

JUNE 2018

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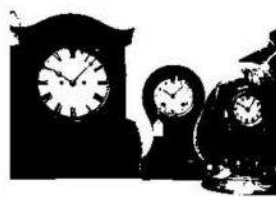
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

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Wardens • Marjory Broughton (541059), Chris Hancock (577622)

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Surrey County Councillor • David Hodge, 30 Harestone Valley Road, Caterham CR3 6HD (01883 337881)

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Village Web site: www.tatsfield.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. 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.

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

EDITORIAL

If I can repair or improve something to extend its life, I generally like to do so. Earlier this year a nice project of this kind presented itself. Some 40 years ago my wife's grandfather made a bird nesting box as a present for her mother's birthday. The old box had now been thrown out and came to me for possible repair. It was a relatively easy task re-affixing the sloping roof panels and slightly harder reducing the size of the entry holes to 25mm to attract blue tits. After finding a suitable location in our garden we were privileged to observe the focussed activity of the adult birds in feeding their young and to note that the young fledged within a day or so of the blue tits that were featured on BBC 2's Springwatch programme.

The early summer has been marked by fine weather and plenty of sport, with the football and tennis in particular. Here also "focus" is vital. How many tired football teams have lost games in the last few minutes when they lost focus or concentration for a few seconds or more. At the Queen's Club tennis tournament, the cameras caught one coach signalling to his player with hand-signs that meant "focus!" and commentators explained just how much of the game is in the mind.

It could be said that life is more than a game and so we might ask whether we have the ability to prioritise our focus when the occasion demands or indeed for the long haul. I'll always remember and ponder one wise piece of advice I received concerning my becoming a priest. I was told that whatever else I do, the one thing required of me, that I should never neglect, was to say my prayers.

Relationships with people are a primary focus for many but in an increasingly busy world they can end up being skimmed over or time poor. Hopefully, the summer months will give opportunity for some extra time with family, friends or neighbours and refreshment, with a change of scenery, for those who are able to go on holiday.

With my prayers for an enjoyable summer.

Vince Short

Tatsfield online

Village website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

Village facebook page: search for 'Tatsfield Village' on Facebook

Tatsfield Talk facebook group: search for 'Tatsfield Talk' on Facebook, and ask to join to be able to view and post.

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LETTERS.... DEAR EDITOR

Rediscovering Tatsfield. I have lived in Tatsfield since 1960 and when my son was small we used to do quite a lot of walking around the village. Nowadays, like many of us, I am more likely to be driving to and from it. As a result of recent surgery I am unable to drive for several weeks and have been told to take walks as well as rest during my recovery. My son monitors my walks with detailed questions as to where I walked etc. I have said above “Rediscovering Tatsfield”, and these walks, many of which I haven’t done in many years, have given me much pleasure. I know we have various problems with many of our unadopted roads, with their potholes and work patching them up from time to time, but having walked some of them after a considerable amount of time, I have realised how we still have beautiful unspoiled areas of mature trees and general greenery. How lucky we are to live in Tatsfield! **Phyllis Lawrence**

Re: The Planning Inspectorate, Application Decision, Ref. COM/3176259. I am one of three Tatsfield residents who formally objected to the construction of a paved patio on common land outside of ‘The Bakery Restaurant’. The received application decision of ‘The Planning Inspectorate’ clearly explains why the building work has been allowed and, consequently, I have no further objection to the project. It is worth remembering, however, that although Mr. Bond (the proprietor of ‘The Bakery’) has financed the project, the land remains ‘Common Land’ and the patio is for the use of all members of the public. Indeed, it is a condition of the consent:

‘Before the patio is first used a sign shall be permanently placed in a prominent position near it advising the public that the patio area is located on common land and it, and any tables and chairs placed on it, are therefore freely available for use by all members of the public as well as customers of The Bakery.’ (Para. 1, ii.)

Since (according to Mr. Bond) the Parish Council supported the proposal (para. 8), I trust its members will now ensure, as guardians of our common land, that the conditions of consent are adhered to. At the time of writing (25th June), no sign is evident. **Nigel Shaw**

Community Revolting Against Pervasive (dog) Poo. Upon returning from a fairly uneventful patrol the CRAPP team encountered a near neighbour who warned us of a hazard lying in wait a bit further down the road. Sure enough just before turning into CRAPP HQ there basking in the sun in the centre of the pavement was *turdus gigantus*, abandoned! Nothing showed up on CCTV and door to door enquiries drew a blank so before approaching Crime Watch we chose to highlight the evidence in situ together with a comment to the offending dog owner. 24 hours later, returning again from patrol the team was amazed and delighted to see that the barker's egg was gone, vanished! Was it the dog owner following a peak of conscience or the laudable action of a Tatsfield resident? Whoever, very many thanks from the CRAPP Team for his/her action as a measure to rid our village of the dog poo menace. **Howard Aylett**
Howard, according to Tatsfield Talk, it was the latter! – Ed.

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

What a sunny June we have had and isn't the village looking beautiful? Thank you to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to prepare for Tatsfield in Bloom. The volunteers deserve every success in this event. The new patio area at The Bakery is a wonderful space and a great addition to the village centre.

We have sought professional advice on how the pond and can be improved and have the results of a comprehensive survey which we hope to link to our website for you to read. As a first step, we will be seeking quotes for thinning out vegetation and removing the invasive New Zealand Swampcress, as well as for ways of enabling the pond to maintain an appropriate water level.

Over the summer we also hope to see work underway on the path to the Scout Hut from the village and some new signage to the village along the Approach Road.

We had a busy month with the Parish Council annual audit, monthly meetings, a finance meeting and also meetings relating to Neighbourhood Plan. It is important that the community continues to give opinions and ideas to this hardworking steering team. Representatives of the steering team were at the Scout Fete and surveys – on housing needs for instance - will be distributed to households over the summer.

Unfortunately, there still continue to be reports of flytipping, particularly around Old Lane, Barnfield and Maesmaur Roads. Just a reminder please – the ditch alongside Old Lane has a function of draining water; filling it with grass cuttings just clogs it up! We also continue to have reports of dog fouling around the centre of the village. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you see a problem, but it is also possible for you to report incidents yourself at: <https://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Environmental-concerns>

I recently attended a meeting of Tandridge Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators in Woldingham. There are several active schemes in Tatsfield – Johns Road, Maesmaur Road, Old Lane and Ricketts Hill Road for instance. I know the residents of those roads find the communications received via their local coordinator invaluable - not just in highlighting awareness or perhaps reducing potential antisocial or criminal activity, but also in supporting perhaps more vulnerable neighbours. It would be great to see this network extending across the whole village. If you are interested in setting up a "watch", please get in touch with me and I am happy to facilitate making this happen.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building on Mondays 9th July and 10th September, at 8.00 pm. As always, agendas will be made available on village notice boards and at: www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield/

Althea Davies, Vice-Chairman (Tel: 541060; Email: altheadavies@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

WHAT DO YOU WANT TATSFIELD TO LOOK LIKE IN 20 YEARS TIME?



As part of the consultation on the developing Neighbourhood Plan, the built environment sub-group (Paul Jackson, Ian Mitchell, Althea Davies, Gillian Phillips and James Barker) has been listening to your views. The responses so far, some of which were included in last month's magazine, indicate that residents are very conscious of the need to preserve the rural 'feel' of the village, represented by the surrounding countryside, the varied and generally low density character of different roads and houses together with green verges, woodland and footpaths. Also important to local people is the quality of design of new development including house extensions.



Outer village- Maesmaur Road



Village centre- Westmore Road

The group has provisionally divided the village into loosely defined 'character areas':

- 1: ***Tatsfield Village Centre*** (encompassing the commercial area, school, village hall, pub, bakery, Westmore Green)
- 2: ***Village Streets*** (generally the remainder of the built up area within the settlement boundary)
- 3: ***Outer Village*** (all other mainly residential roads in the Green Belt including Rickets Hill, Church Lane, Kemsley Road, parts of Chestnut Avenue, Old Lane, part of Rag Hill Road, Maesmaur Road, Hillside, Ninehams Road, lower parts of Johns Road and Goatsfield Road)

4: **Farmland Village Setting** (areas of mainly agricultural land in which the village is appreciated including the former Beaver Water World, the golf course, Parkwood Road, Avenue Road)

5: **AONB Farmland** (beyond the escarpment but including Clarks Lane)

6: Inset areas to 5 above including **Clacket Lane Services** and **Moorhouse**.

Please get in touch with one of us or email tatsfield.plan@btinternet.com to say what you think is important about where you live or work and how it could be better. Or come to one of the regular meetings of the steering group. The Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the formal development plan for the area that Tandridge Council must have regard to when it makes planning decisions. We would particularly like you to consider the following:

- 1) What should the Neighbourhood Plan do in terms of controlling the aesthetics of new development?
- 2) To what extent, if at all, should the density of new development should be controlled in the centre of the village?
- 3) Are front gardens an important characteristic of the village? Should they be subject to any design guidance in the Neighbourhood Plan?
- 4) What views of the village from the surrounding fields and footpaths are especially valuable to residents, and why?
- 5) Colgates, the Manor House, St. Mary's and Westwood Farmhouse are statutorily listed. Are there any other buildings which deserve to be locally recognised for their architectural quality?

