

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to this Autumn edition. Where has the year (and the summer...) gone?! We have hosted some enjoyable and successful events this year, the Gardens Open Day and the Village Fair in particular, enabling volunteers to raise much needed funds for their charity. Also for us to raise funds to support the village and keep it looking lovely – I am sure you appreciated the lovely hanging baskets, the pretty planters around the village and the respectful planting of the War Memorial. We have remained busy throughout the year maintaining the common landscaped areas as well.

Our next event is one for all the family - our COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS EVENT – Sunday 12th December from 11am – 2.30pm, in Laleham Village Hall. Bring the children to meet Santa, enjoy some mulled wine, drinks hot and cold, alcoholic and 'non' with some lovely nibbles, whilst you meet with your neighbours, local dignitaries, representatives from Surrey County and Spelthorne Council, All Saints Church, the Police, the LRA and many more. With a lovely ambience and a chance to chat and relax for an hour or two, hopefully this will help us really get into the Christmas spirit! This is a FREE event hosted by the LRA Committee. Please let me know if you are able to attend (and how

many in your party), so we can plan sufficient catering – call me on 07766 138 678 or email me at marymadams@hotmail.co.uk

We have been fortunate in securing some funding to help us in our projects this year, and particular thanks go to Councillor Steve Fairfax and County Councillor Richard Walsh, who kindly donated £2000 of his funds to our charity. County Councillor Denise Saliogopoulos will also be making a donation to us to help with the winter maintenance. We are very grateful for their generosity and support. Please let me know if there are any other projects you would like us to undertake in the village.

I recently attended a meeting with our local Police Officers, PCSO Colin Gibbons and new PC Neil Wilkins. They are very committed to our community and are working very actively with local community bodies such as the LRA, Safer Neighbourhoods and Neighbourhood Watch. We will be posting some information on our website www.lalehamonthames.com and you may contact them direct on 0845 125 2222 or spelthor-nesnt@surrey.pnn.police.uk. The LRA gives them access to our Heritage Centre where they hold regular local surgeries. The next public meeting is on Wed 15th December at 7.30pm in the

Village Hall – all welcome.

Well done to Raj, Kavita and Amanda from the Best One Village Shop, whose Coffee morning raised around £650 for the Macmillan Cancer Care Charity – what a great sum!!

We are very sorry to have lost one valued Committee member in Viv Stephens who has moved away from the area, and to soon lose our very valued Secretary, Lindsay Hudson, who will be moving away in the New Year. We are very grateful for all their hard work and their friendship. I am pleased to welcome two new members to the Committee, Debbie Parkes, who has lived in the village for many years and has recently returned to us from distant Staines (!) – she has bravely offered to be our new Secretary. Also welcome to Sue Hedges who has also joined us, bringing us back to our desired numbers.

**Mary Madams
Chairman
01784 462683**



lalehamonthames.com

Visit our website for information about Laleham and details of the LRA's organised events. Contributions very welcome. Please email us at: - web@lalehamonthames.com

**REMEMBRANCE DAY AND AUTUMN
BULB PLANTING**

We will be tidying up the gardens of the Heritage Centre and planting early spring bulbs around the village on Sunday 14th November after the service of remembrance at the War Memorial.

Please come and join us along with other local groups and residents at the War Memorial, opposite the church. The gathering starts at around 10.45 and the LRA, among others will be laying a wreath. Volunteers should then head to the Heritage Centre, (at around 11.30), and from there, we will set out with our spades and forks to plant some spring sunshine!

We have a few bags of bulbs and limited tools available. If you can donate a bag of bulbs that would be super! (Remember, early spring flowers only as they have to bloom and fade before the council get round to cutting the grass - so daffs and crocus and the like).

JINGLE BELL WALK - 5th December 11am

Councillor Isobel Napper of Riverside and Laleham ward is hosting the JINGLE BELL WALK - a fun filled fundraising event In aid of Leukemia and Ashford St. Peters breast units consisting of a gentle riverside walk toward Chertsey.

A £5 donation from walkers would be highly appreciated

Lets have lots of jingle pets wearing jingle!

Meet at the Wheatsheaf and Pigeon pub, Penton Rd Staines TW18 2LL



GAS WORKS DISRUPTION IN THE VILLAGE

Thank goodness the National Grid have at last packed up their diggers and moved on. Below is an extract from a letter written to a member which explains a little about the job and the problem which caused it to overrun so dramatically.

“The work in Shepperton Road is to replace 354m of 8" Cast Iron main with 354m of 180mm polyethylene pipe. In addition, we are also connecting the existing gas mains in Vicarage Lane and Ferry Lane on to the new pipe, which also requires us to replace old metallic customer service pipes for 29 domestic customers and 1 non-domestic customer.

The reason why we are carrying out the mains replacement is that there have been a significant number of leakage reports and despite a number of repairs and attempts to improve the integrity of the main, which themselves can cause disruption to the local community, we have had no choice but to replace the main.

The delay in completing the work has been caused by having to change our planned method of replacing the old metallic gas pipe with the new polyethylene. It was planned to be replaced by a technique called insertion, where we have two holes open, normally 100 meters apart from each other, and we push the new smaller plastic pipe inside the old larger metal pipe. The decision to use this preferred method is based on size of pipe, the gas pressures in the area and also the location in the road of the gas main according to our gas main drawings maps. At the planning stage of this work we also inform the local residents via a letter and site visits by our Customer Liaison Officers.

