



Message from the Parish Council

You will all be aware that the local elections will be held on 4 May. The Letcombe Regis Parish Council has a membership of 7 councillors, and as of the deadline for expressions of interest, 3 current councillors will be standing down and three villagers have confirmed that they wish to stand. This means that there is no requirement for an election.

Plans are well underway for the King Charles 111 Coronation Tea, on Monday 8 May at the Village Hall, and many have stepped forward with offers of cakes, scones, flowers etc. If you feel you could contribute please contact the Parish Clerk at letregispc@gmail.com. This year there will be greater time for each sitting and the entertainment will include music, magician and children's games. Booking is now open for this free event so please book your places in advance with the Parish Clerk. The first sitting is between 2-3.30pm and the second from 4-5.30pm. There will also be the chance to see the full spectacle of the Coronation on the Big Screen. We look forward to a very memorable event.

As I write this the sun is shining and the spectacular snowdrops around the village are once again heralding the warmer weather. The PC remains very grateful to Ann Williams for her ongoing commitment to bring such a wonderful display for us all to enjoy.

There has been much interest, and some concern, over the lack of hospital services, the proposal for a reservoir, the possible reinstatement of Wantage and Grove Station, and the lack of other services in the OX12 area. In order to explore this further the Parish Council have invited Julie Mabberley, spokesperson of the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group, WaGCG, to speak at a meeting in the Warborough Room, Village Hall, on Monday 27 March, 7pm. Julie will be able to bring us up to date on the issues being faced and there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion. We hope that you will be able to attend.

Finally the final meeting of the current Parish Council is Scheduled for Monday 20 March, at the new start time of 7pm. All are welcome to attend the meeting which will take place in the Warborough Room, at the newly refreshed Village Hall.

Cllr Jeanne Lapsley
Chairman
Letcombe Regis Parish Council



[Click HERE for website](#)

[David Johnston MP](#)



Website update - [letcomberegispc.org](http://www.letcomberegispc.org)

News from our District Councillor is on the Parish Council Website under the heading VILLAGE INFO.

Please note that if you have new neighbours who you think may wish to receive the Letcombe Register PDF each month, please suggest they contact the Parish Clerk direct: letregispc@gmail.com

I am not GDPR compliant and have no access to the village e-mail list.

Past issues can be found on the Village Website:
<http://www.letcomberegispc.org>

Francesca, Letcombe Register



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COMPUTER PROBLEMS?
CONVERSION TO WINDOWS 10?
A locally-based service (from Letcombe Bassett) has been helping people here for the last 15 years
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[Mention The Letcombe Register when you call]



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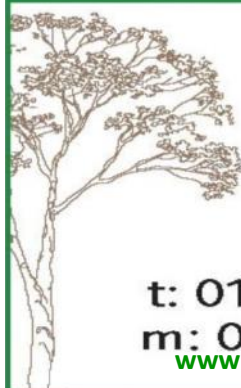
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LETCOMBE REGIS RECREATION GROUND AND VILLAGE HALL

‘200 Club’

25th Season – commences April 2023

The Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall Management Trust ‘200 Club’ is about to enter its 24th year. The 200 Club is a key means by which the Trust raises funds for investment in and maintenance of the Recreation Ground and Village Hall. Some £100,000 has been raised over the past 24 years. About £47,000 of this has been won in prizes and £53,000 passed to the Recreation Ground and Village Hall Management Trust. Money raised in this way constitutes important ‘locally raised’ funds, evidence of which is essential for many competitive grant applications.

For those who haven’t yet participated in the scheme, the Club sells numbers, each costing £24 per year. Approximately half the money received goes to supporting the Village Hall and Recreation Ground. The other half of the money is given out in prizes – typically five per month ranging from £5 to £50 with a top prize of £100 at Christmas. In addition there are two other monthly draws, details of which are given below. The amount of money available for prizes depends, of course, on how many numbers are sold. The Letcombe Register contains a list of the winners each month. During the 24th Season, 241 numbers were sold raising £5,784 of which £2,785 was given out in prize money. Since 2017, the money received has been ring fenced for improvements to the Children's Play Area, and in 2023 £3,000 was added to this fund. Donations came to £16 of which £15 was used in printing the letters and £1 was added to the prize money.

