



THE

# SIGNAL

A Community Newsletter for

KINNERSLEY-SARNESFIELD-LETON-NORTON CANON - BROBURY  
STAUNTON-ON-WYE-MONNINGTON-ON-WYE-MORHAMPTON

no 101

April 1991

15p

## LETON BOUNDARIES

How disappointing it must have been for Mrs. Noelle Johnston to find that most of what is called Letton, is actually within the Parish of Staunton-on-Wye. Perhaps she has not been in the area very long and may be forgiven for not having made this important discovery before, but to start making belligerent noises to change the Parish Boundary between Letton and Staunton-on-Wye, which has not been altered since before 1650, is just not on!

By a quirk of medieval parish history the boundaries of the old manors more often than not determined the parish boundary, and in this respect Old Letton Court was the Manorial seat of Over Letton. The Township of Over Letton, called Upper Letton just as often, has always been that area of Staunton-on-Wye westwards from the top of Red Lay to the Letton Lake boundary, part of which borders the river.

Let me assure Mrs. Johnson there was no change of boundary between the Parishes a few years ago. What did happen as recently as January 1980, was that a similar demand for Over Letton to be part of Letton and not Staunton-on-Wye, came from Kinnersley & District Group Parish Council, Leominster Rural District Council, being the responsible body for reviewing Parish Boundaries, appointed a Sub-Committee to investigate the claim. A public meeting was held at the Swan Inn to discuss the proposal, the Chairman, Mr. J.E.C. Hinchliffe, pointing out that the benefits of being included in one Parish or the other were for the electors of Over Letton alone to decide, and the District Council would be guided by their decision at the meeting, which would have to be acceptable for many years. After discussion a vote was taken and by 14 to 2 it was decided that Over Letton should remain in the Parish of Staunton-on-Wye.

RICHARD PANTALL

Items for inclusion in the MAY issue should be sent to Gareth Evans, Lanzerac, Norton Canon (0544 318 505) by 22nd April please.

Noel Johnston is in for a bigger surprise. The small stream of Letton Lake has long formed the boundary between Letton and Staunton. On Wye, as early editions of Ordnance Survey maps will confirm. In the past Letton by the church has been called 'Nether Letton' and Letton Court as 'Over Letton'. Is this any more odd than that Little Sarnesfield and Hyatt Sarnesfield are to be found in Weobley? I guess that the folk at Hurstley think of themselves as part of Kimmersley, separated only by an insignificant stream. Let's keep our old parish boundaries to wonder at !

Brian Redwood

## COUNTRYMAN

What a marvellous evening we had at Staunton recently to celebrate 'Signal's' 100th issue, and what a fascinating talk by Basil Butcher. I'm looking forward to the 200th edition already !

Just a few words this month on the multitude of gardening jobs crying out for attention. Did you remember to mend those broken tools !

Perhaps the most important work is the pruning of roses - if you leave them they'll only produce smaller blooms, albeit in larger numbers, and eventually the stems will die back; any dead wood should be cut off straight away. Of course, pruning should have been carried out earlier in the year, but better late than never !

Sweet Peas can be planted out now, or sown directly where they are to flower; naturally the latter will take much longer to bloom. Potatoes should be planted, and most vegetable seed can also go in - don't forget to sow only small rows of things like lettuce and radish at a time, repeating sowing every 3 weeks for a succession. With the changeable weather we can expect now, the weeds will be making mighty strides, so run your hoe over the garden now; even if it is damp, it will at least slow the beasts down ! Any rotted compost you have can go down as a mulch; this is the best time to do it.

The planting season for bare rooted shrubs and roses is coming to an end, and you're really too late to put in any trees, far better to wait until October or November.

Now's the time when those wise folk who had their mowers serviced during the winter can steal a march on their neighbours who didn't - the quicker you start mowing, the easier it will be. A good treatment of lawn fertilizer will produce a lush sward; this can be followed up next month with a lawn weedkiller, and for those planning to seed their lawn areas, do it tomorrow ! Remember the last two springs ? Late sown lawns just frizzled up, so don't leave it any longer.

The swans have started nesting down the road, and last night, taking the dog for his constitutional, we heard the shrill sound of the cricket on the grass verge. Yes, I've heard our woodpecker for the past fortnight drilling the same old tree. Some things in this magic land of ours never change.

By the way, I do hope you've mended your deckchairs ! We'll be needing them soon !

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### ADULT EDUCATION **WEOBLEY FORTHER EDUCATION CENTRE**

The following classes are to be held at the above centre starting 15th April 1991.

|               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Carpentry     | Yoga 1                          |
| French 1      | Yoga 2                          |
| Landscape Art | Flower arranging                |
|               | Plant Propagation & Garden Care |

For further details please telephone the Centre Head, Mrs A Baker on Weobley 318773.