Hearts of Gold

Social distancing saves lives • Stay safe

Everyone at the Town Council would like to say an enormous thank you to every single person who has played a part in the local response to this unprecedented situation. The goodwill and selflessness are humbling to see. So many people have been helped and continue to receive help. Thank you all! More information can be found on page 2.
Hearts of Gold

Continued from front page.

Central Bedfordshire Council has the statutory duty for emergency response and is part of a Bedfordshire-wide emergency planning forum. The Bedfordshire Local Emergency Volunteers Executive Committee (BLEVEC) brings together a range of organisations, including Community Emergency Response Teams.

In 2018, Central Bedfordshire Council encouraged towns and villages to create their own Community Emergency Plans. With the help of a trained and experienced local volunteer, the plan for Leighton-Linslade was developed over a period of many months and was adopted by the Town Council in 2019.

At that time, no-one could have anticipated the emergency scenario which was about to arise in March 2020. However, having those mechanisms in place has helped the community leap into action since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared and government measures introduced. The Plan details resources such as facilities, groups and organisations which could help in a crisis situation.

The community is fortunate to have some very pro-active volunteers who started a Helpers group on Facebook in the very early days of the pandemic crisis. Within days, the group had signed up hundreds of people, both those wanting to volunteer and those needing help. Representatives of that group then joined Town Council representatives, the police, the church and local organisations such as the Homeless service to form the Leighton-Linslade COVID-19 Task Force.

Useful contact numbers:
Registering for help T: 0300 300 8900
For local information: T: 0300 300 8186 / 07517 851382
Visit the website: www.leightonlinsladehelpers.org.uk or stay in touch: www.facebook.com/groups/llhelpers/

Task Force volunteer members
I just wanted to say a massive big thank you to the gentlemen who pick up and delivered my elderly Dad’s prescription today. He was so grateful.

Task Force volunteer members
"For me personally, volunteering has been amazing and a life-changing experience."

Message from the Mayor

Dear Residents: At the time of writing, we are starting week two of the Government measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. It is incredible how much has changed in such a short period of time and how those changes affect every single one of us. For the Council, it means a cancellation of all meetings (until digital meetings are permitted) and a delay in our planned projects, as we focus instead on how we can support the local community at this time.

My thoughts are with all our residents at this unsettling time – those who are still working, some on the front line, those who are unable to work, those who are staying at home with families and those who are at home alone. My very best wishes to you all at this time. Please can I urge everyone to continue to follow the Government instructions – this is our best hope of beating the virus and getting back to normality.

I have been overwhelmed by the local response and the number of volunteers helping others, as well as the support from our local businesses. Thank you all for helping those in need. Thank you too to all those who are helping to save lives and for those who are helping to keep the country running. As the saying goes “we are all in it together” and the evidence is clear in the way people are helping each other and appreciating each other.

I know that like me, you will all be missing the everyday pleasures in life such as a drink in a pub or a meal in a cafe, being able to pop into a shop for something frivolous, and most importantly, missing that contact with our friends and families. By following the Government instructions, we can hope that the return to everyday normality will not take too long.

In the meantime, may I wish you all the very best and hope you stay safe.

Supporting the Mayor’s chosen charities

The Mayor of Leighton-Linslade

In light of the on-going Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the Council took the decision to postpone the Business Network Event (originally scheduled for Wednesday 22 April) and have also postponed the Big Lunch Food Festival (originally scheduled for Sunday 7 June).

Event sponsors and partners for the Business Network Event have agreed to a rescheduled date of Wednesday 9 September at Leighton Buzzard Golf club where the opportunity for businesses to re-establish connections with suppliers and customers after these challenging times will be available.

The annual Big Lunch Food Festival has been rescheduled for Sunday 16 August where the High Street will come alive with food vendors offering tastes from around the world throughout the day alongside a full stage programme, street theatre and interactive art installations.

Whilst we are not able to celebrate and commemorate VE day on Friday 8 May as we would like to, we will be honouring those who made the ultimate sacrifice through our social media channels during the day. Please do ‘Follow’ us to share in our celebrations – see at the bottom of the pages our social media platforms.

Lastly, these rescheduled dates are tentative and dependent on Government restrictions.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the time of writing, all Town Council meetings until the end of June have had to be cancelled as a result of social distancing measures. The legislation governing meetings did not allow for virtual or digital decision making. The recent Coronavirus Act now makes provision for that change to come and the Council is currently looking into ways in which to make this happen at the appropriate time.

