

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

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

SPRING 2008

50P



THE LEE POST OFFICE TEAROOM - CIRCA 1920S.
SEATED ARE JENNY HILL (POSTMASTER'S WIFE) & HIS GRANDMOTHER, MARY HILL

www.leebay.co.uk

LEE AND LINCOMBE – FUTURE DATES FOR 2008

VILLAGE DIARY

From mid-February	Village shop at the Grampus – open pub hours plus any time Bill is around!
Monday 25 February	4 week computer and digital camera course starts – Memorial Hall
Tuesday 26 February 10.00am	Fairtrade Coffee Morning – The Grampus (details from Janet Mayo 862453)
Sunday 2 March 11.30am	Mothering Sunday service – St Matthew's Church (refreshments in Memorial Hall from 10.45am)
Wednesday 5 March 12noon	Lent Lunch – Ivy Bank (details from Janet and Sebastian Birch 862453)
Mid March	Opening of 'The Fuchsia Gallery' in the Old Schoolroom adjacent to St Matthew's Church in time for Easter
Friday 21 – Monday 24 March	Cream Teas in Memorial Hall 12noon – 5.00pm each day (organised by Hall Committee)
Friday 21 March 2.00pm	Good Friday service – St Matthew's Church
Sunday 23 March 9.00am	Easter Sunday Communion Service with choir and festive music – St Matthew's Church
Monday 24 March 10.00am	Easter Coffee Morning with hot cross buns and cake stall – Memorial Hall
Monday 14 April 7.30pm	Annual Parochial Meeting of St Matthew's Church – Memorial Hall
Monday 21 April 8.00pm	Annual General Meeting of Lee Memorial Hall – Memorial Hall
Sunday 27 April 12noon	Rogation Sunday walk covering parts of Lee, Mortehoe and Woolacombe parishes starting from Mortehoe car park
Monday 5 May 10.30am	Flower Show Coffee Morning and Plant Sale – Memorial Hall
Wednesday 14 May 7.30pm	Lee & Lincombe Residents' Association AGM – Memorial Hall
Monday 26 May 2.00pm	Spring Fayre – Memorial Hall and Meadow
Monday 21 July 6.00pm and every Monday until 25 August	Summer Evening Worship – St Matthew's Church (details to follow later)
Thursday 31 July 2.00pm	Flower Show – Memorial Hall
Saturday 2 – Sunday 17 August	Arts and Crafts Exhibition – Memorial Hall Flowers and Organ Playing – St Matthew's Church
Sunday 14 September 6.30pm	Harvest Festival Service – St Matthew's Church followed by Harvest Supper in Memorial Hall
Wednesday 3 December 6.30pm	Christmas Bingo – Memorial Hall (details to follow later)
Every Monday 10.00 am–12.30pm	'Mini-Monsters' – Memorial Hall (day sometimes alters – see article or check with Kate Madden 865591)
Saturday evenings from 8.00pm	Open mike nights at the Grampus
Sunday afternoons from 3.00pm	Acoustic sessions at the Grampus

If you would like anything included in the diary for the next issue, please contact the editors

GREETINGS AND FAREWELLS

As most people know, The Grampus changed hands in early December. We wish Mark, Mandy, Rosie and Zak Collins well as they embark on new ventures. They are now living temporarily in Georgeham. We welcome Bill Harvey to the Grampus. Bill is a notable musician and already live



music is becoming a feature of the pub. Bill writes about his plans elsewhere in this edition of the Lee and Link'em News.

We are sorry to lose Jeff and Beryl Tulett from the village. For over 20 years they made major contributions to village life, particularly, in the case of Jeff, as Chairman of the Flower Show for many years and, in the case of Beryl, as a leading member of St Matthew's Church. Jeff and Beryl have moved to Gloucestershire but it is not really farewell to them as their house has been bought by their son, David, and his partner, Jennifer Bradley. David and Jennifer intend to

use the house as a family holiday home so we shall continue to see Jeff and Beryl when they return for holidays.

Other new arrivals have lived most recently in the Lakes and Gloucestershire. We are pleased to welcome Peter and Jill (Healing) Bostock as the first permanent residents of Pebble House, the new house in Home Lane. Peter and Jill are already much involved in village life and we wish them every happiness here.

Finally, we are delighted to welcome Holly Kemp who was born on 3rd January 2008. Holly is the daughter of Lucy and Luke and sister of Rhys at Whitestone Farm. Another addition to the growing number of young children in the village!

As always, we apologise if we have missed anyone and will be happy to make amends in the next issue if you will let the editor know.




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LEE & LINK'EM NEWS TEAM

Editorial team

Gina-Luisa Hilborne
Heather Booker
Ian & Cynthia Stuart

Tel: 864876 gina@loveleebay.co.uk
Tel: 862409
Tel: 863396

Production

Ian & Cynthia Stuart

Advertising Manager

Heather Booker

Delivery teams

Bryan & Helen Lye; Alun Dobson & Becca Wyles

NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH



“THE
CHRISTMAS
COMMUNION
ON
CHRISTMAS
EVE WAS A
LOVELY,
DIGNIFIED
SERVICE”

There's a lot to report for this edition of the Lee and Link'em News! Firstly, to start where I finished last time. We are delighted that Fran Larcombe took over the lease of the Old Schoolroom on 1 January from Carol Porton. Fran and her husband, Steve, live near Umberleigh at present, though they hope they may be able to move closer to Lee at some time in the future. Fran is an artist and intends to use the Old Schoolroom as her studio and as a gallery for herself and other local artists. It will be known as 'The Fuchsia Gallery'. She also intends to sell a range of locally made crafts so that there will be plenty to attract local people and visitors to the Old Schoolroom. It is very good that we shall have this attraction in the village carrying on where Carol left off, but in a somewhat different direction. Please give Fran every support and encouragement in her new venture.

