

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

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

AUTUMN 2014

75P



THE OLD MAIDS' COTTAGE IN THE CENTRE OF LEE VILLAGE
(UNDATED - FROM MRS. L MONEY'S COLLECTION)

www.leebay.co.uk

LEE & LINCOMBE: 2014 DIARY DATES

Wednesday 29 October 7.30pm	Lee Village Flower Show AGM - Memorial Hall
Thursday 30 October 7.30pm	'Pacific Curls': A Beaford Arts musical production – Memorial Hall. Tickets and more information from The Grampus Inn (862906) or Beaford Arts website. See posters for details.
Friday 31 October 6pm	Lee Village Halloween Walk & Party. Meet at Memorial Hall, walk starts 6.30pm (Ginny 867212).
Saturday 29 November 7.30pm	'Spiro': A Beaford Arts musical production – St Matthew's Church. Tickets and more information from Alan Bannister (863093), The Grampus Inn (862906) or Beaford Arts website. See posters for details.
Monday 22 December 6.30pm	Village Carol Service – St Matthew's Church, followed by seasonal drinks and refreshments in Memorial Hall
Wednesday 24 December 10pm	Christmas Eve Communion Service – St Matthew's Church
2nd & 4th Thursdays 10am – 1pm	'Mini-Monsters' – Memorial Hall (Becca Wyles 879001 or Cathryn Hewitt 864133)
Fortnightly Wed & Thurs 10am-4pm	Patchwork and Quilters groups – Memorial Hall (Margaret Hill 864257)
2nd Wednesday 10am-4pm	Art Class – Memorial Hall (Brenda Keeble 863367)
Friday evenings from 8pm	Open mic nights at The Grampus Inn

If you want anything included in the next edition, please contact a member of the editorial team.

ADVERTISEMENT

Dear Lee Bay residents,

We are moving into rented accommodation at Combe Martin at the beginning of October whilst we search for a house to buy and we both particularly like Lee. We made an offer on a house in Lee earlier this year but, sadly, too late.

We are looking for a detached house in a sunny spot with a garden for our dog and, hopefully, a garage, but failing that, off road parking for our two cars.

We do hope that we have not caused any offence with this direct approach but if anyone is considering moving on in the near future we would be very grateful if you would bear us in mind. We are a professional couple in our mid fifties and would be cash buyers.

We can be contacted on 07905 383088 or e-mail hpc5760@outlook.com.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, Phil and Helen Compton.

GREETINGS AND FAREWELLS

It is with deep regret that we report the recent death of Max King. Max died on 22 September, a week after his 98th birthday. Max has been a very well known person around the village since he and Peggy moved here in 1978, when their house 'Wobble' (now Ulfrid) was completed. Peggy died in 1989. Max had a long and distinguished career as a civil engineer, ending as Divisional Director for Wessex Water. He was well known in motorcycle sport, his published books becoming standard works. He organised 3 village fairs, one making a profit of £4,000. He was Churchwarden of St Matthew's Church for 11 years. For a number of years, Max has lived in part of Jacky and Bryan Russell's house at Quarry Cottage where they have looked after him with care and devotion. We send our sympathy to them and all Max's family and friends. A fuller tribute to Max appears later on in this edition.

We are soon to lose Janet and Sebastian Birch from the village. They have lived at Ivy Bank since 2003 during which time their sons, Edward and Henry, have successfully navigated their way through their teenage years to become fine young men. Edward is developing his career as an actor and Henry has just started his final year at Durham University. Janet and Sebastian have made notable contributions to village life dividing their time between the church, pub and Ivy Bank garden in more or less equal proportions! Amongst many other roles, Janet has been Church Secretary and Sebastian has been Chairman of the Residents' Association. They have also found time to watch plays and opera in almost every part of the country, especially London and Glyndebourne. We wish them well in their new home in Bristol where, no doubt, they will continue to enjoy a gregarious and fulfilling life.

