

**JUNE**

**2011**

# **PARISH MAGAZINE**

# *Tatsfield*



## **THIS ISSUE**

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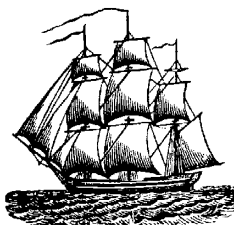


  
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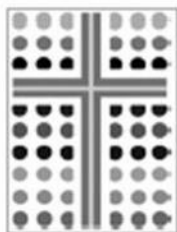
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# TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE

*Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of the Tatsfield Churches*

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**Editor** • Bob David (577357)

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**Anglican** • Team Vicar: Revd Louise Ellis (577289) email: vicar.tatsfield@btinternet.com

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Hon. Curate - Revd Dr Gerald South (577598)

Wardens • Mike Lambert (577790) and Jennie South (577598)

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**Parish Council website** [www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield](http://www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield) • **email** tatsfieldpc@talk21.com

**Tandridge District Councillor** • Bob David, The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield TN16 2AN (577357)

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## **OTHER CONTACTS**

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**Village Hall** - Bookings Secretary • Margaret Parsons (577665)

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• **Village Website** [www.tatsfield.org.uk](http://www.tatsfield.org.uk)

## **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. Contributions should be sent directly to the Editor at The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2AN (Fax: 01959 577357 Email: [bob@bobdavid.co.uk](mailto:bob@bobdavid.co.uk)) or drop it into Linda's Stores.

**Small Ads** These are only accepted from Tatsfield or Titsey residents (No Trade) and are free (Max 10 words plus phone No.) We will include them in the next issue space permitting.

**Calendar Dates** Our rolling Calendar usually covers 6 weeks from publication so please give us your dates in good time. If you don't want your event to clash with others why not check with us early.

**Ideas/Opinions/Articles** We are always looking for items of interest - have a word with the Editor.

**Correspondence** We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Please state if not for publication.

**Advertisements** We take no responsibility for the goods and services advertised in the Magazine.





Dear All,

All hands went up immediately in the WI hall at 10am on Saturday 14 May when Teresa Watts asked the eighteen children present whether they thought Tatsfield was a great place to live in. They had come to the Horticultural Society's Children's Workshop and they spent the morning painting a mural for the outer wall at the far end of the Village Hall, planting the containers in the hall car park and litter picking around the village centre.

That afternoon, pretending to be exhausted by the morning's activity, I thought I would watch the second half of the Cup Final and turned on during the half time adverts. I was confronted by an advert for a computer game – it was noisy, aggressive and was being sold in a way that was likely to make a child feel left out if they did not both enjoy and own this gruesome product. The fact that it was being advertised at a peak viewing moment presumably meant that the producers were spending large amounts of money in publicising it, no doubt in the hope that it would be a financial success for them and their company. At the same time we are now beginning to read reports of the detrimental effects of spending long periods of time in the virtual worlds of computers.

What a contrast between morning and afternoon in the way that young people were being engaged with adults and their environment. Also, sadly, professional football is now so riddled with cynical fouls and referee chasing that it can be doing little to encourage a healthy attitude in youngsters for either sport or respect for other people.

Let us give thanks for all those people in Tatsfield who give their time and talents in trying to provide positive experiences for children – they include those in the school, the scout sections, the sporting clubs, the art group and many others. Given this wealth of opportunity it does seem rather unfortunate that some recent initiatives have been under subscribed – the workshop mentioned above had spare places and the recent sports weekend was very thinly supported. What were the other youngsters doing at these times?

I used to think St Peter was going a bit OTT when he said "Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour". Now I am not so sure - I wonder if he foresaw awful computer games.

**Gerald South**

## COVER PICTURE

The picture is of the Vern and Tatsfield footballers in the match during the Easter weekend visit of our twinned French town. A report of the visit is in Village News.



Dear Editor,

## **Winterton Surgery, Westerham**

We were sorry to read in last month's magazine of the difficulty a patient had in contacting the surgery. The problem is not one of capacity, or numbers of patients; it is a consequence of what is called an "advanced access" appointment system, brought in under the last government, when an expert came to advise us, from the Health Authority, as it was then. We have to have a certain number of appointments available on the day. This inevitably means there is a scramble to get an appointment when the night service answerphone is switched off in the early morning. Invariably, patients, receptionists and doctors all hate it. If we had ten receptionists on, with ten telephone lines in the morning, the appointments would simply go even faster!

Patients with urgent conditions are always fitted in on the same day, no matter how many appointments are available, and anyone not successful in "gaining" an appointment, can always ask for a home visit or a telephone appointment, or even, if in pain, ringing 999 would mean that a paramedic would come to the house to assess the problem, and would contact us, under the new initiative with the ambulance service. There was talk of the advanced access scheme being abandoned when the new government took over, but at the moment it looks unlikely, as the NHS is about to undergo some other changes.

**Dr. Adam Skinner**

Dear Editor,

## **Wise Words**

I wish to thank whoever submitted the 'Obituary for Common Sense' featured in last month's magazine. How refreshing it is to hear a voice of reason punctuate the ever-increasing absurdities of the modern age. It is probably even more welcome to those of us who have reached advanced years and grew up in a very different world.

**Betty Perry, Paynesfield Road**

### **NORWAY AND HERBS**

An unusual combination? Don't you believe it! Read Lin Saines' account on pages 60 and 61.

Dear Editor,

## The Best Thing I Ever Did

.....was joining the Tatsfield Allotmenters! Conversation in Tatsfield has changed from comments about THE WEATHER to “How is your allotment coming on?”, even from villagers who don’t have a plot, who then go on to offer seeds and plants. Our community spirit is second to none. It’s quite overwhelming. I only hope I do them all justice.

There is a whole new buzz of excitement. We all seem to be of the same mould, sharing tips and helping each other out. Before I set out to the plot I am reminded of going to the beaches. Have I picked everything up? Have I remembered everything? But when you arrive just minutes away (often without the essential watering can), it’s even better than a day at the coast. The view is beyond belief; but for me it’s the feeling of total relaxation and contentment. So, many thanks to Alan Armitage, Jon Allbutt and all the others for their continual hard work and for giving us this rewarding opportunity. I’m sure I speak for many others.

**Chris Roux-Martyn, Westmore Road**

### MAGAZINE MATTERS

**Inserts:** Two leaflets come with this magazine, one about the Tatsfield Garden Tour this month and the other with all the details of our own Tatsfield in Bloom competition.

**Next Issue:** The next issue is a double one, covering July and August. Contributions should be with the editor by 16 June. Deliveries will commence on Friday 1 July.

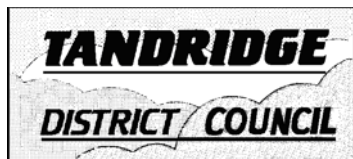
**Advertisements:** Our advertising pages are full but anyone interested in advertising from the beginning of the next advertising year, April 2012, should contact our Advertising Manager, Maureen Perrin on 577679.

**Magazine Treasurer:** Our new Treasurer is to be Madie Langford, who is taking over from Ken Munday after his long and successful stint.

### TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL BOOKING SECRETARY WANTED

The Village Hall is the centre of the village’s activities. It is in great demand and is used by village organisations and individuals for all kinds of events. Margaret Parsons has been associated with the Village Hall for as long as anyone can remember – when you say “Village Hall” you immediately think of Margaret – but she has decided that the time has come to call it a day as Booking Secretary in the next few months. This is the most important of the Village Hall’s jobs – a voluntary one, not a paid one. The Village Hall Management Committee invite anyone interested in taking it on to contact Lloyd Gulley, the committee’s chairman, on 571843 or 07941 822580.

## COUNCIL REPORTS



### TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**District Council Elections:** There were elections in one third of Tandridge's 42 wards last month. There was no change in 13 of the wards and in the 14th the Conservatives gained a seat from the Lib-Dems (the Warlingham East, Chelsham and Farleigh ward). As a result, the overall political composition of the council is now 34 Conservatives, 6 Lib Dems and 2 Independents. I have formed a group – the Independent group – with Lisa Bangs, who represents Lingfield and Crowhurst. It sounds quite amusing forming a group with just two people but there are some advantages in doing this and there is nothing unusual about it. I have already been asked questions about this so I'll explain straight away that we have **not** formed a political party or anything like it and we don't have any joint policies other than that we will speak and act freely. The new full council met last month for the first time and decided its committee membership etc for the next year. I will be a member of the Resources committee. As in the past, I will attend other committees when matters of interest or concern to Tatsfield or Titsey may arise; I am able to speak at such other committees but not to vote. Please feel free to contact me to discuss any matters where I may be able to help or advise, whether relating to Tandridge council or anything else.

**Referendum:** The only voting Tatsfield and Titsey residents were able to do on 5 May was in the referendum on the system of electing MPs. The question posed was "Should the alternative vote system be used?" and the final results were:

	<b>National results</b>		<b>Tandridge results</b>	
	No of votes	%	No of votes	%
Yes	6,152,607	32.1	8,286	28.7
No	13,013,123	67.9	20,572	71.3

I am trying to find out what the figures were for Tatsfield and Titsey but I have had no luck so far.

**1<sup>st</sup> Tatsfield Scouts:** I went to the Scouts AGM last month. We read each month in the magazine the reports by Helen Brand, the Group Scout Leader, of their full and varied programme of activities and I was doubly impressed by what I saw and heard at the AGM. The group is thriving, with more than 100 boys and girls taking part as Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. And it is all down to Helen and the section leaders. They can always do with more help on their committee, so if anyone is interested in contributing to this terrific village organisation, they should contact Helen on 07736 230068.

**Cllr Bob David (Tel: 577357 Email: [bob@bobdavid.co.uk](mailto:bob@bobdavid.co.uk))**

## BEAUTIFUL SENETTI FLOWERS

Many people have asked about the beautiful blue/purple flowers which the In Bloom team have planted around the Village Hall and at the school. These are Senetti Blue, a hybrid Pericallis.

Senetti is a relatively new plant introduction which is related to Cineraria (a cool greenhouse plant) but it is able to withstand colder temperatures down to about 1 degree Celsius and able to cope with a light frost. This means it can be planted outside for a spring display, requiring protection only in prolonged cold weather. A sheltered area would ensure earlier flowering. Senetti come in several varieties, in shades of blue to violet and magenta, often with a white centre to the flower which gives them a clean bright look.

The flowering season is from spring through to July, if regularly dead headed. A second flush of flowers can be encouraged for later in the summer through till until autumn if the plants are given a light trim to tidy up and reshape them in July.

As this is a relatively new plant it may not be readily available in garden centres. This hybrid (first bred in Japan) is often referred to incorrectly as Cineraria in plant catalogues and garden centres, so check both names if you are looking for it.



## ROYAL WEDDING DAY “STREET PARTY”

The weather was kind and there were eventually a massive 117 children came along to Westmore Green to attend the “Children’s Fancy Dress Competition and Tea Party” on the Royal Wedding day Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April from 3 – 5 pm. The 60 (then 100) tickets for parents to buy that had been left at Linda’s Stores soon ran out. Consequentially the team running the event is extremely grateful to local trades people (and others) for their kind financial and physical assistance. Donations came from the Village Club, “anonymous,” the Tatsfield Garage, Sunningvale Garage, the Parish Council, Linda’s Stores, the Bakery, some commemorative mugs from Eddie Leeves and single mug from a kind “new lady” who had just moved into the village. Other kind people also gave a donation “on the day” to help with the costs of it all. Before the day started, a team of “grafters” working under Barry Bull included Mike





## VILLAGE NEWS

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Teague, Eddie Leeves, Max Smith, Keith Stovell, Mark Stokoe (with his two Bounce Aways), David Brown, Steve Dennis, Warren Dutch and others. Helpers included Lloyd Gulley and the Village Hall committee. The ladies who also “made the day” were Kerry Smith, Carole Barker, Marie Sparks, Linda and Louise Dance, Lisa Stokoe, Sandra and Anne Chapman, Tammy Hughes, Lorna Sparks, Claire Patel, Karen Vowles, Julie Dennis, Vicky Cooling, Sally Taylor and her team of helpers and others including Enid Garrard.

The children assembled at 3 pm on Westmore Green and Tandridge Councillor Bob David welcomed them all on the DB Sound public address. A Fancy Dress Parade followed at 3.15 when Nigel Shaw and Sue Smale (the present Parish Council’s vice chairman) judged them in two classes, up to 5 years and then from 6 years old upwards with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each class. In the under 5s, 1<sup>st</sup> was Tallulah Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> – “Olivia”, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Thomas Buck. In the 6 and over section, 1<sup>st</sup> was Georgina Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Harry Pluck and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Megan Stokoe. They were all presented with a special “Royal” diploma that had been designed by Tom Chorley. The winners were also given a present each. The awards were made after a good meal of Hot Dogs/Burger with chips and beans from the Ship pub along with crisps and cakes and sweets and plenty of soft drinks that were later added to by the Village Club. To finish the day there was a tug of war for all to enjoy and then finally all of the children were presented with a commemorative mug.

