

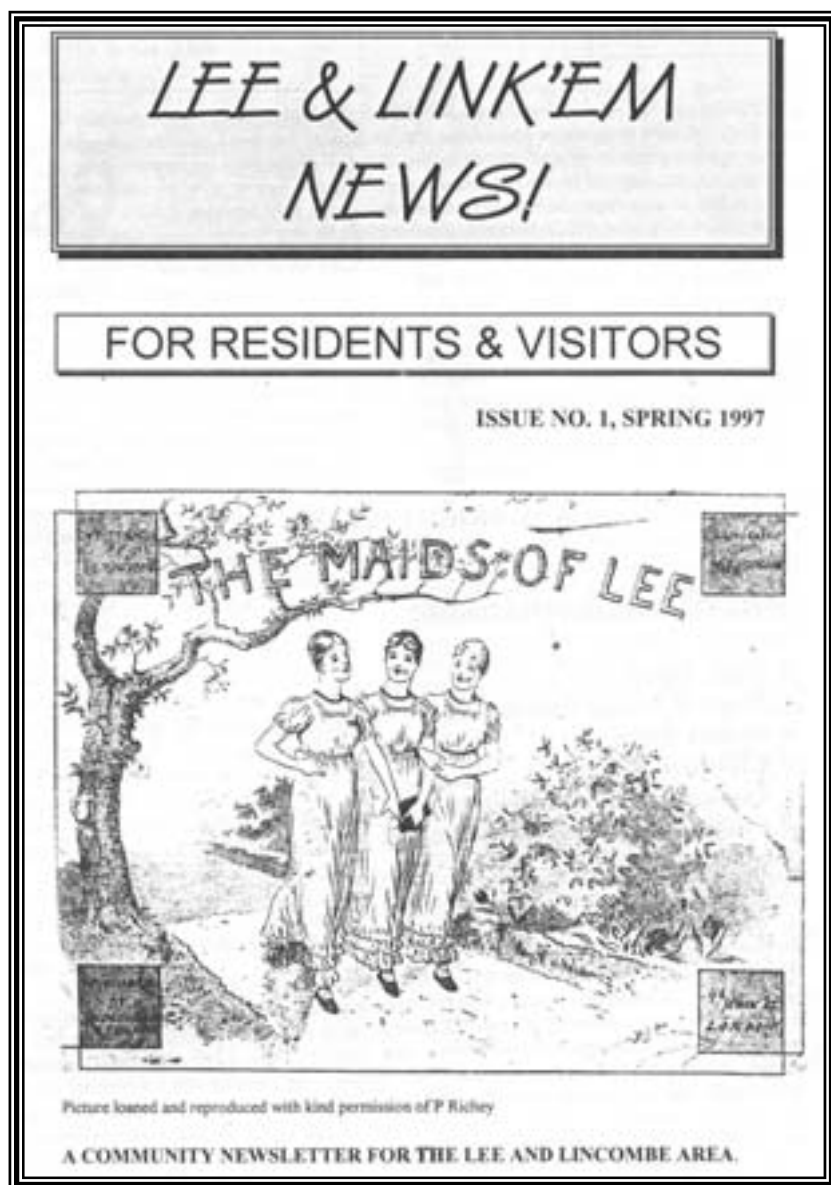
FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LEE & LINCOMBE VILLAGES  
AND SURROUNDING AREAS AND OUR VISITORS

# LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

SPRING 2007

50P

10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



1997 - 2007

[www.leebay.co.uk](http://www.leebay.co.uk)

## LEE AND LINCOMBE – FUTURE DATES FOR 2007

### VILLAGE DIARY

Friday 23 February 7.30 pm	Public meeting in the Village Hall arranged by the Hall Committee to discuss the upgrading of the Hall
Sunday 4 March Noon – 4.00 pm	Quality table top sale (collectables, toys, etc) – Village Hall
Thursday 15 March 12 noon	Lent lunch – The Gwythers (Paul Thom 862309)
Sunday 18 March 11.30 am	Mothering Sunday service – St Matthew's Church
Sunday 18 March 12 noon	Mothering Sunday lunches – The Grampus (regular Sunday lunches recommence 11 February)
Saturday 24 March 7.30 pm	Theatre Roundabout Festival: 'Canterbury's Burning' followed by supper – Village Hall (Box Office 863257)
Early April	Craft Shop reopens in time for Easter
Friday 6 – Monday 9 April	Cream Teas in Village Hall (organised by Village Hall Committee) 12 noon – 5.00 pm each day
Friday 6 April 2.00 pm	Good Friday service – St Matthew's Church
Sunday 8 April 9.00 am	Easter Sunday Communion Service with choir and festive music – St Matthew's Church
Monday 9 April 10.00 am	Easter Coffee Morning with hot cross buns and cake stall
Tuesday 17 April 7.30 pm	Annual General Meeting of Lee Memorial Hall – Village Hall
Monday 23 April 7.30 pm	Annual Parochial Meeting of St Matthew's Church – Village Hall
Monday 7 May 10.30 am	Flower Show Coffee Morning and Plant Sale – Village Hall
Wednesday 23 May 7.30 pm	Annual General Meeting of Residents' Association – Village Hall
Monday 29 May 2.00 pm	Spring Fayre – Village Hall and Meadow
July (date to be announced)	Grampus Trolley Races
Thursday 26 July 2.00 pm	Flower Show – Village Hall
Saturday 28 July – Sunday 12 Aug	Arts and Crafts Exhibition – Village Hall Flowers and Organ Playing – St Matthew's Church
Sunday 16 September 6.30 pm	Harvest Festival Service – St Matthew's Church followed by Harvest Supper
Every Wednesday 1.00 – 3.30 pm	'Mini Monsters' – Village Hall

*If you would like anything included in the 2007 diary for the next issue, please contact the editors (see below)*

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### LEE & LINK'EM NEWS TEAM

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<b>Delivery teams</b>	Bryan & Helen Lye; Alun Dobson & Becca Wyles		

## NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

It was splendid to see the church absolutely packed for both the Carol Service and the Christmas Eve Communion Service. The Carol Service was a truly village event with over 40 people making special contributions as readers, soloists, bell ringers and performers in the children's nativity tableau. With excellent singing and a beautifully decorated candlelit church it was a most enjoyable occasion and it was marvellous to have so many children involved in the service. It was also good that so many went to the village hall to enjoy refreshments kindly provided by the hall committee. After taking expenses for some of the refreshments, the balance of the collection - £220 – was sent to the Ilfracombe Poverty Action Group. Many thanks to everyone who came along to the carol service. The Christmas Eve service was an equally fine occasion with the choir leading the singing and everyone enjoying a fitting prelude to Christmas Day itself. 2006 came to an excellent end when, on 31 December, St Matthew's hosted one of the regular joint services for the 3 parishes of Lee, Mortehoe and Woolacombe.

