

LEEK WOOTTON LINK

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the May issue of The Link.

Well, the record breaking dry, warm and sunny weather of March continued into April and didn't the trees and plants enjoy it! In our garden the magnolia was allowed to bloom magnificently without burning by frost and we have enjoyed wonderful displays of spring flowers.

Over the last week we have had more varied weather, but without the rain we would definitely not have such glorious displays of flora and fauna in our green and pleasant land.

In that inevitable English bargaining mindset, we hope that in accepting a

little rain without too much complaint, that we might just get some sunshine when we need it, like on Sunday, 4 May for **Teddy Bear Parachuting** and **Summer Teas**, or Thursday, 8 May for the **VE Day 80** celebration.

We all recall 5 years ago when there was some lovely sunshine, but people could only go as far as the end of their driveways and wave to one another, because we were still in the 1st COVID-19 lockdown. It will make this year's 80th anniversary more special and we hope you can make it to this and/or some events this month - personally, we're especially looking forward to the Big Breakfast on the 16th... \$

Helen & Lesley Eldridge, The Editorial Team

THF I INK

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 June issue is: TUESDAY, 20 MAY (NOTE change of day for bank holiday weekend)

Advertisements:

The magazine accepts advertising on a monthly or annual basis. For more information about advertising rates, please contact 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: An extract rom Diane Shores' depiction of Teddy Bear Parachuting at All Saints', May 2024 (Image © Diane Shores) (cover story see page 7)



This month Reader and Churchwarden, Nigel Stallard writes...

Those of you who know me, or even just those who know where I live and have walked past the house, will know that I am not the best of gardeners. Yet, with the lengthening of daylight and the exceptionally warm weather we have been having, there are signs of new life even in my garden as new shoots are emerging together with the early spring flowers. Of course, not all of the new life is helpful to a tidy garden. A new generation of tiny young rabbits has appeared from the hole under the hedge. I suspect that they are eating the flowers when my back is turned, but they look so innocent that I cannot bring myself to chase them away. I am less tolerant of the rapidly growing brambles, though as the scratches on my arms demonstrate, they fight back against my attempts to remove them.

This is also a time in the church year when we focus on new life as we celebrate Easter together and remember how Jesus died and rose again. We don't just think about how he experienced new life after death, but also how this was a sign of the new life that we can each experience through the restoration of our relationship with God through Jesus' sacrifice for us.

A bit like my garden, our lives are all full of a mix of good and bad things. Things can be out of control, and sometimes trying to keep everything in order seems a bit too challenging. The message of the gospel – literally good news - is that through the death and resurrection of Jesus we can find forgiveness and repentance to turn our lives around and follow him.

We celebrate this at Easter, but also every Sunday as we gather to worship, continually returning to God, seeking to grow closer to Him and become more the people that he created us to be. Just like creating and maintaining a garden - now, where did I put that trowel ...?



Teddy Bear Parachuting

returns to Leek Wootton at All Saints'

on

Sunday, 4 May 2:30 – 4:30pm

Summer Teas kindly run by the school PTFA 3:00 – 5:00pm





All Saints' Church WHO'S WHO? www.leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

MAIN CHURCH CONTACT

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CHURCH SERVICES / EVENTS FOR MAY

Sunday, 4 May

08:45 Holy Communion (CW)

10:00 All Age Worship

from 14:30 Teddy Bear Parachuting and Summer Teas in the churchyard

<u>Thursday, 8 May VE Day 80</u>

from 18:30 VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations in the churchyard

Sunday, 11 May

10:00 Holy Communion with Children's group

Wednesday, 14 May

10:30 Midweek Communion

Sunday, 18 May

10:00 All Age Worship

Sunday, 25 May Rogation Sunday

10:00 All Age Holy Communion

Sunday, 1 June

08:45 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 All Age Worship

www.mothersunioncoventry.com

LEEK WOOTTON MU

Contact: Janet Jackson



e: mu@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

COVENTRY CLOTHING

Thank you for the men's clothing which was recently passed on to us, as well as all the baby and toddler items, which have been taken to *Baby Godiva*, Coventry's Baby Bank.

We are continuing to collect men's clothing and baby/toddler clothes, and equipment, so do please bring items up to the Village Hall during Leek Wootton Toddler Group mornings — Thursday between 10:00am and 11:30am, term-time. Thank you





PUDDING PARTY

Saturday, 10 May at 7:00pm, St John's Church, Kenilworth

A fundraiser for the work of Mothers' Union at home and abroad, with gluten free options on the puddings plus quizzes and a raffle. Tickets £8, £15 for two, from Janet

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Tuesday, 15 May

Dear Father God,

We pray today for families around the world

as we believe that each one is important to you

and that you care about the circumstances and issues they face. We think of those facing wrongs like hardship, poverty and mistreatment and ask for goodness such as resources, security and protection.

We pray for leaders and organisations worldwide

working for the well-being of families

Amen



MEMBERS' DAY (concluding with BYO lunch)

Monday, 19 May, 9:30am for 10:00am – 1.30pm, St Paul's Church, Stockingford

Keynote speakers will be Siby and Namkha Moleakunnel who are from India and will speak about their work with international students and Muslim communities in Coventry, as they seek to build a culture of relationship and hospitality.