However, when we started work on the 19 July 2010 to carry out the insertion we found that the actual location of the main was not following the route expected. The gas main was originally laid in 1947, and it snakes along the road. As a result of this there were quite a few bends which the new plastic pipe could not get round. It was due to this that we had to change our method to open cut, which is where we dig a new trench for the new gas main along side the old gas main.

Once again, please accept my apologies on behalf of National Grid for any inconvenience this matter may have caused you...” Still awake...? Well as I said at the beginning, thank goodness it’s over.



PROJECT KRAKEN

Surrey police are promoting a new dedicated phone service focused on protecting the waterways of Surrey from potential terrorist threat. Project Kraken provides for the collation of all information relating to suspicious, criminal and potentially terrorist activity on or near the Thames from Englefield Green to Thames Ditton. Residents are asked to be particularly vigilant during the build up to the 2012 London Olympics where multiple venues are being constructed on or beside the Thames and athlete accommodation will be situated in 20 or so cruise liners moored in the East end of London.

Our stretch of the Thames includes Penton Hook Marina which, with 575 berths, is Britain's largest inland marina attracting over 8,000 visitors a year. Locals are requested to be vigilant.

Phone 0845 125 2222 and ask to be put through to Project Kraken.

GRAVEL UPDATES

Keep informed with the latest in the Gravel extraction plans on our website
www.lalehamonthames.com

PROPOSED ECO PARK AT CHARLTON LANE, SHEPPERTON

For those of you who think that an ECO PARK is just an incinerator with trees around it, there was a public meeting to discuss this proposed development on Wednesday 20 October, 7.30pm. Please give us your feedback if you were able to attend. If you would like to read about the development follow the links through recycling on surreycc.gov.uk

LALEHAM PARK TREES

In our last newsletter, we reported on the felling of diseased chestnut trees in Laleham Park. Unfortunately, there is still no decision on replacement planting. If nothing is done this Autumn, one can't help but think that it will go the way of all cuts.

SPELTHORNE TOGETHER ASSEMBLY

September 2010

Committee members attended the 2010 Spelthorne Together Assembly at Kempton Park. The majority of the day was spent on presentations by Spelthorne strategic partnership groups including "Safer Stronger" (crime and disorder), "Health and Well Being", "Economic Development" and "Housing Infrastructure and Environment".

Of particular interest to Laleham residents were discussions on raising the profile of the River Thames as a Spelthorne attraction and revenue generator for the borough. This was a "blue sky" discussion with no details defined but the accent was on tourism and events with greater use of transportation on the river and improved leisure facilities.

We learned that the recently completed "Surrey County Council Bus Review" which was intended to determine cuts in local services, actually found that Spelthorne services should not be cut and could be improved! We shall see...

On the environment, it was suggested that some residents are dubious about the current recycle bin system, believing that much of this separated waste goes to landfill anyway. Nigel Lynn, Deputy Chief Executive of the council, took this as an action point and will try to arrange some sort of educational tour in the future, demonstrating the processes and product of our recycling efforts. If you would like to be involved in this, please let us know.

LRA Committee Members

Mary Madams : Chairman
Steve Bartlett : Treasurer & Website
Debbie Parkes : Secretary
Donnica Colman : Membership Secretary

Viv Auster : Gravel & Flooding Liaison

Danny Fairfax : Special Projects Coordinator

Janet Duane, Beryl Shattock, Sue Hedges, Geoff Want
Cllr. Steve Fairfax





Make a Donation and Become a Member of the LRA

In 1970 Laleham was designated a Conservation Area and it is the mission statement of the LRA to preserve the beauty and integrity of this historic village and to support and represent its residents. The LRA currently comprises of a voluntary committee who meet once a month to organise local events and progress local issues.

In 2010 we leafleted around 500 homes and achieved membership of over 100, raising £550 for local events and charities. We would like to increase this total for 2011!

What do we do with your money?

- Intercede on your behalf and raise concerns with the council.
- Foster and maintain links with council groups, local police etc.
- Keep the village tidy.
- Organise fund raising and community building events
- The Garden Open Day / The Village Fair / The Autumn Dance
- Preserve the War Memorial and maintain the Arnold & Lucan graves.
- Organise and pay for the hanging baskets throughout the summer.
- Organise and pay for Christmas lights.
- Enter Spelthorne and Southeast in Bloom.
- Support local charities.

How Can You Join?

We invite anyone with an interest in the Village to pay a suggested £5.00 annual subscription for family membership. Complete the form below and deliver it with payment to either, Fairfax Hair Salon, Shepperton Road or The Membership Secretary, Ferry Lane House, Ferry Lane.

Membership Application Form

I / We wish to take out annual membership of the Laleham Residents Association for the year January to December 2011

I / We wish to pledge £..... (suggested £3.00 single or £5.00 Family)

Name

Address:
.....

Email: Tel:

(We will email you invitations and news on current events but your information is confidential).

Please make me a special member of the LRA as I could possibly help with projects such as: The Laleham Pond, The Village Fair, The Heritage Centre, Garden Open Day, Litter Picking etc. YES / NO

Comments / Suggestions.....

Current members please note that we will not be issuing membership cards this year. You may wish to hold on to your old ones! We have run out of our historic stock of cards and, unfortunately, we really need to use the money elsewhere