

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2017

Tatsfield Parish Magazine



It may look like oak tree worship but please see page 29



Please see page 16 for
the contents list of this
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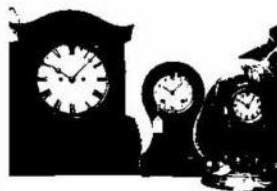
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We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment to an email to: tatsfieldpm@gmail.com, alternatively they may be left at Linda's Stores or posted to: Tatsfield P Mag, Clouds, Ricketts Hill, Tatsfield, Westerham, TN16 2NB.

Enquiries concerning Advertising or loose Inserts should be made to our Advertising Manager Maureen Perrin (Tel: 577679 email: tatsfieldmag@gmail.com)

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

Calendar Dates Our rolling calendar usually covers 6 weeks or more 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.

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



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EDITORIAL

As I write at the beginning of this New Year, 2017, the phrase “breaking new ground” comes to mind and I’ll comment further on that in a moment.

In the meantime, the subject of leadership has been in the news. Firstly, the policies of the outgoing and incoming US Presidents are being compared and contrasted, with an accompanying acknowledgement that it is much harder to put policies into practice when leading, than it is to promise them when campaigning. Secondly, we’ve seen the resignation of the man who was to have lead UK’s negotiations on Brexit and the swift appointment of a replacement to take forward what promises to be a difficult process.

I feel that our politicians need our support in their responsibilities more than ever, particularly in the face of new challenges. At the same time, I am conscious that some sections of society may be losing faith in politics and this causes me to reflect upon the question of where else we might look for leadership.

This year, for the first time, I not only watched the Queen’s Christmas message and the Archbishop of Canterbury’s New Year message but I also revisited and studied what was said by looking them up on the internet. The messages contain a lot of good material and I am also left with an underlying sense of the way in which both the Queen and the Archbishop draw strength from their faith in humanity and their faith in God. One thing that appears to have struck a chord with people from the Queen’s message, was her quotation attributed to St Teresa of Calcutta: “Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great love”. The Archbishop’s message complemented this, with a focus on the great themes of forgiveness, reconciliation and unity, which could all be seen as expressions of love.

What about life here in Tatsfield in 2017? It has been said that “we may not be able to change the world but we can change the world for one person” – and hopefully some of us are already doing that by being good neighbours to those around us. On another level, we cherish the continuation of village traditions as the annual calendar unfolds but hopefully we shall also see new people adding their support alongside those who already sustain them. Finally, I wonder what new ventures and projects may emerge to “break new ground” and add to the rich tapestry of life in Tatsfield and at this time I join with others in wishing every success to the new owners and staff of our local pub, The Ship, as it is relaunched this month.

I wish you a happy and hope-filled New Year.

Vince Short

The next edition of the magazine should be with you by the first weekend in March.
--

LETTERS

Hi there,

Firstly, hello! We have recently moved to the village and have been finding the magazine such a valuable resource.

Previously, I lived in Woldingham and set up a Facebook group there which was useful. Just so I could ask questions quickly of locals, I've set up similar for Tatsfield, and it can be found at www.facebook.com/groups/Tatsfieldtalk

The idea behind this group is to complement the existing great communications channels, such as the mag, the websites and the Facebook page. A not so well known fact is that Facebook won't show all posts on a page to all its members. Not very helpful! With a group, however, everyone gets to see everything. So, I'm hoping that this will allow people to comment instantly on things that matter to them, while at the same time linking to content on the other resources we have, so encouraging people to read those more. I thought I would try it out and see how people took to it, and in just a few days, we have already got almost 200 members! Sue White kindly linked from the existing Facebook page, and some of the PC joined right away, which helped things along nicely.

I saw in this (and last) month's Magazine that you were asking for thoughts on the Old Ship. A great idea, and one I've taken on to the group for comments. With over 90 comments in 3 days, it's a hot topic as you know! I hope the prospective new owners take on board these comments and the letters in the Magazine too. Feel free to take any comments or ideas from the group for future issues, I'm sure people would love to see their opinions in print!

If you don't mind, I will post a link to the online version of the latest issue of the Magazine, to encourage people to read (and look in their post boxes). Please feel free to post on the group to remind people to submit articles and info by the deadline. Time flies, so perhaps a prompt just before the deadline will help submissions on time!

Once again, thank you for all the brilliant info, and I hope that you find the Facebook group helpful in adding to the village communication throughout the month, building up stories for the next monthly magazine.

Please do let me know what you think, and if I can do anything to help promote the Magazine further.

With best wishes

Tracey Syrett

Editor: Would a Facebook user like to volunteer to extract appropriate items from this Facebook page and forward them to the magazine?

Hello,

As we have now had the final figure raised by the Tatsfield Beer Festival confirmed, I would appreciate it if you could please publish the below in the Tatsfield Parish Magazine. The news has only just gone out in the school newsletter but I know that many of those involved in the event no longer have children at the school.

With Christmas coming it may feel a long time since our warm September and the Tatsfield Beer Festival, but we have just had the final figure for the amount raised by this fabulous event confirmed.

Yet again, the weather was very kind to us on the day and everyone enjoyed the excellent live music, the food, the fairground and of course the super range of beers and drinks on offer! The atmosphere was once again relaxed and friendly and hundreds of us enjoyed soaking it up with family and friends.

Having been lucky enough to be involved in the organisation of the event for the first time this year, I have seen first-hand how many months of hard work and preparation go into putting together such an enormous event. I would like to say a huge thank you to the small but incredible organisation team for everything you did to ensure the event ran smoothly so everyone could enjoy themselves. I truly understand now what a commitment it is! I'd like to extend this thank you to those of you who helped on the day with setting up, clearing away, on the gate, helping to serve drinks or sell food. Even with the fantastic team we are so lucky to have, the event really could not run without your help on the day.

If you would like to get involved in the organisation of any future events please do get in touch with one of this year's team, or you can contact me c/o Tatsfield Primary School. All help is greatly appreciated.

So, for the all-important news! The figure raised this year was...£12,314.70! Absolutely incredible, and a testament to months of hard work and the great support of the people of Tatsfield and surrounding areas.

Thank you,

Nina Denny, Chairperson, Tatsfield Primary School PTA

Dear Editor,

You were good enough to publish a previous concern of mine regarding the road markings at the junction of Approach Road and Clarkes Lane, and (although perhaps coincidentally) the lines were subsequently repainted, enabling a safer exit from the former and a clearer sight of the junction when approaching the village turning.

Now that the season of heavy mists is again here, a further safety issue seems obvious during the drive in either direction, along Clarkes Lane, from or to the same junction, especially at night.

The 'cats' eyes' along this stretch seem not only irregularly spaced, but also completely ineffective, and this appears to be a serious oversight, for no obvious reason the recently resurfaced Approach Road offers a stark contrast in nighttime visibility?

Returning home at only 4.30 pm on Tuesday of this week, between the top of Titsey Hill and the Approach Road turn, was a near 'blind' experience!

Steve Bull, Johns Road Tatsfield.

Editor: This matter was raised at the December Parish Council Meeting and was brought to the attention of David Hodge, our County Councillor.

Dear Editor

Each time I travel up Ship Hill towards the Village I see the remains of an oak tree by the lay-by. I don't know why this tree was felled, as it seemed to me to be a healthy specimen, one of a group of oaks.

If there was good reason for this felling, and I would be interested to know if there was one, at least let's put the remaining trunk out of its (and my) misery and have this removed too.

At present it is an eyesore and an upsetting and constant reminder of what was once a tree.

Phyllis Lawrence, Old Lane

Editor: The Parish Council has been informed by Surrey CC that a neighbour had drawn attention to the potential danger of this tree toppling and causing damage. Surrey agreed and felled the tree. There appears to be no clarification of why the stump has been left at this height.



THANKS, FROM MARY AND BARRY BULL

Barry had a heart attack just before Christmas, was treated at King's College Hospital and was discharged on Christmas Day. He is doing very well but of course he must take it easy for a while. Mary and Barry have received offers of help from many people and would like to thank all concerned for their kindness.

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Firstly, on behalf of the Parish Council I'd like to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. I hope January has got off to a good start but if you have any concerns or problems that you think we may be able to help you with then please do get in touch via telephone or email or pop into the Bakery on a Saturday morning between 11am and noon for a coffee and a chat.

We said goodbye to Ana Hughes, our Clerk on 31st December. I'd like to acknowledge her hard work and dedication over the last seven years. She will be greatly missed. Althea Davies, our Vice Chair, has been working extremely hard to find a replacement and provided us with a number of excellent candidates. I'm pleased to confirm that we have offered Samantha Head the position and we are delighted that she has accepted. Whilst Samantha has no direct experience of being a Parish Council Clerk, she has many transferable skills and I am sure she will be up-to-speed in no time. Our locum, Maureen Gibbons, has kindly agreed to show her the ropes until she finds her feet so we are confident the transition will be smooth.