Balancing our farewells, it is good to welcome newcomers to the village. Very recently, Cherry Titman and Joseph Ertman have moved into Ulfrid as permanent residents. They have moved from Dorset and are looking forward to building their new life together here.

As many residents know, Kate and Angus, with Grace and Sebastian, have gone to France for a year or so and have let Rock End whilst they are away. During this time Jo Prendergast and her 2 daughters, Jessica (12) and Mollie (11), are living there. They have come from Worcester and are very thankful for the lovely welcome they have received. Jo has always dreamt about living in North Devon, and now the opportunity has arisen! Jo has 2 older offspring – Scott at Plymouth University and Chelsea working for the Police in Worcester. Jessica and Mollie have just started at Ilfracombe Academy.

Another family has also moved into the village for a year or so. Bazz and Michelle Lawrence-Panter have moved into Lincombe Manor with their 6 children/young adults and Michelle's mother, Valerie. We give a warm welcome to Bazz, Michelle, Valerie, Callum (21), Elisha (20), Joseph (15), Saffie (12), Fern (10) and Dagan (8). The family have lived in Combe Martin for many years but are loving living in their new home. Michelle has just completed a degree in Health and Social Care and Bazz runs a communications business, based in Ireland, where the family intend to move to after Joseph has finished his GCSEs next summer.

As always, we apologise for any omissions of arrivals or departures. Please let us know and we shall rectify things next time.

FIRST AID REQUIRED?

Call Bill at The Grampus Inn (with onsite defibrillator: 862906).

NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

As reported elsewhere in the News, the Church has sadly lost one of its stalwarts of nearly 40 years with the death on 22 September of Max King. Max has been a tower of strength as Churchwarden and Chairman of the Fabric Committee for many years. His attention to detail was meticulous and he worked tirelessly to support all aspects of church life. His church work also went beyond St Matthew's as, for many years, he was also a member of the Exeter Diocesan Synod and the Bishop's Council. His wise counsel, dedication and commitment will be greatly missed. Max was brought up in Barnstaple, went to Barnstaple Grammar School and married Peggy in Barnstaple Parish Church. It was there that Peggy's funeral took place and it was Max's wish that his funeral would also take place in that church. The funeral took place on 9 October.

Also with much sadness, the death has occurred on 1 October of Diana Lewis. Diana lived in Ilfracombe and not many in Lee will know her. However, with her daughter, Fiona, Diana has been a regular member of St Matthew's congregation for some time. She suffered from TB and had recently spent time in hospital in Bristol receiving treatment for her breathing difficulties. However, soon after coming home, she fell and broke her hip. She had a hip replacement operation but did not fully recover and died in hospital. All of us send our sympathies to Fiona and the rest of the family.

Again as reported elsewhere, Janet and Sebastian Birch are about to move to Bristol. Both have made fine contributions to life at St Matthew's. Janet has been Church and Deanery Secretaries, has organised children for events such as the Christmas Nativity and, most recently, masterminded the event to commemorate the outbreak of World War 1. Both have read with distinction and have supported all regular activities. Our very best wishes, Janet and Sebastian – you will be greatly missed!

The flower-themed event to coincide with the Arts and Crafts Exhibition and the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 1 was well received and very successful. The simple displays of flowers were complemented by features, including photographs, of

men from the village or related to present residents who had served in the war. A commemorative file with additional information was produced and placed in the Craft Shop so that it could be studied in detail. This file is still available to look at in the Craft Shop.

Harvest Festival was again a very happy occasion. The church was virtually full and most of the younger children in the village took part in a procession of harvest gifts at the beginning of the service. The robust singing was led by a choir of 16 and the Vicar managed to develop a sermon centred on wine gums and audience participation! After the service, the usual splendid Harvest Supper took place in the Memorial Hall and was much enjoyed by everyone.

The Church is very pleased that it will host another Beaford Arts event on Saturday 29 November. The renowned group 'Spiro' will perform. The publicity states: 'Spiro redefine English folk music with their very special blend of traditional tunes and systems music... Their approach to their music is unique, breathtaking and seems almost impossible even as you watch it'. It sounds great! Tickets are available from www.beaford-arts.org.uk or from the Grampus.

