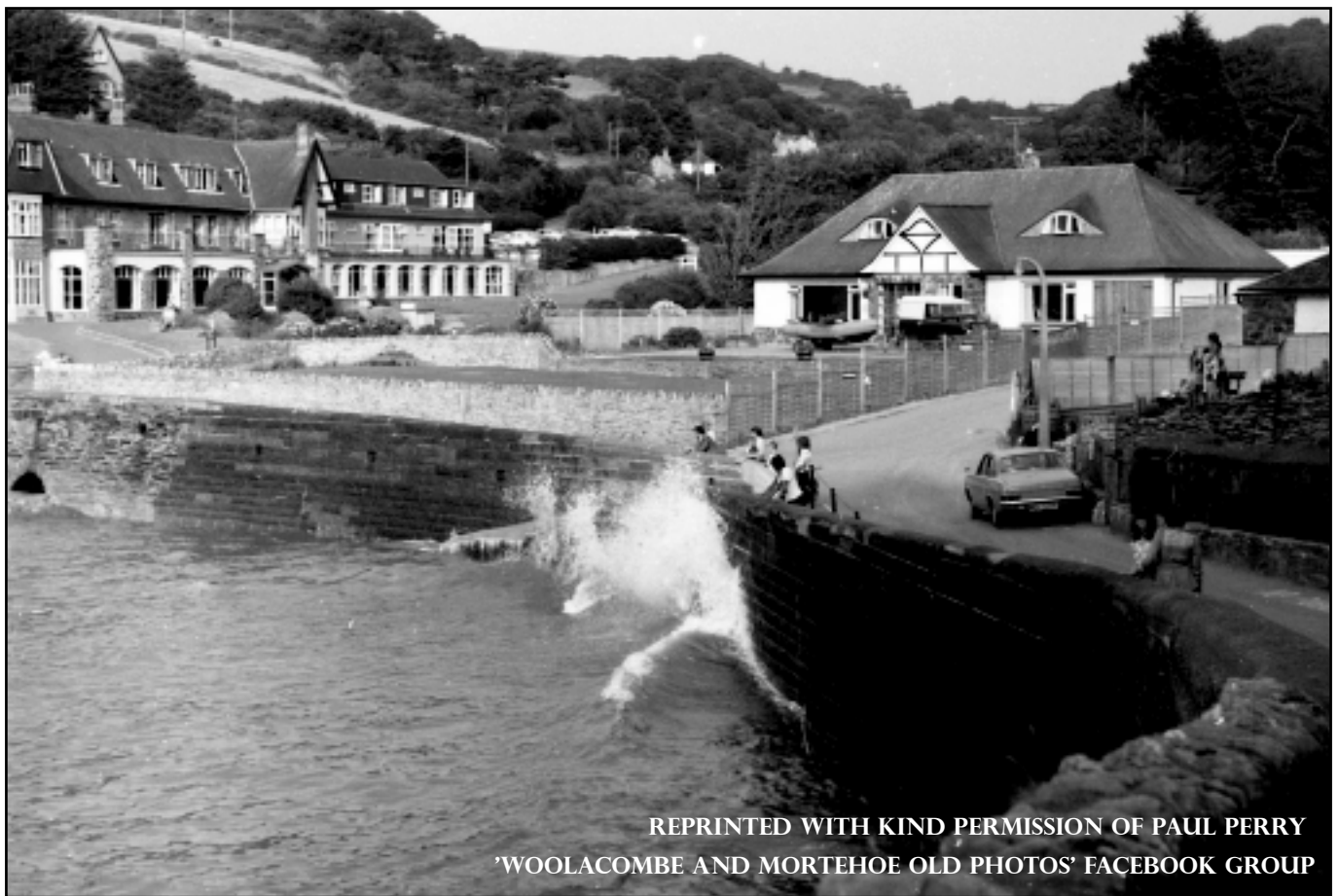


FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LEE & LINCOMBE VILLAGES
AND SURROUNDING AREAS AND OUR VISITORS

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

SUMMER 2019

75P



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'WOOLACOMBE AND MORTEHOE OLD PHOTOS' FACEBOOK GROUP

WATCHING THE WAVES ON LEE BAY SEAFRONT IN 1975
IN FRONT OF THE LEE BAY HOTEL AND WRINKLEWOOD

www.leebay.co.uk

LEE & LINCOMBE: 2019 DIARY DATES

Thursday 25 July 2.00 pm	Flower Show – Memorial Hall
Sat 27 July – Sun 11 August	Arts and Crafts Fair – Memorial Hall
Tuesday 20 August	Ferret racing in the meadow. Watch for further information, but reserve the date!
Sunday 15 September 6.30 pm	Harvest Festival Service – St Matthew's Church followed by Harvest Supper in Memorial Hall

