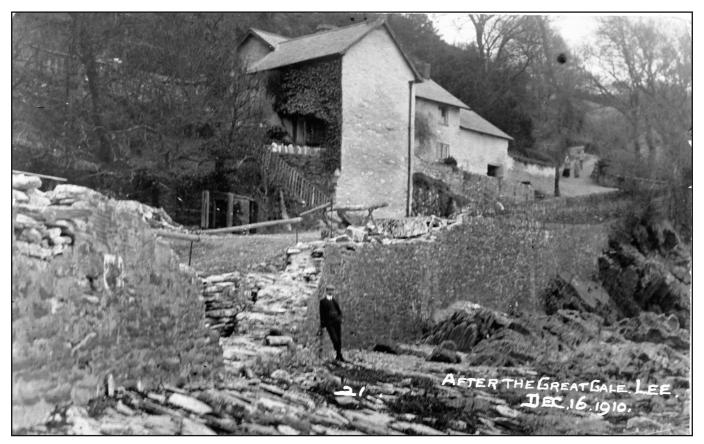
FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LEE & LINCOMBE VILLAGES AND SURROUNDING AREAS AND OUR VISITORS

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS SPRING 2016 75P



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BARBARA PUGSLEY VIA 'THE ILFRACOMBE HISTORY FORUM'

"AFTER THE GREAT GALE, LEE" 16 DECEMBER 1910 EXTENSIVE STORM DAMAGE ON LEE BAY SEAFRONT

www.leebay.co.uk

LEE & LINCOMBE: 2016 DIARY DATES

Saturday 27 February 7.30pm 'Tiny Heroes': a new show with stories featuring North Devon locals

Memorial Hall (promoted by Beaford Arts – tickets from Grampus (862906)
 or Beaford Arts website). See posters or www.beaford-arts.org.uk for details.

Sunday 6 March 8.45am Mothering Sunday service – St Matthew's Church

with breakfast in the Memorial Hall afterwards. (See article later in the News.)

Thursday 10 March 7am – 10pm Election for Councillor (Ilfracombe West) – Memorial Hall

Thursday 10 March 10.30am Beach Clean Up – Meet at the slipway.

Organised by Lee WI as part of the 'Clean for the Queen' campaign.

Soup in the Memorial Hall afterwards (£2.50). Details from Margaret Hill (864257).

Saturday 12 March 7pm Quiz Night – Memorial Hall. Devon-themed, in aid of Hall funds. £7.50 incl. hot

meal. Tickets/details from Alan Bannister: 863093, alan.bannister@btinternet.com

Late March onwards Old Schoolroom Craft Shop opens for the season in time for Easter.

Please check with Louise Thompson (864067) for exact opening times.

Friday 25 March 2pm Good Friday service — St Matthew's Church

Sunday 27 March 9am Easter Sunday Communion Service with choir and festive music

- St Matthew's Church

Monday 28 March 10.30am Easter coffee morning, Hot X buns, cakes, children's activities, etc.

- Memorial Hall

Monday 11 April 7.30pm St Matthew's Church Annual Parochial Meeting – Memorial Hall

Saturday 16 April 7pm 'Howdenjones' return to the Memorial Hall: bare-knuckle acoustic balladry.

£8.00 incl. tea, coffee & soft drinks. Bring your own food/drinks if you wish.

Tickets from Cynthia & Ian Stuart on 863396 or ian@leedevon.co.uk

Monday 25 April 7.30pm Annual General Meeting of Lee Memorial Hall – Memorial Hall

Monday 2 May 10.30am Flower Show Coffee Morning and Plant Sale – Memorial Hall

Thursday 5 May 7am – 10pm Election for Police and Crime Commissioner – Memorial Hall

Monday 30 May 2pm Spring Fair – Memorial Hall and Meadow

Thursday 23 June 7am - 10pm EU Referendum vote - Memorial Hall

Thursday 28 July 2pm Flower Show – Memorial Hall

Sat 30 Jul – Sun 14 Aug Arts and Crafts Exhibition – Memorial Hall

Sun 18 Sep 6.30pm Harvest Festival Service – St Matthew's Church

followed by Harvest Supper in Memorial Hall

2nd & 4thThu 10am-1pm 'Mini-Monsters' - Memorial Hall (Check dates and contact Becca Wyles 879001)

Fortnightly Wed & Thu 10am-4pm Patchwork and Quilters groups — Memorial Hall (Margaret Hill 864257)

Every 2nd Wed 10am – 4pm Art Class – Memorial Hall (Brenda Keeble 267583)

Tue 7-8.30pm; Wed 10-11am Regular yoga classes at The Yoga Barn with Alex (866743 - Lincombe)

All welcome!