Since the event, congratulations and thank you cards have poured in from so many people and our only reply on behalf of the team is “it was our pleasure and thanks to everyone who made it all work”.

### **Dave and Jan Bishop**

*Editor: This hugely successful event was the result of hard work and perseverance by Dave and Jan*

### **BREAKTHROUGH BREAST CANCER BALL**

After several members of our family were diagnosed with Breast Cancer, we came up with the idea of hosting a black tie ball for the charity “Breakthrough Breast Cancer”.

The ball was held at Park Wood Golf Club, Tatsfield on Saturday 14th May. The theme was “Wear It Pink” and the dress was black tie/evening dress. We had 150 local guests to a sit down to a three course meal.



## VILLAGE NEWS

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The following people gave up their time to make the evening very special:

Robert Forzoni – Magician – [www.forzonimagic.com](http://www.forzonimagic.com)

Selly Brown - Cousin

Good Times DJ – Jonathan Hutton

Gill Smith - Cousin

Toastmaster – Phillip Gardner

Michelle Berry - Cousin

The fabulous photos were taken by John Paul Horton [www.photogenicstudio.com](http://www.photogenicstudio.com).

The celebrities who were so kind to give up their time for the event were: Emma Barton – aka Honey from Eastenders, James Argent “Arg” – from The Only Way Is Essex and Lydia Bright – from The Only Way Is Essex.

The people who helped us make the ball possible by contributing their time/prizes were:

Shaukat Dungerwalla – [www.graphico.com](http://www.graphico.com)

Joe Brown

May Brown

Crystal Palace Football Club

The Bakery

Chapter 1

South Lodge Hotel

Tony Hearne

ITV Show tickets from Liz And Jerry Kellenher

Blackberry mobile from Mr and Mrs Limpenny.

Top Flight Scaffolding

Tony Roberts

Hotel Du Vin

Denbies

La Belle Femme

Advance Valeting

Thames Rib Experience

Addison Wines

Fulham Football Club

Chloe Rogers

Elly-Mai Hodges

Jake Hodges

Toby Chapman Productions

Mark Johnson from Sunningvale Garage and Mat Buck for doing the door.

The ball has raised over £7,000 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer (donations are still coming in). After the success of the event we are hoping to hold an annual ball every May for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

**Sarah Wallis and Sue Hodges**

### TATSFIELD IN BLOOM COMPETITION



Coming with this magazine is a leaflet about our own Tatsfield in Bloom competition, which is open to everyone in the village. You don't have to be an expert gardener to do well – and you don't even have to have a garden to be able to enter. Competition is good fun – and there is the chance to win some really good prizes too! Have a look through the leaflet. A hanging basket? A tub?

A water feature? A single plant? Even an untamed garden! And a separate category for the under 16s. Entry forms have to be in by the end of June. Judging will be in the middle of July. And there is a bonus for everyone, whether or not they enter – just take the leaflet with you to Knights at Woldingham or Chelsham and you will be given a 10% discount on bedding plants. If you have any questions, just contact one of us.

**Jon Allbutt (Tel: 576481) and Bob David (Tel: 577357)**

# VILLAGE NEWS

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**TONY IRVING**  
**21 June 1928 – 20 April 2011**

George Anthony Irving (better known as Tony) was born in Romford in Essex on 21 June 1928 and was the only son of Dorothy and Alec Irving. As Alec's career progressed, Tony and the family moved to Beckenham where he made many life long friends.

Whilst attending Dulwich prep and the senior school Dulwich College, he excelled at classics, and because of his prowess on the rugby field, won a rugby scholarship to St Catherine's College Cambridge reading classics.



After graduating at Cambridge he served his National Service as a medical orderly and on being demobbed he went on a two week hitchhiking holiday around Europe with his friends from the Army, before going on to read medicine at Guys, where, of course, he met and married my mother, Lesley, to whom he was married for some 50 years.

On graduating from Guys he specialised as a GP, and commenced work in Catford before being invited by Dr Crosskey to join the practice in Biggin Hill where he spent the rest of his working life. They originally rented a house in Biggin Hill until they found a building plot to build and design their own house in Tatsfield, where they've lived ever since.

Mum and Dad brought up my two younger sisters Anne and Margaret and me and, although my Dad had a busy working life, he always found time to come home for lunch to be with my mother, and was always supporting us in all our endeavours.

As a GP his patients said he was always there for them, and when he retired and went back part time his original patients made sure they would book their appointments with him when he was there. Whilst he was very supportive of his patients, on the home front my sisters and I were never allowed to be ill, unless we were very ill. So to this day my sisters and I are very rarely ill.

All the friends I have spoken to, to inform them of my father's death, have commented on what a good friend he was, and how supportive he was to them during their individual crises, just being there for them with his third generation northern humour.

As my sisters grew up and became bitten by the horsey bug, my mother became more and more involved in the local pony club and the running of horse shows.

## VILLAGE NEWS

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Dad supported her fully, never complaining when he found himself on a field somewhere at day break, putting up tents, organising catering facilities and running the tuck shops which he ran all day until early evening, when he would reverse the process, pack it all up, and then return home.

If he was not doing that, he would be taking my sisters in his horse box to events all over the South East of England. During those days doctors had to be on call on a rota basis at night and at weekends, so if he was not able to support my mother, I was cajoled into taking on his role, and as he got older, many a weekend I would be asked to be on a field at 6 am to set up for him.

As my sisters and I left home and went our own ways, Mum and Dad became more involved in Medical Action Research and once again he would be always there to support my mother.

Once I married and had my two children Edward and Elizabeth, my parents took on the role of assisting in bringing them up, always enjoying them being around and being a steadying influence on their lives. He would always as a joke try and make them eat all of one of my mother's delicious puddings for money. Over the years with inflation it went up from 50p to £5, but they did not succumb and no one actually ever took up this challenge, thankfully.

Whenever I needed help at weekends, building greenhouses, outhouses or other D.I.Y. projects, he would always be there to help.

My Dad was never a great traveller but when my sister Margaret and family went and lived in Canada, my parents had many a great holiday there with them, as they did when we took them to Europe with us.

It was only when he became ill at 70 that he had to stop all the activities that he previously participated in. Although a shadow of his former self, he was still able to crack many a joke and as he became more and more infirm and required carers to assist him he always made them chuckle with his wicked sense of humour. My sisters and I are eternally grateful for the care and respect they gave both my Dad and Mum in their twilight years. We are forever in their debt.

**Michael Irving**

### PARISH COUNCIL

- The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.30pm on Monday 13 June in the Aileen McHugo Building behind the Village Hall.
- Come and see your Parish Council, with 3 new councillors, in action.
- You will have your chance to have your say during the meeting – to comment on the Parish Council's actions or proposals or to make suggestions or to say anything else.



## JUNE SHOPPING IN TATSFIELD

### Tony and Di's Greengrocers (Tel: 577603)

\*Lots of bedding plants for your garden \*Fresh fruit and vegetables – have you tried the Pink Lady apples? \*Try a different fruit juice for a change – mango, guava, lychee and pomegranate \*Cut flowers \*Pot plants \*Pet and wild bird food \*Free delivery to your home \*Keep recycling your unwanted mobile phones and used printer cartridges (all makes except Epson) here. Proceeds to charity.

### Linda's Stores (Tel: 577152)

PM = Price marked

☺ Buy one get one free

\*Quavers pack of 6 now £1 \*Doritos pm 99p 2 for £1.50

\*Kelloggs NutriGrain Bars 3 for £1

☺ Horibo Starmix/Tanfantastics/Kiddies Super Mix £1.15

☺ Foxes Glacier Mints/Fruits pm £1

\*Tetley Tea Bags pm £2.29 now £1.99

\*Carnation Evaporated Milk pm 79p now 59p

\*Sharwoods Sauces/Noodles now £1 \*Maryland Cookies 2 for £1

\*Butchers 400g cans pm 64p 2 for £1 ☺Mullerice 69p

\*Happy Shopper Luxury Soft Toilet Tissues pack of 4 now £1.29

\*Fairy Liquid pm £1 now only 75p

\*Coca Cola 2 ltr + 50% free (3ltr) now £2

\*Pepsi/Pepsi Max/7Up/Tango 2 ltr pm £1.59 2 for £2

\*Pepsi 500 ml pm £1.05 now 69p \*Vimto 500 ml pm 95p 2 for £1

\*Fanta/Dr Pepper/Sprite cans pm 49p 3 for £1

\*Robinsons Squash now £1 \*Ribena Cartons 2 for 89p

\*Fruit Shoots 2 for £1 \*Lucozade Sport 2 for £1.60

\*Red Bull 355 ml 2 for £2.50 \*Highland Spring Sportscap 3 for £1

☺ Volvic Touch of Fruit 750 ml £1.29

\*Ices/Ice cream now available

Classic Ice cream (Belgian Chocolate) 50p Strawberry Cone 50p

Orange Pop-Up 40p



## TEA DANCE SOCIAL

Village Hall 2.15 to 4.55 pm

Wednesday 15 June

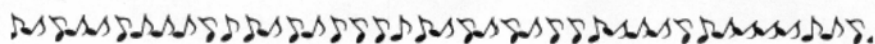


- There will be the usual Cream Tea, Free Raffle and Quiz.
- Everyone welcome • Have a good laugh and exercise and make new friends.

£6 per person

Enquiries to Dave Bishop on 577550





# *TATSFIELD STRINGERS &*

## *SINGERS*



*An evening of music from classical to  
contemporary performed by local musicians*

*Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm  
at the Village Hall*

*Bar open from 7pm*



Tickets available now! – Priced £7 – from:

Linda's Stores

Pat Coombe – 577863 – [peajaycee@aol.com](mailto:peajaycee@aol.com)

Dawn Forrester Groom – 577585 – [dawnforrester@btinternet.com](mailto:dawnforrester@btinternet.com)



## THE PARISH CLERK'S SECRET



**The members of the Book Club met in April to discuss Bill Dothie's recollections of his adventures in France in 1940, published after his death many years later as "Operation Disembroil".**

Quite a few people in the parish remember Bill and his wife Joan, and know his son and daughter, who still live here. But not many can recall the fairly short period after the War when he was Parish Clerk, and even fewer know the secret he almost carried with him to his grave; nor is it revealed in his book.

He was captured by the Germans while leading a rear-guard detachment during the final battle for Dunkerque; after a few days he was placed with several hundred other British prisoners in a long crocodile and set to march the long road back to a POW camp in Germany.

The crocodile had motor-cycle escorts, armed with machine-guns, at the front and rear, and while on the march was constantly patrolled by mobile escorts, also armed with machine-guns. Thus there were few moments when every prisoner was not under observation. Just now and again, however, when the twists and turns of the French country road were obliging, Bill noticed that there were moments during which parts of the crocodile were free of surveillance, and he resolved, if possible, to use such a moment to attempt an escape.

An opportunity presented itself in a small town, and after a quick look both ways, Bill dived out of the column and into a side street, where he froze against a wall. His neighbour, clearly a man of quick wit and keen intelligence, called out "What are you up to, Bill?", but fortunately no German patrol hove into view, and when the crocodile had safely passed, Bill cautiously set out on what proved to be a six-week odyssey.

First he installed himself in an abandoned French farmhouse, helped himself to some French Farm-worker's clothing (though taking a risk, he kept his army boots); then he proceeded to feed the abandoned farm animals, and a little later, started to sell eggs to some German soldiers billeted nearby, accounting for his poor French by claiming to be a Flemish refugee.

After about a week Bill "borrowed" a bicycle, and pedalled out of what was already German occupied France into unoccupied territory controlled by the new Vichy government. After several more weeks there, with help from some brave French people, he made an unsuccessful attempt to sail to England – he had no nautical training – and finally, using "borrowed petrol" in a "borrowed" dinghy, he made it to the Needles, where he was picked up by a British naval patrol.

He was home in time for the birth of his twin son and daughter – the only British soldier in World War 2 to escape from German captivity and get back to England in an open boat.

## VILLAGE NEWS

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The members of the Book Club thought "Operation Disembroid" was a good read. It was for the exploits described in it that Bill Dothie was awarded the Military Cross, second only to the VC in the pantheon of courage. Yet in the book it receives no mention.

**Denis Hayes**

### BARN THEATRE AT OXTED



**Tray Bay**

Presented by The Merry Opera Company

7.30 pm on Saturday 4 June

Tickets from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 01892 871377

### All Things in Time

Featuring Stuart Matthew Price, "Jesus" from the Barnstormers award winning extravaganza "Jesus Christ Superstar"

7.45 pm on Tuesday 21 June

Tickets from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 01959 561811

### Stormaker Theatre School Show

5 pm on Saturday 25 June

Tickets from 07771 595171

### High School Musical

A modern adaptation of Romeo and Juliet performed by a talented youth group

Presented by Glow Theatre Group

7.30 pm on Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July

Tickets from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 01883 720167

### LOCAL POLICE NEWS



Just thought I'd start by saying thank you to everyone who attended the Police Panel meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May - it was good to see you all. For those of you who weren't there, our new Neighbourhood Officer, Jason Burton, has now joined our team. He will be working alongside myself patrolling Tatsfield and our other surrounding areas. Please feel free to say hi to him when you meet him!