The Charred Cross

Martin Williams, Chairman of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral, has been writing a fascinating history of the cross that stands in the ruins. It is a long story, but I hope I can cover the main details of interest here.



The fire, caused by the bombing of the Cathedral in November **1940**, turned the oak cross to ash. Early in **1941** the then Provost, Provost Howard [left], asked stonemason Jock Forbes to use pieces of the debris to form an altar and a cross. He took two charred pieces of timber and fashioned them into the cross which was then stood in a bucket of sand behind an altar of rubble, and it stayed there until the 🕷 end of the war.

In October 1952 Basil Spence was considering entering the International Architectural Competition to design a new Cathedral. When he visited and walked through the ruins he was greatly moved, and decided to integrate the old building with the new in his design. However, by the time the ruins had been cleared and strengthened, the wooden cross had become weathered and had split.

So, in 1960 Pestcure Ltd was entrusted with the work of impregnating the wood with a suitable preservative. Taken down to dry out in the crypt it was found that the charring had helped to preserve the wood, and after three weeks the charred cross was made sound and returned to its place at the east end of the ruins.

In January 1963 the Cathedral received an invitation from the World Council of Churches to consider lending an original artefact or artwork to the New York World's Fair, which was to be held in 1964 and 1965. The Roman Catholic Pavilion and the Jewish Pavilion would be exhibiting the 'Pieta' of Michaelangelo and the 'Dead Sea Scrolls'. So, after weeks of discussion, the Cathedral decided to loan the 'Charred Cross' for the Protestant and Orthodox Pavilion

The theme of the 1964 World's Fair was 'Peace Through Understanding', chosen to reflect the hopes for a more peaceful world amid the Cold War. The 'Charred Cross', as the focal point in garden, meditation represented the Cathedral's Ministry of Reconciliation.

A large crowd gathered in Coventry to bid farewell to the cross, including Bishop Cuthbert Bardsley; and Provost Williams spoke of the profound significance of the decision to transport the Charred Cross - in a specially designed crate - across the Atlantic to the New York World's Fair

Next month - the story of the replica.



Appointment of a new Canon

The Reverend Canon Kate Massey has been appointed as Canon for Arts and Reconciliation in Coventry Cathedral and will be licensed and installed on Sunday, 15 June. She was ordained at Coventry Cathedral in 2011 and installed as an Honorary Canon in 2022.



GEORGE WAGSTAFFE AND MICHALA GYETVAI: ALL THAT PAIN, ALL THAT JOY, ALL THE SAME

Thursday, 1 May – Sunday, 15 June, The New Cathedral during visiting hours.

An exhibition of sculpture, textiles and paintings by artists George Wagstaffe and Michala Gyetvai. Free entry.

REQUIEM IN A DAY WORKSHOP

Saturday, 10 May, 10:30am - 8:15pm

Why not join a choir of volunteer singers to rehearse the choral work 'Requiem' composed by Matthew Coleridge? He will take you through the music, ending with a performance in the evening. Accompanied by the University of Warwick Symphony Orchestra. Registration 9:30am – 10:30am.

Singer workshop (including music) - £30 | Concert audience - £15

LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS

These start again in May, on Mondays, 12:30pm – 1:00pm

Monday, 5 May Rachel Mahon, Director of Music,

with brass ensemble Prime Brass

Monday, 12 May
Monday, 19 May
Monday, 26 May
Monday, 12 May
Oliver King
David Rice

Free entry but a donation to the organ fund will be welcome

Cover Story: Diane Shores

In June 2024 we carried the story of a Facebook post on the Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Locals Facebook page, when local artist, Diane Shores shared her illustration of the Teddy Bear Parachuting event.

"We have been in touch with Diane, who agreed that we could feature her painting here [...Eds]"

Prints and greetings cards are available to buy at Castle Home Luxuries, in Smalley Place, Kenilworth (near the clocktower) or online at:

https://castlehomeluxuries.co.uk/collections/diane-shores

Image © Diane Shores

LEEK WOOTTON LINK | MAY 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, 2 April 2025, at Leek Wootton Village Hall. Discussion included the following:

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY [CIL]

The PC has received money in relation to new development within the parish and is in the process of gathering ideas for how this money may be spent for the benefit of the community. For a fuller explanation and to find out how to send your ideas, please see article on page 17.

EVENTS

• Annual Parish Assembly

Attendance was disappointing, but those who attended took part in an animated discussion following Cllr Morgan's presentation about Community Resilience. Cllr Morgan spoke after the Chairman presented his Annual Report for 2024/25 (https://leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk/your-parish/annual-parish-assembly), and after setting out the purpose of Community Resilience and its importance for communities, invited those present to break into groups and discuss various types of emergencies, e.g. loss of power/communications and flooding. These discussions led to an animated discussion when the audience came back together and have led to volunteers coming forward to volunteer with the Community Resilience Team.

• **VE Day 80 Celebration** on 08/05/2025

The attendance of Spa Brass and the handbell ringers has been confirmed and the History Group has donated towards a gas beacon to be lit at 9:30pm (for which the PC is currently awaiting delivery). For more information about this event, see page 21.

Summer Fête

As previously notified, the Parish Council will not be holding a Parish Summer Fête this year, but is in discussions with the school and PTFA about opening the School Summer Fête to the whole community. Further information will be published in due course, but if groups would like to take part, please contact **clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk** and the Clerk will forward your expression of interest to the relevant people.