As happened last year, it would be preferable if you could make a Bank Transfer payment into the Barclays Bank account with the below details:

Account Name: **Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall**
Sort Code: **20-84-58**
Account No: **93353486**
Reference: ***Your name/surname***

Payment can still be made by cheque or cash directly to Ian Taylor, if you are unable to pay by Bank Transfer. Cheques to be made out to “**Letcombe Regis Village Hall**”

Whatever your method of payment, please complete and return the application form to Ian Taylor. You will then receive a receipt and confirmation of your number(s). Note you can purchase as many numbers as you wish and you don’t have to live in Letcombe Regis to become a member. Anyone joining part way through the season simply pays for the remaining months.

If you’d like further information, please contact:

Ian Taylor, 200 Club Treasurer, Tara, Warborough Road, Letcombe Regis. Tel: 764677

Christmas Draw

The December draw will have the normal monthly prizes. In addition to the £100 prize in the main draw, there will be a £50 prize in the Special Draw and a £25 prize in the New Numbers draw. All the special prizes will be **limited to those who pay the full £24 to join for the whole season.**

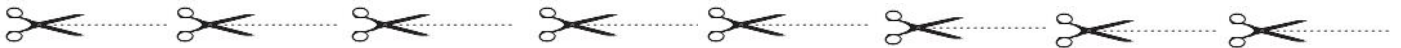
Special Draw

Prizes will be given every month for those who did not win in the 2022-23 season. You must, of course, have bought a number for the whole of the 2022-23 season.

'New numbers' Draw

If you have not been a member of the 200 Club previously, or if you buy an additional number, you qualify for the 'new numbers' draw. This is also limited to those who pay the full £24 for the whole season.

Note. If a winner has left the area and cannot be traced, the money will be regarded as a donation to the 200 Club funds at the end of the season.



Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall '200 Club'

Please allocate me/us _____ numbers in the '200 Club' (April 2023 – March 2024)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____ email: _____

I enclose £ _____ (**£24** per number)

Account Name: **Letcombe Regis Recreation Ground and Village Hall**
Sort Code: **20-84-58**
Account No: **93353486**
Reference: **Your name/surname**

Payment Method - please indicate your method of payment [ONLINE / CASH / CHEQUE]

Cheques to be made out to "Letcombe Regis Village Hall", not to the 200 Club

Return ASAP to Ian Taylor, 200 Club Treasurer, Tara, Warborough Road, Letcombe Regis

For Treasurer's use only:
Thank you for supporting the 200 Club in its 25th season (April 2023 – March 2024).
Your numbers are:

ONLINE / CASH / CHEQUE

200 Club Draw — No 12		March 2023
32	Doug FREWER	£50
97	Mandy PITMAN	£25
153	Pamela CHARLTON	£15
27	Anne BACHELOR	£10
13	Diane MONNERY	£5
Special Draw:		
169	Nigel BEDFORD	£25
167	Thérèse CLARKE	£25
214	Jenny BREAKSPEAR	£25
208	Jane CABLE-ALEXANDER	£25
76	Carole & Geoff HAMER	£20
156	Thérèse CLARKE	£15
224	Max STEWART	£10
225	Max STEWART	£10
NewNumbers Draw		
192	Guy & Jane ELLIS	£5
243	Tessa GOOD	£5
3	Vale YATES	£5
247	Joanna TAYLOR	£5



LETCOMBE FILM CLUB

Letcombe Regis Village Hall,
Wednesday 8th March



Tickets £5 Doors open 7.30pm
Film starts at 8.00 pm

Refreshments on sale - Wine, Beer and Tea/Coffee

Spring Clean Request



Spring is on the way and the village is looking very pretty with all the snowdrops out and later the daffodils. Before the cow parsley gets going it would be brilliant to have another litter pick as despite all our best efforts, litter keeps appearing.

If you are available on Wednesday March 22nd and would like to be part of the litter picking group, please meet at the post box at the bottom of Court Hill at 10.00a.m. The litter picking equipment and bags are provided, but please wear appropriate footwear and bring gloves, gardening gloves are ideal.

The equipment is due to arrive on Monday 20th and I have it all week, so if you are unable to make Wednesday but want to clean a particular road, please let me know and I can arrange for you to have the kit on a different day.

I have tried to organise a fine day, but if the weather is against us we will try and choose a better day that week.

Afterwards hot drinks and biscuits are on offer at 1, Mill Paddock, as with a good team, we are usually finished by 11.30 to 12.00 midday.