Residents are continuing to ring in anything they deem suspicious, which is really positive - your information, however small you may think it may be, helps us a great deal. It also helps us to make other officers aware of issues so they are able to monitor when Jason or I are not around. Please keep it up!

**PCSO Rachel Kettell**

# *It's A Right Royal 'Fair* at



**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June**  
**12 noon - 3pm**

Human Fruit Machine

Jar Hoopla

Lucky Dip

Plant Stall

Golden Goal

Performances by the

Westerham Sea Cadet Band



The Golden Throw'n

Gourmet BBQ

Tea Room

Bar

Bottle Tombola

Craft Activity Stall

Plus lots more Stalls & Activities

Entrance Fee £1  
Children Under 11 and Seniors Free

Sorry no dogs allowed (except Guide Dogs)

Our School is a Smoke Free Zone



## FAIRTRADE TEA TENT OUTSIDE THE SHOPS



Over free cups of Fairtrade tea and coffee, members of Tatsfield Village Fairtrade Group engaged in useful conversations about Fairtrade and the difference that choosing to buy products with the Fairtrade logo makes to producers in the developing world. People were also able to sample delicious Fairtrade bakes provided by Ann Hayes and Hilary Harber. A wide range of Fairtrade products were available to buy, from Fairtrade chocolate to Fairtrade gardening gloves! With the Horticultural Society plant sale also in action nearby, these proved very popular as did a hot drink for all the 'workers'. A large group of passing cyclists couldn't believe their luck when they stumbled across us and it was heartening for us to hear how clued up many of them were on Fairtrade issues. Please look out for our stall next month at the Scout Fete.



**Jennie South**

## AWARD WINNING TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY COMMUNITY COMPOSTING GROUP

**for the benefit of our gardens and the environment**



**Open to receive garden waste each Saturday between 10 am and 12 noon from now until the end of September**

If you have not yet visited the site in Borough Road and seen the scheme in action, this is a reminder that you can call in and see us on any Saturday morning during the season. You will, however, be particularly welcome on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 1-5 pm when the site will be open for viewing as part of the 11<sup>th</sup> Tatsfield Garden Tour. You can see for yourself the high quality compost we produce and pick up some tips for your own garden 'heap'.

Over recent years this scheme, which relies entirely on volunteers, has been greatly helped by committed and enthusiastic students working for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. This season, we have to thank Sam Fuller, Isabella Gabelli, Libby Clifton and Sophie Watts who are proving to be a very valuable part of the composting team!



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Well rotted and screened compost for use as a mulch and soil improver is available for collection for a donation of £1 a bag.

Offers of help and further details from Barry Bull on 577649 or Jennie South on 577598.

### THE NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA – ANOTHER TRIUMPH Spring Concert – Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011



Quite why I was invited to write the review of the concert for the Parish Magazine I do not know. My credentials couldn't be worse – trying to learn the piano at an early age, I gave up when I was supposed to move on from one to two hands. My parents, ever intent on instilling some musicality, thought the trumpet might suit.

After all it only had three buttons to push up and down and only required one hand to do it! Alas, I didn't advance very far although I managed to raise a few pounds for charity "busking carols" in my youth.

This rather shady musical background has made me really appreciate the dedication and skill of those who do master an instrument and once again there was so much talent on display at the latest North Downs Sinfonia concert. The fact that the orchestra includes so many Tatsfield folk is equally impressive.

I have been to most of the NDS concerts but this one particularly appealed because the Pastoral Symphony was being played. More of that later. In the past we often went to the Proms at the Albert Hall. The popular symphony was always in the second half of the concert and during the first half it was necessary to be "educated" by some abstruse often discordant modern piece. I think this had something to do with improving the bar sales at the interval!

However this was not the case in Tatsfield where the first half menu was as appetising as the second. We started with the Force of Destiny Overture by Verdi.

I confess it is one of those pieces that I am familiar with but can't quite put a name to. According to my research, many of Verdi's operas have no overture but he certainly made up for it with this one which is a powerful piece full of titillating melodies from the actual opera and make you want to see the whole work. Verdi wrote the opera in 1862 as a commission for St. Petersburg. He was at the height of his success in Italy and was enjoying his



## VILLAGE NEWS

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role as a member of Italy's first parliament. He was paid 22,000 roubles for the opera – four times the going rate –and perhaps became a little too complacent – his luggage for the trip to Russia included 120 bottles of Bordeaux and 20 bottles of champagne!

We moved on to the Operatic Arias sung by Nina Alupii- Morton – a vision in pink! Nina is a Mezzo Soprano and has the ability to adapt her powerful voice to the various moods of the music. Several of the pieces were new to me but the introductions by the conductor Francis Griffin were very helpful. Nina sang pieces in Italian, Russian (she was born in the Ukraine), French and English. Normally I like my opera to be in Italian; somehow the language suits the melodies. However I found the aria sung in French from Samson & Delilah particularly beautiful -. "Softly Awakes My Heart". With Nina (as Delilah) singing this to him I am not surprised that Samson would have lost the will to resist. Nina received tremendous applause with shouts of "encore" and we were treated to a final aria from Rossini's The Barber of Seville which demonstrated the full range of her voice, enthusiasm and personality – terrific!

It was a balmy night and the interval was an excellent opportunity to mingle outside the hall with the audience and the orchestra. Everyone was on a "high" and looking forward to the second half.

Symphony No 6 "The Pastoral Symphony" by Beethoven epitomises our love of Tatsfield life. Or perhaps I am kidding myself! The Symphony was written almost simultaneously with the 5th Symphony, but differs from it in theme. If Symphony No.5 deals with the struggle and the joy of victory, "The Pastoral" represents the expression of the love the composer holds for nature. In the summer of 1808, Beethoven said "How happy I am to be able to walk among the shrubs, the trees, the woods, the grass and the rocks! For the woods, the trees and the rocks give man the resonance he needs." Beethoven's great love of nature, the delight in strolling through the woods of Heillingenstadt, the fact that he always found his equilibrium in the heart of nature, all these led to the creation of his sixth symphony.

Sitting in the second row, almost in the midst of the orchestra, I was engulfed in a "wall of sound" and felt the emotion flowing around me. The mood-changes in the symphony are dramatic, moving from calm to storm and back again. When we heard the famous bird calls in the wonderfully peaceful "Scene by the Brook" I couldn't help thinking that Peter Warner was joining in from on high!

The orchestra did us proud, lead by Sylvia Seaton and driven on by the total commitment of conductor Francis Griffin.

We are fortunate to have so many volunteers who make these concerts happen in Tatsfield. It was a wonderful evening and I can't wait for the next one!

**Roger Pearce**





# **QUIZ**

**Saturday 16 July 2011  
at  
Tatsfield Village Hall  
7.30 for 8.00 pm**



**Tables of 6 please  
£8 per person to include a supper and pudding  
Quiz Prizes and a Raffle  
Licenced bar**

To reserve a table contact:  
Roger Sawyers on 577434 or email [acresroger@aol.com](mailto:acresroger@aol.com)  
All local clubs and individuals welcome

*Organised by the Village Hall Management Committee  
Proceeds towards Hall improvements*

## **NETBALL 4 FUN**



**Wednesdays  
6.30 to 7.30pm  
Community Games Area**

**Age 11 to infinity!  
All abilities welcome!**

**Contact Gaye 577362 or Alizon 577143**



## ALL CHANGE

Back in 1990, a new doctors surgery was built by the Parish Council on the land behind the Village Hall. In the space above was accommodation which has been the home of the Parish Council and which has been known as the Parish Room.

It is all change now, with the building sadly no longer used as a surgery. Instead, the Parish Council have moved to occupy some of the downstairs. Other rooms downstairs will be rented out – you will find elsewhere in the magazine an article on a new occupant – Lotus Well Being. Occupying the upstairs will be Phil Clark (well known as the leader of Tatsfield Community Responders and as our former Special Parish Constable) and his business IQ Financial Planning Ltd. And of course the building is now known as the Aileen McHugo Building.

One constant throughout has been Gwen Miles, who has cleaned the Parish Room for the Parish Council every week right from the start in 1990. Gwen, who lives in Lusted Hall Lane, has however decided to call it a day and she will be taking a well earned rest.



## TATSFIELD SINGERS CONCERT



Tatsfield Stringers and Singers are putting on a Summer Concert on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Our concert is to raise funds for the Village Hall and also to help a budding young singer in the choir, Tessa Deterding, to complete her fund raising for her World Challenge trip to India. There is more about the concert on page 25.

The concert will be offering something for all ages and tastes and all of it from our own village talent. We know it will be a great evening for the singers and musicians and, because you will know someone performing or serving behind the bar or doing the lighting or stage managing, it is an event to attend and enjoy with them. You will be offered some stunning performances and some beautiful singing. Tickets are going fast, so contact one of the committee or ask at Linda's for tickets.

See you on the night and we look forward to singing with you too.

**Dawn Forrester-Groom**

## TATSFIELD PFA 100 CLUB



Our April winners were:

T. J. Wakley	£33
Brian Wiggins	£22
Les Eames	£11

### EVENTS AT TATSFIELD VILLAGE CLUB

Meat Raffle - Every Friday at 7pm

Bingo - Every Monday at 8pm

Quiz Night – The first Tuesday of the month

Race Night – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 8 pm

Members Night – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 8 pm (full details to be confirmed)

Band Reptillia – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 8.30 pm till Late

### FOR SALE

(1) Pine kitchen table made from antique pine, H79cm W83cm D91cm, with drawer at one end. £100.

(2) Ikea beech veneer table H75cm W119cm D75cm. £10.

(3) Desk, 3 drawers, wood veneer, H76cm W112cm D48cm. £10.

Please call Alex on 577346.

### TOTAL BODY WORKOUT

Every **Tuesday** Evening

8pm-9pm

Tattsfield Primary School

£3.50 per person

We have a new instructor from Biggin Hill, and we have moved the class to Tuesdays instead of Wednesdays.

Contact Vicky for more info on 07891 295972 or victoria.cooling@btinternet.com.

### TATTY KNITTERS



Don't forget our Knit in Public on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> outside the Bakery from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm. Tea and cakes provided. We will be inside if it's raining (which needles crossed it won't). Our next meeting is on Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup> at the WI hall from 7.30 until 9.30 pm. £2 to cover costs.

**Val Quick (Tel :576246)**

### ALLOTMENTS BEATING THE DROUGHT!

Having been away for two weeks on holiday, we were pleasantly surprised to see so much progress at the allotments! Enthusiasm has obviously not waned and all plots seem to have something planted in them and it is amazing how so many have been personalised with surrounds, pathways, raised beds, scarecrows – the innovative ideas of plotters seems endless. Planting has begun in earnest with cabbages, broad beans, potatoes, onions, shallots, fruit bushes and rhubarb, so we are hoping for bumper crops this year – we are hoping for a “surplus exchange” (or maybe even sale!). There are umpteen runner bean frames, and the canes have given height and interest to the scene as have the fruit trees starting to spring up – it looks like the allotments have been there for years!



The long-awaited containers arrived on 21st April and were manoeuvred into place by a very capable young **lady**! Immediately after this, the gateposts were cemented in and the gate installed and the site is now secure – as long as the last person to leave remembers to lock it up!

A large amount of manure was delivered whilst we were away and plot holders have made good use of this. The constant supply of composted wood chippings is also proving very useful for paths and dividing plots, as well as aerating the soil. Unfortunately, the water supply is yet to be connected, but we are working on this. But for now there are numerous water butts beside the containers – as this is a bit of a trek for the outlying plots, some people now have their own water butts on their plots - but we could do with some rain! Eventually, there will be a rain-collecting roof on the containers to harvest water for communal use – also very environmentally friendly.



Grant applications are still being made to various bodies. More information hopefully available next month.

There continues to be interest in the plots and applications are still coming in – so we are looking into the possibility of creating some additional plots to meet demand – watch this space.

**Liz Armitage**

# VILLAGE NEWS

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## A NEW COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY PRACTITIONER IN TATSFIELD



Lotus Well Being will be offering a range of complementary therapies, therapeutic massage, Bowen therapy, Reflexology, Indian Head massage, Natural Face Lift massage and Chinese Cupping Massage and meditation. It will be occupying a room in the Aileen McHugo Building behind the Village Hall from 31 May 2011 and I will be there every Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon. I feel excited to be able to work inside such a beautiful building and surroundings. I have known how to massage since I was knee-high and that was because I was born in Indonesia and my mother and grandmother were passionate about body healing. My grandmother lived to 101 and she didn't have any illnesses in her body. I must have inherited her genes because I am also passionate about how the body works and how to maintain a healthy body. Since I came to live in the UK from 1976, I have been blessed with three children and a good health!

Massage can have a number of positive effects on the body by acting directly on the muscular, nervous and circulatory systems. It can help increase metabolism, pain management and has been known to decrease healing time.