Our December meeting sees us set the budget for the coming year and we agreed to keep the precept at £42,000. Whilst we do have several projects running we thought it best that any shortfall should be absorbed by the Parish Council's reserves rather than increase the tax paid by Tatsfield residents.

A Neighbourhood Plan Development Committee has been set up with its first meeting with James Garside, our appointed consultant, deciding on its next steps. You will see on page 28 of the Magazine that we are asking for volunteers to help establish what will be best for Tatsfield, so if you are interested in taking part please do get in touch.

We have also agreed our response to Tandridge's Local Plan Sites Consultation. The main site which affects the village contains the rear gardens of a number of houses in Paynesfield Road. The proposal is that this site is removed from the Green Belt and included in the village settlement area. This would make way for houses being built along the unmade part of Westmore Road. The Parish Council agreed to object to this proposal on the basis that the boundary of the defined village was drawn deliberately tightly to prevent urban sprawl and further erosion of the Green Belt.

We were also asked to comment on whether we felt the village as a whole should be removed from the Green Belt and should become 'inset'. We have been unable to obtain clarity on what exactly this would mean for Tatsfield and so responded stating that we were unable to make an informed decision on the information currently provided but that we would not want to reduce the level of protection offered by current policies.

And finally, I suspect Christmas feels an awfully long time ago now but I do hope that you all enjoyed the new Christmas lights on the Old Ship Island. As you can imagine it took an awful lot of hard work and perseverance to achieve such a brilliant result and I'd like to thank not only Councillors Kells and Sarll but also Doug Freeze, Stuart Farmer (seen below right installing the lights) and Ted Chaproniere, without whose help the project would not have succeeded.

Nichola Stokoe, Chair (Tel: 576443; nicholastokoe@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)



The marquee is erected in preparation for 'Dave's Carols'

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

I hope you all had a very Happy Christmas and may I wish you all the very best for 2017.

The Visit of Police Inspector in November: My apologies for the very late cancellation of the visit of Chief Inspector, Neighbourhoods - Major Crime Team, Surrey and Sussex Police – Mark Preston. Mark had been off sick for some time before our scheduled meeting and has remained ill since so we obviously wish him a speedy recovery and return to work.

I did receive a visit from Jackie Elkins, Temporary Chief Inspector in the absence of Mark Preston, and Inspector Dan Gutierrez our own Neighbourhood Inspector. Mike Sarll from the Parish Council and I discussed with them matters regarding policing in Tatsfield. With this in mind we have agreed that they will return sometime in March ahead of a Parish Council meeting where they will update us on matters relevant to Tatsfield. I will advise the details when this has been confirmed.

Local Plan - Drop in sessions: I hope the Drop-in that I organised for the 12th December proved useful for those that attended the session. It was well run by both myself, members of the Parish Council and the three staff members from Tandridge District Council. It seemed that the important item that affects us was the Plan called “TAT005” (Paynesfield Rd) where it was suggested that this area could be developed. Having seen the facts and the options I hope you took the opportunity to “Have your Say” by visiting and commenting on the Local Plan. By the time you read this the consultation will have closed and the next stage will be the consultation on the Local Plan Preferred Strategy in the Autumn/Winter of 2017.



Tandridge Magazine winter issue 2016: I have been advised by one resident that this was not received. I trust everyone else received their copy of this Magazine.

Moorhouse Tile Works planning application: I can confirm that this application has now been withdrawn from the formal planning system but that negotiations continue to see if there is a better way forward either with this application or a different way of using the facilities that already exist on site.

At the full Tandridge Council meeting of the 17th November I was appointed to a second committee, **Community Services**, restoring the correct percentage of independent councillors on committees. So, I am now a member of this committee as well as Housing. Last month saw the normal round of council meetings and it will be the same for January although these are more important. These are the budget-setting

meetings for each committee whose recommendations are then sent to full Council for approval. You will start to hear much about budget shortfalls involving both Tandridge and Surrey Councils - amongst others - due to decreased government grants. The news regarding the level of Council Tax for 2017/18 is unlikely to be good.

Finally, as we go to print I spent the morning of the 5th January walking the streets of Tatsfield helping David Hodge deliver his election leaflet in readiness for this year's County Council elections, but more on that later. I did this with him so that I could show him the problems we are having with the **"lorries" using the unmade roads** - John's Road, Westmore Road, Kemsley Road - and I hope this will have helped him to formulate a set of road signs that will help us deal with this problem in the future.

If you think I can help you with anything to do with Tandridge District Council or anything else for that matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cllr Martin Allen (01959 577201 cldr.martin.allen@tandridgedc.gov.uk or martin_allen@talk21.com)

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Dear residents: Happy New Year to you all and I hope that 2017 brings happiness to everyone in Tatsfield.

As I write this contribution early in January at County Hall I am still leading the work on the forthcoming budget to be announced on 7th February. During the first 20 days of January (as that is when we publish the draft papers) I shall be taking our case to the Government for fairer funding. SCC currently has a duty to look after individuals and in three key areas we require support from the Government. This is because of rising demand from adults requiring Social Care Services, rising demand for children with Special Educational Needs and, specifically for Surrey, how we fund the Learning Disabilities cases for which we took over responsibility from the NHS on 1st April 2011. At the time of that transfer of responsibility the NHS passed the annual £64 million funding for these high need cases to SCC to provide daily care. We have the highest number of individuals with Learning Disabilities in the UK and hence the loss of this funding is critical to our annual budget discussions.

I am leading discussions with the Government at this stage. The question is how does SCC continue to carry out its duties to these individuals now that the annual grant has been removed from our budget. This has left a significant black hole and I will be doing all I can to get Government to address this funding requirement.

My New Year wish is that the Government ensures that Surrey residents receive fair funding as, after all, we make the second highest contribution to the Government for distribution for public services across the UK.

Likewise, I also believe that the Government should look again at its Overseas Aid Budget. Where local councils are looking after children from overseas I see no logical reason why overseas aid funds should not be used to support those children who are

now in the UK. This would provide much needed financial support to councils in Surrey and throughout the UK.

So, wish me luck in my discussions with the Government.

David Hodge, Leader, SCC and County Councillor for Tatsfield and Titsey (Tel: 01883 337881)



CBE FOR OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

David Hodge has been awarded a CBE in the Queen's New Year Honours for services to local government and charity.

David said: "I'm delighted and honoured to receive this accolade which is really a tribute to the tireless work of thousands of council and charity workers who deliver services to the people of Surrey.

"It's a huge privilege to serve the residents of Surrey as a councillor and as its leader and I'm determined to carry on doing all I can to stand up for the County including when it comes to highlighting the funding pressures we're facing.

"I wouldn't be able to carry out my local government and voluntary work without the support of my wife and family and this award also recognises all the help they've given me over the years. I'm very grateful to them and I'm looking forward to them joining me when I receive my award."

Following a 22-year career in the British Army, David was elected to Tandridge District Council in 1992. He was elected to Surrey County Council in 2005 and became Deputy Leader in 2009. As Deputy Leader, he led a Public Value Review of every service and department in the Council which uncovered £280million of savings.

In 2011, David became Leader of Surrey. He championed a "one team" approach – where organisations work together in the best interests of residents – which has helped Surrey win awards including "Council of the Year" at the Efficiency Awards 2013.

Mr Hodge grew up in an orphanage and a boys' home and, in recognition of his upbringing, he has worked to provide opportunities for young people.

Mr Hodge is Leader of the Local Government Association's Conservative Group and Vice-Chairman of the LGA. He has also served as Chairman of the County Councils Network.

A dedicated Rotarian, he has served as President of his local club and District Governor of Surrey and Sussex, and holds Rotary awards for his charitable work over 25 years.

In 2005 he led a team of Rotarians to Sierra Leone to raise funds and help build a hospital. Over the next three years he led a further team to raise nearly £200,000 to help build a new village for 670 orphaned children, providing a school, training centre and homes.

POLICE REPORT

Hello Tatsfield.

I can't believe it's 2017 already. What is it about the month of December that makes it simply fly by? Probably the expectation - I always liken December to a balloon. You blow it up, bigger and bigger, then at the moment both you and the balloon can't take it anymore it suddenly bursts, and there is nothing left - it's all gone flat, you're exhausted and there's a lot of mess strewn around just like the aftermath of Christmas!!

Anyway, philosophies aside, December has been generally (quiet) on the crime front, but sadly not completely - more vehicle crime to be exact. A Ford Transit van was stolen from outside a property on Old Lane during the night. A neighbour saw it leave, but at the time thought it was their neighbour leaving. Despite the vehicle immediately being put on the national vehicle tracking system ever since, as yet, it has not been located.

Also, an unmarked delivery van was taken during the day, whilst a delivery was being made in Paynesfield Road. Using its internal tracker, the van was soon located near Brands Hatch and the driver reunited with it that afternoon. Police believe that due to the location being unlikely for someone to have followed the vehicle, waiting to grab an opportunity, it is more likely that the suspect was more local and grabbed their opportunity while passing. Sadly, the lines of enquiry have been exhausted.