Friday evenings from 8pm Open mic nights at the Grampus

Thu 10-11am & Thu 6.30-7.30pm

If you want anything included in the next edition, please contact a member of the editorial team Please visit www.leebay.co.uk for the regularly updated calendar

GREETINGS AND FAREWELLS

As briefly mentioned on the Fuchsia List about 3 months ago, we are very pleased to welcome Dean Murphy and Lisa Scott and their family to Lincombe Manor. They have moved from Copplestone, near Crediton, and are leasing the property from Colin and Jo Gibbs for 18 months. Lisa runs a vintage clothes business; she has a shop in Brixham and also sells her clothes at music festivals and other venues. Dean is Australian, coming from Perth, and is now a professional singer and song writer, using the internet as the main outlet for his work. Their children are Lily-Mae (9), Levi (6) and Joshua (5) who are attending Ilfracombe Junior and Infants Schools. Lisa's sister, Katie Dymond, is also living at Lincombe Manor, as is their Spanish au-pair, Sonia. Sonia is studying English at Petroc before returning to Spain to complete her journalism degree. Welcome to all of you!

We are delighted that Pat and Ged Coates are now full time residents at Wayside. Having sold their previous property, they have now moved here permanently with their 3 dogs Tuffy, Buddy and Ted. They are looking forward to renovating Wayside. They would like to thank everybody for the friendly welcome they have received and for support with their planning application.

We are sorry to report the death of David Matthews, formerly of Blackberry Downs in Lincombe. David was a banker by profession and moved here with Heather on his retirement. Sadly, Heather died on 1 May 2008. David moved back to his native Portsmouth in late 2013 and had been in a nursing home recently. He died on 5 January this year. He was a quiet and gentle man devoted to Hampshire Cricket Club and Portsmouth Football Club. We send our condolences to his daughter, sister and the rest of the family.

We don't know of any other changes, but, 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?

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NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

After the very successful special services over the Christmas period, this time in the early part of the new year has been relatively quiet. However, Mothering Sunday this year on 6



March, is going to be a particularly significant occasion. Our special guest for the service will be the new Bishop of Crediton. As most people will know, the Rt. Revd. Dame Sarah Mullally is one of the very first ladies to become a Bishop since the Church of England's General Synod made the decision to allow the appointment of female bishops. Bishop Sarah was made a Dame in recognition of her outstanding contribution to nursing and midwifery. She was the government's Chief Nursing Officer from 1999 to 2004 when she left the post to become a full-time priest.

We are delighted that the Bishop will be joining us for the service and everyone is, of course, most welcome to come to the service. As in the last few years, the service will take the form of a straightforward modern language family communion service. A highlight will be an item by a ladies' choir. There will be other items particularly aimed at young people and, as usual, there will be a distribution of posies at the end of the service. The service starts at 8.45 am, followed by a splendid breakfast in the Memorial Hall at about 9.30 am. So, despite the early start, there's no need for breakfast beforehand. You will be well fed!

As well as the regular services, the quiet evening service of Compline takes place each Monday evening during Lent at 7.00 pm until 21 March. Then there are the usual special services for the Easter period. On Good Friday 25 March, there is a service at 2.00 pm consisting of a series of readings about Christ's passion and death, interspersed

with hymns and periods of silence. Although we call the service 'The Last Hour' in memory of the last hour of Christ's life on the cross, it only lasts about 40 minutes!

On Easter Sunday 27 March at 9.00 am, we celebrate with a festival Easter Communion service, with the singing of traditional Easter hymns led by the choir. As always, everyone is most welcome to this and other services. Then on Easter Monday morning, starting at 10.30 am in the Memorial Hall, there will be a Coffee Morning with Hot

Cross Buns and delicious cakes, and an Easter egg chase for children. This is always a popular event, so do come along.



