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

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Production Team
Ian Mitchell • Sule Morley • Christine Stainer
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CHURCH CONTACTS
ST MARY’S CHURCH, Church Lane, Tatsfield, TN16 2JX, www.lttm.org.uk

Anglican • Team Vicar: Revd. Vince Short
The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2NA (577289; vince@lttm.org.uk)
Warden • Marjory Broughton (541059), Chris Hancock (577622)

COUNCIL CONTACTS
Parish Council Clerk • Mrs Samantha Head, 33 Alexandra Road, Warlingham CR6 9DW (07920 772880)
Chairman • Nichola Stokoe - Meadowside, Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (576443)
Parish Council website www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield • email clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk
Tandridge District Councillor • Martin Allen, 38 Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (577201)
Surrey County Councillor • David Hodge 07815 533 530, 0208 541 5003

OTHER CONTACTS
St. Mary’s Church Hall - Bookings • Sheila Cook (577443)
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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.

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

As I write, it is 8.30pm and already dark! Although we seem to be experiencing an Indian summer (correct at the time of writing), the long, bright days and evenings have ended and thoughts are turning to autumn and winter and to me that brings thoughts of being cozy and warm and hibernating. While this can be a lovely experience it can also be very isolating. As the weather turns, as we well know, life in Tatsfield can become tricky especially for those less able to get out and about and is something we should all be more aware of and active in preventing.

On Saturday 15th September the annual Tatsfield Beer Festival was yet again packed to capacity and the atmosphere was joyous most especially because it was a real family event. The young, the middle aged, the slightly older; all enjoyed this community event while supporting a great cause – Tatsfield Primary School and therefore the youngest members of our community.

Almost every Sunday throughout the summer, St Mary’s Church Teas provided a less noisy but no less joyous opportunity for young and old to socialise – and eat lots of scrumptious cakes! Every week throughout the year someone, somewhere in Tatsfield is organising social, sporting, art, music, crafting activities and events.

All these things demonstrate what an amazing community we have here in Tatsfield and how lucky we are that members of this village are so willing to give so much of their time for the rest of us – to try and ensure that everybody has a chance to get out and about, be active and not be isolated. However, organising all these activities is hard work and very often the task is taken up by, or falls on the shoulders of, the same people. This isn’t how it should be and so as a community we must make sure that more of us make the effort to not only support the activities, but also be active in making them happen – otherwise eventually they will be lost to us.

And so, going back to “hibernating” – comforting and easy as it can be – I am determined to try not to hibernate this winter, but to get out there and enjoy more of what Tatsfield has to offer and to try and set myself an early New Year resolution – to get out and about and help more in the village and the community.

Tara Barry

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.
Twitter: @tatsfieldtweet
I met with some of the family recently to discuss this service, but, mainly, for me to gain a bit of an insight into Brian’s life. It was a life which began in Redhill on 24 March 1950, with Brian being born to Estelle and Ernie. Sadly, his father is no longer with us. But amongst his family, Brian leaves his brothers Stuart and Peter.

Brian leaves his wife Linda, daughter Louise and son Steve. Louise has a partner Matt and Steve has his partner Lucy. I believe there are grandchildren - Damon, Amy, Sasha, Javier, Rocco and GiGi – and extended family.

Brian was 18 when he met Linda when he would go to into the youth club at Tatsfield Village Hall with his friends from Hamsey Green, where he lived. Clearly that was meant to be, as their friendship grew, leading to marriage four years after that meeting.

At first, Brian had various different jobs, and this included him being a chef, a mechanic, doing wine delivery, a greengrocer wholesaler and milkman. But, by the time he was about 21 years old, he had found his niche, in the building industry, first as a hod carrier and then progressing to bricklayer.

But there was more to his life than work and Brian’s passion was football. He started playing football for Tatsfield Rovers in his late twenties, ending up playing in goal and he kept training with the lads until he was 60. Through the many messages the family have received recently, it became very clear what an impact Brian had on people, through his connections with football. Even when in hospital, he watched football on television, often with Damon.
Brian also liked to relax fishing, both freshwater and sea, and he was able to enjoy a few seafishing trips to Alderney. I saw a picture of him holding up a very fine turbot he had caught from a boat. I heard that Brian also enjoyed a game of snooker, playing for a team at Tatsfield Working Men’s Club.

He was clearly a very fit man in his time. After Brian began running, he completed several New Forest Half Marathons. He ran many miles a day, up until he was diagnosed with PSP. He enjoyed walking too and would walk his dog Lola for miles although it had become very difficult for Brian. It sometimes worried the family when he had been gone so long.

The family also recalled some of their life together. Breaks were sometimes spent at Butlins and there was a family holiday to Ibiza. Linda did tell me of the time she took her husband to Norfolk fishing and he fell asleep, so she watched the rods! She said she never had a bite – all week! With Linda having the General Store and Post Office for some 40 years, getting away was never easy as the shop really only closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day!

There are good memories of times shared. When I asked the family what Brian liked to do to relax, I heard he rarely did, because he was always building something or decorating or working on one of his old cars. He was a very hands-on practical man. I learnt that one day the family came home and he had completely removed the staircase, so they needed to use a ladder until he built a new one!

He wasn’t a man for big social occasions. He made some good close friends, people like Ken Hickey, who even took Brian fishing when he was unwell, and Steve Clayton as well. Brian had a manner that people took to – providing they enjoyed a good chat! Undoubtedly, he was at his happiest when he was surrounded by those closest to him, his beloved family, and I saw many photographs of the grandchildren at the seaside, and I know there are fond memories of visiting Southend.

