



Loose Leaves

Just for members

Welcome to the first edition of Loose Leaves produced specially for our membership.

The newsletter will be distributed several times through the year to keep you up to date on LAA news and events, although if you have access to a computer our website, www.loose-amenities.org.uk has more detailed information than there is space for here.

To keep costs down it would help if we could email your copy to you. Contact webmaster@loose-amenities.org.uk so we can put you on our e-mail distribution list.

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The newsletter for members of Loose Amenities Association

February 2011

Black Sheep of the Valley

Regular walkers in the part of the Loose Valley owned by the Association will have noticed the great job being done by our flock of Hebridean sheep, introduced last



spring. They are part of a conservation grazing project, which aims eventually to restore the meadows to the flower rich habitats they once were.

Royal Ascot - don't miss out!

Due to popular demand, we are off to Royal Ascot again this year, but you'll have to book by **mid March** if you don't want to miss out.

We are going on Friday 17th June and the ticket price of £37.00 per person includes return coach travel from The Chequers pub and admission to the Silver Ring at Ascot. Your place on the coach will be reserved when we receive your payment.

LAA members have priority booking and

tickets will be sold on first come, first served basis.

Cheques should be made payable to Loose Amenities Association and sent to:

Springdale, Church Street, Loose, Maidstone, ME15 0BX

For more information on this event telephone Viv Davis on 01622 743676

Have you renewed your membership yet?

Membership subscriptions were due at the beginning of January.

Categories of membership are £5 for Family Membership, £2.50 for Single

Membership and £1.50 for Senior Citizens.

Some members choose to pay more than the minimum sum, and this additional donation is spent on

LAA projects in the Loose Valley Conservation Area.

Membership and Standing Order forms can be found at the back of this edition of **Loose Leaves**

Goodbye Andrea and hello Paula

Andrea Tozer, for the last five years our hard-working and energetic Hon Secretary, has recently taken over the



tenancy of The Walnut Tree pub in the Loose Road with her partner Alan.

This challenging new venture presents a huge learning curve for Andrea and leaves her with little spare time, so with regret she has decided to resign from the post of Secretary and from the committee of Loose Amenities Association. The good news is that she will remain on the

We need you!

Almost all the work undertaken by LAA is done by volunteers. We run fund raising events throughout the year, none of which would happen without help from people like you, so whatever your skills, talents or interests we would like to hear from you.

Sunday work parties in

Events Subcommittee where her enthusiasm will continue to be put to good use!

Our picture was taken at last year's Sen-

ior Citizens' Party and shows, from left to right, LAA committee members Liz Collins, Andrea Tozer, Dawn Bristow-Smith, Viv Davis and Chairman Terry Davis.

Our thanks to Andrea for her tireless work over the last five years on behalf of the Association. We send her and Alan our best wishes for the future and every success in running the Walnut Tree for many years to come.

the valley, baking cakes for our various events, herding ducks, taxiing people to and from our Senior Citizen's Party, erecting the marquee...all these tasks and more are done by volunteers.

If you think you could spend a few hours now and then, please let us know.

Our new Hon Secretary is Paula Rixon, who moved to Loose with her family last summer. Paula can be contacted on 07765 406656.

PayPal is coming

Within the next few weeks we will be introducing PayPal to our website, www.loose-amenities.org.uk. Visitors to the site will be able to buy items of LAA merchandise, pay for tickets to this year's Royal Ascot trip and open air Shakespeare production and renew memberships. If you haven't used PayPal before you can find out more about how it works at www.paypal.com.

"Our thanks to Andrea for her tireless work over the last five years on behalf of the Association"

A review of 2010

In January the new LAA website was launched, regularly updated with news, events, archive and photo gallery.

In the valley, the first Sunday working party met in February, the last of the cows left in March and a flock of Hebridean sheep was introduced in April.

The Duck Race in May is LAA's most important fund raiser of the year and the new committee spent a lot of time and energy making sure it ran as smoothly and successfully as possible.

The end result was well worth all the extra effort. A new ticketing system

was so fast that tickets for all 35 races were sold within the first hour and public address announce-



ments made sure everyone knew when races were starting and who the winners were.

June and our first visit to Royal Ascot and in July 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' by William Shakespeare. This open air production, staged in the

grounds of Vale House, was brilliantly performed and greatly enjoyed.

September's Loose Scarecrow Festival seemed to involve almost everyone in the village, with over seventy scarecrows on display.

The year ended with an Auction of Promises in November and Carols in mid December.

So, a mix of old events and new ones, and a huge amount of work completed in the valley land. There's always room for improvement, but the consensus seems to be that 2010 was a very good year!



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Programme of Events 2011

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Monday 25th April. Games, teas, face painting...fun for all the family.

Loose Duck Race

Monday 30th May on Brooks Field. Timed races, lots of things to see and do. First race at 2pm.

Senior Citizens' Party

Saturday 11th June at George V Pavilion.

Trip to Royal Ascot

Friday 17th June.

NEW EVENT Fun Run through Loose Valley

Sunday 26th June. More details on this soon.

Comedy of Errors by William Shakespeare

Saturday 30th July at Vale House. Members' priority booking.

Loose Scarecrow Festival

Runs from Saturday 17th

to Sunday 25th September.

LAA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 12th October at George V Pavilion.

Carols Around the Tree

Thursday 16th December.

THE CHANGELING AND HAZLITT ARTS CENTRE PRESENT
AN OPEN-AIR SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTION OF THE

COMEDY OF ERRORS

Directed by Robert Forknall

Supported by Kent County Council, Maidstone Theatre, Medway

At venues across Kent
30th June - 7th August 2011
BRING A PICNIC!



MEMBERSHIP AND/OR DONATION FORM

Type of membership (please circle which you would prefer)

Family £5.00 minimum || Single £2.50 minimum || Senior Citizen £1.00 minimum

Payable by cheque, cash, postal order or standing order (form below).

Please accept my membership fee/donation of £.....

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Telephone number:

Email address:

Contact us

Registered address:

Springdale
Church Street
Loose ME15 0BX

Website:

www.loose-amenities.org.uk
webmaster@loose-amenities.org.uk

Hon. Secretary:

info@loose-amenities.org.uk
07765 406656

Membership:

01622 743676

Valley Work Parties:

01622 743411

General enquiries:

01622 747058

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To the Manager

Your bank or building society name here:

Their address here:

Please pay HSBC Bank, 1-5 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1QW

For the credit of Loose Amenities Association

Account number 91204734

Sort Code 40-31-06

The sum of £

Commencing on the first day of January 20 and every year thereafter on the same date until further notice and debit my account accordingly

Your account name:

Your account number:

Your bank's sort code:

Complete and return Membership Form and/or Standing order mandate to:

Membership Secretary

Loose Amenities Association

Springdale

Church Street, Loose ME15 0BX

Newsletter compiled by

Catherine Kenny

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