



Bookham Bulletin

LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please visit bookhamcommunityassociation.org for the very latest information

Winter 2021

Bookham Blue Hearts End of Season Review

Well, Summer is over and we can look back on a year in which we have achieved a lot in our efforts to promote wild flowers on roadside verges. This is the first time in many decades that flowers in our designated areas have been allowed to complete their natural cycle and it has been amazing to see what has popped up, including lots of rare orchids! There has been a lot of local support and 60 residents are now managing their own 'blue heart' verges under the scheme. Email us for details on how to do it.

You may also have noticed some Blue Hearts sprouting up in the centre of Bookham around the Lower Shott car park. Most have been beautifully decorated by Angela Jones to highlight areas reserved for flowers. There is now a lovely display of flowers and shrubs near the crossing, planted and maintained by Frances Fancourt and her team. She also created the delightful mini meadow outside the telephone exchange in Church Road, an area which had previously been 'maintained' by the use of weedkiller!

We're also 'greening up' the ugly fence around the electricity sub-station at the Shott with bee and bird-friendly shrubs which the team will maintain. Beautiful pollinator-friendly native flowers such as Meadow Cranesbill, Devils Bit Scabious, Ox Eye Daisy and Birds Foot Trefoil have appeared there and we intend to enhance this further next year with some judicious planting and seeding. The rest of the area will be mown as usual by MVDC. By now, all the Blue Heart verges should have been mown, cleared and put to bed. Here's hoping next year will be even better!

For more information please email us bookhambluehearts@gmail.com or find us on Facebook @bookhambluehearts. Thank you to everyone who has helped us over the last year. The bees, butterflies and other wildlife send their thanks too!

Steve Poole



Village Day 2021 – see centrefold for photos of the day!

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From the Chairman

Fantastic results from Village Day 2021

We were delighted to welcome masses of people to have a great time at Bookham Village Day on Bank Holiday Monday. They enjoyed non-stop music, great range of food and drink, many stalls, sideshows and children's entertainments. Also, a late attraction: displayed on the field behind the Old Barn Hall were more than a dozen classic cars, gleaming British, European and American models spanning the last 60 years and more.



The day raised over £8,300 for the Old Barn Hall from 40 different organisations involved on the Day. We are very grateful for all the work put in by their members and all our stewards and helpers, as well as everyone who came along to support us.

Last year's traditional event in June was cancelled due to the pandemic and the usual date in June was too early this year, so when restrictions were being lifted we decided to have a community event to celebrate being able to get back together again. We were one of the few shows and fetes that went ahead this year and this could not have happened without our hard working committee and all of our volunteers.

With no parade of small children in themed costumes starting the day as usual, a children's fancy dress competition with a nursery rhymes theme was held, with a good turn-out of all ages. Congratulations to all who took part in the fancy dress and to the winners of the trophies - Lucie Merkin, Mia Mair and her 'web', Sienna and Freddie Berrett, William and Oliver Marsh. Lots of wonderful costumes which all deserved to win. See centre pages for lots of photos from the day.

Old Barn Hall

It is great to see many of our organisations returning to meetings in our halls after so long without. We are using a Government grant to help by reduced hiring fees for the first few meetings as we understand that it will take time for all members to have the confidence to return.

Year end Report & Accounts

The BCA's year end is 31st August and our report and accounts are available on our website bookhamcommunityassociation.org or email us for a copy on office@bookhamcommunityassociation.org

The Bookham Community Association Annual General Meeting will be held at the Old Barn Hall at 8pm on Wednesday 8 December. All are welcome to join us for a short AGM and stay for a glass of wine or soft drink afterwards.

Despite having virtually no income from hall hire or events during that period I am pleased to say that our financial position is secure thanks to the Government and Local Authority grants we were able to access and to the generous donations from individuals and affiliated organisations. Thank you all.

Keith Slank

What's Happening

November

- 6 Rotary's 'Le Brunch' at OBH
- 20 Rotary Musical Gala Evening

December

- 4 The Grange Christmas Concert Page 7
- 8 BCA Annual General Meeting Page 3
- 11 Bookham Choral Society Christmas Concert Page 19
- 12-22 Rotary Christmas Santa & Sleigh Page 23

January

- 21-29 Pose Pantomime is back! Page 26

June

- 18 Village Day - Theme 'On Safari'
- 25 Bookham Open Gardens Day

Regular Events at the Old Barn Hall

- Bookham Country Market Friday mornings weekly
- Old Barn Hall 10 - 11.30am Page 14
- Bookham Flower Club First Monday each month Page 16

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**For more information contact
Angela Baker,
01372 454875 or
angela@abgd.co.uk**



**Next Edition of the
Bookhams Bulletin**

Deadline for Winter issue:

1 January 2022

Email articles or queries to the Editor

bookhamsbulletin@gmail.com

3rd Bookham Scout Group

Our group is going from strength to strength. We have a great Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer sections and are very excited to be starting up a Squirrel Drey for 4 and 5 year olds.

Please contact us at info@3rdbookham.org.uk for more information on joining or volunteering.



Bookham Afternoon Bridge Club

There was much elation felt by members when, on Thursday 16th September, the first bridge session was held after an absence of 18 months. Ever since the first lockdown the Chairman, Neil Higgins, worked tirelessly at keeping the Club viable and active by arranging for Club members and visitors to

play in online sessions. These began in June 2020, they have been well attended and the membership is most grateful to Neil for his huge efforts.

At present there will be a face to face session held every Thursday afternoon but the Monday session will continue to be played

online for the time being to accommodate those members who feel uneasy about attending indoor social gatherings. It is hoped that both sessions will resume in the Old Barn Hall fairly soon.

Carol Newton

Bookham & Fetcham Art Group

Our art club was founded in 1981 for local residents who are interested in drawing and painting. Members are encouraged to paint pictures of their own choice at our Wednesday evening meetings and exhibit them at our annual exhibition which usually takes place in October.

We also have a programme of events throughout the year which include still life, portrait painting, demos, auction etc. and annual Christmas dinner. Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions we had to cancel last year's exhibition, and again this year, but we are looking forward to October 2022 when we will

be celebrating a belated 40 year anniversary.

Finally, we have now been able to return to our weekly meetings after 17 months of closure and we have some membership vacancies. If you are interested in joining us please contact Shirley Snow for further details on Mobile 07836243535 or 01372 453366.

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Christmas Charity Post



After careful consideration, it is with great regret that the Christmas Charity Post [CCP] Committee

have decided it is not in a position to restart its service of delivering Christmas cards to the three villages of Fetcham, Bookham and Effingham after last year's enforced break because of the Coronavirus. Unfortunately the age and health of those who managed and volunteered to run CCP is such that it is just not practicable to continue.

After 35 years of continuous service, starting in 1984, nearly 500,000 cards have been delivered and over £100,000 raised for Third World charities.

I am sure many who used this valuable service will sorely miss it as well as the charities that we have supported over the years.

We thank all those who have helped us in the past, the Area Managers and their teams of devoted volunteers who sold stamps and delivered cards and the shops who sold stamps and acted as collection points.

Michael Agius

Mole Valley Runners



The last few months has seen Mole Valley Runners go from strength to strength. Our amazing run leaders have been providing around 10 different run options each week, with runs from Bookham Common, Norbury Park, KGV in Effingham and around Dorking. With runs in the morning and evening and groups offering levels of beginners, plodders, steady and continuous and distances from 5k to 12k, there really has been something for everyone.

The club staged their first ever race in August, with members running either 5k or 10k around Bookham and Effingham, which was a great success. We have celebrated members who have gone from beginner, running their first ever 5k only 12 months ago, to running their first ever marathon this September. It's been truly inspiring to watch.

With running events now back up and running, members have been taking place in events from 5k to ultra-marathon. Already there has been a lot of highlights for our group. We had a huge turnout at the return of the Mole Valley Parkrun at Denbies Vineyard. We had an amazing day at the Brighton Marathon with 13 runners taking place and an awesome cheer squad chasing across Brighton to offer a huge amount of support around the course. We had 23 members completing either

the London Marathon or the Virtual London Marathon, with members having a phenomenal day, achieving fantastic results and having a huge amount of fun along the way.

