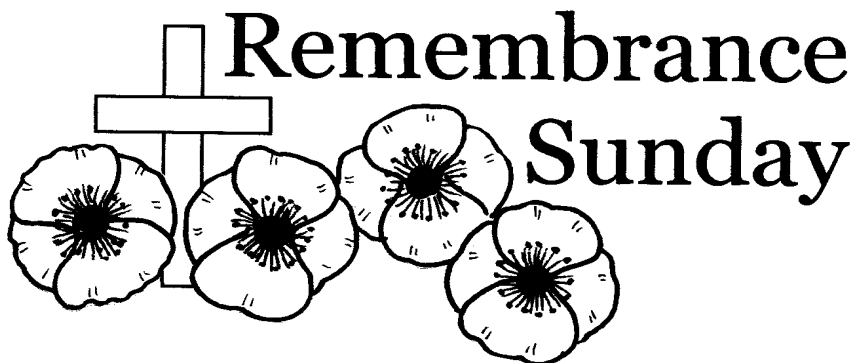


**Leeds &
Broomfield**

50p

Nov 2024



**Remembrance
Sunday**

Remembrance service

*St Margaret's church,
Broomfield*

10 November 2024

3.30pm

Free parking

Church and Village News

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Administrator	Tracey Pavan	07516 159879
Churchwarden—Leeds & Broomfield	Maria Boreham	436296
Verger - <i>Broomfield</i>	Derek Hadlow	861955
Borough Councillor	Gill Fort	861605
County Councillor - Leeds	Gary Cooke	694480
County Councillor - Broomfield	Shellina Prendergast	07970 461160
Craft & Natter	Jane Newsome	862558
Cricket Club - Secretary	Sarah O'Connell	880340
Football Club (Men & Ladies)	Colin Pitchers	670700
Friends of Leeds & Broomfield Churches	Pauline Royer	07711 830436
Leeds Allotments	Strutt and Parker	01227 473741
Leeds Amateur Dramatic Group	Lesley Finlay	862467
Leeds Playing Field	Sherrie Babington	01634 863719
Leeds/Broomfield Bellringers	Andrew Saunders	07948 715268
Leeds W.I.	Susan Wenham	07905 479870
Magazine Editor & Advertising	Judi Taylor	862316
Magazine Distribution	Humphrey Goodhew	861624
Memorial Hall – <i>Bookings</i>	Jane Steele	863481
Parish Council Chair - Leeds	Bob China	07472 760460
Parish Council Chair – Broomfield & Kingswood	Tina Clark	880929
Parish Clerk - Leeds	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Parish Clerk – Broomfield & Kingswood	Hayley Roberts	474190
Primary School	Fiona Steer	861398
Roman Catholic Priest	Fr. Peter Growney	752637
Scout Group	Alan Poulton	843019
Sutton Valence Gardeners' Association	Ross Vaughan	693837
Website : www.leedskent.org.uk	leedsparishcoun- cil@gmail.com	

MAGAZINE MATERIAL

Please email copy for the magazine by 12th of the month to the Editor, Judi Taylor. Email : juditaylor4@outlook.com



NORTH DOWNS TEAM MINISTRY

Guy Fawkes, Fireworks and Freedom

Four hundred and nineteen years ago, on November 5 1605, Guy Fawkes was discovered under the Houses of Parliament with 36 barrels of gunpowder. For several months thirteen young men had been plotting to blow up the Houses of Parliament, intent on killing the King and the MPs who had been persecuting them. They felt that they had been persecuted because of their religion. They had hoped that the new king would be more tolerant towards them, but this didn't happen. They believed that blowing up parliament and killing the king would bring them freedom. But some of those who were involved in the plot became worried that innocent people would be killed or injured and so they tipped off the government and betrayed their fellow plotters. Guy Fawkes was discovered, tortured and executed. Actually, Guy Fawkes was not the leader, just the one who was discovered, but he is the one whose name was given to the day on which we celebrate the foiling of the plot. Lately it has just become known as Firework Night or Bonfire Night but it is all the same thing. The rest, as they say, is history, and we still enjoy fireworks each year on that night.