Finally, you probably are all already aware of the extensive damage caused to the gazebo that was used for the Carol Service on Westmore Green. This happened late the same evening, with the main suspects, a group of 4-5 drunken teenagers, having just left a large party up at the Football Club. Obviously, because this sort of incident simply doesn't happen in Tatsfield, it caused widespread anger and disbelief. Despite various investigations by colleagues, there are now no lines of enquiry, as no witnesses were identified, no CCTV overlooked the scene and because the offenders were part of a large group, trying to identify those few has proved an impossible task. Further enquiries by the reporting resident with the Council and the school the boys attend, may glean more information. Also, the Council will be reviewing whether similar events can be held in future at the Sports Club.

Well, that's it for now. Wrap up, stay warm, take Echinacea to avoid colds and flu and kids - let's hope you get to have snowball fights I can intervene or join in with.

See you around the village,

Rupert, PCSO 12599 KELLEY

THE OLD SHIP UPDATE AS OF THE 4TH JANUARY

First and foremost, Paul, John and our respective spouses would like to thank you so much for your wonderful welcome on the evening of Friday December 16th, at the carol singing night.



Progress has been slow mainly due to the terrible condition of the pub. Many years of neglect by various owners have culminated in the need for major repairs throughout. Many of the repairs are being undertaken at present, but some of the bigger problems must wait until later in the year.

Our aim now is to be up and running for the coffee area and bar on the 13th January and snacks to be available from the 16th January.

Everyday seems to give rise to a new problem, such as central heating, leaking pipes, electrics, broken windows, drainage and all the associated problems these give rise to. However, the internal painting and decorating is completed, the log burning stove is fitted, the new furniture is installed, the coffee machine is up and running and we are now just waiting for the Brewery to complete the cellar and bar upgrade.

We are leasing the pub from a company called Red Oak Taverns. It would seem to be a marriage made in heaven as this company and ourselves both have a commitment to save the traditional English pub. So, the best is yet to come, we want to provide a real village pub with good food, good wines, real ales and a selection of lagers. Due to the condition of the commercial kitchen we will not be able to offer you a full menu until late January /early February, however bar snacks will be available and we are installing a traditional pizza oven, giving you authentic Italian pizzas to eat in or take away. Look forward to meeting you in the future.



John takes a break from his lengthy preparations

Paul and John (Paul Vallance and John Bagshaw)

PARISH COUNCIL TO INITIATE A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



At the end of last year, the Parish Council decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, the reason being that without one, we would have less input into decisions made by Tandridge District Council on future residential and commercial development in the village. We would also reduce our potential income from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) payments levied on developers to support the local infrastructure.

We are seeking help and input from anyone with a keen interest in the future growth of Tatsfield over the next 20 years, but in particular, anyone with interest in the planning, the legal and development process, project management, infrastructure development and local government. The topics that need thought include:

- Natural Environment and Landscape
- Built Environment
- Housing / Affordable Housing
- Transport and Parking
- Community Facilities
- Local Economy

This project will be ongoing for the next year or two and will involve significant communication with local bodies and interested parties, so please come and get involved if you care about Tatsfield.

There is a lot of information on the Tandridge website at:

<http://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Planning/planningpolicy/neighbourhoodplanning/neighbourhoodplanning.htm>: Scroll down to last paragraph, click on the 'Neighbourhood Planning Guide to the statutory process' link. This document will point you to many other sources including some available on YouTube.

Some of the preparatory work has been done by the team who produced the Village Appraisal back in 2013; we would be keen to meet with them and update some of the issues that were raised at that time.

Four members of the Parish Council will participate in the team but we are hoping that other villagers will offer their support, so if you think you might like to get involved please drop an e-mail to clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk. We can then have an informal meeting to explain the process more fully.

Hoping to hear from you.

Mike Sarll, Parish Councillor



TATSFIELD IN BLOOM 2017

A very big thank you to all those who helped in November with the planting of the 5,000 crocus bulbs on Tatsfield Green around the Millennium Oak to support the worldwide Rotary project called Purple4Polio. By raising funds, Rotary is hoping to eradicate polio in the two countries remaining in the world where this disease is still maiming children, Pakistan and Afghanistan.



5,000 crocus bulbs have been planted by the children at the school. They were planted in the shape of a heart on the hill opposite the Hall with further bulbs in the grass to the side of the building.

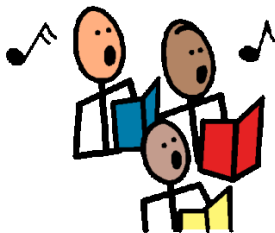


Look out for the **Bees and Butterflies** around the village this summer as our theme is concentrating on pollinator insects – **TATSFIELD IS BUZZING!** The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has launched The National Pollinator Strategy to encourage bees and other pollinators. We shall be planting flowers and shrubs that provide nectar and pollen as food for bees and other pollinators and hoping to encourage the whole village to join in

with this strategy. Watch this space for more information!!

We are always looking for new volunteers to give up an hour of their time on a Saturday morning to come and help us. Please just turn up at 10.00am by the Bakery and we will welcome you with open arms!

Jill Hancock (Tel: 577622)
Tatsfield In Bloom



A LITTLE CHRISTMAS CHEER with the Tatsfield Singers

What an evening!!

From the opening notes of that old Andy Williams standard “It’s the most wonderful time of the year” we knew we were in for a very special evening of song from our own home-grown choristers. And what a fantastic selection of songs it was, combining both the traditional and the modern. It was like opening a box of Quality Street; you just didn’t know which to choose first but whatever it was you just knew you were going to like it.

Emily Budgen excelled with the solo opening verse of “Once in Royal David’s city”, which really opened the proceedings for me and later followed this with the 16th century sacred carol “Gaudete”. I loved “O little town of Bethlehem” and Connie Budgen, not to be outdone by Emily, gave us an equally excellent solo. And did I not hear just a hint of Johnny Mathis in the Choir’s sweet rendition of “When a child is born”?

Delving once more into the box we had “We Three Kings” followed by a joyous “Winter Wonderland” and a wistful “Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas”. Mmm, I can still taste them now, like smooth milk chocolate coated caramel!

And then we swung into “Jingle Bell Rock”! One of the basses right at the back, the one with the red bow tie, was doing so much singing and swinging he almost fell off his chair. Fortunately, The Holly and The Ivy managed to quieten him down and the Choir then gave us a beautifully sung “White Christmas”.

Audience participation in the last two carols brought us to the end of our chocolates and the concert except for the final entreaty by the Choir for us all to go out enjoy some figgy pudding, which in this case meant a very welcome hot mince pie and mulled wine. It looked to me to be a full house, indicating that very nearly two hundred of us had the privilege of not only listening to but joining in with some of the Christmas songs we know so well.

Grateful thanks must go to Sarah Coop for her musical direction, to Robert Randall for accompanying the Choir on the piano and to the Tatsfield Singers for their superlative performance. Thank you all for giving us such an enjoyable and tuneful start to Christmas. Gareth Malone? Pah, who needs him!!

Terry Cartwright

TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eagles have been working very hard in their poetry topic this month. They have chosen, learnt and performed poems to the class. Some of the poems they chose to recite included 'Twas the night before Christmas' by Clement Clarke Moore and 'Jellyvision' by Benjamin Zephaniah.



They have also studied Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' and written poems in response.

Here are some excerpts from their poems:

The oak wooden floor opened its mouth,
And swallowed Scrooge up and spat him out.
Scrooge looked up, only to see red eyes full of destruction,
The jet-black horses, with hell in their eyes, charged,
Scrooge fled like an animal about to be met with their death.

By Paige

The obsidian black stallions with crimson eyes exhaled breath as cold as the Arctic,
The spirit did not move as the shadows licked his dark silhouette.
Scrooge leapt onto his freezing frost-bitten feet,
Running, sprinting, galloping,
He fled from the gloom of the courtyard.

By Cormac

The clock ticked like footsteps in your head: continuous and endless,
The cool winter air was biting the noses of any passers-by.
Tumbling, crashing, plummeting down the stairs Scrooge collapsed,
In the street, the midnight black horses stamped their hooves impatiently.

By Daisy-May

LITTLE ACORNS

Christmas Fundraising

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year from Little Acorns Preschool! We hope you had a restful and fun Christmas! All the children and staff at Little Acorns had a brilliant build up to Christmas with our Crafty Christmas Party, Christmas Hampers, festive photo shoot and finishing with our Christmas show and a visit from Santa. We certainly weren't lacking in festive cheer by the end of the term and managed to raise a brilliant £975 along the way! Thank you to all our helpers involved in making it such a fun and eventful time for the children!



Spring Term

As we head into the new Spring Term we are excited to be looking at our new topic 'what we eat and healthy living' with the children as well as beginning to prepare our older children for starting primary school in September.