Christmas is now some time ago but happy memories of the two special services in the church linger. The village carol service was a splendid occasion with nearly 120 people packed into the church to enjoy a very varied service with contributions from the handbell ringers, the Lee singers, several readers and a dozen or so children who gave a delightful presentation of the nativity. The service was followed by a most enjoyable social gathering with mulled wine and mince pies in the Memorial Hall, kindly arranged and provided by the Hall committee. The Christmas Communion on Christmas Eve was a lovely, dignified service in the beautiful candlelit church. The church was full and the singing was led by a splendid choir.

Thoughts now turn to special occasions this year. The first of these is Mothering Sunday on Sunday 2 March. There will be a Family Service in the church at 11.30am, instead of the usual service at 8.45am. The service is being carefully planned to appeal to people of all ages, including children, and there will be opportunities for many people to be involved in the service. The service will use modern language and those who wish to take communion will be able to do so. Before the service, from 10.45am onwards, tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits will be served in the Memorial Hall. Do come along to celebrate mothers and families everywhere!

Easter is very early this year – Easter Sunday is 23 March, only one day later than the earliest it can be. As usual, there will be special services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. A service of readings, prayers and hymns to commemorate Christ's crucifixion will be held at 2.00 pm on Good Friday 21 March. Then we expect the church to be full for a joyful celebration of Easter at the communion service at 9.00am Sunday 23 March when the singing will be led by the choir. Everyone is most welcome at these services. On Easter Monday, there will be a coffee morning in the Memorial Hall starting at 10.00 am with hot cross buns to go with drinks and there will also be a cake stall.

Sunday 27 April is Rogation Sunday. Traditionally, in villages over the country, people went round the village boundaries, 'beating the bounds' to mark the land belonging to the village. No one is aware that this has been done in Lee, but, for a number of years, people from the 3 parishes of Lee, Mortehoe and Woolacombe have gone on a relatively short walk that has covered a bit of each of the parishes. We have had a picnic at Damage Barton which is in Lee parish. Details of this year's walk have still to be arranged, but everyone is most welcome to join in the walk that normally starts from the Mortehoe car park at noon. Watch out for further information.

“EASTER IS
VERY EARLY
THIS YEAR”



NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH CONTD.

A group of people from the 3 parishes is looking at the arrangements we make for baptisms or christenings. The aim is to encourage parents of young children to have them baptised and also to encourage older people, who were not baptised when very young, to come forward. If you would like to consider being baptised or have (or will have) babies or young children for whom you might like to consider baptism, please contact the Vicar, Giles King-Smith, at Woolacombe Vicarage (870467) or speak to any church officers at St Matthew's Church.



In an earlier article in the Lee and Link'em News, I mentioned the Quinquennial Survey (every 5 years) that is undertaken at all Church of England churches. Ours took place in October and we have been waiting the outcomes with some trepidation. We have been aware for some time that major work will be needed on the church sooner or later, particularly at the back of the church where the rose window is in poor condition and dampness is of great concern. The interior decoration is also deteriorating quickly now. We have been relieved to know that the architect's report is not all gloom and doom! Little that we didn't already know about was revealed. However, it is very clear that, over the next few years, many thousands of pounds will have to be spent on major restoration work so that the church remains for future generations. The Church Council is giving its attention to what will need doing and when, and how it will set about the fundraising that will be necessary. We are very aware of the urgent need to upgrade the Memorial Hall as well, and it is very important that the Church Council works in close liaison with the Hall Committee over the timing of necessary work and of fundraising implications for both of us. We shall try to keep everyone fully informed of developments as they occur.

"MAJOR WORK
WILL BE
NEEDED ON
THE CHURCH
SOONER OR
LATER"

Ian Stuart, Vice-Chairman St Matthew's PCC

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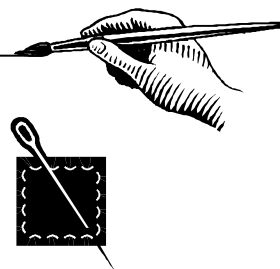
Watercolour workshop

2nd Wednesday each month - tutor Brenda Keeble
10am - 4pm, £10 per person, please bring your own lunch

Patchwork

3rd Wednesday each month - tutor Margaret Hill
10am - 4pm, £10 per person, please bring your own lunch

NEW! Monday evening Patchwork course :7-9pm - £6.60
Aerobics every Monday 9.30 - 10.30 am - £4 per session



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LONGING FOR LEE...

We were very sad to read in an earlier copy of the newsletter that Bill Cook had passed away earlier in the year. Bill and his uncle Charlie played a very memorable part of my childhood holidays at Lee Bay, and for my parents too. My parents had spent their honeymoon there, and had stayed in Lee prior to this. They stayed with Mrs Hill at the post office, and then with Jean and Michael at Damage Hue. We had also stayed with Audrey and Athlene at times and at Bakers Farm, as well as some other lovely places in Lee, all wonderful but my favourite memories were at Damage Hue.

We had such wonderful holidays, that it wasn't long before our relatives came along too, and fell in love with Lee as we all did. Charlie and Bill would take us around to the bay if the tide was in, Charlie with his bottle of cold tea! He would pick us up in the afternoon if the tide was wrong in time to get ourselves cleaned up ready for a wonderful meal at Jeans. Lee Bay is somewhere that I will always long for, a very special place.

In July 2004 we returned to Lee with my parents to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. We booked to stay at Elliot House and Lodge, where they had spent their honeymoon all those years ago. They enjoyed a wonderful nostalgic trip, as we did, and we visited Bill whilst we were there, so glad we did, but it was sad that he had deteriorated since his wife had died. We were very sorry we did not get chance to see Jean and Michael before they moved to the Isle Of Wight.

As I said we will always long for Lee, and memories of our holidays there are ones we will talk about all the time, we relive them with such laughter and fondness, and I am so glad that my children had the opportunity to enjoy Lee as we did.

My cousin Sue and her husband Ken visit Lee quite often, and keep us in touch with what's going on in the village, and always brings home a copy of the newsletter, my parents especially love reading about people and things they remembered in Lee, so thank you newsteam and all that are involved with Lee and Link'em News.