REGULAR EVENTS

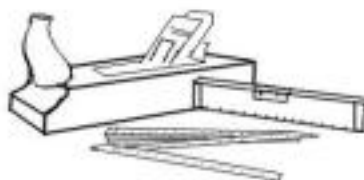
Daily 11 am – 4.00 pm	Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery and Shop is open for the season. Louise Thompson (864067) for further information.
2nd & 4th Saturdays 9.30 – 11.30 am	'Mini-Monsters' – Memorial Hall: Please always check the 'Mini Monsters Lee' Facebook page for changes of dates and other details. Joe and Jen Steer 07877 465 323
Fortnightly Wed & Thurs 10am-4pm	Patchwork and Quilters groups – Memorial Hall (Margaret Hill 864257)
2nd Wednesday 10 am – 4 pm	Water colour workshops – Memorial Hall (Brenda Keeble 267583)
Tuesday 7 pm – 8.30 pm; Thurs 10 am – 11 am & 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Yoga classes (Gentle Yoga Thursday morning) – Yoga Barn, Lincombe (Alex Giffoni 866743)
Friday evenings from 8.00 pm	Open mic nights at the Grampus

Other events may take place. Watch out for information on the Fuchsia List or on posters.
If you would like your event included in the next edition, *please contact a member of the editorial team.*

Please visit www.leebay.co.uk for the regularly updated calendar.

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GREETINGS AND FAREWELLS

We are very pleased to welcome some newcomers to the village and a new addition to one family.

Our youngest new arrival in the village is Samuel Waddington, born to proud parents Sarah and Dom at Pludd on Friday 15 March. Sam is a brother for Emily who celebrated her second birthday a fortnight before Sam was born.

Jo Reed (with Yoda the dog) moved into Sunsets in January. Jo says she moved here to try to learn to paint better pictures. She is thoroughly enjoying living in Lee, and she and Yoda are slowly and steadily meeting everyone, all of whom are very kind, and their furry friends.



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Jharla Torres and Sam Elliott moved into Lincombe House Flat in late March. Jharla originally came from Fremington but met



Sam whilst working at Pall in Ilfracombe. Sam is Ilfracombe born and bred and has been making filters at Pall for the last six years or so. Jharla is now working at the Golden Coast Holiday Park. However, as well as being a volunteer at Dogs Trust, she has her own company – Waggalong – which offers a pet sitting and dog walking service.

The Peppiatt family are the new owners of Catscull. They have bought the property as a holiday home as they love walking and the sea. They are a family of six and live near Romsey in Hampshire. Sarah and Ed have four 'children' – Jack (23), Isobel (21), Rory (20) and Freddie (18). Ed spent many summers on the North Devon coast growing up, and the whole family is looking forward to being in Lee as much as possible and becoming part of the community.

FIRST AID REQUIRED?

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

NEWS FROM ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

I am pleased to report that the events that were previewed in the Spring edition of the News have successfully taken place. The Mothering Sunday service and breakfast was its usual success with the full breakfast enjoyed by over 40 people. The Easter services went well and the Easter Monday Coffee Morning was very popular. The phrase 'coffee morning' is a bit of a misnomer as there were many sorts of hot and cold drinks available, as well as hot cross buns, cakes, biscuits, etc.! As well as food and drinks, there was a raffle and a children's Easter Egg game kindly organised by Ruth Knowles and her girls.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place at the end of April. The annual report and accounts show the church to be in a sound position with no major issues at present. Margaret Hill and I were re-elected as Churchwardens and joint Secretaries. My wife, Cynthia, was re-elected as Treasurer although she gave notice that, after 24 years, this will be her last year as Treasurer. Elizabeth Gilliat was re-appointed as Electoral Roll Officer, and, as well as the Vicar, Churchwardens and Treasurer, the Church Council consists of Bob Gilliat, Hilary Humphries, Fiona Lewis and Ruth Knowles.