Brian was a homebuilder – perhaps in the literal sense as well! He was a man who looked after his family.

* Linda would like to thank all those who sent kind messages of support.*
LETTERS

Paynesfield Road/Westmore Road Junction
Does anyone agree with me that the current layout of the junction of Paynesfield Road and Westmore Road in the village centre is dangerous? The previous one where Westmore Road had priority was much safer.

Trying to turn right out of Westmore Road is a nightmare. Looking left you have to look way past 90 degrees and the view is obstructed either by parked cars or our lovely plantings and vines. From the right, cars come whipping around the corner as, if they are going down Paynesfield Road, they feel they have only a 45 degree turn to make and hardly slow down at all for it.

If the “Give Way” applied to Paynesfield Road, as previously, there would be a much greater field of view and all cars would come off Approach Road more slowly.

What do other people think?

Philip Brett, Grove Road

Dear Residents,

From time to time I am approached by residents who ask me to explain if there is anything that can be done where a householder has a hedge that is growing outside the householder's boundary line which creates a dangerous sightline for drivers and reduces the footway for pedestrians.

WE ALL need to be mindful that there are some residents with sight problems and where hedges are overgrown this makes it difficult for them. Likewise, when residents are pushing their young babies in prams they also need the width of the footway to proceed in a safe manner. Overgrown hedges often force residents into the road, thus creating a danger to them and also to drivers.

SO, I am asking all Tatsfield residents to please have a look at any hedges on your property and where they overgrow your boundary and impede on the footway, can I please ask for these to be cut back. Your cooperation would be helpful to others.

If any hedges continue to be overgrown outside the boundary line, the County Council can arrange for the works to be done (after a formal request to the Householder) and will seek a refund of these costs. I, sincerely, hope that this would never happen in the lovely village of Tatsfield.

David Hodge CBE, County Councillor for Tatsfield
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TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

As the Parish Council does not sit in August we had a very busy September catching up with our various projects. Hopefully, many of you will have now seen the new porch and doors in the village hall.

We also listened to a report following the meeting with Mark Howells, the Crime Reduction Officer for Tandridge with regards the CCTV proposal. We realise that there is more research needed in terms of camera placement and usage of the material.

We were pleased to agree a grant to Dave Bishop in connection with the Remembrance Service on Westmore Green which, this year, will be held on Saturday 10th November.

Jon Allbutt has been helping us, not only with our Emergency Plan and Japanese Knotweed but also the pond. He and Jim Yeeles have been eradicating the unwanted and invasive species. Thank you to both.

We have also agreed the contractors to carry out the works to capture and use the runoff water from the Village Club roof which we hope will maintain water levels in the pond. This work should be taking place shortly.

We have received a number of comments regarding overhanging hedges, in particular, the narrower roads and lanes in the village. If you do own property or land that abuts the highway please could you take a look and arrange for any necessary cutting. Please see David Hodge’s article on page 20 for more information.

Finally, many, many congratulations to the “In Bloom” team for their success with a Gold in the South and South East In Bloom competition. On behalf of all the residents of Tatsfield, thank you for all that you do.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building on Mondays 8th and 22nd October - 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)

A WORLD OF LAVENDER
Tuesday 6th November – see advert further

As I have been Chairman of Tatsfield Horticultural Society for nearly two years, I have arranged a splendid talk, which should appeal to everyone in the village. Hopefully we will see some ‘new’ faces and it will be a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Please do support us on Tuesday 6th November. Full details in the advert further on in the magazine. Sue Warren
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The project to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Tatsfield has reached an important stage of the community consultation process. Each household will be receiving a short Tatsfield Housing Needs Survey form and a reply-paid envelope. Every householder will now have the opportunity to complete this form if they wish to indicate their particular housing need. Please do not ignore this important form, read it carefully and fill it in and return it if you have a housing need in Tatsfield; the form will also contain a link if you prefer to complete the form online.

Analysing the results of the survey will take a while and will be published in due course. This information is vital to help the Steering Group continue to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Tatsfield for the future.

The next stage of the community consultation process will be a ‘Call for Sites’; this will give house and land owners the opportunity to have their properties or land included in the ongoing discussions for potential sites for future development. The Steering Group hope to reach this stage in the near future.

Jon Allbutt, 577100, jon@jonallbutt.co.uk

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Tandridge District Council Draft Local Plan consultation, known as a Regulation 19 consultation, was closed on Monday 10 September. During the consultation there was an opportunity for residents to comment about whether the draft plan is legally compliant with planning legislation and whether it meets the tests of ‘soundness’ which are set out in national planning policy.

This was the final stage of consultation before the draft Local Plan goes to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination. The draft Local Plan aims to deliver: a new Garden Community of around 4,000 homes in South Godstone; thousands of new jobs for the district; new health care facilities, plus upgrades to existing health centres; new primary schools and a new secondary school, with improvements to existing schools; road and rail improvements; new play areas and improvements to existing play areas; and measures to alleviate flood risk.

The Council is now analysing the feedback, which will be presented to the Planning Policy Committee later this year and available to view on the website in due course.