• Community Live! 2025 on 06/09/2025

This annual meeting of groups and clubs will take place at the Village Hall. If you are a leader of an organisation and would like to take part, please email **communitylive@leekwootton.org.uk**.

COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE

- The PC is working with WCC Highways towards installing a grit bin in Woodloes Lane. Cllr Kirkwood has had a site meeting to discuss potential locations.
- The PC has been advised that WCC Highways will be repairing some of the pavements in Quarry Close – agreement to this comes from results of a Pavement Survey by Councillors, which were submitted to WCC.
- C/Cllr Redford did not have any further information on the 20-mph zone past the school. There are a lot of schools on the list to have 20-mph zones installed, but he will seek further information.
- The build-up of waste material outside Linby, Woodcote Lane, has been causing an obstruction on the pavement. Cllr Kirkwood spoke to the builders and they have improved the situation.
- Severn Trent issues around Hill Wootton continue, with accompanying road closures. This is due to the aged infrastructure, and it appears that one problem is fixed, only for another to arise further down the pipeline.
- A smashed manhole cover in Woodcote Lane was reported on 14/04/2025 and fixed later that week. PLEASE do not drive or park on pavements, not only does it obstruct pedestrians, but surfaces are not designed to take the weight of vehicles.

PARISH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

Much of the discussion at the last meeting was about internal matters, particularly communications; how it communicates, what it communicates and how effective its communication is. It is likely that this discussion will open out into discussions with various community groups and residents, but if you ever have any issues you would like to discuss, whether about our communications, or about services, please contact clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk.

PTFA QUIZ TEAM

The Parish Council was pleased to put a 5-person team into the PTFA Quiz on 10 April. The team did not make it into the top 3 but got a respectable score. It was heart-warming to see the number of teams that attended to support the PTFA.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (the equivalent of an AGM), to be followed by an ordinary PC meeting, starting at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 7 May 2025, 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.

Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council

WHO'S WHO?

www.leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk

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e: CllrCoates@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk

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Paul Eldridge (Vice-Chairman)

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Planning (LEAD)
Guy's Cliffe
Emergency Planning
Finance & Risk Cttee
Planning Cttee

Elisa Harrold

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Community Development Environment All Saints' Church

Jim Kirkwood

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Highways (LEAD)
Village Hall
Community Forum
Finance & Risk Cttee
Planning Cttee

Joy Morgan

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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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peter Van de Weil

Just after going to print with the April magazine, we heard that Peter Van de Wiel died on Sunday, 23 March on the Isle of Wight.

There is to be a service at All Saints' on Friday, 30 May at 11:30am, to celebrate Peter's life, after which his ashes will be buried in the churchyard.

Congratulations Lesley & Jim

Belated congratulations to Lesley & Jim Kirkwood, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 5 April.



OBITUARIFS

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.



Joan Edna Stevens 1944-2025

Joan was born and raised within a family steeped in the Salvation Army, encouraged to live a Christian life. Having spent much time together with Graham, who was from a similar background, at the Salvation Army in Coventry they soon became an 'item', and they stayed together for some 65 years. Both loved music and Joan went on to sing in both choirs and as a soloist.

They were blessed with two sons, Carl and Craig, and first set up home in Sapcote, near Hinckley where they joined a thriving Methodist Church and its choir. In 1972, a promotion for Graham took them to Scotland where fishing and golf were enjoyed, but in 1976 they were back south and set up home in Leek Wootton. Joan then created her beloved garden and settled into village life.

This happy family life was cruelly shattered when Craig was killed in a motor accident in 1992, but such was the love and care shown to them from All Saints' Church that they attended a service the following Sunday and have been staunch members ever since.

Joan's passion for flowers led her to a floristry course and, perhaps

inevitably, to her being responsible for the team that has provided beautiful floral decorations in the church for all its festivals and celebrations. Joan and Graham were members of Warwick & Kenilworth Choral Society and, having been a member of the choir at All Saint's Church, Joan still sang with the Christmas Choir. Golf was another passion, and she was a member at The Warwickshire where she proudly scored a hole in one!

Joan and Graham enjoyed travelling and holidays, particularly in Graham's beloved Bentley, where she became his Chief Navigator. As members of the Bentley Drivers Club, they organised many of its fun runs, and, as with all other areas of their lives, enjoyed enduring friendships.

Joan had many part time jobs as well as working with the WRVS in Kenilworth and the Leek Wootton Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising committee. She was a great housewife, cook, mother and grandmother to Holly and Alex, and in her 80th year she was blessed with a great grandson, Noah.

Friends have said that she lit up a room, was kind, generous and so much fun. She will be greatly missed, especially by Graham and her family, but also by her many friends from far and wide.





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Dog poo -

BAG IT AND BIN IT!

- any public waste bin will do

A reminder to dog owners of the Countryside Code:

Always clean up your dog's poo because it can cause illness in people, livestock and wildlife.

Never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later. Deodorised bags and containers can make bags of dog poo easier to carry. If you cannot find a public waste bin, you should take it home and use your own bin.