New Year Party



On Saturday 14th January, we are thrilled to be hosting our first New Year Party for Little Acorns parents, carers, friends, family, Tatsfield residents; everyone is welcome! Banish the January blues and join us between 8-11pm at Tatsfield Village Hall for a dance with our DJ and disco, fundraising bar and cocktail fountain! Tickets are available in advance from the preschool and are £12 per person, we hope to see you there!

New outdoor play area

Due to recent fundraising, we are very fortunate to be able to start work on our new outdoor play area for the children to use during their preschool sessions. The addition of an outdoor area will be invaluable to the children's learning experience, giving them the freedom to play outside whenever they choose, thanks to our new internal door leading straight to the new fenced play area next to the village hall car park. Work is due to start at the end of January and we're very excited about this new development to our preschool.



Little Acorns management committee chair, Natalie Ruggins, says:

"We are due to have new bow-top fencing installed at the end of January by Sovereign PlaySpace- specialists in outdoor design for educational settings. We would like to thank the Parish Council and Tatsfield Hall Management Committee for all their support, help and assistance with this project which will make a huge difference to all the children at Little Acorns on a daily basis."

Breakfast Club



Don't forget about our Breakfast Club which operates every day from 7.15am and includes school drop-off to Tatsfield Primary School. Please contact us for more information.

If you would like more information about Little Acorns or would like to register your child or have a look round, please contact us on 01959 540775 during preschool hours (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 0900-1500 and Wednesday and Friday 0900 – 1200), or email info@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

Thank you for reading!

Mareka Newberry

Little Acorns Preschool

littleacornssecretary@outlook.com



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our New Chairperson – Sue Warren

I would firstly like to thank Martin for his excellent work and commitment to the Society over the last two years as Chairman.

I am now the 'new' Chairman and think it would be a good idea to introduce myself.

I was brought up on a dairy farm near Newbury in Berkshire and this is probably where my love of growing plants and flowers began as both my parents were keen gardeners. I have lived in Tatsfield since 1978 when after a very fortunate 'Blind Date' married Neil and we began our new life together in 13 Shipfield Close. After a few happy years, we then moved down to Ricketts Hill where we have been ever since. We had two children, Emma and Andrew and now they too are both married with children.

I have been a committee member since 1984 when I was in my late twenties, and then became Secretary for over twenty years. It was only after a little arm twisting that I passed on the role to Peter Maynard and stood as Vice-chairman. As you can imagine I have seen many changes over the years but the Society goes from strength to strength. We are also very strong supporters of Tatsfield in Bloom and many other village organisations, such as the Art Group, Village School and Scout Fete.

We have an exciting programme of events for 2017, plus some amazing member offers. We continue to receive 10% off at Knights Garden Centres in Woldingham and Warlingham on items such as composts, chemicals and fertilisers, plants, trees, seeds, bulbs, light gardening tools and wheelbarrows on production of your schedule - there is

a cut out card on the back cover - but 50% off Sutton Seeds - yes 50%!!! We also get 15% off all sundries listed in their catalogue. These can all be ordered by post or online. This is due to Peter Maynard's fine negotiating skills.

Yes, we do ask for a family subscription of £5 per year, or a small donation from OAP members. Some of our funds are donated to Tatsfield In Bloom and last summer helped to provide the displays including the lovely one celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday. If you do not support the Society but are still a member you know that you are also contributing to the fabulous village displays.

Christine Stainer, our Membership Secretary will be delivering our 2017 schedules to committee members and volunteers during this month and hopefully in the next few weeks you will have someone call on you to renew or enrol you in our membership. Please see the advert on page 57 for further details of the Society's next Garden Club Meeting.

I wish you all a very happy, healthy and fun 2017 and look forward to meeting as many of you over the coming year.

Sue Warren



*Carol singing for Shelter at the Fairtrade Tent on 10th December
Please see page 42*



JOIN US THIS FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

**TATSFIELD FAIRTRADE GROUP INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM
on Saturday 4th March in Tatsfield Village Hall**

We will once again be serving a **FREE** Fairtrade BREAKfast between
9am and 11am

PLUS the opportunity to do some Fairtrade Coffee Cupping (tasting).

**THE FOOD ON OUR TABLES, THE COFFEE IN OUR MUGS,
ALL FROM FARMERS WHO TOIL, SWEAT AND SLOG.**

NOW MORE THAN EVER

IT'S TIME TO PUT FAIRTRADE IN YOUR BREAK

**If possible, please RSVP to help with catering:
tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com**

THE LITTER TEAM



Philip Brett has masterminded the administration of the Litter Team for some years now and has decided to step aside and we have agreed to take on this task on behalf of Tatsfield in Bloom.

We must at this point thank Philip (and Helen) for all their work and in addition for organising the Annual Clear Up Day which in future will be organised by the Tatsfield In Bloom Committee.

The reason for this article is to appeal to you all for help with the following patches please:

Crossways Court
Whitewood Cottages
Hillside Road
Cudham Road
Barnfield Road
Shipfield Close
The Square
Ricketts Hill Road from Hillside Road to unmade Paynesfield Road
Ricketts Hill Road from unmade Paynesfield Road to Lusted Hall Lane
Edgar Road
Borough Road
Rag Hill Road from Old School Corner to Parkwood Road
Rag Hill Close
Parkwood Road
Most of Westmore Green
Lusted Hall Lane from Approach Road to the Copse
The Copse
Gresham Close
Westmore Road from the Village Centre to Grove Road
Wedgwoods
Redhouse Road

If you do not have a litter picker and/or high viz jacket, please also let us know and we will ensure that you have them.

If you can take on any of these patches please let us know.
Also, if you know of anyone else who might be interested please talk to them and put them in touch with us.



Angela and Roger Sawyers (Tel: 577434; email: acresroger@aol.com)

SHOPPING AT LINDA'S STORES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY



Linda is starting 2017 with a large selection of bargains. Some of them are listed below and details are all in leaflets in the shop. You must be quick to get them because they are only on offer until 24 January, just a few days after you are likely to receive this magazine. There will be many more different ones after that, all listed in leaflets in the shop.

7Up, Tango and Whites Lemonade-	£1
Typhoo Teabags, 80's-	£1
Heinz Soup-	£2 for any3
Walkers Crisps-	Any 3 for £1(PM 55p each)
Pot Noodle-	75p (PM £1.09)
McVitie's Hobnobs & Digestives-	Any 2 for £1
Dairylea Dunkers-	Any 2 for £1 (PM 69p each)
Lynx Deodorant Spray-	£2 (PM £3.29)
Whiskas-	Any 2 for £1(PM 2 for £1.40)
Jaffa Cakes-	£1
Coca Cola & Diet Coke-	£1 (PM £1.29)
Branston Baked Beans, Triple Pack-	£1
Uncle Ben's Sweet & Sour & Tikka Masala-	£1 (PM £1.89)
Napolina Tinned Tomatoes-	Any 2 for £1
Fairy Washing Up Liquid-	£1 (PM £1.29)
Walkers crisps & Quavers, 6packs	£1
Maynards Sweets-	Any 2 for £1(PM £1each)
Mini Cheddars-	Any 2for £1
Quaker Oats So Simple-	Any 2 for £1.50 (PM 99p each)

(PM=price marked)

Bob David



FILMS IN TATSFIELD IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY



There was a full house of parents and children at the Village Hall to see “The BFG” in the afternoon of Saturday 3 December and then a smaller audience to see the old favourite “The Ladykillers” in the evening. This magazine should reach you just before the screening of “Finding Dory” and “Bridget Jones’s Baby” on **Saturday 21 January**, details of which were advertised in the December magazine and are repeated on page 40.



For **Saturday 18 February**, Curzon Country Cinema has been able to get hold of two more recently released films. In the afternoon is the computer-animated action adventure “The Angry Birds”, which has had a good reception in this country and abroad. Hopefully, adults and children will enjoy finding out why the birds are so

angry and why there are giant slings, teetering towers and boomeranging toucans.

Showing in the evening is “Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children”. It sounds like it might be a film for children but it’s not. It was made by the very individual director Tim Burton – and it is peculiar! It is genuinely strange – creepy and endearing in turn. It also features some well-known stars, including Judie Dench, Rupert Everett and Terence Stamp.

Details of the times of the January and February films are on pages 40 and 51 and you can find out more on the Village Hall website: tatsfieldvillagehall.weebly.com.

We are aiming to show once a month a film suitable for children in the afternoon and one for the adults in the evening. **We would like you to tell us what films you would like to see**, either types of films or particular films, and we will see what we can do. **Please let Helena Garcia-Macleod know on tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk**. It may also be that you might fancy taking over the Village Hall for a special occasion with the screening of a particular film as the centrepiece, and we might be able to arrange that too. Again, please contact Helena.