All of the activities place with truly amazing support from the club. This really is a special club. If you would like to get out there and get some exercise, come and join us. There is no pressure about speed or distance, we just love helping people develop, believe in themselves and achieve their goal. For more information follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/MoleValleyRunners or have a look on our website www.molevalleyrunners.co.uk

#Support #Believe #Achieve

The Grange

We rounded off summer with an Abba themed party at The Tithe Barn it was a magical night which really captured a special moment in time. As things begin to return to "normal" we appreciate opportunities to be together more than ever, that's why there is always something going on at The Grange.

In September we were excited to welcome visitors back for Heritage Day, Night at the Movies and the annual Grange Awards.



As we moved into October we co-hosted a photography exhibition Sparkling Inspirations with Cherry Trees and Home County Carers at High Clendon. The exhibition aimed to highlight the amazing work accomplished on a daily basis in the care sector and how the pandemic inspired the community to care.

Talking of amazing work on Sunday 3 October, our Facilities Assistant Mark Wood ran the London Marathon and Scott Goddard our Digital Systems Advisor ran the virtual Marathon. The pair pledged to run the

Marathon to help raise valuable funds for The Grange and make up for some of the many fundraising events we had to cancel during the pandemic. Thank you to everyone who sponsored them, we raised just over £3000.

Grange Events

Simply Scones every Tuesday 2 - 4pm, booking essential

Cuppa & Cake every Friday 10 - 11.30am, booking essential

Please register on our website to make a booking www.grangecentre.org.uk/events

The Grange Christmas Concert at The Yehudi Menuhin Hall, Cobham, Surrey. Saturday 4 December at 7.30pm Start the Christmas season with a wonderfully fun evening of carols and songs, to purchase tickets please visit: <https://themenuhinshall.co.uk/event/the-grange-christmas-concert-2021/42200>



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Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club

Time to re-energise and return to bowling



The 2021 recruitment campaign for indoor bowling at Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club (MVIBC) in Leatherhead Leisure Centre was

underway throughout September.

A fresh emphasis to welcome back new interest to indoor bowling at the start of a new season after such a damaging period of constraint. A time to get out again, meet new and old friends, take up some exercise and enjoy the comfort and company of indoor bowling at MVIBC.

The summer season should not be overlooked - having seen an increased level of interest from a keen group of members playing more matches with other indoor clubs.

During the recruitment weeks the welcoming team plus helpers and coaches were out in force to ensure everyone who came along received a warm and rewarding introduction to indoor bowling. Visitors were pleased with the helpful reception and surprised at their enjoyment as they got into some initial bowling action. Recruitment returns received so far are very good

The success of the open mornings/fun days has been due to a great deal of preparation



and support from club members (many of them Bookham residents) over the preceding months plus lots of support from loyal volunteers.

MVIBC supports and encourages new members from across the spectrum, in all ages, and all capabilities.

In order to build on the success rate at competitions specific focus will be made on team preparation and selection for Surrey League matches. Meanwhile the very popular friendly roll ups will continue twice weekly for new and existing members. League matches will start, friendly matches with other clubs in the county are under way. Coaching sessions for new members continue over the initial period to help them settle into the club.

The winter months can be hard times weather



wise, but there is a place that has a warm and sociable atmosphere (and bar), providing friendly challenges, a level of manageable exercise and a good amount of camaraderie – MVIBC. The annual fee provides 12 months access to indoor bowling with no additional rink fees and easy convenient parking.

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Safety remains our priority – complying with government and EIBA requirements.

If you would like to know more about indoor bowling at MVIBC please visit our website at www.mvibc.co.uk or Email: mail4mvibc@gmail.com or phone 01372 289 873.

Come Indoor Bowling – Exercise – and Enjoy

M Mackie



We have had a very busy and exciting start to the Autumn Term here at The Howard Nursery School. We have welcomed lots of new families since the start of term. This half term our topic is 'Ourselves'. We have been thinking about the five senses, families, drawing self-portraits and oral health. We are enjoying exploring the world, looking at the Autumnal changes during our well-being walks. We love jumping in muddy puddles in the rain, rolling down the hill strengthening our core muscles and collecting leaves!

Forest School

Our nursery Forest School sessions are back! The children have been learning how to keep safe around the fire, drinking hot chocolate warmed on the fire, explored the trees and environment, made mud pies and splashed in giant muddy puddles. The children also learn about road safety on our walk back to the nursery afterwards.

Nanny Moira

Last Christmas the local church sent out an appeal for families to 'adopt a church granny or grandad' who was lonely due to the restrictions. As a nursery, we felt this was an important intergenerational opportunity for the children to contribute positively to their local community. So, after appropriate safeguarding measures, we 'adopted' Moira. The children quickly decided to call her 'Nanny Moira.' We have continued to communicate with Nanny Moira this year. For Harvest we invited her to visit the nursery for the first time. We presented Nanny Moira with a Harvest Hamper, sang nursery rhymes, shared snack time with her and are looking forward to seeing Nanny Moira again soon.

If you would like your child to be part of The Howard Nursery School, we have spaces available and would love to hear from you.



For more information, please call 01372 453832 or email info@thehowardnursery.thpt.org.uk. Please visit our website on www.thehowardnursery.org



Plastic Free Bookham project



It's continued to be a quiet few months in terms of project activity; our mission now is to sign up local businesses and community groups and organisations. Visit our website www.plasticfreebookham.org.uk for information on how to get involved, and for lots of practical ideas on how to reduce plastic usage.

We took part in Village Day this year - thank you to those who stopped by our stall to pick up some hints on how to reduce plastic usage. As you may

have seen, you can now recycle soft plastics such as biscuit wrappers, cereal bags, fruit and vegetable bags etc at our local Co-op. Look out for the blue bin towards the back of the store.

Find out more about what you can recycle locally with our great recycling tool, developed in conjunction with Les Huett at Bookham Residents Association. Search www.bookhamresidents.org.uk for 'reduce, reuse, recycle' or scan the QR code in this article to go straight there. It covers council collections and assorted specialist collections such as the supermarket one above and others.

If you visited Leatherhead town centre on Thursdays to Saturdays during September and October you may have visited or spotted the Mole Valley Climate Hub, which we've been involved

with. This initiative was organised by the Dorking Climate Emergency group to provide a drop-in centre for learning about all things environmental. DCE have produced an excellent booklet entitled *Your Choice For The Climate*, which you can download from their website (<https://dorking-climate-emergency.net/>) in the Publications section.

To keep up-to-date with the Plastic Free Bookham project please like and follow PlasticFreeBookham on Facebook. You can find lots of useful information about reducing single-use plastic on our website (see above). We also share items of environmental interest on the TransitionBookham Facebook page and Twitter account @ttbookham.



Great Bookham Belles WI

We were so excited to be able to meet back in person in July - it's been a long 16 months and although our zoom meetings have been wonderful and much appreciated by our members it's not been the same as meeting in real life! July saw almost 50 members meeting at The Barn in Manor House Lane for a social evening, and we sat in the courtyard catching up with friends and drinking prosecco! As we were going to be unable to have our usual stall at Village Day in August we organised a raffle and raised £147 for the Bookham Community Association.

September saw us back in our usual venue of Manor House School for our first meeting with a speaker. Almost 60 members listened to Jan Erika, an abstract artist from Ripley who used to be a music teacher and played cello for Paul Weller. She entertained us by her very

interesting life story.

Our programme for our monthly meetings for the next year is now planned and has an exciting variety of speakers, craft evenings, a quiz and social evenings. Our sub groups are also back in force and members are enjoying belonging to book clubs, a craft group, walking netball and a cinema group amongst others. We are also looking forward to outings recommencing and so far have a trip to Pots and Prosecco in Ripley, a Christmas Market trip to Brighton and a theatre trip to see the musical *Six* planned.

October will be the 7th birthday of Great Bookham Belles WI and we continue to go from strength to strength with a full membership and a waiting list of over 50 ladies! Friendships made between members



has helped many during the pandemic and the weekly emails from our President, Amanda, have brightened many a miserable lockdown day!

