



LAKE NEWS

Hampshire Lakes Entertainment



Coronation Weekend

On **Saturday 6th May at 6.30 pm** we shall welcome back tenor Harry Kersley and also, this time, a soprano Kirsty McLean who has sung at The Royal Opera House. Their programme will include music from the shows, opera and classical crossover including well known classics. Entertainment will be during and following a special dinner.

We shall be welcoming back Debi Hall to sing for us during our Coronation Afternoon Tea on **Monday 8th May at 3.00 pm**.

Our new King is 74 years old and Debi will select her programme of music from the last 74 years so look out for some old favourites.

Hampshire Lakes Entertainment will be offering a complimentary glass of Prosecco to toast the King.

Winchester and lunch at Rick Stein's

On 23rd May we are offering a trip to Winchester with an optional lunch at Rick Stein's fish Restaurant. There will be time to look around the Cathedral or the shops as well as enjoying lunch if you wish.

The menu caters for all tastes and budgets, even offering a 3 course lunch for £17.50!

"We've never thought of our restaurants as temples of gastronomy, they're just places where the fish is fresh and the atmosphere is alive and fun!" *Rick Stein*

See the flyer and book at reception.

Joan Russam

Hampshire Lakes Residents' Association (www.hlra.info)

The next committee meeting is scheduled for **Saturday 13th May, at 10.30 am in the library** (the normal first Saturday in May is the coronation weekend). All members are welcome to come as observers and will have the opportunity to comment or question.

Wow...Mamma Mia, what an evening!

The Bistro rang to the music of ABBA and there were several 'dancing queens' (apologies guys!) while 69 of us enjoyed and sang along with the 'super troupers' (Emma and Jenny). A big 'thank you for the music' to Joan. How does she manage to find such amazing artists to entertain us? Debbie, Mike, Paula and their staff came up trumps again with great decorations, delicious food and excellent service. 'I have a dream' that we will hear Emma and Jenny again singing songs from the shows in September – you'll just have to wait.

Jo Taylor

Mah Jong

Anyone interested in learning to play Mah Jong should contact **Vic Oliver**. We used to meet on Monday mornings at 10:30 to play friendly games without too much attention to the more difficult complexities of scoring, but health has reduced our numbers below the four we need. Try it. It's an interesting game which you can take as seriously or lightly as you like.

Vic Oliver



Queen Elizabeth's Coronation Day, 2nd June 1953

For most of the day my family avoided the rain by joining several of our Eversley Lane neighbours in the front room of one house where there was a floor standing cabinet displaying 'moving' pictures of the event on a very small screen.

The 9th Odiham (Yateley) scout group had been chosen to build and light one of the official beacons in the line that crossed part of southern England.

The location of ours was on Yateley common, near the A30, at the top of the hill facing towards Blackwater. The wooden construction was about two scouts high, one scout square at the bottom and one wolf cub square at the top!

I recall that it had stopped raining by the time that I needed to cycle to meet the rest of the group for the lighting ceremony, which went well because the surrounding area had provided us with a few gorse bushes to build into the centre of the stack. My recollection is that we could see two of the beacons in the line between Windsor and us but we could not see any after ours because they were beyond the tall pine forest to the west.



Footnote: Eversley Lane has been promoted to Eversley Road but the road itself has been downgraded from A327 to B3272. However it would not now be possible to play "Piggy in the middle" on the road as we did when we were kids!

Ted Wooldridge

More

I was at school in June 1953. There was great excitement everywhere. Every schoolchild was given a commemorative mug and of course there was no school that day. Very few people had television but I watched at a friend's house. The black and white TV's definition was poor by today's standards but nevertheless we

watched the wonderful State Coach travel to the Abbey and the Queen, in her beautiful robe, with the long train, entering the Abbey with Prince Philip for the 3 hour ceremony.