Please let me know if you are interested
Alison Phillips (760335)



There are times when it seems as if blue-grey wood pigeons have taken over our gardens, particularly in the autumn and winter when migratory birds from continental Europe join the resident population. These rather heavy birds have handsome coloration with their mauve chests, long black tails, golden or green eyes, pink bills with a yellow tip, and characteristic iridescent green and purple side-neck feathers with a white patch in adults, photo credit: Brian Snelson (CC BY 2.0). They are hardly elegant though as they waddle around and dominate over smaller birds feeding on any seeds and grain on bird tables with their voracious appetite. Their diet also includes root crops, fruits, berries, small insects and worms and increasingly they raid arable farmland for autumn and winter-sown cereals and brassicas. Wood pigeons occupied mostly deciduous woodland historically but, with increasing numbers since the 1970s, now they are found in most habitats. So what is the secret of their success especially in the past 15 years?



Adaptation to changes in farming practices since 2008 has worked in their favour. Additionally, wood pigeons mate for life and, despite a flimsy nest of twigs for two eggs, both parents incubate and raise the squabs (chicks). Another advantage to their breeding success, shared with doves, flamingos and Emperor penguins, is to feed their chicks on a milk-like substance secreted from cells in their crop, the food-storage organ. This enables wood pigeons to produce a fatty, protein-rich 'milk' with immune-building substances from foods low in protein rather than catching invertebrates. The chicks feed directly from the adult's mouth and the parents raise up to four broods each year through to early autumn. Due to their mostly dry diet, wood pigeons need to drink a lot of water. They do this by using their beak as a straw to suck up water, a unique feature and an advantage over other garden birds which scoop water into their beaks but then must tilt their heads back to allow the water to drop down.

The wood pigeons characteristic 'cooing' of a repeated sequence of five loud and far-carrying notes (one short, two emphasised, two short remembered by 'Take Two Coos Taffy') starts in February. The birds are identified also by their characteristic flight up from a high perch, followed by some loud wing claps, stalled and then gliding - wings out, tail fanned - to a new perch. The whole sequence is in a straight line, as distinct from collared doves which spiral down after the stalling stage.

Collared doves are not only smaller but more delicately built with creamy grey-buff plumage and a black half-collar on the neck back (photo: CC0), and definitely daintier than wood pigeons as well as being more nervous. Their typical call is a quiet, but clear and persistent, three note 'coo COO cuk'. Both birds are in the same biological family, and share many common characteristics such as being monogamous, nest type and care for their young. However, the female collared dove incubates the eggs during the day swapping over at dusk for the male to take the night shift. Also they often start a new nest before the previous chicks are independent, the female using breaks from incubation to feed the recently fledged brood.



Young collared doves have been recorded flying over 600km from where they were born in Europe, frequently in a north-westerly direction. The European collared dove belongs to the same genus as Turtle doves and other collared dove species and has been a great avian coloniser. They spread west from sub-tropical Asia into Turkey, southern China, India and Sri Lanka and on into Europe across Bulgaria (1838), the Balkans, Germany (1945), France and Spain. Now a familiar bird here, the Eurasian collared dove only started to breed in the UK in 1956. They reached Ireland by 1959 and as far north as the Faroes by the 1970s. In 1974 a few collared doves escaped an enclosure in the Bahamas and their expansion across the US was even faster than across Europe. However, UK collared doves started to decline in 2005, possibly due to competition for food from wood pigeons, so ensuring the smaller bird gets a look in on the bird table is a positive move, even though it is non-native.



Friends of the Letcombe Valley Nature Reserve

Work parties continue in the Community Nature Reserve on Saturday, 18 March from 13:30 to 16:30. Please meet near the lake notice board by 13:20 for the tasks and safety briefing. The main tasks are likely to be scrub clearance, fence repairs, minor tree pruning over paths and general maintenance. Wellingtons will be required to work on the new pond. Tools will be provided, and refreshments too mid-afternoon, but please take your own work gloves.