I reported in the previous edition of the News about plans to enhance the lighting and heating in the church. Unfortunately, plans have stalled at present, but we hope to make progress later this year. However, other work is progressing well. Although not seen from the road, the back of the church is covered in scaffolding at present. Nicki Crutchfield has done a splendid job removing all the moss on the roof which has been steadily accumulating over many years. By the time this is read or soon afterwards, he will also have cut down all the vegetation on the rock face. This is an essential job to ensure the

stability of the rock face and needs to be done periodically. We are most grateful to Nicki for the work he is doing.



Ian Stuart
Churchwarden and Vice-Chairman St Matthew's PCC
01271 863396
ian@leedevon.co.uk

LEE – A LOOK BACK IN TIME

Browsing thru' my old postcards of Lee, collected through the years, I came across one which was sold by the thousand at the Old Farm Tea Garden (now The Grampus Inn) which I have reproduced below:

"Why doan't ee take and write?

Ow is it you never do write to we now?

Seems as if you you've forgotten we quite;

So I'm sending this 'ere

For it do seem purty queer Why in world you never do write.

The postman do pass every day
No there's nothin' for you,ee do say
It do strike like a blaw
An' I feel wisht ye knaw
Cause yer' 'andwritin' don't come long our way

Is it rheumatic you've got in yer 'and What tez else I caan't onderstand. Hef yer ink is gone dry You can still send reply For black lead will supply yer demand.

Greetings from Devon!"

With the natural decline of 'born in Lee' residents and the influx of many new home owners, village life has changed so much since pre-war days when this writer was a very young pupil at Lee school (now The Craft Shop), it seemed appropriate to take a walk back thru' memory lane!

It is hard to believe what a bustling community it was in those days, the village crowded with both day trippers and guest house residents. The Railway station at Mortehoe was the arrival point for many holiday makers — heading for Mortehoe, Woolacombe or Lee. They also arrived by bus from Ilfracombe — a half hourly service at the height of the summer - and also by motor launches - normally an hourly service when the weather was right. Then, of course, there were the many walkers enjoying the views over the downs.

The Old Maids Cottage was the focal point in the village with queues forming - sometimes as far as the Church entrance - to pay for a conducted tour around. Tea gardens abounded, starting with Mrs Howcroft's tea room, located above the School House, catching quite a lot of weary walking travellers. Coming down through the village, one came to The Fuchsia Tearooms (now The Orchard) followed by The Old Post Office which, in addition to being most popular, also ran a taxi service. One car, which was called "The Fuchsia Queen", was a nine seater Crosley with gleaming brass headlights. Owner Harry Taylor's girth was such that he could hardly sit behind the wheel! He wore a wide leather belt which I always felt kept him together. A well-known character, Farmer Armstrong, owned The Old Farm (now The Grampus Inn) and his brother-in-law, Jack, ran the Old Farm Tearoom which, with its attractive gardens, was always a favourite. Continuing down, The Gate House - beside the little rustic bridge - was called The Fuchsia Glen Tea Garden, and my recollection is of the many yellow umbrellas usually on view.

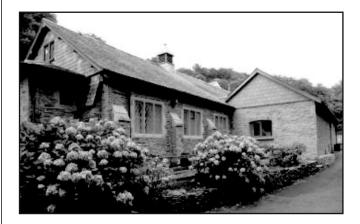
Two ladies who lived at Myrtle Cottage had a wooden chalet-style shop on the left as the beach came into view. They worked in the winter, painting shells and flat stones with fuchsias and making raffia mats. Then, facing the sea, was Smuggler's Cottage with its cannons displayed in the garden. Finally, and perhaps the most popular of all, was The Old Mill House which served beach trays and hired out deck chairs for many years.

At the end of the day, many visitors had to face bus queues all along the beach wall to return to Ilfracombe. The bus company even employed an inspector to control the queues and deal with parcels sent in and out of the village! So, for those who enjoy the tranquility of our village today — remember that it was not always so! Visitors added much to the incomes of families and, in those days, it was very important.

Lionel Hill

(A note from Lionel's wife, Margaret: "I'm sure Lionel wouln't mind if this was published posthumously. In fact I think he is in heaven and will be quietly smiling to himself.")

LEE MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE



Thoughts of spring may be uppermost in our minds now but during the winter months the village hall was a warm and comfortable venue for many events.