Jesus, too, was betrayed - by Judas Iscariot, one of his closest followers and disciples. Jesus was tortured. Jesus was executed. But this plot was one that was formed by God, and this plan had an amazing ending: Jesus rose again to return to be with God for ever. And his death and resurrection have created a real opportunity for freedom. Jesus himself said "He [God the Father] has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." When he

died on that cross he took all our wrongdoing away and gave us the opportunity for a new and exciting relationship with God. We can be free from the problem of sin, and free to worship God and enjoy life to the full. And nothing can get in the way of this plan being fulfilled. The Bible tells us that “neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39).

Now that’s what I call a plot!

Many blessings,

Peter Callway

Area Dean



It has been a busy start to the new year at Leeds and Broomfield school, we’ve welcomed lots of new children across the school who have already begun to flourish in their new classrooms.

Our Year 6 children have enjoyed a visit to Ledian Gardens to mark National Fitness Day, they took part in numerous activities but the favourite was table tennis - it was a very competitive match between the residents and our children. Year 6 have also started their swimming lessons at Sutton Valence school, the children have enjoyed pushing themselves and learning new skills. We certainly are an active school!

We’ve also elected our school council, well being warriors and house captains/sports leaders for this year, they’ve already met and are beginning to plan the charities we’ll support this year and other activities to run. They have already started a chess club at lunchtime which is very popular.

The children and staff said a fond farewell to Rev Mark at our collective worship on 25 September, we’ve really enjoyed the important part Rev Mark has played in our school community over the last few years, he’ll be missed by us all, and we wish him all the best in his new role. FS

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BROOMFIELD

**CAROLS AT
BROOMFIELD**

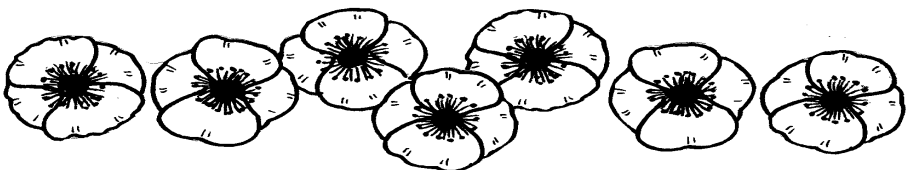


**Sunday 8 December
at 3.30pm**

*Mulled wine and mince pies after
the service*

Church Services in November

3 November	All Saints		
Readings	Isaiah 25.6-9; Revelation 21.1-6a; John 11.32-44		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Communion
	9.30am	Leeds	Morning Celebration
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	11.00am	Langley	Morning Celebration
10 November	Remembrance		
Readings	Jonah 3.1-5, 10; Hebrews 9.24-28; Mark 1.14-20		
Services	10.45am	Otham Green	Communion
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	10.45am	Langley	Morning Celebration
	3.30pm	Broomfield	Remembrance with Scouts
17 November	2nd before Advent		
Readings	Daniel 12.1-3; Hebrews 10.11-14; 19-25; Mark 13.1-8		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Morning Service
	9.30am	Leeds	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist
	11.00am	Langley	Holy Communion
24 November	Christ the King		
Readings	Daniel 7.9-10, 13, 14; Revelation 1.4b-8; John 18.33-37		
Services	9.30am	Otham	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Kingswood	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Langley	Morning Celebration
	11.00am	Hollingbourne	Eucharist



This Month's Duties

St Nicholas

Readers

Nov	3	D King	9.30am
	17	TBC	9.30am

Church Cleaning

Nov		Mr & Mrs King	
------------	--	---------------	--

War Memorial

Nov		Mrs J Dabbs	
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Brass & Silver

Nov	3/10	Mrs Turner	
	17/24	Mrs Ryan	

Flowers

		Mrs B Turner	
		Mrs B Evans	

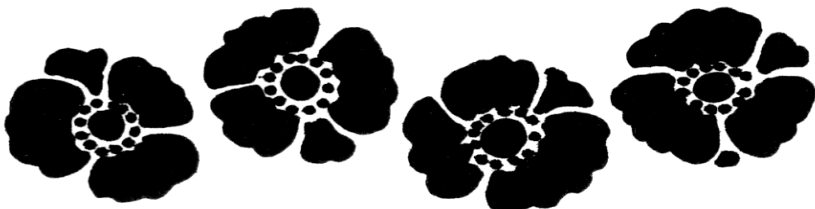
St Margaret's

Readers

Nov	10	Scouts	3.30pm
------------	-----------	--------	--------

Church Cleaning

Nov	10	Mr & Mrs Bowman-Taylor	3.30pm
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Leeds Amateur Dramatics
Society



Save the date(s)

~~~~~  
Friday 7 & Saturday 8 February 2025  
~~~~~

Our next panto is.....

