

Leeds & Broomfield

50p

Aug 2022



Community Big Strim!

**Leeds Churchyard
Sat 6 August**

**09.30 -
17.30**

(Full details on page 5)



Church and Village News

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Churchwarden	Brian Hardy	842915
Verger - <i>Broomfield</i>	Derek Hadlow	861955
Borough Councillor	Gill Fort	861605
County Councillor - Leeds	Gary Cooke	01622 694480/ 07803 007031
County Councillor - Broomfield	Shellina Prendergast	07970 461160
Cricket Club - Secretary	Sarah O'Connell	880340
Football Club(Men & Ladies)	Colin Pitchers	670700
Friends of Leeds & Broomfield Churches	Pauline Royer	863541
Leeds Allotments	Strutt and Parker	01227 473741
Leeds Amateur Dramatic Group	Lesley Finlay	862467
Leeds Playing Field	Sherie Babington	01634 863719
Leeds Bell Ringers	Chris Saunders	01233 663365
Leeds & Broomfield Amateur Gardeners	Barbara Turner	861551
Magazine Editor	Judi Taylor	862316
Magazine Advertising	Judi Taylor	862316
Magazine Distribution	Humphrey Goodhew	861624
Memorial Hall – <i>Bookings</i>	Jane Steele	863481
- <i>Chairman</i>	Steve Bond	07472 760460
Parish Council Chair - Leeds	Bob China	880929
Parish Council Chair – Broomfield & Kingswood	Tina Clark	842980
Parish Clerk - Leeds	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Parish Clerk – Broomfield & Kingswood	Hayley Roberts	474190
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Roman Catholic Priest	Fr. Peter Growney	752637
Royal British Legion	Derek Davison	880650
Scout Group	Alan Poulton	843019
Website : www.leedskent.org.uk	leedsparishcouncil@gmail.com	
Women's Institute	Jane Newsome	862558

MAGAZINE MATERIAL

Please send copy for the magazine by the 12th of the month to the Editor, Mrs Judi Taylor,
Roses Manor Farm, Broomfield, Maidstone ME17 1PS.

Material for the magazine should be Emailed if possible please. Email: juditaylor4@outlook.com



NORTH DOWNS TEAM MINISTRY

Oberammergau Passion Play 2022

I wonder what is on your list of things to do during your lifetime? Near the top of mine, and my wife Sonya's, was to visit Oberammergau to see the Passion Play.

You may be wondering where is Oberammergau and what is a Passion Play? Oberammergau is a town in the Bavarian Alps in Germany and is most famously known for the performance of a Passion Play every ten years where the trial, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus are dramatically presented.

Our journey to the Austrian Alps and Oberammergau was with Great Rail Journeys and commenced on the third day of the rail strike! Thankfully, our Eurostar train did travel to Paris where we changed for Stuttgart in Germany (famous for making Porsche cars) for a stopover. The next day we travelled to the Austrian Alps staying at Zell am See with wonderful trips to the Krimml Waterfalls and along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road with magnificent views of Austria's tallest mountain of the same name.

The highlight of the trip was to visit Oberammergau and see the Passion Play. The play originated with a vow that was taken by the local people in 1633 when the plague was raging in Europe including Oberammergau. 'People sought refuge in prayer and vowed: If the dying stops, every ten years we will stage the "play of the passion, death and resurrection of the our Lord Jesus Christ" and in fact, no one died of the plague from that day on' (*extract from the 2022 Passion Play Oberammagau text book*).

The Passion Play has been performed every ten years since 1634 so it was rather ironic that in 2020 it had to be postponed until this year due to, another plague, covid-19! The play is an enormous undertaking given that the wonderful cast are all from Oberammergau. The orchestra and choir are also amazing and include people from outside the town.

During the play, scenes from the New Testament are interspersed with tableaux from the Old, e.g. the crossing of the Red Sea and Moses and the burning bush, accompanied by songs composed especially for each event.

