



LAKE NEWS

Above: Jazz in the Park 26 June The HLRA

You may have noted that there has been a change in the management structure within Anchor. This has meant that Gaye has a new line manager. In fact the post is a new post which carries responsibility for Anchor properties for Independent Living in the South. The manager's name is Emma Tobin and she visited our village on 25th June to introduce herself and answer some of our concerns. There will be a full account of her visit at the **Committee Meeting in the library at 10:30 on 6th July**.

As usual all residents are most welcome.

Jenny Hydes

Situations Vacant



Applications are invited for the post of Hampshire Lakes Entertainment

Coordinator. The post will be available from 1st January 2025.

Applicants should ideally have the following skills:

- Ability to recognise and respond to the complete entertainment requirements of everyone in the village.
- Ability to choose and appoint a wide range of entertainers of the highest standard and with the lowest fees.
- Have good project management and organisational skills as well as a thick skin.
- Above all be passionate about having fun.

Remuneration? I wish!

I have been doing this work for the last 7 years along with HLE working groups and it's time for some new blood and some new ideas.

It's been full of great moments and sometimes great stress!

I will continue to work with Jo, Janet and the HLE team on Theatre Together and visits.

Maybe the way ahead is for two or three people to share the job and we invite anyone interested to come along to the library for a **glass of wine at 5.30 pm on 24th July**, when the HLE team will have a chat about it.

Bookings are complete until January 2025 so there's plenty of time to plan. *Joan Russam*

Volunteer Driver Scheme

A warm thanks to Emrys and Wendy (and Keith and his computer) for their wonderful work. The Volunteer Drivers Scheme is a huge asset to the village. Here are some statistics for the first year June 2023 to May 2024.

We did 297 trips, totalling 1284 miles. These cost our passengers £642, saving them about £2438 compared to typical taxi fares.

Congratulations.

Jenny Hydes

Thank You

Since the Volunteer Drivers site was introduced, Michael and I have needed use the service many times. A quick phone call to Emrys or when he is away, Wendy, will result in willing acceptance from a driver. These drivers always give us their support and time which I'm sure all residents who use this service really appreciate. Thank you so much.

Diana and Michael Duckworth

\\OLKSWAGENS END UP IN AN OLD \\OLKS HOME.

Rubbish

Thank you to all of you who have put your garden pots and trays in the box which I put in Pine Bank bin store.



So today I returned 59 flower pots of all sizes, one large tray, 5 bedding plant trays and 8 large square pots.

All of these would otherwise have been in the dustbins, and that is wrong.

Chris Widman

. . . and some people are leaving the bin store doors open. Please shut them. Pests get in.

WHAT HAS TWO WHEELS AND FLIES?
A WHEELIE BIN.

Museum of Military Medicine

Twelve members of Reveille and Speedbirds visited the museum at Keogh Barracks at Deepcut on Tuesday 18 June. The history of this regiment was well presented and



attractively laid out, by showing the equipment used by the regiment since its inception in the 1850's. The medals were displayed in a particularly attractive way, in glass-topped drawers. Dress uniforms worn by both male and female rank and file were displayed. There were also small tableaux depicting the soldiers in action. The Museum gives visitors a good understanding of the role of medical soldiers during wartime.

There are opportunities to become friends of the museum and help with research enquiries, volunteering, special projects and outreach.

If individuals wish to visit the museum it is free on entry but donations are gratefully received.

David L. Allan (Retd) MBE RA

General election candidate visit

Alex Baker, Labour's candidate for the Aldershot constituency sent us all a leaflet, so I invited her to join me here for a cup of coffee



on June 13 (she chose teal!). We and a few other residents spent an interesting hour chatting.

David Allan

I was interested in the information she had (or at least the suggestions) concerning where the new FPH replacement will be. Evidently Blackbushe is a contender.

Jenny Hydes

Library Update

The Book Club's next meeting is on **Thursday 4th July at 11 am in the Library**. If you have read a good book recently why not come to the Book Club and tell our members all about it. Just recently a number of, often new, paperbacks have been donated. Thank you very much for them. It's good to keep the library stocked with up-to-date copies. Please continue to keep the library stock fresh.

Diana Duckworth

Book review

If you disapprove of the behaviour of the striking NHS "junior" doctors you really should read **This is Going to Hurt** by Adam Kay (Non Fiction in the library).

Some doctors go private or abroad, driven out by the ridiculous working conditions, insane management and understaffing of the NHS. Adam Kay was able to leave the NHS and succeed as comedian and TV/film script writer.

The book is a selection of entries from the diaries he kept while he was in the NHS. The comedian in him showed even then. The book is incredibly hard to put down, hilariously funny and gives a horrifying picture of a junior doctor's life.

Sam Dauncey

How we met

As a bachelor, having spent 18 months working on Ascension Island in 1962, I thought perhaps my employer had some sympathy when my posting away from that Island arrived, bearing in mind it had no indigenous population and that social life, hectic at times, was limited to fellow employees. Nevertheless, it wasn't sympathy but needs must, as a vacancy needed to be filled in Zanzibar. So, I boarded the monthly Pretoria Castle ship, heading south for Cape Town. This was no cruise ship (they weren't yet invented) but did carry mail, cargo and passengers travelling from A to B. During my time on board the ship I socialised with some of the deck officers. On learning I was Zanzibar bound, they suggested I look up the Meyer family who were well known to some officers who had met them on the regular Kenya Castle ships to that Island.