As well as the fairly traditional service at 8.45 am most Sunday mornings, we have a monthly 'all-age' service on the second Sunday of each month. It is more informal in style, in modern language and designed to appeal to young and not-so-young alike. Indeed the regular congregation ranges from 7 to 90s with opportunities for the children to play a full part in the service. There is a different theme to each service. Everyone is, of course, welcome to any service, but a particular welcome is extended to families to come to the all-age service.

We are not holding a Flower Festival this year, but the church is open to everyone every day during the summer and there are always flowers on display in the church. And, of course, the Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery is open every day. All of us at St Matthew's are delighted that Louise Thompson runs such an impressive place in the village, adjacent to the church. Her recent success exhibiting at the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy in London is a source of great pleasure. Congratulations to Louise. I have written about her work elsewhere in this edition of the News.

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

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LEE MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE



As I write this report the rain has returned to the valley, of course it's half term! We have just held our annual Spring Fair on a thankfully dry and sunny afternoon.

As mentioned in the last edition, Sea Dog held a pop-up restaurant over two evenings in early March which we understand were both sold out and a great success.

We held a very popular quiz organised by a number of committee members which was great fun and certain to be repeated. Many thanks to all those involved, Becca for putting all the questions to a full hall of villagers and friends, and Edna, Eleanor, Lucy, Geoff and Sandy for their part in the advertising, refreshments and other preparations on the night.

The Church held their annual coffee morning on the Monday following the Easter Sunday service where as usual there were plenty of Hot Cross Buns and cakes at this popular village event.

Because of the proximity of our beautiful bay, the hall is becoming a regular choice for coastal organisations to hold events and a few days later it hosted a training session to help volunteers identify marine invasive species.

On the 29th April we held our own AGM where a few interested villagers heard about the events of the past year and those in the future including the forthcoming change to our charity status.

Into May and the hall became a polling station again, the first of two this season. The two ladies who officiate are becoming regular visitors and are very comfortable in our hall. Because of the European Elections we had to cancel a planned Beaford Arts event but this is now booked for 8 June.

On 6 May the Flower Show held their annual coffee morning, another social event for the villagers to buy a programme for the forthcoming Flower Show in July as well as picking up plants, drinking coffee and tea and eating cake! What is not to enjoy?

The following weekend saw the first of two wedding receptions this month. It is always lovely to see the hall and meadow decorated and decked out with flowers, bunting and fairy lights as many of them are. Each one is different and beautiful in their own way. We always hope the weather will be kind to them.

The Spring Fair held on Monday May 27 was, once again, a great success, Edna's report appears later on in this edition.

As usual our regular village groups have been using the hall and it has also hosted three children's parties, a private memorial function and a fundraiser for the Ilfracombe Gig club

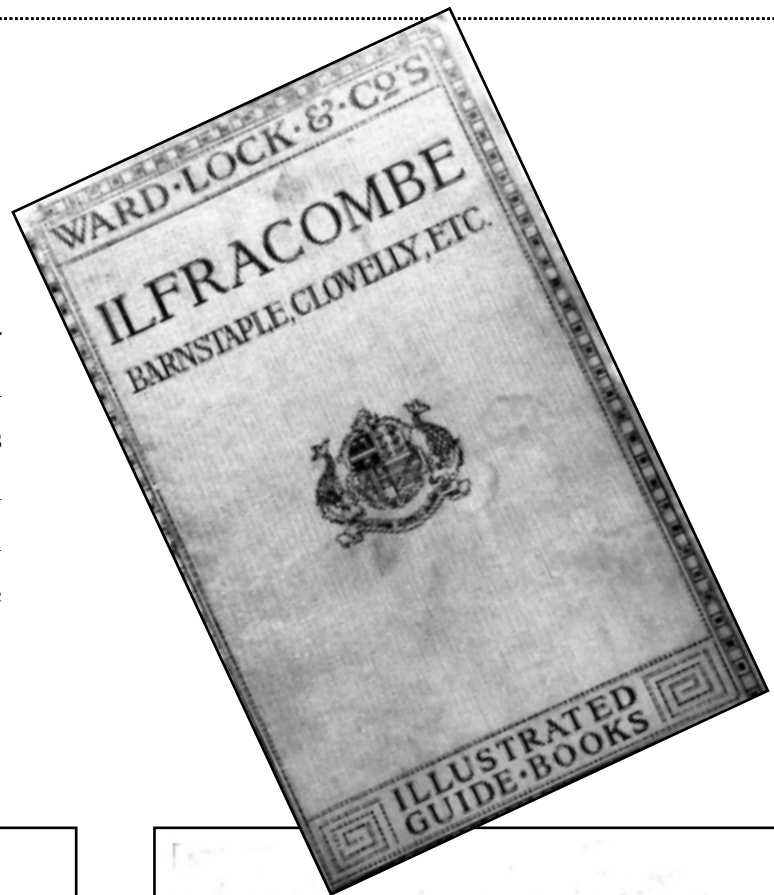
Please check our website which gives full details about forthcoming events and how you can arrange your own occasion. Remember to check the online calendar first and give us as much notice as possible if you want to hold a special event.