Liz Whelan



Southcliffe Hall

Bed and Breakfast

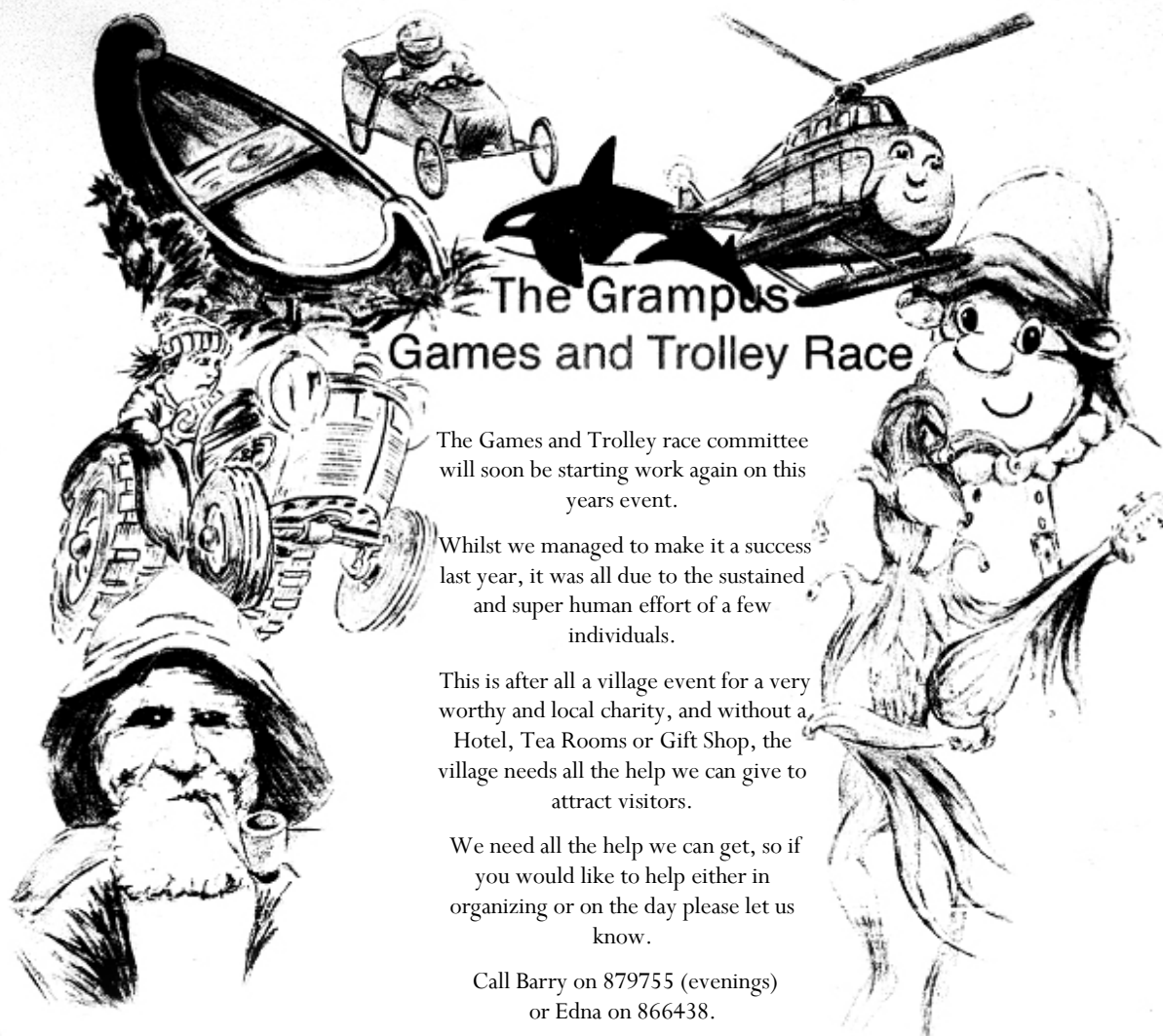
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THE GRAMPUS GAMES & TROLLEY RACE



The Games and Trolley race committee will soon be starting work again on this years event.

Whilst we managed to make it a success last year, it was all due to the sustained and super human effort of a few individuals.

This is after all a village event for a very worthy and local charity, and without a Hotel, Tea Rooms or Gift Shop, the village needs all the help we can give to attract visitors.

We need all the help we can get, so if you would like to help either in organizing or on the day please let us know.

Call Barry on 879755 (evenings)
or Edna on 866438.

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THE FUCHSIA GALLERY

A big Hello to everyone from the 'Fuchsia Gallery'.

We are looking forward to opening the doors of the gallery and welcoming everyone to see the exciting variety of original work. We hope to be exhibiting contemporary artwork including paintings, ceramics and photography. We shall also have some exceptional collectors' bears (some as small as ¼" in size) as well as hand made natural soaps and other bath products. Later in the year there will be hand painted silk blinds, curtains and other luxurious originals for your home.

We should like to thank everyone at St Matthew's Church for this wonderful opportunity. It is something we have wanted to do for many years. We hope you all enjoy our gallery!

Fran, Steve and Ria Larcombe

(Anyone wishing to exhibit work in the gallery please contact us on 077940 25631 or email franlarcombe@btinternet.com.)



LEE & LINCOMBE FESTIVE SWIM 2007



12 noon on Friday 28th December saw an unusual gathering on the beach at Lee Bay. Apart from the usual 'festive' hats and winter pyjamas, there was the 'Christmas Fairy', Crocodile Dundee (complete with crocodile) and some rather dodgy looking 'women' (people were amazed at their fantastic figures!). Even Superman made a late appearance! These brave swimmers all made a dash into the icy sea – Nicky would like to point out that he was NOT wearing a wet suit!