We continue our charitable efforts and members voted for The Leatherhead Theatre to be our charity for this coming year. We look forward to raising money for them through exciting events which the committee are currently planning.

Bookham Flower Club

The Old Barn Hall has welcomed back the members of Bookham Flower Club with suitably spaced chairs and open windows! Our return meeting, in September, featured a demonstration of flower arranging by Jenny Nye entitled *Nature's Charm* in which she shared her pleasure of seeing the birds in her



garden in the different seasons during the lockdowns.

A few days before our October meeting, our booked demonstrator cancelled due to her concern that she would not be able to get enough fuel for her journey. We were very lucky that a local demonstrator, Claire Bryant was able to fill the breach and illustrated in flowers, and with humour, her wonderful trip to India in February 2020 to participate in the World Association of Flower Arrangers International Show where she won third prize in her class. She and a fellow entrant spent three weeks travelling in India and had loved the people, food and, of course, the vibrancy of the flowers!

What a joy it was to be able to be together again in the hall to share our love of flowers.



Bookham Seniors Computer Club



This year Bookham Seniors Computer Club's (BSCC) stall at Bookham Village Day attracted a great deal of interest. As a result the club gained a number of new members, ranging from absolute beginners to those looking to improve their skills in using Apps and newer devices such as tablets and smartphones as well as interest in helping the club as volunteers.

On 10 September 2021 BSCC met in Little Bookham Village Hall for the first time since March 2020 for its annual meeting, which was well attended by over 20 members. The meeting reviewed events of last year, its accounts and elected officials for the forthcoming year. The course programme for the autumn term was announced. Minutes of the meeting and details of the courses can be found on the club's website at bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk

Mole Valley WI

What a difference a few months make! In July we were once again on Zoom and entertained and educated about rations during the Second World War. Our August meeting, a picnic outside, was our first face to face meeting. It was hugely enjoyed especially as the committee provided cake.

We were able to meet in our village hall in September which seemed to bring normality back into our lives. Our speaker, a volunteer with Riding for the Disabled, explained the ethos of the charity and its exceptional work. Some of us enjoyed a lunch at Effingham Golf Club and an outing to a glass blowing studio followed by a pub lunch and then a garden visit.

We have an outing planned for 6th December to Faversham and Canterbury. We are also hosting an Artisan Bazaar on the 9th of October. We now have a second rambling group who like to call themselves the amblers and usually stop for coffee. Our gardeners meet regularly. scrabble, bridge and mah-jong also continue. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in Fetcham Village Hall and new members are very welcome to join us.

June Webb

The club's autumn term programme, which is held on Friday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00 at the Little Bookham Village Hall, includes sessions on Windows 10 basic skills, email, using iCloud, using OneDrive, using your camera on smartphone or tablet, transferring photos from tablets or phone, using Paint, using the Microsoft Photo App and several more. All being well, the term will conclude with a Christmas Party at 10:00 on Friday 3 December 2021 in the village hall.

Annual membership costs £20 and there is no charge for attending any sessions which includes tea, coffee and biscuits provided during a mid-morning break.

The club also runs no-need-to-book drop-in

clinics which are free to members on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month (except August) from 14.30 to 16.30 and are also held at Little Bookham Village Hall.

The committee also provides help to its members by email, telephone and occasionally by remote connection with answers to questions, advice and solutions to computer related problems. It also keeps its members up-to-date, including details of the autumn programme, via email and its website.

The club welcomes new members and volunteers. If you are interested in finding out more about the BSCC phone Sue on 01372 454461 or Brian on 01372 450604 or visit our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk.



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Bookham Bowling Club

WOW! Crikey....we only went and played an almost full season this year!

Due to our Covid compliance we were able to host several clubs to our club and grounds in Bookham. Over 58 matches played at home and away and no Covid reported!

We ran our own in-house competitions which led in early September to our new men & ladies champions – Vic Davis & Prue Miles – winning their titles.

As well as normal bowling we held our Captains Charity Day for the Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance. The theme was based on "Medical services" & I wouldn't have liked to meet some of the characters that turned up in "costume"! The fantastic sum of over £1500 was raised during the day.

External competitions meant that our ladies team captained by Jane Fiducia won the Mid Surrey League for the fourth time!

Our men's team captained by Steve Mullins came very close to winning their competitions but sadly no silverware this year

Our green held up during the oddball weather this year and the closing drive saw over 42

members playing the last match of the season. The green now goes under the greenkeepers care for the winter.

The club house and outbuildings are also undergoing an uplift during the winter months ready to welcome back old and new bowlers at our Come & Try days early in the new year.

We also said goodbye to our President Richard Wilson & his wife Marci who are standing down after four years in the position and many, many years of serving our bowling committees. Wishing them all the best for their retirement.

Our maintenance guru - Eric Tilley - is also standing down after looking after the club for eons. Thanks from all of us Eric. Time to have a rest.

The AGM will see further changes to the Management & Playing committees to make our club stronger for the future.

For more details of our club see: www.bookhambowls.com

Press officer: Richard Sealy



Bookham Bees WI



Bookham Bees WI has been really buzzing around since the lockdown was lifted.

During the summer months we had lunchtime picnics, which were greatly enjoyed by all and made us feel that life was beginning to return

to some sort of normality.

The Bees' August meeting was held on the green behind the Old Barn Hall. The evening was entitled 'Prosecco on The Green', so no prizes for guessing what the tipples was for many of us! This was our first 'real' meeting, and lots of Bees attended. Everyone circulated and chatted, along with playing some silly games, which resulted in prizes being won!

In September we actually met in The Old Barn Hall and had a real live, face to face speaker, Tim Albert, who delivered an interesting talk

on 'Baby Boomers - We've never had it so good'. Many of us were taken down memory lane.

During lockdown Bookham Bees WI continued to meet the first Wednesday of every month via Zoom, which kept us in touch. However, there is nothing quite like the buzz of voices around the hall, and the fun and special moments of chatting and seeing our friends in person.

We have an enthralling programme planned for the rest of this year. In October one of our members, Judith Witter, will tell us all about 'Mary Chrystie and her Family'. At the November meeting we will learn about the history of pantomime, and December will bring along a Christmas Celebration. The 2022 programme is well underway.

If anyone is interested in joining a lively, buzzing WI group, do come along and meet

us in the Old Barn Hall at 7.30 for 7.45pm on the first Wednesday of the month. We do not have a waiting list and the more the merrier!

I know that all the Bees join me in thanking Roger Musgrove and his colleagues for making us all feel so welcome in The Old Barn Hall, where everything is sanitised and spotlessly clean. We are looked after extremely well and are very lucky to have such a superb village hall in Bookham.

For further information please contact: dianagreenman@gmail.com



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Bookham Butterflies WI



The winners of Bookham Butterflies' sunflower growing competition have been announced! Margaret Barnes grew the tallest flower, at 3.52 metres (11ft 6.5 ins), while Gillian Arnold had the widest seed head at 26cm (10.2ins). Beryl Eisenegger was the runner up in both categories.

Members have had a lot of fun growing their flowers, having received seeds in their Easter goody bags. However, alongside the successes, there have also been stories of plants lost to greedy slugs, squirrels, rainstorms, strong winds or just gravity!

Meanwhile, a refreshments stall manned by Butterflies at Bookham's first Village Day in two years raised a wonderful £890 for the Old Barn Hall. Members baked dozens of cakes and decorated the stall to fit in with Village Day's

nursery rhyme theme. The chosen rhyme was "The Queen of Hearts". A raffle and children's game run by the Butterflies raised a further £253.

The Old Barn Hall was the setting in September for the Butterflies' first face-to-face monthly meeting in 19 months! It was wonderful to finally gather together in person after many monthly meetings on Zoom. Members enjoyed a fascinating talk by Sarah Lott about "Capturing Family Memories". Sarah is the founder of "The Memory Book" and works as a life story writer, as well as running workshops and creative reminiscence projects. She also coaches people who want to write their own life stories.

