

# LEONARD STANLEY NEWS

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Next Issue: Monday 28 June 2021

Items for inclusion in the newsletter can be left at **34 Dozule Close** or email [clerk@leonardstanley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@leonardstanley-pc.gov.uk) or telephone **01453 822287** (there is an answerphone, if there is no reply please leave a message). Please make sure all items are handed in **before 5pm** on the **Friday before the next edition** is distributed. Space is allocated on a first come, first served basis, so to guarantee that your item is included, please send it in as early as possible. Thank You.



## LEONARD STANLEY VILLAGE HALL AGM:

If you want to influence how the Leonard Stanley Village Hall is run, why not get involved and put yourself forward for election at the AGM. The AGM will be held at the Village Hall on **Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 p.m.** and the following positions are up for election: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. To apply, please visit [www.lsvillagehall.co.uk/news-events](http://www.lsvillagehall.co.uk/news-events) and follow the link to the short application form. Please also make sure you attend the AGM. We are also looking for responsible adults to help out and maybe even become Trustees. The AGM will be held in compliance with government COVID guidelines and chairs will be socially distanced.



**Gloucestershire Constabulary** is asking members of the public to be vigilant after a Stroud resident was targeted by scammers claiming to be from the RSPCA. Police were called after a woman received a call from someone claiming to be from the RSPCA. The fraudster stated that they had found her missing dog and required payment for treatment as it had been involved in a collision.

The caller realised that this was a scam and did not part with any money but was concerned that others may fall victim to this. The woman had shared information about her missing dog online and it's believed that the scammers took advantage of this. Remember that organisations such as the RSPCA will not ask for payment over the phone.

Anyone else who believes that they have also been targeted by this scam is asked to please contact police online using the following form and quoting incident 602 of 7 June:

<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/>

Alternatively you can call 101 and quote the same incident number.

## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND Review of Parliamentary Constituencies 2023

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 to review the parliamentary constituencies in England every 5 years. It is currently conducting a review on the basis of rules most recently updated by Parliament in 2020. By law every constituency must now contain between 69,724 and 77,062 voters and BCE has published its initial proposals for new constituency boundaries to make them about equal in voter numbers and reflect population changes across the UK. The public are invited to view and provide feedback on the proposed boundaries as part of an eight-week consultation process ending on **2 August 2021**. People can comment on anything from where the proposed new boundary lines are to the names of the constituencies. There will be a further two rounds of consultation in 2022. Following the conclusion of all three consultation periods, the Commission will look at all the evidence received before forming its final recommendations in July 2023. Visit [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk)



Late May to early June is **Elderflower Season**. Its clouds of white blossom has long been gathered to make cordials, wines, fizz, or even dunked in batter and fried, but before you go foraging for these fragrant blooms, there are a few things you need to know. In certain areas, plant species are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 so it's important to do some research, check the law, and check with the landowner before you start gathering. Don't dig up or remove wild plants. Only pick from areas that have a plentiful supply and then only collect a small amount for personal use. Leave enough for wildlife and avoid damaging or disturbing habitats. When you're done, here's a recipe to make a "ready to drink" refreshing cordial:

#### **Ingredients:**

2 ½kg white sugar, either granulated or caster  
2 unwaxed lemons  
20 fresh elderflower heads, stalks trimmed  
85g citric acid

Put the sugar and 1.5 litres/2¾ pints water into the largest saucepan you have. Gently heat, without boiling, until the sugar has dissolved. Give it a stir every now and again. Pare the zest from the lemons using a potato peeler, then slice the lemons into rounds. Once the sugar has dissolved, bring the pan of syrup to the boil, then turn off the heat. Fill a washing up bowl with cold water. Give the flowers a gentle swish around to loosen any dirt or bugs. Lift flowers out, gently shake and transfer to the syrup along with the lemons, zest and citric acid, then stir well. Cover the pan and leave to infuse for 24 hrs. Line a colander with a clean tea towel, then sit it over a large bowl or pan. Ladle in the syrup – let it drip slowly through. Discard the bits left in the towel. Use a funnel and a ladle to fill sterilised bottles (run glass bottles through the dishwasher, or wash well with soapy water. Rinse, then leave to dry in a low oven). Keeps in the fridge for up to 6 weeks.

**Not so refreshing - It's also Tick Season** so, whilst out foraging for those elderflowers, or just enjoying

our beautiful countryside, it's important to **Be Tick Aware**. Ticks are more prevalent between May and September. They carry potentially fatal infections such as Lyme Disease, the number of cases of which has been on the increase, particularly in the south west. Damp, shady dense vegetation, dead leaves or long grass make the perfect habitat for ticks to climb on to people or animals as they brush past. Reduce the chance of getting a tick bite by following Public Health England advice:

- walk on clearly defined paths to avoid brushing against vegetation where ticks may be present
- wear light coloured clothing so that ticks crawling on clothing can be spotted and brushed off
- use an insect repellent that can repel ticks and prevent them from climbing onto clothing or attaching to skin (always follow the manufacturer's guidance)
- wear long trousers and long sleeved tops to reduce the direct exposure of ticks to your skin, making it more difficult for them to find a suitable area to attach.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

**ON THIS DAY: 28<sup>th</sup> June 1491: birth of Henry VIII**, King of England and second son of Henry VII.



Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn, paid a brief visit to our village during their Royal Progress from Windsor Castle in the summer of 1535. Travelling from Gloucester to stay overnight at Leonard Stanley Priory, they went on to Berkeley Castle the next day. Henry may have planned his travel so as to be away from London at a time when disease was rife and the execution of Sir Thomas More, his former Lord High Chancellor took place.

Henry VIII is famous for marrying six times, beheading two wives, and breaking away from the Catholic Church to form the Church of England. British school children used to learn the following rhyme to help them remember the fate of each wife: "Divorced, Beheaded, Died: Divorced, Beheaded, Survived".