

The Leigh & Coombe Hill Newsletter

Issue 204 August / September
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Please send me any articles that you'd like to share which would be of interest to the residents of The Leigh and Coombe Hill for October's edition by **20th September** (to above email). [Karen M](#)

Village Fête - a Great Success

Weren't we lucky with the weather! Despite the forecast for showers, the rain didn't come until after everything was safely packed away following a very busy couple of hours. Many locals from The Leigh and Coombe Hill, together with visitors from Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury enjoyed our fete. There were many stalls to try—the hot dog and ice cream stalls did particularly well, but the tea and cakes were extremely popular with young and old alike, especially as there was the opportunity to hear the wonderful singing of the Cheltenham Community Choir.

The highlight of the afternoon for many though, was the dog show where many of our resident four-legged friends won rosettes (and a treat for their owners) in categories such as: cleverest trick, nicest nose, shiniest eyes and waggiest tail. Best of all, the fête raised nearly **£1,500** (after costs) which was split between St.Catherine's Church and our local (Great Western) air ambulance charity.

Too many people to thank individually, but whether your contribution was large or small, thank you for your support.
[Parochial Church Council](#)

Dangerous Driving needs to Stop NOW



There's long been an issue with drivers speeding in the village. Many reminders have been posted online and in previous newsletters, asking drivers to take more care. It seems these have been to no avail.



In the last six weeks, a number of near misses have left individuals badly shaken and livestock dead. Some of these have been reported to or are being dealt with by the police, so this is serious! While there have been no injuries to individuals as yet, if nothing changes there will be an accident. And it's the driver who'll be at fault.

The consequences for all can be life-changing not only for the injured person but for the driver too — they could face a 'dangerous driving' charge or worse, It's the driver's responsibility to take due care and attention.

Our lanes are shared spaces, they're not just for drivers. Drivers have no right to make pedestrians move off the road (and should wait until they safely pass). It's the driver's responsibility to keep their speed down where they can comfortably stop to give way to pedestrians.

The Leigh's official speed limit is 30mph. This is the maximum speed, not the speed you should be travelling at; 20mph is a much more reasonable speed with drivers having more time to react to situations. Driving speed should be lower on bends, approaching junctions or when encountering pedestrians, mobile scooter users, bikes and horses — which always have the right of way when there are no pavements.

It's not just delivery drivers that are at fault. The main offenders from recent incidents involved people who live or work in The Leigh. We need to start with each and every resident taking full responsibility and being aware of their speed and their impact on others.

If you have visitors, family, holiday guests or contractors working for you, it's your responsibility to ensure they're made aware of the shared space lanes. Please tell them to keep their speed down, give way and respect our villagers right to be safe.

With more young children now living (or visiting) in The Leigh, they should be able to go out on bikes and walk in safety, without the fear of encountering an erratic, selfish driver.

It's also the responsibility of land owners to ensure hedges are cut back off the road and on bends so that visibility is maximised. There are no restrictions on cutting back hedges at any time of year if it is for the benefit of road safety.

The Parish Council will be looking at ways of ensuring our lanes are made safer and will be deciding on the practical interventions that can and will be taken over the coming months. If you would like to be involved in that discussion then please attend the next meeting, details of which will be posted on the Parish website.

[The Leigh Parish Council](#)



Parish Council update



The Parish Council AGM took place at the end of July. In addition to their roles as councillors, voted in as Chairman - **John Arkell**; Vice Chair - **Leigh Glazebrook**; Responsible Finance Officer - **Karen Morton**, Highways Representative - **Richard Theyer** and Public Footpaths and Bridleways Representative - **Anthony Bowness**.

Anthony is a new councillor on The Leigh Parish and would like to welcome and thank him for his time and support. Please check the website (or the noticeboard in The Leigh for meeting details). www.theleighpc.org.uk

Christmas Wreath Making

It's never too early to starting thinking about Christmas. Only one date this year — Sunday 10 December (afternoon timings to be confirmed) so places will be limited.

Last year was a sell-out so please book early to secure your place.

The price has been held at £25 per person which includes everything you'll need to make a wreath (base, fairy lights and foliage). Also included is an afternoon tea where hot drinks and a selection of homemade cakes will be served.

All proceeds go to St.Catherine's Church. Small and stylish or big and bold, the choice is yours. For full details and to reserve your place please contact **Karen M.** on 07711



Coronation Coins



Last chance to apply (closes 31 August) for your child's commemorative £5.00 Coronation coin, courtesy of the Parish Council.

The coins are by application only and are limited to those who were 16 or under on the date of the King's coronation (6 May 2023) and who reside full time (or spend time living with a parent) in Coombe Hill or The Leigh.

If your child/children is/are eligible then all you have to do is send the child's name, DOB and address (so we know where to deliver the presentation pack) to Karen Morton either via email (karen.d.morton@outlook.com) or as an SMS text message (07711 632256). **Karen M**



While it's still (technically) summer, it won't be long before the nights become colder.

Local regular sweeps, Mr Bird and sons are planning to visit The Leigh on Thursday 14 September. Good news too — it's the same price as previous years (£45 per flue).

All those on my list will be contacted but any new residents who want their chimney swept on the day should ring me on 680244 or email me anniehidson@hotmail.com to be added to their schedule (please also confirm number of flues). **Anne H**

Tewkesbury Choral Society

- Do you enjoy singing?
- Would you like to sing with others?
- Would you like to make new friends?
- Can you sing reasonably well in tune?
- And would you be willing to do some homework between rehearsals?

If so, why not try singing with us as we prepare for concerts in the splendour of Tewkesbury Abbey.

Rehearsals take place in **Tewkesbury C of E Primary School**
Chance Street, Tewkesbury GL20 5RQ
on Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30, in term time from September to May.

We perform:

- many of the choral classics as well as lesser-known works
- twice a year, in May and December
- in Tewkesbury Abbey
- . . . and, sometimes, overseas (earlier this year, we sang in Germany)

On Saturday 2nd December, we will be in the Abbey singing two works by Handel:

Part One of Messiah (one of the greatest and best loved of choral works)
and

The King shall rejoice (which was sung at the King's Coronation in May)
and one by Haydn:

The Little Organ Mass

We are inviting new singers to join us for a "taste-and-try" rehearsal at the school on Monday 11th September from 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Music will be provided, and there will be no charge or further commitment.

For further details, please visit our website: www.tewkesburychoral.org.uk or contact our chairman Christine Bennett at tewkesburychoral@gmail.com

Come and join our choir and help fill the Abbey with beautiful music. Soprano, alto, tenor or bass, experienced singers or those new to choral singing, all are welcome. **Oliver H**



Gentle Paws

Dog walking and holiday pet sitting for your pooches.

Please call **Sally C** on 01242 680249 or 07974 303426



Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm
Friday & Saturday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 1:00pm

