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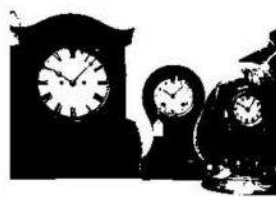
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MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment in an email to: tatsfieldpm@gmail.com, alternatively they may be posted to: Tatsfield Parish Mag, The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, Westerham, TN16 2NA.

Enquiries concerning advertising or loose inserts should be made to Sarah Tait (tatsfieldmag@gmail.com)

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

Calendar Dates Our calendar usually covers six 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 news of interest - please contact the Editorial Team on tatsfieldpm@gmail.com.

Correspondence We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else.

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EDITORIAL

On Saturday 10th February, my wife, Veronica, and I joined with others in the centre of the Village for a photograph that will be placed in the Tatsfield time capsule that is to be opened in 20 years' time. This caused me to reflect upon the enormous changes that could happen in our personal lives and the world at large in such a period.

It has been said that "we tend to overestimate what we might achieve in a year and to underestimate what we could achieve in 5 or 10 years"....but 20 years is not far short of a generation!

Those of us who are old enough may be able to look back with thanks at some of the "20s" we've already experienced. I could say that the first 20 included my initial education, since at 21 I passed some banking exams and, as a relatively new member of the Church, I got confirmed. A slightly overlapping period of 20 years (to the day!) was given to my former career of various jobs in banking and accounting. Following a "calling" and some training, last year saw the landmark of 20 years ministry in Church and Community. Finally, had I stayed with the bank I would have retired at 60, perhaps thinking I had another 20 before me but not daring to imagine I might one day receive a card from the reigning monarch.

In the shorter term, we are looking forward to spring following what seems to have been an extra-long winter. With spring, Easter falls around the time of our next Parish Magazine and so, if you are interested, please do take a look at the invitation to our services and events for Easter, which can be found in St Mary's Matters in this edition.

Vince Short



Photo: Dave Bishop

LETTERS

CRAPP (Campaign Against Pervasive (dog) Poo) Oh no, I hear you cry, not them again, but have you not seen the amount of dog poo on the pavement down Paynesfield Road of late? You must have been blind to have missed it or worse trodden in it. Our recent patrol, Paynesfield, Crossways, Westmore, Westmore Green & back down Paynesfield revealed no less than 5 abandoned dollops of dog poo, there could of course have been more but our hand held poodometer was completely overwhelmed and imploded. Are we really happy with this situation or have I to start squatting down and defecating in the street before some owners start to realize how anti social it is letting their dogs do exactly the same thing and then walking away, to me it really is no different. As Team CRAPP have said before, not only is it anti social but also a very serious health hazard and many of you may have seen the emotional BBC news feature about a young girl **LOSING HER SIGHT** because of dog poo contamination. It can so easily happen: kids playing ball on the green, ball falls into what looks like mud, ball picked up by child who then realises from the smell what it is, wipes hand on grass believing they have now eradicated all traces, but they haven't. Child returns home helps them self to a biscuit and unwittingly ingests a horror which has the potential to kill! Who would want that to happen, nobody of course but some dog owners in our village need to clean up their act or more importantly that of their dogs. Walkies! **Howard Aylett**

THE SNOWMAN FAMILY SURPRISE VISIT TO TATSFIELD

Tatsfield village centre looked superb over Christmas this year: new lights in the trees, new war memorial and the lone soldier. However we were also in for a treat. During the Friday night the Snowman Family arrived, who can forget those smiling faces! Was this another Parish Council initiative, were they made of concrete or wood, they were so heavy so how did they get there? Gradually it emerged that the Snowman Family were made and donated by none other than our unsung

Tatsfield hero Ken Thurgood. Ken had this idea last July when he found some pieces of oak (of course) and started shaping the figures using his great skills in chainsaw art. Gradually the figures emerged and were painted. Ken's sister knitted the hats and scarves and the job was completed! We can only imagine how difficult it was to move



and position these heavy figures in the early hours so that the surprise was complete for us all to see on that Saturday morning! I fancy that for next year the Snowman Family might increase – we must wait and see! Thank you, Ken, you do so much for the community without payment or praise, but on this occasion, you can't escape our thanks this time!!!

Jon Allbutt

TIMOTHY JOSEPH COOPER

17.6.1941 – 20.12.2017

Tim was born in Tatsfield the youngest child of Eileen and Thomas Cooper's four children and brother to Pearl, Desmond and Trevor. Tim with his brothers and sister all went to Tatsfield school until the age of eleven then onto school at Warlingham.

Tim worked with Des in the family business of building contractors based at "Bassetts" Westmore Green, Tatsfield, next to the village hall. They worked mainly in the London area part of the time for the Ministry of Works. Two of the buildings worked on were the Tower of London and Ministry of Defence offices in Tavistock Square. They also worked in Tatsfield and the surrounding district. Four bungalows were constructed in Tatsfield between 1960-1970.



Tim showed more interest in the plant and machinery side of the business and eventually worked on the tipper trucks and excavators which were hired out to other contractors. Whilst carrying out excavation work for a local contractor at the junction of Borough Road and Edgar Road in Tatsfield he cut through the main electricity cable that supplied the village. The blast left a massive crater and melted the excavator bucket, it threw Tim several feet into the air and although being severely shocked escaped without a scratch, but the village was without electricity for hours, this incident made the national news.

Tim enjoyed driving and was one of the first in the country to obtain a full HGV licence, which enabled him to drive any heavy vehicle. He occasionally drove 30 tonne articulated vehicles all over the country to help his brother Trevor with his haulage company.

In later years Tim and Des moved away from the building industry and for a short time were involved in the reclamation trade. After that they formed Bassett Precast, manufacturing concrete products including paving slabs, ornaments and specialised in bespoke moulds creating one off pieces for customers.

He was, before he became ill, helping his stepson Brian with his recently formed business. Tim unlike his brothers never retired and was always willing to help people and happy to work.

Tim lived with his wife Juliet in Purley, Surrey and had three step children, Claire, David and Brian. He and Juliet enjoyed many holidays abroad. Tim was very generous with his time and money. He passed away at home on 20th December 2017 after a short illness. He will be sadly missed by his family, friends and all who knew him.

Pat Cooper

MARGARET ROSE PARSONS

24 December 1930 – 25 December 2017

Margaret arrived in Tatsfield in 1952. She had left her family, and the place where she was born, to start a new life with her soon to be husband, Vic. The couple had met in the RAF in 1948, when they were both posted to Odiham, Hampshire. Remarkably, her first sight of Tatsfield was on the eve of her wedding. Travelling with her fiancé, she caught the bus from Croydon, laden with suitcases, arriving in Tatsfield to be greeted at the bus stop by her soon to be mother-in-law - and a bicycle! The suitcases were strapped to the bike and the trio made their way to the top of Ham Hill (now Johns Road). This was to become Margaret's home until the expanding family moved to Lusted Hall Lane.



Margaret had many different jobs and belonged to many associations over the years. She worked in Fitzgerald's, which used to be the newsagents many years before Linda's, and got to know so many villagers through this. She also worked at The Old Bakery when it first opened and loved her time there.

Aside from her work she was very involved in various village committees; the Vern Association and the Village Hall were two that she was deeply involved with right up until her health sadly made it too difficult for her to continue. Many will remember Margaret from the Village Hall, where she was the booking secretary, and most of her grandchildren can remember going to the Village Hall with her and playing the piano on the stage while Mum sorted the hall out. She would always get involved in any fund raising event and would work so hard generally organising the catering to help raise money for each cause. She loved doing this.

We remember as kids that Mum's house was always full, sometimes with her family from up north, and with friends of us children and there were wonderful times with Don and Vi, her much loved brother and sister in law from Battersea. Thinking back, this was the happiest time for Mum; she thrived on entertaining, and she loved to cook for everyone. Sundays always meant a Sunday roast and if Don and Vi were down, that meant cards! This would involve Don and Dad getting extremely animated as none of us Parsons have ever been good losers! We always had animals - cats, dogs, a tortoise called "Flo", rabbits and hamsters. Anyone who remembers back then will remember Prince our dog, who would cause Mum endless embarrassment by chasing the ducks, chasing cars and stealing a leg of lamb from the butchers. He was the Houdini of dogs and very much part of all of our childhoods, even following us to school much to the amusement of the other children in the Tatsfield school playground. Life seemed like endless summers. Mum, although having her own problems was in her prime with a family around her. Life changed dramatically when Mum and Dad separated and life

was then difficult but Mum got herself a job at the Old Bakery and began work there when it opened and it gave her a new lease of life.

On a personal level, she had grandchildren, who she adored and she played a big part in their lives. Paul, Claire, Karen, John, Sarah and Amy all lived locally and Mum looked after all of them in their younger years. Kim, Philip and Ross lived abroad but Mum loved them the same and would look forward to them coming over. Mum had the pleasure of great grandchildren and again she played a part in their lives when possible. Lewis, Haydn, Darcy, Leah, Tommy, Liam and Mayson all knew her as Dandoo, a name that came from her not wanting to be called Gran or nanny, so she became nanny 2. Lewis couldn't say nanny 2 but managed to say Dandoo and it stuck.

Mum would make birthday cakes. Some would be a great success, others were a bit like "give us a clue"! We had no idea what it was supposed to be and in particular a cake fashioned in the shape of Concorde springs to mind. Some would collapse (that one did) whilst happy birthday was being sung, but the little ones were wowed by the accuracy and detail, which they could clearly see. Some of us remember the lemon meringue pie incident, which came out virtually on fire with less height than a pancake. As we watched the smoke rise from the pie, Mum blamed the oven and said the workmen had done something to it. We always likened mum to the woman in the vicar of Dibley who had terrible recipes which we saw many a time, but when Mum catered for everyone else, she turned into a Tatsfield Gordon Ramsey, and was amazing, creating wonderful buffets and all types of foods for weddings, christenings and funerals which will be long remembered.