www.leememorialhall.co.uk

Jane Johncock
Secretary

LEE IN THE HISTORY BOOKS

Many thanks to Susan Richardson for sending in this very interesting section on Lee and its would-be centenarians amongst the long-lived residents from an old Ilfracombe Guide book. A fascinating insight into a previous time in our villages, we think you'd agree.



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[Kilburn.]

EXCURSIONS FROM ILFRACOMBE.

IT will be our pleasure to "personally conduct" visitors to the following places of interest, many of which are no doubt already familiar either by visitation or hearsay.

1. Lee, and Bull Point Lighthouse.
2. Morthoe, and Morte Point.
3. Barricane and Woolacombe Sands.
4. Chambercombe Valley.
5. Berrynarbor, and Hele.
6. Watermouth Caves.
7. Combenartin.
8. Lynmouth and Lynton.
9. Lundy Island.
10. Clovelly.

LEE IN THE HISTORY BOOKS, CONTD.

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GUIDE TO ILFRACOMBE, ETC.

I.—LEE.

Distance. Three miles.

Church.—*St. Matthew.* Hours of Sunday Service, 11.0 and 6.30.

Hotel.—*The Bay.*

Refreshments.—Half the cottages at least provide teas.

There is no prettier place around Ilfracombe than Lee, situated in a combe which might truly be called "The Valley of the Fuchsia." The latter part of the carriage-road to Lee is leafy, but the gradient very steep and trying for horses. Pedestrians usually prefer the "coast road," entered from the Tors Estate. (Signboards point the way.) At times it is merely a track, but when once on the cliffs the telegraph posts indicate the route. In the happy village of Lee there is no churchyard, no doctor, and no policeman. With the residents longevity is a fascinating pursuit, and several "centuries" have been scored. One old lady, with an excusable nervousness, rose at four o'clock on the one-hundredth celebration of her birthday, lest she should not live to tell the tale. Her neighbours gave her a purse of gold, and she received a present of one hundred bunches of white roses. Several veterans had nearly reached the coveted age, but from extraneous circumstances, and not from innate weakness, were snatched away prematurely, at the early age of ninety-nine. The one hotel and licensed house is the comfortable **Bay Hotel**, formerly the manor house. A special feature of Lee is the number of tea gardens. Many of the cottages cater in this way. Just before the carriage-road enters the village, there is on the right a pretty little **Dripping Well**. Lee Bay is very small, but the view of the sea, the cottages, the combe, and the thickly wooded hills make a perfect picture. About two miles beyond Lee is—

LEE AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS LINK TOGETHER!



As most readers will know, the Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery, adjacent to the Church and opposite the Memorial Hall, has been successfully run for many years by Louise Thompson, ably assisted by her mother, Edna. What most people probably do not know is the high regard in which Louise is held nationally. Louise is far too modest to write an article about herself, but she has allowed me to highlight her recent achievements.

The Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery



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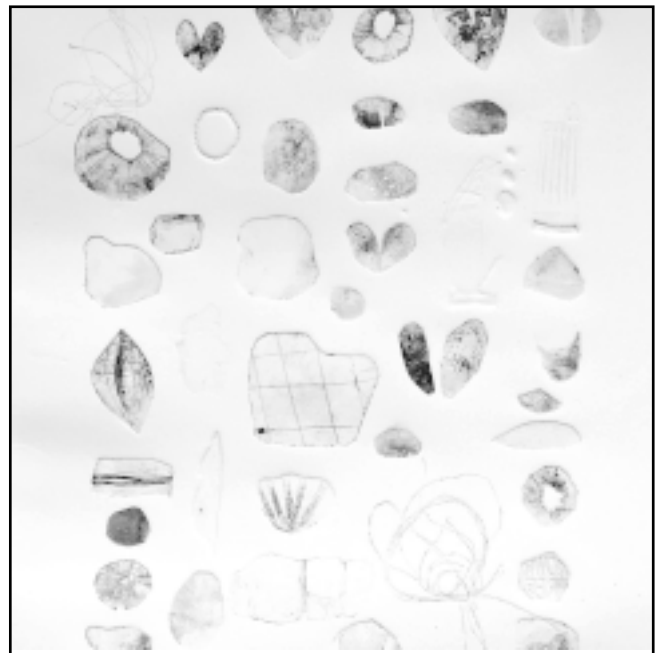
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EX34 8LW

Louise is a practising artist and had previously studied at Falmouth School of Art, graduating with a degree in Fine Art and Printmaking. Back in February the Royal Academy in London starts its summer show selection process. This is an open exhibition and about 16,000 works were initially submitted digitally. Louise's piece made it through to the shortlist of approximately 4,000. The artwork was



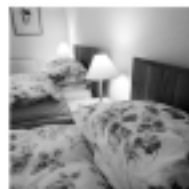
then taken to London where another selection process thinned down the shortlist to 1,200 pieces, including Louise's, which were selected for the show.

The art work is titled 'shells pebbles and plastics, beachcombing' (see the image). The artwork was inspired by beach walks and collecting shells and pebbles. Sadly these days, plastics are also found in the strand line. They are collected and taken back to Louise's studio space where she incorporates them into original intaglio prints.

Louise's work at the Royal Academy will be on display in London from the 10 June until the 12 August in Gallery V number 812. As well as the work on display in London, the Exmoor Magazine Summer Edition 2019 has also done a feature on the Old Schoolroom Craft Gallery and Louise's artwork and inspiration. It is well worth a read and it also includes some photographs of her work.

Ian Stuart

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The Schoolhouse - sleeps 2 (+cot)

LEE SPRING FAIR REPORT

The Spring Fair, held on Monday May 27, was, once again, a great success, with both visitors and locals queuing to come into the meadow, some of them having enjoyed delicious light lunches and homemade cakes in the hall beforehand.

The sun was shining and everyone was happy and eager to enjoy the many stalls, games, barbecue and cakes and to buy their raffle tickets in the hope of winning one (or more) of the lovely prizes.

The Ilfracombe Town Crier and the Mayor of Ilfracombe came along and added to the excitement of the occasion, and live entertainment was provided by Joe Steer's one man band, followed by many of his young students playing their guitars and singing throughout the afternoon as well as the recently formed 'Ukulele Orchestra of North Devon', much to the delight of everyone - especially their friends and families.

This year our theme was 'super heroes' and there were some amazing costumes worn by many of our stall holders and helpers.

Delicious cream teas and refreshments were served throughout the day and at the end of the afternoon all that was left were a few crumbs and the washing up!

There were more than 50 people involved in the planning and running of this annual event so a huge thank you to everyone and of course to all of our lovely locals and visitors who came along and supported us - it was all very worthwhile with the fantastic amount of £3109.75 being raised which will go towards helping maintain the Memorial Hall and St Matthews Church in our beautiful village of Lee.

Edna Thompson

[Ed: As usual, Edna Thompson and Paul Scarrott have supplied some lovely photos of the Fair, featured over the next pages - thank you both!]



In fine voice was the Ilfracombe Town Crier, welcoming everyone to the meadow



Just regular superheroes, Percy and Paul man the main entrance

LEE SPRING FAIR PHOTO MEMORIES



New event this year courtesy of Geoff Hills - guess the number of balloons in the car? And the mayor won!



A Formidable Family of Sea Gods and Heroines keep the HOOLA monster happy Maia and friends)



Carole and Barry were downright 'Super' on the second hand stall!



Eleanor puts on an 'Incredible' effort with a Super-Geoff on the plant stall



Oliver 'Rob' Roy smiles as he distributes his swag

LEE SPRING FAIR PHOTO MEMORIES



Wonderwoman Bananaman and Harlequin: Lucy Matt and Martha form an alliance to bring entertainment to the Fair



Masked and caped crusaders take over the delicious cake stall



Seb and Betsy heroically assist the ducks in being rescued from the relative shackles of their meadow pond



Bananaman Matt and comic-suited Kieran were certainly dressed and ready for action on the coconut shy!

