



# LAKE NEWS

## How we spend our days.

Jo Taylor has introduced a very useful weekly service, pulling together the various information sheets we get monthly, trimonthly, weekly etc. Looking through it recently made me wonder how we fit everything in! There is no reason for any Hampshire Lakes resident to feel bored or lonely and I applaud all those who have augmented what is available through Management and the Wellness Centre.

Ever since the first residents arrived much of what is offered to us has been proposed and run by the residents themselves. As new blood moves on site we expand even more. Well done, all of us. *Wendy Wooldridge*

## Stormy Weather



We missed the worst of Storms Dudley and Eunice in the middle of February but we didn't get away scot-free.

*Photo from Diana Duckworth*

... someone suggested that Eunice should have been called Eunasty (nothing to do with Brexit). *Sam Dauncey*

## Farewell to Julie Kemp



Julie had been with us in Reception from the very beginning of Hampshire Lakes so it was especially hard to say goodbye to her on the 18th February.

Residents gave her a John Lewis voucher for £300 and a beautiful bouquet of flowers. She was thanked for all her patience with our many queries over the years and also for her talents with the wonderful decorations she made at Christmas and particularly for Halloween and Remembrance day.

Julie expressed her thanks and sadness to be leaving but assured us that she will take many happy memories with her.

We wish her good luck for the future!

*Joan Russam*

SOME CAUSE HAPPINESS WHEREVER THEY GO; OTHERS WHENEVER THEY GO.

*Oscar Wilde*

## Winter Sun



### Brian & Eddie in Egypt

In August '21 Eddie Smith and I decided to go for some winter sunshine.

We booked a 2 week holiday for January '22 in Egypt with SAGA.



After just over a 5 hr flight we arrived at Hurghada Airport, by the Red Sea. A coach then took us on a 30 min drive to our hotel the 'Radisson blu' close to El Quseir on the Red Sea. We were greeted with "Welcome back Brit's. You are the first Brit's for 2 years".

The hotel was of a high standard and All-inclusive with 2 swimming pools and a good beach, which is just as well as Eddie said "it's in the middle of a desert".

Most days were spent lying in the sun, eating and drinking the local beer although we did have 4 trips.

The first was to a glass bottomed boat on which we had beautiful views of colourful fish on a coral reef.

The second trip was to the local town (that they called a city?) visiting an old castle, mosque and a walk through the town. My impression of the town was a run down litter-ridden dump.



Thirdly was a boat trip to the reef, in the Red Sea, to go snorkelling. The water was surprisingly warm and the sight of the different fish and turtles was one of the highlights of the holiday.

The last trip, to a so-called "Bedouin village" in the desert, was just a tourist con: no tents,

just plywood lean-to's with 2 woman making tea and cooking flat bread and a few goats. Dreadful.

My highlight was a camel ride in the desert, it lasted for 1 hr 20 min and when I got off I could hardly walk.

Finally, after a horrendous experience with security and red tape at the airport, we arrived back in the UK and duly took our Covid test which turned out to be a positive result for Eddie and a negative one for me, how odd.

Would I go back? Probably not, would Eddie go back? Definitely not. *Brian Branson*

## Afternoon Fiasco

How would we manage without Jo Taylor? She seems to manage it but in her absence the combined efforts of residents and staff failed to get more than a whisper out of the loudspeaker.

The showing of the Thomas Crown Affair had to be postponed (new date?) but the tea, cakes and sandwiches were well up to the usual standard. *Sam Dauncey*

## One Man's Meat . . .

If you've something you want to get rid of, someone else may love it. Get Lakes News to tell them.

If there's something you fancy, someone may not want theirs. Get Lakes News to tell them.

For starters, I've a couple of unused kitchen/dining room chairs. If interested, ring 4597.



*Pam Cuthbertson*



## More Food!

Two general places which might be of interest to HL residents:

**Lavershot Barns**, between Bagshot and Sunningdale on the A30, has a superb coffee shop/restaurant, which serves simple but excellent breakfast, lunches and dinners. I had a lobster burger there, which was very good. They also open in the evening. It is a lovely restaurant with a very good atmosphere and quality of whatever they serve. While you have something to eat there you can have your car washed. It also has a Lakeland Shop and an excellent farm shop on site, with a fresh meat and fish (Fridays) counter, as well as vegetables, great chutneys etc, bakery and a section of Cook Food.

Additionally there are 2 furniture shops on site: one for indoor and one for outdoor furniture.