Your views will be combined with responses from the other sub-groups (housing, natural environment, infrastructure, community facilities and local economy) to develop policies to ensure the village remains viable and attractive for the next 20 years.

Paul Jackson

Your village needs you!

Anyone can help with the Neighbourhood Plan.

If you are interested, please come to the next steering group on 25th July at 8 pm in the Parish Room (behind the village hall).



“TIMES ARE A CHANGING”

Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan aims to make provision for sufficient new and affordable homes, over the next 15 years to meet the needs of the local community and encourage and balanced and diverse community.

Open meetings at the end of April raised many issues to take into account including:

“Affordable homes for young people”

“Bungalows for old people”

“No more new large houses”

“Use Beaver Waterworld site”

“Sheltered housing”



“Limit development to brownfield sites”

“No family houses – no school”

“Keep our unmade roads”

“Restrict private builds where one property is replaced by 2 or more”

“Transport links – more buses”

“More contemporary designs – flats”

“No more development on the roads that are already built. Move the development boundary”

“More 1&2 bedroom houses needed especially for the old and young”



The Parish Council will use your responses to the upcoming surveys to inform its neighbourhood plan policy.

Help us to guide the future of **your** Tatsfield.

Thank you,

Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Email your comments to tatsfield.plan@btinternet.com

TATSFIELD VILLAGE POND

Last May I visited the Tatsfield Village Pond in order to carry out an ecological survey at the request of the Parish Council. I am an ecological consultant specialising in freshwater ecology with some 16 years of experience. The survey consists of some water chemistry measurements, a plant survey and then netting the pond for invertebrates (insects, snails etc) by collecting a three-minute sample, which in spite of the name, takes a couple of hours to carry out. This is a standard approach and means that any data is comparable with other ponds across the country.

The results show that the pond had reasonable water quality, which was to be expected as the main source of water was rain although road runoff can adversely affect ponds near to roads. Water levels were more of a concern and a recommendation is made to employ rainfall capture from the Village Club to supplement levels. The pond had an above average diversity of both plants and invertebrates. Some of the plants have been introduced but all bar one contribute well to the overall mix. The one exception is the invasive alien New Zealand Swampcress, *Crassulhelmsii* for which remedial action is suggested. Unusually, the pond holds a stonewort, many of which are rare. It was not possible to identify it at the time of the visit but may be possible if it produces spores during the summer.

The invertebrates are all likely to have arrived naturally as many pond species are active flyers. Although all the species present were common, there was a good range over the whole set of groups one would expect to be present – snails and bivalves, flatworms and leeches (which don't bite but hunt insects!), shrimps and water slaters (like aquatic woodlice), damselflies, bugs, beetles and two species of China Mark Moth which are unusual in that their caterpillars are aquatic! The only thing not found that would be expected would be some dragonflies (as opposed to damselflies which were found). These are often missed in aquatic surveys as they like to bury themselves in the dead leaves at the bottom, which are best avoided in the net. However they are easily seen hawking over the pond as adults and are surely there. Common frog (not so common these days) and smooth newt were obviously happily breeding in the pond.

Taken together the pond would have a moderate conservation value as no uncommon or rare species were present. Overall the pond is a good example of a nice rural wildlife pond, which sits well on the historic village green. It would appear to offer the local school good educational opportunities with so much of interest.

It would be a pity to alter the pond significantly as this would undoubtedly be to the detriment of wildlife and all too many villages have a sad looking concrete edged pool that attracts little wildlife and usually ends up full of uneaten bread or worse still - goldfish.

Robert Aquilina

Draft Local Plan

The Draft Local Plan was published on Thursday 21st June and is online at www.tandridge.gov.uk/localplan for everyone to read. The Council will also be publishing fact sheets for every ward, which will include maps, sites for new homes, employment and infrastructure improvements to help make the information in the plan easy to access.

The document was published earlier than statutorily required because the Council recognised the significance and complexity of the document and wanted to give councillors, residents, stakeholders and businesses the opportunity to have enough time to read it before the Planning Policy Committee on 3rd July, where a decision will be taken about whether to approve the Plan for Regulation 19 consultation. If it is approved, dates will be agreed for a Regulation 19 consultation scheduled to take place between 16th July and 28th August and at Regulation 20 representations will be considered - the final step before any amendments are made and the plan is presented to a government planning inspector.

New Chairman elected for 2018-2019

Tandridge District Council's Chairman for 2018-2019 is Councillor David Cooley. The new Vice-Chairman is Councillor Lindsey Dunbar who represents the Limpsfield Ward.

Freedom Leisure officially takes over the running of the district's leisure facilities

Following the successful merger between Freedom Leisure and Tandridge Trust, Freedom Leisure the not-for-profit organisation already operating de Stafford Sports Centre in Caterham, has now taken over Tandridge Leisure Centre in Oxted and The Village Health Club in Caterham.

Freedom Leisure offer a connected membership for those who want to use all three facilities and has started making improvements at all the centres to support local residents in their health and wellbeing.

Planned improvements at Tandridge Leisure Centre will include new kit, including a state-of-the-art Dual Adjustable Pulley, an improved reception and cafe area, a gym extension and the reopening of the flume. The Village Health Club will also have a refresh and new kit.

For further details about the facilities at the centres visit www.freedom-leisure.co.uk and keep up to date with the developments at the centres Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Houses of Parliament have now returned after recess and I wanted to update you all on what I have been up to in East Surrey, Parliament and as Universities and Science Minister. Many of you will have received periodic updates on particular issues you have individually contacted me about, so if you want further details please do email me at sam@samgyimah.com for the latest news.



Southern Rail/Thameslink

I am aware of the appalling service many of you have experienced with the changes to the Southern and Thameslink rail timetables. You are right to be angry and this has gone on for far too long.

I have written to Govia, to see what is being done to minimise disruption and when you can all expect the service to stabilise after the changes to the timetable. I have also asked them detail the exact changes they have made to services across East Surrey, particularly how they affect the number of direct services to London.

I met with Chris Grayling to raise your concerns and find out exactly what is being done to rectify the situation. He mentioned some measures that will be announced soon and I can send out an update when they have been confirmed.

Chalkpit Lane and Oxted Quarry

I received a reply to my letter to Surrey County Council about the unacceptable and ongoing issue around HGVs accessing the Oxted Quarry. I was very disappointed to see they have delayed their decision until later this year to give the company running the quarry more time to compile their economic impact assessments. I will keep up the pressure on the SCC to make sure this issue is brought before the Planning Committee as soon as possible.

I was outraged to hear that the HGV lorries accessing the quarry on Chalkpit Lane are trying to find ways to access the site by avoiding the strip sensors that monitor traffic to and from the area - one such post on the Oxted Facebook group shows a lorry coming down the narrow hill from Woldingham Ridge. This is completely unacceptable and I encourage anyone who has witnessed this to please email/write to me and share the evidence which I can present to Surrey County Council.

That's it for this edition. If there are issues that haven't been covered this time and you would like an update on what I am doing in such areas, please email me for details.

**Best wishes,
Sam Gyimah MP**

POLICING

Hello Tatsfieldians. Firstly, many thanks for keeping your eyes and ears open for anyone/thing suspicious around the village. Crime has been low (famous last words), and the village has been looking fabulous recently too, in all the extended sunshine we're getting.

It's a pleasure to patrol it, on top of friendly chance meetings and chats with residents. Right, let's get on with the more serious bit...

Crime wise, the last month hasn't been too bad really, unless you're one of the 3 victims of crime during that period. Nothing major or ongoing though.

Firstly, at the end of May, a van was broken into on a driveway in Paynesfield Road, with some cash taken. No lines of enquiry to go on there, no witnesses or CCTV. Also, into June an ornamental wooden elephant was stolen from the grounds of a property in Barnfield Road. Despite no definitive lines of enquiry to go on, the victim noticed a suspicious male with a van in the road a while later, entering a neighbour's garage. A separate van was mentioned the same day on social media and the plate numbers have been circulated for residents to be on the lookout. Of course, these sightings are circumstantial, and sadly cannot be linked to the theft as evidence, but please keep a lookout for suspicious vans moving slowly or parked outside properties. Finally, a resident from Crossways Court discovered a hole in their rear window, presumed to have been caused by a fired catapult. As it was only discovered, nothing was heard and there is no timeframe for when it happened, so there are no lines of enquiry. It seems highly likely that whatever was propelled at the window, came from somewhere on Greenway.

Please consider that Mr Billy Burglar loves this time of year, with us opening windows, doors, garages and sheds. DON'T make his day. A denied burglar/thief is a beautiful, wonderful thing.

If you're having a barbecue, please consider your neighbours (no, I'm not suggesting you put them on the spit). I mean, firstly check the weather (wind direction) and if it would affect your close neighbours concerning smoke. If in any doubt, just invite them over for the barbecue to avoid any possible conflict and encourage bonding. Simple.

Kids: Have a great summer, and enjoy the freedom. But stay off the roads, and stay out of trouble. I do not want to visit your parents to explain exactly how much you've been silly. I'll be watching!!

That's all folks. Have a good one, and I'll see you around the village.

Rupert

PCSO 12599 KELLEY, Surrey Police

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL



This half term...

Just before the half term break we all enjoyed a trip to Godstone Farm to finish our week of looking at the nursery rhyme 'Old McDonald'. The children had a fantastic time meeting all of the animals and playing in the sunshine!