Thoughts will soon turn to Christmas, and it will be marked by 2 special events in St Matthew's. Firstly, on Monday 22 December at 6.30 pm, there will be the village carol service. This is very much an occasion for all the community to come to. It will be a service of carols and readings with a number of special items, including some involving children. Afterwards, as usual, there will be a social gathering in the Memorial Hall with seasonal food and drinks, kindly provided by the Hall Committee. Then, on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24 December, at 10.00 pm, there will be the traditional Christmas Eve Communion service with the choir to lead the singing in the candlelit service. Everyone will be very welcome to both of these services to celebrate Christmas.

Ian Stuart, Churchwarden and Vice-Chairman
St Matthew's PCC

THE LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

Our thrice-yearly newsletter is free to residents, and available to non-residents at 75p from The Grampus Inn or The Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery & Gift Shop.

We offer postal annual subscription (3 issues) to non-residents, delivered to your door. The price for this rises from £4 to £5 in 2015 to reflect higher postal prices. If you would like to subscribe, please contact the editors with your details and any remittance.

Thanks to sponsors, the Lee & Link'em News continues to be freely available online to read and/or download. Please visit www.leebay.co.uk and follow the links.

Some of our eagle-eyed readers may have noticed we had a slight shift in layout starting from the Summer issue. This was purely for technical reasons and our layout editor is now getting to grips with the change!

This is your newsletter, produced entirely within the villages. We'd love to record and share your memories, stories and photographs within its pages. If you have special memories of Lee and Lincombe then please do consider sending us an article. Please refer to the back page for how to make a submission and the next deadline.

We're always looking for eye-catching cover photographs too, if you have an interesting image that we haven't featured before. It can be either historical or recent - it just has to feature the area in some way. Why not pop an image over to us if you'd be happy for it to be used. If you don't have a digital copy to send then we can arrange for it to be scanned.

Thank you all so much for all the positive feedback we receive and we hope you continue to enjoy the Lee & Link'Em News.

Mike Turtons
BUTCHERS
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LEE MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE



What a beautiful summer and throughout it our village hall buzzed with exciting events. Some of our regular users were able to make use of the meadow as well as the hall as the sun shone almost endlessly.

As soon as the clearing up from the flower show ended the Arts and Crafts helpers were setting up for their annual two week event. The hall looked amazing throughout, colourful tables crammed with crafts of every description, pretty tea tables on the stage and a scrumptious array of cakes by the kitchen.

The event was very successful and exceeded last year. We had a higher footfall and the overall profit for the hall was £4,476. We also had many compliments from visitors.

I would like to thank everyone who played a part in this success: Cynthia for organising the refreshments and the rota of helpers, and who also lived in the kitchen for the greater part of the exhibition. Thanks to Ally Poore who led one of the refreshment teams and, for my part, I would like to thank all my helpers who gave advice and support whilst I ran my own team. So many people gave up their time and energy to make it a success and it

was fantastic that some of our holiday house owners participated. It was really appreciated and lots of fun too!

We appreciate the hard work by the exhibitors and Sandy Hanson for putting it all together. Margaret Hill for her continued support and for once again creating a beautiful patchwork quilt with her quilters as the main raffle prize.

Many thanks to Edna Thompson who worked tirelessly throughout the period, organising the floats every day, helping in the kitchen, making emergency shopping trips and stepping in where needed at the drop of a hat.

Earlier this month saw the hall and meadow used for a beautiful wedding. David and Audrey Beer's granddaughter, Katie, was married in the church and celebrated the event in a stunning marquee for the reception, proving just how befitting our village hall is.

This autumn there will be two Beaford Arts productions in the hall. The first on 8th October, is a comedy magic show by Oliver Meech which has had a successful run at the Edinburgh Fringe. The second is a group called Pacific Curls, a world roots trio hailing from New Zealand and Scotland, with an international following. They will be performing on 30th October.