That evening my sister and I went to London and stood in the Mall to see the Queen and her family come out onto the balcony. The crowds were enormous and many had been camped there since the night before. The weather was cold and wet, poor for June, but British crowds are made of stern stuff!

A day or two later I went to a Service in the Abbey, one of the two pupils from each school in the London area. It was very impressive and was still just as it was at the Coronation. I remember the beautiful, blue, crested chairs we sat on (which occasionally appear on bargain hunt now!). I have to admit my memory is a bit hazy about the details of everything and some of you may disagree with them and indeed may remember a lot more. My apologies if I have strayed from the truth.

Wendy Wooldridge

More still

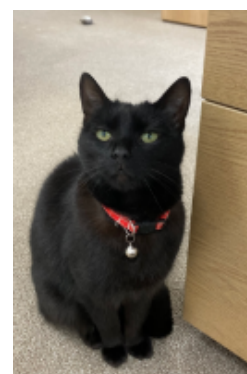
Coronation Day, 2nd June 1953, was a red letter day in our family. My Father, who had refused to have a TV, decided he would rent one for the Coronation! Up until then if we wanted to watch TV my sister and I had to go to our next door neighbour who did have it! I remember watching "The Quatermass Experiment" which was so terrifying that we watched from behind the sofa!

All our family really enjoyed watching the Coronation so my Father must have decided that it was good enough to continue to rent it. I bought the record of "Elizabethan Serenade" which was composed especially by Ronald Binge for Queen Elizabeth 11. It is still played on Classic FM!

Diana Duckworth

Lexi

Lexi has found a new home in Oakleigh Square with Jean Bennett. When her mistress Prudence died recently we were very anxious about what would happen to her little cat. Prudence named her Alexa on the grounds that she wanted someone in her flat who would do as she was told. She is fondly known as Lexi.



Book Club

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 4th May at 11:00 in the Library**. All residents are always welcome.

If you enjoy the Radio there is a Book review programme called "A Good Read" on BBC Radio 4. You can pick up lots of Podcast episodes.

Diana Duckworth

Book Reviews

L J Ross – 'Holy Island'. L J Ross. was a new writer to me. She lives in Northumberland and writes different genres, many of which are based there. If you saw any of Robson Green's recent TV series 'Weekend Escapes' Louise was one of his special guests, and that is how I came across her.

I recently read her debut novel 'Holy Island'. This is a murder mystery set on Holy Island with a different twist. If you are intrigued by a bit of 'pagan' ritual then you will find the book appealing. Even if you aren't it is still an excellent 'good read'. It is the first in a series of romantic suspense thrillers featuring DCI Ryan. This debut novel was released in January 2015 and within 4 months reached number one in the Amazon UK chart.

I have now read the second of the DCI Ryan series and have the third one waiting to be enjoyed. The books are paper-backs but slightly different in that they are taller than the norm – so in our library they have been placed in the 'hard back' section.

Please try this book out – I think you will enjoy it.

Jo Taylor

Amor Towles - 'A Gentleman in Moscow'

A fictional Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov, born in 1889 is under a lengthy house arrest in the luxury Hotel Metropole in Moscow. His charge is that, as an aristocrat in revolutionary Russia, he is a social parasite.

Witty and humane, the novel takes us through the revolutionary year, the second world war right up to the 1950s and beyond. The urbane aristocrat whose knowledge of art, fine wine and French cuisine rarely loses his cool as he adapts to the Philistines of the new Russia.

It's a great read and a fascinating treatment of Russian history from an unusual angle.

It will be in the library once it has finished circulating among the book club members

Jenny Hydes

Sincere Condolences

To the friends and family of Hazel Henwood. Hazel had lived in Hampshire Lakes since it opened 7 years ago.

We also send condolence to the friends and family of Prudence Vincent. Prudence had also lived here for 7 years. Her wonderful wit and acute sense of irony entertained us all.

We are sad, too, at the loss of Ian Graham. Ian had also lived in the village from the start. A real asset to our village, he used to entertain us at the keyboard, particularly during Happy Hour. Many of us had cause to be grateful for his advice and help with computers. He was generous with his time and never refused to help.