Bob David



Registered Charity no. 1070342
Scouts Association nu: 35731

1st Tatsfield Scout Group

Our Beaver group URGENTLY needs Assistant Leaders

- Do you enjoy working with children between the ages of 6 and 8?
- Can you work in a small team to deliver an exciting programme of fun activities and games for children?
- Do you want to help young people get a great start in life?

If so then helping to run our Beaver Group in Tatsfield may be for you!!!

If you are interested in finding out more about this voluntary posts please contact –

Paul Hilditch – Chairman 1st Tatsfield Scouts Executive Committee

paul@heightsview.co.uk 07970 137417

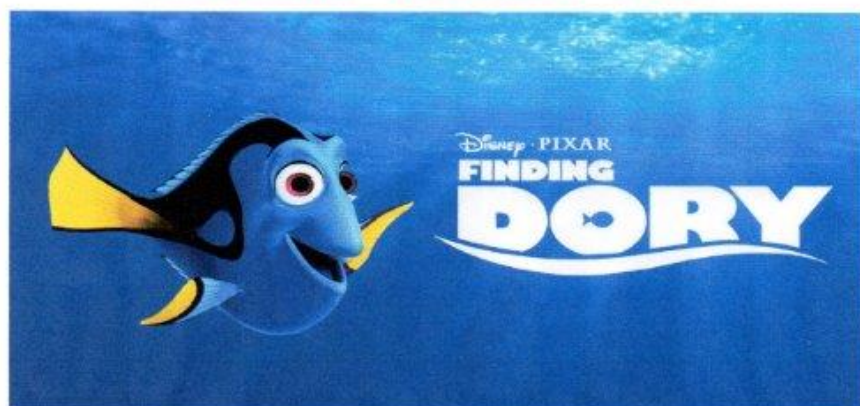
Useful points to know:

- It' s a good way to get to know people in the community.
- Full training will be given.
- You will be working alongside an appointed Beaver Leader
- You will be supported by District members, other leaders & the Exec committee.
- You don' t need to have children in the group.
- You will need a Scouting DBS
- Beavers will be meeting term time on Tuesdays 5.45 - 6.45 pm at our HQ in Tatsfield.

BEAVERS* **cubs*** **SCOUTS*** **EXPLORERS***

VILLAGE HALL ~ TATSFIELD

SATURDAY JANUARY 21st



Open 3.30 Ends 5.30 cert U ~£5.00~

BRIDGET JONES'S BABY

RELATIONSHIP STATUS: BEYOND COMPLICATED

IN CINEMAS SEPTEMBER 16 2006 (HYPOTHETICAL)

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ST MARY'S MATTERS

The Licensing of Revd Vince Short, as Vicar, 29th November 8.00pm

On a very cold clear night in November, the Church was full for the welcoming and licensing of Vince, our new Vicar. The overflow in the Church Hall was also in use, where 20 people followed the service by video relay and appreciated a visit from the Bishop and Vince during the distribution of Communion. The service was warmly led by the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt. Revd Christopher Chessun (seen here with Vince), including a special section where community representatives offered words of welcome. Afterwards, many stayed on to enjoy lovely refreshments in the hall. We are very grateful to all who attended and to all who worked hard to ensure the success of the event.

The collection contributed £296 towards the Diocesan Ordination Fund.



Christmas decoration

Our gratitude goes to Rhod and his team from Titsey for donating most of the foliage for Christmas. Holly has been in abundance this year however the birds have eaten the majority of the berries! Without the help of Neil and Sue Warren the foliage would still be sitting in Titsey Estate. Very many thanks to all the lovely ladies who have supported me this year but in particular to Jan Maynard who has produced some beautiful arrangements and has been my backbone.

Thank you to Pam Draper, Brenda Fairclough (who made some delicious mince pies) Kay Longley, Wendy Maddison, Jan Maynard, Shirley Murgatroyd, Kay Roberts, Chris Rosenburg, Jan Maynard (who did the beautiful pedestal display), Sue Saunders, Pat Walsh, Lorna Tory and Sue Warren. Without the continuous support of all the ladies, to whom we are very grateful, the Church would not be decorated throughout the year.

I have a feeling 2017 is going to be very busy. Easter is slightly later so we will be decorating the Church, I think on 15th April, date to be confirmed. In the meantime, I will be contacting everybody for the rota.

A very Happy New Year.

Tina Boys

St Mary's is very grateful to Tina and her team of arrangers who go to so much trouble to decorate the Church through the year. They gathered on 16th December and by the

end of the morning the Church looked magnificent as may be seen in the photos elsewhere in this magazine.

Open the Book – toys for Brixton



At our December service, we reminded ourselves of the ways in which God talks to us. There were many generous donations of toys from our local children. These went, together with our other contributions, to Christchurch Brixton and we thank David and Hilary Vale for transporting them there. We have received thanks from Brixton.

Our January service celebrated the arrival of the wise men with their gifts.

In our February OTB, at 10am on 5th, we will be thinking about Baptism. If you or your children still have your Baptism candle please bring it with you: we will light it and remember our Baptisms – don't worry if you have not got one, there will be plenty of extra candles!

Carol Singing for Shelter

Many thanks to all those who came to sing on the Green on 10th December, and to those who supported us and donated to our collection for Shelter which raised £213. Please see the photo on page 34.

Christmas Services

We are most grateful to the Tatsfield Singers and their Musical Director, Sarah Coop, for enriching our very well attended service of Carols by Candlelight. Both the Midnight Eucharist and the Christmas Morning services were appreciated by many local people and visitors.

The Christingle Service was again held in the school hall and we are most grateful to the School for making this available.

The success of all these occasions depends very much on the active involvement of many who undertake a wide variety of tasks: they are far too numerous to mention by name but their support is greatly appreciated.

Children Society's collection



All the collections taken at the Christmas services were for the Children's Society. In addition to this people visiting the wonderful tableaux in the Narthex also made donations. At the time of writing contributions are still being made but £873 has been received already and this will be swelled by a further £53 thanks to those who used Gift Aid enabling the Children's Society to reclaim tax. Thank you to everybody for your very generous support and again to Sauro Gabelli for creating such a beautiful tableau.

Lunches in St Mary's Millennium Hall 12.30pm 'til 1.30pm on Saturdays during Lent



Enjoy delicious homemade soup and, bread, cheese, drink and accompaniments, all for £4.00. Lent Lunches start on 4th March and continue on each Saturday up to and including April 8th, and are served between 12.30pm and 1.30 pm. All proceeds go to the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal.

St Mary's 100 Club

Results of the December draw:

3. David Vale £23.25. 69. P.Wilkinson £14.25 51. R.Gasgoigne £9.50,
St, Mary's £47.50

The January draw results are:

66. A. Hopkins £23.25. 58. C. Stainer £14.25 21. V. Payne £9.50
St. Mary's £47

Records

7th December Funeral of Liz Vowles (at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium)



Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's on 18th December

REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS

These events, weekly unless stated otherwise, normally take place at the times given below, but there can be variations e.g. in school holidays. Please check with the organisers if necessary.

Sun	10.00 am	Church service – StM
Mon	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	10.00 am	WI Exercises - WIH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	6.00 pm	Beavers – SH
	7.15 pm	Adult Ballet - TPS
	7.30 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
Tue	7.00 pm	Pilates – TPS
	7.00 pm	Scouts - SH
Wed	10.00 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	6.00 pm	Cubs – SH
	8.00 pm	Yoga – VH
Thu	9.15 am	Said Communion Service – StM [3 rd Thursday only]
	10.00 am	Over 50s Yoga – WIH
	3.00 pm	WI Darts – WIH
	various	Martial Arts
	7.30 pm	Duplicate Bridge – WIH
	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
Fri	10.00 am	Pilates – WIH
	11.15 am	Pilates – WIH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	5.30 pm	Badminton club for Juniors - VH
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club - VH
Sat	11.00 am	Parish Council Café -The Bakery [to noon]

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

JANUARY

21 Sat	3.30 and 7.30 pm	Curzon Cinema – VH
22 Sun	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist – StM
	10.45 am	Ramblers
23 Mon	8.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting – AMB
28 Sun	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist – StM
	11.00 am	Ramblers
31 Tue	1.30 pm	Whist - WIH

FEBRUARY

2 Thu	1.30 pm	Hear Here – AMB [to 3.00 pm]
	2.00 pm	Scrabble – Scrumdoone, Greenway
5 Sun	10.00 am	Open the Book for Candlemas – StM
	10.30 am	Ramblers
	11.30 am	Said Eucharist – StM
7 Tue	2.30 pm	WI – WIH
	7.30 pm	Tatty Knitters – The Bakery
12 Sun	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist
13 Mon		Tatsfield School Half Term starts
14 Tue		Not So Young Club - WIH
	7.30 pm	Gardening Club
18 Sat	7.30 pm	Curzon Cinema – VH
19 Sun	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist – StM
	10.15 am	Ramblers
26 Sun	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist – StM
28 Tue	1.30 pm	Whist - WI

MARCH

2 Thu	1.00 pm	Scrabble – Scrumdoone, Greenway
	1.30 pm	Hear Here - AMB
4 Sat	9.00 am	Fairtrade Breakfast – VH
	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch – StM Hall
5 Sun	10.00 am	Open the Book – StM
	11.30 am	Said Eucharist - StM
11 Sat	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch – StM Hall
14 Tue	7.30 pm	Dementia Open Meeting - AMB
18 Sat	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch – StM Hall
25 Sat	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch – StM Hall
28 Tue	1.30 pm	Whist – WIH
31 Fri		Tatsfield School term ends

Venues

AMB - Aileen McHugo Building • CGA - Community Games Area
 CH - Church Hall • FC - Furze Corner • SH - Scout Hut
 StM - St. Mary's Church • TACG – Tatsfield Allotments and Community Garden
 TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club
 VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute

If you would like your village event included in this diary in future please send details to: tatsfieldpm@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS DECORATION AT ST MARY'S



Some of the team in action





Our thanks go to Peter Boys for these photographs of the completed displays



W.I.