Housing Committee agrees to a consultation about the Douglas Brunton Centre (DBC). At the Housing Committee I attended on the 13th September the committee agreed to a consultation about the services currently provided at the DBC. The aim of the consultation is to use the responses and work with partners to identify
opportunities to improve or provide services in a different and potentially more sustainable way. The cost of the running of the DBC continues to rise whilst the usage continues to decline and, reluctantly, a better solution needs to be found to protect council tax payers money.

**Don’t lose your voice – residents urged to check their voter registration details.** Local residents are being warned they could lose their voice on matters which affect them if they don’t check their annual canvass form as soon as possible. With local elections taking place in May 2019, the canvass form is how residents can make sure they’re able to vote next year. Everyone should have received one in the post and it is important they are checked and updated online, or returned by post. The returned forms are used to make sure the electoral register is up to date and encourage any residents who are not on the register to sign up so they can vote in local elections.

If the form you received is still sitting on the “to do pile” then use this as a reminder to get it out and deal with.

**The Housing Committee also agreed to various housing priorities for the next five years.** The Draft Housing Strategy which will set out how the Council will consider the different housing needs in the district for the next five years, as well as plans to address the shortage of affordable housing in the area.

The focus of the strategy is to provide a range of different housing products, including self-build, shared ownership, rent to buy and affordable rent where it is viable. The strategy sets out how the Council will work to make the best use of the existing housing stock in the district by tackling disrepair and energy efficiency issues, as well as bringing empty properties back into use. The strategy also makes sure there is help and advice for those threatened with homelessness, along with the right type of supported housing for the district’s most vulnerable households. The three main priorities are: creating sustainable communities and meeting needs; improving the quality and the use of existing housing; meeting the specific needs of vulnerable households and those on lower incomes.

A public consultation where you can have your say about these priorities will take place between 28th September and 26th October. Full details will be available at [www.tandridge.gov.uk](http://www.tandridge.gov.uk).

**Tandridge Magazine** and a **Draft Local Plan Consultation Leaflet.** I hope my efforts finally ended up with those people that asked receiving their copies of these direct from the Council.

It seems the expected works in Ship Hill and Westmore Road were delayed although the pavements in Westmore Road were treated on the 13th September.

Repairs to Titsey Road and Limpsfield Road are on a list but, as yet, dates are unknown; so if you do feel that potholes are in the meantime causing traffic problems do report them on the Surrey County Council website.
The developers of the Redland Tileworks in Moorhouse have resubmitted their Planning Application and you can find details about this and have your say by going to www.moorhousetileworks.co.uk.

In September the Parish Council Chairman and I had our regular meeting with our County Councillor David Hodge where we pursued things such as Yellow Lines in the Village, additional Gritting Routes for the village and road improvements. These matters are all ongoing.

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.

Cllr Martin Allen 01959 577201 cllr.martin.allen@tandridgedc.gov.uk
Or martin_allen@talk21.com

This year, in November, we commemorate the World War One Centenary – a century since the guns fell silent across the battlefields in 1918.

As part of this, working with the Royal British Legion, the Surrey History Centre and the County Border News, I am determined to honour the sacrifice made by the people of East Surrey with the launch of a new campaign: **100 Years On: Remembering East Surrey’s Role In The Great War.**

I am inviting pupils from primary and secondary schools to enter a competition to create a piece of imaginative work about East Surrey in the Great War – it could be a poem, a diary entry or even a painting. Their designs could be placed in a book of remembrance that would be stored in the Surrey History Archives forever and pupils would be invited to a special reception in the Houses of Parliament.

You can find out more about the campaign and how schools can get involved here: [https://bit.ly/2QodogQ](https://bit.ly/2QodogQ).

I’ve always had a passion for history and reading about the heroes and heroines from our past who changed the world. This goes for the brave men of the East Surrey Regiment who signed up when their country came calling. They were involved in major battles from The Somme to Ypres, received some seven Victoria Crosses among many other medals and commendations, and they even played football as they charged across no-man’s land. This became known as the famous ‘Football Charge’ of the 8th Battalion in the Battle of the Somme 1916.
Ahead of going over the top, the soldiers were given footballs (experts speculate on the exact number) and they decided to dribble the balls across no-man’s land as they attacked the German lines. On the balls they had written “East Surreys v Bavarians” and “Kick off at zero”, with the “NO REFEREE” added to show they weren’t going to go lightly. They won the day and, as the Commanding Officer of one of the units said, “it would go down in regimental and military history”. A postcard was created with a special poem commemorating the charge with the title “The Surreys Play the Game.”

This is just one of many examples of the role soldiers serving in the East Surrey Regiment played in The Great War. You can find out more by going to the Surrey Infantry Museum, which is attached to the Surrey History Centre in Woking, or you can go online to http://www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk/short_history/sh13.shtml

Sacrifices were not only made on the battlefields of Europe, but also on the home-front. The families from Horley, Caterham, Lingfield and towns and villages across East Surrey who waved their sons and brothers and husbands off were left to pick up the pieces and carry on.

Once such diary I came across was written by the fiancée of a Private Teddy Cutt, who went to the front in September 1915. She wrote of seeing him off, of receiving her first postcard and then hearing nothing. He was listed as missing shortly after he arrived at the front, so she held out hope for his survival. She asked the Red Cross for help, and even wrote to the King of Spain asking for him to come to her aid (his ambassador replied saying he would do all he could to help). Still no-one knew what became of her husband-to-be, until more than a year later, she received the letter she had been dreading. He had been killed the very first day he saw action. Her last entry speaks of ‘simply going on.’