A number of our subgroups are also back in full swing. Over recent months, the Exploring Gardens Group has visited Chinthurst Lodge in Wonersh, Little Orchards at Outwood and Coldharbour House, Bletchingley.

Our Gardening Group, Supper Club and Mahjong Group are now meeting again, with our Book Groups continuing for the moment on Zoom, as they did during the whole of lockdown.

For more information about our WI visit our website www.bookhambutterflieswi.com

Photos Show:

Margaret Barnes grew the tallest flower in Bookham Butterflies' sunflower growing competition.

Bookham Butterflies WI ran the refreshment stall at Village Day



Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society

What a joy it is to be meeting together and sharing gardening ideas and experiences from the last year. We have already had three very enjoyable outings - to Stuart Cottage in Clandon, Painshill Park and Plant Passion. Gail Diprose's beautiful photos show what a perfect evening we had for our visit to Plant Passion. I am sure we all feel inspired to try making our own hand tied bouquets and I will certainly make a point of only buying locally grown flowers.

We have now resumed our talks in the Harrison Room of the Old Barn Hall and our first talk, given by Peter Almond, was very well attended. His topic "Plants that changed the course of history" was fascinating and enlightening. Who would have thought that simple cotton plant would have caused the slave trade to America, and the conflict between the Southern and Northern States resulting in the America Civil War which still has consequences today. In this country, the cotton mills provided the income for vast numbers.

Now we look forward to Gail Diprose giving us a talk on 'Growing for health' in October.

This will be followed by the AGM on 22 November 7.30 when Stella Phipps will be demonstrating making Christmas decorations.

To join us or for more information, please contact Angela Stevens on 01372 456713 or craigjstevens@aol.com

Jenny Smitheman.



Bookham Country Market



It's your local market - and Christmas is coming!

We are here from 10am to 11.30am every Friday morning in the Old Barn Hall, and with Christmas on the way now is the time to visit to pick up, or order, some early presents or supplies.

A wide range of high quality hand-made craft products is available – Cards, Jewellery, Pottery, Wood, Pewter, Decorations and many other articles that have been lovingly created by our highly skilled home craft makers.

And that is not all. If you want some specialty cheeses to make up a present we have some award winning varieties straight from the Dairy.

You can order a Christmas Cake or perhaps mince pies from our home cooks to be collected near the time, and we have artisan breads without any chemicals.

Would you like to give a plant as a gift, or decorate using a dried flower arrangement. You will find these here too.

If you want that special joint from our range of grass fed lamb, pork or beef, just tell us now and we will have it available for collection later.

There are homemade preserves of all kinds and local Bookham honey, great stocking fillers.

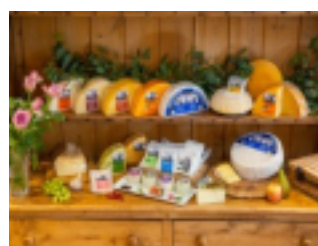
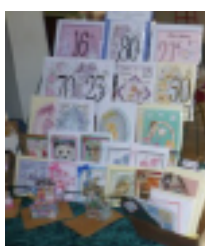
Having done your shopping, relax in the coffee shop, maybe with a friend, and enjoy a Fairtrade coffee or Teapigs tea with a slice of homemade Cake



The market is run completely by volunteers and is a valuable community activity providing a venue for social interaction, income for the BCA to help the upkeep of the Old Barn Hall and a source of high quality, locally produced products for its' customers.

See and read more at www.bookhammarket.wixsite.com/mrkt

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Polesden Lacey Infant School

We have had a fabulous start to our new academic year. Although we miss our children who have moved on to their new schools and new adventures, we have welcomed 30 new children and families in to the Polesden Lacey Infant School community. It is always such an exciting time, getting to know the children, see them making new friends and learning new things. This year, with fewer COVID restrictions, the children across the school have been able to mix with each other right from the start. It adds so much to their experience, playing with each other, learning how to negotiate, respect and care for one another, all whilst having fun.



Early in October, The Friends of Polesden Lacey Infant School organised a Gardening Day in school. Children and their families joined us on a sunny Sunday to dig, prune and tidy our wonderful extensive grounds. A picnic lunch gave us the opportunity to sit down and enjoy the company of our families and enough energy to keep going in to the afternoon. We had a wonderful day! Not only did we make the school even more beautiful but we also created extra wildlife friendly spaces, made new friends and generally had fun.

I am lucky enough to spend time in the classrooms and see first-hand the teaching and learning. I am always in awe of the staff and pupils at Polesden Lacey Infant School, the energy and thirst to improve is so evident. Recently, I was in our Year 1 class and one of the children said, as he was about to go to his table, 'I'm going to challenge my brain until it pops!' I had a huge smile on my face, knowing this attitude will take him far.

The children have been having the most amazing time at their weekly Forest School sessions. There has been bug house building, treasure hunt problem solving, using natural



materials found in the woods to create pictures, exploring and, as always, having fun. To see more of what we do please check out our website: <https://polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk/>

Rebecca Mole

Bookham Baptist Church & Children's Centre

Recent months have seen a gradual yet steady rise in numbers at our Sunday gatherings. Thanks to our newly refurbished balcony we can now safely welcome up to 80 people. September also saw our children's and youth work returning to the building, and numbers are growing week by week. Long may it continue as we speed towards our Christmas celebrations.

Whilst our physical gatherings continue to grow, we can't ignore the popularity of our livestream service. It was difficult to predict just over a year ago, that those first few

streams would evolve to welcome a regular following of 400 or more viewers. To meet this demand we have launched a new playlist on our YouTube Channel. 'Starter for 10' is more of a bite sized portion of our 10.30am service and is recorded in a magazine format, with the aim of reaching those in the wider community.

Our building in the heart of Bookham serves our community more as things open up. It plays host to the popular Meeting Place Café each Saturday; Golden Years – a churches together initiative for our more senior community members; A Men's keep Fit Club



each Monday, and not forgetting the popular Friday Youth.

As Covid restrictions eased over Summer months the Bookham Baptist Children's Centre welcomed record numbers of 0 - 5's, along with their parents/carers, to our children's holiday activities. The new term saw our range of children's activities attracting high numbers. Bumps and Babies on Tuesday's, Walkie Talkies, held each Thursday, and Crawlers and Cruisers each Wednesday. Parenting courses have also seen a welcome return since lockdown. Our centre coordinator Rachel Wedd and her team have really enjoyed supporting parents, as well as getting to know some of their children. Look out for details of future courses.

Which leads us back to Christmas. There is much work to be done ahead of our planned festivities. As well as our Christmas Carol Services scheduled for 19th December, there is our Secret Santa Weekend and a late Christmas Eve Service to look forward to. For further details please visit our web site www.bookhambaptist.org or contact reception on 01372 811313 reception@bookhambaptist.org.



Peter Pan Playschool

The school leavers had a lovely send off with a leaver's ceremony and are settling well into school life. We had a bumper year for new starters and we weren't sure how they'd settle after the last 18 months at home. However, we've found the children are confident and secure in their relationships with their parents and they've amazed us with their resilience, coping with the huge change, as this is the first time many of them have been left with anyone outside the immediate family home. Our short stay and play session at the start of term really helped parents and children get to know the staff team, so when it was time to say goodbye, the children have adapted and coped incredibly well.

We are getting out in the community a bit more again this year and we started with a visit

to Eastwick Road Church for a short harvest service with Ted the Minister and Rex the puppet. The children really enjoyed collecting donations for Leatherhead Start which we took with us to the church and they've been delivered by the church team. We're looking forward to a visit to the local shops and schools later on this year as well as our nativity play in the church at Christmas.

Peter Pan Playschool is an inclusive pre-school setting, which cares for children from 2 years old until school age. We offer weekday morning sessions 9.10-12.10 during term time, with optional extended hours until 1.10 and 2.40 on Monday, Thursday and Friday. We accept Government FEET and FEE funding as well as the extended 30 hours funding. To find out more about us please



take a look at our facebook page www.facebook.com/PeterPanPlayschool and our website www.peterpanplayschool.co.uk Alternatively you can send us an email at peterpanplayschool@gmail.com or call us on 07908 018924. We are now full for this academic year, so if you're looking for a place for September 2022 onwards please get in touch to avoid disappointment as we're already filling up fast.





