

October 2026
No.361



LEYBOURNE VOICE

All Souls' Day

1st November 2026



Foreword



I have recently returned from a wonderful late holiday in the mountains of Snowdonia, where the beauty of God's creation was impossible to ignore. The puppy delighted in paddling through crystal-clear mountain streams, chasing every splash and always attempting to find the single stone that had been thrown in amongst the hundreds of others and exploring every rocky path. All around us were signs that the seasons were changing. The shepherds were busy gathering and bringing their sheep down from the high peaks into the valleys, preparing for the months ahead. It was a reminder that the rhythms of nature and life continue much as they have done for generations. There is something wonderfully comforting about this time of year, summer is loosening its grip,

and autumn is quietly making its presence known. The mornings feel a little fresher, the evenings draw in a little earlier.

After the brightness and energy of summer, autumn invites us to slow down and notice the beauty around us. This year the extreme heat has had an impact in the rhythm of the season, but gardens are still heavy with fruit, hedgerows laden with berries, and fields now lay fallow following the harvest. Even as the leaves begin to turn, creation is still overflowing with life. The ground is strewn with carpets of acorns and glossy conkers, each nestled within its prickly shell, carrying the promise of future growth. Nature seems determined to offer one final burst of abundance and colour before winter's rest.

Harvest time gives us an opportunity

to pause and give thanks. We live in a world of astonishing abundance, where food grows from tiny seeds, orchards bend under the weight of fruit, and the earth continues to provide what we need. Every apple, blackberry, loaf of bread and bag of vegetables speaks of God's generous provision. It is easy to overlook these everyday miracles until we stop to notice them.

We are called not only to enjoy creation but also to care for it. This beautiful world is entrusted to our stewardship. Whether we are tending a garden, planting for wildlife, reducing waste or simply

taking time to appreciate the natural world, each small action is a way of honouring the Creator through caring for creation.

As we celebrate Harvest, perhaps we can also reflect on the fruits God is growing within us: kindness, generosity, patience and love. May this autumn be a season of gratitude and wonder, as we give thanks for God's goodness, delight in the splendour of creation, and renew our commitment to care for this precious world.

With every blessing,
Rev'd Carol

Advertise in Leybourne Voice



Reach a potential 2,000 households in Leybourne Village and Leybourne Chase ten times a year.

For details, email lynneseleman@outlook.com

All adverts are placed in good faith and Leybourne Voice takes no responsibility for any issues arising from the use of suppliers who have advertised.

NOTICE



HARDSHIP FUND

As the cost of living crisis continues to cause difficulties for many we appreciate that some are finding it hard to manage on a day to day basis.

We have access to a fund which can be used for a wide range of hardship and welfare needs in this parish and the wider community. It may be more than food, there may be a situation that has arisen resulting in an unexpected cost, rent, energy bills, clothing or other essential needs. The fund is administered by the PCC and

can be accessed by contacting me **Janet** at

j.tootal@btinternet.com

If our readers know of any families or individuals in need please encourage them to contact us and please be assured that any enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence. The fund is open to all so you do not have to be member of the Leybourne Church community to apply.

Please spread the word.

Janet
Churchwarden

BOARD

Link



Line

Call / text: 07817 293053

We can offer assistance with;

- Shopping for basic supplies
- Emergency food & sanitary supplies
- Prescriptions for collection

If you are vulnerable, we are here to help. If you have a neighbour who may be vulnerable, please draw their attention to this advertisement.

Beware of fraudsters. Do not give your card or pin number to anyone.

Supported by:

Leybourne Church.....www.leybournechurch.org.uk

Leybourne Parish Council..www.leybournepc.org.uk

Tonbridge & Malling Council www.tmbc.gov.uk

Leybourne Food Bank

Phone: 07817 293053

Email: leybournelinkline@gmail.com

Please donate non perishable food and sanitary goods. Donations can be left at the porch of Leybourne Church, any time, in the box provided.

Your donations really matter and will be used in Leybourne or the surrounding area in time of need.

If you are vulnerable, we are here to help.



Ss Peter & Paul Leybourne

“Leybourne Church seeks to serve God through prayer, worship, action and example in the wider community.”