A new innovation for 2007 will be a special Mothering Sunday service on 18 March. We are still planning its format. However it will be designed to appeal to people of all ages with, of course, a particular focus on mothers and children. The service will be at 11.30 am and will replace the regular 8.45 am service on that day. We do hope a large number will be able to attend, so please reserve the date and time and watch out for further details nearer the time!

The season of Lent will soon be here and with it one of the traditions of St Matthew's. As usual, at 7.00 pm on Mondays in Lent starting on 26 February, we shall hold the ancient service of Compline. This is a quiet service of contemplation and reflection ideally suited to the intimate atmosphere of St Matthew's. Do come along – you will be most welcome.

Elsewhere in this edition of the News is an article by Janet Mayo about the Theatre Roundabout Festival organised by the three parishes of Lee, Mortehoe and Woolacombe. As you will see from Janet's article, the play being performed in Lee is 'Canterbury's Burning' on Saturday 24 March. This play and the others promise to be a real feast of drama in our village communities.

Early April sees the arrival of Easter, preceded by the events of Good Friday. On Good Friday, 6 April, there is a service of readings, hymns and prayers at 2.00 pm to commemorate the crucifixion. Then on Easter Sunday, 8 April, the joyful Easter Sunday service takes place at 9.00 am. As usual, the singing will be led by the choir and there will be lovely flowers to decorate the church. There is always a large congregation, so do come along to this service. On Easter Monday morning from 10.00 am, there is a coffee morning with hot cross buns and a cake stall in the village hall. The other important event in the life of the church in April is the Annual Parochial Meeting which takes place at 7.30 pm on Monday 23 April (St George's Day).

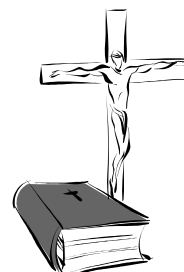
Thanks to the kindness of Carol Porton, who runs the craft shop, the church is always open to visitors when the craft shop is open. Everyone is most welcome to visit the church when it is open.

Ian Stuart

Vice-Chairman St Matthew's PCC



"A NEW  
INNOVATION  
FOR 2007 WILL  
BE A SPECIAL  
MOTHERING  
SUNDAY SERVICE  
ON 18 MARCH"



"EVERYONE IS  
MOST WELCOME  
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IT IS OPEN."

## GREETINGS AND FAREWELLS

We are sad to report the deaths of three residents of the village, one in each of the last three months of 2006. Doris Knott who lived at Wayside for many years died after a short illness and time in hospital. We extend our sympathy to Les and Bill in their loss. Then, in November, Diana Warmington passed away after a long, determined and brave fight against cancer. She received tremendous support from her husband, Peter, and she is much missed by him and the family. In December Mary Race died peacefully in the Susan Day Nursing Home. Mary lived at Ivybank for over 40 years until increasing infirmity meant she could no longer live independently. She moved with her husband and family from the North East of England when they sold the family business so that they could live in the village where they had had many happy holidays. One of her daughters, Liz Gilliat, is, of course, still in the village and we send our condolences to her, Margaret and all the family.

The Autumn edition of the 'News' bade farewell and welcomed a large number of people. As far as we are aware the number of newcomers this time is much smaller. Helen and Greg Sheehan with Harriet (7) and Imogen (1) moved to Gull Cottage in the autumn and should have been welcomed in the last edition, so a belated welcome! Then in late December Matt and Tracey Watling and their children moved into Sun Penny Cottage. We welcome Matt and Tracey along with Sam (10), Monica (7) and Louis (6 months). It's splendid to have more children in the village! Completing the new arrivals in the Fuchsia Tearooms complex are Dion and Paula Watson who have moved into Seal Cottage. A welcome to them as well.

If we have missed anyone off this note, please let us know and we'll put matters right in the next edition.



## BARNSTAPLE MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library visits Lincombe and Lee fortnightly on a Thursday. A wide selection of books, including large print and children's books, are available and specific books can be ordered for a small fee. The Librarian, Jackie, is always cheerful and very helpful.

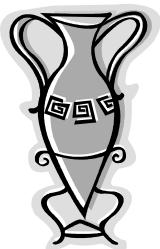
### PLEASE USE THIS SERVICE OR WE SHALL LOSE IT

Lincombe (besides Lincombe House)	12.55 to 13.10
Lee (car park by Memorial Hall)	13.15 to 13.40

Dates for 2007

22 Feb	8 Mar	22 Mar	5 Apr	19 Apr	3 May
17 May	31 May	14 Jun	28 Jun	12 Jul	26 Jul
9 Aug	23 Aug	6 Sep	20 Sep	4 Oct	18 Oct
1 Nov	15 Nov	29 Nov	13 Dec	Holiday	

There will be an 'off-road' period during the year and this will be notified in advance.



## QUALITY TABLE TOP SALE

Memorial Hall on Sunday 4 March 2007

Items include collectables, toys, bric a brac, etc.



## LEE MEMORIAL HALL

The carol service in the church, followed by refreshments in the village hall, epitomised the spirit of Christmas. In the church "tidings of great joy" were delightfully and soundly proclaimed by children and adults alike. The shared sense of community was also clearly evident in the village hall afterwards, where the celebration of the season was enhanced with mulled wine and mince pies. A total of £220 was raised for Ilfracombe Poverty Action Group. Our thanks to everyone who helped make this such a success.

We are very grateful to Heather Booker for kindly enabling the Hall Committee to start a wild flower area in the meadow.

The Memorial Hall Committee has agreed to fund the professional fees (mainly advice and outline drawings and plans) in preparing an application for submission to the Lottery grant services for an extension to the hall. These plans will include an upgraded kitchen, disabled toilets, both of which are required by current legislation, alongside a greater amount of general and storage space. To assist funding for this submission, the Hall Committee hopes to serve cream teas during the Easter weekend. This will be carefully planned so as not to detract from the church's similar event.