Our topic for this half term has been 'I can', encouraging the children to grow in their independence by pouring their own drinks and getting dressed by themselves. We've also enjoyed lots of sensory activities, including playing with ice and mud, and made some lovely Father's Day cards with pasta shapes.

We're looking forward to our family fun sports day on Saturday 14th July, with races for the children followed by a bouncy castle and barbeque for the whole family.

We've also been working hard planning and practising for our end of term party and leavers show where we'll be saying goodbye to our older children who will be graduating to 'big school'.



Recent fundraising: On Saturday 9th June we were delighted to have a very busy and fun-filled race night. With lots of races sponsored by local companies, bets placed on the night and a busy drinks bar we raised a fantastic £2,000 for the preschool! Thank you to our hard-working committee for putting on such a great event and to everyone who came along to support us!

A very big thank you also to Anne Chapman who kindly donated a percentage of the profits of her craft and shopping event at The Ship to Little Acorns!

Volunteers needed! As a registered charity, Little Acorns is run by a group of volunteers who make up our management committee. Anyone in the local community can get involved and it's a great way to meet other locals, enjoy running some brilliant fundraising events and support a long-running village establishment. If you have some spare time to help the preschool we would be extremely grateful- anyone with experience in finance, management, fundraising, childcare, baking, the list is endless and we'd love to hear from you! Please contact our committee chairperson on chair@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk if you think you can help.

Thank you for reading!

Mareka Newberry

Office Manager at Little Acorns Preschool

office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

MUSIC AT TATSFIELD SCHOOL

Music continues to thrive at Tatsfield School and as we approach the end of another academic year, it is lovely to reflect upon some of our musical highlights.

Choir and orchestra clubs have been well attended and the Autumn term work was in preparation for our Christmas Nativities. Key stage 1 children presented a wonderful production of 'Midwife Crisis!' which had the audience laughing and tapping their feet and key stage 2 performed a delightful nativity called 'Here comes Christmas!' Both nativities received an enthusiastic response from our audiences.

The choir had also been preparing for taking part in the Young Voices Concert which took place at the end of January. This involved learning a huge repertoire of songs, including dance moves, which proved both challenging and rewarding! The actual event was amazing and an occasion that engraved a 'once in a lifetime' impression in our memories. Eight thousand children from primary schools across the UK took part and the songs were interspersed with dance routines by Urban Strides and various rising stars in the music world. It was an exhilarating experience for all of us!



In February, the whole school took part in 'Sign2Sing' which involved learning sign language to accompany a selection of songs. Again this was something that many schools participated in throughout the UK and we all performed our songs, signing and singing, during the same week. This event is simultaneously enjoyable and educational as the children have to learn the lyrics and tunes whilst coordinating and remembering the signs – great 'brain gym' training! Each pupil contributes a small, voluntary fee on the day and we managed to raise £111.00 for the charity 'Signhealth'.

The Spring term saw year 4 learning the flute under the tuition of one of our peripatetic instrumental teachers, Mrs Heath, culminating in a performance to parents to show this 'whole class' approach to learning a musical instrument and the progress they had made. We also introduced the recorder to our Year 2 pupils and look forward to performing to parents later this term.

In May, the orchestra and choir showcased their hard work in our annual May Music concert and many children performed solos on a variety of instruments showing talent, hard work and great courage. The orchestra also took part in the Tandridge Orchestral

Day at Whyteleafe School in June, where we met with other local schools and spent the day working on some set pieces which we performed to parents at the end of the day. It was a tremendous success and enjoyed immensely by children and teachers alike.

The choir was pleased to be invited to perform at the fair this year, singing 'Be the Change' and 'Love my Life' and although choir club has now finished until September, the singing continues as the whole of key stage 2 prepare for our summer musical, 'Oliver'.

Jan Akhtar

Little Acorns Preschool needs YOU!

Little Acorns Preschool is a long-standing village establishment
that needs the help of our local community!

As a registered charity we rely on the dedicated volunteers
in our management committee to continue to provide the
same quality service that we have since the 1980's.

If you're a village resident with some spare time, a parent or grandparent
of a Little Acorns child, or someone looking for some charity work experience
we want to hear from you!

Whether your strengths lie in finance, marketing, events organisation, fundraising,
childcare, baking.... the list is endless and we would be extremely grateful
for any help you could offer us!

If you think you could offer us your help, however often you can, please get in contact
with our committee chairperson on chair@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk
or call us on 01959 540775

Thank you for your
continued support!

The Little Acorns Team



17TH TATSFIELD GARDEN TOUR 2018

This year's Tatsfield Garden Tour took place on Sunday 3rd June. It couldn't have been a more beautiful, sunny day. Tatsfield's gardens were displayed at their very best! From my own experience, I know what hard and time-consuming work it is to be involved in this event and it was rewarding to see so many visitors, some travelling a fair distance to come to the village, as well as the Tatsfield villagers themselves. The gardens were all so different and at various stages of development but reflecting the owners' interests and enthusiasms. May I also add that all the garden hosts were very generous



with refreshments - I could have had afternoon tea everywhere I went! Many thanks to the Tatsfield Horticultural Society for, yet again, arranging this much appreciated Garden Tour.

My first visit was to **Greensleeves**, the home of Barbara and Howard Aylett. As soon as I came through the gates I knew I was in for a treat when saw the lovely shrubs and trees along each side of the drive, including one of my own favourites – a Kolkwitzia covered in beautiful pink blooms and buzzing with the sound of happy bees. There is a loggia area at

the front of the house with some lovely planting and wisteria growing over the top of the loggia – and a bird bath! The back garden is beautifully laid out with shrubs, trees and perennial plants in beds on each side of the lawn – rhododendrons, deutzia, lupins, fuchsias and cranesbill and many more. It slopes gradually down towards the woods at the bottom of the garden. There are several seating areas to sit and admire the garden – including the terrace at the back of the house with more colourful planting.

Next, on to **Braeside** and Ann and Chris Lovelace's garden – which Chris describes as 'A Walk on the Wild Side'. It is a 'natural garden' which they have not planted up in a formal way and blends beautifully into the surrounding woodland which I don't think he has tried to tame. You can wander through all the trees at the bottom of the garden (being careful to negotiate some of the uneven ground – Chris's words, not mine!)



which, on a quieter day, must be full of bird song. They have areas of attractive trees/shrubs in the garden area (in spite of the local deer) and have avoided trying to maintain a weed-free 'velvety' lawn and have taken care just to mow pathways through the grassy areas to encourage wildlife to prosper in the long grass. It is a charming and relaxing garden.

Ann and Chris are great supporters of the Orpheus Centre in Godstone and one of the Centre's Singers (Angus Morton) was there and gave a moving performance of 'Bring Him Home' from the musical Les Miserables.

Now on to **The Wood House** which Tracey and Jason Syrett moved into about a year ago. As they say themselves, it is a 'work in progress'. It is a modern house sitting in around an acre of ground. There is some similarity to Braeside being situated in a wooded area which slopes away from the house towards Old Lane at the bottom and I imagine this might be a beautiful meadow area. Immediately below the house, the sloping ground has been cleverly turned into three wonderful walled 'stepped' areas already planted with flowers, fruit trees and vegetables – one of which can be seen in the photograph. On the terrace area they have a small pool and they are already planting up some raised beds around the house with shrubs and various small trees. This leaves a large sloping lawn area to work on but already contains a shaped bed planted up with shrubs. The new drive is already edge-planted with small shrubs.



The last of the four houses on the tour is **Green Gables** where Laura and Des Harriott-Gayle live. Again, a beautiful, large garden. They have lived there for nearly seven years and, according to Des, started off with little gardening experience. In spite of trouble with deer, they are gradually making the garden their own, although Des explained that he and Laura want to maintain the original basic traditional English country garden structure and style. They have a beautiful York stone terrace which looks on to a large formal lawn where they have retained the surrounding beds of well-established rhododendrons. Lower down in the garden you come to the original apple orchard area



where Des is working hard to retain and improve the existing trees – with a lot of apparently very necessary hard pruning! Here, the lawn has been carefully mowed to leave large ‘wild’ sections of grass – they also keep chickens in this area!

My two final visits were to the Tatsfield Allotments and Community Garden and Tatsfield Community Composting Scheme.

Allotments and Community Garden

Phil Brett guided me around the allotments so that I could admire with some envy the wide range of vegetables and flowers being grown. The area has developed so rapidly from being a difficult farming area into the successful allotments now being worked on and, of 74 plots, (of varying sizes), I think only 5 are vacant. I understand that the winter weather caused problems with the bees, but another Queen has arrived and, if she is accepted by the drones, honey production should resume.



The Community Garden area is now very smart having recently been re-grassed and now has new tables and benches. As well as many of the allotment holders being there, on this occasion, it was also being put to very good use by the Longley family who were celebrating Ian's 80th birthday – lots of cakes and cold drinks on offer! The Garden is now a really popular feature as an area where the allotment holders can rest their weary limbs.

Community Composting Scheme

Phil also guided me (and Dave Bishop) around the composting area explaining the complex process of turning the various forms of garden waste brought in by Tatsfield residents into the final rich product – black gold - we all love to use in our allotments and gardens. The waste ranges from tree branches (maximum diameter approx. 1”) to grass cuttings and has to be processed in the right order to prevent jamming the shredding machines. The composting area has 40 containers, with removeable front



slats, for the resulting shredded waste which has to be layered into heaps, moisture monitored, temperature tested, weeded and sieved. An additional task this year has been renewing the deteriorating timbers of the containers and replacing them with new oak ones. Not an

easy task and there is still more to be done Phil tells me. There are 8/9 local people regularly involved in all this work and this year they were supported by 3 young people in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme.