Finally a local band, Sea of Atoms will be performing in the hall on 11th October. They are an alternative Indie orientated acoustic outfit that hail from North Devon.

Jane Johncock, Secretary

ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION - LEE MEMORIAL HALL



ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION - LEE MEMORIAL HALL, CONTD.



NEWS FROM THE GRAMPUS INN



The latest brew of Grampus Ale will be 'Hoppy Dog', made with locally grown hops, some very local (from right next door!), the rest from Willingcott (thank you "P.K."). Lucy is now an especially proud and happy, hoppy dog!

A warming winter brew is being planned to be called Grampus Kraaken.

Our already great wine list is being further expanded by Louis to include a high quality Bordeaux red & a dessert wine.

By the time you read this, we shall have had another Shaker Box Workshop, led by Mick Bonici, and will have future ones depending on demand, so please contact the Grampus if you are interested, and also if you'd like to be on our mailing list.

Sadly, Mishale and Phil are leaving us this month. Mishale came for one month, she liked it (and Phil!) so much that she has stayed an entire year. I thank them both for their hard work, reliability and fun and wish them well for their future.

Our popular Music Nights continue as usual on Fridays & music sessions are likely after the Beaford

Arts events in the village.

Agnostics Anonymous is another continuously popular gathering on Monday 20 October, 17 November and 15 December.

Wednesday evenings are Games Nights with all sorts of games including poker, backgammon and skittles.

So autumn evenings need not be dull. You'll be made very welcome if you join us.

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for further details

All is well in the villages at the moment. The water leak in the road at the beachfront has now been repaired by the water authority.

The Residents' Association will shortly be arranging a meeting with all residents about the Lee Bay Hotel. A company called Ocean Blue will shortly be submitting plans to knock down the hotel and construct 25/30 apartments on the site. I shall be meeting the architects next week. They will be working with the Residents' Association and later calling a meeting with local residents to view their plans before applying for planning permission. If anyone has any views please do not hesitate to contact me. Not everyone approves of these proposals but this site has been an eyesore for the past 7 or 8 years now and something needs to be done.

That's all for now.

Eric Couling, Chair

Call 863257 or email ericleedevon@talktalk.net



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LEE VILLAGE FLOWER SHOW

We had another successful Flower Show this summer. Thank you to all of our exhibitors, especially the children, for the very high standard of entries.

Entries were up on last year which is always encouraging.

Well done to Daisy Passmore for wrestling the 'Children's Cup' from the grasp of her cousins, at last, Daisy, your name is on the cup.

Visitors seemed to be impressed with the standard of entries produced by our little villages and the 'Chairman's Choice' fuchsia this year was spectacular. The 'Best Fuchsia' was won by our Chair, Ginny Potts.

Well done to the Committee who worked hard staging the show and also putting together many of their own entries.

Jim Hawkins has retired from the Committee this year after 25 years. We will miss you, Jim. The Committee presented Jim and Ruth with a Portmeirion basket as a token of our appreciation for all of their hard work and support over the many years.

Margaret and Alan Bannister have joined the Committee now that they are residing permanently at 'Brookdale', so welcome to you both.

Our next meeting is the Flower Show AGM which is on Wednesday 29th October at 7.30pm. in Lee Memorial Hall. If you are new to the village and would like to find out more about the annual show, please come along, all are most welcome.

Carolyn Weekes, Secretary

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LEE WI REPORT

Here at the Lee WI, we have had a very good season. Our programme of events has been a particularly varied one, and next year's promises to be just as wide-ranging.

There are now 17 members, a healthy increase of 3 from last year.

If you would like to know more and are considering joining our growing numbers then why not drop me a line?

Margaret Hill - Lee WI, 864257,
hill4lee@gmail.com

THE ENIGMA VARIATIONS

When the Second World War started, my sister, who was five years older than me, left school and got a job at Bletchley Park. One year later my widowed mother lost her job in London so we went down to make a home for sister Judith, who was living in a billet. The billeting officer came to see my mother, presumably liked her, so asked her if she would help solve a major problem he had. He said the American Intelligence Officers working at the Park were all unhappy in their accommodation and asked mother if she would make a comfortable home for them, if he found her a big house to rent. He found her Woods Farm, a house on a village street with the farmyard behind it. The farmer lived a few miles away and came over every day to check on the farm.