By manipulating the soft tissues, massage enhances the movement of blood and lymph fluids in the body. This process increases the supply of oxygen and nutrients to the cells in the body and assists the removal of bi-products of metabolism, exercise and inflammation. Muscle repair becomes more efficient with the administration of massage.

Massage treatments are also beneficial for a variety of specific conditions, including Headaches, Athletic Injuries, Stress Management, Fibromyalgia, Neck and Shoulder Tension, Postural Imbalances, Low Back Pain, Tendonitis, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Sciatica, Scar Tissue Restrictions and TMJ.

As I have already mentioned, I also offer meditation teaching. Meditation has been known for thousands of years and as a teacher I have met some wonderful and beautiful people from all walks of life. The usual thing most people say is 'I can't quieten my mind. My mind can't stop thinking.' Meditation is not about telling your mind to be quiet; it's about getting to know how your mind works and trying to work alongside it. This way, you become your mind's friend rather than its enemy which can cause conflict; this then leads to stress and discomfort mostly felt in the body as headaches, tensions, etc.

I would like to introduce myself properly to the community and I will be doing open days on Tuesday 14 June between 9-3 pm and Friday 17 June between 2-8 pm. You can try a 15 minute head massage for £10. In order to avoid waiting too long, you can book a 15 minute slot by ringing me on 020 8406 9446 or email me to [diancro@hotmail.com](mailto:diancro@hotmail.com).

I look forward to meeting you soon.

**Dian Crowley**

# Tatsfield Art Group

## Exhibition

### Village Hall

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> July 10 to 4pm

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> July 10 to 4.30pm



Free Entry

Paintings to browse or buy

Teas & Cakes

Raffle

Display of art from  
Tatsfield Primary School

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN OXTED AND DISTRICT

**CTOD**

To-day we use letters to represent organisations such as BBC, UNO, and BT. This shortened title takes less type space and still informs the reader. The heading of this article can be shortened to C.T.O.D and this is how we usually refer to it. What is CTOD?

What does it do?

Its members are 13 churches (including St Mary's, Tatsfield) in this district of Oxted who support one another's events, have joint worship services and create friendships. During the past year we supported a charity in Kenya. Widows and their children can sometimes be made homeless if the husband dies. An organisation called RUSH, with links in this country, can help these families to build a new home for only £500. Our fund-raising, with the slogan "Buy a Pole" collected £1,500, enough to supply 3 homes with beds and mattresses included. We were grateful for the donations given to us at the Oxted Carnival which helped us raise this large sum. We shall be at the Carnival again this year with a new idea and charity.

Each year we meet during the period of Lent to follow a suitable study course. In small groups, in private homes, we introduce ourselves at the first meeting saying which church we go to. After this we are Christian friends and we share our faith with ease. On Good Friday many of us gather in Oxted on a Walk of Witness from the Council Offices to the War Memorial in Master Park. Sometimes as many as 100 of us can be seen stopping at various places in the town for reading and singing. We are easily recognisable as someone is carrying a large wooden cross and others are handing out hot-cross buns to passing shoppers.

Members of CTOD try to participate in secular events in the community. Last May we hosted a meeting to introduce the 6 prospective parliamentary candidates for East Surrey, to the public. The Community Hall was full of interested voters including some first time voters. The candidates put forward their proposed plans for the future, interspersed with touches of humour which delighted the audience.

To reach out to the needy there is a group entitled Housing and Homelessness who link with Tandridge District Council. A Churches Together Green Group, supporting "Green" issues has recently been formed. Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group has our support and we shop for Fair Trade goods when we can.

I hope this gives readers a clearer idea of what CTOD stands for. Please support us when you can, either through the churches or by looking out for us at community events.

**Elizabeth Young**

### FIRE AT BEAVER WATER WORLD



As many of you will already know, there was a fire on the site of Beaver Water World on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May which started at around 6pm in the Helmet City store warehouse. This caused a slow intense burn and flared up requiring a total of 75 fire fire-fighters and 10 fire engines from Kent and Surrey Fire Brigades to douse the flames. It was burning into the early hours of Monday morning, causing the Approach Road to be closed. At the time of going to press a fire report is expected to come in as to the actual cause of the fire.

There was a large amount of smoke being produced which was causing birds in the nearby aviaries some distress but they have managed to survive the ordeal with only a few bumps and scratches and no loss of life.

The site, which houses seven companies, was without power for 72 hours, which was of particular concern to the zoo reptile and fish sections. Alan Seagrave from Owl Alarms worked tirelessly to help the situation and with generators kindly provided by local businesses they are now running at half power and are awaiting the outcome of the fire report to establish when EDF will put a new line in.

On a brighter note, Beaver Water World is expecting the arrival of some Meerkats. Their enclosure was in the throes of being built at the time of writing and hopefully by the time you have read this, they will be newly installed and ready for visitors to welcome them to Tatsfield.

**Rosie Fuller**

### A MARITIME MASTERPIECE



Dorking Halls will resound to the stirring sounds of the sea on Saturday 2 July when two popular local music-making organisations get together for a unique collaboration which promises to be a superb and unforgettable musical evening. Reigate & Redhill Choral Society (RRCS) have teamed up with Redhill Sinfonia to present a choral masterpiece by one of Dorking's favourite sons, Ralph Vaughan Williams – the towering *Sea Symphony*, together with Dvorak's much-loved *New World Symphony*. Add top international soloists Alison Pearce (soprano) and Josik Koc (baritone) to the mix, and this is truly an unmissable event. The evening also sees the culmination of RRCS' Community Development Programme for this season, thanks to ongoing support from Legal & General, with a performance by Who Dares Sings, the exciting new vocal group from Warwick School in Redhill, and the finale of an art competition featuring works by local students inspired by *A Sea Symphony*.

The concert starts at 7.30pm, and tickets are available from Dorking Halls on 01306 881717, or online at [www.dorkinghalls.co.uk](http://www.dorkinghalls.co.uk).

## LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL



We are now heading fast towards the end of the school year (another one!) and we have had a very short half term what with the long Easter break and our two bank holiday weekends. However, we have still managed to fit in a few wonderful activities for the children.

To celebrate the recent royal wedding, we held a **Royal Wedding Tea Party**. All the children came dressed in red, white and blue; or as princes and princesses and there were Union Jacks everywhere! At the end of the morning, we chose our own "Kate and William" with Aimee and Harvey doing the honours for us.

As the Village Hall had to be closed recently due to the voting system referendum taking place, we decided to organise a **trip to Biggin Hill Fire Station** for a visit. The children had a wonderful time exploring the Fire Station and clambering all over one of the engines. They were also allowed to play with the hoses and dress up in some of the uniforms. We would like to say a big thank you to Blue Watch for organising this for us and ensuring that the children had such a fantastic time.

Our topic when we return after half term will be **"Getting Ready for School"**. Sadly many of our children will be leaving us in July to go to "big" school in September so we will be practicing hard to make sure that this is as easy as it can be! We will be having a PE morning, where the children will be able to practice getting dressed and undressed for PE. We are also hoping to organise for the lady who helps the children cross the road at Tatsfield School to come along and show our children what to do

Finally, as a couple of extra little things, **Mike the Music Man (ie Mike Lambert)** will have made a very welcome return to see us. The children love having him and I am sure they will have sung many songs with him. We are also intending to have our popular "badge man" back, who makes lovely badges and key rings with photos of your children on. Currently, we are hoping he will be in pre-school taking photos on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June.

We are also very pleased to announce that we have hired a new member of staff, to replace Rebecca who will be sadly leaving us to pursue a very high-flying career with Monarch Airlines! Rebecca will be very much missed as she has been with Little Acorns for a long time but we wish her good luck and send her lots of love. Her replacement is Becky Ross-Simmonds, who I am sure many of you know, and you may well have already seen her as she has been coming in to play with the children and learn everyone's names!

If you would like to register your children with Little Acorns for either our morning sessions (3 – 4 year olds) or our afternoon sessions (2 – 3 year olds) then please contact Julie Barlow on 541103.

**Helen Hartley, Vice-Chair, on behalf of Little Acorns Pre-School**





**1st Tatsfield Scouts**

**FETE**

**Village Green  
Tatsfield**

**Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011**

**Procession at 1.00pm**

**Fete opens at 1.30pm**

**Many Stalls and Attractions  
Music • Craft • Refreshments  
Bar • Tug of War**

**Registered Charity No1070342**

# VILLAGE NEWS

## WESTERHAM FINE ARTS SOCIETY



The Society is half way through its sixth season. Founded by Josie Cole in 2005 and growing ever more popular with increasing membership, the Society offers an eclectic mix of speakers, giving illustrated lectures at the monthly meetings, held on the first Wednesday of the month in Westerham Hall. We also organise at least three outings each year. This year we tour the Olympic Park and Greenwich in June, No 10 Downing Street in July, and there is a “Nursery Rhyme Walk” in London, planned for August.

So far this year we have had talks on St Petersburg, Central Royal Parks, Profile Silhouettes, Rehearsing Shakespeare, and Westminster Abbey. In June we welcome Peter Medhurst giving a musical presentation “In the Wake of Handel” – do not miss the talk on Cartoon Art on 6<sup>th</sup> July on Pont of Punch. We break for August and return on 7<sup>th</sup> September for an illustrated lecture on Velasquez. In the autumn there are talks on “Royalty in Kent” – “Betjeman and the Railways” – and in December, our Christmas Social features an illustrated talk on “Yesterday’s Newspapers”.

Our very unusual programme of entertaining speakers for 2012 is already completed and visits include “The Purcell Club” at Westminster Abbey in March (almost a private tour – not to be missed!) and a conducted tour of the Garrick Club in October.

We are a friendly and enthusiastic group and welcome guests to our presentations – charging £4 on the door. The bar opens at 7.30pm and talks start at 8pm. **Membership for 2012 is a £30 annual subscription. Couples - £50.**

**For further information please contact the Chairman – Marril Gibson Tel: 01959 569769 or the Secretary – Lyn Worrall Tel: 01959 569 895.**

### FOR SALE

Mountain Bike. Univega Alpine 502 Racelite. Shimano STX gears. Good condition. £50. 50mm Tow Ball Bike Carrier. As new. £10. Phone 577583.

## PLANT SALE



The Horticultural Society held its annual plant sale on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May at 9.45am outside the Bakery, selling a variety of bedding plants, plus a selection of fruit and vegetable plants grown by local gardeners. The sale was well attended and the high quality, competitively priced plants were much appreciated by residents. The sale made a profit of £261, which will go towards funding the numerous activities organised by the Society throughout the year.

**Teresa Watts**

## A 1,000 MILES (ALMOST) CYCLE RIDE

Former Tatsfield resident Chris Gibbs, 25, experienced a memorable Easter holiday - cycling 928 miles from Kidderminster to Barcelona (without support) and raising more than £3,000 for the Emily Jordan Foundation, a charity that provides meaningful work for individuals with learning and physical difficulties.



He was seen off from the West Midlands by his parents, Richard and Jenny from Maesmaur Road, as part of an event that also marked the formal opening of the charity's bicycle repair and refurbishment workshop. This is the main activity of the Foundation, launched in memory of Emily, Chris's fellow law student from Swansea University who drowned three years ago while river-boarding in New Zealand in her post-uni gap year. She was 21.

Chris was met in Barcelona, 12 days later by Emily's father - having spent 68 hours in the saddle following a route from the Channel at Ouistreham to the Mediterranean at Perpignan. He was caught up in the Catalan delight with Barcelona's defeat of Real Madrid and didn't entirely avoid the royal wedding which was being shown on tv in bars where he happened to be topping up his fluid levels after the joint-punishing trip.

Although now living close to his work in Reading, Chris regularly returns to Tatsfield.



**CAR BOOT SALE**  
**9am – 12 noon on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June**  
**The Old Ship Car Park**



£10 per pitch, sellers can arrive from 8 am to set up

The Old Ship will be open from 9 am and serving full English breakfasts and other refreshments at very reasonable prices

Why not come and have a full English!

Contact Vicky for more info on 07891 295972 or [victoria.cooling@btinternet.com](mailto:victoria.cooling@btinternet.com).

# VILLAGE NEWS

## TATSFIELD GARDEN TOUR - SUNDAY 5 JUNE



One of the nicest events of the year – the chance to have a look at the gardens on show. Five gardens this year, three on view for the first time plus our almost unique Composting Site. One of the gardens – Tor Croft Grange – is technically just outside Tatsfield but it is nearby and it is the home of Sue and David Moon, who many will remember living in Paynesfield Road. Bees are the main attraction at another – Hilden Cottage – where there will be experts to listen to. Don't miss it! All the details are in the leaflet coming with this magazine.

### LIN SAINES AT THE SCHOOL JUNE FAIR

The June Fair at the school in the afternoon of Saturday 11 June will be packed with stalls of all kinds. One will be that of Lin Saines, who writes entertainingly about herbs in the magazine each month. Lin will be selling chutneys, herbal oils and salts, herb plants and interesting garden display items. Stop by to have a look and chat with Lin!