Please contact the churchwardens on any parish matters: churchwardens@leybournechurch.org.uk

Churchwarden

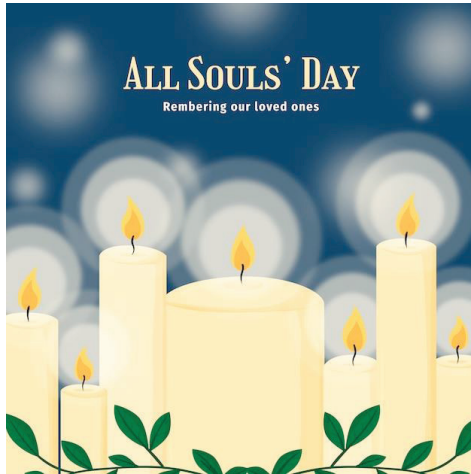
Janet Tootal 07802 428662

j.tootal@btinternet.com

Anne Thomas

churchwardens@leybournechurch.org.uk

St Peter & St Paul, Leybourne



Sunday 1 November
10.30am

All are welcome to join us as we commemorate All Souls Day on 1 November.

This service gives us the opportunity to remember our friends and loved ones who have died. Should you so wish you can write their names on a label and place it on our Remembrance Tree and light a candle as we pray together for those we love beyond death.

Kent Downs and Malling Team

Remembering and Hope

A Service for All Souls



St Mary's, West Malling

Sunday 1st November at 3pm

The service offers an opportunity to remember those whom we love but see no longer.

If you are unable to attend but would like us to remember a loved one, please email Tracey at office@kentdownsmalling.church

SS Peter & Paul Leybourne

All Age Harvest Service

With Melody Makers Choir

10.30am Sunday 11 October



Join us to celebrate God's goodness,
All are welcome.

Our Second Quiz of The Year...

The first Saturday of October saw the sell-out, second, quiz of 2026. The winning table was “Bob’s Champions” following a nail-biting tie-breaker round (involving the distance between earth and Venus), against “The Magnificent Seven”. Joe Shepherd was the Quizmaster and, as always, had some challenging questions in there, thank you Joe!

The winners received a life-changing prize of a large tub of chocolates to share, whilst the bottom team (we couldn’t possibly say who they were!) were given tubes of Smarties!.

An amazing sum of £650 was raised from entry tickets, raffle and “heads and tails”. The proceeds will go towards much-needed refurbishment of the Church stained-glass windows, for which we have received some £8,100 from grant funding, including a generous Parish Council contribution.

So “Winners, Winners” ... here are the pictures:



“Bob’s Champions” – overall winners



Linda – winner of “heads and tails”



Lynn – wins the first prize in the raffle.

In addition, we drew the October FLC 110 club, the winning number was 87.

So ... a great evening all round; watch this space for the next one.... Thanks to all the competitors and the fundraising team. It was especially rewarding to see a team (“Team LMCH”) from our new, local coffee shop – Little Market Coffee House who are already a huge asset to our community.

For information about upcoming events contact lynneselmann@outlook.com or see the adverts in Leybourne Voice.

St Peter & St Paul, Leybourne

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING



The Old Rectory

Oxley Shaw Lane, Leybourne

Wednesday 14 October

11.15am to 1pm

Come and join us for a relaxed time of warmth
and companionship in a friendly and
supported environment where people in the
local community can enjoy Tea, Coffee
and Cakes together.

**THERE IS NO CHARGE
AND
ALL ARE WELCOME**

Supported by Leybourne Parish Council



For tickets contact
j.tootal@btinternet.com
or call 01732 847290

Join Us At

Deck the Halls

Christmas Fair

6-9
PM

Leybourne Village Hall ME19 5QL

14
NOV

**Christmas shopping to
kick off the festive season!**

Tickets £2

Kids up to 16yrs old FREE

Pre-loved Clothes ★ Cards ★ Vintage Goods ★ Stocking-Fillers ★ Cakes
Preserves ★ Candles ★ Arts & Crafts ★ Live Music ★ Raffle...and much more
Cash Bar with Snacks

REPLY SLIP

Deck the halls 14th November 2026

Please book me Tickets @£2 each

Name: Email:

Address/Tel no:

I enclose cash/cheque payable to Leybourne PCC Fundraising a/c for £

Or I have paid by bank transfer to Leybourne PCC Fundraising account 35225068/Sort code:30 90 89