Robinson Crusoe

By Tom Whalley

Will the cannibals eat Robinson? Will someone come to the rescue? Will the script be funny? Will the Dame sing off key? Will the audience laugh, sing and dance?

The only way to find out is to come along and watch the theatrical event of the year.

Tickets will go on sale soon so watch this space and our Social Media feeds.

***Leeds & Broomfield Memorial Hall,
Leeds Village ME17 1RN***

Park in Church car park and walk down to the hall.


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E-Mail: ladsamdram@gmail.com



New Year's Eve

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A decorative border made of a repeating musical staff with notes, framing the entire text.

Bearsted Choral Society

St Nicholas
&
Friday Afternoons
by
Benjamin Britten

Saturday 16 November 2024
at 7.30pm

Holy Cross Church
Church Lane
Bearsted
Kent
ME14 4EE

Under the baton of our Music Director
Andrew Lowen
Tenor Soloist: Dominic Bevan

Tickets £12 (Full-Time Students Free)

Available on the Door or ring
01622 734908 for reservations

bearstedchoral.org.uk

Registered Charity number 1135663

Venue
hire is
available

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- Beer Festival
- Afternoon Tea
- Winter fairs
- Curry and Soul evening



Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches Charity

No:1080363

Whether you're passionate about local historic buildings, looking to meet like-minded individuals, or simply want to have fun while making a difference, our charity group is the perfect place for you!

We need some more local support and therefore asking residents who care about Leeds and Broomfield Churches to join. Our charity was founded to raise money to help preserve the historic churches of these two villages and to prevent them from falling into disrepair.

We aim to raise money and have fun while doing it!

This is not a religious group.

The charity meets once every three months in either Leeds or Broomfield Village.

Join now

Contact Jenny for more information about joining
07970119467

If you don't wish to join the charity but would like to offer a donation please visit our website.

<https://www.friendslbc.co.uk/support-us>

LEEDS  CASTLE
KENT ENGLAND

A
NUTCRACKER
CHRISTMAS
at the Castle



23RD NOVEMBER 2024 - 5TH JANUARY 2025

STEP INTO THE MAGICAL WORLD
OF THE NUTCRACKER THIS CHRISTMAS

THIS WARMING FESTIVE EVENT IS INCLUDED IN ADMISSION TICKETS

LEEDS CASTLE

Well, autumn is well underway now, with driving rain and colder weather characterising much of September and early October. Hopefully we will start to see some of the wonderful Autumn tree colours as we move into dryer, colder weather during November, which will be ideal for those autumn and winter walks.

We just welcomed a new Gardens and Grounds Manager, John Myers, who is getting to grips with the planting across the estate and making plans to ensure that we have the best possible show on display for 2025. It is the time of bulb planting and getting all of our shrubs, trees and perennials into good shape for the winter and next season's flowering. This will include Year 2 of our Wild Flower Meadow, which has been so popular during 2024, with guests able to walk the mown paths through the meadow.

By the time you read this, we will have completed repair works on the Pavilion, which has stood empty for some time. In Lady Baillie's time, this lovely building was used for afternoon tea while people played tennis on the Pavilion Lawn. Once repairs are complete, we will be re-opening this lovely space in the Spring.

We were delighted this week to have confirmation that we have secured funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund to purchase a painted Secretaire (writing desk) that was originally commissioned for the Cream bedroom in the Castle. A large proportion of the original contents of the Castle was sold off before our charity took over the running of the Castle, so we are keen to purchase original contents back when we can. The Secretaire will be on display from the Spring.

