



LAKE NEWS

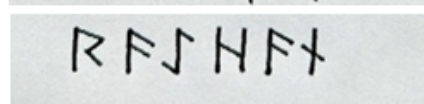
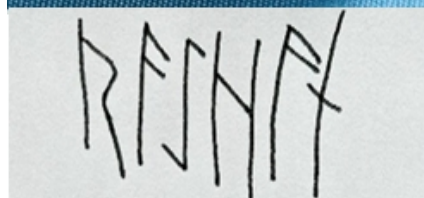
Hidden Meanings

Secret signs, hidden meanings, cryptic clues and ancient runes

It's said the first written English word was "roe". Well, that's the earliest one discovered so far. It meant the same graceful species of deer which shares Hampshire Lakes with us today. The word was not written in modern English but in some of the oldest of Old English. It was not written in our alphabet or on paper but in runes scratched on a bone.

The inch-wide bone was found in 1937 in a burial urn in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery near

Photo © Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery



.....R.....A.....I.....H.....A.....N.....

Norwich and dates from the fifth century. When put into our alphabet, the runic letters on the bone spell RAIHAN, meaning "from a rail" i.e. "from a roe". It was indeed a roe deer bone.

Round about the ninth century, in somewhat newer Old English and using an alphabet almost the same as ours, "roe" reappears in writing as "rah". The two earliest occurrences of "rah" are in a herbal and a church history. So says the Oxford English

Dictionary (often abbreviated to OED – keep that in mind when you get to the end of this article).

Now for some more recent examples of "roe" in written English.

Surely the most famous roe deer in English literature is Bambi, but the English book is a bland version of a much darker and deeper German-language original. Bambi was banned by the Nazis in 1935 because they recognised it as an allegory of the persecution of Jews in Europe.

Two roe deer, famous amongst GCSE students, appear in a 1973 poem by Ted Hughes. It describes a mystical encounter with the deer at dawn in a snowstorm. Hughes feels the deer are giving him a brief opportunity to cross from his dimension into theirs, if only he can respond correctly. Here is a snippet from the heart of the poem. You will see why teachers have to help their classes to imagine a time (the 1970s) before struggling to recall passwords became a feature of everyday life.

*I could think the deer were waiting for me
To remember the password and sign
That the curtain had blown aside for a
moment*

*And there where the trees were no longer
trees, nor the road a road
The deer had come for me*

15 ACROSS. King always beside dictionary – might one be ruminating? (3,4)*

* Sunday Telegraph, 8 June 2025

Caroline Kerslake

AFTER A STAG PARTY YOU MIGHT
NEED SOME ELKASELTZER.

Babble and Speak

The speaker in October had to be changed at the last minute. Instead of our MP, Alex Baker (postponed to next year) we had a fascinating recorded talk by **Neville Lyons about "Lyons Corner House, the First Food Empire"**.

Jo Lyons was a real polymath: entrepreneur, inventor, painter, entertainer, even writer of Music Hall sketches. The family were originally tobacconists but Joseph branched out into mass catering: for example, for some of Victoria's Golden Jubilee celebrations, the Paris 1889 Exhibition and 1901 FA Cup Final. He opened the first Tea Shop and became a public company in 1894. 15 years later came the first of many Lyons Corner Houses (complete with waitresses called Nippies, tablecloths and live music). On the back of their success, Nippy-branded products were sold, including Nippy cigarettes.

After WW2, J Lyons catered for functions like a Royal Garden Party and a Masonic dinner for 8,000 in Olympia. Because of their excellent management they had a contract to manage a government Ordnance Factory and developed the first business computer, LEO (Lyons Electronic Office). They even tried, unsuccessfully, to establish an "UpperCrust" brand, serving gourmet meals on the top deck of a modified London bus! Sadly, apart from some cakes, the Lyons name has now gone, following mergers first with Allied Breweries and in the mid 1990s with Domecq.

The **26th November** meeting will be regaled by **Adrian Hobbs talking about "Improving Road & Car Safety"**. Adrian qualified as a Mechanical Engineer and worked in engineering research and development before moving to the then Transport and Road Research Laboratory. There, he was part of a team investigating the causes of road accidents before moving to study car occupant injuries and their causes.

Keith Hall & Sam Dauncey

Music in the Afternoon

Have you signed up for the "Afternoon with Robbie and his Guitar" on 10th November? Robbie will return to Hampshire Lakes to play old favourites and join us for tea and cake in the Bistro.

Joan Russam

A Good Night Out

Hampshire Lakes Entertainment



Hampshire Lakes Entertainment provided us with a super night out at the Theatre Together Dinner 2025.

It was a well attended "bit of a do" with an excellent menu and superb entertainment from a talented couple, Adam and Corrina, who sang a good selection of songs from the shows which we had seen during the past trips to the theatre. I'm sure that they were enjoyed by all who were present.

I am also sure that everyone would like to thank HLE for their hard work in providing such an entertaining evening. Long may they continue to do so.

Brefni Bray

Wellness walks



Annemarie has started two walks to get people out and about: a half hour "Village Walk", strolling around Anchor's property (Thursdays 13:00 - 13:30) and a "Lakes Walk" (Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:15) covering the less than two miles around River Valley and Swan Valley lakes. Sign up in the Activities Room and the Wellness Centre.