As advertised in the last edition, our very first Christmas Fair took place at the end of October. It attracted both holidaymakers and locals and we would like to thank all the villagers who supported the fair. The hall looked really colourful and whilst the Christmas music and tree may not be repeated we will consider hosting the event again this year.

Beaford Arts staged their double bill event on 26th November of 'Echo Beach' and 'Mass', both originating from the Bristol Old Vic. Lee is a popular Beaford venue and we are very fortunate to be able to host such a wide range of performing arts that most of us would never get to see in other ways.

M'Larkey held another Christmas ceilidh on 19th December. It was once again a great success and they are considering holding another one in this summer, which will be great news for those of us that missed this one!

Following the village Christmas Carol Service, refreshments were enjoyed in the hall as usual.

Both villagers and committee members alike were involved in pruning the Fuchsias on 9th January. The job was soon accomplished with so many ready hands and thankfully the rain stayed for most of the time. We were all pleased to finish off mince pies, Stollen and mulled wine afterwards.

Beaford Arts will be hosting another show on 27th

February. 'Tiny Heroes' is an attempt to sing for the unsung, is a new show made in North Devon and Exeter. "It's about the people who saved your life, your day, or your bacon. The people who took the time or took a chance. The people who tried, even if they failed." The show comes to Lee and a couple of other local villages after its opening run at Exeter's Bike Shed, and before it begins a national tour. 'Tiny Heroes' will include stories from North Devon locals, shadow puppetry and maybe they will even manage to get us to sing. Perhaps something for everyone!

We are planning a quiz night for the villagers in early March, with maybe a fish and chip supper, or similar included. Watch this space.

On the 16th April the hall will be the venue for a return visit of Howden Jones. This couple were extremely popular a few years ago, singing amongst other things, ballads, anthems and magical airs. Look out for more details.

April brings with it the hall AGM, this year it will be on Monday 25th April at 7.30pm. Please come along to find out what will be happening with your hall and remember we are always open to suggestions and ideas.

Our annual Spring Fair is in the early planning stages at the moment but we can confirm that it will take place on Monday 30th May and the theme this year will be based around the celebrations of the Queen's 90th birthday.

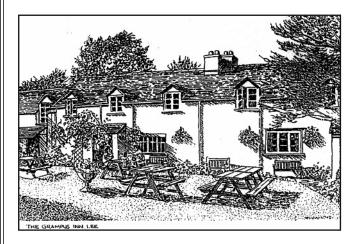
The Flower Show committee will have their annual flower show on Thursday 28th July preceded by a coffee morning on 2nd May when we will all have the opportunity to buy an entry form for the show. There are lots of different categories so you don't even need green fingers!

Finally our Arts and Crafts Fair will once again take place over the first two weeks of August, from 30th July until 14th August.

Hope you find some events to interest you over the summer and to mark on your calendars!

Jane Johncock, Secretary

NEWS FROM THE GRAMPUS INN



Hello Friends,

Francis, my son, takes over the management of the bar at Easter. He's been running a large pub in Bath, Somerset for several years & comes with excellent skills in 'latte art'....the fascinating complexities of specialist coffees.

It will give me more time for the general management, the brewery, making a productive garden and ways to enhance the pub in the future. We have already started enhancement of what, at present, we call the back room. Newly decorated, it will have comfortable sofas and low tables installed to make it a more relaxing area than the busy bar room.

Outside, the new verandah along the sunny front wall of the pub should be built by the end of February. This will enable visitors to sit outside even if there are occasional showers.

Sandy, who has worked here for almost 6 years, has left. We thank her for her cheerful service throughout that time; she will be missed.

Our popular special nights, Music Nights on Fridays and Agnostics Anonymous, continue as usual.

I look forward to welcoming you.

Bill





BEAFORD ARTS IN LEE – SPRING 2016

Daniel Bye - Tiny Heroes: 27th Feb, Lee Memorial Hall

Are you holding out for a hero? Are you sure you're looking in the right place?

'Tiny Heroes' is a new show from award-winning theatremaker Daniel Bye, made in North Devon and Exeter, and coming to us fresh from its opening run at Exeter's Bike Shed Theatre before heading out on national tour later in 2016. It's about the people who saved your life, your day, or your bacon. The people who took the time or took a chance. The people who tried, even if they failed.

With stories featuring North Devon locals, a heroic stab at shadow puppetry, and maybe even a local scratch choir, 'Tiny Heroes' is an attempt to sing for the unsung.