We are currently undertaking a major piece of work to calculate our estate carbon footprint, which is likely to report in Spring 2025. This will also involve development of a realistic path to achieving Net Zero Carbon over

time. We recently received a report commissioned from specialist engineers on how we can reduce our carbon emissions and will be investigating how to move to heat pumps on the Castle Island over time.

Preparations are now underway for our Hallowe'en Half Term Event, with the Spell Seeker performers back on site. Bring the children and grandchildren down over October Half Term to interact with six magical beings around the Estate, before joining the Hallowe'en Ball and Fancy Dress competition.

Fireworks Spectacular takes place on 9/10 November. Saturday night is pretty much sold out at the time of writing, so do get your skates on if you want to attend.

From 23 November to 31 December, the Castle will be transformed into magical scenes from *The Nutcracker*, with live performers at weekends and during the school Christmas holidays. Both *Hallowe'en* and *The Nutcracker* are included in your 12-month ticket.

The special themed *Nutcracker* Afternoon Tea (adults & children) is looking stunning (and having tried the cakes, I can confirm they are absolutely delicious). This needs to be pre-booked on our website or by calling Castle View Restaurant.

Christmas Lights Trail is returning from 22 November, with 80% new installations, great catering, marshmallow toasting and fairground rides, including a Big Wheel giving great views over the Castle!

Hope you have a lovely Autumn.

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive



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.

Present

The Clerk, Cll's Bernini, Springford, Greeff, Ingram and Fort. Cll China attended albeit was late. Meeting chaired by Councillor Bernini

Apologies

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Gary Cooke. No declarations of interest

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Application re-submitted by local resident Bernie Razzle

Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Agreed & signed as a true record.

Public Participation

Two members of the public attended

Highways Matters

Cll Bernini to progress possible controlled crossing by school with KCC Highways. If you have concerns about pot holes and empty/damaged grit bins please either use the KCC website or advise the Parish Clerk.

Leak at the bottom of Foley Hill still ongoing. Clerk has yet to receive a response from South and South East Water.

Chairman's Report

No report

Financial Matters

The financial statement & payments were approved and made.

Report from KCC Councillor

No report

Report from MBC Councillor

Cll Fort advised that she would, on behalf of the Leeds Parish Council, discuss and strongly object to the road change proposed by the developer involved with the Haven Farm Development in Sutton Valance with the planning team at Maidstone. This a matter now of extreme urgency as the closing date for any objections is later in the month.

The proposal is to change the road layout by the Plough Public House to encourage traffic heading towards Maidstone from Sutton Valance needing to turn north to turn into the Leeds/Langley road rather than use Willington St!

Planning Matters

The application giving the most concern is that by the Haven Farm developer de-

scribed above. If approved even more traffic will use the B2163 including over-weight lorries.

Parish Maintenance

A village litter pick took place on Saturday 5 October, seven residents took part organised by Mel & John Cummins. The PC would like to thank all who participated for their efforts.

The clerk awaits a response to her communication with the bus company about the state of the bus stop shelter by Burgess Hall Drive.

As residents have not cut back their vegetation where it hangs over their boundary onto the public footpath the PC via the Clerk will be asking KCC do this and they will charge the relevant property owners.

The PC to approach Leeds Castle to see if they will contribute to the cost of hedge pruning around the Church graveyard.

The Clerk to advise KCC that grit bins in the following locations need refilling and where damaged replacing. Two in Old Mill Road (one at the junction with Forge Lane and one half way down just before the lake heading north), one at the junction of Forge Lane and Caring Lane, one at the bottom of Foley Hill, one in the Sports Field carpark and one in Brogden Crescent.

Price to be obtained for cleaning and revarnishing the village benches. Once cost obtained decision to be made to carry out work next Spring.

Leeds Playground, Playing Field, Tennis Courts & Pavilion

The timber posts that support the low level barrier on the sports field have been reported as loose and decayed. Price to be obtained to replace with metal posts. Report that excess vehicles parking at weekends on the sports field. Clerk to write to LLFC.

Street Lighting

With the nights drawing in it is important that all the street lights are working. If you spot any that are not please contact the Clerk.

One of the new lights on the Church path reported out and concern that the bollard fixing studs could be a trip hazard, contractor has been advised.