We moved in and were soon hosts to a collection of Americans – mostly university professors or similar eggheads. The house was in a village, some miles from the Park and the people were driven to and fro by very debbie girls in some sort of uniform. When they got out

of the car the village children used to greet them and ask "Have you any chewing gum, Mister?" having been told by their parents not to use the popular phrase "Have you any gum, chum?"

My mother employed a cook and several maids. I used to help one of them make the beds and we used to joke that if we left wrinkles in the sheets the war would be lost. Though we didn't know what work they did - it was a total secret - we knew it was something to do with the war.

As my mother was too snobbish to send me to the village school, I just stayed at home. The Americans worried about this and started to teach me. I studied American History with one, Latin with another and Literature with a third. My tattered edition of Shakespeare is inscribed: "To Natalie, who gave me the opportunity of enjoying Shakespeare again. Curt Zimansky, Woods Farm, August 1944 - June 1945". You can imagine how I treasure it.



American Thanksgiving Day dinner laid on by Natalie's mother for the Americans working at Bletchley Park with some of the English staff. Natalie is standing at the back, second from the left. Natalie's sister has white flowers in her hair and is seated on the right hand side.


THE ENIGMA VARIATIONS, CONTD.

I had a pony and several goats. Once the pony had colic and I had to lead him about all the time. After dark, one of our guests opened the upstairs window and cheered me on! At this time I got my first black Labrador. They christened him Rastus, an American negro name! When I said to my cousin recently how very non P.C. this would be now she reminded me how, in those days, lots of black dogs were called 'Nigger'!

At the end of the war Judith married one of our lodgers and went to spend the rest of her life in the States. He was a rat but very rich. The work she had done was so secret. I remember her saying that if the Germans invaded, even if they were torturing our dogs and threatening to kill us, she couldn't tell them what work went on at the Park. When it became public knowledge, she was absolutely amazed and rather shocked.

Judith died some years ago and her lovely daughter, Sarah, brought some of her ashes over. We went to the old golf course to scatter them, talking about code breaking probably, but for goodness sake, please don't tell anyone!

Natalie Sharpe, Lee & Lincombe resident



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Max King



14 September 1916 – 22 September 2014

Max King died in the Tyspane Nursing Home, on the 22nd September just one week after his 98th Birthday. He'll be annoyed that he did not make a century!

Max was born in Landkey and went to school in Barnstaple. He married Peggy in St. Peter's, Barnstaple in September 1940. Sadly, Peggy died of cancer in 1989. Their son Bob, fondly remembered by those in Lee who knew him, died in 2003 after a long and distressing illness.

Max and Peggy came to live at 'Wobble' (now 'Ulfrid') in 1978, when he retired as Chief Executive of Wessex Water. He had 'Wobble' built to his own specifications and was particularly careful to conserve for posterity the group of majestic Monterey Pines, almost as old as himself. For more than a third of a century he regularly enjoyed the Saturday morning pre-prandial meetings with his friends of the 'Mafia' at the Grampus.

A distinguished career as a civil and environmental engineer began in the Surveyor's Department of the former Barnstaple RDC. By the age of 22, he was Surveyor to the Bideford RDC and, after serving in the RAF during the war, he took a post with Devon County Council, advising on rural water supply and sewerage. In 1949 he was appointed County Public Health Engineer of Dorset and, in 1975, became Director of the Avon and Dorset Division of Wessex Water - responsible for water supply, main drainage, wastewater treatment and rivers management. After moving to Lee he continued to work as water consultant to Costain (Civil Engineering Contractors), among others, until he turned 87 in 2003.

[Contd. over.]

He was a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, was appointed Honorary Fellow of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management and was President of the Institution of Public Health Engineers in 1973-74.

