of compost over the seeds.

Salad is cold tolerant but will benefit for being in a sheltered spot. Within 6 weeks it will be ready to harvest. You can pick individual leaves or cut the whole tray. If you cut the



whole tray leave a 1cm stump and water, the leaves will grow back in a couple of weeks, and you'll have a whole new salad tray again.

Annual Show & Fête

Saturday, 16 August – Leek Wootton Village Hall

The new schedule will be advertised on the website in April and paper copies will be available nearer to the date.

The photographic categories will be:

'Blue' and 'Front Door Within Three Miles'.

Leek Wootton Link | MARCH 2025 Leek Wootton Village Hall Regular Users

Organisation	Contact	Activity Times
Living Your Yoga	Lucy Holtom e: info@livingyouryoga.co.uk	Monday 09:30
Leek Wootton Beavers and Cubs	Jo Elsy e: mail@jelsy.myzen.co.uk t: 01926 854623	Monday 17:30
Leamington Spa & District Twins Club	Elizabeth Daniels e: liz.daniels86@gmail.com m: 07872 900312	Tuesday 10:00
Line Dancing	Annie Murray e: anniedanceuk@aol.com t: 01926 864554	Tuesday 13:45
Leek Wootton Brownies	Hazel Turner e: leekwoottonbrownies@hotmail.com m: 07970 908073	Tuesday 18:00
Leek Wootton Guides	Hazel Turner e: leekwoottonguides@hotmail.com m: 07970 908073	Tuesday 19:30
Leek Wootton Women's Institute	Lesley Kirkwood w: https://warwickshirewi.org.uk/wi/leek-wootton m: 07855 518315	Third Tuesday of each month 19:30
Bump2babyReality	Sally Seddon e: sally@bump2babyreality.co.uk m: 07960 323874	Wednesday 10:00
Kenny Art Group	Barbara Kenny e: skbk267@yahoo.co.uk t: 01926 852413	Wednesday 13:30
Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council	Helen Eldridge e: clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk m: 07464 017573	First Wednesday of each month 19:30
Leek Wootton Village Hall Toddler & Baby Group	Janet Jackson t: 01926 258264 e: toddlers@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk	Thursday 10:00 (term-time)
Maria Textile Design	Maria Manuel e: mariathomastextiles@gmail.com t: 01926 853794	Monthly on a Friday 09:30
Leek Wootton Village Hall Committee	Genny Wilson e: genny@klasinski.co.uk m: 07921 132079	Day varies every 3 months 19:00



Village Hall Committee Meeting Tuesday, 28 January

As this was the first meeting of the year, it was opportune to review the previous year's activity, and to plan for some key events during 2025.

The most important topic discussed was that John Steen, the current Committee Secretary, is looking to step down from his role at the AGM in the spring. John is a valued, and valuable member of the Committee with a wealth of knowledge regarding the Hall, so he is keen to support and guide his replacement.

An advert was placed in The Link in January, to invite someone from the parish who would be interested in becoming an active part of this vibrant, volunteer Committee. I apologise for slightly amending the inaugural address of J.F. Kennedy, "ask not what your 'village hall'." Please contact me if you would like to know more!

Other key items discussed included:

- · parking issues, when Hall events coincide with a sports event
- decorating the Hall
- · refurbishing the Hall floor
- planning an event to celebrate the (belated) 25th Anniversary of the Hall (which opened in May 1999) – most likely to be held in the Autumn

NEWSFLASH: In respect of the last item, the Committee decided to ask for suggestions from the parish, and if anyone has any ideas, a bottle of bubbles could be yours if your suggestion is taken up! Closing date is Monday, 31 March 2025!

Please contact Genny Wilson on email: genny@klasinski.co.uk





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BRING BACK GUY'S CLIFFE

Dedicated to helping the restoration work at Guy's Cliffe Contact:volunteersguyscliffe@btinternet.com

Upcoming Events in 2025

On 5 May we are planning an 80th Anniversary of VE Day Open Day. We hope to plant a commemorative Cedar of Lebanon in the grounds. Guys Cliffe played a part as a hospital in WWI and a boys' school for evacuees in WWII.