Resilience/ Emergency Plan

Draft plan now completed.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Tuesday the 12 November 2024 at 7pm



Update from Helen Whately your local MP



People always say that they only hear from politicians at election time. This has never been the case for me. In fact, meeting people is one of the best bits of my work and I have been trying to find new ways of meeting as many of you as possible.

I have started holding drop-in sessions in pubs and cafes, where anyone can come for a chat without booking in advance. So far, I've done these in the wards which have newly joined my constituency, but I'll work my way round the whole constituency in the coming months. Please watch out for a letter inviting you!

My drop-in surgeries are in addition to my regular surgeries and the help I give people when they contact me – so if you do have a problem which I can help you with please get in touch.

I have been spending a lot of time focussing on transport issues both as Shadow Secretary of State for Transport and as your local MP. One of my priorities is to keep lobbying the new Government for an end to Operation Brock and I have had some success with this. The Kent Resilience Forum have confirmed it is unlikely that Brock will be deployed during Half Term. As you know Brock has been deployed at almost every school holiday, but I am hoping by the time you read this half term will have passed Brock-free! This will have the added bonus of allowing the M20 re-surfacing work between junctions 8 and 9 to go ahead. These works are to help reduce noise levels by replacing the damaged concrete bays, joint repairs and retexturing.

Another big transport priority for me is pushing for the new EES (EU entry-exit system) to be delayed until it is properly tested. If this is rushed the impact at Dover and the knock-on queues on the M20 could be horrendous.

I am also concerned about the future of our buses. Despite passenger numbers increasing the new Government is remaining silent on whether they will continue to provide the funding needed for rural bus services. Funding provided by the last Government ensured bus fares were capped at £2 which helped save bus routes and got new community buses going, like the Bearsted Shopper, which are a life-line for many in our community.

As Shadow Transport Secretary I've asked the new Secretary of State for Transport if the £2 fare will continue but haven't had an answer. The free bus pass for pensioners may also be under threat. I have spoken to the Leader of Kent County Council about this; and he was clear that without the support and passengers that these schemes bring, local buses will struggle to be viable.

So far, all the Government has said they will do for buses is let local councils take more control. That might be useful for cities but it's not much good for us locally; what matters is whether there's the funding to keep buses going. I will keep on pushing the new Government for answers, and crucially, for them to back rural buses.

I've been inundated with people contacting me worried sick about Labour's choice to scrap Winter Fuel Payments for 10 million pensioners. I'm totally disgusted by it and voted against it in Parliament along with many other MPs. But unfortunately, it was not enough to overturn the Government's huge majority.

So I am demanding answers from ministers in Parliament and launched my own petition: Save Our Winter Fuel Payments for local people to make it harder for the Government to ignore us. You can find my petition on my website if you want to sign it.

Some people say pensioners are well off and don't need this help, but that's simply not true. As well as paying for day-to-day costs, the pensioners this will hit may be paying bills for care, for instance if they have dementia, and facing higher heating bills because they feel the cold. And feeling the cold isn't just a matter of being a bit chilly, it can be the difference between staying well and ending up in hospital. To govern is to choose and instead of supporting pensioners on fixed incomes, the Government has given unions inflation-busting pay rises.

I'm advising people who contact me about it to double check to see if they are entitled to Pension Credits, and to sign up for them if they are. You can do this at: www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment/eligibility It's clearly going to be a tough few years for us with this Government but I will keep my election promises and fight for Faversham and Mid Kent every step of the way.

If you would like my help with anything or would like to raise something with me, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Wishing you all the very best.

Helen

helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk / 0207 219 6472

www.helenwhately.org.uk

Wonderful Harvest at Broomfield!



We had some beautiful displays of home grown fruit and veggies at Broomfield church Harvest service this weekend due to a lot of hard work from Derek Hadlow our Verger and his friends!

We had a lovely service led by Peter and Sonya Roberts and the congregation later bought some of the veggies and fruit and the rest were taken to local Nursing Homes by Derek and Paul!



Our Ride and Stride Heroes' Earnings for the Churches

Our Ride and Stride parish teams did really well with their sponsorship earnings for the Churches—Leeds Striders came up with a great total of £304 and Broomfield Boomers achieved a wonderful £845. Fantastic results!