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Leatherhead & District Local History Society

Mole Valley's Heritage Week in September 2021 showed the Leatherhead & District Local History Society back in action. As well as the return of normal opening hours* and a new display at the Society's Leatherhead Museum, special initiatives included a talk by veteran member Bill Whitman, and publication of a special walking guide to 20 historic points in Fetcham, written by L&DLHS President Alan Pooley.

Bill Whitman's talk about the Leatherhead Food Research Association matched the Heritage Week theme of Edible England. He explained how after World War 2 the former Leatherhead District Council had seen the town's future as concentrating on skilled office jobs and had attracted the Food Research Association to the new Randalls Park site. He spent some 40 years in the wider food industry and worked there 1971-93. Scientists would be called in, confidentially, when food manufacturers needed advice. Much activity involved recording information from media and scientific journals. Data was securely stored

Bill's own projects included large-scale production of prawn crackers. He visited a Manchester-based supplier of these to

Chinese restaurants and advised on improved quality production. Afterwards the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation asked him to go to China and demonstrate how to make dehydrated foods, in particular soups. This led to a series of lectures in Beijing to biologists, microbiologists, food technologists and engineers.

He also helped revive a failing company that supplied potato chips to schools and canteens. His success was reinforced when the Food RA later rescued the same firm from a disastrous chemical contamination incident. Bill's final contribution came after his retirement and the Food RA's own failure through over-stretch. He wrote a history about it and arranged for the transfer of its redundant computer to a museum at Bletchley Park.

Copies of Alan Pooley's Walking Guide to the Heart of Historic Fetcham were provided at Fetcham Park House and at the neighbouring 11th century St Mary's Church. He was assisted by local historian Vivien White in producing the guide, whose Grade II locations included the Salt Box, Ballands Hall, Orchard Cottage, Yew Tree and Tea Tree Cottages, and Home Farm House as well as Fetcham Park House and St Mary's themselves.



Fetcham Park House celebrated the Edible England theme with fun installations in its grounds by students of Grace & Cable, the organiser of craft classes for woollen knitting enthusiasts. No fewer than 830 people dropped in to see tea-tables bedecked with knitted food, a giant 140-piece knitted Union Jack flag beside the water-fountains, and a randomly decorated tree displaying the classes' fun spirit. Even the normally naked fountain statues wore discreet knitted clothing to avoid embarrassment.

* Museum opening hours: Thursday/Friday 1-4pm, Saturday 11am-4pm. For more information from the L&DLHS go to www.leatherheadhistory.org.

Bookham Choral Society

We were thrilled that, at the beginning of September, rehearsals resumed. After such a long break from communal singing, everyone was really looking forward to re-forming as a choir again. A lot of hard work was done by the BCS Committee to ensure that everyone is kept safe; we even changed our Rehearsal Room to the St Lawrence Church Hall, Effingham, to make sure that there was enough space for everybody. We are enjoying our rehearsals in our new spacious and comfortable environment and it is simply great to sing together again. It is also wonderful to see old friends and to welcome new members

When, under the direction of our Conductor, Richard Rollins and accompanied by Anthony Merryweather, we opened the first rehearsal with Vivaldi's 'Gloria', there was a huge sense of joy. There is nothing more uplifting than singing such a wonderful piece of music in a large group.

If you would like to join our very welcoming choir of singers, just come along to St Lawrence Church Hall on any Tuesday at 7.30 pm.

The Leith Hill Musical Festival is also beginning its programme of events and concerts. On 16th October, many of the members of Bookham Choral Society will have sung in a 'Come and Sing' day at Dorking Halls. We will

have learnt Verdi's 'Requiem' and then singing it together in concert. The Leith Hill Festival will be back in 2022 and will include the wonderful Oratorio, 'The Messiah' by Handel.

We are very excited to be able to announce our 'Celebratory Christmas Concert' which will take place on Saturday 11th December at 7.30 pm in St Nicolas Church, Bookham. We will be singing Vivaldi's 'Gloria' in the first half and then in the second half we will be singing a selection of well-loved Christmas Carols with audience participation. Tickets will be on sale from early November so keep an eye out for our posters or visit our website on: www.bookhamchoralsociety.co.uk

Check out our website on
www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org

Keep up to date with what is going on around the village.
Make sure you keep your organisation's details up to date and
let us know if you have an event coming up.

The Meeting Place



We are excited to have recently appointed Anne Milton-Worsell as Anna Chaplain to work with people of no faith, other faiths as well as those with a Christian faith. She will seek to support and travel alongside older people offering, when requested, spiritual care that each individual values.

The Meeting Place's ANNA CHAPLAINCY is supported by the Bookham churches and will support the oldest and frailest in our community – those who might be living in care homes, or their own home perhaps with a care package, who may have become cut off from relationships in the community. Anne will work alongside carers, families, professionals and other volunteers to help

those facing challenges in their lives due to living with physical difficulties and dementia. Our TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING scheme will work alongside the Anna Chaplain. To find out more do contact us through our website.

At time of writing THE COMMUNITY FRIDGE is finding that there is not so much fresh food mainly due to lack of HGV drivers. Bag deliveries have reduced for various reasons but the Help Yourself table at the front of the Youth Centre is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4pm and Saturdays 10.30am to 12 midday. The Fridge had a stall at the Bookham Food Fair in September which was most encouraging and well supported.

Our COFFEE SHOP at Bookham Baptist Church Hall has been running again on Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon. It is busy and it is good to see old and new faces each week.

The LANGUAGE HUB has started again for the autumn term on Zoom and is focusing on speaking and dealing with everyday language

and situations which the students enjoy.

LIPREADING has restarted on Monday mornings on Zoom. Our professional Teacher cannot do the afternoon now as she will be training new teachers which is a great honour for her, and we wish her well. We all still value her as our teacher.

For more information on all areas of our outreach in the local community, or to get in touch, please see our website www.themeetingplace.org.uk or Facebook



Bookham Stamp Club

We are delighted that the club has recommenced with live meetings after 18 months. The club held several virtual display meetings during the pandemic, as well as selling stamps on the website, which kept our members fully updated and entertained.

Our first live meeting in September was attended by 33 members and was our AGM, we were delighted with the turn-out. At the meeting our Trading Secretary, David Bravery became an honorary member for his meritorious service



After the AGM, we were entertained by member Captain James Podger with a superb display titled 'West Indies Postal History A-V'. James showed us an array of covers from all over the West Indies, noticeably pre-stamped covers, some of which are quite rare. He

pointed out certain covers that had stories behind them including a message in a bottle which was thrown overboard from the S.S. Nou Benito on 26/1/1907 opposite Madeira and picked up on Caicos Islands on the 15/11/1908.

Bookham Stamp Club, founded in 1993, meets every 4th Tuesday of the month (except for December) at the Old Barn Hall and our very popular Trading Tables start opening at 1.30pm, with displays commencing at 2.15pm.



Our programme includes visits from an impressive list of visiting speakers, members' displays and also Auctions that are held two times a year. We also have a packet exchange through which members can buy and sell stamps.

We are interested in purchasing unwanted collections, so if you are thinking of selling, or indeed need advice contact our Trading Secretary, David Bravery on 01372 452537.

If you are new to stamp collecting or want to renew your hobby come along to one of our meetings, you will be warmly welcomed but if you wish to find out more details before attending contact our Membership Secretary Fred Mitchell on 01372 374614'

Tuesday 26th October

Simon McArthur – Third Reich, Munich, Capital of the Movement, NSKK Blood & Soil

Tuesday 23rd November

The Federation of Surrey Philatelic Society – Competitions.

Wednesday 15th December

Christmas Meeting including lunch and raffle

Tuesday 25th January

Members' Displays – One Sheet Competition

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Barry Feltham Hon. Secretary
www.bookhamstampclub.com

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Little Bookham WI



Little Bookham WI were amazingly fortunate because our garden meeting in August fell on possibly the hottest, sunniest day of the month. Our members were able to enjoy a quintessentially summer tea party surrounded by beautiful plants and flowers. Everyone enjoyed home-made scones with jam and cream followed by strawberries and even more cream.