Pam Bishop

FREE DROP IN SESSION DEMONSTRATING THE GYM EQUIPMENT

WESTMORE GREEN: SATURDAY 21st JULY 2018, 1 - 2.30 PM.

I know that many villagers are keen to use the gym equipment on the Green but aren't sure what they should be doing and how much of it!

I am offering a FREE DROP IN SESSION to help, advise and demonstrate. Anyone over the age of 15 years is welcome.

I am a fully qualified and insured personal trainer (L3) and would like to get as many villagers moving and having fun exercising as possible.

**ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT CHARLOTTE LIMPENNY.
FITNESS FOR ALL 07769692782.**

TATTY KNITTERS

WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY on June 9th started as a dull and dreary looking day, but by the time the tables and chairs were out and the parasol up, the sun had broken through and the day was glorious. The ladies that came along had a productive morning and enjoyed tea and cakes, plus conversation with a few inquisitive passers by.



We met in The Bakery the following Tuesday and had a good evening of crafting and chatting. We welcome any crafters and beginners at these get togethers.

The August meeting will be on 10th in The Bakery from 7.30 until 9.30ish. Cake provided, buy your own drink. In September we will not be meeting until 18th.

Val Quick 07761 571071

TATSFIELD ART GROUP

NEW TERM STARTING – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Come and join us in the Village Hall on Mondays 7.30 – 10pm

- Anthony Neild – Pen and Ink Landscapes (www.AnthonyNieldArt)
 - 24th September (demonstration)
 - 1st October (tutoring)
- Claire Murthy – returns – Animals in Coloured Pencils
 - 15th October (tutoring)
- Adie Parker – local artist returns – Painting in Ink and Pastel
 - 19th and 26th November

(Ring Carol Gaskell – 577724 / Christine Stainer – 577803 for further information).

THE SHIP CRAFT & SHOPPING FAMILY FUN EVENT

After a spectacular electric storm the night before and frantic messages back and forth, the following morning was dry and sunny for The Ship May Bank Holiday fundraising event. The two marquees from the Horticultural Society were up and in place early, thanks to Jon Allbutt and team for the loan and to Ken Thurgood and team for putting them up.

We had a great range of goods and very talented traders - some of whom had not sold at an event before: Crafty Cottage goods; Ashlea Nash cakes; A Touch of Glass; Entre Nous; Linda Fiddimore from Tatty Knitters; our talented Tatsfield Art Group; Glitterbox Crafts; The Lovely Candle Company; Doris Mitchell porcelain ceramics; Melissa Stuart bespoke canvases; Art & Forever Living; Prom Dresses by Jackie Stephenson; Alexander Illustrated Calligraphy; Mandy Tawney scarves; and Fox & Willow crafts.

Our thanks to these talented people who generously donated goods to the Grand Raffle along with donations from suppliers to The Ship.

The afternoon entertainment for the children was supplied by The Evans Family Bouncy Castle & Candy Floss machine. Many thanks to the band, Knocking On, for serenading us during the afternoon & calling the raffle.

The weather held all day, the BBQ was busy and the bar too!

We are really please to say that we raised over £300 which was shared between local Tatsfield groups including Little Acorns Pre-School, Tatsfield In Bloom and the Tatsfield School PTA. A further donation was made to the Horticultural Society for the hire of their Marquees.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon and The Ship will be holding an Indoor Christmas Shopping Event in November. Please contact Tina at The Ship or me if you would like to attend and haven't already told me.

Thank you Tatsfielders for all your support.

Anne Chapman





WESTMORE
GREEN
15th
SEPT
2018
1pm - 9pm

- REAL ALES • CRAFT LAGERS •
- CIDERS AND PERRIES • WINE • FAMILY FUN •
- BBO • FAIRGROUND RIDES • LIVE MUSIC •



Find us on
Facebook

www.tatsfieldbeerfestival.co.uk



YES GLAZING
SOLUTIONS
www.yesglazing.co.uk

Tatsfield Primary School Hall - Lettings

Do you know someone local who is looking for a venue to run an exercise class or a club?

Tatsfield Primary School has some availability for long term lettings of the school hall on Tuesday and Friday evenings and all day on Saturday.

To make enquiries, please contact the school office on 01959 577 356.

Tandridge Together Lottery

A chance to win

£25,000

All profits will go to good causes in the Tandridge district.
Buy tickets or sign up your group at

www.tandridgelottery.co.uk



DO YOU ENJOY A GAME OF WHIST?

If so come along to the W.I. Hall on the last Tuesday of each month at 1.30 pm and enjoy a pleasant afternoon with other who enjoy the game.

Shirley Murgatroyd

1st TATSFIELD SCOUTS



Tatsfield Scout Group would like to warmly thank all those who sponsored our Village Fête Dog Show, donated their time, enthusiasm, energy, cakes and crockery and to all who came along to support us on the day.

Dog Show Sponsors



Scouting in Tatsfield will resume in September following a summer break.

Contact details for 1st Tatsfield Scout Group



5-7 yrs

Jenny Snelling:
marksnelling333@btinternet.com
 (waiting list)



8-10 yrs

Leigh Keegan: 07970 522863



10 ½ -14 yrs

Johanne Turner: 07415 855023



14-18 yrs

S-J Mumford: 07966 227202 (starts September)

Beavers Bazzaz 23rd June

I write this the day after attending this amazing event that was organised by District with 13 1st Tatsfield Scout Beavers, Mark Gale (our GSL), Karen Vowles (Assistant Beaver Leader), 2 parent helpers (Amanda Keegan and Adam Lampard) and myself.



We left Godstone Green at 9.30 and arrived at Merrist Wood, Guildford at 11am to a huge field full of around 2,500 Beavers and Rainbows from the district. The activities on offer were every kind of inflatable bouncy castle/assault courses you could think of to laser quest, archery, face painting, space hoppers, crazy golf, arts and crafts, football games, pancake making to name but a few.

We split into 3 groups and let the children decide which activities they most wanted to do. There was a little queuing but with weather warm and sunny no one complained. The event finished at 4pm and we made our way back to the coach for the short journey home.

I was extremely proud of our Beavers whose behaviour was a true credit to 1st Tatsfield Scouts group. I can't wait for the next Bazzaz which will take place in 2021!



Jenny Snelling, 1st Tatsfield Scouts Beaver Leader

THE TATSFIELD SINGERS ... OUR SINGING THING

On Saturday June 23rd the Tatsfield Singers presented their concert OUR SINGING THING at Tatsfield Village Hall welcoming back Alex Davies as their Director of music for a one-off concert. The Singers entertained a full house, who were invited not only to sing along with selected songs but also to join in with several of the vocal and physical warm up exercises. It took us a while to get the hang of bobbing up and down to the 'B's' in My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean! The programme comprised songs chosen by the choir from the years when Alex was their director.

The first half of the concert commenced with World Music, beautiful renditions of 'Hashivenu' and 'Tina Singu' the latter being accompanied by Tess Deterding beating out the tempo on a drum.

Then we were treated to three classical tracks, 'Ave Verum Corpus', 'Lift Thine Eyes' and the haunting 'Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves', followed by two uplifting tracks, 'Let There Be Peace on Earth' and 'Inscription of hope'.

We then had a break for refreshments and there was the choice of Pimms, red and white wine, beer or orange juice, plus some nibbles, all of which were included in the entry price.

The second half of the concert began with Popular Music the first track being.

'California Dreaming', followed by 'Fields of Gold' featuring some soloists, then the melodic 'You'll Never Walk Alone'.

Then 'le piece de resistance' 'Old Mother Hubbard'! A song based on the well-known children's ode and the poor dog with no bone. Awww. Little did Alex know but someone had purchased a bone which was presented to her at the end of the evening together with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

From the smiles on the faces leaving the hall after the performance, one quote on the programme from American philosopher and psychologist William James seems apt. "I don't sing because I'm happy; I'm happy because I sing."

Sandra Corrigan, Visiting from USA

FAIRTRADE CHURCH TEAS

SUNDAY 22 JULY, 3 – 5pm



Church Teas brought to you by the Fairtrade Group.

Everything made using Fairtrade ingredients, including: tea, coffee, sugar, vanilla, cocoa, olive oil, dried fruit, bananas and chocolate

ST MARY'S NEWS

Annual Service at St James, Titsey

Please join us for our annual walk to the Titsey Estate. We will meet by St Mary's Church at 4pm for a walk to the Titsey Estate Tea Room, arriving at around 5pm. The Tea Room will be open until 5.45pm especially for this occasion, as the annual choral evensong at St James, Titsey, will follow at 6.30pm. All welcome.

Open the Bible (10am, on the 1st Sunday of the month)

On 3rd June, we learnt about "Listening to God" and to introduce the theme, we enjoyed listening to and recognising birds by recordings of their song. In July our theme was "Trust in God". We warmly invite you to our next OtB services on 5th August and 2nd September.