Ordinarily, the Council would hold its Annual Meeting in May and a new Mayor would be elected for the coming year. On this occasion, at the time of writing, we wait to see what legislation will permit.
Community News

Leighton Buzz Radio have launched an afternoon radio show dedicated to kids. The show was launched at the end of March following closure of schools. Andrena Carden-White, producer of Leighton Buzz Radio wanted to give parents and carers a chance to have a cuppa whilst the kids are entertained. Only Kidz Aloud features a daily scavenger hunt, jokes, songs & more. There is also a web page dedicated to local businesses who are offering child friendly activities; www.leightonbuzzradio.co.uk/kids-fun/

You can listen out for Football Fanzone, hosted by local lad 17-year-old Kieran Carvel. Budding journalist Kieran is in Sixth Form and has a true love of sport.

When he heard the news that all sport would be cancelled, Kieran decided to create a show dedicated to football (News about teams, players and the best of gold) so the fans weren’t missing out! You can listen to the station 24 hours a day, or you can catch Only Kidz Aloud Monday – Friday at 1400 hours and Football Fanzone with Kieran Saturdays at 1200 Noon.

Download the app on your app store, search ‘LB Radio’

Download ‘Leighton Buzz Radio’ as a skill on your Alexa App, store, search ‘LB Radio’

You can listen to the station at 1200 Saturdays and Football Fanzone at 1400 hours.

Community News

VE DAY - 75th Anniversary

May 8, 1945, VE-Day, short for Victory in Europe Day, was the official date of the surrender document to end the Second World War signed by General Alfred Jodl on behalf of Germany. Adolf Hitler had already committed suicide in his bunker in Berlin.

Along with the rest of Britain, Europe and the United States, Leighton Buzzard and Linslade, then two separate towns, celebrated with a series of street parties organised for all children. Many of them were too young to remember life without war. However, although war was ended in Europe, there were as many military stationed in Leighton Buzzard as civilians living in the town. They were still engaged in the struggle with Japan, which did not surrender until August 15, 1945. This became VJ Day, Leighton Buzzard was the centre of the war effort, with the secret communications centre for the whole of Britain’s forces working 24 hours a day at what became RAF Stanbridge. It had the largest telephone exchange in the world and thousands of teleprinters, sending messages to our ships, aircraft and soldiers across the world. As well as “Q.Central”, as the station was known, the town was also the HQ of Radar for Britain, Europe and the Far East. Thousands of WAAFs and airmen were billeted here, including many from one of Q Central’s outstations, known as Bletchley Park.

As the world looked to the future, it was also the allocation of a RAF Spitfire to our event on the day the current pandemic crisis and we anticipate that some projects might be delayed.

Annual Parish Meeting held on the 16 March

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Monday, 16 March at the Library Theatre. A brief presentation was given on the work of the Town Council, including achievements in the last year and plans for the year ahead. However, the main focus quickly became a local response to the COVID-19 crisis and from that meeting, the Leighton-Linslade COVID-19 Task Force was developed.

For those who would like to know more about the Town Council, our Annual Report for 2019-20 will be published by the end of June. Our Five Year Plan can also be found on our website. However, timescales will inevitably be affected by the current pandemic crisis and we anticipate that some projects for this year will be delayed.

Rotary Club of Leighton Linslade

Normally as the middle of April approaches myself and other Rotarians are working on the finishing touches to May Day Fayre and of course this year it was going to be very special indeed with Government deciding that we would all come together to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. Well I don’t have to detail what’s happened since the turn of the year and of course national celebrations of VE Day have gone the same way as many other high profile activities. It is a real shame as so much good stuff was planned, such as appearances by the Military Wives Choir and of course the Ration Card scheme for the over 75’s and the most ironic of all was the allocation of a RAF Spitfire to our event on the day the current restrictions were introduced.

However we are already looking forward to the future and next year’s May Fayre which will, we promise, be as big as ever with many of the things planned for this year already booked for 2021.

So, with no May Fayre to organise you might well ask what your Rotary Club are up to. Well like many other fantastic individuals and organisations we are trying to do our bit in the fight against COVID 19.