Max's real passion, from the age of 8, was for motorcycling. As with so many things, the war interrupted his riding. Serious competition started in 1948 and spanned more than 30 years. He competed chiefly on trials bikes, but latterly driving a Hartwell Imp for Team Hartwell of Bournemouth. He won over 300 awards, but the prize that meant most to him was the 'MCC Triple' of 1970-71. To qualify for this, it was necessary to win a gold medal in each of the MCC Classic trials, consecutively, in the same season! He achieved this riding a motorcycle for the Edinburgh Trial and driving a car for the Land's End and Exeter trials, a combination believed to be unprecedented.

One of his favourite adventures occurred in 1979. With only 10 days notice the BBC asked him to compete for them in the Land's End Trial (Bristol to Land's End), with a young studio assistant from their Plymouth office as navigator; a 21 year old girl with no trials experience! Ever ready for a challenge, Max managed to obtain an entry but only due to a cancellation. Programmes had already been printed so he had to drive in someone else's name. There was intensive training for the navigator and it was a tough, eventful trial but they did well; winning a silver medal. It might have been gold but for the navigator falling asleep and the car engine cutting-out 50 yards from the top of the last hill!

Max was also well known as an author, broadcaster and motoring journalist. The first of his five books, probably the first book on its subject, 'Trials Riding' was published in 1955 and the last, 'Motor Cycle Trials Riding', published by Pelhams in 1975. For more than 20 years, Max broadcast regularly on motor-sport, for BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio Scotland and, occasionally, for BBC Radio 2. He was a member of the Plymouth-based 'Morning Sou' West' team and, for 5 years, was BBC correspondent for North Devon. He was also a commentator, with Dave Lee Travis, on the first series of 'Kickstart' for BBC1.

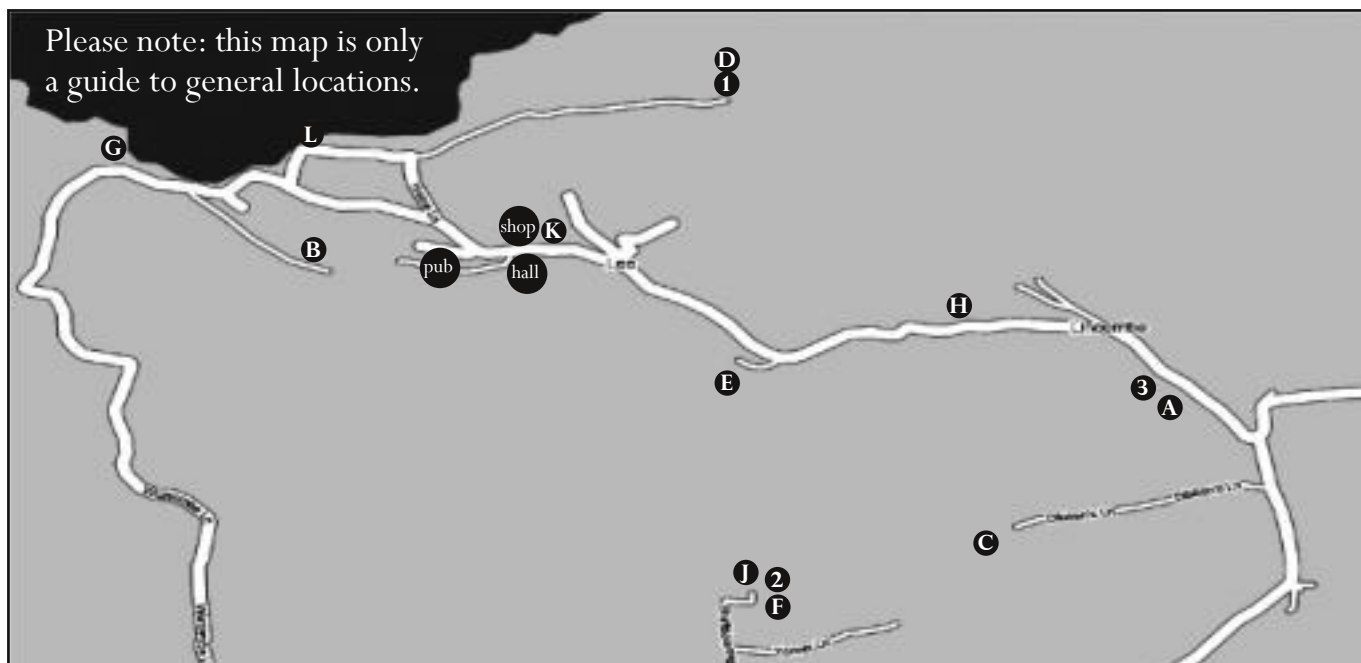
For many years Max was Church Warden of St. Matthew's and Vice-Chairman of the PCC and he served for twelve years on the Barnstaple Deanery Synod. In 1987 he was elected to the Exeter Diocesan Synod and, later, to the Bishop's Council, on which he served for four years.