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CHRISTMAS BINGO REPORT

Once again, the annual Christmas Bingo was a resounding success with £930.00 raised for charity. Not quite as good as last year, due to coughs and sneezes but still enough to pat ourselves on the back. £800.00 went to CLIC Sargent in Barnstaple and £130.00 for our Church.

Mother Christmas would like to thank Adrienne Howard and Carolyn Weekes for all their help in setting it up, which is hard work, Tony Seymour for selling all the raffle tickets and then some, my little helper, Geoff Potts and everyone who always participate in the washing up for the refreshments and clearing up afterwards. And then last but not least, all the residents for their wonderful donations and draw prizes which enable us to raise such a marvellous amount of money.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUSITY

Mother Christmas



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.

We offer two types of annual subscription (3 issues) to non-residents who are unable to visit our beautiful villages. Choose between:

- A paper copy delivered to your door for £3.00 per year
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“I FEEL LIKE
AN OLD
TIMER AS I
DISPENSE
HELP AND
ADVICE”



“YOU NEVER
SEE EATING
IN THE
STREETS”

LETTER FROM FRANCE

It is now, though hard to believe, three years since we moved to France from Lee Bay. For that reason this will be my last letter to the Lee and Link'Em News, as I am sure many new people have arrived and many left and things move along and we are well and truly part of the past and not the present in Devon. But the time really has gone so very fast it's quite scary, so that I still feel very much a newcomer to these parts despite the fact that I have helped no end of people find their feet here as they have arrived after me.

This year alone four English couples have moved into the area since staying in our B&B and deciding this was the area for them. They have regularly been on the phone to me asking for all sorts of things; where to buy the best power tools, who to see about the car registration, how much are we paying for our logs or can I recommend a good plumber etc. I feel like an old timer as I dispense help and advice but in my heart I still feel very much in awe of living in this familiar but different country. So I thought I'd try to explain the most obvious differences between here and Devon!

Firstly, where we are is most decidedly rural, so that in itself isn't so different. Our department has one town of 20,000 people, that is Auch, the prefecture, and the other towns are all less than 8,000. There is no rural bus service, virtually no train network, no industry and no motorway in the whole department of the Gers. I have a supermarket exactly seven miles away in Plaisance, where there is also a pharmacie, two boulangeries, a tabac, paper shop and a couple of estate agents, plus a bar and a hotel. Oh, and a small DIY store.

If I want a proper shopping experience, akin say to Barnstaple, I must drive for 1 hour. But of course I must remember that the shops close at lunchtime. All shops except a very large supermarket are closed from 12 to 2.30 or 3pm. Learning to get up very early and leave all your morning jobs until the afternoon in order to get shopping done before 12 takes a great deal of practice.

Which leads on to the concept of lunchtime here. This being rural France, of course everything stops for lunch. Eating is and has been historically a public event in France. People eat in restaurants a lot and working men, be they builders or farmers, will rarely be seen with sandwiches. Even if they have to drive, they will try to eat lunch in a cafe or restaurant. Even in the back of a garage a small card table will be laid with a cloth and greasy working men will sit down to eat and chat for a good long time.

The food is always good quality and delicious but very traditional here in the countryside. The UK can easily rival France now in the variety of the food it serves, but still not in the good fresh wholesome cooking that is affordable to all. Here the point of eating at lunchtime is as much about the experience of 'lunch time' as the eating. The sitting, talking, resting, debating, relaxing. This is where I've noticed a big difference. The finest sandwiches could never compete with a table and good company. In fact snacking or eating on the hoof is so rare here that I have actually had people wish me a 'bon appetit' simply when they have seen me eating a packet of crisps standing up! You never see eating in the streets, there's a very limited variety of chocolate bars for sale in the tabac, and apart from McDonalds an hour away, there are no takeaways except the pizza van that does the rounds of the local villages once a week. This makes for very litter-free streets and slim people!

If it sounds as if people in rural France know how to relax, you would do well to bear that in

LETTER FROM FRANCE CONTD.

mind when you're standing behind someone in a shop. The person being served will have all the attention until he is a truly satisfied customer, and then, after briefly discussing the health of the family, the assistant will move on. You learn to be very patient when you are the person standing behind, and then you remember that you can be patient because you're not in a rush anyway. No one seems to be. I know we live in a rural area, and stress is less, as in North Devon, but I have never in all my time here seen anyone serving in a shop look stressed because they have a long queue of customers. If they have, they just look up at it, look down again and get on with the job.

That said, woe betide you if you walk into a shop at 5 minutes to midday! We had been here only a few weeks and I was browsing the local DIY store when the assistant in his brown coat approached the end of the aisle. I heard him call 'Madame' and looked up. I said briefly that I didn't need any help thank you, at which point he lifted his left wrist and tapped gently but pointedly on his watch face. I didn't make that mistake again.

The roads, of course, are a delight to drive on as anyone who regularly comes over to France knows. They are well signed, well maintained and very quiet. I can at this point add that the hospitals are as excellent as is claimed. Richard needed stitches to his chin and neck the other day so this was accompanied by a tetanus jab, brain scan, blood test, x-ray and the attention, in rotation, of some 4 or 5 doctors, numerous nurses, then an overnight stay in his own en suite room. And no, we were not private patients.

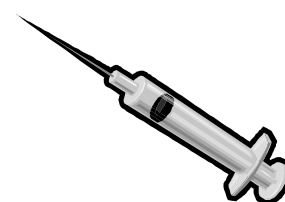
Of course there are just as many problems here really, just different ones I guess. Jean Claude who rents some land from us was bemoaning the way he has not been able to get a good price for his veal calves in Italy this year due to the massive worldwide hike on cereal prices. We still had a 4 hour wait in A & E before Richard's treatment, due in part to the Emergency Doctors and Nurses going on strike for better equipment and medicines. But all in all, North Devon or South of France, it's not a bad life is it?

Have a great 2008.