There was a very pleasing turnout for our celebration Christmas lunch at the Bakery early in December. The friendly efficient service, delicious meal, animated conversation, exchange of Christmas cards and presents - what more can you ask to start the festive season?

On January 10th we shared our meeting date with the Not So Young Club. Our business and initial discussion about 2017 National resolutions were covered from 11am in the morning. We were joined by our Not So

Young friends at 12.30 for a warming soup lunch followed by entertainment and rounded off by tea and cake.

In February, at 2.30pm on 7th, we will hear all about early 20th century domestic service in a talk on 'The Real Downton Abbey' by Ian Ponter. If you are interested in coming along please contact me and I will give you all the details.

Sue Smale, (577660)



NSYC



I hope the members enjoyed the Christmas buffet, since that is why the committee put so much effort into providing a happy afternoon. There was plenty to eat and drink and entertainment, kindly provided by Mr and Mrs. Lovelace, with guitar, music and anecdotes.

Our January meeting, on the 10th was combined with the W.I., when we had a warm lunch, kindly provided by W.I. members. We also had a desk quiz.

The February meeting on the 14th is our birthday celebration. Gosh, how quickly that comes round!

I wish everyone a very happy and healthy year in 2017.

Babs Heffernon (540602)



TATTY KNITTERS

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and wish you all a prosperous new year... Where did last year go?

We had a lovely evening on the 6th December, excellent food, excellent company a good fun evening.

January's meeting was on the 10th, February's will be on the 7th as our usual

Tuesday night is Valentine's Day and I'm sure the last thing romantic couples want to listen to is the click-click of our knitting needles!

Val Quick (07761571071)



POWER CUTS

UK Power Networks delivers the electricity to homes and businesses across London the East and South East of England, including Tatsfield and Titsey, and it's our job to make sure that the lights stay on.

Since 2010 we have reduced the frequency of power cuts by 42%, however we recognise that while power cuts are less frequent, when they do still occur they can be very worrying, especially to older people, people with chronic medical conditions or parents of very young children. That's why we have set up a 'Priority Services Register' to enable us to identify vulnerable people quickly in the event of a power cut and get them the help they need.

You can find more details and register by visiting ukpowernetworks.co.uk/prioritysupport or calling 0800 169 9970.

This winter we are keen to increase the number of people who are registered for help so we can provide the support they need quicker in case of a power cut.

Do you or someone you know need extra help if there's a power cut? Join the Priority Services Register today ukpowernetworks.co.uk/prioritysupport.

In the meantime, if you would like any further information about the Register or about UK Power Networks please do not hesitate to contact me.

Peter Kocen, (Peter.Kocen@ukpowernetworks.co.uk)



We thank Howard Aylett for sending this photo.

As many readers will recall this is a subject that Howard has been bringing to the village's attention for some time – one he feels strongly about, as do many other local residents and this magazine.

FROSTY MORNINGS - DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT

Near to the Surrey and Sussex border we are seeing a spate of cars being stolen while people start the engine to defrost the windscreen, and then go back in their house!

However tempting this is - PLEASE PLEASE do not do this. Lock your vehicle if able or scrape the windows.

We would also raise the issue of how would you explain this to your insurance company. Be safe and secure.

Regards

Mark Howells Crime Reduction Advisor

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG

May I say a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the 12th annual Christmas Carol Singalong the super and successful event that was staged outside The Ship on Friday 16th December. Please see photos on page 22.

To those of you that attended the Parish Council's sponsored event itself starting at 7pm, may I thank you all for the brilliant singing. My word, you all sounded so good and those extra clever talented ones who sang the descants, well you were absolutely marvellous.

I have found pictures of the first Singalong held 12 years ago when Katrina Edwards was playing the electronic keyboard accompanied by Mike Lambert. The second picture shows our wonderful lady vicar Catherine Wood who gave the Christmas blessing for us. The third picture shows our own Father Christmas (see below) with a whole lot of help from Trevor Smith, and many thanks to him and his daughter Lucy for coming every year with a present for all of the children. They have never charged a single penny for their services and we are so grateful to them.

The next Christmas Carol Singalong is already booked at the refurbished Ship as has the Tatsfield Saints Band and the date is Friday 15th December starting at 7pm. See you all there for an event that helps to put you in the Christmas spirit.

Dave Bishop. (01959 577550 ; davedbsound@gmail.com)



VILLAGE HALL ~ TATSFIELD
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18th

THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE
Cert U

DOORS OPEN 3.30
ENDS 5.30
CERTIFICATE U

MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN
CERTIFICATE 12
OPEN 7.30 ENDS 9.55

~ALL SEATS £5.00~
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POPPY APPEAL 2016



Once again Jane Abram organised the collection for the Poppy Appeal in Tatsfield last November, when the magnificent total of £2,657 was collected. Collection boxes were placed in the Grasshopper Inn, St. Mary's Church, Park Wood Golf Club, Tatsfield School, the Bakery, Linda's Stores, the Village Club, the Summerhouse, the Village Hall and Thackray Williams (the solicitors where Jane's daughter Imogen works). In addition, Jane with Pam Draper, Lorna Tony, Richard Swadling and Imogen stood and collected at the Clacket Lane M25 Service Station (which is in the parish of Tatsfield), where almost half of the total collected was given.

Jane is grateful to all the places where collection boxes were located, and in turn the village as a whole thank Jane and those who helped her.

The Poppy Appeal was first held in 1921, the year the British Legion was founded. Red silk poppies, inspired by the famous World War I poem "In Flanders Fields", sold out instantly. The funds helped World War I veterans find jobs and housing after the war. There is a long history of collections in Tatsfield each year. The funds raised are used by the Royal British Legion to support the welfare of the Armed Forces.

In addition to the total above, the Remembrance Day service at St Mary's resulted in a collection of £90 which has also been forwarded to the British Legion.

TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for November 2016:

1st prize:	Jon Dunn	£45
2nd prize:	Jon Maynard	£30
3rd prize:	Bob David	£15

Would you all please let me have your current contact details again by e-mail so that I can be confident that winning cheques are being sent to the correct address?

There are still several cheques which have not been cashed over the past few months so if you are holding on to any of them please do cash them in so that I know how much I can pay in to PFA from the 100 Club – if they are not cashed soon then I will assume that you wish to donate your winnings to the PFA! If you have any queries about your winnings please let me know a.s.a.p.

Wishing you all a happy 2017. And once again thank you for supporting sport in Tatsfield, the future for which now seems much brighter following Tandridge's recent funding decision.

Les Eames



WE NEED YOU!



Tatsfield-Vern d'Anjou Twinning Association invite you to join us as we welcome our French visitors to our special village this Easter.

We are looking for host families to welcome couples and young families into their homes - and there's no need to speak French!

We are expecting first time visitors this year, in particular young families, so the perfect opportunity to join in for your first time too and give your children a fantastic experience.

An exciting weekend will be arranged to celebrate - with events for adults and children, evening meals and entertainment, for both visitors and hosts over the entire Easter weekend.

Providing a bed, breakfast and a couple of packed lunches for your visitors is all that's required. However, joining in with some or all of the activities can add to the fun!

We'd love you to be a part of it!

John White 570097
Alizon Mooney 577143
Julie Mullan 574455
James Barker 576564

fab@waitrose.com



**Dementia
Friends**
An Alzheimer's Society initiative

Can we make Tatsfield a more Dementia
Friendly Community?

**Dementia Friendly Tatsfield Open Meeting
Parish Room on Tuesday 14th March 7.30 pm**

What have we done already?

There have been two Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friends sessions held in the village and, as a result, over 30 people are now Dementia Friends. This means that more of us, here in Tatsfield, now know that dementia is an umbrella term to describe a range of brain diseases that trigger a gradual loss of brain function - thinking, remembering and reasoning and that while there is currently no cure, there is much we can do as a community to support those whose lives are affected by dementia. It is ways of doing this in Tatsfield that we are continuing to explore. As a community, more of us are talking about dementia. This is important if we are to break down the fear and anxiety often associated with a dementia diagnosis. Those with dementia and their friends and family need support and understanding. There is some way to go until we think, act and talk about dementia, to ensure that those with dementia feel they can continue to be involved and included in their community.