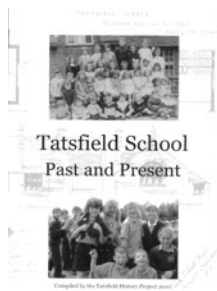
## THIS YEAR'S FLORAL DISPLAYS

This magazine should reach you at about the time we will be doing our major planting in the village centre – on Saturday 28 May. Our overall theme - "Growing Together" – will be celebrating the village's new allotments and our status as a Fair-trade Village. So, on the Tatol bed at the corner of Westmore Green you will see a symbolic allotment plot, packed with a variety of vegetables (many grown by our volunteers). On the Bakery Green, you will see the display transformed into a Fair-trade Shop, with the willow figures (accompanied by a little willow terrier) turned into shoppers. We shall also be planting the containers all around the Village Hall and elsewhere in the village and we will then put up the hanging baskets we have planted and have been looking after. Our colour scheme for the baskets and containers is a more subdued one than in previous years but we hope you will like it.

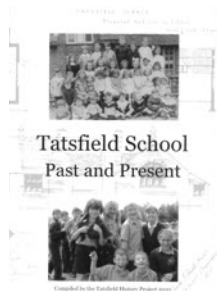


The South and South East in Bloom judges come a little early this year – in the morning on Tuesday 5 July. If you would like to help preparing for this and looking after the displays for the rest of the summer as well as helping keep the village clean and tidy, please contact our volunteers coordinator Angela Sawyers on 577434.

**Jon Allbutt (Tel:576481) and Bob David (Tel:577357)**



# **“TATSFIELD SCHOOL PAST AND PRESENT”**



- The new School History Book is available again!
- The book had to be withdrawn earlier this year because in some copies the pages of the book came apart.
- The printers, the Arcade Group, have agreed to replace the whole of the order and have guaranteed that this will be done by the end of May.
- So, by the time this magazine reaches you, you will be able to buy the book at Linda's Stores, price £8.50.
- The book is full of drawings and photographs of pupils past and present, as well as the history of the school and accounts of the design and construction of the new school building.
- If you have bought a copy of the original print of the book and would like to change it, please bring it to Linda's and it will be replaced by one of the new print.
- If you have any queries, please contact Bob David on 577357, Ian Mitchell on 577376 or Eileen Pearce on 577767.

Published by the Tatsfield History Project

### MBE INVESTITURE BY THE QUEEN AT WINDSOR CASTLE



Friday May 6 2011. The day had arrived!

For the last month or so, whenever I met someone in the village or even answered the phone, I was asked "Have you got your outfit?" or "Have you got your hat yet?" My reply was always "No" because I hate shopping for clothes, and hats don't do anything for me.

Why was I being asked these questions, you might ask. It was because for several years, unbeknown to us, a number of people in the village had been putting Bob's name forward for an award for recognition of his work in the village and at last this was the day he was going to receive his award – an MBE "for services to the community in Tatsfield". (By this time we had all got our outfits!) He was allowed to take three guests with him so, on this Friday morning our daughters Alison and Jessica set off with us (in an unusually clean car) at 8 am to Windsor Castle. Our other daughter, Nicole, had had to be at work, which had solved the question as to who would be coming.

The weather was kind to us and the journey was very pleasant until we got to the busy part of Windsor where there are so many roundabouts that we had to stop once or twice for directions. A bit worrying because we had to be there by 10 am. Eventually the Castle came into view and we had no more panics as we parked in what is called "The long walk" - and it is!

We were greeted by many very helpful people who explained where we could and couldn't go, where to leave our cameras (no photos allowed inside) and asked to see our entry tickets which had come by post. Then Bob was escorted away from us and the girls and I were shown our way to the Waterloo Chamber, which was absolutely huge and the walls were covered with large paintings of former kings and other famous warriors. Luckily we had arrived early and were fairly near the front and were able to peer through the sea of hats.

At the back of the hall there is a balcony and members of The Life Guards Band played while we waited – such as Cavalleria Rusticana, Nights of Gladness and Linden Lea. The stage began to be filled with those on guard or those who would be needed in the ceremony and an official asked us to make sure our phones were off. The tension grew as ushers and yeomen stood to attention and we were all asked to stand. At this point we still did not know who would be making the presentations. Then the National Anthem was played and Her Majesty herself appeared from the right of the stage. She was attended by two Gurkha Orderly Officers – a tradition begun in 1876 by Queen Victoria. On duty on the dais with the Queen was a detachment of The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard. The Queen was escorted by the Lord Chamberlain who, after the National Anthem finished, stood at the right of Her Majesty and announced the name of each recipient and the achievement for which he or she was being decorated. Her Majesty was also attended by the Equerry in Waiting, who discreetly reminded her of each recipient as he or she approached!





Bob told us afterwards that each recipient had a clip attached to their dress or coat on which the Queen could simply hang the award they had won. They also had to practice their movements for when they approached the Queen, how they had to give a little curtsy to her if a lady or slightly incline their head if a man, and how they all had to take care when walking the 4 steps backwards. Eighty people received awards and the Queen spoke a few words to each one in turn.

At the end of the investiture, we were all signalled to stand and the National Anthem was played again, then Her Majesty proceeded down from the dais and walked through the centre of the hall, those who were in the end seats nodding or curtsying as she passed.

After having a few photos taken we went for a meal in the town, had a look round the town and then headed for home. It was a great day we will never forget, and all due to those kind people in the village who could see something in Bob that was worth their continued efforts. Our family are very grateful to them all.

It seems strange that Bob, who was born in Rangoon, whose family had to flee from the Japanese to India when he was a young child, where he lived until they had to move again because of the troubles in India and came to live in Wales when he was 12 and who grew up to become a senior civil servant in London and ultimately came to a little village where kind people appreciated his efforts and gave him the chance to speak to the Queen of England even if only briefly, and to be honoured by her...it has been a remarkable journey!

**Brenda David**

## TATSFIELD-VERN D'ANJOU EASTER WEEKEND 2011



On Good Friday, 41 good friends along with some first timers from our French twin town of Vern d'Anjou arrived at the Village Hall, having left the Loire Valley at 11pm the night before! Following introductions to their hosts the tired guests retired for a relaxing afternoon in Tatsfield's glorious Easter sunshine. Many opted to wander up to the bluebell woods on Chestnut Avenue and around the golf course. Following an evening meal when hosts attempted to recall their French language assisted with much gesticulation, they hit the sack for some much needed sleep.



Blazing sunshine complemented the choice to visit Brighton and we were fortunate to avoid the traffic too. Having picked up Francoise our French interpreter in Hove, our guests were able to appreciate the Regency style and history of Brighton. The tour took us past many of the attractions including the Royal Pavilion, the Marina and along as far as the charming village of Rottingdean with Kipling's Gardens before returning along the South Downs and across the racecourse. The tour continued on foot through Brighton's Lanes and North Laine before returning to the beach for a picnic lunch and paddle. The afternoon allowed them some free time to explore the pier and shops.

The Old Ship hosted the evening disco with karaoke along with hearty English fayre. The warm evening allowed us to spill into the pub garden whilst the karaoke enabled both English and French to exercise the vocal chords.

On Easter Sunday morning our visitors were treated to a tour of the new school by Sue White and were charmed by the delightful videos of children practising their French. They were also impressed with the quality of the facilities and the level of technology available which they said was far ahead of that available in France. At midday everyone gathered for the traditional official reception, which was opened by the Tatsfield Singers performing a French folk song and a powerful African song. There was the usual exchange of speeches from the respective Chairmen of the Twinning Associations, and Jon Allbutt and Yannick Maussion on behalf of the Parish Councils. Herve Forveille presented Tatsfield with a slate plaque to commemorate the achievement





## VILLAGE NEWS

in 2010 of two cyclists, Ian and Fermin, who cycled the 471 km to Vern in aid of Help for Heroes. This was a lovely touch especially as we had visited a slate mine the year before.

There followed the official opening of the new boules pitch where we succumbed to the French skill but only at the last end.



A lovely relaxing afternoon followed and although the BBQ was slightly hampered by a snow storm of seeds blowing from a nearby tree, all had a wonderful time. The French had taken our football challenge seriously, turning up in full kit leaving us looking rather amateur and this played out on the field with the French beating us 3-0. Nonetheless everyone enjoyed the game and appreciated the support from the spectators. It was lovely that other families from the village were able to join us. Putting our two defeats behind us we made a come-back with Tug-of-War, where teams of men, women and children all soundly beat the French. The afternoon was finished off by rounders ahead of an evening at the Botley Hill Farmhouse, where we were treated to Roast Beef and Sticky Toffee pudding. Local rock band Randy and the Rockets had us all up dancing and singing the night away under the marquee.



On Monday morning (with a few ears ringing) the coach collected a French guide at Tower Hill in central London and travelled through the East End of London for a tour around the new Olympic Village at Stratford. The French were provided with lots of information on the history of the area and the fascinating details behind the inception and construction of the site for next year's Olympics. The coach then stopped off at Bluewater, where they were able to picnic in the sunshine alongside the lake before heading inside for some retail therapy.

## VILLAGE NEWS

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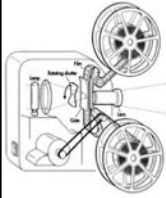
Everyone gathered in the village for the final night's Barn Dance, where despite a bi-lingual caller, mayhem ensued creating much hilarity. There were some impromptu speeches to round off the weekend and we were set an unusual challenge by the French: which village can knit the longest scarf? It has to be 20cm wide and will be taken with us to Vern next year where there will be a grand measuring ceremony! **We would like to appeal to anyone in the village who can knit in order for us to succeed in this challenge.** We are happy to collect any contributions over the next year which will be sewn together. Each month we will be displaying a totaliser in the village and will award a bottle of wine to the person contributing the longest section of scarf that month. Let's not leave it to the last minute so get knitting and don't forget the only criteria is that it has to be 20cm wide!



We were spoilt rotten with the superb spring weather which enabled all the outdoor events to be such a success. Sincere thanks for treating the French to a memorable weekend in Tatsfield goes to all the hosts who welcomed guests into their homes and to the hard work of the Tatsfield-Vern Association committee. The success of the weekend will serve to strengthen friendships between our villages and will help to ensure that this 36-year long Twinning tradition continues to thrive. We will be taking a coach load to Vern next Easter, so if you would like to come, please call Pete or Rosie Fuller (573554) or email [peter.fuller@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:peter.fuller@tiscali.co.uk).

**Peter Fuller, Chairman**

PS You can see more photos of the twinning weekend by visiting this site  
<http://s1104.photobucket.com/albums/h322/doubleblind/>



## TATSFIELD FILM NIGHT



**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30**

**St Mary's Church Hall**

### **Clue : Hot Seats on Horses?**

(back to cryptic clues to comply with copyright issues!)

**Genre : Comedy/Western Country: USA Year: 1974 93 mins**

**Language: English/Yiddish Rated: 15**

**Director : Mel Brooks**

**Cast : Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder, Slim Pickens, Harvey Korman**

'Never Give A Saga An Even Break!' hollers the tagline to Mel Brooks' swipe at Hollywood's most sacred genre. After succeeding by setting out to fail with *The Producers*, Brooks wasn't going to print the legend. He was going to wipe his boots on it. Summoning just about every one of the western's stock cliches for a merciless parodying, this non-PC film balances an irreverent backslap at Hollywood prejudice with a tireless, irresistible vulgarity.