Lakes News Team

Christmas Tea Party & Raffle

Make sure you put your name down for the HLRA/ HLE Christmas Tea Party and Raffle which will be held on **Tuesday December 9th**, with Emily returning to entertain us with her delightful singing.

Chris and Ruth will once again be running a popular raffle, with half of the profit going to

the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and the rest to HLE to help us hold down the prices of the entertainments we organise. They will be very grateful for **donations** to go in the hampers they put together, or, if you prefer, they accept cash to buy items.

Janet McCombie

Creating a password

cabbage

Sorry, the password must be more than eight characters

boiled cabbage

Sorry, the password must contain one numerical character

1 boiled cabbage

Sorry, the password cannot have blank spaces

50bloodyboiledcabbages

Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character

50BLOODYboiledcabbages

Sorry, the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively

50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourBackside,IfYouDon'tGiveMeAccessimmediately

Sorry, the password cannot contain punctuation

NowIAmGettingReallyPissedOff50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourBacksideIfYouDon'tGiveMeAccessimmediately

Sorry, that password is already in use!

Adrian Hobbs

They've Arrived!

Yes, the little grey bins we've all been given by Hampshire County Council to collect our food waste are here.

I think it's true to say there is not universal rejoicing in our village to greet their arrival though many residents really do welcome the opportunity to contribute to environmental improvements.

Perhaps we need to consider why they are here. I have looked at the Council's website just so you don't have to.

Q. First, why are they here?

A. From March next year all local authorities must separate food waste from other rubbish collection. In other words it's the law.

Q. Will food waste end up in landfill anyway?

A. In Hampshire food waste is diverted from landfill and taken to one of three energy recovery facilities where it helps to generate electricity.

Q. What happens when food waste does go into landfill?

A. Food waste cannot biodegrade naturally in landfill because it is squashed together with other waste and then is deprived of oxygen. The result is the emission of methane - a harmful greenhouse gas.

Q. Why do those pesky little bin liners tear so easily?

A. It's in their job description to biodegrade quickly along with the food waste so if they get wet or too warm they will degrade more quickly. The answer is to empty your little bin more often and make sure the stuff you put in is not too wet.

Conclusion. Food bins are here to stay.

Perhaps we should be asking Hampshire not why do we have to have them but why it has taken so long for them to provide these bins when neighbouring counties have had them for years?

Jenny Hydes

Scary, isn't it?

We are always trying to get residents to send us snippets they have written, We asked Copilot AI to draft a request for us and this is what it came up with.

"You've probably got stories or experiences that are far more interesting than you think. What's everyday to you might be eye-opening, hilarious, or inspiring to someone else. People love hearing real, lived things—not polished, perfect ones. So if there's a moment, a mishap, or even a random day that stuck with you, share it. Your voice adds something no one else can. Help us show that everyone has something worth saying—because you definitely do."

Frighteningly good, isn't it?. *Lakes News Team*

BY THE PRICKING OF MY THUMBS,
SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES.
William Shakespeare

Blister Pack Recycling

Thank to Chris Widman we can once again take our used blister packs to the Post Room to be recycled. Julie has made us a box for the purpose.

Lakes News Team

Food Bank

Would you believe me if I said I caught a disappointing glimpse of a neighbour's shopping list: the first item was not 'Food Bank'?

Sam Dauncey

Beware!

Last Christmas one resident had a small (about 2 foot) rooted Christmas tree in a pot on his balcony. After Christmas he had it planted near his front door. Returning home from a holiday in August he noticed it was missing. The gardeners had not, as he had assumed, moved it.

Someone "shopping" early for Christmas?

If you leave anything of value in pots or even in the soil be aware that there is no such thing as total security.

Wendy Wooldridge

Blind 'em with science

Make people think - is it true?



If this packaging artwork is true, what does 'semi skimmed' mean?

Sam Dauncey

HLRA

The Residents' Association's November committee meeting will be on **Saturday 1st November at 10.30** in the Library. All members are welcome to observe.

Book Club!

The Book Club now meets on the **first Wednesday of the month, a day earlier than before.** So the November meeting is on **Wednesday 5th November at 11 am** in the Library.

Diana Duckworth

At the Captain's Table by Gervais Phinn

I have just read (audio!) this latest book by Gervais Phinn which I really enjoyed,

It's a lighthearted look at a summer cruise in the Mediterranean. A couple go on their first-ever cruise where they meet many interesting people. It's an easy read, amusing and sometimes quite serious! Worth reading. The author has written several books based on his career as a School inspector which again are an amusing read.

Diana Duckworth

Volunteering

Many of us at Hampshire Lakes volunteer in diverse ways, One of the best and most rewarding I have been involved with is hearing children read at a local primary school. The Staff are very welcoming, particularly as children are encouraged to read to an adult daily, and the children delightful. The School, Cranford Park Primary School, would love to have more volunteers. If you think you would like to do it, phone or email Vicki Wilcox (School Business Secretary) on 01252 870536 or v.wilcox@cranfordpark.school.hants.sch.uk

The time you offer is up to you. I tried to do two mornings a week but it would be up to you and does not need to be regular.

Men are particularly welcome as many of the children lack a male adult in their lives.

Wendy Wooldridge

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

Your contributions are our life-blood.