Also, we are participating in the Heritage Open Days weekend (12-21 September).

We are aiming to open Guys Cliffe more frequently for community activities.

ADVERTISING



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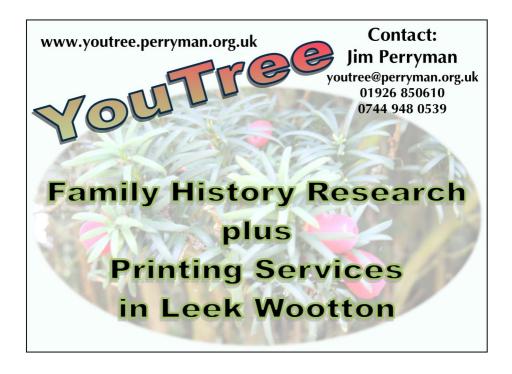
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Family history research has been a hobby for a very long time and there have been many occasions when I have said 'oh, they were all Ag Labs!', so when I found this piece, I was challenged to reflect. [...Ed]

A Catechism by Mary Bodfish

"Who do you think you are?" they asked me.
"Of what country are you? They wanted to know
"Why, the midshires of England," I answered them.
Where among the wooded hills slow rivers wind,
Where the backs of sheep brought riches to men,
Where iron stains the stone dark honey-gold.
In this place, of these things, my bones were made."
"Of what kind were your people? Who were they?"
"I know of no lords among them", I replied.
"Only few held land; most toiled for other men.
With strength of their arms and skill of their hands.





Image: ¶ Bringbackguyscliffe

"Your father, what of him, and his kinfolk"?
"His sires were of lands where Saxons came", I said.

"Felling trees to set their fields by Arden's streams. Their fires heated ore dug from the earth hard by, In metal their hammers made a thousand things."

"And your mother? Whence came she, and her people?"

"She bore the name of a saint," was my answer.

"A great abbess renown in her father's shire.
The lands of the Danelaw were home to all her folk,
Cattle and grain their world, and the marketplace."

"How did they meet, Saxons' son, Vikings' daughter"" "Times of war led to my living", I told them.

"When a tyrant's hand rained death from the sky, Our foes set fires, and she sent men to fight them. In their ranks she saw him, and knew him for her love".



"How know you all this?" they demanded Clear and strong my answer was ready.

"I studied the scrolls where all loves are recorded I found the years their mothers' arms first held them, And when they vowed themselves each to the other, And when their last breath ascended to heaven. I know where they sleep under green English turf." It was enough. "Yes", they told me. "Yes, you do know who you are".

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e : trustees@guyscliffewalledgarden.org.uk Access & parking via Hintons Nursery, Coventry Road, Warwick

2025 EVENTS

Spring is on its way and here at Guys Cliffe Walled Garden we're excited for another year of events taking place at this "horticultural treasure in the heart of the community".

<u>5 April | 14 June | 23 August : Recruitment Days for new volunteers</u> Come and join a friendly and enthusiastic team - beginners welcome!

6 April: Creating an environmentally friendly garden

Learn how you can encourage all sorts of wildlife into your own garden

18-21 April : Easter Weekend

Saturday Create & maintain a Herb Garden

Sunday Easter Egg Hunt - how many will your little ones find?

