**Guest Information**

Hopefully these sheets should provide all the information you need for your stay. Items are listed alphabetically. If you need to ask anything else please feel free to email, text or call us and we will get back to you as soon as we are able to.

 **Ray** – 07905776596 or rayscanham@gmail.com

 **Alison** – 07888844361 or alisonjcanham@gmail.com

**Back Door Bolt –** Before you leave please remember to bolt the back door.

**Bathroom** – There is a bath and a shower which should be self-explanatory. Likewise, if you don’t know how to use the toilet we’d really rather you didn’t stay. ☺ The really sexy feature of the bathroom is the mirror – wave your hand directly underneath the bottom of it in the centre and it lights up.

**Bedding** – There is a double duvet and pillows in bedroom 1. The house isn’t serviced so please bring along your own bed linen and towels. If you forget them you will find spares in the old airing cupboard in the 2nd bedroom but please launder and dry them before you leave.

* **Bedroom 1** – The master bedroom has a double bed and wardrobes. The light switch is behind the door. The chest of drawers under the window is for guests use.
* **Bedroom 2** – The 2nd bedroom has a vinyl sofa bed. It’s okay as a single bed or narrow double. Its best used for children but feel free to use it if you want to. Please bring your own duvet and pillows if you intend to use it.

**Bins –** Bin day is Tuesday. There is a calendar in the kitchen showing which bins to put out when. They need to go at the end of the alley, outside the back gate and turn left. They can be put out the evening before and collected Tuesday evening. Please only put them out if you’ll be there to bring them back in.

* Household rubbish goes in the grey bin with the blue lid.
* Recycling into the black bin.
* Food waste into the brown bin.
* Paper goes into a clear plastic bag, we usually have one on the go in the kitchen or you can find new ones in the cupboard under the kitchen sink.

**Breakages** – Don’t worry, accidents happen. Let us know if it’s serious (like a window) or just replace if practical.

**CDs, Record player & Amplifier** – CDs can be played through the DVD player. Set the amplifier to Aux 1. There is a selection of CDs in the living room and upstairs in the 2nd bedroom. Feel free to use the record player if you feel confident enough to do so. The power button is underneath the front left. Set the amplifier to phono. Records are in the 2nd bedroom. The albums are not yet catalogued from the move so its pot luck but the singles are loosely sorted into genres.

**Dogs –** You are welcome to bring your dog. If you do feel free to leave the back gate unlocked while you are out for a walk so long as the back door is locked. Muddy pooches can be kept in the kitchen and utility area. Don’t worry about the stair carpet.

**Donations jar** – We are not making a charge for using the house. If you’d like to make a contribution towards the utilities then please use the jar located in the fireplace or if you prefer by Paypal

**Heating** – The house has a combi boiler in the back bedroom. There should be hot water on demand but you will need to let the water run a little to heat up. You should turn the tap handles to the left for hot and to the right for cold. The thermostat for the central heating is a portable device and assuming the previous occupants replaced it as requested it should be on the mantelpiece. The theory is that you can place it in the room you are in and it’ll heat that room to the required temperature but we find that if we have it in the lounge, that room gets nice and toasty but the rest of the house is cold. We therefore find that it is best to leave the thermostat in the kitchen (apart from when you are cooking) and then the whole house gets heated. Set the temperature by using the up and down arrows on the right of the display. The display shows the current room temperature except when you are re-setting it.

If you need a quick burst of instant heat in the living room there is an electric fire. Operation is by pulling down the flap on the front to reveal the controls. Please resist using this in place of the central heating – it’s not cheap to run.

**When you leave please re-set the temperature to 10oC and place the thermostat back on the mantelpiece.**

**Instructions** – Where we have instructions for appliances they are on the top shelf of the kitchen cupboard to the left of the cooker.

**Keys** – When you book we will arrange to send you a front door key. If you are local to Oakington (Cambridge) or passing on the A14 we can probably arrange for you to collect a key.

In the kitchen at Leek you will find a key board with an interesting array of keys to play with. You’ll find brass coloured keys for the back door, a spare front door key and keys for the padlock on the back gate. (Yellow rim)

**Kitchen** – The kitchen has pots and pans, plates, cutlery and suchlike hiding in various cupboards. I still don’t know what is kept where so I’ll leave you to explore them at your leisure.

The hob is gas, the oven electric and it’s anyone’s guess how the microwave works. (Instructions to follow once Alison has written them down)

There are some condiments and dry goods in the cupboards. Washing up liquid and cleaning products are under the sink. Please feel free to use items but please replace anything that runs out.

**Laundry** **facilities** – Please feel free to use the washing machine and tumble dryer. We purchased the washing machine 2nd hand so the controls are a mystery to us too but it seems to work okay. The tumble dryer is a condenser so please empty the water out after use by pulling out the long drawer on the left and tipping the water down the kitchen sink. There is an iron in the cupboard under the kitchen sink and the ironing board is next to the tumble dryer.

**Local amenities** – The Roebuck pub on the main shopping thoroughfare, Derby Street, does good food, including a copious vegetarian menu and they serve Titanic beers, a fine local brewery from Stoke. Aldi supermarket is very close to the house, Morrison’s, Asda and Waitrose are nearby and Sainsbury’s is a little further afield.

Most of the shops are on the High Street or clustered around the market square. The antique/bric-a-brac shops are centred on the A53 crossroads with St Edwards Street. (With Aldi facing you turn left and head downhill towards the black and white Tudor style building.) If you carry on straight over that crossroads you’ll find George’s fish and chips, the best (and most reasonably priced) we’ve found. Opposite Aldi is a traditional Staffordshire Oatcake shop.

If you fancy a pleasant stroll there is a fine civic park in town. We haven’t visited the museum yet so please let us know what it’s like if you do.

**Maintenance** – If anything breaks or isn’t working as you would expect please let us know.

**Maps** – Maps, local info and guide books are kept on the bookshelf above the telephone.

**Parking** – There is street parking outside the house and in the surrounding streets. It can be very busy because shoppers and office workers often use the area to park for free. It is first come first served.

**Power in Living Room -** The TV, DVD, record player and electric fire is powered via a multi-gang socket underneath the corner cupboard. To turn it on use the switch on the wall socket behind the small sofa. The other socket switches on the amplifier.

**Security light** – There is a security lamp in the living room. Feel free to turn it off or unplug while you are in residence but please remember to plug it back in and turn the lamp back on before you leave. There should be no need to re-set the timer.

**Surrounding Area –** Leek is sometimes known as the Queen of the Peaks by people who really should get out more. It is though ideally situated to explore some wonderful scenery. The Roaches area of outstanding natural beauty is close by on the A53. Further up the same road you pass by Flash, the highest village in the UK and continuing on you come to the splendour of the spa town of Buxton, just 12 miles from Leek.

**Tourist Information -** Nicholson Institute, 1 Stockwell St, Leek ST13 6DW Phone: 01538 483741

**TV** - There is Freeview but feel free to bring your own Firestick, Now TV or whatever else you youngsters use to watch Top of the Pops on. You may need to plug it in by feeding the plug through the hole in the shelf along with the others and into the multi-socket in the cupboard. It’ll make sense when you see it.

**TV/DVD Remote controllers** – please leave them somewhere sensible where the next guest can find them. (Note to our children- this is not a challenge.)

**Vacuum Cleaner** – A Dyson is kept in the utility area by the fridge. As the house is not serviced perhaps you would please be kind enough to give the place a quick vacuum over before you leave if you are able to do so.

**Wi-Fi –** The Wi-Fi hub is to follow. In case I don’t update this it is on a little note on the board above the keys in the kitchen or on the back of the hub.