Fran Nustedt *[We're very sad to read this will be Fran's last report, many thanks for the lovely submissions over the past few years - Eds.]*



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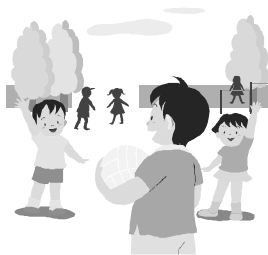
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LEE MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE



“THE AREA
BEING
PREPARED
FOR THE
ERECTION
OF THE PLAY
EQUIPMENT”

Mud, mud, glorious mud! The muddy part of the meadow is the area being prepared for the erection of the play equipment after planning approval was granted. This will be followed by the sowing of grass seed and hedge planting. We are now waiting for the area to drain after the latest long period of rain before the special matting is laid. The excavation work will also help with the drainage of the field. Another wildflower area is going to be excavated. During the works the meadow may be closed to the public, notices will be posted on the access gates.

In January the first village meadow fuchsia hedge cutting day was very successful and made short work of the pruning. Mulled wine, homemade soup and a roll were enjoyed by the volunteers in the hall. Our thanks to all those who participated. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

Just before Christmas we heard from the Big Lottery Fund that we had failed in our bid to secure funding to renovate our Memorial Hall. When we contacted them they told us that the only reason we were unsuccessful was because of the lack of returns of the questionnaire from the hall committee to villagers in comparison to other bidders. It indicated to them a “degree of apathy within the village to carry through such a large project”.

We now only have 18 months left of the original two years that the Environmental Health officer gave us to upgrade our kitchen and toilets to meet new regulations. The original architect plans are being altered to show the minimum amount of work needed to be done to keep the hall open. Estimates for this work will then be sought. The Hall Committee will be applying for other funding as it becomes available and to this end we will be sending out a new questionnaire which will need the wholehearted support of everyone if we are to be successful.



“KATE
SEEKINGS
HAS TAKEN
OVER THE
BOOKINGS
FOR HIRING
THE HALL”

The Committee have reorganised and redistributed the hall work that needed to be done over the year, this included implementing a new hall booking system which is more customer friendly. Kate Seekings has taken over the bookings for hiring the hall, tel: 867068. The booking charges have been reassessed and increased in line with rising fuel, electricity, and maintenance costs. A list of those responsible for the various jobs will be on display in the village hall.

We have been lucky enough to have been given a metal outside storage shed bought with grant money allocated to the Mini Monsters.

As most grant money needs to be match funded it is essential for the hall committee to fund raise for the hall renovations. This started in January with a Cockney Quiz Night. The tickets were all sold and £62.70 was raised from a most enjoyable evening to kick start the fund.

The number of people living permanently in the hall catchment area of Lee and Lincombe and surrounds is dwindling because there are more second/holiday homes than ever before. It is becoming increasingly difficult for the committee to get help to run the hall events and therefore fund raise for the work to be done. I am therefore making a special appeal to all those second/holiday home owners to plan their trips to the village so they can help their

LEE MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE CONTD.

friends and neighbours who live permanently in the villages with the fund raising events that will enable us to keep our village hall.

The next fund raiser is cream teas and refreshments in the hall over the Easter holidays Friday 21st to Monday 24th March 1 pm to 5 pm. This will be followed by the medieval theme Spring Fayre on 26th May. We will do cream teas again in the summer. The Arts and Craft Sale and Exhibition is from 1st to 17th August. Help is needed from everyone for all these events. We are not ageist or sexist! If we do not manage to get enough help then you will be proving the Big Lottery Fund assessors right and apathy reigns in Lee and Lincombe. The Committee thanks David Beer who gives full details of all hall events on www.leebay.co.uk

The Committee is waiting for your call to offer some help:

Tony Seymour 863628, Paul Thom 862309, Mavis Rogers 862947, Roy Dyer 866269, Marion Thom 862309, Enid Bowman 867300/08780 908822 pm only, Becca Wyles 879001, Kate Madden 865591, Cathryn Seymour 864133, Brenda Keeble 863367, Ian Stuart 863396

Tony Seymour - Chairman



“CREAM TEAS
AND
REFRESHMENTS
IN THE HALL
OVER THE
EASTER
HOLIDAYS”

THE WALK (Peter Rock)

New to each other, we walked
until our words, polite, tentative,
lapsed into silence.
An ancient landscape
stirred, drew breath,
and quietly filled the space.

Mist flirted, lifted.
Splintered sunlight
regrouped in strength,
fed rocks and sea;
along the valley,
in dappled shade,
handmaids of orange fritillaries
served the small oaks.

Confirmed in friendship,
among sentinels of purple foxglove,
we rested high on the moor,
stored fragile memories
to be shared with friends -
and held against
times to come.

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(Creedy Carver) by Peter Coleman



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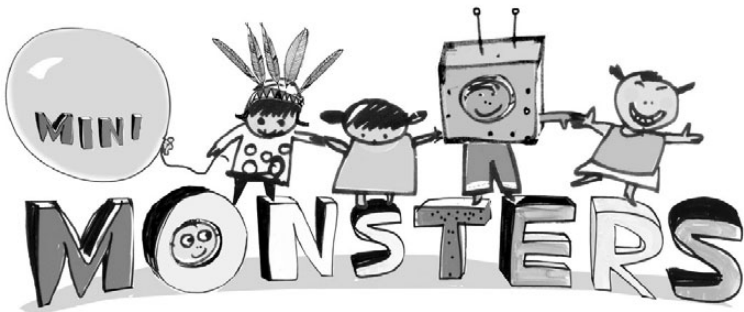
We also prepare Buffets for that Special Party

(quotes available)

LOCAL DELIVERIES

RETAIL/CATERING

MINI MONSTERS PLAY GROUP



Mini Monsters parent and toddler group celebrated its 1st anniversary last November and promises to continue as a successful parent and toddler group well into the future with its small but loyal number of regulars and the rumours of more village children arriving in 2008!