Lakes News Team

Welcome to

Mrs Patricia Grist who moves into Oakleigh Square and Mrs Mary Tayman who has moved into 9 Elm Court.

Retired Veterans visit to Sandhurst Commandants Parade



Since 1992 all those being commissioned into the Regular Army, male and female, graduate and non-graduate, have undergone one regular commissioning course. The Army reserve Young Officers, a modular eight week course, alongside regular professionally Qualified Officers (doctors, nurses, dentists, padres, lawyers and veterinarians) and those about to take the Army Internship Programme. Reserve Professionally Qualified Officers complete the first four weeks of an eight week commissioning course. Since 2003, the Academy has also prepared Regular and Reserve Army Late Entry for commissioned service. Everyone who holds the Kings Commission is now trained at Sandhurst and the Academy is proud to be the spiritual home of the officer corps of the British Army. Later on in the week His Majesty The King will attend Sovereign's Parade and Presentation of New Colours and Sovereign's Banner.

David Allan

Hampshire Lakes Birdwatch: 18th April

Eleven of us gathered on a sunny morning for a gentle hour's stroll around the perimeter of the Village to witness and listen to some of the many birds we are fortunate to have here. Spring is the best time of year for identification because our resident birds and the recently arrived Summer visitors from Africa are in full song.

Sixteen species of bird were encountered including chiffchaff, blackcap, goldcrest, greenfinch and red kite. This was a very successful number for our first walk of the year. There are even more within our grounds, some not quite as abundant. Hopefully these will also reveal themselves next time!

Michael Bader



Rain

115 mm of rain fell here in Hampshire Lakes in March. It was the wettest



March since Heather's records began here in 2017 and more than twice the average for the month in this area. Rain fell on 19 days - we would normally expect about 10.

It was also the 5th wettest of any month here since 2017. This is particularly noteworthy because, on average, March is one of the driest months of the year.

The reason for so much rain was that low pressure systems from the Atlantic took a much more southerly track than normal over the British Isles.

Thank you so much, Heather, for your valuable record-keeping.

Michael Bader

Editorial addition (by Sam)

"Farmers fear unkindly May: frost by night and hail by day"

From Flanders and Swann "Song of the Weather"

Research Volunteers

Unlike Trevor Woods, whose volunteering includes such things as driving an ambulance and delivering the odd baby, most of us are more restricted in what we can do to add to the sum of human happiness.

I've been on the books at Reading University for the last 20 or 30 years as a research volunteer on several topics, including psychology, engineering and food sciences. At the end of March, for example, I spent a half-day at the University in a study looking at how eating styles affect digestion of nutrients by people over 65. It included a superficial health check, making a video of how I chewed and swallowed, various questionnaires, numerous blood, saliva and breath tests and two meals (a scrambled egg sandwich breakfast and an "eat as much as you want" pasta lunch).

If you might be interested in this sort of thing email d.zannidi@pgr.reading.ac.uk or phone 07547 671 601

Another important medical research project, this time at Oxford University, is a survey centred on over-65s' attitudes towards **de**-prescribing medication (stopping your pills).

The lead researcher, Rebecca Garnett, asks you to pass this link on to friends, family, etc, as every response will help. The hope is that it will lead to improved health outcomes for many in our age group. Here's the link:

<https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/attitudes-towards-prescription-medications>

Do have a look to see if you would like to participate.

Sam Dauncey

Lakes News is written by "ordinary" residents and printed and delivered for us by the administration team.

We want it to inform, entertain and help keep everybody involved with what is happening. Content is based on articles and stories **sent in by residents**. Concerns? Compliments? Requests? News? Interests? Suggestions? Offers? Photos? Ideas to make people think?

We fill the gaps!

samdauncey@live.co.uk and

jennyhydes@icloud.com

Your contributions are our life-blood.