Mum was very involved in the village and with many of the organisations already mentioned. She loved it and took it very seriously, but she always talked about her connection to Yorkshire and missed her siblings very much. These were happy days and most Tatsfield villagers will remember Mum for her community spirit and her involvement within the village.

Margaret was a formidable character and showed strength and determination until the very end. Her last years were difficult but as ill as she became, she kept her humour. She appreciated the help and the care she received from those around, Mary and Barry and Les and Karen especially, who gave up their time to take her to her hospital appointments, help her in her day- to- day life and to visit her whilst she was in hospital and later at home. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Margaret's family would like to take this opportunity to thank those who came to her service at St Mary's church, Tatsfield and then on to Croydon crematorium and for all of the flowers, donations to RAFFA, cards and well wishes received from people she knew. She would have been touched at the number of people who showed their respect in one way or another. Many thanks to you all.

LINDA LEAVES FOR PAGHAM

After Linda's Stores closed on 28th October last year, Linda and Brian Dance continued living at the shop while the legalities of the sale of the shop and the purchase of their new home in Pagham continued. These took longer than hoped and it was not until 29th January that they were able to make the move. So, that morning the whole area by the front of the shop was packed with villagers who had come to say goodbye to them, and daughter Louise.



*Louise and Linda about to leave
(photo by Dave Bishop)*

They left with heartfelt words of thanks for their devoted service to the people of the village for so many years and with our best wishes for the future. As it happens, things did not go smoothly at Pagham and it was another two days before they were able to gain entry to their new home. But that is all behind them now. Linda has told us that they are well and truly settled in and that she already loves it there. And by the time you read this, Linda's new kiln should be installed!

Bob David

TATSFIELD BEER FESTIVAL 2017

It seems a long time since the balmy September day on which so many of us enjoyed the Tatsfield Beer Festival on Westmore Green. We have so far been unable to publish the total profit, as there were a couple of outstanding items, so apologies for the delay.

We are delighted to tell you that the figure stands at an incredible £12,747.61!

This is a huge amount and has been extremely gratefully received by the school PTA. We have recently put new benches in the KS2 playground, funded Bikeability and the Christmas pantomime, purchased a new storage shed and a Wendy House/shed for Reception class, purchased atlases and funded a storytelling session for the children. Coming up we will be hatching ducks and butterflies again, providing first aid lessons for Year 6, purchasing new books for the library and treating all classes to a theatre exchange. It goes to show the variety of things the money raised at the Beer Festival and from our activities throughout the year enables us to provide! We'd like to say thank you again to everyone involved in the organisation and running of the Beer Festival, and to everyone who attended and made it such a success.

Nina Denny
PTA Chairperson

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

We have had very busy and productive meetings in February. I hope that by the time you read this we will have recruited another Parish Councillor to fill the existing vacancy and we will be operating at full capacity again.

We have, at last, made some progress on the Scout Hut path and hope to appoint a contractor in the next few weeks. It looks as though we will be able to pay for most of this out of monies received from the Community Infrastructure Levy, which is pleasing.

We have joined up with Martin Allen, our District Councillor, this month and had meetings with County Councillor David Hodge, Surrey Police Inspector Gutierrez and PCSO Rupert Kelley.

We have asked David Hodge to see if the 'circuit' of Westmore Road, Crossways and Paynesfield Road could be upgraded to a Priority 1 gritting route and, if not, whether costs and logistics could be established so the Parish Council could look to finance this. Councillor Hodge had also agreed to have the junction in the village centre analysed with a view to having yellow lines painted to prevent dangerous parking.

Disappointingly, we have been advised that Tandridge District Council has confirmed that it has no authority to fine dog fouling offenders. A consultation was meant to have been run although was suspended. It is hoped that this will become a priority but we have been offered some additional help with signage and extra street cleaning. We are also looking into costs.

Finally, we have set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting: Tuesday, 1st May. There will be the usual reports from Parish, District and County Councillors as well as from the police. We are also hoping to be able to use the meeting as a public consultation for the proposed installation of CCTV around the village. Once we have managed to confirm this I will let you know but, in the meantime, please do keep the date free.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building on Mondays 12th and 26th March - both at 8.00 pm. As always, the agendas will be made available on village notice boards and at: www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield/

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

Well it has been rather a busy month since I last wrote to you on matters Tatsfield and District and it seems that this will continue in through the next month also.

On your behalf I attended meetings with TDC officers, Local and Neighbourhood police, with our County Councillor and with Park Wood Golf Club and The Grasshopper at Moorhouse. Add to that the usual TDC meetings, five since the last count as we near the budgetary part of the process.

The Tandridge District Council put on a Business Event and two of our larger businesses in the area received copies of the presentation and are now signed up for the "Business News". If other business would like this information please contact me.

Tandridge District Council celebrated the start of the Tandridge Together Lottery, which I attended with representative members from the Composting and Allotment groups, and Tatsfield in Bloom who will be grateful for your support through this initiative lottery. Details on page 36 and from the societies.

With the details of the new Community Transport service being finalised I have arranged with the WI, NSY Club and the Pop In for a member of TDC staff to come to the village and present this new information to them. Please contact your secretary for the dates and details.

The meetings with David Hodge (SCC), Dan Gutierrez (Police) and Rupert Kelly (PCSO) along with the Parish Council brought us up to date with matters and likewise we informed them of things of concern to the village and villagers. These meetings are on going and we will see them all again in the 3/6 months so please keep the TPC or me informed of the problems as they arise.

I have invited David Munro, Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey back to the village on April 18th from 10am so please put this date in your diary and later in the year our MP Sam Gyimah will make a visit. I will advertise both visits again nearer the time. So please do come along and visit if you want to meet either of them.

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

On Monday 5th February Martin Allen and Parish Council Vice-Chair Althea Davies met with our local PCSO Rupert Kelly to update both parties on the happenings and events within the village.

Photo courtesy of Dave Bishop.



Cllr Martin Allen 01959 577201 cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk or martin_allen@talk21.com

TATSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

DID YOU KNOW, There is a Steering Group currently undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan for Tatsfield?

It will discuss and propose amongst other things:

- Housing needs and places to build them.
- The need for the village to continue to prosper and to continue to send future children to the local school.
- To maintain the shops and businesses in the village so that they remain viable and an important part of the life of the village.
- To continue to have buses serve the village.
- To maintain the infrastructure and the environmental concerns of the village: Footpaths and Byways.

This is YOUR opportunity to get involved in this major decision-making exercise for the long term future of the village.

Do not waste the opportunity we need you to join the group and committees that will undertake this work.

POLICING

Hello Tatsfielders. I simply cannot believe it's March already. Everything should be out in bud, and this budding policeman should be out (and about) too!! I have missed everybody in the shop, and look forward to those times again. I have met with Cllrs Martin Allen and Althea Davies in the meantime, to keep them up to speed.

This is the worst edition of the year for the next part, because it's a double helping of the crime update (Jan/Feb). Look away..... During January, a property in Parkwood Road was broken into. Entry was by kicking in the front door, and various items were taken. Sadly, after investigations, there are no leads to go on. Next, a vehicle in Old Lane had a wire cut, which controls the alarm and door locks. Strangely, there is nothing to suggest the vehicle was entered. Not surprisingly, no lines of enquiry there. A property in Goatsfield Road had a digger deliberately set on fire which was parked at the end of their garden. Even though the victims had in mind a named suspect, sadly there was not enough evidence to connect anyone. Into February, a property in Lusted Hall Lane had an attempted break-in through the front door, with glass broken, but thankfully no entry. A property in Ninehams Road had a motorbike taken from its garage, but sadly due to the remote location, there is no evidence to act upon. Lastly, a vehicle parked on Paynesfield Road outside the victim's property, had its rear window smashed, with no entry apparent. With this last vehicle crime in mind, please can I make you aware that since the start of the year, there have been a number of vehicles illegally entered, and in 2 cases, stolen in north Tandridge. Most of these have been in Whyteleafe, with a few exceptions in Caterham and Warlingham. There is no doubt at all these are being committed by the same offender/s. Now that you are all aware, please keep the security of your vehicles as a top priority. Always lock them when not in use, and please get into the habit of not keeping anything on view inside when unattended. Do not give them an incentive. Ideally take all items out and take into the house. Lastly, if at all possible, park your vehicle ideally in a position where it can be seen from properties, either by yourself or neighbours.

No advice for the kids this month....had no recent issues with them, so I'll leave them alone for once!!

Hopefully, with warmer weather due, and a new shop to meet locals at (hide in), we in the local team should be a lot more visible and approachable in these more pleasant times of the year.

See you around the village,

Rupert

PCSO 12599 KELLEY, Surrey Police

THE VILLAGE STORE AND POST OFFICE

It is with great excitement that we are now able to introduce ourselves as the new owners of 2 & 3 The Parade, better known as Linda and Tony's Stores. We are sisters, Pippa & Vanessa Mitchell. Our family moved to the village in 2013 and it very quickly became our home. Since 2013 two of our cousins and their families have also moved to the village. This is why we are so excited to have been able to buy Linda and Tony's Stores, and really looking forward to renovating a much loved Tatsfield building over the coming year.

We do want to confirm to you that: -

1. We plan to fully renovate both the shops and flats. This building work is essential to bring the internal layout and fixtures into the 21st century regarding both quality and safety standards. This is our number 1 priority and work will be starting this Saturday. Please do say hi if you're passing.



2. We believe that Linda's Stores should remain exactly that, a village store and post office. It is a vital asset to the village. This won't change and our post office application is in progress.

3. The building work to the shops will take time, we are submitting a planning application imminently to combine both shops to create one much larger and lighter village store, which we hope the Tatsfield Community will really enjoy when finished!