**The Bracknell Lexicon Shopping Centre.** Apart from an M&S, a Waitrose and a Fenwick, there are some interesting shops and restaurants in this centre: Fenwick's has an excellent cafe and a separate coffee shop (and very clean toilets!). It also has a very large selection of branded fashion concessions.

Within the whole complex there is a very good Sketcher shoe shop, which sells not only trainers but every day Sketcher shoes and boots.

In terms of restaurants, There is Wagamama, Bill's, a Greek and various others to try. I have only been to Bills and Wagamama and - as everyone knows - they are the same as all the others in those chains: Good Value for money for good tasting food.

*Heidi Markham*

PEOPLE WHO SAY THAT MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS JUST DON'T KNOW WHERE TO SHOP. *Kathy Lette (Australian author)*

## Another Lakes Notice?



### Danger. Crocodiles

Swimming strictly prohibited

Survivors will be prosecuted

*From Sam Dauncey*

## Out of the mouths. .



"You must be quite old, granny, but you don't smell old".

Attributed to a 10-year old girl.

*From Sam Dauncey*

## Library News

### Book Club

The next meetings are on Thursdays 3rd March and 7th April at 11am in the Library

### Book Review

#### 'Maisie Dobbs' by Jacqueline Winspear

This is the first book in a series about a private detective called Maisie Dobbs. I came across the series when listening to an interview with Hillary Clinton who mentioned that these were her, and her daughter Chelsea's, favourite books.

Maisie comes from a very humble background but manages to serve as a nurse in WW1 and attend Girton before starting her investigative business in London. The stories are all set in, and in the years after, WW1 and as well as being 'adventures' also cover some of society's issues at that time.

I found the books easy to read, without some of the gruesome details that some detective books include, and at the same time gripping. I usually read in bed, and particularly like the way the chapters are organised as I can read one or two chapters each night and still remember what was happening the next night!

The author, Jacqueline Winspear, has received numerous Awards and Award nominations in the USA. One critic enthused: "For readers yearning for the calm, insightful intelligence of a main character like P. D. James's, Maisie Dobbs is spot on".

I have put a set of six in the library. I am sure you will enjoy them.

*Jo Taylor*

## Reveille

You may get this too late to remind you of the 1st March meeting, at 1800 hrs in the library (Royal Marine John Paine's 'Present Arms' )

The next one is planned for 29th March.

*Jonathan Martin*

## Thoughts on Change

We've all been round the buoy before  
We've all been most profound  
And said "Well, what goes round my friend  
Eventually comes round"

We've all had all our heavals upped  
We've done re and co-locate.  
We've moved re-org'd and re-arranged  
And loved (?) the change we hate.

It seems to me, of late, the rate  
Has speeded up a lot  
We form and break and then reform  
Into we know not what.

My thoughts are drawn to something  
Of which you may have heard.  
*It* - went around and round and round  
The famous Oozlum Bird

*Frank Chelley*

## Recycling Electrical Goods

Not all of us can get to the refuse tip at  
Hartley Wintney to recycle small electrical  
items in the way we have done in the past.

Knowing what a very kind and helpful  
company we have here, it occurs to me that  
when we visit our rubbish store and see items  
left there which should not be there, we might  
plan a visit to Hartley Wintney to take items  
of our own. We could easily add small  
electrical items left by others. (I am not  
talking about TVs, fridges etc!).

*Wendy Wooldridge*

## A Prayer

Today Dear Lord I am eighty and there's  
much I haven't done  
I hope Dear Lord you let me live until I'm  
eighty one  
But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do  
Would you let me stay awhile until I'm eighty  
two?  
So many places I want to go, so very much to  
see  
Do you think that you could manage to make  
it eighty three?  
The world is changing very fast, there is so  
much in store  
I'd like it very much to live until I'm eighty  
four  
And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay till  
eighty five  
More planes will be up in the air, so I'd really  
like to stick

And see what happens to the world when I am  
eighty six  
I know Dear Lord it's a lot to ask, and it must  
be nice in heaven  
But I really would like to stay until I'm eighty  
seven  
I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes  
will be late  
But it would be so pleasant to be around at  
eighty eight  
I will have seen so many things and had a  
wonderful time  
So, I'm sure that I'd be willing to leave at  
eighty nine — Maybe

Anonymous *Submitted by Heather Parrish*

'Anonymous' lacks ambition. We're slow. It's  
elementary.

We'll need another decade - so let's aim to  
make the century *Addendum by Sam Dauncey*



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

We try to inform, entertain and keep  
everybody up to date 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?

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**Your contributions are our life-blood.**