The 100 Years On: Remembering East Surrey’s Role in The Great War campaign is a tribute to the soldiers of the East Surrey Regiment and those left behind, like the fiancée of Private Cutt. They represented the steel, the valour and the determination that came to epitomise this generation and what they had to go through. I hope to remember all those who gave their tomorrow for our today and, with the help of pupils in our schools, create a lasting legacy, where 100 years from now, our children and our children’s children still remember the sacrifices made by all those in East Surrey.

I look forward to receiving all the entries and would like to thank the Royal British Legion, the Surrey History Centre and the County Border News for supporting this campaign.

If you are planning any of your own events for the WW1 Centenary then please do let me know via email to sam@samgyimah.com and, if I can, I hope to be able to support and/or take part in some way.

Best wishes,
Sam Gyimah MP

26
“A YEAR ON THE FARM”

A TALK BY ROBERT KILBY, FARM MANAGER OF WHELAN FARMS

7.30PM ON TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER

AT THE WI HALL

* How has the largest farm on Tatsfield’s doorstep coped this summer?

* What are the prospects for British farmers with Brexit looming?

* And much more!

ALL WELCOME – ADMISSION £1 (INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS)

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HARVEST FESTIVAL

An invitation to come and celebrate harvest at St Mary’s on Sunday 7th October

10.00 am All Age Service followed by refreshments

11.30 am Said Holy Communion (no hymns)

You are invited to bring harvest gifts.

For further details see St Mary’s News
Open letter from Keith Jecks, Chair of the Planning Policy Committee

Thank you to everyone who took part in the recent Draft Local Plan Consultation (Regulation 19). All representations will be published on our website, as soon as practically possible. This will take time as some of the responses are very detailed, for example one attachment to a developer’s response was more than 600 pages.

Listening to the views of people living in different wards in the district has been a key part of the Local Plan preparation. We all know there is a critical shortage of housing across the country, especially homes younger people can afford, or older people can downsize to. It is difficult for us to balance this requirement with our desire to protect our district, but we think the proposed Local Plan delivers the correct balance.

Many have criticised the plan, but no-one has suggested any alternative. Our Local Plan: 2033 is not just about housing. We are taking full advantage of the opportunities managed development can bring including employment, new schools, health and transport improvements.

The plan we have created has been soundly prepared and takes account of our constraints, such as Green Belt, our valued landscape and infrastructure capacity, to the extent the regulations allow. Developers have submitted far more sites than our evidence demonstrates are appropriate for development. The developers and those parties which think we can do more are arguing our housing delivery is too low and the value we place on the Green Belt and our environment is too high.

We will put up a robust defence of the Green Belt and the character of our district, but we have formidable opponents in the developers, of which many of the largest have formed a syndicate (Tandridge Housing Forum) to push for higher housing numbers.

Even if you do not feel you can get behind the Plan, I am sure you will support our efforts to make sure the outcome is right for our district.

Many of you have contacted me with your questions about the Draft Local Plan, which I have been answering individually. Quite a few questions have come up several times, so I thought it would be useful to provide some of the answers here.

**Why are we asking for responses about legal compliance and soundness at this stage?**

The requirements for the Regulation 19 consultation are defined by legislation and we have to comply with this. Having said that, we have always stated that all responses from every consultation we have carried out will be made available to the Inspector, but it is for the inspector to decide which ones they will take into account.

**How can we be sure the thousands of new jobs will actually arrive?**

Building on the work of our published Economic Proposition, we will maximise opportunities for businesses which are already in the district, as well as attracting others to relocate here. The plan envisages a significant expansion in employment space and will actively look to expand and make better use of existing employment sites, particularly Lambs Business Park and Hobbs Industrial, as well as providing employment at the proposed development in South Godstone. We are preparing a Strategic Employment Impact
Assessment, which will set out what characteristics should be provided to make these sites attractive to businesses while complementing neighbouring employment areas.

Given the geographical advantage of our proximity to Gatwick airport, London and the coast, we will capitalise on this and be ambitious in benefiting our residents.

Increased job opportunities will also come from the new schools, shops and community facilities proposed. Indirectly, an increase in building and regeneration projects will also provide jobs, not just for local construction firms and building suppliers, but also from the wider south-east area.

**How will we deliver rail improvements to South Godstone station?** We are in discussions with Network Rail about our plans for a Garden Community and the necessity of delivering improvements to the rail service. The company’s representatives have told us this is achievable and they look forward to working with us.

**What about J6 on the M25?** Upgrades to the roundabout can be implemented within the existing highways land. This improvement to the roundabout is fairly simple, but will provide benefit to all users of this junction. We are continuing to liaise with Highways England and Surrey County Council about this, so a planned programme for delivery can be put in place. A full feasibility assessment is currently being prepared, which will contain more detail about the proposed scheme and a revised costing, which is likely to be lower than the original estimate of £200m.

**Do we have a viable partner for the South Godstone development?** We are aware some people have expressed concern about the companies interested in the land in South Godstone, for example Bonnar Allen. We are committed to the delivery of a successful Garden Community and have had very robust discussions with a number of relevant parties. We will continue with these discussions to ensure we can be confident developers will deliver what we want for the Garden Community and that they represent organisations the community will have confidence in and which will deliver what is promised. More details relating to the deliverability of the Garden Community, will accompany the submission version of Our Local Plan: 2033.

Our Local Plan is far more than building houses. It is an infrastructure-led plan, underpinned by a sound economic strategy. At least a thousand of the new homes in South Godstone will be genuinely affordable, to help meet the needs of people on the Council’s housing register.