As I'm sure you can appreciate property sales can take time, and unexpected delays during completion combined with Linda's understandable decision to close the store early to care for Brian, has meant that the village has been without a store for longer than you would have liked.

With Linda and Brian now settled in their new home, and our purchase complete, we are now able to start the work that will enable us to renovate the village store. We can only thank you for your continued patience, as we know it's frustrating not to have the village store open. Since the refurbishment works will take a number of months we are considering options for an interim village store. As soon as we have more news on that you will be the first to know.

We will be using our Facebook page 'Linda's - Tatsfield Village Store & Post Office' to update you all on our progress. It's going to be an exciting year, so please do watch this space!

Pippa & Vanessa Mitchell

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT – WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

If you're anything like me your weekly shop is about getting it done as fast as possible. I'm usually on autopilot and the most thinking I do is when something I want isn't available. We have become so used to having an extraordinary range of foods available, many from amazingly far-flung places. But how is it that they cost so little; £1 for a pineapple or 51p for four Fairtrade bananas?



This was something we discussed with the Scouts at the end of January. We spent a great evening in their company and as well as making Banana Smoothies and Chocolate Cornflake Cakes we played the String Game. Each

Scout was given a role, for example Producer, Factory Owner, Shop Owner or Consumer. The Producer then held the end of the string and passed it to someone they were linked to, this continued until a web was formed. We then considered how events such as drought and disease would affect our product and as the web collapsed our interconnectedness and interdependence was clearly demonstrated.

Some of you may remember Foncho Cantillo, the banana farmer who was the face of Fairtrade Fortnight in 2014. Last September storms ripped through Columbia and 80% of Foncho's banana plantation was destroyed. At the time Foncho said it would take at least five months to get back to full production and that he was so grateful to everyone who bought Fairtrade because the extra money from the Premium would help him rebuild his farm.



But what about farmers who aren't Fairtrade certified, how did they cope? The price of bananas didn't increase in the UK to help them – why is that? In Australia when cyclones rip through the Queensland banana plantations the price of bananas rocket to perhaps \$11 per kg. Consumers then have a choice whether to buy or not. They know that, if they can afford to, choosing to buy will be helping the farmers.



Fairtrade Fortnight (26 February – 11 March 2018) offers us the opportunity to think about all the people involved in the food we love to eat and especially the Producers who are so often exploited. These people at the beginning of the chain are, unfortunately, the ones at the end of the chain when it comes to getting a share of the profit.

The good news is that when we choose to buy Fairtrade we are ensuring that the Producer is paid a Fair price for his crop as well as getting a Premium to invest for the future.

Don't forget Fairtrade certification extends to gold and silver mined in small-scale mines too. Ask at any reputable jeweller or search the Internet. A Fairtrade item will always carry the Fairtrade Mark.



Barbara Hester Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

FAIRTRADE BANANA QUIZ

(Answers further on in the magazine.)

Round 1: BONKERS OR BANANAS? Are the statements True or False

1. Bananas float in water, as do watermelons and apples?



2. Bananas grow on trees?
3. Only organic banana producers can be Fairtrade?
4. Supermarkets sell the majority of bananas in the UK?
5. In 2001, there were more than 300 banana related accidents in Britain, most involved people slipping on banana skins?



Round 2: MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. How many bananas are eaten each year in the UK?
200 million; 1 billion; 5 million
2. Which of these is NOT a type of wild banana?
Purple banana ; Bubblegum pink banana; Green & white striped banana
3. Where do bananas originally come from?
The Caribbean; America; Africa; Asia

NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

The next NDS concert will be on Saturday May 12th, in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

We have not played any Rossini before, but we will be starting with his exciting '*Italian Girl in Algiers*' overture. This will be followed by the return of our favourite pianist, Mariela Cingo, playing the Mozart *Piano Concerto 24* in C minor, written in 1786, which is also when his great opera '*The Marriage of Figaro*' was first performed. She will also be playing Finzi's *Eclogue for Piano and Strings*. Despite his name, Gerald Finzi was English, being born in London in 1901 and dying in Oxford in 1956, and he wrote quintessentially English music. He deserves to be better known. The *Eclogue* was probably intended originally to be part of a (unfinished) piano concerto, and was not named (in the end it was named by his publisher) or performed until after his death.

The second half will consist of Beethoven's *First Symphony* in C, written in 1800 shortly after he discovered that he was going deaf. It owes a lot to Haydn and to Mozart, but is nevertheless distinctly by Beethoven, with its prominent use of wind instruments. It was composed when he was young – but he had already lived more than half his life – and at the height of his powers as both a pianist and a composer of chamber music.

The concert will be conducted by Bryn Clarke, who has taken three previous concerts for NDS.

Tickets will be the usual £9 for adults, and £7 for those under 18 and pensioners.

FORGET ME NOT CAFE

Due to circumstances beyond anybody's control we, the Steering Committee, are sorry to announce that we have to suspend our Café activities for the foreseeable future.



We have all enjoyed our time together and have made many new friendships through our conversation and our activities.

We want to thank the Parish Council for generously providing a venue for us, which was so helpful. We would also like to thank all who have come and shared their creative talents with us so that we could not only have the opportunity of new experiences but lots of fun as well. People's skills and support have been shared so generously with us, and we are very grateful.

We are taking this unexpected break in our activities to review how things have gone and what direction we should go in the future, and we will keep updating information through further articles in this wonderful magazine!

Carys Long



Music and magic, history and 'herstory' Westerham U3A opens its doors with an Open Day on 8 March

Westerham U3A is holding its first Open Day at Westerham Hall on Thursday 8 March. A warm welcome is assured to anyone interested in joining us. There will be talks, demonstrations, competitions and teas served - all free of charge.

For those no longer in full-time employment, membership offers a monthly talk and access to over 40 interest groups - from the allotment group to yoga.

The afternoon (14.00 to 17.30) will feature a little bit of magic, courtesy of Bernard Pinnock (pictured), and talks on the *History of Westerham, the Suffragettes and Women in the Great War*. The recently-formed Westerham U3A Ukulele group will perform a medley of popular songs. There will also be the chance to meet members and find out about the wide range of interest groups available.

"We hope as many people as possible will come and chat to us and find out what a lot membership offers. If you are coming up to retirement, our interest groups offer the opportunity to meet new people, learn for fun (no qualifications required or gained) and develop new skills. At our monthly Open Meetings, we have a fabulous range of speakers, and there are also regular outings to places of interest." Stuart Barnes, Groups Co-Ordinator explained.

More details can be found on the website www.westerhamU3A.org where there is also information on how to join. Annual membership costs just £20 (£35 for a joint membership).

TATTY KNITTERS

Our get together this month fell on Shrove Tuesday so we had pancakes instead of cakedelicious. We also had new crafters join us, in fact we were quite a crowd, a noisy crowd. It was a good evening!



Our next meet up will be on the 13th March 7.30 until 9.30 in the Bakery. Cakes provided buy your own drink.

In April we are going to have a meal, more details in next months magazine. Any crafts welcome at the group.

Val Quick 07761571071

WELCARE – HELPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THRIVE

Do you have children aged 0-13 years? Are you struggling to find the support you need?

As a charity, Welcare has been helping children and families for over 120 years. They have five centres across South London and East Surrey with Redhill and Bromley being Tatsfield's nearest. Welcare offer practical and emotional services to help families cope with a wide variety of difficulties both at their Children's Centre in Redhill and with families in their own homes. Their family support staff works with the whole family, providing non-judgemental and honest advice and guidance, helping families who are going through challenges and crisis.



Every child and family is unique and individual and whatever challenge they may be facing, whether simple or complex, Welcare are here to help them. With their Social Work-qualified Centre Managers, committed Child & Family Support Workers and an army of incredible volunteers, they work to support children, young people and families through trauma, exposure to domestic abuse, the effects of separation or divorce, destructive behaviour, financial difficulties, a child or parent with poor mental health or emotional wellbeing, practical difficulties, social isolation and everything else in between that can effect family life and the ability to parent.

If you are a parent, parent-to-be or family that wants to apply for support directly you can complete Welcare's online enquiry form at <http://welcare.org/our-services/ask-for-support/> Or you can telephone the Redhill office on 01737 780884.

Welcare also welcome enquiries from potential volunteers and donors. For more information go to Welcare.org. Find them on Facebook and Twitter or phone 01737 780884. **Barbara Hester**



NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA AND TATSFIELD SINGERS

I've no doubt most of you will be aware of the launch of Tandridge Together Lottery and their search for good causes. It was suggested to me that it might be beneficial to apply for good cause status by combining North Downs Sinfonia and Tatsfield Singers under one umbrella as Music in Tatsfield. Our application has been successful.

Running either an orchestra or a group of singers can get expensive, hiring and purchasing music to comply with copyright being a big outlay. In order to keep our subscriptions and entry fees for our respective concerts to a minimum we really need a little boost to our coffers!

Music is good for the spirit, you can get lost in it and for a time your problems diminish. Please help us to continue to make music for the Tatsfield villagers by purchasing copious lottery tickets! One ticket costs a £1.00 and choosing MUSIC IN TATSFIELD as your good cause gives us 50p. Tickets go on sale February 22, and first prize is £25000! Web address: www.tandridgelottery.co.uk.

Pat Coombe, Tatsfield Singers



TATSFIELD SINGERS

We started rehearsals on 1st February this year for our Summer Concert on 23rd June 2018 and we are delighted to welcome back Alex Davies as Musical Director for a one off performance. A wide variety of songs has been chosen from the Singers' 5 year repertoire with Alex, together with some new songs and a few surprises.

New members to the choir are always welcome, and if you feel like singing away the grey skies of winter and cheering yourself up, why not come and join us. There is still plenty of time to learn the songs before the Concert in June so why not give it a try. We are a friendly group and the evening just whizzes by! Tea or coffee is provided in the break.