What are we doing next?

Two Tatsfield Dementia Friends are taking this further and attending a Dementia Champions induction day. That means we will have two 'home grown' Dementia Champions who will be able to give dementia presentations to interested local groups. We hope that this will be particularly of interest to the many thriving Tatsfield clubs who want to be able to help any of their members who have dementia, or go on to develop it, to go on enjoying their interests for as long as they can.

Dementia Open Meeting in the Parish Room on Tuesday 14th March 7.30 pm

Please put this date in your diary now. Lauren Merrison, the Alzheimer's Services Manager for Dementia Friendly Surrey will be coming to help steer us in the right direction!

It will be an opportunity to share ideas, experiences and concerns. There will be a chance to ask questions and gather useful information about sources of further information and support. It will also be a time for widening the group of interested people who really want to make it possible for people in Tatsfield to 'live well with dementia'.

More details in the next issue of the Parish Magazine.

If you have any queries or for further information please get in touch.

Jennie South (01959 577598; jennie.south@btopenworld.com)

Tatsfield Art Group

We have spaces available in our friendly village group.

We meet on Monday evenings term-time in the Village Hall and welcome all artists, new and established.

Your first two evenings are free, so if you'd like to come along, give one of us a call.

We have some very exciting artists and demonstrations planned for spring and summer 2017, with more to come.

6 & 13th March Ian – Pastel Portrait

27th March Roger Dellar – Demo

15th May Hashim Akib - Demo

Sat 1st & Sun 2nd July Summer Exhibition

If you would like to join us for one of our demo evenings with Roger and Hashim, for a one off cost of £7 per night, please contact us for more details.

Members' work can be viewed at our Summer Exhibition in July and at Tatsfield Horticultural Society's spring and autumn shows.

Carol Gaskell
01959 577724

Sue White
01959 570097



St Mary's Church Saturday Lunches in Lent

in support of the Bishop's Lent Call
to raise money for charities at home
and abroad



St Mary's Millennium Hall

**March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
April 1st, 8th
from 12 30 till 1.30 p.m.**

MENU
SOUP, CHEESE PLOUGHMAN'S, TEA/COFFEE

Adults £4.00

Children £2.50

Raffle

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

As the New Year begins there are bright planets to be seen in both the morning and the evening skies.

As I mentioned previously, Venus is a very conspicuous evening object, visible slightly west of south as soon as the Sun has set. During the early part of the year Venus becomes progressively easier to spot as both its distance from the Sun and its altitude increase. As though it were needed, its brightness also increases as it demonstrates that, save for the Moon, it is the brightest object in the night sky. On the nights of January 2nd and 31st a thin crescent Moon is close by to provide a pleasing photo opportunity.

In the morning skies it's the "gas giant" Jupiter that currently dominates. If you are an early riser you will see the brilliant planet due south at 6.30 am in the early part of January although as the month progresses you will find it a little further west each day. This continues through February until on the last day the Sun is about to rise at 6.30 am with Jupiter low down in the south west, an hour away from setting. On January 19th a last quarter Moon is less than two degrees to the north of Jupiter whilst slightly further away to the south lies Spica, the brightest star in the constellation of Virgo.

If you are lucky enough to view both planets around this time, it will become clearer to you how the entire sky seems to rotate around the pole star, Polaris. If whilst looking for Venus during January evenings you turn to the north you will find the Plough low down near the horizon. However, if you look at the morning sky you will find the Plough almost directly overhead. This is one group of stars that never sets from the latitudes of the UK and for that reason we describe it as being "circumpolar". This is especially useful to us in the UK because the two stars in the end of the "bowl" of the Plough point towards the pole star. This means you can always find north if the sky is dark and clear.

The Plough though, is not a constellation in its own right; rather it is what we call an "asterism". This is the name given to a group of stars that make up a well-known or easily-recognised shape. All the stars in the Plough belong to the constellation of Ursa Major which in mythology was the Great Bear. However, it isn't necessary for the stars in an asterism to belong to the same constellation at all. Take for example the Square of Pegasus which lies immediately north of Venus at the moment. Only three of the stars lie in Pegasus, the other one in the top left corner is a star in the neighbouring constellation of Andromeda. The Summer Triangle is another example where the three bright stars that form it belong to three different star groups. Vega is in the constellation of Lyra, Deneb is in Cygnus and Altair is in Aquila.

Brian Mills FRAS

**TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
GARDENING CLUB**

**“INDIA – LAND OF THE TIGER”
AN ILLUSTRATED TALK BY JON ALLBUTT
7.30 PM ON 14 FEBRUARY 2017
AT THE WI HALL**



*** JON'S ILLUSTRATED TALK WILL BE ABOUT HIS RECENT TRIP TO INDIA WHEN HE VISITED THE NATIONAL PARKS OF PENCH, KANHA AND BANDA VARGH, FINISHING WITH A DAY EACH IN AGRA AND DELHI.**

*** THIS PART OF INDIA IS RICH IN WILDLIFE, PARTICULARLY TIGERS.**

*** JON WILL HAVE PLENTY OF ADVICE AND TIPS FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN VISITING INDIA.**

*** DID YOU NOTICE THE DATE? 14 FEBRUARY – VALENTINE'S DAY! TO MARK THE SPECIAL OCCASION, THE SOCIETY WILL BE DONATING A BOTTLE OF THE BEST RED WINE TO ALL THE COUPLES WHO COME TO THE EVENING WITH RED ROSES TO PRESENT TO EACH OTHER! MAKE IT A SPECIAL EVENING!**

ALL WELCOME – ADMISSION JUST £1

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Correspondence (and lots of it – thank you!):

Let's begin with this report from Marian Godfrey (Parkwood Road) (19.11.16):

*'We (Marian and Ian) really enjoy watching the antics of the many birds in the garden. At certain times of the year we have regular visits from **pheasants** who have become very tame, and sad to say, we have given them names. This year we have been visited by a whole family; Mum, Dad and four chicks. As they were quite musical with their chirping, we named them the 'Abba' family. They would troop down the garden from the field at the back in a line, with Mum in front and Dad (Benny) proudly bringing up the rear. For weeks and weeks now, the 'Abbas' visit three times a day demanding their corn, with Benny standing guard to ward off any other cock pheasants who dare come too close. They use the same route every day, stopping to preen their feathers and scratch around part of the rockery (which they have really ruined - but a small price to pay). If one of the youngsters gets left behind they do a 'road runner' across the garden. We thought initially that all four chicks were girls, but after a few weeks one of them started to look a bit moth eaten with different coloured plumage sprouting through, and it soon became evident that this one was in fact a cock – now aptly named Bjorn. He is now a fabulous looking specimen; well, he would be wouldn't he, with all that corn inside of him! We are fascinated that they have stayed in a family group for such a long time and that they are still visiting on a daily basis, even though the 'chicks' are now as large as their parents. Apparently pheasants have a very short life span of one to two years in the wild (if not shot), so they must mature quickly and do what pheasants do. It will be interesting to see how long they do stick together and whether, next year, we have three or four family groups visiting.'*

Well, Marion, I've had several reports of pheasants visiting gardens around the village, including our own, but none that chirp as melodically as yours. The ones I've heard are more reminiscent of Mick Jagger with a sore throat. Lucky you!

And now we hear from a new reporter - Karen Clifton (Crossways) (1.12.16):

*'I loved reading your article in November's issue and wanted to share my experience today with you and/or your readers. Previously I taught in a school, so my main source of feathered entertainment came from the 'enticed' visitors into my garden, such as the hordes of **goldfinches** on the sunflower hearts. However, I am now fortunate enough to be tutoring from home which means I get much more time to enjoy the birds on an ad hoc basis, as I randomly peer out of the window (obviously not when I'm working with my students!) On this morning, a glorious sunny winter's day (quite honestly I keep pinching myself... I must have chosen the loveliest autumn and winter on record to start working from home!), a little 'dot' of a bird was buzzing (not literally of course) along the branches of my berberis. As it had a shortish, dumpy appearance, I thought it was a little wren at first. Then it started hanging upside down and scuttling along the branches, and as it was greenish in colour, I thought it was, perhaps, a blue tit. Then.... I spotted the yellow stripe down its nose. The experts among you will probably have*

*identified this bird by now, but as a fledgling 'twitcher', I had to consult my handy bird book and look it up. I was astounded to be having my first experience with a **goldcrest!** What a pretty little, Christmas-looking bird. My handy guide said that these little treasures 'seem indifferent to humans'. This was indeed true... It then flew over to the window I was peering out of and settled on the myrtle plant right beneath where I was standing. This has absolutely made my day. The point here, also, is that as we change the course of our careers and jobs (in my case swapping school with working from home) those other things that change, such as missing our colleagues, etc., are replaced by the tiny things that we were too frenetic to notice before, and what a delight they are. So, 'Hello', little goldcrest... I hope to see you again soon x.'*

I am delighted by two things, Karen - firstly that you enjoy reading 'Nature Notes', and secondly that you sent me such a wonderfully uplifting email. The goldcrest is indeed a pretty little bird. You can consider yourself fortunate; not everyone gets to see them in their garden. Let's hope it's the first of many exciting observations.