Once the plan is adopted and we start drawing up the South Godstone Garden Community Area Action Plan, which will set out the detail of how the Garden Community will be developed, it will bring to life the aspirations we have set out in the Draft Local Plan and demonstrate how it will benefit the whole district. We will be inviting you all to be involved in this and to help shape the development.

Please e-mail me directly at cllr.keith.jecks@tandridgedc.gov.uk if you have any further questions.

**Keith Jecks**
POLICING

Hello dear villagers. It’s Autumn time: misty mornings, digging out coats from the cupboard, leafy colours. Before we know it, it’ll be Chr.... no, don’t say it!! With us all now feeling warm and snuggly, it’s a shame these positive things don’t transfer to criminals. Never mind.

Regarding crime during the past month, there were only two recorded in Tatsfield. Sadly, these were of the same type, and not at all nice for the victims.

During a three-week period in August, a property in Ninehams Road was broken into, with three vehicles stolen from the driveway using the keys while the victims were on holiday. Local enquiries were made and national markers put on the vehicles. As of mid-September, one of the vehicles was located, damaged and abandoned in Croydon. Unfortunately, there appear to be no leads in identifying the offenders.

That was the only crime reported, until the day before submitting this article. A similar crime, but this time, while the homeowner was present. The vehicle/home keys were left unattended for a minute, and the vehicle was taken from the driveway. This happened on Ricketts Hill Road. The vehicle does not have a tracker, but police traffic cameras are being checked everywhere. If local enquiries do not produce anything seen, then the case will sadly have to be filed.

Please could I make a direct appeal to residents of Kemsley Road (and any local dogwalkers in that area). We have received reports of youths meeting up in two or three cars, usually during the evening. Exact location is on northern end of Paynesfield Road, near where it turns into Kemsley Road. This is off Ricketts Hill Road. The reports mention the smoking of illegal drugs, plus inhaling Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas). In one case, a young couple were seen having a ‘very amorous encounter’ you could say. We believe those involved are from Biggin Hill, seeking a nearby hideaway for their activities. Surrey Police requires any sightings/encounters with these youngsters to be reported immediately please. That way we can stamp out any issues, so we can keep the area safe and tidy.

Kids: with the darker afternoons, please make sure when you ride a bike, it’s (literally) got all the bells and whistles, plus lights and bright colours. Ta, dudes.

That’s all folks…….see you around the village,

Rupert, PCSO 12599 KELLEY, Surrey Police
PREPAREDNESS AT HOME

Safe & Well Visits are carried out by Surrey Fire & Rescue officers and in some instances, their volunteers. They combine home safety checks, reducing the risk of fire in your home and where appropriate, you’ll also be offered information to help you improve your wellbeing, allowing you to live safer and more independent lives.

Surrey residents can arrange a free Safe & Well Visit by completing the online request form or calling the request line on freephone 0800 085 0767.

The EmergencySMS service lets deaf, hard of hearing and speech-impaired people send an SMS text message to the 999 service where it will be passed to the police, ambulance, fire rescue, or coastguard.

Simply by sending an SMS message to 999 you can call for help and the emergency services will be able to reply to you.

You will need to register your mobile phone before using – the EmergencySMS website contains all the information you need.

http://www.emergencysms.org.uk/registering_your_mobile_phone.php

POPpy APPEAL ORGANISER FOR TATSFIELD FOUND!

Following the appeal in last month’s magazine, it is great news that an organiser for the Poppy Appeal in Tatsfield has come forward. So the long tradition of collections in Tatsfield will continue. It is David Vale, who lives in Paynesfield Road, who has volunteered to take this on. The village’s thanks go to him. More news about this year’s collection next month.
LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

This half term...
To start the new academic year we welcomed lots of new faces to Little Acorns at the start of September—welcome to all of our new families! We’ve been excited to start learning about nature and seasons, including growing our own cress, fruit printing and food tasting harvest fruits. We’ve introduced our new nature table and have been having lots of fun looking in the wildlife garden for different objects to add to it and explore. We’ve also been enjoying the sunny September weather with lots of outdoor play and even a trip to the park!

The committee
Thank you to everyone who attended our committee AGM on Monday 17th September; it was great to see some new faces and thank you to our existing committee who will be helping us for another year. As ever we are always very grateful to anyone who can give up some time to help us; it’s not just for preschool parents so if you would like to get involved please do contact us on chair@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk.

We started our new year of fundraising with our sweet treats stall at Tatsfield Beer Festival; we had a great time supporting this local event and raised a fantastic £125 for the preschool. Thank you to our committee members and parents who helped to run the stall and baked cakes, and to all of our customers who visited us on the day!

Tandridge Lottery
Little Acorns have been selected as one of the good causes for the Tandridge Lottery! This is really exciting and will help us to continue to provide quality care for our children and also produce some new outdoor equipment for our fantastic new outdoor space. You can support this endeavour by buying tickets from www.tandridgelottery.co.uk and search for Little Acorns, and you'll be in with the chance of winning up to £25,000 a week!

Thank you for reading!

Mareka Newberry
Office Manager at Little Acorns Preschool
office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk
The new Wrens at Tatsfield Primary School

Tatsfield Primary School has welcomed lots of lovely new smiley faces into Wren class this term.

The Reception class have settled into school life very well and they are enjoying exploring their new classroom.