There is no need to read music and there are no auditions. Rehearsals are held every Thursday evening (excluding half terms) at Tatsfield Village School (7:35pm – 9.45pm). We only charge a nominal subscription for the evening (currently £3.00) – where else would you get a fun evening and a drink for that?

If you would like any further information contact: Sara Williams 574446 or Pat Coombe 577863.

TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

On 9th February, members of the School Council for Tatsfield School, set up their annual table top sale to raise money for 'Meningitis Now'.

During the lunch break, children had time to rummage through piles of books, toys and games to find their star purchase and enter numerous competitions, such as 'guess the name of the teddy', 'human fruit machine' and 'guess the number of sweets in the jar'.

Here are some snaps of children at their stalls ready for the hordes of customers!

We are delighted to announce that we raised over £270!



BUY A LOTTERY TICKET TO SUPPORT LOCAL GOOD CAUSES AND BE IN WITH A CHANCE OF WINNING £25,000

From Thursday 22 February tickets will be available to buy for the Tandridge Together Lottery at www.tandridgelottery.co.uk. Tickets cost £1 and all profits will go to good causes in Tandridge. Anyone buying a ticket can select the local good cause they want to support from those registered on the website and have a chance of winning £25,000. The first draw will take place on Saturday 31 March at 8pm and includes a special additional prize of £250 worth of Amazon vouchers donated by local business Butler & Young Associates. There is a 50 to one chance of winning one of the prizes, which range from £25,000 to three extra lottery tickets. Residents without internet access can also take part by calling 01883 460555.

It's free for good causes to register for the Tandridge Together Lottery. The good cause must operate within the Tandridge district and can include school parent teacher associations (PTAs), sports teams, Scout or Guides groups or community groups. 50p of the £1 ticket price will go directly to the chosen good cause, with a further 10p in every pound going into a fund for the Council to distribute in the form of small grants, to a wide range of good cause projects who apply for support in the Tandridge district. The rest will go towards prizes and administration costs. To buy tickets or register as a good cause visit www.tandridgelottery.co.uk.

Moira Lambert, Head of Fundraising and Marketing at the Orpheus Centre, said: "We are keen to support the lottery for the benefits it can bring to us as a charity and our work, and also because it will help make life better for local people in Tandridge". Councillor Simon Ainsworth, Chair of the Resources Committee, said: "We are excited to open tickets sales for the Tandridge Together Lottery on 22 February and would encourage anyone buying a ticket to search for a cause on the website they would like to support. There is still time for more good causes to sign up and benefit from the lottery and we would like to wish all players the very best of luck."

Lottery management company, Gatherwell, has been appointed to run the scheme, having already launched similar lotteries with Portsmouth, Corby, Peterborough and many others. For more information contact Giuseppina Valenza or Charlotte Bradshaw on communications@tandridge.gov.uk or 01883 732704/2742. Party spokespeople: Councillor Martin Fisher (Con) 01883 712263, Councillor Chris Botten (Lib Dem) 07917 862130, Councillor Martin Allen (Ind) 01959 577201.



TATSFIELD'S OWN REMEMBRANCE STONE

The full story of how Tatsfield now has its own Remembrance Stone in the Village centre which will be stored for twenty years (2037) on a memory stick and sealed inside a phial is almost completed. Eventually the phial will then be cemented into the Stone by the builder Brian Ling's son Peter. To add to the words and pictures already recorded, the photographs and video recordings that were made at 12 o'clock on Westmore Green on February 10 will be electronically mixed and added to the final story.

Thank you all so much for your attendance on Westmore Green and especially the Fairtrade team who gave out the hot drinks that were much needed on that bitter cold day. Also all of you who kindly helped make the warm atmosphere that prevailed during the photographic session. To the camera dolly driver Jon Allbutt a huge thank you for squeezing me through your sun hatch in your car and also thanks to my son in law John Marsh who was so friendly with his encouragement on the microphone to ask everyone to wave, as indeed you all did so well. There are two young men Adam Dennis and Harry Boys, (Harry's mum Tina, tells me that he is away skiing at the moment and missed the photo session.) Both of these handsome boys are Duke of Edinburgh award winners, and they have been appointed as Trustees of the Remembrance Stone. They will see to the opening of the Stone and the phial in 20 years' time for Tatsfielder's to see publically in the Aileen McHugo Rooms what was done 20 years before in 2017. The second and successive outside annual Remembrance Day services, conducted by the super friendly Revd. Vince Short, will be held in the Village centre on the Saturday prior to the normal St Mary's church service on the Sunday. So this year it will be held on November 10 starting at 10.45am. Anyone wishing to add their name to the existing list of wreath layers are more than welcome to contact me on 01959 577550 or email davedbsound@gmail.com Thanks again everyone for your kind support and continuing help.

Dave Bishop



Part of the team that compiled the first ever Remembrance Service at Tatsfield on November 11 2017 pictured at the "Everyone picture" on Westmore Green on February 10 2018. (L-R) Adam Dennis, trustee; Sheila Bonwick; Ron Harper; Ted Bonwick; Revd

Vince Short; John Marsh, commentator; Jean Mott; Dave Bishop; Simon Sharp, drone operator.

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

Half term topic

Last half term we were looking at our feelings and emotions, including what makes us happy and showing good manners. We also made some beautiful Valentine's cards to give to those we love and finished the half term by making some yummy pancakes! After half term we'll be looking at healthy living including exercise and eating healthily, as well as celebrating Chinese New Year, Mother's Day and Easter.



Acorn the kindness bear

This term we were very excited to introduce a new addition to the Little Acorns family; Acorn the kindness bear! Acorn has been a very busy bear spending each week with a different child who has shown kindness to someone at preschool. His journal has been filling up with lots of exciting adventures and photos from all of his trips out with the children!

World Book Day

On 1st March we are excited to be celebrating World Book Day with our very own pyjama party! The children (and staff!) will be attending the session in their pyjamas along with their teddies and favourite bedtime story, where we will be looking at the story of the Gingerbread Man and decorating our own gingerbread men!

Easter-cise

At the end of the Spring term we will once again be holding our ever-popular Easter-cise games! The children are sponsored to complete four activity stations around the hall, before being awarded their very own medal and Easter egg for all of their hard work! If all of our Little Acorns families and friends in the village could please sponsor our children generously we would be extremely grateful; as a registered charity we rely on fundraising events such as these to be able to buy equipment to further enrich the children's play and learning during sessions. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Paediatric First Aid Course

On Saturday 24th March we will be hosting a Paediatric First Aid course in the Village Hall. This will be a 6 hour course on the day with a further 6 hours online to complete the qualification which is then valid for 3 years. The cost will be £60 per person and, as it is an Ofsted-recognised qualification, is ideal for anyone who cares for children either as a parent/carer or professionally. If you are interested in attending please email us at office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

Thank you for reading!

Mareka Newberry

Office Manager at Little Acorns Preschool

office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

1ST TATSFIELD SCOUTS

BEAVERS

We ended the year with three of our Beavers leaving us to move up to Cubs. We wish them all the best of luck. Their places were quickly filled with a set of twins and another boy. All are well known by the other Beavers so have very quickly settled in with such ease you would think they have been there for months.

Ten Beavers attended the District Panto at The Barn Theatre on Friday 12th January. This year it was Puss in Boots. Everyone who attended had a brilliant time and were very well behaved.

We had a great, fun-packed start to the year when the children sampled food from different countries as part of their International Badge. They learned how to say 'hello' and 'goodbye' as well as facts about Spain, America, China and Italy. This was followed by a visit to Pets at Home for part of the Animal Badge. The children loved handling the rabbits and guinea pigs and learned how to care for animals. Our Beavers have shown us how musical they are by playing instruments they are currently learning. Their talent is amazing, 'Britain's Got Talent' watch out! We finished the half term making and eating pancakes and learning to sew by making heart shaped key rings.



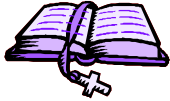
ST MARY'S MATTERS

Lent Lunches in St Mary's Millennium Hall

12.30pm - 1.30pm Saturdays 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th March.

We warmly invite you to enjoy our homemade soup, bread and cheese lunch with accompaniments, all for a suggested donation of £4 which will go towards the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal. There will be a raffle, to be drawn on the last Saturday (24th March), as in the past. New for this year, our Vicar, Vince, will offer a very short thought for the day or perform an appropriate song after lunch for those who are able to stay for a few minutes. The lunches will be served on Saturdays 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th March between 12.30pm and 1.30pm. All ages are welcome, and a child friendly food option of finger sandwiches and fruit will also be available for a more modest donation.

Open The Bible



Open the Bible

(Monthly All Age Service at 10am, normally on the 1st Sunday of the month). On February 4th we learnt a little about baptism and on March 4th our theme will be Fairtrade, with a Fairtrade stall in the Hall during refreshments after the service

Mothering Sunday, 11th March

Please do join us for our 10am All Age Communion, which will include thanksgiving for mothers and prayer for all they do.

Flower Rota

St Mary's is very grateful to Jan Maynard for overseeing the rota during the recent leadership vacancy and we are pleased to welcome Ann Vatcher as the new leader of the Flower Team. There are no flowers in church during Lent but please see Ann's notice below concerning plans for Easter:

"We will be decorating the St Mary's Church for Easter this year on Saturday 31st March beginning at 9.30am. If anyone would like to come along and help we would be delighted to see them. There will be a planning meeting at St Mary's on Monday 12th March at 10.00am in order to discuss and swap ideas for the flowers. All are welcome."

Ann Vatcher

St Mary's Food Bank Collections – Easter Delivery

An Easter delivery to Christ Church Brixton is planned for Monday the 19th of March and a local foodbank will also be supported if there are sufficient donations. Donations of non-perishable food and toiletries into the box provided in the narthex (at the back of the church) will be gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

Holy Week and Easter (26th March – 1st April)

Please join us for any of the services below as we celebrate Easter. In addition to those at St Mary's, please note that some take place at our Team Churches and in the wider community. For further information, please contact Vince on 01959 577289.