LEE SPRING FAIR PHOTO MEMORIES



Our newest resident and Superheroine Jo on her way to a complete sell out of cakes



Superman Geoff strikes his John Travolta pose and breaks a flower selling record



Musical entertainment all afternoon from the various talented groups

LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT

Our AGM was held on 14 May 2019 in Lee Memorial Hall.

In many ways it has been a landmark year with the 'against the odds' refusal of the Acorn Blue Hotel planning application, an upgrade to the constitution, the election of a resident to the Ilfracombe Town Council and the changing of the guard within the committee.

So, first and foremost, at the 53rd Annual General Meeting tribute was paid to retiring and outgoing members, some of whom, had made a significant contribution over many years. The chair presented floral gifts to Paul and Marion Thom, Mavis Rogers, Elizabeth Gilliat, and Trevor Greaves. Elizabeth had been a committee member since 1967 and had served as chairlady. Paul Thom stepped down from the committee after 22 years (much of which was as honorary treasurer) and was hurrahed three times!

The following were duly confirmed as committee members for 2019:

Eric Couling (Chairman), Cllr Pat Coates, Matt Dearden, Kieran Fisher, Owen Rolfe, Carolyn Weekes and Martha Scarrott. David Biggerstaff was thanked by the chairman for accepting the role of honorary treasurer.

Routine business for the committee this year included:

- Maintenance and checking of the heart defibrillator (Grampus PH 862906).
- Running and upkeep of the public toilets including an extension to its opening times at Christmas and Easter, and the installation of new external doors and locks.
- Referral of road and street light damage to the appropriate council department
- Oversight and support of the Japanese Knotweed Team (any sightings gratefully accepted – there has been a spread into the Borough Valley).
- Liaison with other agencies including Plastic Free North Devon, the Forestry Commission, and the National Trust.
- Lobbying to have further traffic calming measures through Lincombe and down into Lee, with a potential 20 mph limit throughout.
- Planning applications to which we are a formal consultee. It should be noted that all but one (the Hotel) of the applications has been approved where a decision has been made.
- The treasurer's regular reports indicating that available funds have dropped to £1500 as a result of maintenance costs, hall hire and legal fees.

However, our focus for some time had been the Acorn Blue Hotel planning application, which was eventually refused unanimously by councillors on the planning committee in April 2019 after nearly two years. The reasons for the refusal were that the application did harm to the Conservation Area and heritage assets, that there were insufficient public benefits given the level of harm, there were no 'exceptional circumstances' as required by national planning regulations, and - because it was outside the council's development plan - it needed to be of modest scale. The refusal brought with it a requirement for either a Supplementary Planning Guidance or Design Brief, which will ensure that

LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT, CONTD.

any future application will comply with parameters agreed in consultation with the council and the community.

The Chairman and I believe the following were instrumental in overturning the application:

- The sustained and overwhelming support given by residents who turned up at planning committee meetings and their representations.
- The knowledge and quality of the speakers that has been acknowledged by the Head of Planning as being passionate and informed.
- A petition of over 4000 worldwide organised by Alan Bannister!
- The change of heart of Ilfracombe Town Council in deciding to object with us at last.
- A series of challenging letters from our committee holding the planners to account.
- The abandonment of the site by the owner and developer including potential legal enforcement by the council if the knotweed is not managed.
- A recently approved Torridge and North Devon Local Plan that safeguards rural and protected areas.
- Our openness to working with developer and owner to find a solution, as demonstrated by our initiating of a meeting with them and councillors.

We are keen to work for the communities of Lee and Lincombe in preserving our amenities and working together in the common interest. General membership and that of the committee is welcomed, and we will be happy to receive and deal with any issues you bring to our attention, and indeed to work with Ilfracombe Town Council and Cllr Pat Coates, who is a committee member.

This year we have also revised the constitution to be more modern and inclusive. The main changes recognise that anyone who has an active interest in our community can be a member (if they pay their subscription), and we have lowered periods of residence for committee eligibility to one year. We have also changed the boundary slightly and have made it possible for ex-residents and individuals with specialist skills to be part of the team.

To be a member please subscribe for £5 via any committee member or directly with our treasurer David Biggerstaff (866109, dgbiggerstaff@outlook.com).