Below are some self-portraits of our happy Wrens.
The new term has started with three new children joining the Beaver section. They have already settled in well and are enjoying the various activities that Beavers do each week. On Tuesday 18th September we visited Oxted Fire Station and the Beavers had a chance to see what life as a firefighter entails. All the Beavers had a great time, trying on various pieces of firefighter kit and sitting in the fire engine. Our thanks go to the Oxted Fire Crew.

This month Beavers will be working on their Digital Badge and taking part in a hike round Limpsfield Woods.

After years of planning, 1st Tatsfield Scouts Explorers group started on Tuesday 11th September with 9 Explorer Scouts. Sarah-Jane Mumford is the new Leader with Sam Frost as Assistant Explorer Leader. Over the coming months, the Explorers will start to work on lots of new badges as well as being invested (a new scarf will complete the uniform). The first task for the Explorers was to help run the Tuck Stall at the Tatsfield Beer Festival - wearing their new t-shirts, the group raised an amazing amount of £465. This will go towards purchasing equipment for the section.

If you are interested in finding out more about Explorer Scouts in Tatsfield and are aged 14-18 years old, please contact Sarah-Jane Mumford on 07966227202.

Jenny Snelling
1st Tatsfield Scouts Beaver Leader
RNLI AUTUMN FAIR

Oxted Community Hall, 53 Church Lane, Oxted, RH8 9NB
Saturday 20 October 2018
10 am to 1.00 pm

Children's books, jewellery, RNLI Christmas cards etc, and many other unique & appealing products.
Entrance £2 to include coffee/tea & biscuits.
Children free
Please come (& bring a friend) all very welcome.
Further enquiries 01883 715186

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC037736). Registered charity number 20003326 in the Republic of Ireland
Curzon Country Cinema have just one film for this month – the British romantic comedy “Finding Your Feet”. It is showing on Saturday 20th October. Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets £5. Pay at the door or reserve online at www.curzoncountrycinema.co.uk.

“Finding Your Feet” was released earlier this year. It tells a gentle romantic story about people who are growing old. When “Lady” Sandra Abbott discovers that her husband of 40 years is having an affair with her best friend, she seeks refuge in London with her estranged, older sister. The two could not be more different.

What follows it told by a cast of some of our best actors including Imelda Staunton, Timothy Spall, Celia Imrie and Joanna Lumley. One review ends like this: “It’s so well played that all its characters fill out and all its emotional beats land. Even if the end is visible from miles away, you’ll almost certainly still weep buckets and feel a warm glow when it comes.”

Bob David

TATTY KNITTERS

As the days are becoming cooler it’s more comfortable for us knitters and crotchetiers to complete our tasks. It’s not that we don’t love the hot sunny days, it’s just needles stick and wool is hot, making life, to complete our favourite pastime, just a little bit awkward.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the next get together is now on the 16th October from 7.30pm until 9.30ish in the Bakery; cakes provided, buy your own drink. All crafts welcome, beginners welcome.

Val Quick 07761 571071
NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

The next concert is in the Village Hall as usual, on Saturday November 10th at 7.30pm.

In a departure from the usual NDS practice of having a varied concert with music from many different nationalities, this concert will be all English music. It contains some of the most popular music ever composed.

Ralph Vaughn Williams wrote his English Folk Song Suite in 1923, although he began collecting songs in 1902. It includes the March ‘Seventeen come Sunday’ and ‘Folk Songs from Somerset’, and is one of his most popular works. This is followed by the Lark Ascending, written in 1914 and based on a poem by George Meredith, with the amazing young soloist Haru Ushigusa on violin. This has been top of the classical pops on many occasions. To round off the first half will be the Gustav Holst Suite de Ballet. This was written in 1899 when he was only 25, and is an early, rarely played, example of his genius.

George Butterworth was born in 1885 and served as a lieutenant in the First World War. He was awarded a Military Cross for bravery, but was shot through the head and killed in the battle of the Somme in 1916. He wrote ‘A Shropshire Lad’ just before the war, and if he had survived may have become one of England’s foremost composers. Eric Coates was a well-known composer of light music. His ‘Everyday London Suite’ is in three movements, including the very well-known ‘Westminster’ and ‘Knightsbridge’. The concert finishes with Elgar’s Pomp and Circumstance March No 4. Elgar wrote six Pomp and Circumstance Marches, of which number 4 is second only in popularity to number 1. You will recognise the ‘big tune’ in the central section, and the whole thing is as upbeat and ceremonial as No 1, a fitting end to what should be a memorable concert.

Tickets are £9 for adults, £7 for concessions (under 18s and OAP) and are available by phoning 01959 577659 (Peter or Jan) or by emailing northdownssinfonia@gmail.com.

THE BEC HILL CLIMB – WHITE LANE

The Bec Hill Climb is a cycling event that takes place up White Lane. This year the event will be on 7th October 2018. Please be aware that White Lane will be closed for the day from approximately 9am and that there will undoubtedly be large numbers of cyclists, parked cars and spectators in the surrounding area.

Please do consider going along to cheer and encourage the competitors. The course is only 700 yards long but consistently steep, with a section at the end ramping up to 1:4 gradient!
TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"A WORLD OF LAVENDER"
A TALK BY DR SIMON CHARLESWORTH
OF DOWNDERRY NURSERY

At Tatsfield Village Hall
on Tuesday 6 November at 8pm

* Simon is owner of the spectacular Downderry Nursery at Hadlow, Kent, the country’s benchmark lavender nursery.