Our final report this month is from Peter and Jan Maynard (5.12.16):

*'We saw this bird in our garden (photo attached) and could not identify it for a while, although it had a familiar look. However, I am now sure that it's a juvenile **moorhen**, but what it is doing here? We have no pond, but it's been around for three days – I don't know!'*



Most strange, Peter. Do your neighbours have ponds? I'm sure at some point it will return to water. I've just checked it out (as I'm sure you have) and, as expected, its main food is water plants. The supply of its supplementary foodstuffs, insects and worms, will surely be very limited at this time of year.

I guess it's the seeds you put out that is keeping it in your garden. As I say, strange, but rather wonderful!

Do you have any wonderful, uplifting news to share? If so, please send it in!

Please also remember to send in your annual Bird Observation form !!

Any news, views or observations? Contact: (**nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com**). Alternatively, drop a note in to 'Linda's Stores', or to 'Primrose Ridge', Greenway.

Nigel Shaw

TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

Well, what a great year 2016 has been for the club! We've won numerous medals in judo competitions and represented Tandridge in the Surrey Youth Games where we won the Presidents Cup for the quickest win of the day.

Our students have graded twice during the year – both judo and jujitsu classes - and wear their shiny new belts with pride!

We have provided self-defence courses to local schools and other organisations. Saw the introduction of the 'Judoka of the Month' award in our judo classes, which has gone down a storm and this year's Christmas party will see yearly award being won – including categories such as the Most Improved Judoka & Teammate of the Year (voted for by our junior club members).



In November, we held our first club judo competition and had 40 juniors enter, gaining a taste of what competitive judo is like.

However, our biggest achievement is the continued growth of the club. We now have 51 junior members and 17 senior members – hence why, since 7th January, we have been opening on Saturdays as well as Thursdays.



The photos are a mixture of grading and

competition days. Hope to see you on the mat in 2017!

Adam Plinston (tatsfieldmartialarts@gmail.com)



TATESFIELD RAMBLERS

Details of walks in the surrounding area for January/February 2017 are as follows. Everyone welcome including your dogs.

Sunday 8th January 2017

Leader: Richard Gadd

Start point: 10.30am at Biggin Hill Recreation Ground

Map Ref: TQ420590 Postcode: TN16 3LB

Description: A new walk across fields and some woodland from Biggin Hill to the Tally Ho (on the edge of Knockholt) where we will take refreshment. Some 'dips' to cross. Approximately distance 6½ miles 4 hours.

Sunday 22th January 2017

Leader: Sue Hyder and Maggie Amos

Start point: 10:45 Off Chart Lane, Brasted. Drive up Chart lane. About 300 yards after "Badgers", between the bends, turn left towards Chartfield Farm, right into the first entrance ("Little Cacketts") parking at the top of the drive/behind the stables.

Map Ref: TQ471543 Postcode: TN16 1LP

Description: This is a 5 mile 3 hour walk to Toy's Hill and back. There are a couple of short uphill on the way there, and a downhill on the way back. Refreshments will be taken at The Fox and Hounds, Toy's Hill.

Sunday 29th January 2017

Leader: Carol Vening

Start point: 11:00am Shoreham Station (or if car park is full, in the road adjacent to the Station)

Map Ref: TQ525614 Postcode: TN14 7RT

Description: A gentle stroll around the Shoreham area. At the end we will have refreshments at The Old George, Shoreham. Approximate distance 2 miles. 1.5 hours.

Sunday 5th February 2017

Leader: Jean Bossley and Annette Glazebrook

Start point: 10.30am at Otford Village Car Park

Map Ref: TQ526594 TN14 5PG

Description: This is a 4½ mile 3 hour walk to Shoreham. There is one steep hill and one steep steps climb. We will take refreshments at the Kings Arms in Shoreham.

Sunday 19th February 2017

Leader: Richard Gadd

Start point: 10.15am at Marsh Green – by St Johns United Reform Church (parking in the road by the church or in the High Street).

Map Ref: TQ438443 Postcode: TN8 5PU

Description: A new walk across mainly fields but with some woodland from Marsh Green to Cowden Pound where we will take refreshment at The Queens Arms – a very intact rural Victorian pub. Largely flat but some mild undulations. Approximately distance 7 miles 4 hours.

Walks can be subject to change at very short notice. Please either telephone or check the website - www.westerhamramblers.org.uk. The Ramblers do not carry insurance. They started as an informal group and never felt it necessary, so everyone is responsible for themselves (and their dogs).

Angela and Roger Sawyers (Tel: 577434 Email acresroger@aol.com)

PRIMARY MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE – ANSWERS

These questions were on page 52 of the December magazine and came from the challenge taken by some pupils at Tatsfield School. Here are some answers.

A. There are $123+321 = 444$ stamps in total. K to have twice as many as J, so divide 444 by 3 giving 148 for J and $2 \times 148 = 296$ for K. So he needs to give her $148-123 = 25$ stamps.

B. The only possible square numbers are 1, 4, 9, 16 and 25. Mondays are separated by multiples of 7 and so are Wednesdays: the only possibilities are $16-9 = 7$ and $25-4 = 21$. There are 2 and 5 days (plus multiples of 7) separating Mondays and Wednesdays and this fits with them being 9 and 16, and 4 and 25 respectively. So 4th was a Wednesday and 1st would have been Sunday.

C. 1001 in 13 days gives an average of $1001 \div 13 = 77$ per day. As his rate increases uniformly each day he must have knitted 77 on the middle day i.e. 6th. So 5 days later, i.e. 11th, he knitted $77+5 = 82$ socks.

D. The dots are frightening as we have no idea how many 6's there are. However if we get stuck in then a pattern emerges: $666 \times 6 = 3996$; $6666 \times 6 = 39996$; $66666 \times 6 = 399996$ etc. The sums of the digits of these answers are: 27 (i.e. 3×9); 36 (i.e. 4×9); 45 (i.e. 5×9) etc. For the number we are seeking the sum of the digits is 2016 which is 224×9 . Hence the number has 224 digits, $n=224$.

Once again congratulations go to our school pupils who, remarkable as it may seem to some, thoroughly enjoy such challenges. They are the ones who will be confronting the many challenges of our world in years to come.

Gerald South

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Jay Aston in concert with Truth is.... *(Jay Aston, ex Bucks Fizz in concert accompanied by Dave Colquhoun and his band "Truth is")*

Friday 17th (7.45) (Tickets (£19.00) available from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811)

Information pertaining to all the above shows can be obtained from:

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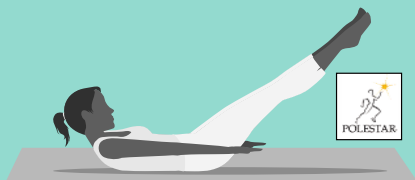
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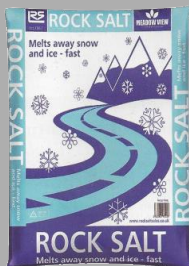
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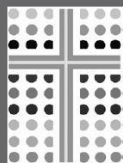
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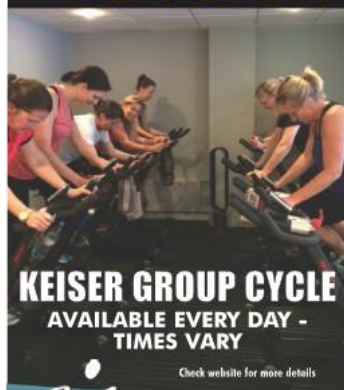
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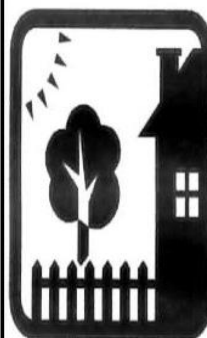


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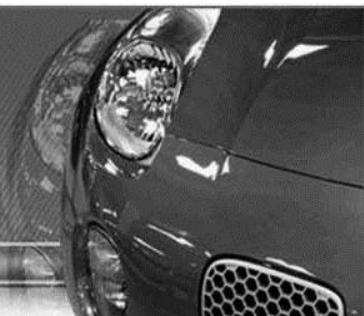
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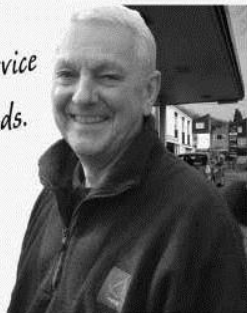


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