Monday 26 th March	8pm	Prayer and Worship for Holy Week at St Mary's, Tatsfield
Tuesday 27 th March	8pm	Service of Healing and Wholeness at St Peter's, Limpsfield
Weds 28 th March	8pm	Tenebrae Service at St Andrew's, Limpsfield Chart
Thurs 29 th March	8pm	Eucharist for Maundy Thursday at St Peter's, Limpsfield
Good Friday, 30 th March	10.30am	Devotional Service at St Mary's, Tatsfield
	12 noon	Good Friday Walk of Witness in Oxted (meet at Council Offices)
	2pm	Liturgy of Good Friday at St Peter's, Limpsfield
Easter Sunday, 1 st April	10am	All Age Eucharist for Easter Day at St Mary's, Tatsfield
	11.30am	Holy Communion (no hymns) at St Mary's, Tatsfield

St Mary's 100 Club results for the February draw:

51. R. Gasgoyne £25. 75. D. Parker £15. 7. M. Smith £10. St. Mary's £50.

Records

18th January Funeral of Margaret Parsons
1st February Interment of ashes of Tim Cooper
5th February Funeral of Don Oakey (at Surrey & Sussex Crematorium)

Notes from St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC)

At their meeting on 16th January, the Church Council received a summary of the 5-yearly report on the condition of the church (carried out in November 2017). The Fabric Committee will attend to the matters raised, with professional help where necessary, the most significant being the need to obtain a specialist quote for cleaning and repair of the East Window. The PCC noted the fees to be charged for weddings and funerals in 2018, which have been revised in line with the new rates set by the General Synod of the Church of England. The PCC agreed to hold a future planning morning on Saturday 17th March.

Vince Short

St Mary's Church Website: www.lttm.org.uk

AN INVITATION TO: THE LIMPSFIELD AND TATSFIELD CHURCHES TEAM GOLF SOCIETY MEETING SATURDAY 19TH MAY 2018



A Team Golf Society has been organised by St Mary's to be held at the Orida Parkwood Golf Club, Tatsfield, on Saturday 19th May. Tee off at 1pm.

The competition will be a Stableford which suits golfers of various abilities and handicaps. The cost of the day will be £38.50 per person which includes a bacon roll served at 12 o'clock, a round of golf and a main course of either *Home Cooked Ham, double egg and chips* or *Feta, cherry tomato and olive quiche served with mixed leaf salad* which will be served with wine at 6pm. (Wine will be placed on the table. Once finished, individuals will be expected to purchase their own should they wish extra; optional soft drinks will be available as an alternative).

Guests are invited to join us around 5pm for drinks and the celebration of results with a few small prizes, followed by the meal. The cost of the meal for those not playing will be £9.50, including wine.

The Society Day is open to anyone from the Team and golfers from the Oxted, Limpsfield and Tatsfield area who are warmly invited to join us on this popular North Downs course, renowned for its wide fairways. We hope everyone enjoys a pleasant relaxed day and of course warmer weather.

The postal address of Parkwood Golf Club by Orida is: Chestnut Avenue, Tatsfield TN16 2EJ. The Club entrance is off the Clarkes Lane end of Chestnut Avenue, not Westerham Hill (A233).

To register, please email marjorybroughton@gmail.com and send your cheque together with your main course choice to: Marjory Broughton c/o St Mary's Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield TN16 2NA made payable to St Mary's Church Tatsfield PCC for £38.50 for golfers and £9.50 for non-golfers. The closing date for entries is Saturday 12th May.

THE CHURCHYARD

After its fallow period over the winter the churchyard will now be in need of care and attention. I am very pleased to say that, filling the gap left by Gerald's move to Gloucestershire, Dickon Poole and Peter Maynard will be coming on board to oversee the management of the churchyard. (The PCC has the final say on any big changes.) As Easter falls at the end of March this year we need to have our first tidy-up on March 3rd. Dates after this will be:

April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd, July 7th, August 4th, September 1st, and October 6th.

All sessions are from 10 am -12 pm and we have coffee/tea and cake halfway through so if you enjoy being out in the fresh air, with a wonderful view, please come and join us.

Mary Smith

POPPY APPEAL 2017

Jane Abram has organised the Poppy Appeal in Tatsfield for several years and she did so again last November. Collection boxes were placed in the Village Club, The Bakery, The Grasshopper Inn, Tatsfield Primary School, Park Wood Golf Club, the Aileen McHugo Building, The Old Ship, The Summerhouse, St Mary's Church, the Village Hall and Thackray Williams (where Jane's daughter Imogen works). In addition, Jane and her daughter Imogen together with Lorna Tory, Wendy Tory and Richard Swadling collected at Clacket Lane M25 Service Station (which, like the Grasshopper Inn, is in the parish of Tatsfield). This resulted in the magnificent total of £2,048 being collected in Tatsfield. The funds raised are used by the Royal British Legion to support the welfare of the Armed Forces.



Jane is grateful to all the places where collection boxes were located, and also to Madie Langford, who helped in the accounting of the funds collected. The village in turn thank Jane and all those who helped her.

Bob David

HISTORY WEEKEND – MARCH 17th AND 18th



This month there will be another opportunity to delve into the history of Tatsfield – and maybe your family or your house – if you come to the Aileen McHugo Building over the weekend of 17th/18th March between 12 midday and 6 pm.

On display will be originals and copies of items from the parish archives, collections of old postcards and other images as well as searchable indexes of the more than 5,600 items in our digital archive.

At regular intervals we will also screen presentations of material on specific topics, including the pond and Tatsfield's shops.



Further details will be posted on Tatsfield Talk and on village websites.

We would also welcome the opportunity to copy any items of interest you may care to bring along.

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project

Tatsfield.history@talk21.com Tel: 577376

www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfieldhistoryproject/

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
	9.00 pm	Open Mic night, The Old Ship
Mon	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	7.15 pm	Adult Ballet - TPS
	7.30 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
Tue	1.30pm	Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month)
	5.45pm	Beavers – SH
	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
	8.00 pm	Quiz Night, The Old Ship
Thu	10.00 am	Over 50s Yoga – WIH
	1.30 pm	Hear Here – AMB (1 st Thursday of the month)
	2.00pm	Scrabble at Kayani, Greenways (1 st Thursday of the month)
	4.30 pm	Under 8's Judo - SH
	5.45 pm	Over 8's Judo - SH
	7.15pm	Adult Ju Jitsu - SH
	7.30 pm	Duplicate Bridge – WIH
	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
Fri	10.00 am	Pilates – WIH
	10.00 am	Self-defence and HIIT, Tatsfield Martial Arts (SH)
	11.00 am	Pilates – WIH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	5.30 pm	Badminton club for Juniors – VH
	6.30 pm	Over 10's ju jitsu
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club – VH
Sat	9.00 am	Under 8's Judo – SH
	10.00 am	Composting site (now CLOSED for winter)
	10.15 am	Over 8's Judo - SH
	11.00 am	Parish Council Café -The Bakery [to noon]
	11.30 am	Adult Judo – SH

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

UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

Events shown in **bold** where there is more information elsewhere in the magazine.

MARCH

3 rd Sat	7.00pm	Fairtrade Wine Tasting, VH
8 th Thurs	2pm	Westerham U3A Open Day, Westerham Hall
11 th Sun	10am	All Age Communion, Mothering Sunday, StM
12 th Mon	8pm	Parish Council Meeting, AMB
	7.30pm	Sharon Hurst Demonstration TAG, VH
13 th Tues	7.30pm	Tatty Knitters, The Bakery
	7.30pm	Bryan Everest Talk, Gardening Club, WI Hall
	2pm	Not So Young Club AGM
16 th – 17 th	various	Dracula – The Final Countdown, Barn Theatre, Oxted
17 th – 18 th	12-6pm	Tatsfield History Project Weekend, AMB
17 th Sat	3.15pm	Paddington 2, Films in Tatsfield, VH
	7.30pm	Darkest Hour, Films in Tatsfield, VH
23 rd Fri	7.45pm	The New Foxtrot Serenaders, Barn Theatre, Oxted
24 th Sat	tbc	Paediatric First Aiders Course, VH
	7.30pm	Wickham's Wandering Oldetyme Stagers, Barn Theatre, Oxted
26 th Mon	8pm	Parish Council Meeting, AMB
	7.30pm	Claire Murthy Demonstration TAG, VH
	8pm	Prayer and Worship for Holy Week, StM
30 th Fri	10.30am	Devotional Service, StM
	12pm	Good Friday Walk of Witness, Oxted
	2pm	Liturgy of Good Friday, St Peter's Limpsfield
31 st Sat	9.30am	Decorating church for Easter, StM

APRIL

1 st Sun	10am	All Age Eucharist for Easter Day, StM
	11.30am	Holy Communion, StM
14 th Sat	3pm	THS Spring Show, VH

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

Venues

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

TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPRING SHOW

We hope to see you all at the SPRING SHOW on SATURDAY APRIL 14th. Even better we hope to see the Spring flowers from your garden, your baked goods, crafty creations, flower arrangements and paintings all displayed. Members of the society are selling the Yearbooks NOW. As a member you get a 10% discount at Knights Chelsham and other benefits. There are 74 classes to enter. No upper age limit or restrictions on the number of entries. Classes for juniors from 2 – 16 years.

Enter online through the website: tatsfieldhorticulturalsociety.weebly.com or by filling in the form on Page 19 of the yearbook.

Let's celebrate SPRING!