* Hear all about growing and using lavender.

* Learn about the culinary, medicinal and decorative uses of lavender.

* Find out what you can see at the nursery.

* You will be able to buy a range of lavender products.

Tickets £5 including a glass of wine and snacks. Tickets from Sue Warren on 01959 542892 or any other committee member.

THE TALK WILL BE PRECEDED AT 7.30PM BY THE SOCIETY'S AGM
ST MARY’S CHURCH TATSFIELD
REMEMBRANCE CENTENARY

Buffet Lunch

PROFITS TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
TICKET ONLY

MILLENNIUM HALL
TN16 2JX
11TH NOV 2018 AT 12 NOON

ADULTS £8
CHILDREN £4
INCLUDING GLASS WINE
AND SOFT DRINKS

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT
SHEILA COOK - 01959 577443
ST MARY’S NEWS

Open the Bible (10am on the 1st Sunday of the month)
We warmly invite you to our upcoming All Age services on 7th October (Harvest), 4th November (All Saints) and 2nd December (Advent).

Harvest Festival All Age Service 10am 7th October (& 11.30am said Holy Communion)
Harvest is an opportunity to thank God for His good gifts and provision for our daily needs. Harvest gifts collected at the School and at our services in church will be delivered to local people and to the local foodbank and also to our link church, Christ Church, Brixton Road. Children and adults are invited to bring harvest gifts to the service. It would be really good to have some small (shoebox size) boxes of goodies that would suit an elderly person living on their own. We would also be pleased to receive the names of anyone you know who you think would like to receive one of these as a gift. Christ Church gratefully receive and distribute all food gifts. Some of those who receive their food parcels are literally roofless but the majority have hostel or other accommodation and so have some access to cooking facilities. The following foods are particularly useful to them: rice, dried pasta, dried pulses, tea bags. Cans of protein foods: baked beans, canned pulses, tuna, sardines, meatballs, meat pie, stewed meat. Cans of tomatoes and canned vegetables such as carrots and peas. Canned fruit and fruit salad, packets of custard, jars of jam.

On this Harvest Sunday, we will be inviting those who have helped with Church Teas, Church Flowers and Churchyard Tidy-up to join us at 11am for Tea, Coffee and Cake in the Millennium Hall, as a thank you for all their help.

Church Teas concluded on Sunday 30th September. A big thank you to all who supported them. A further opportunity to purchase and enjoy our tea, coffee and cake will be at the event with local group “Back to Eden” 8pm-10.30pm in the Village Hall on Saturday 13th October (details and tickets, as advertised), with proceeds supporting the Village Hall Kitchen refurbishment.

All Souls’ Service Sunday 4th November 3.30pm
This gentle service offers a time to remember those we have loved and see no more. There is the opportunity to remember them by name and to light a candle in their memory. Over the years many people have found this a particularly valuable time as we gather together to share our sadness and also to give thanks for the lives that have meant so much to us. The service will be followed by tea and cake in the hall.

Remembrance Weekend – Commemorating 100 years since the end of WW1
In addition to supporting the Act of Remembrance on Saturday 10th November in the Village Centre, plans are in hand for the weekend at St Mary’s Church. In Church, we are planning to have special displays of flowers, art and poetry, with a welcome to
visitors throughout the weekend. On Sunday 11th at 10am, we will hold a Remembrance Service, including Holy Communion and the observance of the two-minute silence at 11am. Refreshments will then be served and at 12 noon we will offer a ticketed Remembrance Lunch in the Millennium Hall with all profits going to The Royal British Legion (please see separate advert in this issue of Tatsfield Parish Magazine).

St Mary's Church 100 Club results for the September draw
70. M & L Lambert £24.75 90. J Marsden £9.90
2. P Watts £14.85 St Mary’s £49.50

Flower Rota
7th October Harvest Festival 14th October Ann Vatcher
21st October Christine Rosenbaum 28th October Christine Rosenbaum

Grateful thanks to Brenda Fairclough and Pat Walsh for the beautiful arrangements during September. Ann Vatcher

Records
25th August Marriage of Steven Felstead and Charlotte Dallimore
26th August Baptism of Harry Treagus
2nd September Baptism of Lucy Acton
14th September Funeral and burial of Patricia Dean

Churchyard
Another good tidy-up morning in September with the beds being mulched with compost made in the churchyard. Brian Cook keeps the compost area under control and very useful compost is produced. More of the graves have been strimmed back but there are still a number to tackle. We shall also be cutting down the growth in the new area as weeds are surrounding the still-young hedge whips and we need to find the gaps where some of the original ones died and plant new ones.

The last tidy-up will be on October 6th and then we shall have a final session for planting when the whips arrive in November from the Woodland Trust. Mary Smith

St Mary’s Church Website: www.lttm.org.uk
TRAIDCRAFT – FAIR TRADE PIONEERS

Come along to any of our events you will see at least one table laden with a fantastic array of products and foodstuffs from around the world.

We get the majority of these goods from a company called Traidcraft and more specifically from their local representative Moyna Bridge whose smiling face you would have come across at any of our Fairtrade Fortnight events. Moyna who lives in Oxted has been involved with Traidcraft for more than 25 years, and since she retired from teaching 17 years ago she has been a full time Traidcraft Rep.