The play commences on Palm Sunday with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the crowd shouting, 'Blessed be the Anointed One! Hosanna! Children rush

onto the stage trying to get a glimpse of Jesus and be the first one to touch him. The expulsion by Jesus of the merchants from the temple is also vividly portrayed as pigeons fly away, sheep escape and money is scattered everywhere in the chaos.

The tension mounts with the portrayal of the Last Supper, the betrayal of Jesus by Judas and Christ's agony in the garden of Gethsemane. The way to the cross and the crucifixion are punctuated by the famous words spoken by Jesus.



The expulsion of the merchants from the temple

The play ends with an empty cross, witnessing to the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, as the women on seeing the empty tomb are told by the angel, 'Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, he has risen from the dead'.



Jesus' entry to Jerusalem

Although the play is in German (I wish I had paid more attention to German lessons in school) the text can be followed in English. Of course, we cannot all see the Passion Play at Oberammergau, the next one is in 2030, but we can all experience the love of God and be thankful for what Jesus has done for us in dying on the cross and live with the hope of the resurrection from the dead.

I would thoroughly recommend a visit to the Oberammergau Passion Play in 2030!

*Peter Roberts,
Kingswood Church*

Community Big Strim!

Leeds Churchyard

Sat 6 August

09.30 – 17.30

Bring your own strimmer or sickle
or rake & picnic lunch
and help clear the hay in the
churchyard

**Followed by a party in the
church for all workers!**

*This is a community project for the whole
village, supported by*

*Leeds Parish Council and
Leeds & Broomfield PCC*



**For information call Brian Hardy 01622
842915 or 07851775453**

Church Services in August

If you wish to be advised of any last-minute changes to services please notify Brian Hardy on 01622 842915.

31 July	7th after Trinity (Proper 13)		
Readings	Ecclesiastes 1.32, 12-14 & 2.18-23; Ps49.1-12; Coloss.3.1-11; Luke 12.13-21		
Services	11.00am	Leeds	Area worship service
7 August	8th after Trinity (Proper 14)		
Readings	Genesis 15.1-6; Ps33.12-22; Hebrews 11.1-3& 8-16; Luke 12.32-40		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Communion
	9.30am	Leeds	Café service
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	11.00am	Langley	Morning celebration
14 August	9th after Trinity (Proper 15)		
Readings	Jer.23. 23-29; Ps82; Hebrews 11.29-12.2; Luke 12.49-56		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Communion
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	11.00am	Langley	Celebration & communion
	3.30pm	Broomfield	Communion
21 August	10th after Trinity (Proper 16)		
Readings	Isaiah 58.9-14; Ps103.1-8; Hebrews 12.18-29 Luke13.10-17		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Communion
	9.30am	Leeds	Worship, communion
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	11.00am	Langley	Morning celebration
28 August	11th after Trinity (Proper 17)		
Readings	Ecclesiastes 10.12-18; Ps112; Hebrews 13.1-8 & 15-16; Luke 14.1 & 7-14		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Communion
	11.00am	Kingswood	Family communion
	11.00am	Langley	Morning Celebration
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist

This Month's Duties

St Nicholas

Readers

Aug 21 D King

Church Cleaning

Aug Mr & Mrs King

War Memorial

Aug Mrs J Dabbs

Brass & Silver

Flowers

Aug 7/14 Mrs Ryan

Mrs B Evans

21/28 Mrs Turner

Mrs F Crossley

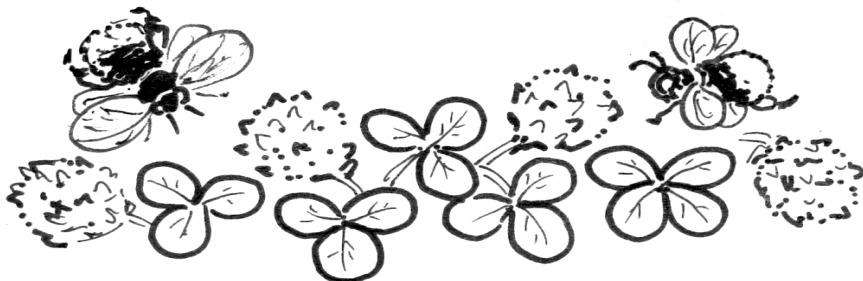
St Margaret's

Reader

Aug 14 Mrs J Taylor

Church Cleaning

Aug 14 Mr & Mrs Bowman-Taylor



theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

**Leeds WI will be on Thursday
11 August 2022 at 7:30pm in
Leeds Village Hall**

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings, so ladies why not come along and join us for a cup of tea, raffle ticket, light refreshments and a speaker all for £4.