Carol Gaskell

TATSFIELD ART GROUP

Village Hall Westmore Green
Tatsfield TN16 2AG

Come and join us for the following evenings:

12 March

7.30 – 10 pm

WATCH A DEMONSTRATION

By Sharon Hurst

Fantasy Artist in Watercolour

(£10.00)

See her work on:

www.sharonhurst.co.uk

26 March

7.30 – 10 pm

WATCH A DEMONSTRATION

By Claire Murthy

Wild Life drawings in coloured pencils, styles & pitfalls

(£10.00)

See her work on

www.clairemurthy.co.uk

Please ring for more information:

Carol Gaskell 577724

Christine Stainer 577803



TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

GARDENING CLUB

“ANYTHING GOES!”

A TALK BY BRYAN EVEREST

7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 13 MARCH

AT THE WI HALL



*** A REPEAT APPEARANCE BY ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN GROWERS OF TOP CLASS FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES IN THE AREA.**

*** BRYAN WILL BE SHARING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH US. TIPS ON SOWING VEGETABLES THIS SPRING. HOW YOU CAN PRODUCE THE BEST SWEET PEAS THIS SUMMER. GROWING BEAUTIFUL DAHLIAS. HOW TO EXHIBIT DAFFODILS AND TULIPS IN THE SPRING SHOW. AND MUCH MORE.**

*** ANY PROBLEMS IN YOUR GARDEN? NOT SURE ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF ONE OF YOUR SHRUBS OR TREES? COME WITH YOUR QUESTIONS.**

*** AS HE ALWAYS DOES, BRYAN WILL BE BRINGING A GENEROUS SUPPLY OF FLOWER AND VEGETABLE PLANTS – ALL TO BE GIVEN AWAY FREE.**

ALL WELCOME – ADMISSION £1 (INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS)

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY QUIZ NIGHT

One of our committee members suggested a fun and illustrated quiz to begin our year and improve our knowledge! Martin Hazlewood has been preparing the Garden Quiz in advance over the past few months.



Sue Warren, Martin Hazlewood and Jon Allbutt.

Over 30 people attended the quiz and were sat on tables of 4. Many people already came in teams and everyone else teamed up with other people on the night. Bob, our President decided to remain independent, determined to beat us all!

The Quiz was split into six sections comprising: Garden History; Gardens and Personalities on Television; Fruit and Vegetables; Pictures of Plants to Name; True and False Questions; and finally Anagrams. I found the Garden history Section of questions very interesting and luckily knew most of the answers! In the TV Section there were fun questions such as 'Name the cynical snail in The Magic Roundabout' and 'Bill and Ben were the flower pot men, but who was their herbaceous friend'? The fruit and vegetable section included some cooking questions 'What vegetable is traditionally used in Moussaka' and 'What is the Indian dish Dhal made from'? Naming the plants gave me a problem as we all know what a hardy geranium looks like but what is its species name? True or False questions were fun. 'An Onion got its name from a Precious stone'? True or false? 'Soya bean is the richest natural vegetable food? Finally the anagrams relating to the garden were as follows:- A Sugar Sap, Heed Groans, Tailor Curl Hut, Tattoos Weep and finally Posters Slur Sub. As you can see the questions were evenly balanced.

After question time, everyone was invited to enjoy cheese and biscuits, and homemade sausage rolls, which are one of the classes in the forthcoming spring show. Lots of final work was done on the missing answers before we swapped the papers around for marking. The Maynard team table won by one point and were award their prizes. Bob was awarded a pot of daffodils as he won the wooden spoon. A good reward for a solo effort!

The evening was such a success that everyone went back out in to the damp and windy evening with a feeling of happiness and joy at spending such an enjoyable evening amongst friends, some new, having learnt a thing or two! It will now be a firm fixture on the Garden Club calendar - Tuesday February 12th 2019!

Massive thanks to Martin for all his hard work and expertise.

Sue Warren

TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS – MORE MEDAL SUCCESS!

On Sunday 4th February, the club entered it's first competition for 2018 – the Surrey County hosted competition. This was a big competition as it was open to all Southern Area clubs - so clubs attended from Hampshire, Kent and Sussex as well as Surrey. The competition was split between males and females into the following events:

- Red belts only (u16's)
- Yellow belts only (u16's)
- Blue belts & below (adults)

In total, the club entered 18 judoka – and for some it was their first taste of competitive judo, having only just turned 8 years old (the minimum age to compete). There were lots of tough contests and a whole loads of medals won:

GOLD

Lizzie Merredew
Harry Shadrach
Rex Elliot
Oliver Buck
Julian Jameson (adults over 100kg group)

SILVER

Kayden Plinston
Charlie Worth
Jack Ramsey

BRONZE

Jolyon Coombs
Thomas Gregory
Thomas Alexander
Ellie Jameson
Bella Mumford
Aaron Mumford
Alfie Brown
Charlie Brown
Harry Cotterill
Seb Sanchez

Finally, our new over 10's jujitsu class on Friday evenings has got off to a great start. In January, when we ran a free trial, we had a total of 18 individuals come along and try jujitsu – the unarmed combat system of the samurai warrior. I am delighted to say that of these 18 individuals, 13 are still training with us as signed up club members. If you are interested in trying this new class, or any of our other classes, please get in touch – the first class is always free.

Adam Plinston

tatsfieldmartialarts@gmail.com

DESK AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE
3-drawers; 110cm w x 70cm h x 50cm d
Wood top, White Base
Tel: 577085



"TATSFIELD IS BUZZING" 2018

As had always been our intention, we are continuing with our "Tatsfield is Buzzing" theme during 2018 to attract pollinating insects to our planting.



Please see the enclosed flyer for further information if you would like to make a donation towards our work in the village. As "Linda's" is closed at the moment, the Bakery, Old Ship and Village Club have very kindly offered to hold collection boxes for us on their counters. Please use the donation slip at the bottom of this article if you would like to help us this year.



We have decided that the butterflies and bees which were painted for our displays last year will not be used again this year. If you were one of the artists who helped with this project and would like to have your "insect" back, please contact Carol Gaskell on 07815 775859 or carolgaskell1@btinternet.com.

In addition, we are very excited to announce that three village organisations, Tatsfield in Bloom, Tatsfield Horticultural Society and Tatsfield Allotments and Composting Scheme, have been accepted as "good causes" for the new **Tandridge Together Lottery** which Martin Allen introduced in last month's magazine.

Tickets at £1 each will be on sale from 22nd February and the first weekly draw takes place on 31st March. All applications for this lottery have to be made online or by telephone and after purchase you can choose which good cause you would like to support. Further details will be available to the organisations after 22nd February and they will be contacting their members.

Please support one of the Tatsfield voluntary organisations if you can – 50p of every ticket purchased goes direct to the good cause. Prizes range from £25,000 for matching 6 numbers to 3 new tickets for matching 2 numbers.

Jill Hancock

Tatsfield in Bloom (577622)

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM APPEAL FOR FUNDS 2018

I should like to contribute £

Name (optional)

Please put your contribution in the special box on the counter at The Bakery, The Old Ship or The Village Club, or send to Mrs Jill Hancock, 12 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield, TN16 2AU. Please make cheques payable to "Tatsfield in Bloom".

COMPOSTER'S CHRONICLE

I thought this would be a good time to remind everyone of the “T&C’s” for using the site and, more importantly, to explain why we ask you to do these things.

1. Only bring waste up to the site during opening hours (10am – noon on Saturday mornings from first Saturday in April to last Saturday in September). This helps us to ensure material is only coming from people who are entitled to use the site i.e. Tatsfield residents who are members of the Horticultural Society. Also, material left in the bays for a period of time can get wet and mushy which makes it harder to process.

2. Please sort material to go into the appropriate receiving bay:

i. Woody material for shredding

ii. Tough green waste which requires shredding

iii. Soft green material which doesn't require shredding

This is to help us feed the shredder correctly. Our big machine has an enormous appetite but if there is too much green stuff it needs woody material to go with it or it suffers from indigestion and gets a bit bunged up. The operator keeps a close watch on the output and if it starts to slow or starts to look a bit “mushy” he or she has to quickly introduce woody material. If this is contaminated with, or buried under, green stuff it causes a lot of extra work and may result in the machine becoming blocked and then requiring stopping and clearing. This can waste up to fifteen minutes of our precious time.

Likewise, soft green material which doesn't need shredding will only add to the problem if it goes into one of the shredding bays.

3. No kitchen waste. This can encourage vermin

4. Nothing thicker than an inch. We can go a little bit thicker with our new shredder but we don't want to get into the tree surgery business.

5. The facility is for moderate amounts of waste from normal gardening activity. We will always do our best to help you dispose of your waste but we can get a little overwhelmed sometimes. If you have a large quantity please call either myself or Martin Allen to see how we are placed.

Philip Brett – hollygrove6-philip@yahoo.co.uk - 577420

Urgent Appeal – Composting Scheme

A few weeks ago I applied to the National Lottery for funding for a new shredder. This is replace the two small shredders which we started the scheme with and which are now past their sell-by date and to increase our shredding capacity to meet the ever-increasing demand from residents for our services.

I've had some feedback from the Lottery and they advise me that I will need more "evidence" from residents of the importance of the scheme to the community, how it engages with the community and of the necessity of this machine for the scheme to continue to thrive.

If you wish to support our application could you please email me a few words describing why the composting scheme is important to you and why a new shredder is vital.

Maybe you have been put off using the site because you have seen a big back-log?

Maybe our need for extra people to man the new shredder would encourage you to volunteer?

Maybe the scheme is really important to you for some particular reason? Duke of Edinburgh volunteering opportunity? No other way to dispose of your green waste due to problems using council sites?

I'm sure you will think of many other reasons. Thanks in advance.

Phil Brett hollygrove6-philip@yahoo.co.uk

The Composting site will be open to take green waste on Saturday 7th April from 10am-12pm. The team will be on site on Saturday mornings during March doing preliminary work. We won't be able to take green waste then but we will be able to supply you with compost should you want any for an early mulch. Still £1.25 per bag and £2.50 per barrow.