**Suggested donation : £3.00 (includes a glass of wine etc)**

**The Bakery open from 6 for a  
delicious dish of the day at £7.99**

Wendy 562340 [wendyharvey@talktalk.net](mailto:wendyharvey@talktalk.net) Elaine 577753 [elainez@btinternet.com](mailto:elainez@btinternet.com)

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## JUNE

- 1 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Rachel Kettell Surgery - AMB · 8pm Yoga - VH
- 2 Thur **6am Ascension Day Eucharist - StM** · 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH · 7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS · 8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 3 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH · 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 4 Sat 10am Churchyard Tidy Up - StM  
10-12noon Composting Site open - Borough Road  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery
- 5 Sun **8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) - StM**  
**10am Open the Book - All Age Service- StM**  
1-5pm TATSFIELD GARDEN TOUR  
3-5pm Church Teas - CH
- 6 Mon BACK TO TATSFIELD SCHOOL AFTER HALF TERM BREAK  
9.30am Tots on Top - CH · 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH · 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group - VH · 7.30pm Celebrity Yopalatts - TPS  
8.15pm Bingo - TVC
- 7 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH · 5.30pm Cubs - SH · 7pm Scouts - SH  
7.45pm WI Meeting - WIH
- 8 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Rachel Kettell Surgery - AMB · 8pm Yoga - VH  
8pm Explorers - SH · **8pm Alpha Course - CH**
- 9 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** · 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH  
7pm Horticultural Society Garden Visit to Chauffer's Flat, Tandridge  
7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH · 7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS  
8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 10 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH · 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 11 Sat 10-12noon Composting Site open - Borough Road  
10.30am - 12.30pm KNIT IN PUBLIC - Outside the Bakery  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery  
12noon - 3pm TATSFIELD SCHOOL JUNE FAIR - TPS  
7.30pm TATSFIELD STRINGERS AND SINGERS - VH
- 12 Sun **10am Sung Eucharist - StM**  
10.15am Ramblers Walk - Edenbridge Market Car Park  
12.30pm Food and Wine Society Alfresco Lunch - Goatsfield House  
3-5pm Church Teas - CH
- 13 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH · 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH · 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group - VH · 7.30pm Celebrity Yopalatts - TPS  
7.30pm Parish Council Meeting - AMB · 8.15pm Bingo - TVC
- 14 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH · 2pm Not So Young Club - WIH · 5.30pm Cubs - SH  
7pm Scouts - SH · 7.30pm Tatty Knitters - WIH

# EVENTS CALENDAR

- 15 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Rachel Kettell Surgery - AMB  
2.15pm Tea Dance Social - VH • 8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH  
**8pm Alpha Course - CH**
- 16Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies -CH • 7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS
- 17 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 18 Sat 10-12noon Composting Site open - Borough Road  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery
- 19 Sun **8am Holy Communion(BCP) - StM • 10am Sung Eucharist - StM**  
3-5pm Church Teas - CH
- 20 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group - VH • 7.30pm Celebrity Yagalatts - TPS  
8.15pm Bingo - TVC
- 21 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 5.30pm Cubs - SH • 7pm Scouts - SH
- 22 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Rachel Kettell Surgery - AMB • 8pm Yoga - VH  
8pm Explorers - SH • **8pm Alpha Course - StM**
- 23 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.30pm Film Night - CH • 7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS  
8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 24 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 25 Sat **Alpha Awayday**  
10-12noon Composting Site Open - Borough Road  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery
- 26 Sun **10am Sung Eucharist - StM**  
11am Ramblers Walk - Ightham Mote Car Park  
3-5pm Church Teas - CH • 7pm SWEET PEA AND ROSES SHOW - CH
- 27 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group - VH • 7.30pm Celebrity Yagalatts - TPS  
8.15pm Bingo - TVC
- 28 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 2pm Whist Drive - WIH • 5.30pm Cubs - SH  
7pm Scouts - SH
- 29 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30-11.30am PCSO Rachel Kettell Surgery - AMB  
8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH
- 30 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
7.30pm Film Night - CH • 7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS • 8pm Table Tennis - VH

## Venues

AMB - Aileen McHugo Building • CH - Church Hall • FC - Furze Corner • SH - Scout Hut • StM - St. Mary's Church  
TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club • VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute Hall



## Holy Week and the Easter celebrations

An imaginative prayer walk was greatly appreciated by many during Holy Week: the beauty and quietness of our ancient church lent itself so well to this different way of helping us to journey through Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday we enjoyed a meal in the hall which reflected the tradition of the Passover meal that Jesus took with his disciples: this was followed by a Eucharist in the church. A Good Friday service in the morning was followed, for many, by a trip to Oxted to join in the Walk of Witness involving Christians of many denominations.

On Easter Saturday evening we progressed from readings and prayers in a dark hall to the light of the bonfire, from which candles were lit and taken into the dark church representing the light of the resurrection: this service, full of rich symbolism, has become a key event in the our year and we were joined by many others form nearby churches.

On Easter morning we welcomed nearly a hundred people of all ages to our celebration – including the Easter egg hunt in the churchyard. The flower arrangers had made the church look like another flower festival – they, and their helpers, spent much of Saturday providing such marvellous displays and some indication of the work involved can be seen in the photo.



## Alpha

These sessions continue on 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June and into July, looking at some of life's fundamental questions and how they may be answered within the Christian faith. Please contact Louise on 577289 or [vicar.tatsfield@btinternet.com](mailto:vicar.tatsfield@btinternet.com) for further information.

## Churchyard

Can there be another churchyard with such an expertly designed and constructed refuse area – please see the photo – many thanks to Brian Cook. To the right of the compost bins is a supply of well rotted compost – please feel free to take some.

There will be tidy-up mornings from 10am to noon on June 4<sup>th</sup>



## ST MARY'S MATTERS

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and July 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you would like to help, even for a short while, at some other time please phone 577598.

The new bed just inside the gate, which was designed by Louis Philibert and planted by Jan and Peter Maynard, has now filled out very well and is providing colour and interest to this important area of the churchyard – please see the photo.

### **Sunday teas from 3.00-5.00**

Much tea and cake have already been enjoyed this summer on Sunday afternoons. You will always be welcome either as a customer or as a helper. Please let Madie Langford (577114) know if you could help for a couple of hours on one Sunday afternoon during the season.

### **Ascension Day Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> June- 6.00am**

We hope for a fine morning to celebrate this big day in the Christian year – and to enjoy a good breakfast afterwards.

### **And looking ahead to the summer holidays .....**

#### **Holiday Club Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August.**

Following last year's successful holiday club for 4 to 10 year olds there will be another this year. Further details and how to book will be publicised later.

#### **Holiday at Home week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

For those who may not be able to get away this August and even for those who are, we are planning a "Holiday at Home" week . Please put the date in your diary now if you think you might like a change of scene and something a bit different to do.



*The new shrub bed*

### **Records**

8 <sup>th</sup> May	Baptism of James Lucas
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Funeral and burial of Tony Irving, and interment of ashes of Lesley Irving.

### **Church Flowers**

The Church was decorated for Easter and we were extremely grateful to Mr. David Innes and Steve Tett, his head gardener and team, for providing us with such a wonderful array of spring flowers and foliage. Due to the lateness of Easter this year, the forsythia had long gone, as had most of the daffodils, but these were substituted by tulips, some late daffodils, lilac, irises and many flowering shrubs.



Many thanks go to Terri McDonald for getting us such spectacular lilies and together with the flowers from Titsey, the Church was full of spring colour and scent.

Very many thanks go to all those who helped with the floral decorations: Tina Boys, Pauline Conlon, Pam Draper, Lorna Tory, Brenda Fairclough and her wonderful husband, Bob, who did a magnificent job with the tidying up, Kay Longley, Shirley Murgatroyd, Christine Rosenbaum, Kay Roberts and Sue Warren. A big thank you also goes to Jennie South and Louise Ellis and family for providing us with refreshments, which were most welcome.



### *Rota for June*

5 <sup>th</sup> June	Wedding	12 <sup>th</sup> June	Ann Vatcher
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Ann Vatcher	26 <sup>th</sup> June	Shirley Murgatroyd

**Jan Maynard**



## Point Missed

Following on from last month's "Debater" article I have been surprised at how many of you have stopped me in the street and commented on my putting to paper "their thoughts" on the way they feel about not being able to telephone their own doctors in the mornings to make an appointment. I have also received letters to that effect and it seems that the system that I complained about is not being understood at the Westerham Practice. I also gave credit at the end of the article and I quote, "the people that are employed at the Westerham practice (including the doctors) are all very polite, kind and helpful". I have been grateful for their help and guidance for over 50 years and this is the first problem that I have ever encountered when trying to make a doctors appointment for my wife Jan. She was in great pain at the time and has since been diagnosed as having gall stones in her bladder and she will be having an operation to remove them at the Princess Royal Hospital at Farnborough soon.

The Stock Hill Practice in Biggin Hill has a different system operating there, which actually answers your ring and tells you how many other callers are in the queue whereas Westerham gives a continuously engaged signal. On that system, if you hang on, there is a BT voice that advises you to press 5 for ring-back. When you do that, there is a further "announcement" that "this telephone does not accept ring back!"

As so many people are having this problem in the making of appointments by telephone, it would seem that there are far too many "customers" for the present two practices and that there is a desperate need for yet another practice (and maybe even more than one) around these parts.

Summing up, none of us ring up doctors for fun; we do it because there is a problem and need help. One person remarked in Linda's Stores the other day when the matter was in full flow, "I don't bother with ringing up, I go straight to the hospital and let them deal with it".

It's a problem that certainly needs "sorting out" without too many people missing the point and getting unnecessarily upset.

**Dave Bishop**

*Editor: Dr. Skinner's response to Dave's article last month is in Forum.*

### MAGAZINE ADVERTS

Wanting to buy something or get something done ? Look through our adverts at the front and back of the magazine - you are almost bound to find someone local who can meet your needs.

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

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This month I'm going to be introducing you to a new interest of mine, bee spotting, and as a consequence of your correspondence . . . reminiscing!

### Correspondence:

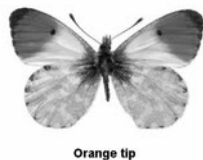
Soon after completing April's notes I received this e-mail from Carol Fiddimore, who lives on Westmore Green (17.04.11):

*'Just wanted to report a **Red Kite** sighting. We were about a quarter of a mile along the B269 (the clear bit just along from Botley Hill and the cottage) when it swooped right down in front of our car after some road kill. At first I thought it was a Buzzard as you don't naturally think, 'Red Kite' (or 'Buzzard' come to that!). It's slightly shaggy wing tips made me think, 'Buzzard', but on checking the RSPB website we are sure it was a Kite – so another to add to the local sightings! This was Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April, in the morning.*

*On Wednesday of that week, in almost the same place, I saw my first Swift – so a good week for me!*

*Also, I've never seen so many **Orange Tips** at any time of year, but loads here (at home) and seem to be in general as my daughter in Hurst Green has a lot in her garden – along with stacks of little Common Blue ones. Let's hope we have a good summer for them (and us!).*

*Ps. Hardly any frog (**Common Frog**) spawn this spring.'*



The Kite episode is exciting, Carol, but the sight and sound of Swifts – wonderful! You've propelled me back to my college days – summer evenings, good ale, screeching Swifts, gliding Swallows – bliss! Of course, not too long ago one could sit outside The Ship of an evening and watch visiting **Swifts** zooming across the village rooftops, **Swallows** skimming over Westmore Green, **House Martins** collecting mud from the pond. At one time, the Martins regularly nested under the eaves of the Post Office but, as I've said before, sadly, I can't remember when I last saw Martins flying around the village centre. Too messy for some, my artificial nests remain in place, ready to attract any homeless passers-by. Of course, if I lived on the east side of Ricketts Hill Road, I would enjoy the annual migration of these summer visitors, as regularly observed by John Rosenbaum. Lucky man! Upon reflection, one of my most treasured wildlife experiences was walking across the golf course towards the church amidst a flight of a dozen Swallows. Heavenly.



Your lack of spawn may well be cause for concern, Carol, particularly as your garden is normally a rich breeding ground for frogs. Who else has a 'frog-friendly' pond? Have you noticed a lack of spawn this year? I'm not too sure what conditions they enjoy. We allow leaf litter to gather in ours, creating a refuge for water insects. But, perhaps as a consequence, we have no spawn and only the very occasional frog sighting. Research is required. Any volunteers?

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

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As Carol observes, this could prove to be a good year for certain species of butterfly. Here's a brief update from Jim Yeeles (28.04.11):

*'Hill Park yesterday –two **Green Hairstreak** and a **Grizzled Skipper** (I think) – both firsts for me. I'll take a camera next time . . .'*

Excellent sightings, Jim – thanks very much. Hill Park certainly seems to be a rich source of sightings for the eagle-eyed naturalist. A sunny day is best as that's when many species of butterfly choose to display the upper side of their wings whilst resting, making identification a little easier.

! guess, unless we hang the things around our neck, cameras will always be just out of reach when we need them! My most memorable butterfly sighting was two or three years ago from over the kitchen sink, whilst washing-up. (Yes, contrary to popular belief I am wholly domesticated!) I looked out and saw a large, very dark butterfly resting on a paving slab. With so few garden sightings of the so-called 'aristocrat' butterflies in recent years, I crept out for a closer look. And there, to my total amazement was ... a **White Admiral**. Wow! In my mind I was quickly working out; shall I simply stay and enjoy the moment, or rush indoors to find my camera? compromised, enjoying a minute or two of observation before carrying out the camera run. Needless to say, when I returned, the Admiral was gone. I think that by trying to record our experiences we sometimes lose those precious moments that we were aiming to preserve. Thankfully, wisdom prevailed and I have the experience locked away in my mind. And if I want to remind myself of what I saw, I have a field guide!

### The joy of bees – a new interest:

The other day, I commented on the large number of 'bees' that were visiting our Cotoneaster. Of course, if they were birds I wouldn't feel satisfied simply talking about 'birds'. So, armed with my Readers Digest field guide, I decided it was about time that I learned a few bee names. Well, I can report that of the 30/40 bees busily collecting pollen, only two or three were **Honey-bees**. The others were **bumble-bees**. Now, I had always believed that bumble-bees were simply those great big, 'impossible-to-fly' bees that 'bumbled' around the garden with no friends. But it turns out that there are 18 species of bumble-bee in Britain and there were no less than four species visiting our Cotoneaster bush! I say, 'no less', because the RD field guide only illustrates six of them. So, what did I observe? **Bombus terrestris**, **Bombus lucorum**, **Bombus lapidarius** and **Bombus pratorum**. Unfortunately, they don't have common names, so if you want to know what they look like you'll have to look them up. And why not? It turns out that bee-spotting is fun, educational and (as long as they don't perceive you as a threat, or sit on one) safe!