For more details please contact either Jane Newsome (01622 862558) or Janet Buller

LEEDS CRAFT AND NATTER GROUP

WEDNESDAY 17 August

LEEDS VILLAGE HALL 11am-1pm

A hot drink and biscuits will be provided

Cost £3.00 to cover costs

**For more details please contact
Jane Newsome 862558**

LEEDS  CASTLE

— CALLING —
GARDENING VOLUNTEERS!

The fragrant Culpeper Garden, sun-drenched Lady Baillie Garden Terraces, and seasonal Pavilion Lawn with stunning blooms and foliage all year round, sounds heavenly right?

Join our volunteer programme which is entrusted with the preservation and development of a very important part of England's heritage. We want our volunteers to be happy, fulfilled and effective in their role and to share their enthusiasm and love for this special place with others.

Visit www.leeds-castle.com/volunteers or call 01622 765 400 to find out more and to apply.





Wine and Wisdom

Saturday 17 September

Memorial Hall, Leeds

7.15 for 7.30pm

Teams of four to six

Supper with wine provided

Bring your own glasses

In aid of Leeds Memorial Hall funds

Tickets £10

Tel Adrian on 07737 959983

Or Jane on 01622 863481

Ride and Stride



CYCLISTS, WALKERS AND DOG-WALKERS!

*Friends of Kent Churches
annual bike ride and walk will take place*

Saturday 10 September

This is the day when we invite walkers, hikers, bike riders and horse riders to undertake a sponsored tour around as many Kent churches as they can.

Choose your own route and “clock-in” at the churches as you go round.

Sponsorship forms can be obtained from

Derek Hadlow (01622 861955) for Broomfield residents

Peter Roberts (01622 843625) for Kingswood or

Brian Hardy (01622 842915) for Leeds

Half of the sponsorship money raised goes to Friends of Kent Churches to maintain the structures of the many ancient church buildings throughout Kent – which can be and indeed in recent years has been used for a grant to one of our local buildings. The other half goes to maintain your local village church. So many of us have got into the habit of regular exercise during the last year, to make a break from the virus restrictions. Put that valuable pas-time to an additional use now, get a sponsorship form and start planning your route !

LEEDS CASTLE

Summer is here and the gardens are in full bloom, with stunning hollyhocks and roses out en masse in the Culpeper Garden. It is lovely and cooling to be by the water during these hot July days.

The annual Concert has just taken place, with conductor John Rigby, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and a number of fantastic soloists. It really was inspiring to see so many of you enjoying the gorgeous sunshine, wonderful music, Spitfire flyover and stunning fireworks.

We are now in peak visitor season and awaiting the arrival of families, as the school holidays start imminently. We have lots going on this summer, including Rapunzel Children's Theatre, Luna Outdoor Cinema for three nights from 29 July and all of the usual summer holiday fun.

After the success of last year's 50 Leeds Castle-y Challenges trail booklet, we have refreshed the challenges and this will be available throughout the summer holidays.

Also new this summer is Queens with Means. This 6-minute projected experience in the Gatehouse will bring the lives of our six medieval queen owners to life, telling their individual stories, with the key events of their lives playing out in the background.

Henry VIII's first wife, Katharine of Aragon acts as narrator and explains her role as Queen over 24 years, above and beyond the well-known story of her being replaced as Queen by Anne Boleyn, when she could not produce a living son as heir to the throne.