People walking their dogs on the Recreation Ground are additionally reminded that this is a recreation space for all, with children frequently using the space. **PLEASE CLEAR IT UP!**

The Clerk of the PC was recently informed of dog fouling in the Children's Play Area, which is clearly signposted as a **NO DOG** area - it is

NOT a public footpath and people should NOT be walking through with dogs; to get to Quarry Close and Quarry Fields, please use the Sports Club drive.



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LEEK WOOTTON LINK | MAY 2025 LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE **NFWS**

f LWandGC @ LWandGC Community



Warwickshire welcomes new Vice Lord-Lieutenant

Following the retirement of Sue Saunders, Vice Lord-Lieutenant since 2021, local resident, Pal Sanghera has been appointed to the position.

A Deputy Lieutenant since 2017, Pal has played an active role in the Lieutenancy, particularly in fostering diversity and inclusivity. He has been a longstanding advocate for voluntary groups in the county, championing causes such as youth initiatives, interfaith events, and charitable fundraising.

On his appointment, Pal expressed his gratitude, stating: "I am deeply honoured to take on this role and to continue serving Warwickshire. My focus will be on raising awareness of the Lieutenancy and supporting the outstanding voluntary work happening across our county."

Extract from www.warwickshire.gov.uk/warwickshirenews

Have you been to 'Custard Corner'?

Public reaction to the redevelopment of the end of Station Road in Kenilworth, where it used to join the Warwick Road, reached guite a pitch in the week before Easter. Jim Perryman was sitting on one of the new regulation benches when a BBC West Midlands reporter asked his opinion of the revamp. The original story made the national press and by the evening of Good Friday it had



(www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yrr0z6we9o)

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What would you do with £6,000?

The Parish Council is in receipt of over £6,000 given to it by the District Council as a result of the development of a new one-off property within the Parish. This is from a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is a charge that local authorities impose on new developments in their area.

Whilst the amount currently received by Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe is modest, it is possibly the start of a series that the Parish Council may expect to receive from further one-off or larger developments within the Parish such as for example the CALA development after it is eventually given detailed planning permission and is completed.

We would like you to suggest projects which you feel are important to our community. Please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council with your suggestions (clerk@leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk).

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was introduced in April 2010 to help fund infrastructure projects needed as a result of development, such as roads, schools, healthcare facilities, parks, and leisure facilities and the funds collected are used to support community growth and sustainability. The amount of the levy is calculated by the District Council based on the size and the mix of housing in the development and our Parish Council is entitled to 25% of the levy because the Parish has an active Neighbourhood Plan. The remaining 75% goes to the District Council.

The Parish Council would like to establish a list of priority projects suitable for investment of these funds and would welcome ideas from you as individuals or community organisations on projects that you feel would benefit our community.

The rules governing the spending of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) are designed to ensure that funds collected from development are dedicated solely to critical capital projects that meet local infrastructure demands. In addition, the funds are required to be expended within 5 years of receipt otherwise they may revert to the District Council

Other parish councils have used their share of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds to support projects that directly benefit their local communities such as:

- Village Hall Improvements: to renovate or expand village halls, ensuring they remain functional and welcoming spaces for community events and activities.
- Playgrounds and Parks: to upgrade or create play areas, install new equipment, or improve accessibility in local parks.
- Traffic Calming Measures: investing in road safety projects, such as installing speed bumps, pedestrian crossings, or better signage to enhance safety in residential areas.
- Green Spaces and Allotments: with Funds directed towards maintaining or creating green spaces, planting trees, or developing community allotments for residents.
- **Community Facilities**: to build or improve facilities such as sports pavilions, public toilets, or community centres.



OUT OF AFRICA

- 1. Which is the largest country in Africa by area at 919,519 sq miles? Which is the smallest at 175 sq miles and least populated (100,600)? It is an Island Group and popular holiday resort.
- 2. Which is the most heavily populated country with 236,229,141 people? One of its cities is also the heaviest populated in Africa with 15,388,000 people; what is the city?
- 3. What's the longest river at 4,130 miles, and by recent estimates the longest in the world ahead of The Amazon by only a few miles? What is the highest mountain at 19, 341 feet, and what is the largest freshwater lake at 12,146 sq. miles?



- 4. All of the following are landlocked countries except one; which is the odd one out? Mali, Niger, Chad, Zambia, Gabon or Zimbabwe.
- 5. Which country has 3 capital cities, the only one in the world?
- 6. The 4th largest island in the world lies off the southeast coast of Africa. What is it?
- 7. There are 54 Sovereign countries in Africa, 51 Republics and 3 Monarchies. Can you name the 3 Kingdoms? Two of them are landlocked within South Africa
- 8. Which is the newest country in Africa? It gained independence in 2011. Before it broke away it was part of the largest country in Africa.
- 9. Which country in West Africa was founded by USA President James Monroe in 1847 to resettle African slaves? Its capital city Monrovia is named in his honour.
- 10. This desert, the largest in the world at 3,600,000 sq. miles, and still growing is spread over 11 countries in Central and North Africa; what is it called?
- 11. Most of Africa was colonised by various countries; can you name the following countries old colonial names? a) Botswana, b) Ethiopia, c) Benin, d) Ghana, e) Malawi, f) Tanzania, g) Burkina Faso, h).. Zambia, i) Zimbabwe and j) Namibia.
- 12. The Suez Canal connects which two seas?