Events over the last few months have included a number of visits from the Sure Start Toy Library with their extensive collection of the bigger and

more unusual toys that they have at their disposal, as well as a session with a local music teacher where the children engaged in some exercises in rhythm and song.

However, the highlight of 2007 must have been the visit of Father Christmas. This was all the more surprising for some of the children as they had already seen him earlier in the day at a number of different venues. Somehow he managed to squeeze Lee Village Hall onto his already packed itinerary much to the delight of the children who happily accepted his presents – bar one little girl

who needed considerable maternal counselling for trauma induced by the sight of this large, red-clad bearded fellow. Santa left to rapturous cheers and galloped off to the North Devon General where his best elf was due to receive treatment for an industrial injury to her wrists. We are extremely grateful to Santa for this unscheduled stop.



We are now incredibly well resourced as a group with everything from

puppets, to dressing up clothes, to musical instruments to all manner of lovely craft materials. Once again we invite any villager who'd like to spend a while with the children, perhaps making something with them or telling them a story, to get in touch – or just turn up at one of the sessions. We have recently purchased a number of outdoor toys, such as 'pop-up' goals, as well as indoor toys, such as a short tennis net, which will be appropriate for use by a wide age range of children. Surprisingly perhaps, there were at a recent count, 35 resident children under 16 in the villages of Lee & Lincombe. Add to this about 34 children in the families of second-home owners and it seems the youth population is burgeoning. We hope to organise some outdoor games when the weather gets warmer and invite children of any age to join us. If you'd like to borrow any equipment or find out more about what we have available, please get in touch.

Finally, our weekly meeting date has changed to a **Monday morning** from **10.00 to 12.30ish**. However, due to prior hall bookings we will meet on a:

Wednesday morning on 27th February and the 12th, 19th and 26th March and Friday afternoon, 1.00 to 3.30 on 7th March !

Thereafter it should be Monday mornings from 31st March. But please ring if you're not sure. Drop in if you're here on holiday – its still only £1.00 a child with a free snack for the children and tea and biscuits for the adults.

Contact Kate 01271 865591 or Katie 01271 867068 for more details.

Adult and Community Learning 2008

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Copies of the **Spring/Summer North Devon & Torridge ACL Course Brochure** are now available from the ACL centres listed below, from your local library or from our website: www.devon.gov.uk/adultlearning

If the course you would like is not available we will endeavour to provide it.

Enrolment:

Enrol by post, telephone or in person at our Ilfracombe or Bideford centres – book early to avoid disappointment!

North Devon/Torridge ACL Enrolment Centres near you:

Ilfracombe ACL Tel : 01271 864171 (open 9–5 daily)

South Molton ACL Tel : 01769 572834 (open Mon & Thurs 9–4pm)



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THE SPIRIT OF EXMOOR (Peter Rock)

I am the restless energy
of time and tide,
of season and mood,
storm and calm;
the forger of cliffs,
bold valleys,
gentle hills
and of streams in full spate.

I am the lightness of touch
that trails purple
across an August moor,
blends landscape into sky;
the spirit of night
that hushes a dying day
and dances black-cloaked
among the stars.

I am the bearer of gifts
fragile as wonder,
the author of sound
that runs in the wild;

I am the spirit
born beyond dreaming,
where simply to be
is meaning enough.

WELCOME TO THE GRAMPUS

Many thanks for the support from village residents & visitors and their understanding of the chaos of the first month or so; hopefully the steep learning curve will bring order & improvements all round.

My thanks also to my chef, Tom, for producing tasty & attractive meals under, initially, sometimes difficult conditions. Tom is passionate about cooking & tries to source as much produce locally as possible which ensures ingredients are fresh & at their prime & many of his dishes are "seasonal". All animal-based produce is free-range. Previously, Tom was a chef at 11 The Quay & pub food is a new venture for him too.



Some things don't change; The Grampus still has a Pool team, meeting on Sunday evenings; the Skittles team meetings are variable (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday depending on fixtures) & the Darts team gather together on Fridays. You are invited to come & support them & join in the fun.

The Pool Table has posed a problem due to its position in the bar. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, it will have been moved into the 'games room'. Board games such as Carom, Backgammon, Cards, Chess & Scrabble are also available, and if there is interest, I would love to hold games evenings (and, of course, quiz evenings). For the summer I have bought an outdoor concrete table tennis table for general use and the Grampus Inn table tennis championships!

Open Mike evenings are held on Saturdays & musicians are welcome to come & play, & those folk that don't play, come & enjoy listening. There's always a wide variety of acoustic music as anything goes....except karaoke!

Musicians are always welcome, and music will happen at other times in a spontaneous way, and maybe a regular Sunday afternoon session.

I hope to open the shop as soon as possible. Let me know what you would like in stock. Also I plan to test run the cream tea room at half term so that we can be more prepared for the Easter rush.

I welcome all suggestions though don't of course guarantee to take them all on board!

I look forward to the pleasure of your company.

Bill Harvey

WRINKLEWOOD POTTERY CLASSES

Starting in the New Year, during those dark evenings of Winter we will be opening the workshop on a Monday evening providing facilities to throw pots (with tuition if needed!). Aspire to making tea pots, vases, mugs & bowls, we offer to help with decoration & firing.

Children's class planned for Saturday mornings 10am to 12.30pm during term time.

Please contact Penny for details on 01271-866535

Experiment with clay



LEE'S SIBERIAN HUSKY TEAM UPDATE

A number of Lee and Lincombe residents will already have met the latest addition to the Lee Siberian Husky pack. Little Nina (pictured right, with big 'sister' Lulu) came to us in December as an abandoned 4 month-old puppy thrown out on the streets of Hampshire. In spite of such a sad start, she is a very healthy and balanced little girl. Who knows how she ended up in that awful situation at such a tender age?

She has slotted straight in without a hitch and spends her days watching and playing with her four brothers and sisters, learning how to behave. The pack mentality is such that we have hardly had to step in at all. She has just started some light training in harness at 6 months old and she shows great promise as a runner, we might have a really fast team yet!