St Mary's Parochial Church Council

At the meeting on 16th May, the Church Council agreed to a request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for the installation of a sign, to the left of the lychgate, indicating that the churchyard contains war graves. There are 4 war graves in the churchyard. Following the necessary permissions, the sign will be installed later in the year.

Future Planning

On 23rd June, members of St Mary's gathered in the Millennium Hall to begin a process of reflection on future plans for the life of the Church. We celebrated all that is good; we acknowledged challenges; we imagined how the Church would be in 10 years' time; and we suggested ideas for new or renewed ventures in the coming years. The value of working together with the wider community was reaffirmed. If any would like to know more about the process going forward or contribute your own suggestions, please do contact Vince.

Food Bank news - Another delivery made!

Thank you to everyone for their continued support with food and toiletry donations. The last food delivery to Christ Church Brixton was on Monday the 11th of June. The numbers of people attending the Food Bank needing food parcels are still raised and not showing any signs of lessening. Due to this increased demand we are planning to make another delivery on MONDAY the 20th of AUGUST. Donations have also been taken to a local food bank in Westerham. Please continue to donate non-perishable food - the collection box is in the Narthex at the back of the Church; you can leave your food donations not just on Sundays but any day of the week. Thank you again, Hilary.

St Mary's Church 100 Club results for the June draw:

42. P Wilkinson £24.75 40. M Perrin £14.85 73. D J Gulley £9.90 St Mary's £49.50

Flower Rota

1st July	Ann and Sam Vatcher	8th July	Sylvia Hyatt
15th July	Sylvia Hyatt	22nd July	Sue Saunders
29th July	Sue Saunders	5th August	Sue Warren
12th August	Sue Warren	19th August	Sue Warren
26th August	Brenda Fairclough		

Ann Vatcher

Filming at St Mary's Churchyard

The producers of a short fictional film have approached the Church for permission to use the churchyard for two short scenes of around 3 minutes in length. If this goes ahead, the filming will take place at some point over the summer and the subsequent film will not include legible details of any names or inscriptions on memorials in the churchyard. For further information, please contact Vince.

Records

26 th May	Baptism of Betsy Good
10 th June	Confirmation of Bridie Budgen and Matthew Crocker (at St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green)
24 th June	Baptism of Arthur Barker

Churchyard

We had very welcome help from a number of the Tatsfield in Bloom team on May 26th and by the end of the session graves that had not been seen for many a day had re-appeared and others were tidied. The old yew trees had surplus greenery removed and, in general, the churchyard looked in a better state for the volunteers' attention. Because of the amount of work the area needs we now have Gary Abram mowing the area immediately round the church in between the tidy-up days. This will mean the church should always be an attractive background for the special occasions of baptisms, weddings and funerals. Thank you to all our regular volunteers and to those who came to help on the 26th May. The next tidy-up will be on 4th August.

Mary Smith

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



A FUN PACKED EVENING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

**8 TO 10.30 PM ON SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER
(DOORS OPEN 7.30)**

AT TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL

WITH LOCAL GROUP

BACK TO EDEN

**DRUMS, BASS, RHYTHM GUITAR/MANDOLIN/BANJO,
PIANO AND SINGERS**

PLAYING A BLEND OF COUNTRY AND COUNTRY ROCK MUSIC

SINGALONG AND DANCE TO SOME CLASSIC HITS!

LICENSED BAR

**TICKETS £6 ON THE DOOR
OR FROM ANY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBER
(INCLUDING BOB DAVID ON 577 357)**

OR £6.50 ONLINE at

tatsfieldvillagehall.weebly.com

BOOKING ADVISED TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

**ALL PROCEEDS GOING TOWARDS
VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN
REFURBISHMENT!**

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
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 (OPEN to September)
	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

JULY

25th Wed	8pm	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Meeting, VH
21st Sat	1pm	Gym Equipment Demonstration, Tatsfield Green
22nd Sun	10.15am	Tatsfield Ramblers Walk
29th Sun	10.30am	Tatsfield Ramblers – 70's Saunter

AUGUST

4 th Sat		Churchyard Tidy Up
5th Sun	10.15am	Tatsfield Ramblers Walk
10th Fri	7.30pm	Tatty Knitters, The Bakery
14 th Tues		Not So Young Club, Summer Lunch
15 th Wed	7.30pm	Guys and Dolls, Barn Theatre, Oxted
16 th Thur	7.30pm	Guys and Dolls, Barn Theatre, Oxted
17 th Fri	7.30pm	Guys and Dolls, Barn Theatre, Oxted
18 th Sat	7.30pm	Guys and Dolls, Barn Theatre, Oxted
19th Sun	10.30am	Tatsfield Ramblers Walk
31 st Fri	7.30pm	Metropolitan Police Choir Concert in Aid of the Sandcastle Trust, Barn Theatre, Oxted

SEPTEMBER

1 st Sat		Churchyard Tidy Up
11 th Tues		Not So Young Club – Speaker tbc
13 th Thur	7.30pm	Blue Sky Musicals – Twilight Robbery, Barn Theatre, Oxted
14 th Fri	7.30pm	Blue Sky Musicals – Twilight Robbery, Barn Theatre, Oxted
15 th Sat	7.30pm	Blue Sky Musicals – Twilight Robbery, Barn Theatre, Oxted
18th	7.30pm	Tatty Knitters, The Bakery

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
 TACG – Tatsfield Allotments and Community Garden • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club
 TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute

TATSFIELD FAIRTRADE GROUP



SUMMER COCKTAILS – DELICIOUS AND FAIRTRADE

Why not have a go at making the world a better place this summer whilst sipping one of these.

JAMAICAN BANANA. Serves 2

25ml FAIR Muscovado Rum

25ml Crème de banana

25ml FAIR Cacao

25ml cream

4 scoops vanilla ice cream

Blend all the ingredients together and garnish with FAIRTRADE banana slices.



MOJITO. Serves 1

1 glass crushed ice

50 ml FAIR Belize Rum

Dash soda water

1tsp of Fairtrade sugar or sugar syrup

2 wedges of lime

1 sprig of mint

Sugar Syrup – mix one full mug of Fairtrade white or brown sugar with one full mug of water



Or make it **Non-Alcoholic** by substituting the Rum with ½ glass of Karma Cola FAIRTRADE Lemony Lemon or Gingerella Ginger Ale and the soda water with ¼ glass FAIRTRADE Apple Juice.

Muddle sugar or syrup and lime wedges together in a jam jar, pressing down with a large wooden spoon to extract the flavour and aroma. Add a number of mint leaves and press down gently on the mint, sugar and lime. Add crushed ice to the jar until it's ¾ full. Add rum and soda, or if non-alcoholic Lemon or Ginger Ale and Apple Juice and stir with a spoon or with the lid in place give it a good shake. Add a little more crushed ice and garnish with mint leaves.

Sugar Syrup

In a high-sided saucepan over medium heat bring cold water and sugar to boil. Turn heat to low and stir constantly until sugar dissolves and mixture is clear (approx. 3-5 mins). The longer you boil it the thicker the syrup will be when cooled. At this point you can add flavourings should you wish. Let the syrup cool to room temperature and pour into a tightly sealed clean glass jar and store in the fridge. This syrup is an ideal base for many cocktails or to add to coffee.



have been producing high quality, ethical and sustainable Fairtrade spirits since 2009. Their range includes Vodka, Gin, Belize Rum, Muscovado Rum, Café, Goji, Kumquat, Açai, Pomegranate and Cacao.



range of FAIRTRADE fizzy drinks is available in cans and bottles at Waitrose. Karma Cola believe that what you drink should not only taste good it should be good for the land, good for the people who grow the ingredients and as good for you as a fizzy drink can be

For other FAIRTRADE ingredients come along to our FAIRTRADE Church Tea between 3-5pm, 22 July when there will also be a stall.

Carys Long & Barbara Hester
Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

Last month we gave you the contact details for Moyna Bridge our local Traidcraft rep. Unfortunately a digit was missing from her telephone number. Here are her correct details: moynabridge@yahoo.co.uk 01883 716257

**TATSFIELD IN BLOOM NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP KEEP
OUR VILLAGE CLEAN AND ATTRACTIVE! IF WE DON'T DO IT
OURSELVES, NO-ONE ELSE WILL!**

**ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP AT ALL? YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS
AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMIT YOURSELF REGULARLY.**

**IF YOUR ANSWER IS "YES" OR "MAYBE", HAVE A CHAT WITHOUT COMMITMENT
TO ANGELA SAWYERS ON 577434 OR EMAIL HER AT acresroger@aol.com**



THE TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (THS)

Horticultural Report for July/Aug 2018

This year our annual Tatsfield Garden Tour was held on the hottest day this event has taken place. Our president Bob David organised another superb village tour and you will read a write up by Pam Bishop elsewhere in this month's magazine. This year we have had all 'new' gardens and I must personally thank Barbara and Howard Aylett of Greensleeves, Ann and Chris Lovelace of Braeside, Tracey and Jason Syrett of The Wood House, the newly constructed house in the woods and Laura and Des Harriott-Gayle of Green Gables. Thank you so much for all the hard work involved behind the scenes and your generous hospitality. Also huge thanks as well to the composting and allotment gang for opening up and taking part and providing refreshments as well. I can only describe this as an afternoon of pure joy. Massive thanks to everyone who worked so hard to put on this memorable event. Hopefully more of you will come forward next year and offer Bob your gardens, as I know he talks to many of you, trying to twist your arms, as without you the event cannot take place. It gives pleasure to so many people - I believe well over 100 villagers and friends! Thank you Bob.