YOUR LETTERS

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



Hip Hip Hooray for GHIC

Applying for healthcare cover abroad (GHIC and EHIC) - NHS

Firstly, thank you to everyone for their kind wishes, flowers, chocolates, cups of tea and lifts since my return from our skiing holiday with a new (unplanned) hip. I am on the road to recovery, but Park Runs are out. To dispel the myths, French hospitals don't serve wine but do serve 4 course meals...

Talking to people on my return few seem to realise that the old EHIC card has been replaced by the GHIC (General Health Insurance Card) which entitles you to health care at the same rates as the locals in many countries. If you read your health insurance small print most insurance companies expect you to use this and won't automatically pay for private health care. In my case a potential hospital bill of 1000s of Euros became 200 at the flash

of my GHIC card. So, if you are planning a holiday abroad, please apply at www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic (it is free - if they try to charge you then you have the wrong website); it takes about a week, so you do have time.

Lesley Knott



LEEK WOOTTON BELL RINGERS

Tower Captain : Nathan Gould

A Win for the Leek Wootton Bellringers

On 22 March, the band entered the Coventry Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers 6-bell striking competition.

The well-attended event was hosted at Snitterfield. With 11 bands participating and over 80 people present, it was a great afternoon of ringing, tea and cake, with Leek Wootton prevailing in the challenging Change Ringing category.

This is the first time the band has won the trophy, against stiff competition from other towers, and is recognition of the effort and dedication of the team to hone their skills.

CAN DO

Garden and Property Services

Lawns, hedges, borders, fencing and all DIY.

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Email: info@waverleykenilworth.co.uk



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from 6:30 pm

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LEEK WOOTTON

The event will commence at 6:30pm with the church bells pealing

Entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by Spa Brass and the handbell ringers playing topical music

At 9:25pm those present will join the Nation singing

I Vow to Thee My Country

At 9:30pm a beacon will be lit as part of **Flames of Peace: A Global Tribute** and the **VE Day 80 Tribute Address** will be read

Bring along your own picnic and/or drinks
Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available

Arrangements will be in place for the event to go ahead in case of wet weather











FREE ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY

St Francis of Assisi Church Hall,

110 Warwick Road, Kenilworth, CV8 1HL

Refreshments in aid of WCS Care
Thursday 8th May 2025 10_{am} – 2_{pm}

Bring along your Antiques, Coins, Medals, Jewellery, Gold, Watches, Silver and Collectables

Items may be consigned into Auction on the day

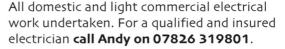
Free Home Visits for large/multiple items, House clearance and downsizing advice Probate and Insurance Valuations

For further information please contact: Hansons Warwickshire 07470 459309

www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk
Hansons Derbyshire, Heage Lane, Etwall, Derby, DE65 6LS



A. Cadby Electrical



E: acadbyelectrical@gmail.com **W:** www.acadbyelectrical.co.uk

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

CANCER RESEARCH UK LEEK WOOTTON

Secretary: Diane Wilson

m: 07950 736272



Jean and Jim's Big Breakfast

Friday, 16 May @ 09.00 until 13.00 - Leek Wootton Village Hall **Donations on the day**

A date not to be missed in the CRUK Leek Wootton calendar, and in the community, is **Jean and Jim's Big Breakfast** event. Chat with friends and neighbours over a fabulous breakfast with refreshments, in support of this great charity.



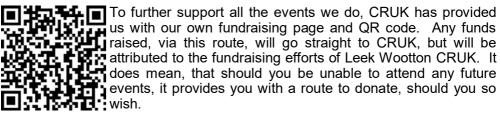
FUTURE EVENT:

Afternoon Tea with Music

Friday, 18 July @ 15.00 until 17.00 - Leek Wootton Village Hall. Further details to follow

Add a little sophistication to a Friday afternoon, join friends, family and neighbours for a glass of fizz, refreshments, sandwiches, cakes and music. Raise a glass and help support Cancer Research UK.

Leek Wootton CRUK Fundraising Page and OR Code



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

Want to join in?

Would you like to be part of our parish Committee to help raise funds and be involved in events. We usually run between 2 and 4 events and attend 3 or 4 meetings per year. Please message me with your details and we can discuss further:

Diane Wilson m: 07950 736272

Griffin's

Auctioneers & Valuers

Are you thinking of selling your antiques or collectables?

With monthly auctions of Jewellery, Watches, Silver, Toys, Stamps, Postcards, Coins, Banknotes, Furniture, Paintings, Ceramics, Model Railway, Memorabilia, Books & more, we cover all areas of collecting & antiquity!

Free Valuations

We can provide you with free auction valuations for your collection without obligation to sell. These valuations are swift and thorough with specialist in-house experts in collectables.

We are based in Warwick

We can provide valuations for free at our Warwick office. We can also provide on-site home valuations where required!

Private Treaty

We usually recommend placing collections into auction to receive the maximum price possible, but for those occasions where money is needed up front, we can make you an outright offer for purchase

Turn forgotten possessions or dusty treasures into money through auction today!