Send to: 5 Evergreen Close, Leybourne ME19 5PY

In aid of Leybourne Church improvements and other local charities



St Martin's Ryarsh Coffee Mornings

**We meet for Coffee, Cake and a Chat
on the third Friday of each month**

**Join us anytime between
10.30am to 12 noon at the
DUKE OF WELLINGTON
Birling Road
Ryarsh ME19 5LS**

Friday 16 October

Lovely Birthday cards on sale supporting Fields of Life

ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

🔑 Specialist in UPVC & wooden doors

🚚 No call-out charge

⚙️ No fix, no fee

🛡️ All work fully guaranteed

👴 10% senior citizen discount



For more help and advice

call Christopher
07772 111 222

Christopher
THE LOCKSMITH

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

CLASSES IN
LEYBOURNE,
EAST MALLING,
WEST MALLING &
KINGS HILL
AGES 2.5YRS- ADULT

LUCY ROBINS
SCHOOL
OF DANCE

ACRO - BALLET - BOYS
ONLY STREET - DANCEFIT
MODERN/ JAZZ - MUSICAL
THEATRE - PRE SCHOOL
BALLET - PRE SCHOOL
STREET DANCE - STREET
DANCE - TAP



WWW.LRSD.CO.UK





ASCOT

Plumbing & Heating

01732 220443

New boilers • New cylinders • Servicing & repairs

**All
plumbing
jobs**



Blocked
drains



Sinks



Toilets

J. Lawrenson

Tree and Fencing Specialist

- Hedge cutting, reduction and removal
 - Tree pruning, felling and surgery
 - Stump and garden clearance
- All types of fencing supplied and erected, including panel and close boarded

Fully Insured
All waste and cuttings recycled

Please call James on
07759 137817
01732 849295

Or email
j.lawrenson@hotmail.com



The Copy Shoppe

Est. 1989

Our Services include:

- In-house Design • Scanning • Emailing
- B/W & Colour Digital Photocopying
- A2/A1/A0 Plan Printing, Copying & Scanning
- Binding • Laminating • T-shirt Printing
- Digital & Litho Printing

We print:

- Business Cards • Letterheads
- Leaflets • Posters • Postcards
- Order of Service (Wedding & Funeral)
- Personalised Invitations • Vouchers • Signs
- Workwear (Vinyl & Embroidery) • CAD Drawings
- Menus • Price Lists • Booklets • Invoice Pads
- Canvas Prints • PVC Banners • Roller Pop Ups
- Rubber Stamps • Labels.....& much more!

**A FRIENDLY,
RELIABLE, FAST
TURNAROUND SERVICE
right on YOUR
Doorstep!**

27 high street, west malling, ME19 6QH

Tel: 01732 870483

E: design@thecopyshoppe.co.uk
www.thecopyshoppe.co.uk





LOCAL GARDEN HELP YOU CAN RELY ON

Leybourne + nearby areas

KEEP YOUR GARDEN TIDY & MANAGEABLE

Friendly, practical help for one-off jobs or regular visits.

£15 / HOUR

Clear, affordable local help

Agree the hours or budget first.

No large maintenance contract needed.

I CAN HELP WITH:

GARDEN TIDY-UPS

Bring neglected areas back under control

WEEDING & CUTTING BACK

Keep borders, beds and paths manageable

HEDGES & OVERGROWTH

Trim, reduce and clear unwanted growth

PATIOS & PATHS

General cleaning and outdoor tidy-ups

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

Small, manageable visits when you need them

FREE QUOTES • FULLY INSURED • INVOICE SUPPLIED

CALL OR WHATSAPP PHILLIP

07742 277791

Send a few garden photos for a free, straightforward quote.

Allington Gardening • Aylesford • Leybourne • Maidstone & nearby

Kent Downs and Malling Team Ministry

Covering Addington, Birling, Leybourne, Offham, Ryarsh, Trottiscliffe and West Malling

Team Rota October 2026

	Addington	Birling	Leybourne	Offham	Ryarsh	Trottiscliffe	West Malling
Oct 4	11.00 Open House Harvest	11.00 All Age Harvest	10.30 Holy Communion	9.15 All Age Harvest	9.30 All Age Harvest		8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion 12.00 Baptism
Oct 11	10.00 Cafe Church in the Village Hall		10.30 All Age Holy Communion Harvest	9.15 Holy Communion		11.00 All Age Harvest	8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 All Age Harvest 12.30 Baptism
Oct 18	10.00 Open House and Baptism	11.00 Holy Communion	10.30 Holy Communion Healing Service	9.15 Holy Communion	9.30 Holy Communion		8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion
Oct 25	10.00 Holy Communion		10.30 Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion		9.30 Morning Worship	8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion 12.30 Baptism

BCP Book of Common Prayer

Andrew French

Fencing, Gates, Decking and Pergolas

Free no obligation quotes

frenchandrewp@live.com
www.facebook.com/andrewfrenchfencing

07788 971584
01622 435799