As the next edition of the Parish Magazine will not reach you until early September, please do find your Year Books and have a look at the classes to enter for the Autumn Show on Saturday September 8th, especially the photography, arts and crafts, domestic and the Juniors which can mostly be prepared well ahead of time to save any last minute panics! Without you all supporting the Society we cannot have the wonderful Autumn Shows we have come to expect. Last year we had over 400 exhibits and as my final show as Chairman I really hope to exceed this! If you have any queries about entries, or you cannot find your Year Book I am sure we can provide you with the class title entries. Please do contact a committee member or myself who will advise if we can. I am also always looking for extra volunteers on the day to help in the kitchen or clearing up at the end.

Sue Warren (542892)

TATSFIELD IS BUZZING AGAIN IN 2018!

By now you will have seen that our “Tatsfield is Buzzing” theme is taking shape again in the village. The numerous species of wild flowers are now growing well on the Tatol Bed, although the excessive rain and sun have made the wild grasses go mad!



The beds and containers have been planted with Verbenas, Heliotropes and Fuchsias and the baskets and mangers are now in position. You will also have noticed that the volunteers under Carol Gaskell have been hard at work making bees, butterflies and dragonflies out of willow and these are “flying” over the Tatol bed, around the pond and in the village centre. Many thanks to all



those who helped to make these at the workshops held in April and May.



Many thanks also to Steve Gaskell who has also been busy making butterflies and dragonflies out of CDs which are now on display on the wall of the Old Post Office.



The regular volunteers have also been busy nurturing the perennials in the Bakery Lawn bed and other plants which will attract pollinating insects have been added. The vines have also been tied and the beds edged and tidied.

Judging Day is Thursday 5th July in the afternoon when as many volunteers as possible will be out first thing carrying out last minute jobs and litter clearing. However, the team are out every Saturday morning making sure the plants in the baskets, mangers and containers are growing correctly and weeding the beds. Our watering rota is now up and running and will continue until the end of the summer.



Please support us in the Tandridge Together Lottery. Tickets at £1 each are on sale online at

www.tandridgelottery.co.uk or by telephone on 01883 460555. Remember – 50p of every ticket purchased goes direct to our cause.

Jill Hancock - Tatsfield In Bloom (577622)

COMPOSTER'S CHRONICLE

Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have sorted out the problem with the shredder. It has occurred to me that it might be a good idea if I had a way of contacting people who normally use the site to inform them if there is a problem so that they can avoid a wasted journey. I can understand how annoying it is to load up the car with your green waste and drive up to the site only to find that we cannot take it from you. So, if you would like to supply me with your email address I'll be able to email you to advise you of any problems in advance. I do update the website but realise that most people probably don't look at that too often.

Now a little gripe. We have a dustbin just outside the compound in one of the corners. This is primarily for use by the composting team for disposing of plastic and other non-organic material that comes in the green waste. A couple of weeks ago we found a large amount of broken panes of glass in it. This is highly dangerous stuff and should be carefully wrapped in sturdy paper or cardboard even in your home bin. We certainly don't want it in ours. A member of the team had to spend a good deal of time going home, finding a suitable box, then returning and finally taking it away. We don't mind the bin being used for the odd bit of litter but please use it considerably. It isn't collected from site and one of us has to take it home for collection there.

Ending on a happier note, we would like to wish you all a productive summer in your gardens and an enjoyable holiday season!

House Rules

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)

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

i. Woody material for shredding

ii. Tough green waste which requires shredding – all roots must be free of soil.

iii. Soft green material which doesn't require shredding – all roots must be free of soil.

3. No kitchen waste.

4. Nothing thicker than an inch. (or not much thicker, anyway)

5. The facility is for moderate amounts of waste from normal gardening activity. Please ask before bringing large quantities)

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

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN JULY and AUGUST

We saw rainfall levels well above the seasonal average earlier in the year and near average for May. June looks like it will be below average with no significant rainfall in the forecast. Looking at the long-term average (10 year) annual rainfall we can see how consistent they are. Climate change forecasters are telling us that we must expect a steady decline in the annual totals with increasing risks of a lot rain falling in over a short period. Experience shows that when there are above average rainfall months early in the year it is very likely that the summer months could be very dry. Our capacity to store these periods of heavy rain has not been improved (more reservoirs) so we may have a supply problem in hot dry weather. If you don't already have a means of storing your rainwater now is the time to do it! When buying a water butt buy a strong lid to cover the top to prevent it being a home for mosquitos.

The comments about our meadow feature on the Tatol Bed have not received universal approval, perhaps some folk have not been following our two-year project (Tatsfield is Buzzing) to encourage Tatsfielders to grow more pollinating plants including growing more wild flowers in their gardens. The Tatol Bed has been set out with wild flower meadow turf with our willow figures 'flying' over in search of pollen. In the autumn the turf will be lifted and laid to continue growing – we are in discussions with the Parish Council about finding a suitable site – perhaps on Westmore Green? The tall wavy grasses and the dozens of different wild flower species are an example of how you can enrich your garden as a natural habitat, reduce noise and exhaust pollution from mowers! I surveyed the Tatol Bed 'meadow' in mid-June and was very surprised to see Yellow Rattle in flower – this is a very important species and a first sighting for me in Tatsfield. Please think again about how you can help us make Tatsfield a better environment for wildlife.

I was recently asked for advice about how to maintain a good supply of flowers on rose bushes as they seem to have a flush of colour followed by only sporadic flowers. The secret with bush roses is to be quite strict with the secateurs in late June and July and carry out summer pruning. This is a very different approach from dead heading when just the dead flowers are removed. Summer pruning is the removal of up to a foot of stem below the old flower head down to a bud. You may notice that down there a bud is already emerging – don't worry if it isn't because within a few weeks a strong new shoot will emerge carrying new flower buds. If your rose bush is not a very strong grower then be a bit careful and remove a lesser amount of stem. It is a good idea at this point in their growth cycle to give them a feed of rose fertiliser – liquid or granule – and if the weather is hot and dry give them one good soaking after feeding and pruning. Please do not worry if there are aphids or a bit of mildew they will not kill the plant and spraying them is often not fully effective. However, you may need to spray if they have Black Spot or Rust as these two fungus diseases can cause a lot of damage.

Jon Allbutt

WI REPORT



Our speaker for June is Lin Saines known to many of us in Tatsfield as the 'herb lady'. She and her husband Martin looked after the planting of the horse trough in the village centre for ten years. Lin took us on a fascinating journey into the world of lace making and the story of the Pantograph machine that made the laces for the wedding dress of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The Pantograph machine was made in Switzerland in 1904, relocated to Nottingham, then during the War to a small village in Derby.



Lin brought with her rare World War I embroidery pieces that were called sweetheart cards sent home by soldiers in 1914-18 war, Coronation celebration laces and many pieces dating from the early 1930s to designs made exclusively for her in the 1990s. Lin shared some interesting facts with us about Princess Diana's wedding dress, her train was the longest in history, at 25ft woven with pure silk from mulberry tree silk worms from a farm in Shropshire. Ten Thousand pearls and sequins were hand sown onto the bodice an amazing dress.

She also told us an amusing story of David Emanuel under Diana's dress, on the wedding day, when the Queen Mother entered the room! Just in case you ever have the chance to hear Lin's talk I won't spoil the ending.

If anyone would like to find out more about Tatsfield's WI please come to one of our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.15pm in the WI Hall, Paynesfield Road or ring Sue Smale, 01959 577660 for a chat. You can also get an update on the village website. (<https://www.tatsfield.org.uk/other-groups/womens-institute>). We are a friendly bunch happy to welcome new members.

Sandra Shury

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



The numbers again, were lower than usual this month and I only hope that the missing members are well.

I must amend an omission from last month's report, with apologies to Pat Tyler for not mentioning her name in the list of helpers. We are always grateful for all the help offered.

There was a table quiz this month, again given by George. And there were some rather amusing answers! We were glad that Doreen was able to join us and hope she will soon be fit and well again.

The August meeting will be on Tuesday 14th August and we hope to have a Summer Lunch. The September meeting will be on Tuesday 11th September at which we hope to have a guest speaker – more information in the next issue.

Babs Heffernon (540602)

**One number for all your
community transport needs**

01883 732937

Booking and advice line

Open weekdays from 8.30am to 5pm

FED UP WITH POTHOLES?



There has been much said on the subject of potholes, and it is a fact, that as a county, Surrey contributes much to central government but receives a disproportionate amount of funding in return to deal with things like potholes.

The chance to try and rectify this, by petition, can be found at:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/217930>

the current count is just under 2,000 but at 10,000 signatures... government will respond to this petition, and at 100,000 signatures, this petition will be considered for debate in Parliament.

When the Leader of Surrey County Council, Cllr David Hodge was asked about the Petition and if residents should support he replied,

“I have signed. And if 1 in 8 adults support this Petition then we will get the debate in the House of Commons.

The Government has told me that they will not include the volumes of traffic as one of their criteria but only the length of road and number of bridges.

This Petition is really important to our county and I am asking Surrey Residents to support it. “

**LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET THE BALL ROLLING
AND HELP OURSELVES TO GET
BETTER ROAD CONDITIONS IN SURREY.**

TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

There has been lots going on at TMA over the past few months, here are the highlights.