To assist the submission, the sub-committee is seeking your views on our village hall. Questionnaires are being circulated and a village meeting arranged for 23 February at 7.30pm in the village hall. We hope as many as possible will attend this important event. It is vital to keep the centre of our village alive.

Mavis Rogers - Chair, Lee Memorial Hall Committee

"A TOTAL OF  
£220 WAS  
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ILFRACOMBE  
POVERTY  
ACTION  
GROUP."





## TEN YEARS OF THE LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

A little over ten years ago Kate Madden discussed her ideas about a village newspaper with a number of people including myself. We made a number of suggestions and gave her our full support and encouragement. As a result the first edition of the Lee and Link'em News appeared almost exactly 10 years ago in early 1997. Kate remained as editor until the end of 1999 when she left the village, fortunately for only a short period. Heather and Denny Booker very nobly took over for the Spring 2000 edition with Heather's editorial stating she hoped she was the temporary occupant of the editorial chair. Well, arguably 5½ years is temporary! Heather, with Denny's assistance, produced 16 editions until, in the Summer of 2005, Gina-Luisa Hilborne joined Heather as co-editor. Gina has now assumed the lead role as editor though Heather is still involved. Residents and visitors owe a deep debt of gratitude particularly to Kate, Heather and Gina for maintaining the News over the last 10 years. Hopefully, they have set the standards for the next ten! Two things have remained the same over the last ten years. Every sheet of every edition has been through the Lincombe House photocopier. By my calculations, I think that amounts to about 30,000 A3 sheets of paper printed on both sides! The other constant has been the price – free to residents and 50p to visitors and other interested people. There cannot be many services with zero inflation over ten years!

I have spent a pleasant few hours looking through all 30 editions of the News. A short article can only refer to a few items reported over the last 10 years, but I hope readers will find some things of interest.

The first edition had a fascinating article by Richard Howard about the ship wreck in 1889 of the steamship 'Lymington' that ran aground at Pensport Rock with the loss of 13 lives despite valiant attempts of villagers including Charles Hill and George Ley to help. In the 'Society Pages' there was news about the WI, Neighbourhood Watch, the Flower Show Committee, St Matthew's Church and the Village Hall Committee. Among those welcomed to the village were Chris and Natalie Sharpe who still live at Brow Edge, Ali and Sue Tod – still around but moved again from Fuchsia Valley House to Windcutter Farm – and Tony and Pat Seymour. Like Ali and Sue, Tony and Pat have moved again but more recently from the Fuchsia Tea Rooms to Highbanks. The summer 1997 edition was a 'bumper' one. It included a long article based on an interview Kate had had with Bill Cook, then 78, about boat trips from Lee. The article was a poignant one because the summer of 1997 was the first without boat trips from Lee after new regulations made it uneconomical for Jeff Tulett and Bill to continue to operate 'Pirate of Lee II'. The cover of the Autumn edition was a reproduction of a post-war Southern Railway poster featuring 'Lee Point, near Ilfracombe' and featuring the Refreshment Car Tariff when luncheon was 3 shillings (15p) and coffee was 4 old pence (less than 2p) a cup with an interesting 'Important Note' about restrictions on the amount of butter and sugar passengers could have because of rationing. John Giddey, then 91, wrote about his father and grandfather and life in Lee over a century ago.

Editions in 1998 continued the mix of individual articles and village news. Each edition reported progress on the Village Appraisal, a process initiated by the WI that generated much interest and enthusiasm across a wide spectrum of the village population. Many suggestions emerged though most, including a proposal that Lee should have its own Parish Council separate from Ilfracombe Town Council, did not come fully to fruition partly because some residents saw any change as a threat to the status quo. However, the Millennium Committee set up to organise events during 2000 did a splendid job during the Millennium year. There was a highly amusing article in the Summer edition by Peter Ritchie contrasting pictures of the dreadful storm damage to the Old Mill House in 1996 with the Daily Mail's describing this 'dream cottage' where you can 'escape from all the hustle and bustle and unwind by a tranquil ocean in beautiful surroundings' as a prize in a competition. Max King completed his third article describing his earlier life as a motor bike champion and sports



FOR RESIDENTS & VISITORS

ISSUE NO. 1, SPRING 1997



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A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR THE LEE AND LINCOMBE AREA

## TEN YEARS OF THE LEE &amp; LINK'EM NEWS, CONTD.



broadcaster. The News also reported the death in September 1998 of Jeanette Chandler which marked the end of the family's association with the village. In 1999 there were further reports from groups set up following the Village Appraisal and an advertisement, as in previous years, for Grahame Penn's Exhibition of Watercolours in the Village Hall throughout August. Sadly this 19<sup>th</sup> exhibition was Grahame's last one. The Summer edition also had a most moving article by Michael Rogers on his extraordinary experiences in Vietnam in the final stages of the war.

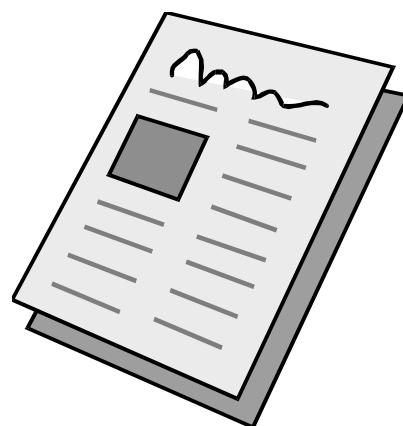
The Spring 2000 edition, Heather's first as editor, reported extensively on the early Millennium celebrations including the attendance of a good proportion of the village population at a service in St Matthew's Church at 12 noon on 1 January 2000 followed by a social in the village hall which included Auld Lang Syne by the handbell ringers. Subsequent editions reported the tremendous range of activities, including a Mystery Coach Tour and a Village Residents' photograph, organised under the umbrella of the Millennium Committee. 2000 also saw the beginning of the Art and Crafts Exhibition, originally a Millennium event to replace Grahame's exhibition but now an annual feature. Editions in 2001 and 2002 continued the usual mix and included very interesting articles in which Lionel Hill, Elaine Huxtable and John Giddey reminisced about their earlier lives and there were regular reports about 'The Whalers', the village darts team at the Grampus. A sign of changing times saw the announcement in Summer 2001 of the establishment of the Lee Bay web site by David Beer who still maintains and updates this first class facility. However, the summer 2002 edition recorded the death at the age of 96 of John Giddey. His obituary in the News was a testament to his immense contributions to the village which had been his home throughout his life. His particular contributions were to the Village Hall and to St Matthew's Church where he was Churchwarden for 52 years.