Special thanks go to:

- Barry Jewell for conscientious and cheerful cleaning of not just our toilets, but the Hall and Church. His floral decorations add a wonderful touch of colour.
- Gina-Luisa Hilborne for her online administration of the website and digital referrals.
- Ian Stuart and Gina-Luisa for the provision and professional management of The Fuchsia List, which keep us all in the loop clearly and briefly.
- Heather Booker as secretary of 'Friends of Lee Bay' for her relentless energy and imagination in marshalling support for an alternative to the refused hotel application.
- To Bill Harvey and all the staff at the Grampus PH for the many hundreds of signatures added to the hotel petition and taking the time out to explain the issues to all their customers; and of course, for making the defibrillator available 24/7.

LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT, CONTD.

I would like to leave you with the following quotes:

Paul Thom (Committee member 22 years and honorary treasurer):

"An interesting and challenging time with all the changes that have taken place in the period. I wish the committee every success for the future."

Cllr Pat Coates (Ilfracombe Town Council):

"I would like to personally thank Liz, Paul, Marion and Mavis for their dedicated service to Lee and Lincombe over many years. At the same time, I am delighted to welcome Kieran, Martha and Matt as our new committee members. In addition, I would like to thank all of you who voted for me in the recent local elections. I look forward to representing your views on the Planning Committee and as part of the group working on the Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Plan."

Eric Couling (Chair):

"I am a great admirer of Sir Winston Churchill and I quote: '(Acorn Blue)...we will fight you on our beaches...' I would like to thank all the retiring members of the committee for all their hard work over many years and welcome the new younger members on to the committee, their views and ideas will be most welcome to keep our community vibrant."



Mike Turtons BUTCHERS

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LEE & LINCOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT, CONTD.

Liz Gilliat (inaugural member and retired chair):

"Since the inception of the Residents' Association there has always been a band of dedicated residents over the years, all having one ambition, to protect our unique village and the surrounding area. I believe Heather Booker and I are the only 'originals' remaining as members. We were grateful to Jeremy Thorpe, who suggested we formed a Residents' Association in 1967, when we had many controversial problems - nothing changes! On the day the Meeting took place in Barnstaple with Jeremy Thorpe I was at work and came home to be told that I was to be the Secretary of the soon to be formed Association. At some point Heather took on the job followed by the late Adrienne Howard. Adrienne and I attended Town and District Council Meetings where Lee appeared on the Agenda - making our voice heard.

Some major fights and achievements in the past: major house building development at Lincombe; the extension to Lee Bay Hotel (sadly lost); campaign to keep the Portico of the Hotel from demolition (lost); constant battle to keep the Public Toilets open; noise and disruption at Lee Manor Country Club which we won having taken them to court; creation of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) on woodlands; achieving Conservation Area status, more recently increased in size; the Millennium Seat on Home Lane which we asked Denny Booker to make and we supplied the wood, which is currently cared for by Heather and is situated on a piece of land owned by me.

I hope the Association will continue with all the good work that has taken place in the past and protect this 'little gem of a village' and its environs. Best wishes, Liz Gilliat."

Paul Scarrott, Secretary LLRA, 864723, pes-2@outlook.com



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THE FUCHSIA LIST



Way back in 2015, through our various roles in the Residents' Association, Neighbourhood Watch and the Memorial Hall, we had contact details of the majority of owners and/or residents in Lee and Lincombe. Following discussions with all organisations, it seemed to be a good idea to set up a single, central point of contact to share information relevant to everyone in Lee and Lincombe. So we set up what we called 'The Fuchsia List' - an email mailing list consisting solely of owners and/or residents in the village. We contacted everyone on our composite list to seek their agreement and, through the Spring 2015 edition of the Lee & Link'em News, invited anyone else to join the List. The first communications on the Fuchsia List went out in April 2015.

No one, then or later, has opted out of the Fuchsia List unless they have left the village, and many, especially newcomers, have joined. We believe that around 90% of residents and properties are on the List. We have made it clear from the beginning that it is a communications channel for messages entirely related to the village. It is not a vehicle for opinions or comment, nor is it for lengthy or flamboyant articles, though, we will, if appropriate, put links to further information. As the only feedback we have received has been entirely positive, we think that the relatively strict criteria we use has probably been the main reason why no one has dropped out of the List.