It is great to be able to share stories about these women who were remarkable in their time with what they achieved during their reign. This launches from 30 July and is included in your annual ticket price.

If you are buying tickets, do book 48 hours or more in advance to benefit from a ticket discount.

It has been encouraging to see groups and international visitors starting to return again, albeit in limited numbers. Previously 20% of our visitors were international and market specialists are saying that they won't be back in usual numbers until 2024, but it is good to see some returning.

In hospitality, we have started to see an increase in conferences booking, with lots of companies keen to get their staff together again during the good weather. We have also hosted a large number of weddings during June and it has been lovely to see so many happy couples enjoying their special day at the Castle.

At the Birds of Prey Centre, Baby Norris the Tawny Owl, is now 12 weeks old and is growing into his adult plumage and is starting training. We are also delighted to confirm the imminent return of the famous Leeds Castle Black Swans. We undertook fundraising to raise the money to buy these wonderful birds and ten cygnets, aged between five and eight months will be arriving with us during August.

After getting used to their new surroundings, we will then release them out onto the Moat and Great Water, so expect to start seeing them from September onwards.

Hoping you have a lovely summer.

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

Leeds and Broomfield Amateur Gardeners Society

Dear Members and Gardeners,

This month August, we will have The Summer Show on 13 August 2022, in St Nicholas Church, Leeds.

If you would like a schedule please get in touch with me Barbara Turner 861551,

There are quite a few Classes to interest people to enter, Vegetables, Garden flowers, Home Economics, Handicrafts, Art. It only costs £4 to join, speak to one of the members when you come to visit the show. The Show will be open for viewing from 2 o'clock

JOBS TO DO.

With this hot weather make sure birds have fresh water, keep ponds topped up, trim lavender after the flowers have faded. Feed and water all plants in containers. Water and feed tomatoes regularly and remove yellowing leaves. Harvest the first apples and pears. Lift and dry onions.

LOOFAH

A loofah may look as if it has been made in a factory or harvested from the sea but it is actually the fibrous skeleton of the fruit of **Luffa cylindrica** a member of the cucumber family. These rampant climbers are too tender to grow out-doors in Britain, but you will have no difficulty with them if you have grown greenhouse cucumbers. The large black seeds are obtainable from nurseries which offer unusual varieties. Young fruits will appear a couple of months after planting. Wait until the fruits are fully grown and have turned orange-brown. Harvest them and keep in a warm place until thoroughly dry-peel off the skin and squeeze under a tap to remove the seeds and internal tissues. Let the loofahs dry for a couple of weeks, they are now ready to take a bath.

QUOTE

Yesterday I was clever so I wanted to change the world Today I am wise so I am changing myself.

Happy gardening!

BET



THE WISHFUL THINKER!

We were delighted to announce our newest pub, **The Wishful Thinker, Lenham** a few weeks back.

Since we made that announcement, work on the renovation project has been full steam ahead. We recently had our steel beams installed for our restaurant which will be home to over **200** covers!

To stay up to date with the progress of the project, follow our Instagram - [@thewishfulthinkerlenham](#) and sign up to our newsletter at [elitepubs.com](#)



Notes from Leeds Parish Council

Welcome to newcomers to Leeds

Welcome to any new residents to the village. We hope that you will be happy here. Please don't be shrinking violets – come and support the village and its community in whatever way you wish.

Parish Council Meetings

Leeds Parish Council usually meets on the second Tuesday in the month at 7.00pm at the Memorial Hall, Leeds. This is your opportunity to bring to our attention any issues that you are concerned about. There is no Parish Council meeting in August or January.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Grant and Fort

Matters arising from previous minutes

Church path lighting quotes now received, decision to be made as to successful supplier. Permission from the Church to be sought.

The second defibrillator price available, permission to be sought from the Village Hall committee to have it installed on the external cladding at the front entrance.

Public Participation

Representatives from the church present to discuss how the church could be used for the benefit of the village. It was suggested a residents committee be set up to come up with ideas.

Concern raised over traffic ignoring the road closure signs recently installed due to water leaks on the B2163.