The first edition of 2003 had a marvellous photograph of the 20 children and 2 teachers at Lee School in 1929. There were many familiar names and faces including 2 Cooks and 4 Hills. Lionel Hill and Ken Baker are still in the village. There was also a résumé of the powerful sermon about food, farmers and the countryside preached by the Bishop of Exeter in St Matthew's Church at the Harvest Festival in the Autumn of 2002. The world première of a highly amusing play by Natalie Sharpe and performed by the Lee Village Players was reviewed, noting that the evening concluded with a bingo session and the drinking of copious quantities of wine!

An important change was reported in the Spring 2004 edition after Mark and Mandy Collins took over the Grampus from Richard and Fran Neustedt who had run the pub for around 15 years. Richard and Fran's move to France was reported later and several subsequent editions have featured Fran's 'Letters from France' written in her fluent and inimitable style. The Spring edition also contained an advertisement for the Lee Players production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, another hilarious show much enjoyed by all who saw it. Sadly other editions in 2004 included obituaries of Betty Cook and Lord Richardson. Betty and Bill (whose obituary was printed in the Summer 2006 edition) were true village characters much loved by all who knew them. Lord Richardson, who was one of the most eminent physicians of modern times, acquired Windcutter in 1965. After his death in August 2004, The Times said of him: 'John Richardson was a towering figure in 20<sup>th</sup> century British medicine'.

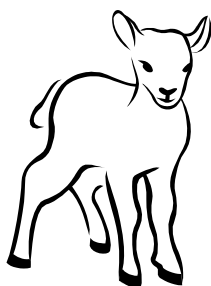
The last two years have seen the News continue to flourish. Gina, with her computing background, introduced modern technology and a common house style. This gives it a very professional look and means it can be sent, as it now is, electronically across the world. But the mix remains the same with reports from village organisations, such as the Church, the Village Hall, WI, Residents' Association, Flower Show and others including new ones such as the Japanese Knotweed Committee, interspersed with fascinating articles which demonstrate the rich talent in our community. We have sadly bade farewell over the last 10 years to many distinguished residents including, in the Autumn 2006 edition, Bill Latilla who died just before his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday. This 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition records further deaths of Doris Knott, Diana Warmington and Mary Race. Although there have been many arrivals and departures that have been reported over the last 10 years, the enormous variety of what has appeared in the Lee and Link'em News demonstrates very clearly the fundamental strength of the village community.

Ian Stuart





“UP WENT  
THE LADDER  
& THE  
PRUNING  
& CLIPPING  
BEGAN”



“THERE WAS  
AN OPEN  
STABLE WHERE  
WE USED TO  
HAVE DAY OLD  
LAMBS”

## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE GATE HOUSE, LEE

The job could not be put off any longer; one of Denny's carved animals on our fence was no longer visible, smothered by various creeping & scrambling plants.

Up went the ladder & the pruning & clipping began....to be immediately interrupted by a greeting from a couple leaning on the footpath stile. They were researching the life of a grandfather who had lived in The Fuchsia Glen Tea Gardens & had been debating whether or not they could dare to knock on our door asking for information.

Sitting in the sun on our patio, we poured over the deeds of The Gate House & gave them as much information as we could about Mr. Wilfred Carruthers Bell, David's grandfather, who had lived here from 1930 through to 1962, three years before we bought it.

We had obviously read through the deeds in the past but never in such detail & found them fascinating, leaving quite a few items unresolved.

The story of The Gate House began way back somewhere around 1800, when a small dot appeared on the maps of Lee, presumably a farm outbuilding belonging to what eventually came to be known as The Old Farm & which is now The Grampus.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 1870, the Reverend Tugwell of Bath in Somerset purchased 13 acres of land known as Kitter Hill Cleave (forming part of a Tenement called Shottisborough) in the parish of Mortehoe to enlarge his estate at Southcliffe Hall &, in the course of time, they enlarged the dot on the map; it became two dots, one of which became the generator house to supply electricity to Southcliffe.

The deeds record that there was:

“a bank of 27 accumulators, a Mausley generator, a Petter stationary diesel engine, switch board, charger, starter, & 100 gallon galv: tank & Mains.”

However when we took up residence in 1965, there were still “kicking boards” all around one of the rooms & behind them an accumulation of oat straw with some oats still present, a clear indication that it had once been full of another source of motive power. There was also a solid wooden sash-operated closure to a opening onto the lane which we guessed is how the straw bedding & fodder was delivered.

In addition, there was an open stable where we used to have day old lambs & their Mums from Derek at The Old Farm, until they were strong enough to go out in the fields.

From various clues revealed when we did internal alterations, we think that the other dot on the map (our house) was originally a coach house & saddle & harness room downstairs & living accommodation for someone, perhaps a groom, upstairs. In 1900 it was extended by the addition of another wing.

December 1924, Southcliffe & “the Cottage” was sold by Maudie Armstrong as executor of Mrs Edith Tugwell, purchased by Frank & Marion Cowley for £3,200 & promptly sold on to Samuel & Thomas Fairchild Day for £3,425!

In December 1927, it was bought by Mr. Napier-Hendrie of Southcliffe Hall, so presumably he was already living there as a tenant.

March 1928, Napier-Hendrie raised a mortgage of £4,000 from Lloyds Bank, Ilfracombe which he repaid on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1930.

The day after that he mortgaged Southcliffe Hall & the Fuchsia Glen Tea Gardens to Mr. W.C. Bell, then living in Westcliff-on-Sea & in October the same year, Napier-Hendrie went bankrupt, when Mr Carruthers Bell became owner.

According to the Electoral Register, both Mr Bell & Mr Hendrie were both living at Southcliffe Hall in 1936.



## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE GATE HOUSE, LEE, CONTD.

Southcliffe only was sold to Mrs Violet Binney in February 1943.

A year after Mr Bell died in 1961, his daughter, Audrey Gilbert, (David, our visitor's mother) sold The Gate House, as it had become known, to Mr. & Mrs F.N. Downes who turned it into a home for unmarried Mums; they had their babies who were immediately adopted...how moral attitudes have changed in 40 years!

When we moved here in 1965, there were 6 entrance gates to The Gate House.