We loved the opportunity to sit and chat to

friends again and relax in good company. At the end of the afternoon we held a mammoth raffle. There were so many donations that everyone went home with a prize. Members were very appreciative of the hard work by all the committee but special mention must go to our President Pat Crawford and her supportive husband Iain. They undertook the major part of organising the afternoon, and also to Cathryn for letting us borrow her lovely garden.

Our first meeting back at Little Bookham Village Hall took place in September. It was our birthday meeting and there was what can only be described a huge cloud of balloons either side of the president's table. Everything was organised in a very Covid safe manner so that

everyone felt comfortable and able to enjoy the meeting.

We heard a wonderful talk by Sarah Oldridge on "The History and Work of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew." The committee has discussed the possibility of a visit to Kew Gardens with Sarah as our guide in 2022. Another visit under consideration is to Hampton Court Palace with another recent speaker Sarah Slater following her talk, "Working with the Ghosts of Hampton Court."

Little Bookham WI is looking forward to a busy year in 2022. We meet at Little Bookham Village Hall at 3pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Visitors are always welcome.

Fay McGregor

Eastwick WI

At last life is beginning to return to normal for us all and over the last weeks we have been able to meet face to face instead of on Zoom.

Our first venture was a superb afternoon tea at the Tithe Barn in Little Bookham. Despite the torrential rain just as everyone was arriving, our spirits were not dampened, members enjoying being together again and catching up with all each other's news. A book and jigsaw sale raised money for our flower fund.

Our various groups are maintaining their activities, the garden group having enjoyed a hot sunny afternoon at Plant Passion in Clandon, an organic flower farm where seasonal, scented and sustainable flowers are grown.

A much anticipated visit that had to be postponed because of COVID was finally made to the costumiers in Croydon who make all the costumes for Strictly Come Dancing. What an amazing set-up! Shelves of matching fabrics, fringing, trims of every kind, beads and

feathers, not to mention vast quantities of dance shoes.

Dresses sometimes have to be made in just a couple of days, so all are dedicated experts, many having been there for years. There were some gowns that we could have tried on, but on closer inspection all seemed to be size 10. So we admitted defeat and enjoyed the glass of fizz we were each given at the end of the tour!

Our best piece of news is that we have been able to make the Old Barn Hall our meeting place instead of the much smaller St Mary's Hall in Fetcham. At our first meeting there in September we were able to spread ourselves out and had plenty of room for the superb selection of straw handbags and sun hats that our speaker, Jane Muddle, brought along to support her talk on Madagascar where they are made. Jane's talk was both informative and fun, many members going home with gorgeous purchases.



We are now looking forward to our general meeting in November and a very special evening in December to combine our Christmas meeting with the delayed celebration of our 50th birthday.

Bookham Talking Newspaper

This well regarded audio service is looking for new users

Your widely praised local audio newspaper is available free of charge to any blind or partially sighted person living in the Ashted, Leatherhead, Bookham, Effingham and Horsley areas. We would love to hear from anyone wanting to use this free service, directly or via their carers or family. Of course, others might enjoy local news via audio – see below for web access.

During the pandemic we had to close for

several months. During this enforced 'downtime' our volunteer team kept in touch with our 30 or so service users, which was widely appreciated. A short poll of our users also told us that the service was widely enjoyed and missed, and feedback also provided pointers for new content ideas, which we have acted upon since restarting.

The BTN is now a fortnightly free service run by volunteers. It uses freepost Royal Mail to deliver a USB drive every two weeks, which users simply plug in to a special player,

provided free by the charity via a home visit to explain how to use it. Having listened to an edition, the pen drive is sent back to us for re-use. Alternatively, all editions are now freely available via our website, for those able to access the web easily.

Our website explains the service fully and provides access to the latest recording and contact details. Please visit us to put forward a new listener, or simply to find out more: www.bookhamtalkingnewspaper.org.uk

Andrew Smith

Bookham Wine Club

Our eagerly awaited return to the Barn Hall in September was well attended and couldn't have started in better hands. After a glass of crémant to celebrate the occasion, members settled down to enjoy their first professional presentation in eighteen months. In "Exploring Climate", Angela Bawtree (one of the Club's favourite wine educators) had chosen two grape varieties to illustrate how changes in climate have affected wine growing and production. An aromatic grape, dry with high acidity, Sauvignon blanc is a versatile and adaptable variety as the three surprisingly different white wines from France, New Zealand and South Africa demonstrated. In contrast, Pinot Noir is a fussy grape only willing to grow in specific environments and prone to disease,

because of its thin skin. All three reds were excellent, but it was "Wild Earth" from Central Otago in NZ that won the vote for "wine of the month". This region is now probably one of the most successful for Pinot Noir outside Burgundy.

It was wonderful to be back together as a Club, meeting old (and some new) friends again in one venue, and a relief as it greatly simplified proceedings when we gathered in October for our AGM. With the 'business' part of the meeting completed in half an hour; we then enjoyed a most informative presentation by Simon Rolfe from Sea Change Wine. Strongly behind the call to tackle plastic pollution and the terrible effects this has on our oceans, Sea

Change support conservation projects across the globe by using minimal packaging, renewable sources, and through donations. They also have some good wines!

In November we have Lits Philippou for a "Mediterranean Cruise" which we expect will be rather lovely after months of travel restrictions, albeit from afar. The December meeting, "Christmas Wines" which will be hosted by the Club's President, Heather Dougherty, and will include a themed supper. Next year's programme is well underway and promises to be as varied as previous years. So, if you are interested in all things viti- and vinicultural, you might be interested in visiting our website to learn more: www.bookhamwineclub.org.uk

Rotary, Bookham & Horsley



Bookham & Horsley

Our inaugural Cycle Surrey Hills challenge event on 19th September was a great success, despite a wet afternoon, with riders praising the route options, signposting, catering and organisation.

The event required the combined talents of over 15 club members and friends with St

Teresa's School providing the start/finish venue and much valued support.

We attracted 48 registrations which, with the generous contribution of our sponsors, local law firm Wellers Hedleys, enabled us to make a donation of over £1,500 to our main beneficiary, Princess Alice Hospice in Esher.

Thank you to everyone who supported us, it is much appreciated!



We are hoping to resume our Christmas Santa and his sleigh around the houses this year and the proposed routes are shown below.



Father Christmas and his Sleigh

coming to a road near you in December 2021

Saturday 4th East Horsley Christmas Event 11am-3pm

Sunday 12th **EAST HORSLEY**

Forest Road, High Park Ave, Nightingale Rd, The Ridings

Wednesday 15th **EFFINGHAM**

Norwood Rd. Strathcona Ave. Links Way, Orchard Gardens

Friday 17th **BOOKHAM**

Lower Shott, Newenham Rd, Overton Way, White Way, Beales Rd

Sunday 19th **BOOKHAM**

Hawkwood Rise, The Lorne, Middlemead Rd, Sole Farm Ave

Monday 20th **EFFINGHAM**

The Street, Home Farm, Browns Lane, Beech Close, The Garden

Wednesday 22nd **BOOKHAM**

Barn Meadow Lane, Merrylands Rd, Twelve Acre Cl, Burrows Close

Sunday 4 to 6pm, Weekdays 5 to 7.30pm (Weather permitting)



Bookham & Horsley

Collecting for local needs and charities. Charity no.264727



Oxshott & Cobham Music Society
80th Season
Holy Trinity Church, Claygate, KT10 0JP

2021-22 Season (concerts at 8pm)

13 November **JONIAN ILIAS KADESHA**, violin,
and **NOAM GREENBERG**, piano

Mozart, Brahms, Bartok and Stravinsky

4 December **CASTALIAN STRING QUARTET** with **HANNAH SHAW**, viola

Mozart, Brahms and Thomas Adès

15 January Programme to be confirmed in November

26 February **ZOLTÁN FEJÉRVÁRI**, piano

Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky

9 March **MANU BRAZO**, saxophone,

with **PRAJNA INDRAMATI**, piano

and **CLAUDIO GALLARDO**, violin

26 March **PIXELS ENSEMBLE**, piano quintet

Schubert, Mozart and Taneyev

Please check the website for confirmation of dates and times

www.ocms-music.org.uk

Tickets are available in advance – via Tel 020 8398 4377, or at oxshottandcobhammusicsociety@gmail.com and www.wegotickets.com

Tickets: £22 & £20. Members, children, and students up to 25 with ID, free.



www.ocms-music.org.uk



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The Friends of All Saints Little Bookham Church and St. Lawrence Effingham Church

In July we managed to hold our first social activity since March 2020 when we had a "Fish & Chips" supper in the garden of the Plough, Effingham. It had to be outside, although fortunately the weather was kind, and numbers were limited, but at least it was a start.