Concerns raised as to why access now not available to the paths at the back of the playing fields. This to be raised in a letter from the PC to MBC planners relating to the planning application made by the new owner.

It appears there is still a problem with users of the sports field parking in Farmers Close, PC to investigate.

Concern raised as to the footballers using the field during the week reducing the area for dog owners to exercise their dogs. PC to talk to the LLFC organisers.

Due to ongoing traffic problems on the B2163 some residents of the view that Burberry Lane & the B2163 should be made one way. KCC Councillor Gary Cooke stated that this will not happen due to safety reasons and that now that MBC have reserved an area of land in which a Leeds relief road, if agreed, can be constructed all minds should be concentrated on this option.

Highway Matters

Councillor Cooke advised that KCC going ahead with vehicle recognition cameras on the B2163 to be used to identify overweight vehicles so that KCC can follow up with fixed penalty notices. The PC were told that this would be soon but no date given.

Report from KCC Councillor

Councillor Cooke was welcomed back by the PC having been though a difficult few months resulting in him being out of office. He advised that business as usual would resume and apologised to those who had contacted him during the last few months and not getting a response.

Planning Matters

The planning application for Abbey Farm was discussed and it was agreed that a formal letter from the PC to MPC Planning would be submitted opposing the application.

Parish Maintenance

No maintenance issues were raised. If any residents have concerns about overgrowing vegetation blocking pavements etc please advise the Parish Clerk.

Leeds Playground, Playing Field, Tennis Courts and Pavilion

PC to look at grants with a view to refurbishing the tennis courts.

The sports ground is for the use by all the village and if any events want to take place please contact the Parish Clerk.

Street Lighting

A light at the junction of Forge lane and Upper St is causing annoyance due to its brightness. PC to check if the light in question can be dimmed.

PC looking at having the remaining non LED lights replaced with LED type.

Emergency Plan

Clerk to source a template to enable plan to be formulated.

Neighbourhood Plan

PC to discuss options with other Parishes and explore options with consultants experienced in formalising of plans.

Church Car Park

Two prices now received to have the pot holes repaired, decision made to use the cheaper of the two, order to be placed. When date agreed to carry out the work it will need car owners to find alternative parking. PC to arrange signage giving date. The parking problem experienced at school start and finishing times discussed. Still a reluctance to use the overspill area due to it being a grassed surface. PC to check with KCC as to the installations of bollards at the verges into the car park.

Events Committee

It was agreed to look at having a committee comprising residents and a member of the PC to organise and run events within the village using the sports field and maybe the church as venues.

Item for the next meeting agenda Solar panels on the Pavilion and Village hall roofs.

Next meeting to take place in the Village hall starting at 7pm 13 September 2022 . **PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST.**

Music Notes



August is always a tricky month for local concerts, but there are bound to be some good events that I have overlooked. Last month I missed out the Leeds Castle outdoor concerts – apologies – but I have no doubt that local readers were aware! To make up I have included in my list this month the exciting family event at the castle on 5 & 6 of August.

While local events are thin on the ground, the BBC proms are on throughout the month. They are featured every day on radio 3 and they appear on TV BBC4 each Friday and Sunday evening. Additionally prom 54 – the Earth Prom with Chris Packham as a presenter - will be broadcast on TV BBC2 on Monday 29 August.

And the local events:

- ♦ **Friday & Saturday 5 & 6 August** 5.30pm at Leeds Castle, the Children's Theatre perform *Rapunzel* a brand-new musical adaptation of the classic fairy tale, Rapunzel. This fast-paced, larger-than-life production features a laugh out loud script, heaps of audience interaction, a host of catchy songs, unforgettable characters, and maybe even the odd water gun or two! Doors open at 5.00pm. This is an outdoor event – bring your own chairs or mat.
- ♦ Tickets: <https://www.leeds-castle.com/What%E2%80%99s+On/Search+Results/Children's+Theatre:+Rapunzel/>
- ♦ **Also on Friday 5 August** 8.00pm at The Festival Theatre, Hever Castle, Hever Rd, Hever, TN8 7NG there will be the James Bond Concert Spectacular by the famous "Q The Music Show", which is widely regarded across the world as the best tribute to the music of James Bond that has been produced. Box office 07379 488477
- ♦ **Sunday 14 August** 3.00 pm at St Nicholas Church, Church Rd, Otham, ME15 8SB The Friends of Otham Church present a recital and talk by Trevor Brearley including organ music by visually impaired composers. Free entry, retiring collection.
- ♦ **Wednesday 24 August** 7.30pm at Rochester Cathedral, the 5th concert in the 2022 Rochester Cathedral Organ Festival features Jeremy Lloyd playing pieces by Saint-Saëns, Maurice Duruflé, and Matthew Martin's *St. Alban's Triptych*. Tickets booked via <https://www.rochestercathedral.org/new-events/2022/4/27/jeremylloyd>. Doors open at 6.45pm.

This month's anniversary is August 22, the date on which Claude Debussy was born 1862 in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France. He was among the most influential composers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Born to a family of modest means and little cultural involvement, Debussy showed enough musical talent to be admitted at the age of ten to France's leading music college, the Conservatoire de Paris.

BJH



PRE-SCHOOL IN LEEDS?

At a recent meeting of Leeds Parish Council it was suggested that there is a need for a pre-school facility in Leeds.

Now that the new heating is installed at the church, St Nicholas would be an ideal location for such a group. If a properly qualified person or team were interested in starting up a pre-school for local infants or a crèche to support local parents the church management would be keen to support the idea.

Contact 07516 159879.



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The Great Leeds Booksale

Following the success of last year's September booksale we have chosen similar dates this year

**Friday 23 and Saturday 24 September
2022**

Please note them in your diaries and make sure you come to buy your year's supply of reading.

We hope to have the usual refreshments each day and a stall selling cakes and preserves on the Saturday, so that as well as being the incredible source of inexpensive books for which the sale is now famed, it will again be an opportunity to meet your friends over a cup of tea or coffee. We will of course need all the usual help, and more if possible, in the week before the sale to put out books, in the week after to pack away unsolds, and on the day to help with refreshments, the cake stall, raffle and organisation generally.

**If you can assist please call Brian Hardy on
01622 842915**

If you are keen to make space on your bookshelves for a good lot of purchases at the sale, we are now able to take in donations of second-hand books in good saleable condition. I'm afraid we cannot accept books in bad condition unless they are genuine antiques and as the years pass the market changes so there are some things we can no longer accept as they just don't sell - for example encyclopaedias, back-copies of magazines, video-tapes. But if you would buy it yourself now, someone else probably would too, so bring it along!
Brian Hardy



Leeds and Broomfield School News

Sports Day at Leeds and Broomfield School Well done all!



On the 15 July we had our school sports day. The morning was a rotation of activities where we had to improve our scores. In the afternoon families and friends joined us in our competitive sports day. Lots of shouting and cheering!

Gold team won!!

Ride and Stride

The annual Kent churches Ride and Stride event will take place on Saturday 10 September. This is the day when we invite walkers, hikers, bike riders and horse riders to undertake a sponsored walk around as many Kent churches as they can.

Choose your own route and “clock-in” at the churches as you go round. Sponsorship forms can be obtained from Derek Hadlow (tel 01622 861955) for Broomfield residents, Peter Roberts (01622 843625) for Kingswood or Brian Hardy (01622 842915) for Leeds.

Half of the sponsorship money raised goes to Friends of Kent Churches to maintain the structures of the many ancient church buildings throughout Kent – which can be and indeed in recent years has been used for a grant to one of our local buildings. The other half goes to maintain your local village church.

So many of us have got into the habit of regular exercise during the last two years, to make a break from the virus restrictions. Put that valuable pastime to an additional use now, get a sponsorship form and start planning your route.

Volunteers are also needed to sit in our churches to welcome and record the riders and striders. This voluntary work can also be sponsored – again forms available from the people listed above. Call them now!