During their research Dan met people ranging from



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Croyde Surf Life Saving Club to North Devon Bat Care, spoke to visitors at Barnstaple Library and the Real Food Market, and went out and about with the National Trust and the Biosphere team. Some of you may have met them when they stayed here in Lee in January to further their research. Who'll make it into the show? Come along and see!

Tickets available at the Grampus. £7.50 adults, £5 (U16) £22.50 Family Doors open 7.00pm. Bar available

Pre show pot luck supper at the Grampus - £5.00 - book in advance $01271\ 865591$

Please come along and support this important regional Arts organisation, bringing quality entertainment to local doorsteps!

HOWDENJONES RETURN TO LEE: SATURDAY 16 APRIL 7.00 PM



Kate Howden and Paul Jones last performed to a capacity audience in the Memorial Hall in August 2013. Now they are returning

during their 'No Halls Barred 2016 beautiful music in beautiful places Tour'. As one critic wrote 'Wonderful songs. Gentle anecdotes and delicious leg-pulling .. a gem of an evening'.

Kate and Paul are singer-songwriters whose music captivates the audience in a unique, intimate atmosphere. With powerful harmony, skilled musicianship and beautiful arrangements, they write all their own material and between them play guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo and bodhran. They enjoy exploring the acoustic sound of each venue and use no effects. They celebrate England in all its guises good and bad, particularly rural village life, including nature and the seasons.

You are assured of an excellent family friendly mixture of songs, tunes and stories. Tickets are £8.00 each with accompanied children under 16 free. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided, but we shall arrange the hall in café style, so please bring your own drinks and/or food if you wish. We shall supply glasses and plates.

Kate and Paul have hired the hall but, after taking their expenses, are donating any surplus to the hall. In return, we are selling tickets for their show. Tickets are available from Ian and Cynthia Stuart by ringing 863396 or sending an email to ian@leedevon.co.uk . We are anticipating a full house so please get your tickets beforehand if you want to be sure of getting in. You can sure of a good evening, but do go on to their website to hear examples of their music on www.howdenjones.co.uk . The show is on Saturday 16 April in the Memorial Hall at 7.00 pm for a start at 7.30 pm.



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THE FLOWER SHOW

Hi, to all our budding gardeners, craft makers and artists, etc., I realize you have all been waiting with baited breath for the next instalment of the Flower Show blog!

Well here goes, the results of our latest show on the 30 July 2015 for everyone who missed them on the noticeboards. It was very competitive (which we all love!) and lots of close seconds, with numerous cups changing hands:

Section A Floral Art **Section B Domestic Section C Produce Section D Cut Flowers Section E Pot Plants Section F Handicrafts**

Best Fuchsia Exhibit in Show Best Perennial Exhibit in Show Best Tasting Fruit or Veg Class 45-Specimen Rose Class 64-Chairperson's Choice Fuchsia Glass Trophy Highest No. of points Overall Section G Children

Bowl Replica Cup **Produce Cup Tugwell Cup** Ken Brown Cup Anne Duke Memorial Cup

Memorial Hall Cup Cliffe Cup **Booker Cup Rose Bowl** Challenge Cup Children's Cup

Margaret Bannister Ginny Potts Rob James Carolyn Weekes Elizabeth Gilliat Louise Thompson-Passmore **Alan Bannister Marion Thom Ginny Potts Marion Thom** Alan Bannister **Ginny Potts**

Jennipher Hewitt

CHILDREN'S AWARDS

Age 8 and under

- 71 Floral Art
- 72 **Cheese Scones**
- 73 **Fairy Cakes**
- 74 **Vegetable Monster**
- **75** Garden on a Plate
- 77 A Greeting Card

all the above won by Jennipher Hewitt but missed out on

76 Pebble Painting won by Florence Grose,

Age 9 - 12

- 78 Floral Art
- 79 **Cheese Scones**
- 81 **Vegetable Monster**
- 82 Garden on a Plate
- 84 **Greeting Card**

all won by Noah Zeal

- 80 Fairy Cakes Alix Barruol
- 83 **Pebble Painting** Heidi Merritt

Very well done to all our winners and long may it continue.

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LEE & LINK'EM NEWS SPRING 2016

THE FLOWER SHOW, CONTD.