In January we headed north to Aviemore in the Scottish Highlands to once again take part in the biggest sled-dog race in Europe. Kiki had been retired from the team, essentially due to sheer laziness, and so we entered her in the freight test. She surprised everyone by doing very well indeed, pulling a heavy trolley for 15 feet, and making it into the third round.

The three more energetic dogs took part in the big race (pictured below), coming a fairly respectable 33rd out of 49 in the 3-dog class, although the race was taken down from a 2-day event to a 1-day due to treacherous sheet ice on the route.



And finally, we actually won an Aviemore trophy! I was awarded the 'furthest travelled musher', as Lee was calculated at 572 miles away (a steady 10 hour drive), just pipping our friends in Barnstaple (who have won it before). A couple of years ago a gentleman from Jamaica took the prize, so - in comparison - Lee really isn't so far after all.

We are always happy to meet

people and talk about the dogs, please do feel free to get in touch, as a number of you already have. Quite often we are asked by the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain to give talks or help people around North Devon to start running their dogs. Often they are bought as pets only for the owners to realise that they cannot be trusted off lead and their desire to run and pull is so strong that working these dogs in harness is the only way to get a balanced and calm animal at the end of the day, I'm off now for some end-of-day husky cuddles!

Stuart Groce (please contact the editors to speak to Stuart)



1962 ADRIFT ALL NIGHT



I remember the incident reported in the Autumn edition of the Lee and Lincombe News of the fishing party saved after a nightmare drift.

It happened on the night of Saturday 1st September and they were rescued at about eight o'clock the next morning. The boat they were in belonged to my father and was about twelve feet long. Larry Watkins was our chef at the hotel, Jim Bennison worked in the still room, he came from Rochdale and, I believe was in his second season with us at the hotel; his wife was with him and was employed as a chambermaid. Gloria Hyes was one of many students who worked at the hotel during their breaks from university. The boy, 16 year old Tony Joseph was staying with his family at the hotel.



At about 6.30 on Sunday morning, I was woken by my mother who was worried that she could not find Chef or Jim. "I don't think they have come back from their fishing trip" she said. I jumped out of bed, dressed quickly and checked the place where the boat was usually kept. Not finding it, I ran to check the beach, again drawing a blank. I returned to the hotel and told my father who phoned the police.

They called out the lifeboat and the rescue helicopter from Chivenor. Meanwhile I had run over to the Smugglers Cafe to get my brother Malcolm. Together we launched our boat and headed down channel. We were half way across Rockham Bay, the other side of the lighthouse, when the helicopter arrived, hovering above us. We indicated we were searching and tried to get them to search towards Morte Point, but they must have seen something out to sea for they turned away from us and went back toward Ilfracombe. By this time the sea was getting up a bit so we decided to search back towards Lee but further out. About five minutes after we had turned around we noticed the helicopter had started to hover and then we saw a figure being lowered towards the sea.

We could not see much as they appeared to be miles away from us, but when the lifeboat arrived at the spot we felt sure they had been found. I suppose they were about three miles out to sea. Chef, Gloria and Tony were ferried ashore in the Helicopter and landed in the field below Southcliffe. Jim was nervous about going in the helicopter, "you won't get me in one of those things" and elected to go in the lifeboat which also took the boat in tow to Ilfracombe harbour.

Richard Howard - Meadowside, Lee

FAREWELL FROM THE OLD SCHOOLROOM CRAFT SHOP

The Old Schoolroom Craft Shop closed its doors for the last time in December 2007. Whilst it has been a challenging 5 years, it has also been very rewarding (but not financially!). I have made many friends both local and distant and will miss the regulars from far and wide, many of whom did not consider their holiday complete without a visit to the shop. I am now looking forward to having some spare time – for a while anyway, until I decide what to do next!

Many thanks to all my loyal customers who shared many a story and a laugh.

I wish Fran and Steve every success with their venture of an art gallery at the Schoolroom.

Carol Porton



DEVON COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

A statutory forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, supported by Devon County Council

Are you interested in advising on improving access to the countryside? Can you represent the interests of young people or other groups who do not get outside so much? The Devon Countryside Access Forum has fifteen members. It meets three or four times yearly at public meetings and holds occasional working groups and training days.

If you would like to apply please look at the website: www.devon.gov.uk/devon_countryside_access_forum for details and an application form or ring 01837 810921, e-mail devoncaf@devon.gov.uk

(Lucombe House, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW)

The closing date is 29 February 2008.



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LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION AGM

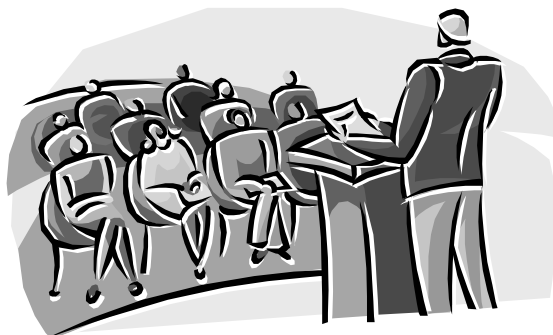
The AGM is scheduled for Wednesday 14 May at 7.30pm in Lee Memorial Hall. We are very pleased that North Devon District Councillor Colin Wright has agreed to attend and speak.

Everyone is welcome and as always we will be collecting annual subscriptions from residents prior to the start of the meeting, who will then be eligible to vote during the meeting.

The 2008/9 Committee will also be elected so if you would like to be considered then please ask one of the current Committee members for a nomination form or call Sebastian Birch (Chairman) on 862453 or myself on 864876.