“WHEN WE  
MOVED HERE IN  
1965, THERE  
WERE 6  
ENTRANCE  
GATES TO THE  
GATE HOUSE”

We permanently closed 2 of them, one into the lane, the other into Storkey Meadow. Later Denny gave a new meaning to the name of the property by constructing & carving 2 new gates which, seemingly, give quite a lot of entertainment to visitors.

Now where was I? Oh yes, the “hedge” still needs pruning.

Heather Booker.



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“A DENTED  
GALVANISED  
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SHOWSTOPPER”



“A SLIGHTLY  
BATTY MANIC  
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COMPANY AND  
A CHAT”

## THOUGHTS FROM SOUTH WEST FRANCE

"Today, more than ever before, he said, man had to learn to live without things. Things filled men with fear: The more things they had, the more they had to fear. Things had a way of riveting themselves onto the soul and then telling the soul what to do"

This wonderful phrase is taken from a book by Bruce Chatwin called *Songlines*. They were words spoken by a man who lived in a shed on an isolated Australian beach, as I remember. And they are words which I try to keep in the front of my mind as I wander and probe around all the fascinating second-hand stores here in France. One man's antique is another man's rubbish I suppose and if the UK is in the grip of a passion for collecting tat and unnecessary household items of all sorts and sizes, then France is right up there along sides. The shopping for 'old things you never knew you needed' is slightly different here, though no cheaper; Firstly, we have that well recognised event, the 'Vide Grenier' or car boot sale which differs from the UK only in that it is usually held in a beautiful village square in full sunshine instead of a windy field or car park. The items for sale, however, are just as bizarre and overpriced. Should you find a wheelbarrow without a wheel, be sure it will cost you more than one which can actually be pushed along the garden path. Or a dented galvanised watering-can which could not possibly hold water will be a showstopper on a stall selling other items which are actually useful. To buy these totally useless, rusty and dilapidated items is to worship at the altar of 'French Shabby Chic', which is the most ridiculous inverted snobbery that has ever been invented. I guess that was what the revolution was all about. But hey! It's all good fun.

The second way of shopping for old stuff is to go to a 'Depot Vente'. This is a large, normally out of town store full of items that have been put there by private sellers. The owners of the store take a commission. Apparently the items are reduced by 10% every so often (week or month?) until sold. These really can be fascinating places with all sorts of wonderful pieces turning up. Some of the furniture, especially armoires, buffets, tables and dining chairs can be remarkably good value. Enormous highly decorated and carved pieces of wood with a superb patina and finely turned legs at a very reasonable price. I guess it's just market led and there are far too many old Gersois paysans clearing out their old farmhouses to be able to keep the prices high. Then we have the Brocante, or antique shop. Not as in the Kings Road, Chelsea, more as in tucked away, well off the High Street, in South Molton. In other words, a few promising things from the turn of the century thrown in amongst 1940's Utility or 50's plastic. You get the picture. All of it highly overpriced and, surprisingly, there's never anyone else in there when you pop in except a slightly batty manic shop owner desperate for a bit of company and a chat. But we've all been there haven't we?

And then of course, there's Emmaus. A French institution. Over 400 stores worldwide, most in France, these rambling groups of buildings sell everything you can possibly think of. I'm familiar with two of them, one in Pau and the other in Auch, the main town of the department. The prices are not normally cheap but the places are always packed with people. I bought a riding hat, brand new, for 8euros. There is a whole building given over to white cotton and bedclothes. There are cars sometimes, just parked with a price on them, there is no limit to the variety of things for sale and, it seems, no limit to the people who want to buy. Emmaus was started by Abbe Pierre (forgive the lack of accents) in the 50's and has been a source of income for the homeless, both from selling and sorting other people's rubbish ever since. Abbe Pierre died, at the age of 94, on January 22nd this year. His passing led to Paris Match producing a souvenir edition this week, with 34 pages dedicated to the man and his work. To be honest, it makes astonishing and humbling reading ( check out the Wikipedia info online). Born into a wealthy family, the fifth of eight children, he watched his father every Sunday shave and cut the hair of the beggars in their hometown. He worked for the Resistance during the war, escaped from the Gestapo to

## THOUGHTS FROM SOUTH WEST FRANCE, CONTD.

North Africa, became an MP and then spent the rest of his long and active life living as a monk and helping the homeless. A man with virtually no personal possessions, there will be no family fighting over his furniture but his death has left a legacy that most of us could never aspire to. All he wanted, and was never without, were his bible, rosary and photos of his dead parents. That is, his parents on their deathbed. Dead. To remind him that 'notre soeur, la mort' is not taboo. It never frightened him. A man who was truly freed up from the 'fear' that personal possessions can bring achieved his goals in the end by, not just selling things to people who needed them, but to people who thought they needed them. Weird really. Which brings me neatly back to the first phrase of this article, don't you think?

Have a wonderful spring and summer.

And have an especially good spring clean...de-cluttering is so good for the soul!

Best wishes

Fran Nustedt

“THERE WILL  
BE NO  
FAMILY  
FIGHTING  
OVER HIS  
FURNITURE”

## LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT

Four important ongoing matters have been dealt with since our last report. The public toilets on the footpath to the seafront were closed in October at the end of the summer season. Their future remains uncertain pending Ilfracombe Town Council's decision on the matter. The cleaning of the toilets last year was contracted out locally and this Association wishes to thank the contractors for their work.

The car park on the sea front has remained closed resulting in major car parking problems during the peak summer season. A number of incidents were reported to the police who endeavoured to keep a clearway open for emergency and large vehicles – not always successfully. Discussions have taken place between the District Council, Ilfracombe Town Council and the owners but the issue remains unresolved. This Association continues to press for the re-opening of the car park.

Last September, this Association and a number of residents objected to the Lee Bay Hotel's licensing application to extend their opening hours. The objections were mainly on the grounds of public nuisance from excessive noise under the current hours, which would be made worse by extending them. The Licensing Hearing agreed and restricted the hours to midnight and added several conditions to the premises licence. The Lee Bay Hotel will be sold in mid- February and the new owners are anxious to meet the village and explain what plans they have for the hotel. Accordingly, the next Committee meeting on Tuesday 13 February at 7.30 pm [Sorry, publication date after this meeting - Ed] will be open to all villagers to attend and hear from the new owners of the Lee Bay Hotel. The open meeting will be advertised with posters.