Wildlife in the community reserve will be more active this month including out of sight underground. With the start of the breeding season, male moles have been enlarging their territories by tunnelling over large areas in search of females. Spherical, extra-large nest chambers, each called a fortress, will be lined with a ball of dry leaves for raising the young. Solitary animals outside the breeding season, moles usually occupy their deep tunnels through the winter months. These permanent tunnels, in a network of hundreds of metres at varying depths, are used for feeding over long periods sometimes by successive generations. Moles are extraordinary diggers shifting 540 times their own body weight of soil and tunnelling up to 200 metres per day. Typically they work in patterns of three shifts of 4-hour cycles: four hours working, four hours sleeping, all day every day. The loosened soil is pushed up shafts forming surface molehills which become a food source of earthworms, supplemented by larvae and insects in the summer. Each mole needs about 20 worms a day (roughly half their body weight) to survive. Sometimes earthworms are stored alive in special chambers immobilised by a bite to the head segment; 470 have been recorded in one chamber. If their tunnel system provides insufficient food, moles carry on digging new tunnels; hence new molehills seem to arrive in rapid succession. The word 'mole' is late Middle English, probably derived from '*moldwarp*' meaning 'earth thrower'!



The litter will be up to six furless pups born between March and May. Their fur starts to grow at 14 days, eyes open at 22 days and the young leave the nest four to five weeks later when weaned. Dispersing above ground from their mother's range, they are at their most vulnerable. A common misconception is that moles are blind; they do have small eyes which are light sensitive. Their ears are situated internally behind their shoulders, so their snout acts rather like a sound tube. Sensory hairs strategically placed on their body also help moles to navigate in the darkness. The mole is the only mammal to live solely underground where, to counteract the low oxygen levels, typically 7%, they require a greater proportion of red blood cells than other mammals.

There are estimated to be 35-40 million native or European moles (*Talpa europaea*) distributed throughout the UK



but not in Ireland or on most offshore islands, photo credit: Mark Kilner (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0). They are short with velvety, black fur (apart from the pink fleshy snout) which can lie in either direction for tunnelling, and spade-like forelimbs equipped with rear-facing large claws for digging. A typical mole lifespan is only three years but, if they escape predation by tawny owls, buzzards and stoats, a mole might live to six years. Moles can be beneficial to humans, preying on many harmful insect larvae, such as cockchafer and carrot fly, while the tunnels help to drain and aerate heavy soils.

Thankfully myths relating to the power of various mole potions to cure ailments, such as malarial fever, warts, toothache, epilepsy and rheumatism, have died out, though the metaphor 'a mountain out of a molehill' is still in common use. The first written appearance may be in William Roper's 1557 '*The Life of Sir Thomas Moore*' in a reference to a corruption charge against Sir Thomas being overturned, '*Thus was the great mountain turned scant into a little molehill*'.



Letcombe Regis Open Gardens 2023

While current metrological circumstances make thoughts of warm summer days seem distant, planning for this year's Open Gardens has started. This year the event will be held on 25th June and will run between 2.00pm and 5.30pm. As always, we are looking to vary the gardens and anyone who would like to open their gardens please get in touch. In addition, there will be tea and refreshments in the village hall and a plant stall.

Paul Batchelor - paulb@public-health.ucl.ac.uk

Letcombe Football Club



February was another very successful month for the football club with six victories. We beat Westwood Wanderers 5-0 at home in the Berks & Bucks Cup and are now in the quarter final. We then played unbeaten Newbury at Letcombe in the Hellenic Chairman's Cup, drawing 2-2 but winning 4-3 on penalties to reach another quarter final, and we followed this with four victories in the league. We beat Bourton Rovers reserves 6-2 at home, and then won three away games, 4-3 at Shrivenham development, 7-0 at Wantage Town development and 4-1 at Clanfield development. We are now four points clear at the top of the league, but face some difficult games in March against our main league rivals Faringdon Town and Swindon Supermarine development.

Home games in March are :

Saturday	4 th	Letcombe	v	Swindon Supermarine development	3.00
Saturday	11 th	Letcombe reserves	v	Long Wittenham reserves	2.00
Saturday	18 th	Letcombe reserves	v	tba	2.00
Saturday	25 th	Letcombe reserves	v	tba	2.00



Reg Pike & racing history

Long time resident of Letcombe Bassett, Reg Pike, died this month at the age of 101 years, his funeral is in the village church on March 10th. His two bungalows on the Bassett/Regis road sit on three acres of land and his spritely figure could be seen daily as he walked between our villages until relatively recently.

His property has a link to a fascinating horse racing story from 103 years ago when the two villages housed many racehorses. The 1921 Epsom Derby winner *Humorist* was trained in Bassett by Charles Morton for Jack Joel a South African diamond mining magnate.