17-18 May: World Bee Days:

Lots to learn about bees and other pollinators and how to encourage them into your garden, including 'Butterflies and Moths' event, a Photography Workshop, Cream Teas in the Garden or Peach House and a Flower Arranging Demonstration

12 July : All about Ferns - learn about their fascinating lifecycle

12 July: Cream Teas in the Garden or Peach House

<u>20 July : NGS Open Day - see the garden in all its glory</u>

Summer Holiday Events for Children

Activities to keep young minds engaged

Wednesdays & Fridays - Story time with Granny Smith

29 July Junior Art

26 August Junior Craft Morning

7 August All about Mini Beasts

16 August Paint, Draw and Explore

13-14 September : Heritage Open Days

20 September : Craft Day

26 September: Macmillan Coffee Morning

25 October: Scarecrow Competition and Pumpkin Carving

<u> 18 November : Making treats for the birds</u>

For details of timings, and how to book, please visit our website







Then why not come and join in with 'Friday Night Fitness' bootcamp at the Sports Club?



"Joining the Bootcamp group has been a fantastic experience. The instructors are great at motivating and adjust the workouts each week to keep it fun and interesting. It's perfect for all fitness levels, so everyone can push themselves at their own pace. What makes it even better is that it's family-friendly - kids can play in the park or join in the board games at the sports club while parents get their workout in!"

Matt, Bootcamp regular

"Joining bootcamp was one of the best decisions I've made for my fitness. The group is so welcoming, and no matter your fitness level, the exercises are tailored to suit you. The leaders, Jim and Daz, have really improved my confidence around exercise. And even the most gruelling session in the middle of winter is made better by enjoying a drink and a chat with everyone in the club afterwards!"

Emma, Bootcamp regular

In Summer sunshine... in the depths of Winter... In the hot sun... in the frosty cold...

Conditions don't matter



We're there every Friday night 18:00 - 19:00 £5 per person per session

AND, until June, any new joiner gets their first session for free!

So come along, join in the fun and get your weekend off to a great start!



In partnership with



Ladies of the Choir are having great fun learning Songs from the Sixties for our next concert scheduled for 12 July. Who doesn't love *The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel and The Beach Boys?*

Other dates for your diary include two Quiz Nights on 11 April and 17 October (tbc), and our Charity Concert on 11 December.

tastelife, the Choir's chosen charity for 2024 was presented with £1,000 raised at its concert in December. A great way to end the year!

Just a plug for our leader: Seb Farrall and the City of Coventry Orchestra will be presenting The Animal Kingdom, a concert for all the family at Coventry

lmage: f Stoneleigh Ladies Choii

Methodist Church Hall during the afternoon of 3 March. Fancy dress optional. Tickets available at www.coventryorchestra.co.uk/familyconcert

For more information about Stoneleigh Ladies Choir contact our Secretary on **sharronmced@gmail.com** or telephone Pat on 07817 899097.

Pat Wightman

LEARN AND PLAY BRIDGE AT LEEK WOOTTON SPORTS CLUB



Bridge lessons for beginners and improvers each Monday at 10:00am from 7 October.
Bookings: Contact David 07887 855086

Gentle Bridge Group playing on Wednesday mornings, 10:00am - 12 noon (be seated by 9:50am) No partner required. Coffee/Tea provided. Prizes awarded. £2.50 per player. More details: Contact David 07887 855086

Pie Nights

@ Leek Wootton Sports Club Serving from 6.30pm until 8.30pm

Off Quarry Close, Leek Wootton, CV35 7QJ Inside seating and full bar available.

Friday 24th January Friday 28th February Friday 28th March Friday 18th April Friday 30th May Friday 27th June



Come and try our award winning pies!
Served with Mashed Potato, Mushy Peas, & Gravy.



The Chairman's Report

It's been an interesting couple of months at the Club. The cold, wet weather has certainly meant that Saturday mornings have been a 'bit uncomfortable' for parents on the sidelines watching their children's football matches ...

The good news is that it doesn't seem to have put the kids off at all, as they certainly seem to be enjoying themselves and I suppose that's the main thing – at least that's what I've been telling myself whilst I've been struggling to keep warm ...

The weather also doesn't seem to have put off the hardy souls who turn out for the 'Friday Night Fitness' sessions run by our friends at Forces Community Fitness either. These are great sessions that are suitable for all ages and fitness levels and throughout the winter we've had about 10 people per week turning up in all conditions.