At the end of November, the long promised new speed signs were erected – 30 mph from Lincombe Cross, down Lee Hill to The Grange where the 20 mph speed limit starts and goes through the village, along the seafront and up to Damage Hue. There have been quite a number of complaints received about the indiscriminate placing of the signs, some of which would seem completely unnecessary. Furthermore, the 20 mph signs which are largely located in our Conservation Area are not in accordance with the Associations' suggested positions. The Committee is taking up the matter with Highways.

On a personal note, I have been a Committee member for 9 years with the last 6 as Chair. It is time for someone else to take over and so I shall not be seeking re-election at the AGM. I should like to thank all Committee members and especially the two very efficient Honorary Secretaries, Adrienne and Gina, for their support and help which has made my time as Chair easier than it might have been.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 23 May in the Lee Memorial Hall starting at 7.30 pm. Nominations for the new Committee should be made on the special form (obtainable from either Gina or me) and be handed to Gina by 9 May. Nominees are reminded that they should have 2 years residency in the parish and been a member of the Association for the past year. Please come and support your Committee at the AGM – non members are very welcome to attend and ask questions but are not entitled to vote at the meeting.

Paul Thom  
Chair

## BIG LOTTERY FUND GRANT FOR VILLAGE HALL



The Village Hall Committee have decided that action should be taken to keep this facility for future generations and are applying to the Big Lottery Fund for a grant of up to £250,000. Although they have already some ideas of how to spend the grant they would like the views and ideas of all residents and house owners on this matter. A questionnaire will be given to every house in Lee, Lincombe and surrounding area and the committee would encourage everyone to respond before the meeting so that all aspects of the matter can be discussed then. If you are unable to attend the meeting please let a committee member (whose names are on the questionnaire) have your response in writing.

We shall be fund raising for the redevelopment by selling cream teas in the village hall over the Easter period. If you are able to spare a couple of hours to help please let a committee member know at the meeting on 23rd February.

Tony Seymour

## BINGO! LEE BAY RESIDENTS DO IT AGAIN

£1000 was raised at the annual Christmas Bingo in December on behalf of CLIC. It was so well attended, that we were actually turning people away. It was so nice to receive people from Ilfracombe, as well as from far away Braunton, and an excellent evening was enjoyed by all. The 2 luxury Christmas Hampers were both won by Ilfracombe residents. Well done everyone who contributed to make it such an eventful and profitable evening. I wonder if we can beat that next year!

Thank you one and all.

Ginny Potts

	26	01	15		03	12	
24		16		09		10	25
02	14	17	28		32	05	
	23		06	36		07	33



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## THE GRAMPUS INN NEWS



Following a wonderful Christmas and New Year, the Grampus finally closed the door on January 8th. Since that time, life at the Grampus has been very hectic. We have again made many improvements which we hope you will all enjoy.

During this time we have had 10 new additions to our family - no not us personally - but Bracken our yellow Labrador. At the present time they are almost 4 weeks old, very beautiful but also extremely time-consuming.

Mark has also spent some time in the R.D. and E. Hospital having a new bionic shoulder fitted. He is now doing a very good impersonation of Napoleon all that is missing is the hat.

We shall still be closed all day on Mondays until Easter. Sunday roasts will be available until Spring Bank Holiday with the exception of the Easter period, also the shop will be open during pub opening hours.

Once again a very big THANK YOU to the Grampus Games and Trolley Race Committee for all their hard work raising £3,740.30 for the Devon Air Ambulance. I'm sure everyone will agree it was a fantastic day that wouldn't have been possible without a great deal of work from all who gave up so much of their valuable time.

Mark, Mandy & family



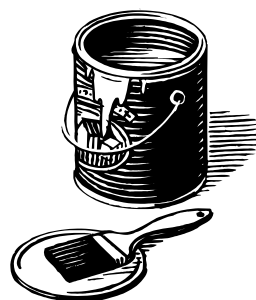
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## MINI MONSTERS PLAY GROUP



**Every Wednesday 1.00 to 3.30 in Lee Memorial Hall**

Well we have now been up and running since November last year and we go from strength to strength. At our last session, Benjamin was seen practising his kissing skills on anyone he could catch - Imogen and Anna were seen taking refuge behind a curtain - Matilda and Grace perfected wheelies on their bikes, Jacob and Eve worked on their driving skills and Sebastian tried to bury himself in the toy box. All parents are mucking in with the group's organisation, Kate has managed to lock the toy cupboard keys in the toy cupboard, Katie is finally getting to grips with the ratio of teabags to large pot – that's at least 3 Katie – and Tom and Sarah have instructed us in the fine art of cotton wool snowman construction.

More seriously, our little group is proving very successful and we meet for an enjoyable couple of hours every Wednesday in the village hall. Anyone with an under 5 is welcome – join us for a session if you're on holiday – but if you're out there in the village harbouring a baby or preschooler and you haven't dropped in yet – you know who you are – we're

particularly keen to see you! Likewise, if anyone in the village would like to come and do an activity with the children – storytelling or making something for instance – we'd be really grateful and pleased to see you. Please get in touch.

We must express here our grateful thanks to the St Matthew's PCC, who kindly donated £100 to the group towards our running costs and equipment. On that note, if anyone has any equipment (not necessarily toys) which



Some Mini Monsters and their children!

they feel may be of use to the group – for example an old table with legs we can shorten to make a low level table – please do get in touch.

Call Kate 01271 865501 or Katie 01271 867068 if you want to know anything else and hope to see you soon.

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# *Aloe Vera*

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## CAR-GO

No car? Car not available? Want to minimise your carbon footprint? Please support our local bus service first. However, if bus times or routes are unsuitable, then CAR-GO could help you!



If you need a lift, outward and/or return:

1. Check the newspaper box at Lincombe House or The Old Post Office for a list giving destination + date + morning / afternoon / evening of lifts available. These details will be updated every Monday morning.
2. If you find a suitable lift, or if you need an update on lifts logged after the Sunday deadline, phone Michael or Mavis (862 947) for details and then make arrangements directly with the driver concerned.

If you can offer a lift:

1. Phone Michael or Mavis (862 947) with details of the lift you can offer, if possible by Sunday evening for the week ahead, or at any time for a short-notice update.

2. The following information will be posted in the newspaper box at Lincombe House and at The Old Post Office:

Destination + date + morning/afternoon/evening.