The Friends, once again, provided the teas and home-made cakes at the Heritage Day exhibition in the Manor Farm Tithe Barn. The numbers were down compared with the very successful Barnes Wallis Exhibition a couple of years ago, but nevertheless we were able to offer a "welcome cuppa".

Our next event is on 3 December when Vivien

White, the eminent local historian, will give a talk on the Howard Family and their involvement with the parishes of Great Bookham, Little Bookham and Effingham. It is thought that no less than 39 members of the family were buried at St Nicolas Church, Great Bookham, and Vivien will describe the connections the family had with the three villages. This will be held at Manor House School at 7.30 pm and will include the traditional glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. Tickets cost £10 available from Jenny Peers on 456752, or Pat Mills on 454293.

We are hoping to organise a Curry Lunch in February, details of date and location yet to be decided.

Members of the Friends have continued to be involved in helping manage the refreshment stall at the Monthly Market at St Lawrence Church Hall, Effingham providing tea, coffee, cakes and selling fresh farm eggs. This is held on the fourth Saturday of the month from 10am to 2pm although there will be no market in November.

The Friends is a secular organisation created in order to help fund the upkeep of the two 12th century churches, All Saints Church, Little Bookham and St Lawrence Church, Effingham, both a key part of our community's heritage. Membership is £20 p.a. /for further details please contact our Chairman, William Hill at membership.friends@icloud.com

POSE

PANTOMIME IS BACK IN BOOKHAM!!!

As things begin to open up again, POSE are delighted to announce that WE ARE BACK and we invite you all to Bookham's very own pantomime in January 2022.

POSE is a Bookham based drama group who have performed a pantomime at The Old Barn Hall for the last thirty years – possibly more, but who's counting! We continue to stick with the traditional family pantomime format, suitable for everyone and although the stories we have told recently have been a little different, this year we return to the well-loved

story of 'Aladdin' by Ben Crocker.

The story is set in Egypt where Aladdin lives with his brother Sidney and their mother Gertie along with Sidney's monkey Bibi. When they run into the Princess Jasmine in the bazaar, Aladdin is arrested by the Empress for daring to speak to the Princess. The evil Abanazar saves Aladdin but takes him off to the desert to find a magic lamp in The Pyramid That Isn't There! When Aladdin is stranded inside the Pyramid, it's up to the Genie of the Lamp to save the day and get him back to his family and Princess Jasmine in Cairo.

Join us for lots of fun and laughter as we follow

our friends into the desert, back to Cairo and narrowly avoid the consequences of Abanazar's love potion.

Aladdin is at The Old Barn Hall on Fridays 21st & 28th January 2022 at 7.45pm and Saturdays 22nd & 29th January 2022 at 2.30pm and 6.30pm.

Tickets are available from the Box Office on 01372 454001 or 01372 458254 or from John Wadsworth Estate Agents. Group rates are available for parties of 10 and birthday groups can be arranged.

Local Success

I was delighted to win the category of 'Best Community Garden' in Mount Green Housing Association's competition. Graham House is a lovely community consisting of Independent Residents and Keyworkers. The grounds are extensive with the lawns and hedges cut and trimmed by Mount Green's contractor. I have made it my mission to maintain all the flower beds and pots ensuring every resident looks out onto something colourful and pretty. I can frequently be seen out in all weathers digging over beds and forking in manure! The elderly residents have enjoyed the colour throughout the seasons, especially through

the very challenging times of lockdown. Improving communal areas has had a positive impact on residents' well-being. I have been very proud of my achievements and was delighted to win. I am a secondary school teacher at The Howard so, for me, gardening is my escapism and the opportunity to focus on my own well-being. I have planted hundreds of bulbs so am already looking forward to the green shoots appearing in early spring. My goal is to be part of next year's Bookham Open Gardens day.

Joanna Spires



Congratulations, and well-done

Joanna. Editor

The Arts Society Bookham



In common with other local groups, life continues to be challenging for the Society. Zooming under the expert guidance of our Treasurer, Chris Rose, continues but alternated with resumed live monthly meetings at The Old Barn Hall. Chairman Angela Stevens hosted our first live meeting in August, a coffee morning at The Old Barn Hall.

Members have been involved with restoration work at Guildford Cathedral. The photo shows the Installation Cope that has been refurbished by the small group of volunteers over the last five years. The beautiful embroidery was lifted from its backing and remounted on new damask fabric. It was really a labour of love and the members who worked on the varied techniques were certainly most skilful.

In his report of the September lecture Edmund Morgan-Warren felt that artists of today do not know they are born, with ready supplies of equipment available. Chantal Brotherton-Ratcliffe explained in her fascinating lecture that in pre-industrial times artists had to make their own materials.

In November our Zoom meeting 'Discover the



Roman Forum - the heart of Ancient Rome' will feature professional Rome tourist guide Stuart Harvey who will lead us on a voyage of discovery through the ruins of the Forum explaining how and why certain parts survived, and others did not.

In the live November meeting 'A Rare Meeting of Music, Poetry and Art', Stephen Baron and Marguerite Duncan-Sutherland will perform songs by Francis Poulenc to a backdrop of

paintings by various Parisian artists.

Our traditional Christmas lunch will be followed by Sandy Burnett's account of 'Christmas in Bach's Leipzig'. He will explore how Bach brings the Christmas story alive in his Weihnachtsoratorium or Christmas Oratorio, written for Lutheran congregations in 1730s Leipzig. An overview of Bach's life and achievement will precede a close look at his magnificent and varied work.

Later in December, we move from Leipzig to York. Sarah Cowling will take us on a Zoom tour of the city at Christmas time.

Some of us travelled to Norfolk in September for a five-day holiday organised by Judy Money. We had a very full and interesting itinerary with visits including Ely, Sandringham, Norwich, Blickling Hall and a scenic cruise on the Norfolk Broads.

New members are warmly welcomed to the Society's lectures at 7.30 on the fourth Tuesday in the month at The Old Barn Hall. <http://theartsocietybookham.org.uk/>. Anyone interested in joining the Society and receiving the Zoomed talks should contact Linda Tickner via the website.

John Cook

Howard of Effingham School

The Howard welcomes a new Principal – James Baker, BMus(Hons), AKC, DipABRSM, Ma(Ed), NPQH



I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Principal at Howard of Effingham School. I come from a varied teaching career – having taught History, Classical Civilisation and Travel

and Tourism, though originally I was a Music teacher and until last year taught Y7 to Y13. I have taught in schools in Bournemouth, Dorchester, and most recently Oxted – a sister school to the Howard, and part of The Howard Partnership Trust.

During my first few weeks as Principal I have had the privilege of welcoming prospective students and their families to The Howard. As always, the thing which impresses our visitors the most is the approach which our students take to their studies, and the courteous and friendly way in which they greet them as they make their way around.

The easing of Covid restrictions has meant clubs and other enrichment activities are taking place again. One new initiative is our EnAct (Enrichment Activities) sessions on alternate Wednesday afternoons. These enable students to engage with a diverse range of activities: from Forest School to Leadership workshops; from Chess Club to Young Enterprise; and from Coding Club to Fit Bootcamp.

Our focus at The Howard remains on 'Bringing

out the Best' in all of our students. Other areas particularly important to me are the school's role as part of the local community, and the leadership opportunities which we can provide for our students.

