



LAKES NEWS

Rôle Models

You may wonder why these glamorous actors grace the header of this month's Lakes News. Well, it's because they have been selected to play leading roles in the film being made of Richard Osman's novel set in a luxury retirement village. It is of course 'The Thursday Murder Club'.

Heartthrob Piers Brosnan will play Ron (he's the bolshy one) and Sir Ben Kingsley will play Ibrahim, the psychiatrist, while Helen Mirren will be Elizabeth, the retired spook. The question mark is for who will be Joyce, the former nurse who simply does not miss a thing. She also has a know-it-all daughter. (Sound familiar?). Will Joyce be Judy Dench perhaps or Penelope Wilton? We hope to know soon. The filming will be this summer and release date perhaps in the winter.

Whatever you feel about the literary merits of the book, it makes a great change for older people to be depicted as attractive, clever and funny rather than always shuffling around in oversized slippers or vacantly looking at a TV screen.

Jenny Hydes

Many thanks . . .

. . . to those who have contributed to this month's issue. We really do appreciate the effort (and sometimes the heartbreak) you have made.

The Lakes News Team

A TOLERANT SOCIETY MUST STILL BE
INTOLERANT - OF INTOLERANCE

The HLRA

The next committee meeting will be in the **Bistro, on Saturday 11th May at 10:30.**

This again is a week later than normal.

As usual all residents are most welcome. One of the aims of the HLRA is to identify issues which most concern residents. However, we are not able to discuss individual concerns, especially over care. Only if issues affect all residents are we able to help.

Progress we have made in our negotiations with Anchor is described in the HLRA documents folder in the Library. *Jenny Hydes*

Volunteer Drivers Scheme

Remember, Emrys (4593) has resumed his role as coordinator. He is now the one to approach for bookings.

Cotton's Sunday Mornings

Remember, Cotton's is now open for two hours (from 10 to 12) on Sunday mornings. It's very helpful for us all to have it open on Sundays so make sure you use it or lose it!

Pub Games Nights

These are in the Bar and the Activities Room, first Tuesday (7 May) and fourth (28 May), from about 7pm, when the bar is not open. Bring your own drinks, glasses etc. and play some games.

The Lakes News Team

THE BEST DOCTORS ARE DR. DIET, DR.
QUIET AND DR. MERRYMAN

16th Century Proverb

How we met our Match

Keep sending little articles about how you met your partner. Here are two very different stories of how circumstances led to lifelong relationships.

Wendy Wooldridge



Joyriders

I never thought I would ever have cause to thank joyriders for stealing cars but that is where I found myself some 45 years ago. At the time I was living on my own in a flat in Cardiff. One evening I had gone out to a social event where like-minded people got together to enjoy music theatre and other social activities in a club called Nexus. I was one of the organisers and so had stayed behind after the event with some friends to tidy and close up.

We were just going out of the front door and locking up when a very distressed lady appeared. Her car had been stolen. She told us that she had come to the evening for the first time that evening, but on leaving to drive home, found that her car was not where she had parked it. Her distress at losing the car was compounded by the fact that she had three children (young teenagers) who would be worried if she did not arrive back at 11 PM as promised.

I offered to take her to the police station to report the theft, and then to the bus or train station for her to get transport back home. In the event it was not that straightforward so I offered to drive her home even though it was gone 10 pm and she lived some 15 miles away in a village called Penhow, between Newport and Chepstow in Monmouthshire. We had an enjoyable time talking on the journey, so much so that when I dropped her off I gave her my phone number and said to contact me if she needed any further help. Just the next day she telephoned to say that the police had found her car in a suburb of Cardiff where it had been abandoned, having been stolen simply to give

the joyriders a lift home. As she was without transport I offered to fetch her the next day and take her to collect the car, for which she was very grateful.

Fortunately, her car had not been damaged apart from the door lock. We agreed we would keep in touch and she left to drive it home

A week or so later she telephoned me to say she had booked a restaurant in Cardiff where she wished to take me to dinner to say "thank you". I, of course, accepted and Cherry and I had a very pleasant evening which was the beginning of a relationship and subsequent marriage which lasted some 44 years until her sudden and tragic death late last year.

I am forever grateful to those joyriders – though my family have often teased me suggesting I myself had arranged for her car to be stolen in order to get a chance to meet her!

Emrys Parry

Lover of Cocoa

For quite a while, I did agency work: book-keeping and typing, both of which I enjoyed. One of the jobs was in the City, at Gill and Duffus, commodity traders near Tower Bridge. There I met a chap called Ron, a cocoa trader in the next office. At first Ron and I had an on-and-off relationship. We sort of met in the corridor, shared coffees and so on but then started going out together: cinema etc. I was a keen ice skater and dancer, but Ron was hopeless at skating and it was only my encouragement that made him a passable social dancer. We lived miles apart (Battersea and Wood Green) so after we spent an evening together he would just see me onto the bus.

But we eventually settled down and married at Wood Green Register Office (no money for a big white wedding). We lived first in a tiny flat in Battersea, worked hard and saved enough to buy a place to live, a small bungalow in Essex, with a small double bed and a very small single room. Ron's cocoa trading went well, so we moved up the property ladder, eventually to Waverley Drive in Camberley, a lovely 5-bed house which we extended to six bedrooms and a swimming pool. Not bad for a kid from Battersea! Having had three wonderful sons I think I have a lot to be happy about.

Sadly, Ron passed away in 2017 after 61 years of marriage, but I am still carrying on.