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LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Coordinator: Cllr Richard Coates

e:environment@leekwootton.org.uk

Parish Hedgerows Study

By Teresa Castelino

In recognition of National Hedge Week, 5-11 May, we publish below a brief abstract of a recently completed survey of our Parish hedgerows.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

- To provide an up to date 'snapshot' of the condition and number of native field hedgerows in LW and GC Parish.
- To increase awareness of these important local wildlife habitats.
- To promote discussions about their value and future.



Using a 1972 Ordnance Survey Map, 349 potential field hedges were identified in the Parish. A total of 257 (73%) were surveyed over a period of two and a half years, 2022 to early 2025.

- Over the last 50-year period, there has been a loss of one third of our Parish hedgerows. A total of 91 of the 257 hedges surveyed.
- 20% of the 257 hedges are in poor condition, and without the help of a rejuvenation plan will not survive much longer. Removed, defunct and poor hedges together make up 56% of the hedges surveyed.
- Only 24% of our Parish hedgerows are in good condition and 20% are tall/ untrimmed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Identify and maintain hedgerows that provide important wildlife corridors around the Parish and connect its woodlands and spinneys.
- Identify and protect young oak saplings in hedges to allow natural regeneration.
- Replant and fill hedgerow gaps.
- Encourage parish members and landowners to plant native hedges.
- Ensure that any local development biodiversity offsetting is achieved within the parish. For example, the offsetting could include the maintenance and/or replanting of hedges.

For the full report visit the Parish website:

https://leekwoottonandguyscliffeparish.gov.uk/your-parish/lwgc-environment-group/ Or email environment@leekwootton.org.uk for a copy

A selection of parish hedges showing a variety of conditions.









Your Local Hall, perfect for one-off events, meetings, or for regular bookings!

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 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



ALL-INCLUSIVE LUXURY LIVING

At our Berkley care homes, it is our mission to provide the best quality of life for our residents through high standards of care. We continue to focus on the happiness of each and every one of our residents from the moment they move in and we love being able to help everyone make the most of the wonderful 5-star luxury facilities our care homes have to offer.

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Find out more about our amazing care homes in your area, Jubilee House and Leycester House, visit www.berkleycaregroup.co.uk www.macmillan.org.uk

MACMILLAN

Chairman: Ros Commander

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

: 511373

Further to my report in the April edition of *The Link* following the fundraising Ladies Fashion Show and Lunch, the committee has received a further £760 in memory of Joan Stevens. Joan was thought of so highly by so many and we are very grateful to all those who have contributed to *Macmillan Cancer Support*.

Ros Commander



https://www.facebook.com/events/1219165253037803

Coordinator: Steph Allison e: CommunityLive@leekwootton.org.uk

Saturday, 6 September 2025 @ Leek Wootton Village Hall

EXPLORE: SPORTS | INTERESTS | ARTS & CRAFTS | CLUBS & THINGS TO DO on your doorstep at this FREE event

In September we will once again be holding our *Community Live!* event, bringing together the community with all sorts of local clubs and interest groups for all ages.

This year Forces Fitness will be staging an assault course for kids and talking to people about bootcamps and private coaching, as well as the Art Club exhibiting its work, Scottish dancers, Women's Institute, Scouts, Yoga for Men, beekeepers, mosaic art, knitting, the Parish Environment Group, bridge group, Parish Council, and Village Hall people to speak with about bookings and more.

If your club or society would like to have a table at this FREE event and welcome new members, please contact

CommunityLive@leekwootton.org.uk





TREE SERVICES

Tree Felling & Dismantling Reducing & Pruning Hedge cutting & Shaping Stump Removal Logs & wood chipping for sale

LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Slab laying, Fencing, Turfing All aspects of landscaping Garden clearances

NPTC and City & Guilds qualified Fully Insured (5 million public liability) Friendly and reliable services Contact Ben Tebby T: (01926) 485592 M: 07581 094528 Old Park Farm, Wedgenock







HINTONS NURSERY Coventry Road, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5FJ Tel: 01926 492273

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 10AM - 4.30PM

SUNDAY: 10.30AM - 4PM

Our aims are: to give our customers a great experience, and to support the local community



- Extensive range of hardy plants, seasonal bedding, aquatics, fruit and vegetables, including many unusual varieties, grown on site
- Award-winning hanging baskets and planted containers: ready-to-buy and custom-made
- We offer a full Landscape service from simple planting plans and planting to full garden makeovers

Local stockist for David Austin Roses We sell National Garden Gift Vouchers Delivery Service

For more information see our website at: www.hintonsnursery.co.uk



ROYAL HOANCULTURALS

Secretary: Steph Jones e: lwhsociety@gmail.com

Dahlias

We are fortunate to have a fantastic display of Dahlias at the Annual show, with many members connected to the Dahlia Society exhibiting their flowers at Wisley, but have you thought about growing them yourself? Growing plants from seeds might result in variations from the image on the packet, while purchasing tubers ensures you know what you are going to get. You can start them as early as March, which not only gives them a head start in the growing season, but they will be more established when the slugs and snails appear. They are ideal plants to grow as part of your own cutting garden.

Soak your tuber in tepid water for about an hour to rehydrate, then fill a suitably sized pot with compost, nearly to the top. Place the tuber onto the compost and cover. You should be able to see the tuber just below the surface. Water and leave until they start to sprout. Dahlias are not hardy to frosts so leave in a sheltered position. If all frosts have passed the dahlias can be planted directly into your flower beds.