As a two year old, *Humorist* won three of his five races and was second in the other two. Then in 2021 the colt won The Derby where he won by a neck but never ran again as only hours after his portrait was completed by Alfred Munnings the colt was found dead in his stable in a pool of his own blood. It was then discovered that he had tuberculosis and had been racing with the use of just one lung.

The link to Reg Pike suggests his land and bungalows were bought by a direct connection of the stable as a result of this historic win.

Many villagers have witnessed Letcombe Bassett trained horses winning major races on television with the late Tim Forster capturing three Grand Nationals, one ridden by Regis resident Graham Thorner and subsequently Mark and Sarah Bradstock taking The Cheltenham Gold Cup with *Conygree*.



Letcombes Gardening Club

Topical Tips

Hurray. It's March. We are now entering spring (officially the middle of March) and all those summer bulbs are starting to 'strut their stuff' and brighten up our gardens!

With spring comes a much longer list of jobs to do in the garden. You can lift and divide perennials this month if you didn't do so in the autumn. For those of you in the gardening club this is a must so that you can create lots of plants for the plant market in April!

You can pot up your dahlias this month. They should then provide new shoots for cuttings so that you can increase your stocks.

It's a good idea to feed your borders this month and also top up pots with fresh compost. This will also give you a chance to do the 'finger test' as pots still need watering at this time of year, particularly as we have had a lot of dry weather in February.

Mulching is also a job for this month. This will help prevent weeds later on and feed your beds. However, you will need to give the beds a good weed first. You don't get away that easily!

This month you can prune your bush roses. You should do this when they start into growth but before the leaves unfurl. You can also still plant new roses.

You can continue to prune late flowering shrubs like buddleia. Cutting these down to ground level will keep them a manageable size. Leave pruning slightly tender evergreens like choisya until April otherwise they may incur frost damage.

If any of you have a pond then you can start dividing marginal and bog garden plants. It's wise to plant any vigorous specimens in aquatic baskets to try and prevent a monoculture! For those of you that have a new pond or have given your pond a good clean you may find algal growth becomes a problem. To try and avoid this then provide some shade (water lilies are a nice option for this). Also try and avoid getting soil or plant debris in the pond and fill with rainwater rather than tap water.

Here's a small tip. You may be thinking of giving your lawn it's first mow. Remember not to put thick layers of cuttings in the compost heap otherwise you'll end up with slime not compost. Just put in thin layers interleaved with other plant debris. I could say that your lawn would benefit from a high nitrogen feed this month but with the new 're-wilding' movement this may not go down well as, although it will encourage the grass to put on a spurt, many wild flowers like more impoverished conditions and so it could all be at the expense of a meadow. I leave the choice to you.

As far as fruit and veg are concerned, things are really 'hotting up' now. Through this month you should be planting your potatoes, onion and shallot sets.

Check your seed packets! March is the month when you can start sowing veg seed in earnest and you don't want to miss the boat!

I hope this has given you something to think about so get out there and enjoy your garden!

The Letcombes Gardening Club

This month is our last evening meeting in the village hall. It will take place on Wednesday 15 March at 7.30pm. This time we have Timothy Walker coming to talk to us on 'Tenerife – a Botanical Honey Pot and Evolutionary Laboratory'. As those who have heard Timothy speak before will tell you, Timothy is a hugely entertaining speaker and well worth dragging yourself out from in front of your television on what I hope will not be a cold, dark evening. All welcome. Hope to see you there!

Another date for you to put in your diary is the Gardening Club Plant Market, which will take place in the village hall on Saturday 22 April. Teas will also be served making it a nice afternoon outing. There will be more detailed information next month.



Issue 211

Better Housing Better Health

Free service supports thousands of residents in Oxfordshire with their home energy.

Residents in Oxfordshire can benefit from the advice and support of Better Housing Better Health, a service that helps those worrying about their home energy to create warmer, healthier and happier homes. Last year, through the service's free helpline and their free home visit service (BBBH+) - their team of trained advisors helped over 2500 residents with the aim this year to help even more.

The service can help:

- Residents who are finding it hard to understand energy bills, pay for fuel or read meters
- Access funding to replace old and broken heating systems
- Access funding for insulation measures
- Reduce damp, condensation and mould by better ways of managing a home
- Understand and programme heating controls
- Making onward referrals to additional support services, such as Benefits advice and debt support
- For some residents they may be eligible for additional heating support depending on their situation

To speak to the friendly team, call 0800 107 0044 or visit www.bhbh.org.uk and complete the online referral form or find our e-mail address.