We are writing this note for the Lee & Link'em News for two reasons. Firstly, to remind existing members of the List of its purposes and functions and, secondly, to invite anyone in the village and/or a property owner who is not yet on the Fuchsia List to contact us with a request to join. Our contact details to join the Fuchsia List or to request for a message to be sent out are residents@leedevon.co.uk. Both of us receive all communications to this email address and we are both pleased to continue as administrators of the Fuchsia List.

Ian Stuart & Gina-Luisa Hilborne

LEE & LINK'EM NEWS

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AN UPDATE: WHO WAS ON THE SPRING ISSUE COVER PHOTO?



As you may recall, our Spring issue featured a 1930s Lee School photo as its cover, with a request inside for more information. Laurence and Miriam Baker already knew that Ken Baker is on the front row, second from right, Ken's sister, Pat, is behind him wearing glasses, and behind Pat, slightly to the left is Dulcie Yeo (nee Jones).

Mark Mitchell of School House, Lee answered the plea for information, writing:

"I know the names of two children on the photo, the lad on the back row on the left is Bill Cook, and his sister, who is two away from him on the same row, is Mary Cook."

Bill Cook was born in October 1920, and, as I would think he may be one of the oldest in the photo, it would place the year as either 1930 or 1931, depending on when in the academic year the photo was taken."

Thank you for filling in some of the blanks, Mark.

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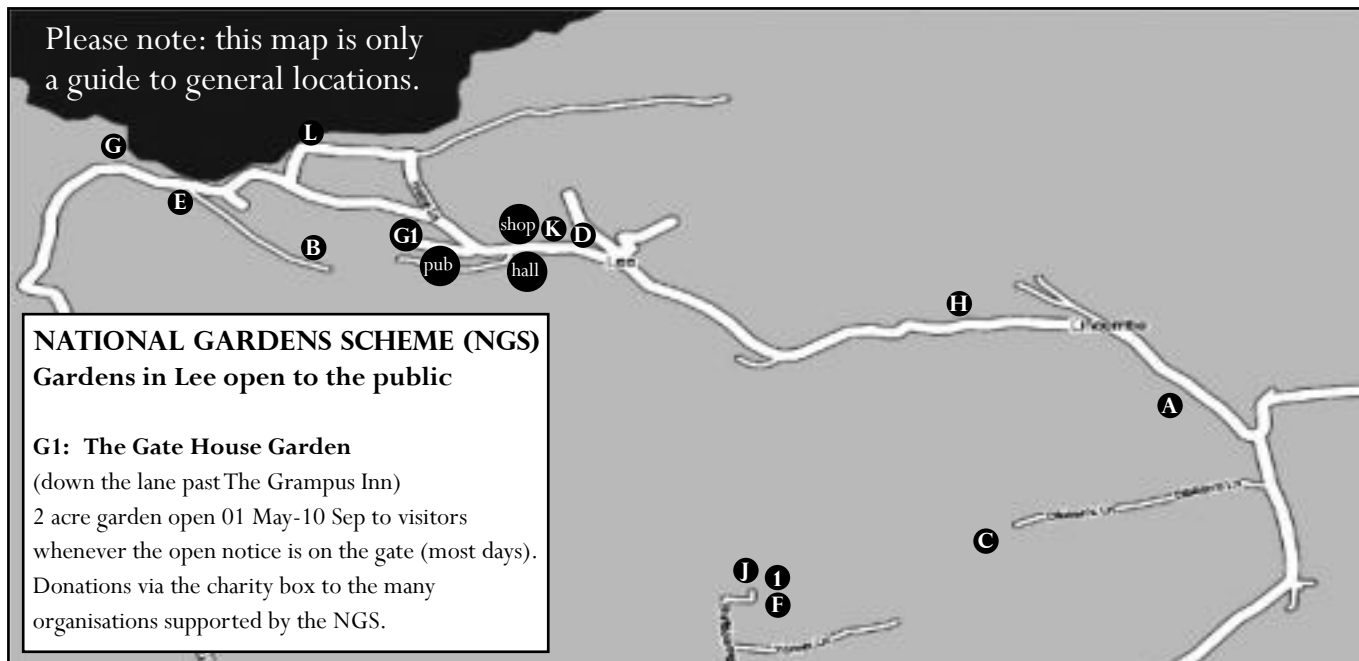
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AUTUMN 2019 ISSUE DEADLINE - 01 OCTOBER 2019

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