Above all he was a person of unusual courtesy and diligence.

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS TEAM

Editorial team	Gina-Luisa Hilborne Heather Booker Ian & Cynthia Stuart	gina@loveleebay.co.uk Tel: 862409 Tel: 863396
Production	Ian & Cynthia Stuart	Advertising Heather Booker
Delivery teams	<i>Many thanks to our delivery teams. If you would like to help with delivering the News, one of the editorial team would be delighted to hear from you.</i>	

LEE & LINCOMBE ACCOMMODATION & SERVICES GUIDE



VILLAGE SERVICES

- pub. Pub, Tea Rooms & Village Shop: The Grampus Inn - www.thegrampus-inn.co.uk - Bill Harvey_____ (01271) 862906
- shop. The Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery & Gift Shop - www.noonoo-art.co.uk - Louise Thompson_____ (01271) 864067
- hall. Lee Memorial Hall - for hire: angelahallreservations@talktalk.net - Angie Ellis _____ (01271) 865818

BED & BREAKFAST

1. The Blue Mushroom (2/3) - mushroomblue@btinternet.com - Mavis & Michael Rogers_____ (01271) 862947
2. Shaftsboro Farm - www.shaftsboro.co.uk - Margaret & Frederick Kift_____ (01271) 865029
3. Pensport Rock - www.pensportrock.com - Jackie Jackson_____ (01271) 863419

SELF CATERING (MAX. PER UNIT)

- A. Lincombe House (2,6,5) - www.lincombehouse.co.uk - Richenda S Carter_____ (01271) 864834
- B. Chapel Cottage on Beach Lane (9) - www.chapelcottagelee.co.uk - Ginny Potts_____ (01271) 867212
- C. Lower Campscott Farm (8,6,6,4,4,4,2+) - www.lowercampscott.co.uk - Kathy & Tony Mortimer_____ (01271) 863479
- D. The Blue Mushroom (2/3) - mushroomblue@btinternet.com - Mavis & Michael Rogers_____ (01271) 862947
- E. Crowness Cottage (4) - www.crownesscottage.co.uk - Irene Duffield_____ (01268) 742162
- F. Shaftsboro Farm - www.shaftsboro.co.uk - Margaret & Frederick Kift_____ (01271) 865029
- G. Damage Hue apartment (2+2) - www.damagehue.co.uk - Julien Busselle_____ (01271) 862876
- H. Lee Chapel (5) & School House (4), combined (9) - www.visitleechapel.co.uk - Geoff Barker_____ 07870 239 973
- J. Allender Farm (8,6,6,5,2+) - www.allenderfarm.co.uk - Jane & Jim Bridges_____ (01271) 866679
- K. The Old Vicarage (15) - www.theoldvicaragelee.com - Amanda Robertson_____ 07973 963 887
- L. Millfield (6) - www.millfieldcottage.co.uk - Louise Morris_____ bookings@millfieldcottage.co.uk

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SPRING 2015 ISSUE DEADLINE - 01 FEBRUARY 2015

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