Shirley Phillips



Thursday 16th May, Savill garden

An afternoon visit has been arranged to enjoy the magnificent displays of Japanese Azaleas and beautiful landscaped gardens in a part of Windsor Great Park. A cream tea has been included, completing a delightful visit.

Book at Reception (limited tickets remaining)

Tuesday 21st May, Robbie with his Guitar

Hampshire Lakes will welcome Robbie Lee to entertain us playing his guitar and singing all those songs we know and love from the 60s and 70s. Robbie comes well recommended by Keith Hall. A delicious buffet will be on offer so it promises to be a great evening.

Booking opening soon at Reception

Thursday 6th June, D Day 80th Anniversary

Watch out for details about a planned **Street Party** to commemorate this important event.

Hampshire Lakes Entertainment supports this event, organised by Gaye and Paula.

Booking

A reminder that the entertainment fee (usually £10) must be paid at the time of booking at reception. Also, if you have a particular table plan in mind, be sure to let us know so that you are happy with the seating arrangements.

Table Plans

Why do we need them? For food to be served together, table by table, the menu for each person on that table needs to be noted by the kitchen.

If you wish to sit with particular friends, just tell reception when you book and your request will be noted and granted!

It's not possible on the day, to decide you want to sit on a particular table because all the sets of meals have already been planned and cutlery laid appropriately.

Of course for buffet meals, you can sit wherever you like when you enter the bistro!

Joan Russam

Thanks are due to those who made such a success of the **St George's Day dinner**.

Let's start with **Joan** who organised the evening and arranged for the great Thames Valley Singers to entertain us. Joan also sourced the acoustic 'mushrooms' which have made events in the Bistro and Bar so much more enjoyable. She was the one who got the quotations and the persuaded Anchor to spend (our) money to buy and fit them.

Then our wonderful **Nicky** who was responsible for the front of house arrangements. She has worked so hard with seating plans and place settings but also ensured nothing disturbed the entertainment. The serving staff were excellent and were also able to enjoy the show Well done Nicky!

Theatre Review

A group of enthusiastic theatre goers visited Woking New Victoria Theatre recently to see a play called "Ghosts 2.22".

We hoped to be a little bit scared and entertained by a spooky play. The reviews had been reasonable and we had our usual good seats. But oh dear! Lots of atmospheric devices - wailing foxes, swirling mists, shouting actors and the inevitable ouija board didn't really work or build up tension.

There was effective use of the electronic clock which played games with the audience and built up some tension as it neared the 2.22 time when the horror was supposed to happen.

The denouement was a genuine surprise though and, as in the excellent Agatha Christie play "The Mousetrap", we were all asked not to tell the twist at the end.

Jenny Hydes

Lost Property?



Three woolly hats and a pair of ladies gloves have turned up - from where I know not. If any belong to you or you could use them, please let me know before I bin them.

Sam Dauncey, 4627

Methodist recruits

Taken outside Sandhurst and Yateley
Methodist Church after



morning
service on
Easter
Sunday.

Two
residents
from 'The
Lakes',
Norma
Heather
(left) and

Michael Bader (2nd left), were welcomed into
Church Membership during a delightful
service taken by the Minister Rev Sharon
Gardner (right).

Val Livesley

Post Office Enquiry

Did you watch the TV drama "Mr Bates and the Post Office"? IT? Since then a public enquiry has been happening to find out the truth. The enquiry has been carried out for several weeks. You can see how this is progressing by going on to Google "YouTube Post Office enquiry live". The enquiry is continuing for several more weeks and is interviewing senior members of Post Office at the moment. I have been watching the cross examination and find it quite addictive. It's worth a look.

As the weeks continue, more high profile Post Office staff will be interviewed. The final one will be with Paula Vennells, the CEO of the Post Office during the years of the scandal. She has always denied that the Horizon Computer system has a problem. After much public outrage, she has returned the CBE she was awarded for services to the Post Office.

Sometimes real life drama is more riveting than the drama of the theatre. *Diana Duckworth*

Holiday fun

Most residents look forward to a restful holiday. Cruises, hotels by the beach, sundowners in somewhere warm. Not so our Fitness Manager Annemarie. She and her husband Philip are seeing France the hard way - on bicycles. Their trip in May involves 10 days of strenuous biking from Derby Green to Monaco!

With no back-up but with over-night hotel stops already booked, they will travel the 900 miles with the longest stretch 120 miles in one day though some days it will be a mere 45! They plan to arrive in Monaco in time for the Grand Prix. Monaco will be buzzing with excitement so they will enjoy the atmosphere although they haven't got tickets for the actual event. They are particularly looking forward to enjoying the lovely French countryside.

Personally I have always enjoyed the lovely French countryside through the prism of a lovely glass of French wine! Good luck Annemarie and Philip! And good luck with bringing your bikes back on Ryan Air.

Jenny Hydes

Michael's Bird walks

Our next Bird ID walk will be on Thursday 16th May. Please meet in Reception at 10 am.

We shall have about an hour's gentle stroll along easily walkable paths.

Resident birds and summer visitors should be in full song, enabling us to identify them.

The highest number of birds encountered on any walk since they started in 2021 is 23. On our 12th April 2024 walk we met Nuthatch, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Dunnock, Chiffchaff, Robin, Wren, Blackbird, Starling, Jay, Magpie, Collared Dove, Wood Pigeon, Carrion Crow, Canada Goose.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for anything you would like to discuss.

Michael Bader, ext 4643

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. 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!
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