I have included some photographs for you all to be able to see the high standard of entries we had last year, and add that we were slightly down on the number of exhibits in comparison to the year before, so please try and do your bit. It is so important that a village tradition as long as ours doesn't fall by the wayside, especially when I know we have an extremely high number of very talented people in our community.

There were a few new exhibitors, which was absolutely great, and we hope to get many more, so do remember our Coffee Morning held on 2nd May 2016 where you can purchase the Chairman's Choice Fuchsia, which, this year, is again a German one, named 'Wassernimphe' - meaning 'water nymph'. I don't know if many of you remember but the previous German fuchsia exhibited was extremely successful, so fingers crossed this will be the same. Also, we're holding a 'grow the tallest

sunflower' and these, again, will on sale to purchase so join in the fun. Alan has a measuring stick so there will be no cheating, and he will undertake the task of going around to declare the winner when appropriate. And, last but not least, come to have a late breakfast, not only do we have homemade cakes to buy but you can also have a lovely treat with your tea or coffee from the sliced cake table, muffins and why not try the carrot cake in advance of you making it for the show?

As I write this, (February) it is very hard to think of growing flowers and plants when all our gardens are water-logged and the wind is whipping around the corners with temperatures not far above zero, but in the middle of the village we are very, very slowly getting the sun back, when it graces us with its presence, so Spring can't be far around the corner and Rob James can again





THE FLOWER SHOW, CONTD.



start feeding all his young robins, and numerous other birds by hand, eating him out of house and home and meeting him from the car when he's been out for a while.

We've seen daffodils, primroses, rhodies and azaleas out in flower this Winter. Nature has been going mad, but I hope they leave some for the Spring, there's nothing like hedgerows of Easter flowers when you're driving or walking along - sort of helps put a spring in your step, so to speak.

May I take this opportunity to thank Marion James for her Floral Art Titles, we have many a laugh making the final decisions and this year as usual she has excelled herself with 'Odd Pot' and 'Twinnie' among others. It'll be interesting to see what exhibitors make of them!

We're back to a 1lb Savoury Loaf, after requests, followed by a hand-raised pie, carrot cake, meringue

shells (Judge's request), fresh fruit tarts, traditional tea cakes and a pecan pie. Most can be made in advance so shouldn't be many last minute panics - says me! And, this year, a new entry for men only, a chocolate cake, which can be decorated. I can't wait to see them, should be a lot of fun - or calamities!

In the Handicraft Section, the poem is entitled 'Lundy Island' and the painting or picture 'Storm', which shouldn't prove too difficult with the amount we've been having. The photograph this year will be 'Rocks and Water' so get those cameras out.

By popular request we've been asked to return the colouring pictures so, this year, because of our brave Astronaut, Tim Peake, we've included a picture of a 'Spaceman' as well as the 'Fuchsia Faerie' and, because



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THE FLOWER SHOW, CONTD.



we know you Mums love it when your kitchen is turned upside down, with all your darling little ones cooking, a

'7in Savoury Pizza' has been added, but worry not, you

can buy the base, and the best of luck to you all.

We're very lucky to have Eleanor and Paul Scarrott join us on the Flower Show Committee, and already Eleanor has come up with the suggestion that we have an 'Apple Day', possibly in October. This will consist of apple tasting, apple recognition, toffee apples, apple cakes, you name it - everything apple! It should be a lot of fun and we hope to see you all there, and if anyone has any type of apple that is unusual in name or taste, we would appreciate them being included.

The wind is now howling at 50-60 miles per hour, trees are being blown this way and that, but I would just like you to remember our wildlife and to top your bird feeders up as some have already started to nest early.



Top 10 jobs this Month according to RHS

- 1. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
- 2. Chit potato tubers
- 3. Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines, and peaches
- 4. Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off
- 5. Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
- 6. Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
- 7. Prune wisteria
- 8. Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges
- 9. Prune conservatory climbers
- 10. Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the Winter.

And the best of luck to you all! Enjoy the Spring when it comes,and enjoy your gardening. Until next time

Ginny Potts (Flower Show Chairperson)

IT WORKS! SOLVING THE 'BANK' ROBBERY

Within half an hour of the crime being committed, the Jungle Drums of Lee had sounded, alerting Paul, our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

He immediately visited the site of the theft, found four helpful clues and went to see someone who he felt ought to be informed and also might be able to shed some light on the disappearance of the well known village feature.