SUSSEX OPEN COMPETITION: On the 10th June two club members, Aaron and Bella Mumford, entered the Sussex Open, held in Worthing, with great results. Aaron came home with a bronze medal and Bella, winning all her fights, brought home the gold!

UNDER 8's JUDO GRADING: Our under 8's judoka had their first judo grading of 2018 on 10th June, held at Coulsdon Martial Arts. In total, we had 19 children attend the grading. The under 8's do not need to compete, instead they are tested on certain techniques & terminology to progress to the next grade. I'm happy to report everyone passed!

SENIOR JUDO GRADING: After the under 8's, it was the turn of the seniors to grade. The seniors have to compete against other judoka as well as pass a theory test and, depending how they perform, it is possible to jump 2, sometimes 3, grades. The grading was tough & everyone fought hard against judoka's from other clubs. It was particularly difficult for Beth Hunt, simply because of a lack of ladies to compete against (come on you Tatsfield ladies, you don't know what you're missing!). Everyone went up grades, some went up two. Special mention to Kevin Ruggins, who won his first two contests and was on his way to a 3rd win before injury brought the contest to an early end. Kevin was awarded his brown belt, the highest colour possible below black belt.

JUNIOR JUJITSU GRADING: On Sunday 24th June, our junior jujitsuka took part in their first ever grading. This class only started in January this year, so all the children were beginners at the start of the year – so were all grading for 9th kyu (red belt). Despite nerves, being their first jujitsu grading they didn't know what to expect, every one of them performed brilliantly. It was really good to see how far they have come in the last 6 months and it was a pleasure being able to award them with their red belts at the end of the grading.

SENIOR JUJITSU GRADING: After the junior grading, it was the turn of our senior jujitsukas. Boy, did we work them hard! The grading ran for 3 hours on what was an extremely hot day. As well as being tested on the necessary part of the clubs' jujitsu syllabus, they also had to do randori (defending attacks against a partner with certain rules in place depending on grade & experience), sparring, ground work, kata, knife attacks, combinations and counters. It was tough – there are live videos on our Facebook page to confirm this – but everyone worked hard, supported each other and passed their grading.

WARLINGHAM SCHOOL JUDO SESSIONS: During the summer term, students from Warlingham school have been attending bi-weekly judo classes at TMA. These sessions have proved really popular and I am hoping the relationship between the club and the school will grow and they will look to continue with judo sessions after the summer

holidays. On top of these judo sessions, TMA will be providing 10 jujitsu sessions at the school as part of their enrichment week over 9th and 10th July.

The club is now open 3 days a week, offering 8 classes a week:

THURSDAY: 16:30 – U8's judo / 17:45 – O8's judo / 19:15 – Adult jujitsu
FRIDAY: 10:00 – Self Defence & Fitness / 18:30 – O10's jujitsu
SATURDAY: 9:00 – U8's judo / 10:15 – O10's judo / 11:30 – Adult judo

We presently have 92 members & would love to reach 100 – so if you are tempting to step onto the mat, please get in touch.



Adam Plinston

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – JULY and AUGUST 2018

It's hard to believe that the summer solstice has passed by and that day by day the hours of darkness are becoming imperceptibly longer. However, by way of compensation, four bright planets are now on show although one (Mars) is only just appearing but will become better placed in August.

In the west is Venus which is visible soon after the Sun has set; a brilliant object although it is comparatively low in the sky. Please bear in mind that all the planets are low down at the moment. If later in the evening you consult the map and look from west to east (right to left) we begin with the gas giant Jupiter that lies in the constellation of Libra at an altitude of fifteen degrees. Moving eastwards we pass through Scorpio where the red star Antares, whose name means "Rival of Mars", resides. Next is the ringed planet Saturn seen amongst the star fields of Sagittarius, close to the "Teapot" asterism, with the Milky Way as a back drop. Saturn, you will notice is much the fainter of the four planets and is often mistaken for a star. An asterism, incidentally, is just an unofficial name given to a pattern of stars. The plough, which is part of Ursa Major, is a good example. Lastly, is the red planet Mars that will be at its closest to Earth on the 27th and which currently lies within the boundaries of Capricorn. The positions of the planets have not changed much from last month although you can see that all the constellations have rotated slightly westwards due to our yearly passage round the Sun. The map is drawn for 11pm around the middle of July because Mars should just be visible by then though its position will improve a little next month. If you don't see these three planets (Jupiter, Saturn and Mars) this month they will all still be visible into late September.



On July 13th there is a partial eclipse of the Sun and although it isn't visible from the UK a search online should find a live feed that will let you watch the event as it happens. Do bear in mind though that it begins at 2.48am BST.

There is also an eclipse of the Moon that will be partly visible to us on July 27th. The Moon will rise towards the south east, already totally eclipsed, just before 9pm. It will remain fully eclipsed until 10.13pm when it will begin to emerge from the Earth's shadow. Don't forget that even when the Moon is fully eclipsed it is normally still possible to see it as a reddish brown disk. This occurs because even though the Moon is in the Earth's shadow, light from the Sun is refracted by our atmosphere and falls on the Moon. The colour comes about because blue light is of shorter wavelength and gets scattered in all directions by the tiny molecules that form the atmosphere whilst red light being of longer wavelength gets through. If ever you wondered why the sky is blue, then this is the reason. The Moon's emergence continues until 11.19pm when it will again be fully illuminated although this is technically not the end of the eclipse as the Moon still has to pass through an outer shadow but this is so faint that it is difficult to detect.

Don't forget the Perseid Meteor shower that reaches maximum activity on the night of August 12th/13th. The Moon will be new so won't interfere at all with what could be a display of perhaps one meteor per minute and possible more at times. Look in the general direction of north east at an angle of around 45 degrees although meteors can appear over a very large area of the sky.

Brian Mills FRAS

TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELD 100 CLUB

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

1 st Prize:	Les Eames	£49.50
2 nd Prize:	Roger Luck	£33.00
3 rd Prize:	Tim Scott	£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!).

Les Eames

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Correspondence:

Let's get started with an email from Martin (Allen) (06.06.18):

'Interesting report (last) month, and I tend to agree with you about Hobby over Peregrine. But, who would have thought we would have seen Red Kite's expanding from Stokenchurch to Tatsfield, and in the number we have seen them? Have even seen them now flying in to Kent in the Sevenoaks area, so it won't be long before they colonise there.

***Re. Redpolls** - why is Mary referring to them as Lesser Redpolls? My books only refer to them as Redpolls. Is the difference noticeable? Anyway, regret to report have not seen a Redpoll since the March sighting. Did, however, see a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** on the telegraph pole from the kitchen window last night. Only other 'rare' reports are one **Long-tailed Tit** in May and one **Blackcap** in April. We did see a **Coal Tit** using one of the nest boxes - very busy for a short period of time - and, of course, our **(House) Sparrows** are abundant in the hedge and gaps in the tiles.'*

We have also had visits from House Sparrows recently, Martin, collecting food for their fledglings. Unlike yourself, for us (in Greenway) they are a relatively uncommon sight. I remember, as a boy, wishing the numerous Sparrows that instantly gobbled up any food we put out on the bird table would simply disappear and give the other birds a chance. Well, they did, and now I'm delighted when they make a sudden appearance in the garden. Perhaps they will return at some point to nest. One can only hope.

And now on to your query regarding **Redpolls**, Lesser or otherwise. Make yourself comfortable, Martin – this may take some time! My most recent identification guide, published in 2011, like yours, refers simply to the Redpoll (*Carduelis flammea*). This is also true for my 1988 guide. However, my 1967 guide lists two Redpolls; the 'Continental race', or Mealy Redpoll (*C. flammea*) and the 'British and Alpine race', or Lesser Redpoll (*Carduelis cabaret*). Going further back to 1900, I again find the Common or Mealy Redpoll and the Lesser Redpoll, but both with totally different scientific

names: *Acanthis linaria* and *Acanthis rufescens*! Somewhere along the line there has obviously been a change of classification. The RSPB website states that the Lesser Redpoll has 'recently' been 'split' from the Mealy or Common Redpoll. On this evidence alone (and there is plenty more on the internet should you wish to delve deeper) it seems that there were originally two species of Redpoll that were merged into one



and have recently been split back into two. When this happened I have no idea. Perhaps someone will inform me.

In terms of physical differences, the Lesser Redpoll is about 11cm in length which is, as we may expect, slightly smaller than the larger and paler Redpoll (13cm). Both show plumage that is streaky and brown with patches of red on their head and sometimes their breast. But, to be honest, this is of little importance; the chances of seeing a Redpoll are exceedingly small. Even in 1900, they were recognised to be 'irregular winter visitors'. This hasn't changed over the years. According to the RSPB, we may attract around 300 birds during the winter months, mainly in the Midlands and the North, with just three or four pairs sticking around to nest. (There's a joke here, somewhere – 'sticks', 'nests'. No? Okay, I tried!) The Lesser Redpoll, on the other hand, has a breeding population throughout the Midlands and the South of around 220,000. Considering these populations and the distribution of both species, it is almost a certainty that what we see in our gardens (or rather 'your' gardens, you lucky people) are Lesser Redpolls. Thanks for your query, Martin. Any further conundrums, just pass them on!