*Bombus terrestris*

Got a report? **Contact:** [nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com](mailto:nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com), or leave a note in Linda's.

# FOR THE LOVE OF HERBS

## LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

The Scandinavian leg of my journey has led me to **Norway** – not surprisingly, as I fell in love with this land many years ago. From language tapes, drowning myself in the music of Grieg to travel guidebooks and visiting Norwegian food stands at many a culinary fair, this land has played a large part in my life. I'm interested to learn more about herbs in modern Norway, to see fruit-growing areas that we in the U.K. would not naturally link with that country, and to taste some of the national food, so it's great to have a chance to re-visit the area around Bergen on the west coast avoiding Oslo City in the east, and head quite literally for the hills (and fjords!).

Like Cornwall and the Scottish Islands, the Mexican Gulf Stream blows gentle, warm winds over this coastline which give surprisingly high temperatures in June, an average of 68 degrees that has reached a record 95 degrees in Oslo! It is very strange to walk around in pure daylight at ten p.m. knowing that further north the sun will still be shining perfectly through to what *should* be dawn.

Old Bergen is entrancing, with lots of colourfully-painted wooden houses and wharves, winding narrow backstreets with tall houses leaning inwards, and the “Bryggenwharf” now a World Heritage Site. Nearby the “Fisketorget” fish market incorporating crafts, flower displays and a farmers market gives hours of happy browsing! Meat and alcohol are very expensive here, many Norwegians preferring to travel over the Swedish border to stock up with these in the same way we decamp to France for a “Booze Run”!



A fascinating evening meal in Old Bergen was filled with herbs we use here, although we “swerved” some of the national dishes on the menu! Lamb and Cabbage Stew with boiled potatoes, for instance (“Fårikål”), and “Lutefisk” which we were told is rotted fish and traditionally served with Aquavit to wash it down. No wonder! Instead we opted for appetizers of Jarlsberg cheese-filled red peppers incorporating Jarlsberg, mincemeat, thyme, breadcrumbs, Tabasco and lemon juice, oven-baked with a thick crust of Jarlsberg cubes and thyme leaves sprinkled on the top. “Ribbe” of Pork followed, or smoked salmon quiche with cream, basil and chives. Coffee is taken in an area away from the dining table, with dessert not usually served, but many forms of cakes are offered instead.



Traditional breakfast consists of continental fare, eggs are served but with salmon, not bacon, and lots of breads, fresh fruits and juices are popular. Again, the Jarlsberg cheese was offered, together with interesting omelettes and slices of grilled salmon with tomatoes.

Edvard Grieg's entrancing home at Trolldhaugen is south of Bergen. Concert-lovers travel the picturesque E.39 route towards Stavanger, which gives as much pleasure to the traveller's eye as a Grieg concert gives to the ear, with a free bus service available from Bergen City Centre on a concert day. Grieg's wooden composer's chalet was the inspiration for my own little workroom years ago, and although "Hall of the Mountain King" seems his one "hit" here, his lyrical "Holberg Suite" is never too far from my CD player. I noticed coaches on the way calling in to a petrol station for passengers to pick up hot dogs, or "Pølser", fast food becoming easier to obtain, although the open-face sandwiches for which Scandinavia is renowned are still hugely popular throughout the nation.



Another night, another meal. This time trying out lamb cooked in a Viking cooking pit in a tradition dating from the first century. Rocks, previously heated by a huge wooden fire in the pit, were placed around legs of lamb previously anointed with melted lamb fat, sprinkled with rosemary and wrapped in leaves from trees around the site. Iron pots of vegetables for steaming were added, then all wrapped in cooking foil, covered with soil and left for an hour or so, while starters of trout paté with chive sauce and seafood "bisque" soup simply cooked over an open fire quelled the hunger pains of many! All absolutely delicious, and I could not help but think of our "Hangi" meal enjoyed in New Zealand, prepared in just the same manner, but eaten half the world away.

We visited Hardanger the next morning, its breathtaking fjord the second longest in Norway, and home to not only a famous glacier and waterfall, but also to fruit production on a huge scale. Apples, pears, raspberries, strawberries, plums and lots of herbs are grown here, with cider and apple juice also important products. An express boat from Bergen or a 2-hour road trip brings you to the Hardanger heartland, with for me a learning curve in herbal language in Norsk! "Urter" (herbs) can be easily recognised on plant labels or in restaurants ... chives "gressløk", fennel "fennikel" and basil "basilikum" are quite easy, horseradish "pepperrot" speaks for itself, while tarragon "estragon" is spelt the same in France, and here I have a **good recipe for Gravadlax** borrowed from my Norwegian friend Turid Meade using "friskdill" (dillweed) and "dillfrø" (dill seed)!

To cure a 2lb salmon piece (cut in half lengthwise) use this pickling (curing) mixture: 1 tablespoon each of sugar, brandy and fresh dillweed, half tablespoon each of ground dill seed and black and pink peppercorns plus 1 tablespoon of sea salt. Mix and spread over the salmon, cover with clingfilm, weigh down with a heavy plate and chill from 12 hours to 2 days in the fridge. Wipe salmon clean with kitchen towel and slice thinly. Serve with salad, new potatoes and mayonnaise flavoured with Dijon mustard and lots of chopped dill. Now, where's that Aquavit? **Skål!** ... next it's sunny Spain!

**Lin Saines**



## YEAR 4 ENJOY BLACKLAND FARM

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Year 4 visited Blackland Farm near East Grinstead for an overnight residential stay. Below are excerpts from some of their diary entries:

Dear Diary

Last night I couldn't sleep because I was so excited to get to Blackland Farm. I couldn't wait to arrive. When we arrived Mrs. Staples took the register.

After I unpacked when we came out we had drinks and biscuits and we were also allowed seconds. Then we went to our activities. The first activity I went to was minibeast hunt – I worked with Erin and we found a shrimp ...

***By Faith Saunders***

... I was in group two so I did pond dipping. We had to find lots of different bugs. We had lots of fun and before we knew it, it was time for our next activity which was grass sledging! It was like a sledge with tank wheels. It was tiring, but fun at the same time.

Next we had free time and made lunch. I had chocolate spread sandwiches, crisps, an apple and last but not least a chocolate bar. Then we had a little break ready for activity number three.

***By Elouise Yeo***

... Next was Push Ball where you had to push a giant ball to the opposition's goal. My team won two and the other team won the rest. Afterwards we played some parachute games – it was so fun. Then we had dinner and it was FANTASTIC!

Then we had a campfire and we sang loads of songs. Then we went to bed.

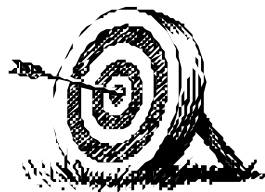
I can't wait 'till next year.

***By Harry Fisher***

... It was so exciting. I got there a little late but it was amazing to see all my friends. I missed one activity which was archery, so I had to help Mrs. Hancock with the shopping because we could not find archery. Then all my friends came back and saw me with the shopping – now that was embarrassing! Then we got to the activities – first we did minibeast hunting which was my favourite activity ...

***By Sam Franklin-Williams***

**Mrs. L. Staples**  
**Year 4 Class Teacher**



### 1<sup>ST</sup> TATSFIELD SCOUTS



Our great British summer should be well and truly with us by now – here's hoping! This month you will begin to see us all running round like headless chickens as we really start in earnest all the preparations for our main fundraising event of the year – **The Scout Summer Fete on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** on the Village Green with the theme this year being 'World Jamboree'. The theme was chosen as there is a Jamboree happening this July in

Sweden and we were lucky enough to have 2 Explorer Scouts chosen to attend from the Northern Cobra Unit who meet at Tatsfield HQ. The money raised on and before the day will be put towards general Scout funds for the replacement of important and essential equipment as well as building maintenance which benefits all the sections from the Beavers up to the Explorers.

We very much rely on help from our Group parents and the local community too and your attendance on the day is essential for its success – so do all try to come along. There will be the traditional burger stall, tea tent and of course the fabulous beer and Pimms tent! Plus all the fun of the fair alongside plenty of other stalls where you can part with your hard-earned cash. We are also now collecting contributions for the fete; we require good quality items for the Mixed Tombola and Toy Stall, Books items for the White Elephant Stall and china of all descriptions suitable for the Crockery Smash. So if you can spare any tins, cans, bottles, toys, books, china, glass, gifts and most of all any time, all contributions will be very greatly appreciated.

But before that Scouts will be attending 'Scoutabout', which is a county wide event held at Ardingley Show Ground, Tatsfield will be joining approximately 4000 other Scouts along with 1000 leaders for a fantastic weekend of activities and events. This only happens once every 3 years and most Scouts only get the chance to attend once during their scouting time and we have all of our Scouts attending. It promises to be a fantastic time.

Finally we will be out and about the village over this month with all the sections selling our raffle tickets which you have always been so generous with in the past. So please support us again this year and let's make this a day to remember – and I can assure you all that I have definitely put in a word for excellent weather!

**Helen Brand, Group Scout Leader**

**(Tel: 01883 380742/07736 230068 - Email: tatsfield.gsl@googlemail.com)**



# CLUB NEWS

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## MOROCCO COMES TO TATSFIELD

On the evening of Saturday 14 May the Food and Wine Society entertained its members with a Moroccan themed evening.

On entering the WI Hall the atmosphere immediately changed from a light but cloudy English evening to that of a dimly lit, colourfully decorated Moroccan restaurant. Most of the members had dressed appropriately for the occasion, in some cases using remarkable ingenuity. The menu on the tables foretold an unusual and interesting gastronomic experience and very soon ladies emerged from the kitchen bearing the starters – Falafels, Toasted Pitta Chips and Humous with black olives, tomatoes, artichokes and garlic.

The main course, self-served buffet-style from a table on the stage, offered a choice of Lamb Tagine or Chicken with olives and lemons or a vegetarian option with accompanying couscous, vegetable kebabs, stuffed aubergines and a yoghurt and harissa dip.

After a second helping by many of the guests, many of us were beginning to feel as stuffed as the aubergines! Nevertheless I felt a pang of remorse as the serving table was removed from the stage. Had the sweet course failed to turn up? At that moment the outer door opened and there, framed in the doorway, appeared a gorgeous Moroccan dancing girl. (Well English actually, but well proportioned and beautifully dressed for the part!)

After walking provocatively between the tables to the delight of most of the male guests, she proceeded to the stage where she began to gyrate to the beat of Arabian music. To describe her as a belly dancer would be inappropriate, as she

succeeded in shaking and wobbling every part of the female anatomy which could respond in that fashion! All the while, her husband beat out the rhythm on a small hand-drum.

As the first dance ended, the audience clapped enthusiastically, only to be told by the dancer that such a response effectively meant "Very nice thank you, but no more." To



## CLUB NEWS

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encourage the dancer, she told us, we should make a noise whilst wagging our tongues up and down, followed by a yelp! This, for reasons of politeness, should be done behind a raised hand.

The second dance was even more frenetic than the first as the audience practiced the recommended encouragement. This was followed by a third, the dancer clearly delighted with the response. The audience was then invited to join in and very soon most of the ladies were up there gyrating in a rather more subdued fashion.



We men (apart from John Holley, the spitting image of Tommy Cooper) decided that these ladies needed encouragement and stayed in our seats while continuing the tongue wobbling and yelping.

At last the music stopped, the ladies returned to their seats and to my great relief the serving table was re-erected and the sweet course laid out. The Moroccan orange salad, apricot parcels and crème fraiche rounded off a delightfully different meal.

Lerryn Rowson took the stage to propose a vote of thanks to Toni Holley for organising a very successful, entertaining evening, to those who contributed the dishes and accompaniments, and to Elaine Edwards and Tina Rhoda for transforming the hall with their decoration. A proposal which was endorsed by all members with hearty (traditional English) applause.

**Phil Stokes**

# CLUB NEWS

## NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



The coffee morning held on 7<sup>th</sup> May was not so successful, as the Fairtrade Group held a free coffee morning on the same day. The committee decided that, for the time being anyway, we would discontinue our coffee mornings and try to find another way of making some money for the club. The monthly meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May was much more successful and I think that everyone enjoyed the salad lunch and a relaxed afternoon with friends. At the next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June we are holding a beetle drive, which should be fun.

**Babs Heffernon (Tel: 540602)**

## RAMBLERS



Two walks not far into Kent this month, one from Edenbridge and the other from Ightham Mote. Details are below. Everyone is welcome to join in, including dogs and their owners. Just turn up or contact one of us if you want more information.