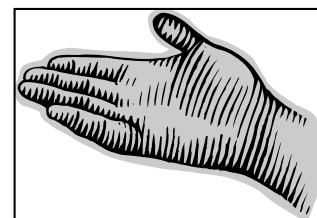
If a telephone enquiry matches your trip, your name and phone number will be given to the enquirer who will then contact you directly.

The liaison service will commence Monday 19 February for a trial period of three months. It is worth a try!

Michael and Mavis Rogers

**If you need an extra pair of hands, call**

## JON'S HELPING HAND



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Please leave your name and number - I WILL get back to you

For local refs, please contact Mavis Rogers

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

Our thrice-yearly newsletter is free to residents and available to non-residents at 50p from The Grampus Inn and The Old Schoolroom Gift & Craft Shop. To subscribe by post or email, please contact the editors.

## DEVON COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

*A statutory forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 - APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS*

Are you interested in advising on access to the countryside? Are you a landowner or manager? Are you an access user? Can you represent the access interests of young people or other under-represented groups?

*The Devon Countryside Access Forum has fifteen members. It meets four times yearly at public meetings and holds occasional working groups and training days.*

If you would like to apply and add your voice please look at the website [www.devon.gov.uk/devon\\_countryside\\_access\\_forum](http://www.devon.gov.uk/devon_countryside_access_forum) for details and an application form. Closing date 28 February.

Or ring 01837 810921, email [hilary.winter@devon.gov.uk](mailto:hilary.winter@devon.gov.uk) (Lucombe House, County Hall, Topsham Rd., Exeter EX2 4QW)



## THEATRE FESTIVAL IN LEE, MORTEHOE AND WOOLACOMBE

Preparations are in full swing for our first very own Theatre Festival, planned for late March. Three different plays, one in each of the three coastal villages, will be performed by a professional theatre company, Theatre Roundabout, who have been playing for over forty years to audiences all round the country and around the world. In the course of the three evenings, some sixty or more characters will be brought to life – by a cast of two!

The first play will be 'Barchester Towers', in Woolacombe on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March, adapted from the brilliant comic novel by Anthony Trollope. Then, in Mortehoe on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, comes the classic 'The Pilgrim's Progress', in which the actors, Sylvia Read and William Fry, play fifteen characters each! The grand finale will be in Lee on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March with 'Canterbury's Burning', the story of Thomas Cranmer, who rose to be Archbishop of Canterbury under Henry VIII but was burnt at the stake by Bloody Mary.

It is a rich, exciting and varied feast of drama, which the three parishes have been lucky enough to secure as part of the company's final, farewell tour after a lifetime on the road.

We want each event to draw in audiences not only from all three villages but also from Ilfracombe, Barnstaple and the surrounding countryside. We are looking into ways of providing free transport between the three villages (anybody willing to offer lifts, please let us know on 862 453).

Each parish has put together a dedicated team to organise its own event, to support the company and to make sure that each show is a success. We each have a stage manager, a lighting and a sound technician and a box office. For Lee and Lincombe, the formidable team consists of Adrienne Howard, Ginny Potts, Eric Couling, Elizabeth Gilliat and Carolyn Weekes. There is already a strong sense of common cause among those involved. The hope is that this project will also strengthen the links and sense of community between our parishes and beyond.

*All performances will be at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £7 per performance (under-18s £5) or only £15 for a season ticket for all three shows. For tickets, please ring Mortehoe: 870 186 (Dawn Murphy); Woolacombe: 870 267 (Jan Webber); Lee: 863 257 (Carolyn Weekes); Season tickets: 862 453 (Ivy Bank, Lee).*

*Last but not least, free Fairtrade refreshments in the interval!*

Janet Mayo



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## HANDS OFF OUR MEADOW! COMMITTEE VANDALISM COVER-UP EXPOSED!



Lee & Lincombe's undercover reporter Colin Wright, with his ready eye for the sensational headline, can reveal that permission has been given for heavy earth-moving plant to rip the surface off this ancient English meadow and reseed with weird foreign-sounding plants - **Agrostemma githago**, **Stachys officinalis**, **Ranunculus acris** to name just a few - *All right Colin, I'll handle this. Ed.*

*Now let's start again.*

The Memorial Hall Committee has accepted Heather Booker's very kind offer to supply wild-flower seeds for a part of the meadow. All seeds will be of traditional native species such as Cornflower, Lady's Bedstraw and Ox-eye Daisy, and the area covered will be about 100 square metres. Roy Dyer will be managing the operation.

One of the problems with seeding into a recreational meadow is that it will have been frequently mowed and the mowings allowed to rot down, so that the soil is much richer than wild-flower seeds are happy with. The answer is to turn the earth over so as to bring poorer sub-soil to the surface, this also clearing grass out of the way until the flowers establish themselves. Excavation will have to be quite deep, say half a metre, work which is most effectively done with a JCB. This excavator looks quite heavy, but in fact its low-pressure tyres ensure that the soil texture of the meadow will not be too much damaged.

We look forward, thanks to Heather and Roy, to a spring-time display of amongst many others the Corncockle, the Betony and the Meadow Buttercup – those very wildflowers whose “weird foreign-sounding names” were upsetting our excitable undercover reporter so much.



## CONTROL OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED REPORT

Shrieks and yells broke the winter quietness at Lee Bay beach on 27 December as "knotweed swimmers" took to the water. Methods of approach varied, some adopted the "yell run and plunge" approach, whilst others preferred the "tentative tiptoe and wimper". They were cheered on by an enthusiastic crowd of supporters who, with two feet firmly on the beach, were full of admiration for the guts and bravery of the participants. At Wrinklewood, mulled wine and mince pies provided a lively and fitting end to the occasion and an opportunity to share experiences, catch up with friends and make new ones. It was a great example of village life at its best. At the time of writing, about £300 has been raised (details when accounts are complete), which will be spent on training, equipment and paying project workers.

The project received a very good report from the AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) for our first year's work. They were particularly impressed with the rate of progress, and hope to link us with an abseiling group to assist in accessing difficult sites. We begin the second year in February, cutting back growth on previously untouched sites, and treating knotweed on all areas when it grows in the spring. So here we go again!