Paul was somewhat relieved that, far from being distressed about the loss, I was able to lead him to where the two German perpetrators of the "theft" were carefully examining the damage done to it and discussing its restoration! How's that for speedy detective work?!

A few days before this, I had seen - to my annoyance and distress - that some vehicle had parked on the grass verge at the entrance to Lower Greystones, too close to the Community Seat which Denny, my husband, had designed & constructed in 2000.

There was damage to the back of that comfortable and artistic resting spot overlooking our beautiful valley and the bags of road salt, propped up against the base of one of its back legs, hadn't done it much good either.

Fortunately, a talented German friend of Bill's (landlord of the centre of our community, The Grampus Inn), had been working with me for some weeks and I knew he was a skilled woodworker and engineer capable of restoring the Seat.

Holger Meyer and his family have moved to North Devon from Germany and have fallen in love with Lee. He and his son, Radek, came with me and we removed the Seat from its concrete fixings, lifted it into the trailer attached to my tractor, and brought it home to be restored.

When Paul explained to them what had happened, they laughed to be accused of a bank robbery, as a bench-seat in German is.....a 'bank'!

Apologies to Paul for causing him unnecessary work but it certainly 'tested the efficiency' of our Neighbourhood Watch! I had taken the precaution to put a letter of explanation through the letterbox of Appledore to give Andy and Pat, who keep the Seat clean and re-touch its paint work when necessary, an explanation of its disappearance and also told Eric, Chair of the Lee & Lincombe Residents' Association.

We hope to return the seat towards the end of March when Andy is going to provide protective boulders to prevent any further parking on the private land at that corner of Lower Greystones. I have taken the opportunity, while Denny's Seat is back in his workshop, to have not only the repair work done, but Holger is stripping off all the thick layers of paint to reveal again the lovely golden colour of the local chestnut wood. It is meticulous work, taking many hours of careful work and has cost over £500 so far. When that is finished, it will receive several coats of teak oil before being re-instated so that residents & visitors can sit in comfort and enjoy the view over our beautiful valley.

Thank you to all who were concerned enough to go through the proper channels of reporting a crime in our lovely village - that is to phone either Paul, Mavis or Ian on their numbers given elsewhere in this News.

Heather Booker



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AN INTERNATIONAL GATHERING IN LEE!

There was a splendid international gathering in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 13 February. Every 2 years, Natali Purdy Guevara of Higher Campscott, with her husband Luke and children Elizabeth and Aristides, organises a gathering in the Memorial Hall of many from the international community who live in North Devon.

Natali writes: 'This year, we were 20 families plus children from 13 different nationalities — Brazil, Mexico, Nepal, Venezuela, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Spain, Japan, Indonesia, England, Thailand, China, and El Salvador. We enjoy sharing friendships, culture and food from our countries.'



LEE & LINK'EM NEWS TEAM

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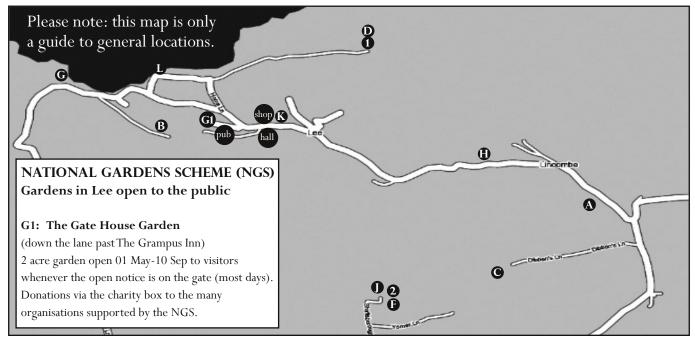
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LEE & LINCOMBE ACCOMMODATION & SERVICES GUIDE



VILLAGE SERVICES

]	pub.	Pub, Tea Rooms & Village Shop: The Grampus Inn - www.thegrampus-inn.co.uk - Bill Harvey	(01271) 862906
5	shop.	The Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery & Gift Shop - www.noonoo-art.co.uk - Louise Thompson	(01271) 864067
]	hall.	Lee Memorial Hall - for hire: leehallreservations@gmail.com - Angie Ellis	(01271) 865818

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- 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

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- H. Lee Chapel (5) & School House (2), combined (7) 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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