Book Buffs



The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd March in the Greyhound at 8pm.

We shall be reviewing *'The Great Gatsby'* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and also discussing the overview of all the books we read last year.

The new library book is *'The Elegance of the Hedgehog'* by Muriel Barbery.



Private Land No Public Right Of Way

The Parish Council is aware of the new signs placed adjacent to private farm land around the village that have been causing confusion. Notices placed adjacent to the fields are to stop anyone walking over the fields causing damage to crops and to any environmental areas which may be round the edges of the fields. Access to public footpaths is not affected. For information on where the public rights of way are please google **Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way for Oxfordshire SU 38 NE**.

Members of the public are encouraged to report damaged footpaths, pot holes and fly tipping etc. on fixmystreet.oxfordshire



New Play Area - Coffee Morning

The coffee morning was a huge success on the 11th of February, with much enthusiasm, interaction and support from the villagers. Scrumptious cakes and refreshments were provided for all to enjoy. We raised a total of £1020,00! Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend and donated what you could!

Thank you VERY MUCH to everyone who helped with serving and baking including the help from the WI.

The buzz was evident that the village is eager to see a new play area and for their children and grandchildren to experience new happy memories.

The representative from the preferred supplier brought along visual aids and was available to answer questions to the visitors about the project. She has provided the feedback which we have incorporated within the current plan, but overall the majority of people were very pleased with the new plan.

We are in the process of finalising the project to make sure that all areas are covered, peoples questions have been answered, and that we get the best outcome with the available budget that we have. We hope to be able to announce the start of the project once all the due processes have been met and the necessary funds outstanding have been acquired, which seems much closer now.

*See the new buds, hear the birds sing and soon it will be Spring,
Watch this space, be prepared for a brand new slide & swing!*

Film Club

**Film Club: *The Lost King*
Weds 8 March**

Another good turnout for last months powerful film, *Just Mercy*. It was a perfect follow up to our December film, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, covering the same issues around discrimination 60 years later. Its well worth watching if you missed it.


This month we have another British comedy drama based on the true and remarkable story of Philippa Langley, the amateur historian who famously discovered the body of Richard III in a car park in Leicester in 2012, defying the academic establishment in her 8 year quest.

Released last year (2022), the film is based on the book '*The Kings Grave: the search for Richard III*', written by Philippa Langley and Micheal Jones, recounting Philippa's experience. It was directed by Stephen Frears and the screen play written by Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope, the team behind the excellent '*Philomend*'. The cast has some of our best British actors including BAFTA winner Sally Hawkins who stars as Philippa, with Steve Coogan playing her long suffering husband John. Other cast members include James Fleet, Mark Addy and Henry Lloyd.

The Lost King is an inspiring, life affirming story of the determination of one woman that ultimately led to a rethink of the legacy of one of Britain's most controversial monarchs.
Hope to see you there.

Doors open at 7.30pm; film starts at 8pm. Come along early for a drink and chat.

Issue 211



Letcombe Regis Parish Council
will be hosting a **FREE**



KING CHARLES III CORONATION TEA

On Monday 8th May , 1.30pm – 6.00pm
In the Village hall

(There will be two sittings from 2.00pm - 3.30pm
and from 4.00pm - 5.30pm)

Villagers and Guests are Welcome but you must
book in advance by letting the Parish Clerk know
your chosen sitting, letregispc@gmail.com

Live Music provided by HUG - Hendreds Ukelele Group
throughout the afternoon and entertainment from a
professional magician, children's games and a
Big Screen showing of the Coronation.

(Our grateful thanks go to all those who have volunteered to
bake scones, and cakes, and provide help on the day)



More details will follow in the April Register







Issue 211

St Andrew's

After the news of the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria some members of the congregation felt we should try to raise money for the Tearfund Earthquake appeal for the millions of victims of the tragedy. We hope people might feel they can combine a stroll round the village admiring the snowdrops with a visit to the church where they can leave their donations. Envelopes will be available for the money near the church door and they can be put in the wall safe nearby.