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN MARCH

A popular topic in gardening is the question of plants growing over the boundaries of properties into adjacent gardens; what can, and can't a neighbour do about it? In law there is no doubt, the property owner must ensure that he keeps his plants (including trees and hedges) within the boundaries of his property and not cause a nuisance or risk to his neighbours, footpaths or the highway. Where there are risks to highway users, and/or obstructions caused, a local authority can serve a notice on the landowner/occupier to cut back or make safe the offending growth; failure to comply can result in the work being done by the local authority and charged to the landowner/occupier – this can be very expensive!!

But what if overgrowing plants are preventing a neighbour from enjoying his/her garden because of the bulk of the growth, the shade or risk of falling branches? In this situation, the overhanging growth can be cut back to the boundary and the prunings returned to the owner. **BUT** before any action is taken it is vital to discuss the problem with the neighbouring landowner/occupier and reach an amicable agreement! It is very likely that the neighbour was just not aware that a nuisance was being caused and may readily agree to do the work, or agree that the work is completed by the neighbour, and the questions of cost and dealing with the waste are agreed. If the landowner is unknown, unhelpful, uncooperative or is unreasonable then the neighbour can ask the local authority to help – in this case it would be Tatsfield Parish or Tandridge District Councils. Try to avoid a confrontation or a dispute; do everything possible to reach agreement, have a look at the leaflet "Over the Garden Hedge" available on www.gov.uk

Rhubarb! Is Rhubarb a fruit or a vegetable? It is a vegetable that is often cooked with fruit and served as a dessert! It is delicious, nutritious and very easy to grow needing a sunny position and a nutrient rich soil. Our Tatsfield clay is not a favourite soil for Rhubarb but a bit of cultivation and mixing in plenty of good quality garden compost will do the trick. You can buy Rhubarb as bare root crowns or in pots to plant now, there is plenty of choice to provide a supply of early, mid or late varieties giving a good supply throughout the year. A few tips – don't plant too deep or the crowns could rot – keep a good layer of mulch around the plant – leave the crowns uncovered over the winter to stimulate early growth – plant several crowns and cover one of them with a big clay pot or black bin in December to force the stems into early growth ready for early picking.

The weather for Tatsfield in January continued with rainfall above the average of around 70mm at just over 100mm recorded; however, our local reservoirs are still well below their winter levels. Temperatures were at or a bit above the average with minimums of around -3 (only a few of these) and maximums just in double figures. It was windy at times (gusts of over 40mph were recorded) with some minor damage.

Jon Allbutt

HEAR HERE

“HEAR HERE” CELEBRATES ITS 2ND BIRTHDAY!

Hear Here is a free aftercare service for NHS Hearing Aids in Tatsfield run by St Mary’s Church in partnership with the NHS and Guildford Diocese.

This service has been provided in Tatsfield since March 2016. In our second year of delivering this service there have been eighty-two “visits” from people seeking support and help in using their hearing aids. This is an “on the doorstep” service which has been appreciated as it saves journeys further afield. We can provide help with the following:

- Checking the hearing aid is working properly.
- Re-tubing, ear mould cleaning and new batteries.
- Checking the fitting of the hearing aid in the ear.
- Advice on maintenance and cleaning hearing aids.
- Advice and support on making the most of the hearing aids.
- Information and signposting to other services and useful equipment.

This drop-in Hearing Aid service is held on the first Thursday of each month between 1.30pm and 3pm in the Parish room in the Aileen McHugo building behind the Village Hall. The dates to note in the coming months are: Thursdays Mar 1st, Apr 5th, May 3rd, June 7th and July 5th.

The service is free and available to anyone with a “behind the ear” NHS hearing aid.

Hilary Vale

FAIRTRADE BANANA QUIZ ANSWERS



Round 1: BONKERS OR BANANAS?

1. It’s **Bananas** but it is true bananas float in water.
2. **Bonkers!** Bananas grow as a plant. In fact they are a herb.
3. **Bonkers!** All banana plantations and small farms can become Fairtrade as long as they can meet the Fairtrade Standards.
4. It’s **Bananas!** 80% of bananas in the UK are sold in supermarkets5. It’s **Bananas** but it is true.

Round 2: MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. 5 Billion
2. Purple bananas
3. Asia



Green & White
Striped Bananas



Bubblegum Pink Bananas

WI REPORT



On February 6th we were transported back to the 1940s when our speaker Penny Harris told us about the reminiscences of a Wealden Women during the war years. Whilst working on war transport duties she met her future husband who was on leave from the RAF after losing his leg in the hostilities. Despite this he managed to get back flying until the end of the war. Becoming a commercial pilot was apparently not possible so they became husband and wife pub landlords for many years. When they



started their family they moved to a small holding. Penny is that 'family' and she turned her mother's memories into a delightful book full of interesting and humorous anecdotes.

Our meeting in March will start at the usual time of 2.30 on Tuesday 6th when we will learn about the life of a Stuntwoman. This is well outside my comfort zone and will therefore be all the more exciting to hear.

If you would like to come and try out our meetings please get in touch and I will tell you what is in the programme for coming months.

Sue Smale, 01959 577660

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

This month we celebrated our birthday with the usual tea, followed by Port and Stilton, which I understand, most people enjoyed. Some of the members were absent, I guess because of the wet weather. George Shaw gave his usual saucy jokes and had us all laughing merrily! Naughty boy! We gave a warm thank you to Ann Jupp, who gave us a generous donation, which helps to keep us going. My sister belongs to a club for senior citizens in Smallfield, which is still in Tandridge and they are not charged, because they get a grant from the local council. There must be a reason for this, which escapes me. Because of this, we have to charge our members for their tea unfortunately.



On 13th March we have our AGM and the usual afternoon tea. I hope we will see you all there this month.

Babs Heffernon (540602)

TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELD 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for January 2018:

1 st Prize:	Chris Heasman	£49.50
2 nd Prize:	Justin Naughton	£33.00
3 rd Prize:	David Parker	£16.50

Thank you for supporting sport in Tatsfield. If you know of anyone who wishes to join the 100 Club (for a modest £6 per month) or if you would like additional numbers then please contact me on les.eames@ntlworld.com

We are also looking for new members to join Tatsfield Cricket Club now, so if you are interested then contact our club captain Gary Weaver at gazzaweaver@hotmail.com – we are a very friendly club and play matches on Sundays - enthusiasm is more important than ability (though possession of both would be very welcome!).



THE BRIGITTE TRUST

The Brigitte Trust offers a free volunteer service of emotional support and practical help in the home when there has been a diagnosis of a life-threatening illness. When a family is faced with serious illness it can be devastating, and practical issues like driving, shopping and getting to hospital for treatment can sometimes be hard to manage.



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Monday 19th February 2018
from 12.30 – 2.00 pm

including a buffet lunch for which we ask a voluntary contribution of £3

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THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – MARCH 2018

In early March the brilliant constellation of Orion is due south around 7pm with his retinue of two dogs, a bull and the celestial Twins scattered about him. The shape of Orion, with his belt of three stars, is well known to many people, even those who are not astronomers. A little below the belt is a faint misty patch that marks the location of The Great Orion Nebula, a stellar nursery where stars are forming in much the same way that our Sun did 4.6 billion years ago. The question that springs to mind is, “How do we know this is the age of the Solar System?” The answer lies in looking at the radioactive decay (the “half life”) of certain isotopes in samples of rock or, better still, in meteorites. These are preferable because the very oldest rock on Earth has been lost due to subduction, a process where one tectonic plates moves under another.

The stars in the bottom right and top left corners of Orion may seem to be of similar brightness but that is about the only thing they have in common. In the bottom right, Rigel, is the seventh brightest star in the night sky and is in the order of 200,000 times more luminous than the Sun. It is blue/white in colour and lies at a distance of 860 light years where 1 light year equals 9.5 trillion kilometres. Betelgeuse (the ninth brightest in the night sky) on the other hand is quite obviously orange and a little closer at 640 light years with a luminosity 100,000 times that of the Sun. One of its most notable features though is its size: it is thought to be almost 900 times the size of the Sun. It is a star in the later stages of its life and is expected to become a supernova within the next million or so years. One suggestion is that it is *already* a supernova, but the light from the event, which would take 640 years to arrive, hasn’t reached us yet. Incidentally a supernova occurs when (to put it simply) a massive star has used up its fuel and it explodes, blowing all of its material into space.

Women in Astronomy – Vera Rubin (Part 4)

Following her PhD at Georgetown University Vera taught there for a number of years and at Montgomery College, Maryland but eventually was offered a research position at the Carnegie Institute in 1965. There, with the assistance of Kent Ford, she once more turned her attention to the dynamics of galaxies. Using a spectrometer that Ford had designed, they observed the movements of stars in different parts of the galaxy and were able to calculate the orbital speeds of them from the information that splitting a star’s light into a spectrum was able to provide. This is known as measuring the “Doppler Shift” of a body.

When we observe the planets in orbit around the Sun we find, as expected, that those further from the Sun move more slowly than those closer to it. However, this was not the case when Vera analysed the results from their galaxy observations. What they found was that the stars at the edge were travelling as fast as those nearer the centre which went against what Newton and Einstein had told us. The speed of the outer stars was such that they should have been flung out of the galaxy unless of course there was some hidden mass providing the extra gravity necessary to keep them in place.

Other astronomers couldn't believe the results and denied them, despite the fact that the great Swiss astronomer Fritz Zwicky had suggested as far back as the 1930's that there was some mass missing from the equation needed for gravity to behave in the way it was observed to do.

Vera still had work to do to convince the establishment of her discovery. *To be continued.....*

Brian Mills FRAS

Oxted Bereavement Support Group

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You're welcome to join this open group where bereaved people can come on their own, or with a friend, to meet others who are in a similar situation. It's a great opportunity to chat, share experiences and discuss ways of coping.