With the nights getting lighter and temperatures rising, if you're at all curious then I'd encourage you to come along. Following some kind support from Kenilworth Runners and Warwick District Council we are able to offer all newcomers a free taster session – and after that it is just £5 per session.

Another reason to come and join us up at the Club is the new 'Pie Nights' that we're doing once per month – generally the last Friday of the month. These are run by our friends at 'For the Love of Pies' who sell their award-winning pies between 18:30 and 20:30. The December and January nights were very popular, so we'd love to welcome you to the Club for any of the future events.

Likewise, on every other Friday night, Phil continues to sell his excellent pizzas which you can enjoy in the Club or take-away if you'd prefer. He also continues to run the 'Saturday Morning Kitchen' during the football season – something that many visiting teams say they look forward to (and another reason why I'm 'happy' to stand in the cold during my son's matches).

Whatever reason it is that you find to come to the Club, we'd love to see you soon.



DEFIBRILLATOR

Located on the exterior west wall of the Village Hall, facing the sports field, Leek Wootton War Memorial Recreation Ground. **Call 999 for access & instructions**

BUS SERVICE



LEEK WOOTTON

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Find out more about the service at:
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/indiegoplus

ADVERTISING



OUT & ABOUT IN LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE

See main articles for further details

Saturday, 1 March
St David's Day

1-2 March

Stoneleigh Park: Go Diving Show

https://godivingshow.com/uk/

Tuesday, 4 March

Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day



Wednesday, 5 March
Ash Wednesday

Parish Council Meeting

19:30 at the Village Hall

Saturday, 8 March

International Women's Day

Wednesday, 12 March

Mobile Library Visit

14:50 in The Hamlet (near The Meadows)

15 March

Stoneleigh Park: Practical Astro Show

https://practicalastroshow.com/

15-16 March

Stoneleigh Park: Miniatura Spring Show

https://miniatura.co.uk/

Monday, 17 March St Patrick's Day

Tuesday, 18 March

Kenilworth Probus I Club

See page 26

Leek Wootton WI

19:45 at the Village Hall

Wednesday, 19 March Leek Wootton Gardening Club AGM

19:30 at the Village Hall

PCC Meeting

19:30 at All Saints' Church

Friday, 21 March

Red Nose Day

Sunday, 23 March

APCM

11:00 at All Saints' Church

Wednesday, 26 March

Annual Parish Assembly

19:00 at All Saints' Church

Friday, 28 March

LWSC: Pie Night

178:30-20:30 at the Sports Club

Saturday, 29 March

Posie Making Workshop

See page 29

Sunday, 30 March **Mothering Sunday**

Monday, 31 March

LWVH: Deadline for 25th Anniversary Ideas

See page 31

Every Monday

Bridge

10:00 at the Sports Club

Young at Heart

14:00 at the Sports Club

Every Friday

LWSC: Friday Night Fitness

18:00-19:00 at the Sports Club

FILM FUN QUIZ ANSWERS

From page 19

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1. The Day of the Jackal | 2. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Mest | 3. The Elephant Man | 4. To Kill a Mockingbird | 5. Ice Station Zebra | 6. A Fish Called Wanda | 7. Dances with Wolves | 8. Night of the Iguana | 9. The Horse Whisperer | 10. Silence of the Lambs | 11. The Maltese Falcon | 12. The Deer



FEBRUARY IN PICTURES...

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

← Congratulations to Dariusz, Senior Sous Chef and 'Employee of the Year'

∠ Also to the Reception Team, winners of 'Team of the Year' at Chesford Grange Staff Awards, 27 Jan





Jonathan is cheered-on by his greatest fan! →

> ← Beautiful golden witch hazel in full bloom in the arboretum

Guides enjoy a picnic and treasure trail for 'Thinking Day', 22 Feb→