It is always a delight when the bells of St Andrew's ring out through the village and Christine Birch has some exciting news about bell ringing in March. She writes: "Listen for some special bell ringing at St Andrew's in the early afternoon of Monday, 13th March. A visiting team from Devon have arranged to ring some call changes, which are short changes in the ringing pattern called by the leader, followed by an attempt at a quarter peal. This is a longer period of continuous ringing of around 45 minutes in which a minimum of 1,260 changes are made during a specific composition. Like conventional music, a performance consists of a sequence of notes but the ringers do not have any written music. Each ringer memorises a set pattern and the rules for how the "method" (the equivalent of a tune) works like a choir singing from memory. In a choir the notes differ across the voice parts, but in a method every bell strikes at a different time and the music emerges from the continually changing sequence. A quarter peal will include several distinct methods being rung. It is lovely to welcome some expert ringers to the church."

We had our regular Holy Communion and Lay-led services in February, not forgetting Evensong on Mondays. We are grateful to Sue Worth of Childrey for leading the service on 26th February, a particularly cold morning after recent spring-like days. On Ash Wednesday there was Holy Communion with ashing for those who wished, to mark the beginning of Lent. Revd Mary Harwood presided at both the Communion services, we are all so lucky to have had her with us through the period of the interregnum.

The services for March will be following our usual pattern of Holy Communion on the second Sunday and a Lay-led service on the fourth Sunday. These service arrangements plus details of Lent courses are in The Signpost.

Looking ahead to April the Induction and Installation of Revd Vanessa Brunner-Ellis as Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice will take place at The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt on Thursday 13th April at 7.30 pm.

Letcombes WI



At our February meeting, Claire Rogers spoke about Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, ably assisted by local puppy-walker Liz Castle and trainee puppy, Arthur. Two-year-old Arthur, an engaging cocker spaniel, was the star of the show!

The meeting on 13th March (7.30 pm) is the AGM to review the year and vote for the committee and will be for members only. Just a reminder that subscriptions are due now for the next year. Remember to bring your cheque books!



Letcombe Cricket Club

Cricket starts again at the end of April, with Letcombe fielding teams on Saturdays and Sundays as well as Wednesday evenings.

The Saturday League season runs from the beginning of May through to the first week in September, Sunday friendlies are played from the end of April through until the middle of September, and the Wednesday evening League (The "Serious Cricket Downs League") runs from the middle of May until the middle of July.

During the Pandemic, cricketers brought their own teas. This coming season, the Sunday team are looking for someone to provide teas for some of the home matches. This would involve preparing and laying out the teas on a Sunday afternoon, and then clearing up afterwards. If you may be interested in this, then please contact the Secretary, either by telephone, or email to find out more, and to discuss how much it would pay.

Richard
Secretary, Letcombe Cricket Club
letcombecricketclub@gmail.com

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Letcombe Sports and Social Club

The Darts Winter League is nearing completion, with only a few more matches left. The "C" Team currently sit 3rd in Division 3, only 4 points behind 2nd place, so promotion to Division 2 is a distinct possibility if they can hold their nerve. The "A" and "B" Teams are both mid-table, having had a mix of results so far.

There will be another regular schedule of Pizza Evenings this year. Details will be in next month's Register, as well as posted on the Village Facebook page.

As usual, if you would like to find out more about the Sports & Social Club, or even to get involved in helping to run it, then please contact The Secretary:

letcombesportsclub@gmail.com.

All the committee and bar "helpers" are voluntary, so would welcome an extra pair of hands.

Richard
Secretary, Letcombe Sports & Social Club

LETCOMBE REGISTER

To **submit an article** please contact:
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 Letcombe Regis,
 OX12 9LD
Register@oldstableyard.co.uk
 01235 769310

The views expressed in the Register do not necessarily reflect the view of
 Letcombe Regis Parish Council

Past Registers are available to view,
 along with much more information,
 on the Village Website:
www.letcomberegispc.org

TO **RECEIVE YOUR PDF COPY OF THE LETCOMBE REGISTER**, PLEASE CONTACT
LIZ JENKINS, THE PARISH CLERK:
LETREGISPC@GMAIL.COM
 (FOR GDPR REASONS - THE LETCOMBE REGISTER HAS NO ACCESS TO THE VILLAGE EMAIL LIST)

Deadline for inclusion is 27th of each month.
Items will generally appear in the order they were received

March 2023 Click [Here](#) for March 2023 waste calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
Grey Landfill Food waste			Green recycling Food waste Brown Garden Waste			



Click on the above
 Button for collection
 details for the week on
 your PC
 Or download the app
 for your smartphone
 (either iOS or Android).
 Useful while waiting
 for 23/24 calendar to
 be issued.