There are various types of dahlia, including pompoms and single-flowered open heads. The single-flowered varieties are particularly accessible for bees and pollinators because the flowerheads are suitable for pollen gathering, compared to the more ornamental pompom flowers which have densely packed petals, making it harder to access

nectar and pollen.

If you decide to grow some consider entering them into the Show in August.



Photographic Categories

The photographic categories for the Annual Show & Fête on 16 August will be:

'Front Door Within Three Miles' and 'Blue'



Spring is definitely here and the volunteers are back at work.

We are absolutely delighted with the way the garden is progressing. In the next few months, we are planning to finish off some hard landscaping, plant an olive tree and install the new bench ... wish us luck!

We normally plan to be on site most Wednesday afternoons (weather permitting) - any words of encouragement are most welcome.

Lesley Kirkwood



Image capture: Sep 2024



www.guyscliffewalledgarden.org.uk

GUY'S CLIFFE WALLED GARDEN TRUST

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

Here at Guy's Cliffe Walled Garden we're excited for another year of events taking place at this "... horticultural treasure in the heart of the community".

17-18 May: World Bee Days

Lots to learn about bees and other pollinators and how to encourage them into your garden.

FUTURE EVENTS:

14 June **Recruitment Day for New Volunteers** - Come and join a friendly and enthusiastic team - beginners welcome!

Butterflies and Moths - their importance as pollinators

21 June **Photography Workshop** - how to take better portraits

Cream Teas in the Garden or Peach House



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

LEEK WOOTTON WI

President : Lesley Kirkwood

m: 07855 518315

e:gestureswithspoons@googlemail.com

The ladies of the WI have once again had a very interesting and full calendar over April – a meal at The Anchor, a little bit of culture at Warwick Arts Centre (La bohème) and a very interesting talk by Ian Scott-Hunter recounting his experiences as a Royal Footman.

lan gave a fascinating account of the various traditions and protocol associated with working for the Monarchy, all the way from the rigours of wearing the correct uniform, the technique of hopping on and off carriages, the challenges of a footman's sleeping arrangements on the Royal Yacht and, last but not least, dancing with HM Queen Elizabeth at Balmoral!

lan is raising money for a charity very close to his heart, named in memory of his late daughter, Alexandra. Alexandra House of Joy will be "... for adults with profound and severe learning disabilities and their primary carers", and we wish him every success with his fundraising.

www.facebook.com/AlexandraHouseofJoy https://alexandrahouseofjoy.co.uk/

NEXT MEETING:

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 20 May when we will be discussing the National Federation's resolutions.

Lesley Kirkwood







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OR VISIT WWW.THEWARWICKSHIRE.COM



KFNII WORTH PROBUS I CLUB

Chairman: Bob Mackenzie e: probusleekwootton@gmail.com

The regular meeting of the Club took place at LWSC on Tuesday, 15 April. It began with the Club's AGM at which officers were elected, and a financial report was approved. The Chairman for 2025/26 is Bob Mackenzie.

After the AGM, members Gerald Lawrence and Brian Wilson gave a talk on Kenilworth Talking News at which they are both volunteers. The Kenilworth Talking News Association (KTNA) is a registered charity, producing a fortnightly talking newspaper and magazine for listeners in the Warwick, Leamington and Kenilworth area.



The service is free for all its users, reporting on news from Kenilworth and the wider area, as well as offering magazinestyle articles. It started back in 1987 after an advertisement was placed in the *Kenilworth Weekly News* calling for the need of a talking news service for visually impaired people in the town. Since then, the

service has steadily grown and works closely with social services to identify new people who might want to use it.

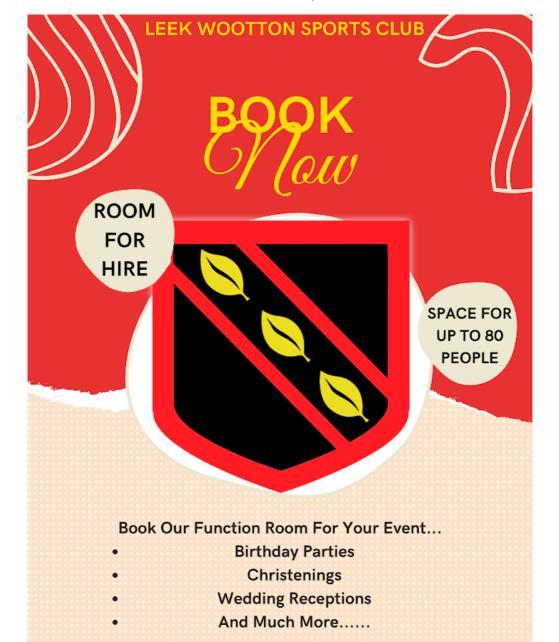
The volunteer News Editors collate local news articles and record them with a Reader Team in a studio at the Waverley Day Centre, in Kenilworth. Gerald and Brian took us through the services it delivers and how it operates, enabling their listeners to learn about the local news as opposed to regional or national news which is covered by radio. Their listeners get to know about shops opening or closing, pavements being dug up, events being organised, local people in the news, local sports teams etc. In addition, just like a weekend newspaper they include a magazine section of selected articles that may be of interest.

After this most interesting talk, nibbles and drinks were served.