BJH

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L.A.D.S. Jubilee play a right royal success

The Leeds Amateur Dramatic Society had another hit show on their hands with their Platinum Jubilee play, "Who stole the Queen of Hearts' Tarts?" As part of the village's Jubilee celebrations LADS wanted to put on a one off show to add to the fun but realised that they didn't have a script, so they put on a show which was, to paraphrase Ernie Wise "A play wot we wrote!"

This was the first play that had been written by LADS (in their current form) and so the nerves were on high alert ahead of the curtains opening.

The sold out show on Saturday night told the story of the theft of tarts from the Queen of Hearts bakery much to the Queen's (Paul Cordier) chagrin and introduced the audience to a host of "suspects" such as a white rabbit who used to be a King (Paul Homewood), the Four of Hearts , apprentice to the Queen (Kim Richards) an, alleged, teenager played by Sue Finnis along with little Alice (Victoria Dimitrova), a Cheshire cat and a sleepy dormouse performed with great style and cuteness by Valentino and Primrose Meneses-Bautista (Aged 4 & 6 years).

Tweedle Dum (Kieren Wallace) stole the show with his singing and his "Bruce Springclean" impression and Jack Brain was great as his sidekick and roadie, Tweedle Dee. The final suspect was The Mad Hatter (Megan Wallace) whose hat pun's flowed continuously.

The case was investigated by Cake Detective, Sherlock Scones played by Boris Dimitov and his trusty assistant Dr Kipling (Lesley Finlay) They questioned the suspects and put the case before the Judge played by Louise Meneses- Bautista who was bought in at the last minute when the senior Judge Susan Wenham was unable to take part. Victoria Dimitrova also played the Herald calling the suspects to give evidence.

The final role of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth was performed by Tracie Carslund and the mystery of the theft of tarts was finally solved by Her Majesty.

The show, directed by Lesley Finlay, was a crowd pleaser with lots of songs and dances involving the whole cast and the audience joined in the singing particularly with the National Anthem and the final song Sweet Caroline.

Once again the cast were ably supported by their back stage team, Mel Comins, Selena Harding, Scott Langden, Helen Apps, Lousie and Celestina Meneses-Bautista, Gemma Wallace and Jane Newsome.

This was, as always, a real village affair and the children's roles allowed them to shine and take centre stage. It was great to see their confidence grow and we encourage them to follow their dreams.

LADS next performance will be our annual Panto which we are hoping to write between us. If you fancy getting involved in any capacity please drop us a line. You can find us on Facebook at LADSamdram or e-mail ladsamdram@gmail.com

Paul Cordier

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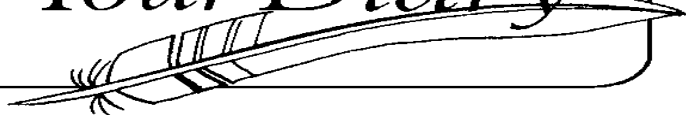


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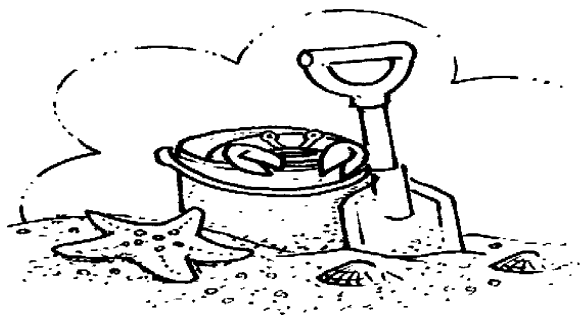
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- 11 Leeds W.I. meet : Village Hall— 7.30pm
- 13 LABAGS Show : Leeds church—2pm
- 17 Craft & Natter : Village Hall—11am
- Sept** 10 Ride and Stride : 01622 842915
- 13 Leeds Parish Council meet : Village Hall—7pm
- 23-24 Great Leeds Booksale : 01622 842915



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