I am looking forward to our winter concert on 15 December, an opportunity for all our students to showcase their musical talent. Other forthcoming events include our rock and pop concert on Thursday 21 October at 7pm, and our first drama production of the year, Grimm Tales, in November.

I'm also looking forward to working with the local community on a range of projects, from visiting local primary schools to performing carols at local care homes and sending our Duke of Edinburgh students out into the local area to complete the community service element of their qualifications. I am keen to develop relationships with alumni of the school, so if you have fond memories of your time at The Howard, or have experience or opportunities which you feel would benefit our students, please do get in touch via info@thehoward.thpt.org.uk.

Mole Valley Ramblers

'Life's A Picnic' with Mole Valley Ramblers

Mole Valley Ramblers have been meeting up monthly for a walk in conjunction with a picnic lunch.

These events have been enthusiastically welcomed and very well attended by members. They have proved particularly popular as they are an ideal way for the group to gather and socialise safely during these strange times.

After such an unprecedented disruption of our programme, it has been really refreshing to witness the camaraderie that unites us all and rediscover the joviality and laughter of good friends reunited.

On September 3rd four separate walks of about 4,7,10.5 and 12 miles converged at Denbies Hillside, Steers Field, Ranmore (just northwest of Dorking) for the second in our series of monthly picnics.

Members arrived at this beautiful location with



its extensive views south towards Leith Hill just in perfect time to enjoy a spot of lunch in the open air and to catch up with each other's news.

In total the event attracted 51 walkers (plus 4 dogs) and together they will have covered about 397 miles.

St Lawrence School



Being the change!

St Lawrence School Council have been working incredibly hard, to help make our school an even more fun place to be! This is some of what we achieved last year!

School Council decided to rename our three houses. After a whole school vote, the old set of rare gems - Topaz, Sapphire and Emerald - were replaced by a sparkling set of inspirational people, all of whom fought tirelessly for the rights of others: child food poverty campaigner, Marcus Rashford, civil rights activist, Rosa Parks and suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst.

We designed a questionnaire to find out what

our interests are and what activities we enjoy. We now have exciting new lunchtime and after school clubs to enjoy, including Harry Potter, golf and musical theatre.

We have introduced recycling bins for empty pens and glue sticks. By making this little change, we can help reduce plastic pollution.

We agreed a list of rules for our amazing new sensory playground, so we can all be Ready, Respectful and Safe as we enjoy playing, reading and relaxing in it!

We've created a wildflower meadow!. We have placed a calm bench next to it, where we can sit back and relax to enjoy the birds tweeting, the crickets croaking and the flowers buzzing

with bees. We're really excited to see which insects, animals and birds make it their home!

We have set up a new student newspaper! 'Blue & Red' is compiled and edited by Year Fives and Sixes. It's fantastic that everyone will know all about our school!

This year, our freshly elected School Council started with a cake sale to raise money to support UNICEF's work with children in Afghanistan. We have already discussed lots of exciting ideas to explore this year, such as a STEAM day in our new houses, a pyjama story time, introducing basketball and cricket teams, a talent show and more events to support charities.

Ted Paine and Thomas Mathieson



Rainbow Pre School

At the beginning of this term we welcomed our new starters. Both parents and staff alike, are so happy at how quickly they have settled into the rhythm of our pre-school. The children at Rainbow have enjoyed a variety of fun activities. We have managed to get over to the 'Library garden' for lots of fun games and activities. We are waiting to hear back from SCC, for permission to dig a Vegetable plot for the children to tend. We want the children to be able to use their whole bodies (to help strengthen core muscle) and enjoy planting, growing and tending to vegetables that we can then use in our home area and for cooking activities.

In the summer holidays, members of staff updated our outside area, concentrating on making our mud kitchen larger. We purchased a large, double concoction/mixing tray with different utensils and the children are having enormous fun, mixing and exploring different sensory media and materials together. The children also planted more plants in our tubs and pots, such as strawberry plants and edible herbs for them to water and care for. The children are currently planting daffodil bulbs and exploring all the autumn and winter nature



finds we collect, such as conkers, pine cones etc.

'Maple', the Cockapoo puppy, came to meet all the children and Rachel (her owner) spent time talking to the children about Maple's needs and showing them different items used in Maple's care. They were very surprised that EVEN Maple has to have her teeth cleaned! Rachel and Maple are going to visit us regularly, so the children can watch her grow. The children will learn about the importance

of caring for animals and their needs, and how they change as they grow. We will be creating our very own 'Maple at Rainbow Pre-school' photo book so the children can look back on everything they are learning as Maple gets older.

If you would like more details about our Pre-school or would like to arrange a visit, please contact Heidi Watson on 01372 811313 or Email: rainbow@bookhambaptist.org



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BYouth is a drop-in youth cafe for school years 7-11 with crafts, games, cooking, the latest console games, table tennis, table football and loads of other stuff to get involved in.



Eastwick Road Church

Plant, Grow, Harvest, Share. Those are the four words surrounding our Welcome Garden logo, which hopefully speak for themselves. In early 2022, the plan is to Plant flowers and veg and grow into a happy, thriving group during the year. Grow the plants together, grow friendships. A kitchen and toilet are available.

We will harvest what we have grown and reap the benefits of socialising, probably with a good few honest discussions along the way. Psychology experts now say that critical to human wholeness and wellbeing is searching



after what is true and right. Share the produce amongst the group. There are some great options: eat them, donate elsewhere, or plant them again.

Anyone throwing out paving slabs or suitable hardcore, please think of us. We desperately wish to include people who use wheelchairs or feel unsteady sometimes, so we need some hard surfaces to create safe areas. We also need a small digger and person to level off the access point.

If you are aged mid 50s to mid 70s, please pop by and look at the plot to see if you might like to be involved. Particularly if you don't have a garden or would rather use ours, you're welcome.

It's a blank canvas. A concept drawing and some suggested garden designs are being prepared, while the next jobs at hand are to set sleepers, paving and a potting shed. Help required all round!

Please sponsor or support your Eastwick Road Church and community via our garden and come to any social activities. Thank you to all the lovely people who chatted to us at Village Day and signed up. I will be in touch shortly with final details.

Next up:

'Knit a teddy for Christmas' Weekly, no charge, Tuesday mornings 10:00-12:00, starting 19th Oct, last session 23rd Nov.

'Decorate terracotta pots' (repeated by popular demand) Wed 17th November 1:30-3:30 pm ERC Hall, KT23 4BE. No charge, bring a medium pot brushes and an apron. Rev. Julie from St Mary's Fetcham will give the thought for the day and stimulus for your creativity.

Email lesley.o@eastwickroadchurch.co.uk or call 07856 193871, landline: 01372 453473.



Polesden Lacey Playschool



It's a big year for the Playschool as we celebrate our 30th birthday! Having avoided closure from the very first lockdown, our luck finally ran out and we were

forced to close for our final week of summer term, meaning all our planned activities had to be cancelled, including sports day.

We were so disappointed that the Swan leavers couldn't have the send off they deserved so our Committee put their heads together and organised a sports day at Chrystie Recreation Ground over the summer holidays. The staff came along too and we



threw a surprise 30th birthday party with lots of cake!

The children had a wonderful time and it was great to be able to give our staff a little treat after all their hard work during the pandemic. They have remained resilient and positive for our children and given them the 'normal' they needed in a time that has been difficult for a lot of them. They are an absolute credit to our Playschool and are what make it such a nurturing and special place for our children to thrive.

I would like to extend my thanks to not just the staff for our last year, but also our Committee, who have guided the Playschool over unanticipated coronavirus hurdles. They have supported our staff and ensured our children did not miss out on as much of their Playschool experience as they could have.

Polesden Lacey Playschool really is a special place and I am honoured to be their Chair for another year.

For further information about the Playschool, please get in touch or visit our website. If you



have any enquires with regards to admissions or would like to arrange a visit, contact our Admissions Officer, Alison Roberts (Alison.s.roberts@btinternet.com)

Ellie Pragnell

Chair, Polesden Lacey Playschool Committee

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