**Date** Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

**Meet** 10.15am at Edenbridge Market Yard car park. (Map ref: TQ445463)

**Walk** 6 miles, 3.5 hours, water for the dogs, no hills, stop at Haxted Mill for coffee

**Leader** Dudley Turner

**Date** Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Meet** 11am at Ightham Mote car park (Map ref: TQ584535)

**Walk** 5.5 miles, 3.5 hours to Dunks Green via Fairlawne, pub stop at the Kentish Rifleman, Dunks Green

**Leader** Carol Vening and Dudley Turner

**Angela and Roger Sawyers (Tel: 577434)**

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### CHILDRENS' GARDENING



On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May nineteen children arrived at the WI Hall for the annual Childrens' Gardening session and were duly labelled and put into groups ready for some activities based on two themes: Fairtrade and Allotments. After a brief litter pick on their way to the School car park, once there they busied themselves planting up the

two white planters with a mixture of flowers, strawberries, tomato plants and onions.

## CLUB NEWS



The second group remained at the WI Hall and were each given a white 'tile' which had been masterfully created by Mark Watts. With helpers from the Art Group, a template was drawn to guide the children to decorate the outside frame of the tile by painting flowers and vegetables and even the Fairtrade logo. These 'tiles' will each have a letter drawn in the middle to make up the phrase "Tatsfield Growing Together" which

Carol Gaskell will mastermind. They will then be put up on the wall end of the Village Hall in a kind of mural.

Half-way through the morning, Gerald South produced a little sketch giving two scenarios illustrating the importance of buying Fairtrade and showed the children what to look out for when shopping. With a drink and a biscuit or two consumed, the groups swapped over and before long, the parents were back to collect the children but not before proudly showing off their works of art and having a photo.



Many thanks to Teresa Watts for expertly organising the morning, to Gerald South for producing the sketch and giving the talk, to Carol Gaskell and Mark Watts for designing and creating the tiles and to the helpers from the Art Group: Elaine Edwards, Sue Brown and Dawn Forrester-Groom. We look forward to seeing their work on display at the Village Hall in due course.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 1-5pm-Tatsfield Village Gardens** – see the enclosed leaflet for details of the gardens open for viewing.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 7pm-Garden visit to the Chauffeurs Flat in Tandridge** – enter a one acre tapestry of magical secret gardens with magnificent views. Touching the senses, all sure-footed visitors may explore the many surprises on this exuberant escape from reality. Imaginative use of recycled materials creates

an inspired variety of ideas, while wild and specimen plants reveal an ecological haven. To book your place contact Gerald South on 577598.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 7pm-St Mary's Millennium Hall-Sweet Pea and Roses Show** – with the light summer evenings and views to die for, who could refuse the offer of an enchanting evening at St Mary's Church hall where some beautiful specimens of Roses and Sweet Peas will be on show. Come along and draw in the floral scents of the blooms or maybe consider entering one of your own. An informal and often humorous evening with tea and cakes. If Roses and Sweet Peas are not your thing, how about entering any other floral exhibit, a bowl of soft fruit or a vegetable or perhaps bake a sponge cake to be judged then eaten! See the details on page 30 of the Society's Schedule (if you haven't got a copy, phone Roger Pearce on 577767 for one). No need to enter in advance, just turn up on the day.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 1pm-Summer Luncheon Party – Postacre, Ship Hill** – this popular annual event will be hosted by Eileen and Roger Pearce. Come and enjoy their garden and catch up with friends over a delicious meal. Look out for further details in next month's magazine or watch out for posters around the village. In the meantime, to avoid disappointment, please register your interest by phoning me.

**Rosie Fuller (Tel:573554)**

### W.I.



The May meeting was our AGM. We looked back on the interesting speakers, visits to the theatre and restaurants and the outings we'd enjoyed during the past year.

The Hall bookings had increased, leaving us with a healthy balance in the bank – enough to refurbish the kitchen next month.

We discussed the two 2011 Resolutions that will be voted on at the WI AGM meeting in Liverpool in June. The first one was regarding the proposal of Mega Farms: *"This meeting abhors the practice of factory farming – particularly large animals such as pigs and cows and urges HM Government to ensure planning permission is not granted for such projects."*

We were advised intensive farming has been the subject of contentious debate in the UK recently with significant media attention focused on the recent planning application submitted to farm 3,770 cows at Nocton Heath, Lincolnshire. The application was withdrawn following Environment Agency concerns regarding the risk of pollution to ground water. This is not an isolated development; the proposed resolution and the issues raised stretch beyond the locality and this resolution was moved by Ditton Marsh WI, Wiltshire Federation.

Arguments for the resolution:

- ~Further development of intensive farms may have an impact on small farmers, many of whom are already struggling
- ~There are concerns large scale developments will have an unacceptable environmental impact

Arguments against the resolution:

- ~While important, the welfare of large animals is not a central issue in planning considerations
- ~Planning is a devolved issue predominantly controlled by local authorities
- ~Such facilities could play a key strategic role in ensuring sustainable and secure food supplies in the future. This was important in view of the predicted population explosion around the world

Our vote registered 13 for the resolution, 3 against with 4 abstentions.

The second resolution was *"This meeting urges HM Government to maintain support for local libraries, as an essential education and information resource."*  
Moved by Nedderton WI Northumberland

Arguments for the resolution:

- ~The resolution is timely as many local authorities have announced that they are planning to close or reduce library services to cut spending
- ~Although some local authorities will take decisions ahead of the AGM it is likely others may defer their decisions
- ~The resolution provides good opportunities for local and national campaigning and for WI engagement with broader issues such as community life and education

Arguments against:

- ~There are already many local campaigns, established where libraries are threatened
- ~It could be argued that in a time of economic downturn, cuts to services are inevitable

Our vote was 19 for the resolution, 1 against.

Our next meeting is on June 7<sup>th</sup> with a talk entitled 'The A25 is interesting' and we are looking forward to a trip to Coolings on June 24, maybe an Orchid Walk at High Elms and there are the usual weekly events such as keep fit, pop in coffee mornings, darts, craft afternoons and whist drives.

**Margaret Bishop**



### 1<sup>st</sup> TATSFIELD BROWNIES



We have another exciting rota for this term, packed with things to do. We are concentrating on healthy foods and promoting healthy living. We have already had fruity games while making fruit smoothies and fruit salads which they even got to take home.

I would like to give a big thank you this term for Ashley Nash, Amanda Stuart and Sue Williams who have been able to help me on more than one occasion. I really do need an assistant who would like to take her warrant. A Tawny Owl who would like to be here for at least a two year stint. If there is anyone out there please do not hesitate to step forward.

Coming up soon we have a friend of mine, Kerry Edwards, who will be teaching us all how to jive, a Scavenger Hunt and a big fundraiser on the 15<sup>th</sup> July when the Brownies are going to find out about cheerleading. So if you know a Brownie and want to come with them to learn cheer leading from a professional coach, then reserve your place. For a small fee the parents will be able to watch in the afternoon and all monies raised will go to the Tenteleni Project, which is the Brownies children's charity for this term.

**Tenteleni is an entirely volunteer-run charity. This means that no one from the Director to the volunteers on the projects gets paid anything for their work. Tenteleni supports UK university students to find placements in sub-Saharan Africa to engage in cultural exchange and skill sharing in a variety of formal and non-formal educational settings, including schools, communities and children's homes. Tenteleni aims to form and maintain relationships with people and organisations, to ensure a more sustainable positive impact.**

Meaning "do it yourself" in SiSwati, Tenteleni began in 1998 when our founder, Sarah Copas, visited Tenteleni Primary School in the township of KaNyamzane within Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. Sarah researched the possibility of setting up an organization which would allow British students to engage with schools like Tenteleni, and the following year returned to South Africa with five friends. Since then Tenteleni has grown exponentially, expanding into four other countries - Kenya, Swaziland, Tanzania and Malawi – as well as new projects within South Africa. In 2009 the charity sent over 120 volunteers to 9 projects across Southern Africa.

Having read this I hope you will all give generously. Don't forget, if there is a Tawny Owl out there who would like a HOOT of a time please let me know.

**Patti Thomas-Verweij, Brown Owl (Tel: 07860 938839)**



# SPORTS ROUND UP

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## BADMINTON CLUB

The club has two tournaments a year, one when the pairs (always mixed, lady and gent) are drawn out of a hat and the other when the competing pairs are ones who play as pairs in league matches. It was the turn of the latter last month, when four pairs played in the Village Hall in the morning session and five in the afternoon. Handicaps are set by club captain, James Longley, and can be very tough – as much as minus 10 in a game played to 25 points.



As usual, there were a lot of tight matches, before Julie Barlow and Oliver Carr came out on top in the morning and Nikki le Prevost and Peter Agnew won through in the afternoon. The final then proved to be very close indeed before Nikki and Peter claimed the trophies by winning 25-22. The photo shows the finalists with James Longley in the centre.

**Bob David (Tel: 577357)**

## OTHER CLUBS

**Short Mat Bowls Club:** The club plays at the Village Hall on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. It plays league and friendly matches. New members are always welcome. Age is no obstacle – members range from 19 to 90 plus! Enquiries to Catherine Gulley on 577305 or Pam Cawley on 564254

**Tatsfield Village Cricket Club:** The club will be playing about 20 games on Sunday afternoons this year, most at home at Furze Corner. Anyone interested in playing for the club should contact the captain at [gazzaweaver@hotmail.com](mailto:gazzaweaver@hotmail.com) .

**North Downs Archery Club:** Interested in learning the sport at the club's grounds in Hurst Green? Phone Linda Bennett on 577817 to find out more.

## JUNE NOTES

As I write these notes we are in our 10<sup>th</sup> week without any measurable rainfall with no significant rain forecast for the rest of May into the first week of June – **we are in a severe drought!** Last month I suggested that there were similarities with our summer of 1976 – well not quite. The summer of 1976 followed several years of low rainfall and so we started the year with a rainfall deficit. This compares with the winter of 2010/11, when we had above average levels due to the amount of melting snow that worked its way very slowly through the chalk into the aquifers below giving us a very good start to the year. In 1976 the hottest period occurred between 23rd June and 7th July, when the temperature topped 32C (90F) every day at one or more locations. At the hottest point temperatures reached 35°C! So far this year temperatures have not reached such heights – yet. In 1976 we lost trees and shrubs over the rest of the summer with premature leaf fall and very little growth on those plants that survived; we had hosepipe bans both commercially and for domestic use.

As a professional gardener I had to watch many plants that I had nurtured for years die before my eyes. But we also developed ways of keeping the most valuable plants alive, siphoning water from ponds, using deep mulches and spraying some plants with an organic anti-desiccant based on an extract of pine oil. A good example of this is the magnificent weeping cypress *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis pendula* planted on the front lawn of Heathfield House on Gravel Hill in Croydon in early spring 1976; little did we know what was to follow! It is a very special tree and we did everything we could to keep it alive; have a look at it now 25 years later!

We must assume that we are in for a dry summer so plan accordingly. I believe that we water our gardens not because the plants need it but just because we can. Plants (including vegetables) do not need anything like as much water as we think. They do need water at critical points in their growth: soon after planting and when in flower and forming fruit. A good soak in the evening once in a while is the best way to keep plants alive. Watering lightly only wets the top and encourages roots to grow too close to the surface, making matters worse!

**Jon Allbut (Tel:576481 Email: [jon@jonallbutt.co.uk](mailto:jon@jonallbutt.co.uk))**

### HORTICULTURAL EVENTS COMING UP

Sunday	5 June	1-5pm	Tatsfield Garden Tour
Thursday	9 June	7pm	Garden visit to Chauffeur's Flat, Tandridge
Sunday	26 June	7pm	Sweet Pea and Roses Show
Thursday	30 June		Closing date for Tatsfield in Bloom entries
Tuesday	5 July		Tatsfield judged in South and South East in Bloom
Sunday	17 July	1pm	Horticultural Society Summer Luncheon Party

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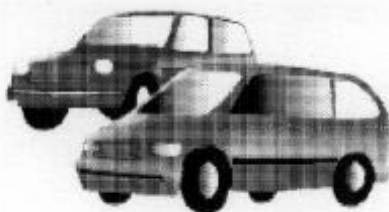
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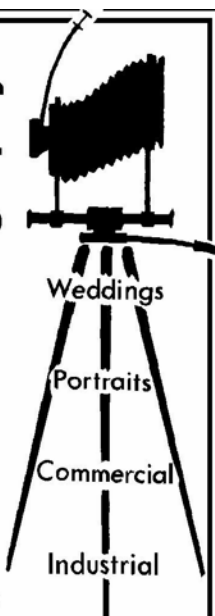
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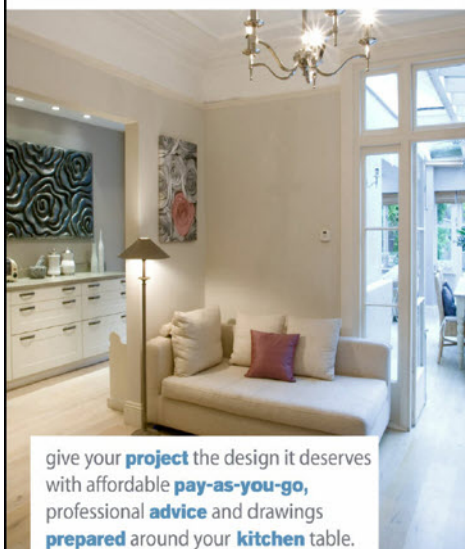
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