And now, let's finish with a note (hand-written and posted!) from Pat Stokoe (10.05.18):

'I am currently living in a nursing home in Kenley with beautiful gardens and magnificent trees. We have been enjoying Brimstone butterflies since early April together with plenty of other wildlife such as Foxes, Squirrels and lots of birds such as Robins, Wagtails and Blackbirds. I miss my lovely garden in Tatsfield but can console myself here. When we have tea out in the garden there is a cheeky Robin that hops around in search of cake crumbs. I love your articles in the magazine.'

Well, first of all, Pat, may I say on behalf of all of our contributors, how pleased I am that you enjoy 'Nature Notes'. Wildlife is, of course, everywhere. It simply needs an observant eye and ear to appreciate it. It's good to know that you are finding pleasure in your Kenley garden. It's particularly heartening to hear that you are living amongst 'magnificent trees'. We can never have too many of those. Many thanks for contacting us, Pat.

As I write this, the sun is streaming through the window and the heat is becoming increasingly uncomfortable. And yet, in just a few months from now we'll be huddling around a radiator wearing our thick socks and a woolly jumper. So get out there and enjoy the summer weather. And remember – these are **your** nature notes. Without your contribution, these pages in the magazine will simply disapp.....

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

Alternatively, drop a note in to 'Primrose Ridge', Greenway.

Nigel Shaw

TATSFIELD RAMBLERS

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



Sunday 10th June 2018

Leaders: Richard Gadd

Start Point: 10.15am at Marsh Green – by St John's United Reformed Church (parking in the road by the church or in the high street)

Postcode: TN8 5PU Map Ref: [TQ438443](#)

Description: A walk mainly across fields but with some woodland from Marsh Green to Cowden Pound where we will take refreshment at The Queens Arms – a rural Victorian pub where time has stood still. The walk is largely flat but there are some mild undulations. Approximate distance 7 miles, 4 hours.

Sunday 22nd July 2018

Leader: Roger Sawyers and Maggie Amos

Start Point: 10.30am at The Green, Godstone

Postcode: RH9 8DU Map Ref: [TQ350516](#)

Description: A walk via Garstone Park to Bletchingley where we will stop at The Whyte Harte for refreshments before returning via a different, shorter route. Predominantly flat. Approximately 6 miles, in total 3.5 hours.

Sunday 29th July 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)

Postcode: TN14 7RT Map Ref: [TQ525614](#)

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

Sunday 5th August 2018

Leader: Richard Gadd and Roger Pearce
Start Point: 10.15am at Tatsfield Village Hall Car Park
Postcode: TN16 2AG Map Ref: TQ413567
Description: To South Street via the North Downs Way. We will stop for refreshment at The Aperfield Inn. Returning by a more direct route. Undulating with one long steep hill and three smaller hills. Total distance approximately 6.5 miles, 4 hours.

Sunday 19th August 2018

Leader: Tony and Christine Thomsit
Start Point: 10.30am Car park opposite the entrance to Hever Castle
Postcode: TN8 7NH Map Ref: TQ476449
Description: A fairly easy walk via Hoath Hill to Markbeech where we will take refreshments at the Kentish Horse before returning via Oak Wood and Meecham's Farm. Gently undulating with one short steep hill with steps. Approximately 5 miles in total, 3 hours.

Sunday 26th August 2018

Leader: Richard Gadd
Start Point: 11.15am Biggin Hill Recreation Ground
Postcode: TN16 3LB Map Ref: TQ420590
Description: A gentle walk past Foal Farm on to the Aperfield Inn where we take refreshments. Slightly shorter route back. No hills. No stiles. Distance 3 miles, 2 hours.

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

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



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FIVE MINUTES WITH ... JOHN WHITE

Welcome to our article featuring a local resident with a story to share. This month we are talking to John White.

How long have you lived in Tatsfield?

My family and I moved here in 2001, so 17 years.

What are your favourite things about the village?

I love the community feeling about the village and also the fact it sits on top of a hill/mountain. When we first moved here both our kids, Jay & Harvey, went to Tatsfield Primary School through which we met many of our friends. I get the feeling that most of the people who live in Tatsfield live here because it's such a nice place. Other favourite things: every second Easter when the visitors from Vern D'Anjou come; looking after my goats, chickens, ducks and various other animals.



What sparked your interest in cycling?

I was in a motorcycle accident in 1994 which left me on walking sticks for 6 months. It frustrated me not being able to get around so I took up cycling.

What challenges have you done?

After I recovered from my accident I fell in love with mountain biking. From 1995 to 1998 I took part in many races throughout the south east. I then met an old school friend who had a passion for road riding so we started doing some adventures - many trips to Sierra Nevada and the Alps doing downhill and XC riding off road.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2012 | John o'Groats to Lands End by road, self-supported, 890 miles, 8 days. |
| 2013 | Tatsfield to Nice by road, self-supported, via Mount Ventoux and Alp D' Huez, 1100 miles 10 days. |
| 2015 | Barcelona to Malaga, by road self-supported, 800 miles, 8 days. |
| 2016 | Grand Colombier and Mount du Chat in the Jura mountains, by road. |
| 2016 | 3 stages of the Tour de France, in Normandy, including riding ahead of the tour into Vern D' Anjou. |
| 2017 | Tour Divide, off road self-supported. Banff Canada to Antelope Wells on the Mexico border 2772 mile 32 days. |
| 2018 | Fred Witton, said to be hardest sportive in the UK, 113 miles In the lakes. |
| 2018 | The Wessex Way, Weston Super Mare to Eastbourne, off road self-supported, 250 miles 3 days. |

I have also done every Ride London 100 since it started in 2013, with my fastest time being 4 hrs 36 mins.

I can't say which has been the most amazing place because there have been so many. It also has to do with the moment that you are in which makes it so special. Being on a bike often means that the places are not accessible to cars so they tend to be unspoilt, the wildlife I saw on my USA trip was amazing.

What challenges would you like to do?

This August I will take part in the inaugural Silk Road Mountain bike race.

The distance is 1000 miles off road self-supported in Kyrgyzstan. I will be one of only 80 riders from 26 countries, and so I'm really proud I secured a place through my past performances.



People often ask would I like to do an event again to improve my time, this is something that doesn't appeal to me because there are so many different challenges in the world and that box has been ticked!

I would like to do the Camino de Santiago in Spain off road on the bike.

What is your motivation for this?

I know with every minute of training I do whether on the bike or in my trainers it will make the challenges not only easier but more enjoyable, I realize that at my age I would never be competitive at the front of the races I do but as long as I'm satisfied with my performance I'm happy.

How much training do you put in / are you part of a club?

I ride the bike all year round and feel it's really important to come out the winter

with plenty of miles in my legs already. Most of my riding is done on my own and I try to get out 4 times a week. I do core strength work in my gym 3-4 times a week. (I don't own a turbo trainer.)

Are you a local resident with a story to share? Please contact tatsfieldpm@gmail.com and have your five minutes of fame!





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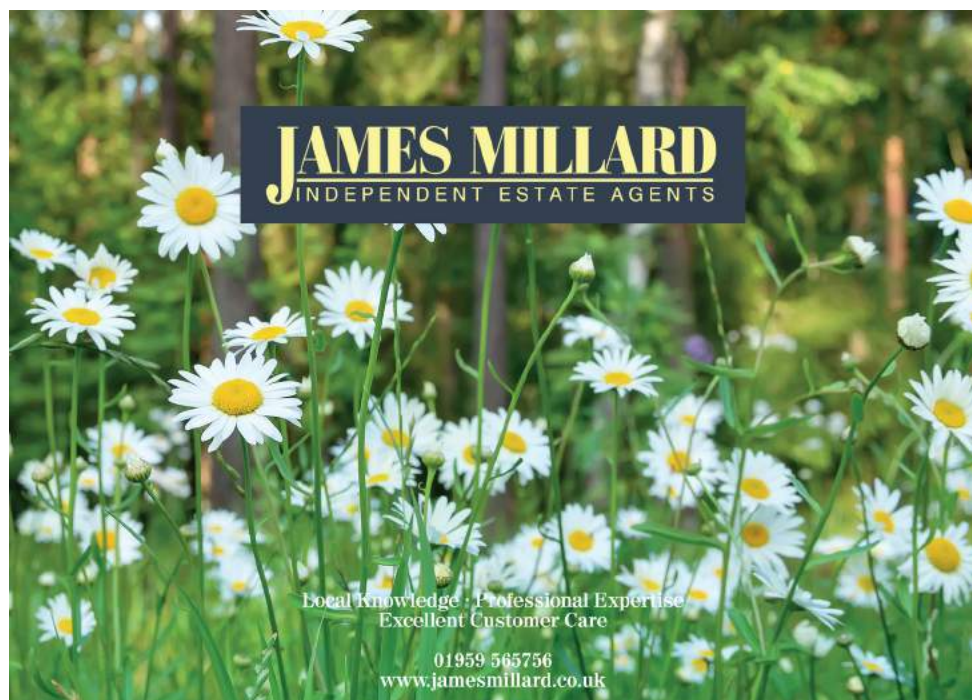
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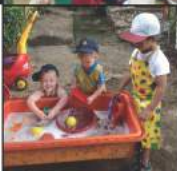


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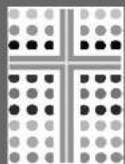
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