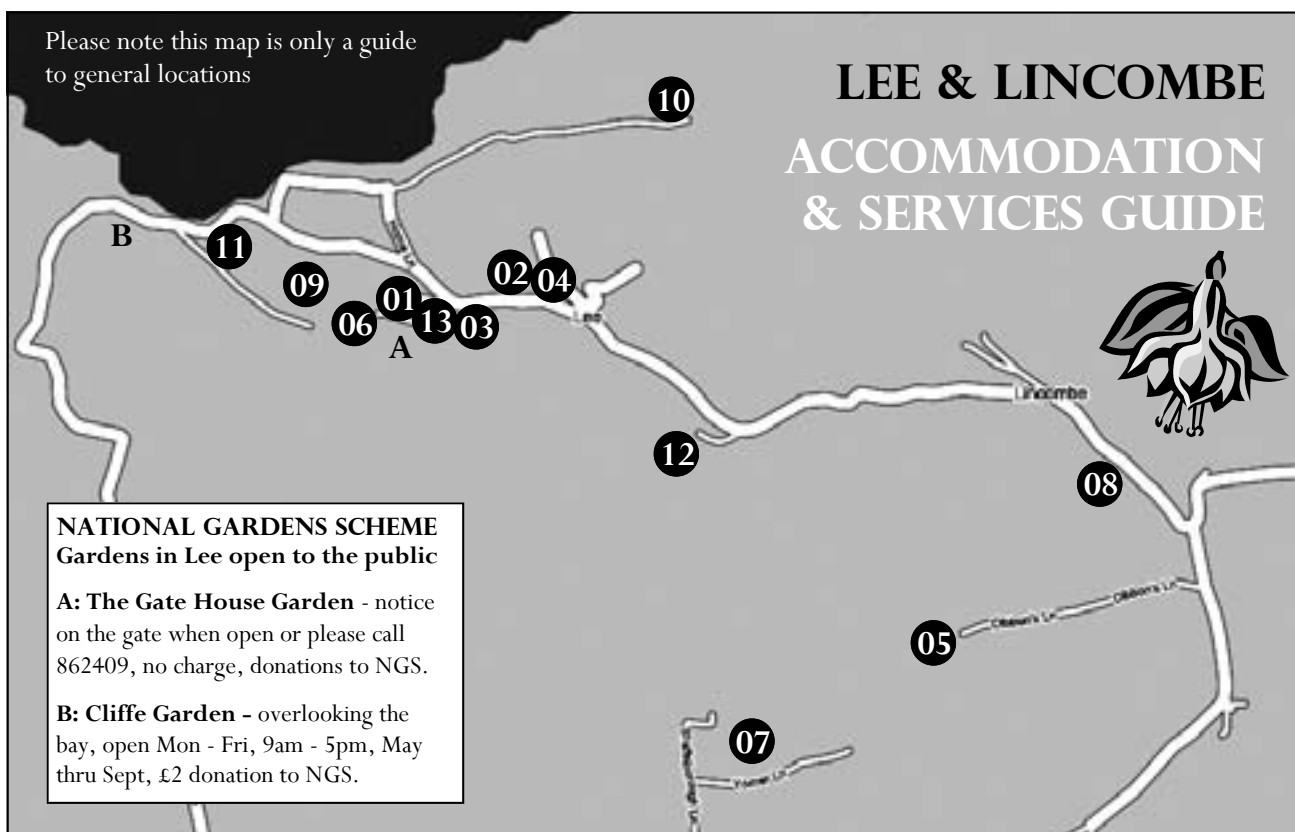
Our thanks go to all of you who helped us last year - your work is much appreciated - and to the AONB and to North Devon District Council for funding grants, and to the Lee and Lincombe Residents Association for their support.

Mavis Rogers

Secretary, Japanese Knotweed Committee

Please note this map is only a guide to general locations

## LEE & LINCOMBE ACCOMMODATION & SERVICES GUIDE



### NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME Gardens in Lee open to the public

**A: The Gate House Garden** - notice on the gate when open or please call 862409, no charge, donations to NGS.

**B: Cliffe Garden** - overlooking the bay, open Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm, May thru Sept, £2 donation to NGS.

### VILLAGE SERVICES

- 01** Pub: The Grampus Inn - [www.thegrampus-inn.co.uk](http://www.thegrampus-inn.co.uk) (01271) 862906
- 02** Shop: The Old Schoolroom Gift & Craft Shop - please see advert inside (01271) 864141

### BED & BREAKFAST

- 03** The Orchard - [www.theorchardlee.co.uk](http://www.theorchardlee.co.uk) - Mrs Ginny Potts (01271) 867212
- 04** Rose Cottage - Carolyn Weekes & Eric Couling (01271) 863257
- 05** Lower Campscott Farm - [www.lowercampscott.co.uk](http://www.lowercampscott.co.uk) - Mr & Mrs Cowell - (01271) 863479
- 06** Southcliffe Hall - [www.southcliffehall.co.uk](http://www.southcliffehall.co.uk) - Kate Seekings & Barry Jenkinson (01271) 867068
- 07** Shaftsboro Farm - [www.shaftsboro.co.uk](http://www.shaftsboro.co.uk) - Margaret & Frederick Kift (01271) 865029

### SELF CATERING (max. per unit)

- 08** Lincombe House (2,6,5) - [www.lincombehouse.co.uk](http://www.lincombehouse.co.uk) - Mr & Mrs Stuart (01271) 864834
- 09** Chapel Cottage on Beach Lane (9) (01271) 864257
- 05** Lower Campscott Farm (8,6,6,4,4,4) - [www.lowercampscott.co.uk](http://www.lowercampscott.co.uk) - Mr & Mrs Cowell (01271) 863479
- 10** The Blue Mushroom (2,3) - Mr & Mrs Rogers (01271) 862947
- 11** Wrinklewood (4) - Penny Measures & David Perry (01271) 866535
- 12** Crowness Cottage (4) - [crowness.cottage@tesco.net](mailto:crowness.cottage@tesco.net) - Mr & Mrs Duffield (01268) 742162
- 13** Brookdale Villa (11) - [www.brookdale-lee.co.uk](http://www.brookdale-lee.co.uk) - Mr Bannister (01923) 266989
- 07** Shaftsboro Farm - [www.shaftsboro.co.uk](http://www.shaftsboro.co.uk) - Margaret & Frederick Kift (01271) 865029

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**SUMMER 2007 ISSUE DEADLINE - 01 JUNE 2007**

Article formats: typed in any PC text program and emailed to [gina@loveleebay.co.uk](mailto:gina@loveleebay.co.uk). Please avoid using floppy disks or handwriting.