Kenilworth Probus I Club welcomes retired, or semiretired, PROfessional and BUSiness men. They 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.



BOOKING EMAIL: treasurerlwsc@gmail.com

MORE INFO:

www.leekwoottonsportsclub.com

LEARN AND PLAY BRIDGE AT LEEK WOOTTON SPORTS CLUB



Bridge lessons for beginners and improvers each Monday at 10:00am.

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

ADVERTISING



DFFIBRILLATOR

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

IndieGo PLUS demand-responsive transport service operates from 6:00am to 7:30pm Monday to Saturday (no service on most bank holidays).

Book your ride by downloading the free **IndieGo PLUS app**, available from Google Play or the Apple App Store. Using the app allows you to quickly see your closest meeting point, book and pay for your ride, and track your vehicle in real-time. Rides can also be booked by telephone on **01926 895559**. Telephone lines are open from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Download the app: Search 'IndieGo PLUS' on your favourite app store

Call the call centre: 01926 895559

Find out more about the service at:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/indiegoplus

KENILWORTH SHOW—

SATURDAY, 31 MAY 2025 at STONELEIGH PARK

MAIN RING ATTRACTIONS

Our main ring show cases some great entertainment for all the family to include displays, entertainment and competitions. 2025 sees the return of the Bolddogs FMX display team to the main ring. We also have parades to include livestock, modern & vintage machinery and classic cars.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

THE VILLAGE GREEN: With many various catering outlets, a public bar and live music take time to sit back and relax within our Village Green. Situated next to the children's entertainment even the children will enjoy it here. We also have the addition of face painting and craft activities for the children this year.

EXHIBITORS | OVER 130 TRADESTANDS LIVESTOCK | EQUESTRIAN | MODERN & VINTAGE MACHINERY HOMECRAFTS MARQUEE | COUNTRYSIDE AREA | DOG SHOW CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT | DISCOVERY BARN | CLASSIC CARS

Find out more and book tickets at www.kenilworthshow.co.uk

OUT & ABOUT IN LEEK WOOTTON & GUY'S CLIFFE

See main articles for further details

Thursday, 1 May **County Council Elections**

Sunday, 4 May **Teddy Bear Parachuting** & Summer Teas

From 14:30 in All Saints' Churchyard

Monday, 5 May

Wednesday, 7 May **Parish Council Meeting** 19:30 at the Village Hall

> Thursday, 8 May VE Day 80

VE Day 80 Proclamation (Warwick)

08:00 at Warwick Market Place

Stories of the Masters & Brethren in WWII 11:00-15:00 at Lord Leycester

VE Day 80 Celebration

From 18:30 at All Saints' Church

Other celebrations locally include: From 19:30 at Kenilworth Castle

From 19:30 at Newbold Comyn

Friday, 16 May

CRUK: Jean & Jim's Big Breakfast 09:00-13:00 at the Village Hall

Saturday, 17 May

Kenilworth in Bloom Plant Sale

10:00-13:00 at St Francis of Assisi Church

St John's House Beer, Gin & Cider Festival

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/heritageboxoffice CRUK: Race For Life 2025

raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org

17-18 May



World Bee Days www.guyscliffewalledgarden.org.uk

at Kenilworth Castle Early May Bank Holiday

https://englishheritage.seetickets.com/tour/kenilworth-castle

Monday, 26 May

Spring Bank Holiday

Tuesday, 20 May

Kenilworth Probus I Club See page 35

Leek Wootton WI

19:45 at the Village Hall

24 May - 1 June

Half Term Fun & Games

Sunday, 25 May **PCC Meeting**

After morning service at All Saints' Church

Friday, 30 May

Outdoor Cinema: 'Dirty Dancing' https://allevents.in/warwick/dirty-dancing-outdoor-cinema-at-

warwick-racecourse

30 May - 1 June

Midlands Air Festival

www.midlandsairfestival.com

Saturday, 31 May

Kenilworth Show www.kenilworthshow.co.uk

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

- FUTURE PLANNING -

Sunday, 1 June Summer Teas

From 15:00 in All Saints' Churchyard

Sunday, 8 June

Two Castles Run

www.twocastlesrun.org.uk

OUT OF AFRICA QUIZ ANSWERS

From page 18

Mediterranean and The Red Sea

Northern Rhodesia i) Southern Rhodesia j) Southwest Africa | 12. Gold Coast and Togoland e) Myasaland f) Tanganyika g) Upper Volta n) Liberia | 10. The Sahara | 11. a) Bechuanaland b) Abyssinia c) Dahomey d) (formerly Basutoland) and Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) | 8. South Sudan | 9. (Legislative) and Pretoria (Judicial) | 6. Madagascar | 7. Morocco, Lesotho (on the Atlantic Ocean) | 5. South Africa - Pretoria (Executive), Cape Town Lagos | 3. River = Mile, Mountain = Kilimanjaro, Lake = Victoria | 4. Gabon 1. Largest = Algeria, Smallest = The Seychelles | 2. Country = Nigeria, City =

APRIL IN PICTURES...

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



If you are interested, after all the disruption, and have not yet seen it, there is a short video available on the Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Locals Facebook page, which shows the moving of the 14,500 tonne box structure to sit beneath the A46 >>

important man, 21 Apr