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When
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Time
Drop in between 1pm and 3pm

Where
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NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Correspondence:

Sometimes I feel that we should rename these pages, 'Bird Notes', so I am delighted to say that, this month, mammals take pole position. Let's begin with 'Adventurer' Jim's (Yeeles) notes (04.01.18):

*'Great news about Jo Monk's **Swifts**. It's reassuring to know that there is at least one local site that they will be returning to and I look forward to hearing the screams of the 'Devil Bird' around the village later in the year.*

*Regarding **Moorhens**, I have often seen them over at the golf course and assumed they were breeding there. I was surprised to see one a while ago crossing Tatsfield Green by the 'Royal Oak' - on an exploratory mission to Kemsley Road, perhaps?*

*Finally, here's a shot of a deer (one of a group of four) grazing in the new glade that Ruth and I created in Hill Park last year. In the past I had only seen Roe deer locally, but I think this is a **Fallow deer**. What do you think?'*

Thanks for your news and the excellent photograph, Jim. Although the Fallow and Roe can have similar markings topside, I agree that this is a Fallow deer on the basis that it



has a noticeably paler underside and a striped rump as opposed to the solid white of the Roe. Didn't we also have Muntjac sightings at one time? Are they still around, I wonder? And, having mentioned Hill Park, on behalf of all 'Nature Notes' readers, I would like to thank Ruth and yourself for all the hard work you do over

there, as well as with (and in!) the village pond, and doubtless elsewhere. It may not be readily expressed, but I can assure you that your efforts are greatly appreciated.

If anyone else has deer observations that may be of interest, please send them in.

Steve (Gaskell) sent a cheeky email. I guess Carol has stopped his pocket money - again. That's what happens when you misbehave! (25.01.18):

*'Hi Nigel. 22nd January, 12.30pm, 9C., **Red Admiral** flying round the pergola and off into the garden. Do I win £5?'*

In your dreams! Nevertheless, a lovely early sighting, Steve. As you well know, the 'Nature Notes' competition is for the first Brimstone butterfly sighting, so keep your eyes peeled. But even if you see one, you're not getting a fiver!

It's so nice to see Howard (Aylett) appearing in Nature Notes. I miss his humorous (and yet serious) notes regarding observations concerning the shady world of 'blue bag' disposal. It's time for a comeback, Howard! In the meantime, let's see what form of query you bring to our table (05.02.18):

*'In keeping with most people we have an array of bird feeders hanging, standing or propped up about the house attracting a wonderful display of our feathered friends, but also an uninvited visitor in the form of the **Brown Rat** (*Rattus norvegicus*). I, personally, cannot look at a rat without feeling in some way threatened with the thought of the 'Black Death', despite there not being an occurrence of the disease in Tatsfield for some time. Can't recall it being reported by anybody visiting the surgery of late saying, "Hey Doc, think I've got a touch of the Black Death!" Nevertheless, I am concerned with the dilemma that to stop attracting the rat I have to deny the birds. Birds are such messy eaters, we end up with bird food debris on the ground, providing just the meal ticket for our rodent friend. I say friend because I do have a sneaking admiration for the resourcefulness of this creature, but that doesn't mean I want him in my garden. Any advice on how best to manage this situation? Meantime I need to visit the surgery about these lumps I have in my arm pit!' [Of course, we all believe (including Howard) that it was probably fleas from the Black Rat that spread the plague throughout Europe, but why spoil a good story?!]*

Now, I know for a fact, Howard, that you would prefer a humane solution to your ratty problem, so poison and guns are out of the question. I would suggest building some kind of table beneath the feeders to catch falling seed, but this would require constant cleaning and wouldn't deal with the problem. My recommendation, therefore, is to trap and then release them far away from human habitation. (For a selection of 'humane rat traps', see Amazon.) But perhaps our readers have a better solution? Regarding your symptoms; it sounds like it's too late to worry about rats. I'll send flowers.

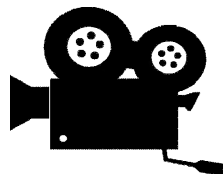
Spring is just about here, so off you go; a nice walk across the fields and through the woodland will do you the world of good. It's the perfect way to shake off those 'winter blues'. And if you have children – set them free! The wonders of nature await us all.

Any news or views? Contact: nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com

FILMS IN TATSFIELD IN MARCH

TWO BLOCKBUSTERS THIS MONTH!

It's often not possible for Curzon Country Cinema to get hold of newly released films for local screenings, but this month we have two films which are not only recent releases but have been very popular. You will be able to see the films at the Village Hall on Saturday 17 March. Tickets are £5. Pay at the door or reserve online at www.curzoncountrycinema.co.uk



Doors open at 3.15pm for **"Paddington 2"**.

This is the sequel to the first film about the marmalade-eating bear from darkest Peru and his adventures with the Brown family in London. I have just read that the sequel is the best-reviewed film ever on a well-known website, which is saying a lot. Also featured are some fine British actors, including Hugh Grant, Sally Hawkins and Hugh Bonneville. A film that can be enjoyed by adults and children alike. To tempt you further, we will be serving **complimentary marmalade sandwiches at this showing**, in honour of this famous bear.



In the evening, we have **"Darkest Hour"**, with doors opening at 7.30pm. Early in the Second World War, the fate of Western Europe hangs on the recently appointed British



Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, who has to decide whether to negotiate with Adolf Hitler or to fight on against huge odds. The film tells the dramatic story, with the nation facing its darkest hour. Gary Oldman has stolen the headlines with his performance as Churchill.

Bob David

TATSFIELD RAMBLERS

Details of walks in the surrounding area for March 2018 are as follows. Everyone welcome including your dogs.



Sunday 4 March 2018

Leader: Richard Gadd

Start Point: 10.30am, Selsdon Wood Nature Reserve Car Park

Map Ref: TQ 357615 Postcode: CR2 8QF

Description: To Fickleshole via a mixture of ancient woodland and open fields. We will stop for refreshment at the White Bear and return via a different route. The walk is about 6½ miles in total (both halves are about the same length) 4 hours, with some medium hills. One Stile.

Sunday 18 March 2018

Leader: Mary Hayward

Start Point: 10:30am By the Green, Chiddingstone

Map Ref: TQ 501451 Postcode: TN8 7AH

Description: A walk to Penshurst where we will stop for refreshments at The Leicester Arms, before returning by a different route. This is a longer alternate route to the Chiddingstone to Penshurst walks we have done in the past. Total distance approx. 6½ miles 4 hours. Small number of Stiles.

Sunday 25 March 2018 - 70's Saunter

Leader: Carol Vening

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

Map Ref: TQ 525614 Postcode: TN14 7RT

Description: A walk from Shoreham to Lullingstone Park where we will take refreshments at the visitors centre before retracing our steps. This is slightly longer than our other saunters at 3 miles 2 hours - but it is flat, and will be taken at an easy pace. No Stiles.

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)

FIVE MINUTES WITH....KATE BAMBER

Welcome to a new section in the magazine, featuring local residents with a story to share. This month we're talking to Kate Bamber...



How long have you lived in Tatsfield?

I have lived in Tatsfield on and off since I was born as my parents have lived here since 1962. I returned the last time 17 years ago when my daughter was born.

What are your favourite memories of the village?

I have many favourite memories of the village. When I was young a friend and I used to wander round very freely, only going home for lunch and dinner. The weather seemed a little more trustworthy than it is now, summer was hot and winter was cold, with snow often cutting us off from the rest of the world for a few days. I remember a particularly large snowfall around 1989 that was so deep in places whole roads disappeared! We had many days off school, which often confused people outside Tatsfield, as they would have virtually nothing!

Another memory was of the Paynesfield Road gang when I was growing up. It was a group of Tatsfielders, mostly from Paynesfield Road, that used to enter the Westerham Carnival with very large and elaborate floats constructed on the back of flatbed trucks. The men built them, women made amazing costumes and the children were extras. For some reason I remember the weather during those months was always wonderfully sunny! They also used to put on shows at the Village Hall; they were often ridiculous, but very funny. I loved going to Linda's once a week with friends and some pocket money for sweets in the good old days before sugar was the enemy! More recently, I have fond memories of trips to Beaver water world with my daughter when she was young, and sitting on the village green after school on a hot day with all the kids and mums was always lovely. The Green Fair, I can't remember when it was, but around 7-10 years ago I think. It was a really good event that focused on green energy and products - ahead of its time in many ways, thanks to Bob David and the others on the committee. The Scout and Tatsfield School Fairs and Horticultural Shows are always brilliant, and now we have the Beer Festival too. The village makes a great effort to put things on for all ages, which is why it's a lovely place to live.

What do you do?

I trained as a make up artist, and when I was younger I travelled the world! I enjoyed the work, but just wasn't get as much from it as before and wanted to do something I had a little more control over. When my daughter started at secondary school I went back to study photography full time at University, I graduated with a degree Visual Arts in 2016.

What was your motivation to do this?

My father had been a photographer and I had always been interested, but only as a hobby. I try to experiment with various digital techniques as well as taking straight photographs and have been learning about printmaking recently.

Where can we see your work?

I am also part of a group of four artists called Artcoop, that exhibit and organise a yearly exhibition in conjunction with Reigate Art School at East Surrey College in Redhill. We have around thirty emerging and established artists with a variety of disciplines coming from the South East. This year is our third exhibition. We started the group in response to our own wishes to be able to sell our work in a supportive environment as art can be a bit solitary as a career and as it grew we found we really enjoyed putting on the exhibition and seeing other artists progress.

It will be running from Monday 19th March until Friday 20th April during college hours and is free to get into.

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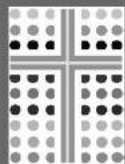
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