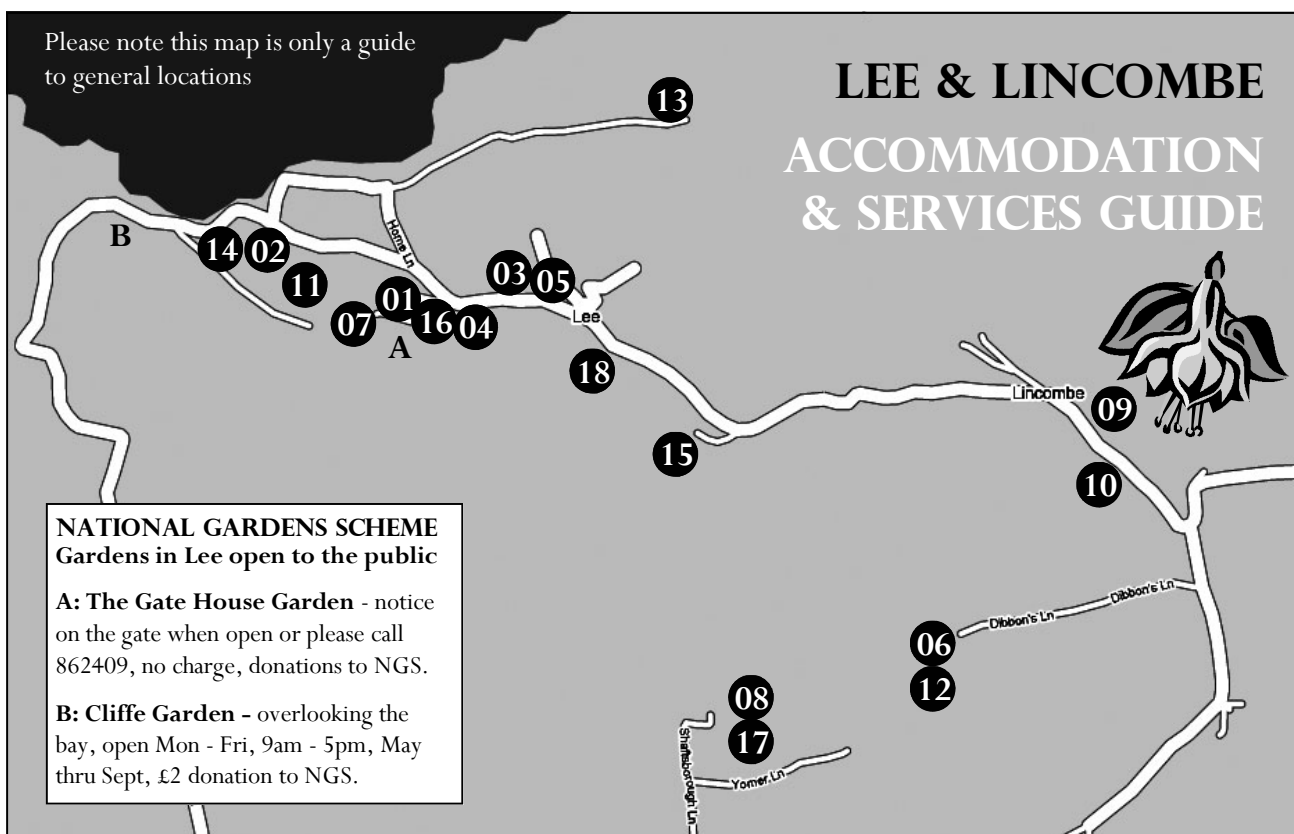
We very much look forward to seeing you there.

Gina-Luisa Hilborne - Honorary Secretary & Committee Member



Please note this map is only a guide to general locations

LEE & LINCOMBE ACCOMMODATION & SERVICES GUIDE



VILLAGE SERVICES

1. Pub: The Grampus Inn - www.thegrampus-inn.co.uk - Bill Harvey _____ (01271) 862906
2. (UNDER REFURBISHMENT) Hotel: The Lee Bay Hotel- www.leebayhotel.com _____ CLOSED
3. (OPENING SOON) Gallery: The Fuchsia Gallery - details inside _____ 077940 25631

BED & BREAKFAST

4. The Orchard - www.theorchardlee.co.uk - Mrs Ginny Potts _____ (01271) 867212
5. Rose Cottage - Carolyn Weekes & Eric Couling _____ (01271) 863257
6. Lower Campscott Farm - www.lowercampscott.co.uk - Mr & Mrs Cowell _____ (01271) 863479
7. Southcliffe Hall - www.southcliffhall.co.uk - Kate Seekings & Barry Jenkinson _____ (01271) 867068
8. Shaftsboro Farm - www.shaftsboro.co.uk - Margaret & Frederick Kift _____ (01271) 865029
9. High Banks, Lincombe - Pat & Tony Seymour _____ (01271) 863628

SELF CATERING (max. per unit)

10. Lincombe House (2,6,5) - www.lincombehouse.co.uk - Richenda S Carter & Shona L Kilby-Smith _____ (01271) 864834
11. Chapel Cottage on Beach Lane (9) - Mrs Ginny Potts _____ (01271) 867212
12. Lower Campscott Farm (8,6,6,4,4,4) - www.lowercampscott.co.uk - Mr & Mrs Cowell _____ (01271) 863479
13. The Blue Mushroom (2,3) - Mr & Mrs Rogers _____ (01271) 862947
14. Wrinklewood (4) - Penny Measures & David Perry _____ (01271) 866535
15. Crowness Cottage (4) - crowness.cottage@tesco.net - Mr & Mrs Duffield _____ (01268) 742162
16. Brookdale Villa (11) - www.brookdale-lee.co.uk - Mr Bannister _____ (01923) 266989
17. Shaftsboro Farm - www.shaftsboro.co.uk - Margaret & Frederick Kift _____ (01271) 865029
18. The East Wing, The Grange (5+) - www.loveleebay.co.uk - LOVELEEBAY Holiday Lets _____ (01271) 864876

The opinions expressed by authors of the articles in the Lee & Link'em News are not specifically endorsed by the editorial team which cannot be held responsible for them.

SUMMER 2008 ISSUE DEADLINE - 01 JUNE 2008

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