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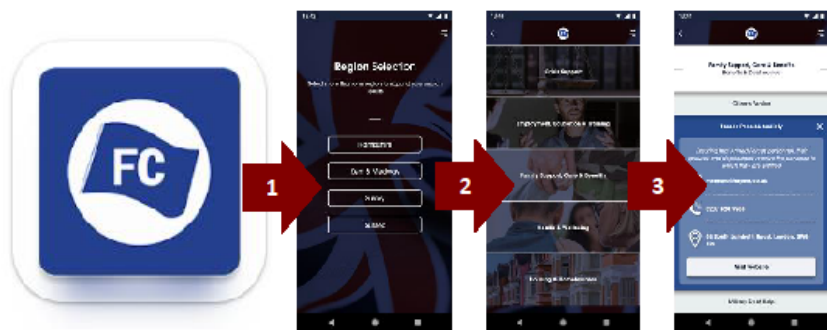
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The Forces Connect app has been created to assist in looking after veterans & their families who find themselves in any kind of difficulty following their discharge from the military.

It enables anyone to signpost veterans by simply clicking on the app and then the relevant subheadings which contain links and contacts for people to receive the help they need. This could be anything from mental health support to housing and homelessness.



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DOWNLOAD...**



Parish Administrator

If you need help with dates for church weddings or christenings or any other church services before a new Vicar is appointed, please contact our Parish Administrator Tracey Pavan on 07516 159879 or email *lbkchurches@gmail.com* and Tracey will endeavour to help.

Sutton Valence Gardeners' Association

Do you know that Sutton Valence has a Gardener's Association?

Our membership fee is £5 per year and this offers 10% discount at Rumwoods, Coolings the Potted Garden at Bearsted and other local Nurseries (T&Cs Apply)

AGM 24 Nov 2024

We have four Talks this year and have two Shows. Members enter our Shows with produce from their gardens ie fruit, vegetables, flowers. Also, cookery and handicraft. Children can enter our Shows too.

To Join

Contact Ross on 01622 693837 or email us on suttonvalencegardeners@gmail.com



It's not what you think!

We are a small, perfectly-formed, friendly group of local women, who meet in Leeds Village Hall on the second Thursday of the month.

Yes, we do eat cake. Yes we do drink tea. But we also laugh a lot, learn a lot and go out a lot.

Meeting Coming up:

Thursday 14 November

All welcome. Non-members: £4.50

7.30pm. Leeds Village Hall

Join our Facebook Page @LeedsWI
Email us at: leedsvillagewi@gmail.com

Or call Susan Wenham on 07905 479870

LEEDS CRAFT AND NATTER GROUP

WEDNESDAY 20 November

LEEDS VILLAGE HALL 11am-1pm

A hot drink and biscuits will be provided

Cost £3.50 to cover costs

For more details please contact

Jane Newsome 862558



**FIRST AID COURSE
23rd NOVEMBER 2024**

Do you want to know the basics of first aid?
Would you like more information about using a defibrillator?

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council are running an ALL DAY
unaccredited First Aid Course at Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall.

**There are limited spaces therefore places can be booked on a first
come basis at a cost of £10 to secure your place.
Please contact Hayley, Parish Clerk to book your place!**



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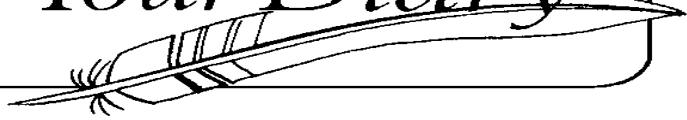
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For Your Diary



- Nov** 10 Remembrance Service : Broomfield church—3.30pm
12 Leeds Parish Council Meet : Village Hall—7pm
14 Leeds W.I. Meet : Village Hall—7.30pm
16 Christmas Concert : see page 10
20 Craft & Natter : Village Hall—11am
23 First Aid Course : B&K Village Hall -All day
24 SVGA AGM—For venue contact Ross : **01622 693837**
- Dec** 8 Carols at Broomfield : Broomfield church—3.30pm
- Feb** 7/8 Robinson Crusoe Panto : Village Hall, Leeds. See page 8



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