We have our own COVID Task Group and we have put Rotary’s resources behind a variety of initiatives including the Face Visor projects of Vandyke and Linslade Schools, the purchase of oxygen monitors for our GP Surgeries, the ordering of bread to support the vulnerable and our local market as well as a scheme to provide an outlet for those who just need to talk to someone.

So, from everyone in Rotary stay safe and roll on May Fayre 2021.

Leighton-Linslade COVID-19 Task Force was developed.

Contacts us for more information on 01525 373838 or email: tactic@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk
HOCKLIFFE STREET: The Great North East Passage

For the Amazonians among you, what better start than the home of reptiles, snakes and lizards, aquatic exotics hosted at the appropriately named Wriggles, before moving along the galaxy of delights that make Hockliffe Street so pleasantly revealing.

For houses and homes, fridges or freezers, floors, carpets, sumptuous beds and comfy chairs ... Ooh and a Vets for our pets. So much choice! Or nip into Peacock Mews and then onto Peacock Alley, with its Ladies boutique and Coffee offering a kaleidoscope of locally roasted and ground coffees just for you, and onto the original town centre.

Advice, counselling, personal support, nursery care. It’s all here ... Ecclesiastical for the theologians, TACTiCs for the youngsters, Crombie House Counselling and group therapy, we are here to support. And for all things Leighton-Linslade, there’s our very own Town Council at The White House, ready, willing and able to guide on all things local. It’s a lot to digest, I think you’ll agree.

So take a break and unwind. Grab a bite to eat at one of the many eateries, a coffee at Buzzard’s very own brewed beer. That’s the way to get your breath back. Top up the tan, nail those nails. Get that barnet coiffed!

Ooh, and don’t forget to treat yourself to some bombs for the bath, for a luxuriously hot soaking when you get home after a long hard day travelling all the way from one end of Hockliffe Street to the other.

But then? You have one of those striking thoughts, “Where on earth would I go if I got toothache, right now?” Or “Crikey! Where am I going to find a Surveyor or Accountant at this time of the day?” Then perhaps, “Aaargh! I’ve nothing in for our Anniversary dinner tonight... What’d I do for an outside caterer now!” Even, “I’ll bet there’s nowhere to park near Hockliffe Street, not this close to the Town Centre!”

Well, look no further, because you’re in Hockliffe Street. Where a five-minute trot to town turns to an afternoon of wonder and discovery. Where everything is and waits just for you.

Markets

A delectation of everything one could want of a metropolitan thoroughfare but without the stress, the inconvenience, or the time constraints of actually visiting one.

No exorbitant station parking fees, no rail tickets. No crowded stations. Or railway carriages. Or jammed up roads and angry drivers.

We are a Fairtrade Town. If you’re a parent affected by the schools closure you can access Fairtrade home learning resources online. There are resources for all ages, from nursery to secondary school.

Visit https://schools.fairtrade.org.uk/resources/

源: Twitter @ FairtradeUKEd

Furnish your home in style.

源: The White House

关于您的答案: 莱顿-林斯莱德的银行大楼。
MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

Please Note:
The by-election for St Georges Ward has been unavoidably delayed for the foreseeable future due to the current national crisis.

SUBSCRIBE to ABOUT TOWN
Straight to your mail box every time;
www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/about-town-newsletters/

WEELIGHTONLINSLADETC.GOV.UK

Leighton-Linslade Town Council is responsible for:

- Allotments
- Bus Shelters
- Cemeteries
- Christmas Illuminations
- Community Events & Promotions
- Grants to Voluntary Organisations
- Markets
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Pavilions – Astral, Pages
- Park & Mentmore
- TACTIC, Teenage Advice & Information Centre
- Multi-Storey Car Park Toilets

Central Bedfordshire Council is responsible for:

- Community Safety
- Health and Social Care Education
- Housing
- Homelessness
- Planning
- Leisure and Countryside
- Waste and Recycling
- Transport, Roads and Parking

Whilst every effort has been taken to provide accurate information, the Council does not accept any liability for error or omission for information on services it is not directly responsible for. The Town Council does not necessarily endorse any business using advertising space.

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W: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

RIDDLE ANSWERS:
1. An echo.
2. A map.
3. A candle.
4. The letter “R.”
5. Heroine.
6. Your Name.

On what building in Town can you find this decorative stonework? Answer can be found on page 6.

Photo courtesy of D. Miller

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