After a brief stopover in Cape Town I transferred to the Kenya Castle, a smaller version of the Pretoria Castle. During that stopover I was entertained by the dentist and wife who lived in Cape Town but made an annual visit to Ascension Island to check teeth for those employed by the company I worked for.

It was a pleasant sea trip to Zanzibar and within a few weeks I had made friends with a guy working at the local Grindlays bank. He mentioned that the highlight of the month was the call by a ship from the Italian Lloyd Triestino range, a passenger ship (not a cruise ship). On the evening of its brief stop, visitors were welcome on board for a romantic candle lit dinner with soft music and dancing. My friend invited me to join him and his lady companion, pointing out that she was just a friend. Entering the dining room I spotted the couple, walked over and asked the lady friend if she would like to dance. Her surname was Meyer. We celebrated our 60 years of marriage in April of this year.

Denis Garrad

Turkish Delight Part 2

So where did we go?

Day 1 we dropped anchor outside Nafplio, eastern Peloponnese, supposedly one of the most romantic cities in Greece. Tenders took us ashore. A lovely place indeed: small cobbled streets and architecture influenced by various cultures and traditions during centuries. Yachts moored along the quayside cost \$1.2 million (that's per week!!)

Then to Istanbul. Very atmospheric: a jumble of domed mosques, palaces, maze-like markets and hilly cobblestoned streets, just as we had imagined. Ann and Frank had been before, so offered useful hints.

We all set off on the Hop-On Hop-Off bus to visit the Blue Mosque: absolutely breathtaking. After a coffee we continued on the Ho-Ho bus across the Bosphorus into the Asian side of Istanbul. While some stayed on to return to the ship, Astrid, Keith, Roger and Annet got off to visit the Beylerbeyi Palace. It proved to be closed that day! After a bite to eat overlooking the Bosphorus, the four got back on the Ho-Ho. It seemed to be taking a rather long route back to the ship so we decided to get off and walk. Easier said than done! Well, I shan't bore you with the very stern looking policeman, who told us to leave the area immediately as it was very unsafe, nor with some cunning taxi drivers who wanted to separate us from our money in a crafty way (€250 for a 10-minute ride or €10, claiming our notes were false and could be exchanged for real ones). Obviously we didn't fall for that and I'm happy to say it took only about half-an-hour on foot to join our friends just in time for dinner.

The next day, some visited the Hagia Sophia, others the Spice market. Originally a church, later a mosque, the Byzantine Hagia Sophia has a soaring 6th-century dome and rare Christian mosaics, truly amazing! Meanwhile, the others loved the smells and tastes at the Spice market which led them into a bazaar with an explosion of colours of pashminas, Turkish lamps and gold, too much to take in. We all met again at 2:00 for a boat trip on the Bosphorus (complimentary tickets from Ho-Ho). We all agreed Istanbul was a wonderful city and Roger and I would love to go back.

More on further fantastic places we visited next time.

Annet Pullen

Food Bank

Heather Parrish volunteers at our local bank and takes our contributions there. She has had a message from the Manager thanking her for the donations from here. During the 2023/2024 financial year we sent 431 kg, an average of 36 kg a month. Heather also takes financial donations, including some from the Volunteers in the VDS. Heather spends some of the money donated on Tesco's food vouchers for food bank recipients.

With school summer holidays approaching families will need more help than ever. Let's keep up the good work! *Wendy Wooldridge*

Bird Update: June 2024

There have generally been fewer occurrences of bird song this year compared with recent years although all the expected resident and migrant birds have been present. However, our pheasants have suddenly stopped coming after having been regular visitors to Cherry Bank and Acorn Vale for a long time. They are certainly missed.

On a more positive note, Cetti's warblers have been encountered here for the first time. The giveaway is a sudden explosive burst of very loud notes lasting a few seconds from within the thick bushes either side of the river. They are very hard to see but I was very lucky to spot one singing early one Sunday morning. Common terns were seen flying over River Valley lake for a few days. It is very good to see that both pairs of swans successfully produced young this year. The cygnets all appear to be doing well.

We have been frequently entertained by a crow mobbing a fox. The bird calls loudly and swoops low over the fox - clearly regarding it as a threat. It is very amusing to see the crow sidle up very gingerly in a sideways movement towards the fox's tail and give it a good nip! The fox just turns its head and moves on as if nothing happened! *Michael Bader*

Rainfall Update

Heather has measured 227 mm of rain this Spring (March, April and May) - our wettest since records began here in 2017. This is equivalent to about an extra month's normal rainfall and easily exceeds our next wettest of 195 mm in 2023. *Michael Bader*

The Piano

The Piano returned to Channel 4 this year. Again, the contestants were judged by the famous pianist, Lang Lang, and singer/songwriter, Mika, who then chose the best performer each episode. They went on to play at a special concert at the end of the series.

Each of the seven pianists was given extra tuition by the two judges and performed brilliantly.

The Times newspaper the next day reported "The seven piano pieces performed to a sold-out auditorium prompted reactions from dignified, wiped away tears to screwed up face sobbing! An undeniably lovely hour of TV."



It was that good especially for one of the contestants who was suffering from Dementia and was worried the might not remember the music! He performed amazingly well!

You can pick it up on the computer, just Google 'The Piano'. It's well worth watching.

Diana Duckworth

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW OLD PEOPLE ARE. IT MATTERS IF THEY LOVE EACH OTHER AND HAVE FUN WITH EACH OTHER. (ANON)

Lakes News is written by "ordinary" residents like you 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! samdauncey@live.co.uk and jennyhydes@icloud.com

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