With roots in the mid 70s, Traidcraft are the UK’s original Fair Trade pioneers. By 1985, Traidcraft had introduced the first Fair Trade tea, coffee, sugar and chocolate into the UK. Traidcraft have always advocated the importance of organic farming, together with sustainability and transparency in the lives of growers and artisans around the world to create lasting solutions to poverty through trade.

In 1992 they co-founded the Fairtrade Foundation together with other organisations such as Oxfam, Christian Aid, the National Federation of Women’s Institutes and Global Justice.

The Fairtrade Foundation sets social, economic and environmental standards for companies, farmers and workers and certifies products and ingredients, licensing them to use the Fairtrade Mark. It is through their accreditation that Tatsfield is a Fairtrade Village and St Mary’s a Fairtrade Church.

As well as selling the UK’s largest range of Fair Trade goods from suppliers in more than 30 developing countries Traidcraft also has a charity arm, Traidcraft Exchange, whose mission is to challenge the way global trade works through development programmes, campaigning and advocacy.

At the moment one of Traidcraft Exchange’s campaigns is to push for the big six British tea companies to be transparent about who picks their tea. Most British tea is a blend that includes tea from Assam where tea workers are impoverished and live in appalling
conditions. As a result of this campaign Yorkshire tea and Twinings have now published where their tea comes from. If you would like to see the other four companies follow suit then please see https://www.traidcraft.org.uk/take-action/

Over the past 40 years Traidcraft has continued to pioneer bringing Fair Trade rubber and charcoal to the UK market in 2009, and in 2014, launching ‘Clean and Fair’ the world’s first household cleaning range to carry the Fairtrade Mark and which contains FairPalm, the sustainable Palm Oil.

The vast majority of Traidcraft’s sales are through stalls run by reps such as Moyna or through the website www.traidcraft.org.uk. However, it is now possible to find a small range of products in Oxfam.

Traidcraft has also recently launched the ‘Eat your Hat’ range of chocolate and coffee which goes beyond Fairtrade compliance and will be increasingly available through specialist and wholefood shops.

If you would like to help Traidcraft to continue to pioneer and find lasting solutions to poverty through trade then don’t forget you can order through Moyna on 01883 716257 or email moynabridge@yahoo.co.uk and save yourself the postage.

Barbara Hester, Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

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**Tatsfield Food & Wine Society**

Do you enjoy good food and wine?

Have you thought of joining Tatsfield’s Food & Wine Society?

Our forthcoming programme includes ...

- a gin cocktail evening on 26\text{th} October,
- a meal at the Windmill in Sevenoaks on 20\text{th} November,
- a members’ Christmas party,
- a visit to Godstone Vineyard to sample local wine & English cheeses
- a sherry and tapas tasting evening
  etc. etc.

To find out more, ring Tina on 576354
REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Church service – StM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.15 am</td>
<td>Hiit/Circuits &amp; Abs - SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Tots on Top – CH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>Bridge Club – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.15 pm</td>
<td>Adult Ballet - TPS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.30 pm</td>
<td>Art Group – VH [Term time]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.15 pm</td>
<td>Bingo – TVC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>9.15 am</td>
<td>Boxing (SH)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>Beavers – SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
<td>Scouts – SH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>9.15 am</td>
<td>Lift to Lean (full body workout) – SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>WI Pop In – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>Short Mat Bowls – VH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Cubs – SH</td>
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<td>7.00 pm</td>
<td>DnB Workout – VH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.00 pm</td>
<td>Yoga – VH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Over 50s Yoga – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>Hear Here – AMB (1st Thursday of the month)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
<td>Scrabble at Kayani, Greenways (1st Thursday of the month)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4.30 pm</td>
<td>Under 8’s Judo - SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.45 pm</td>
<td>Over 8’s Judo - SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.15 pm</td>
<td>Adult Ju Jitsu - SH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.30 pm</td>
<td>Duplicate Bridge – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.30 pm</td>
<td>Tatsfield Singers - TPS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.00 pm</td>
<td>Table Tennis – VH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Pilates – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Self-defence and HIIT, Tatsfield Martial Arts (SH)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Pilates – WIH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>Short Mat Bowls – VH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>Badminton club for Juniors – VH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.30 pm</td>
<td>Over 10’s ju jitsu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.00 pm</td>
<td>Badminton Club – VH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Under 8’s Judo – SH</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Bootcamp (TPS outside)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Composting site (CLOSED for winter, except last Saturday in Oct)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10.15 am</td>
<td>Over 8’s Judo - SH</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Parish Council Café - The Bakery [to noon]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.30 am</td>
<td>Adult Judo – SH</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you would like your 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

### OCTOBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Pen and Ink Landscapes Tutoring, TAG, TVH</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td></td>
<td>Churchyard Tidy Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Harvest Festival Service, StM</td>
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<td>8th</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>Parish Council Meeting, AMB</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>A Year on the Farm, WI Hall</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td></td>
<td>Back to Eden, TVH</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Animals in Coloured Pencils Tutoring, TAG, TVH</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Tatty Knitters, The Bakery</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Weds</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>Hobson’s Choice, Barn Theatre, Oxted (and other dates)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>RNLI Fair, Oxted Community Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Finding Your Feet, Curzon Cinema, VH</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>Parish Council Meeting, AMB</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>A Time to Remember, Barn Theatre, Oxted (and other dates)</td>
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</table>

### NOVEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>All Souls Service, StM</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>A World of Lavender, VH</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>North Downs Sinfonia, VH</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Remembrance Service, StM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Remembrance Lunch, Millenium Hall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Venues**

- AMB - Aileen McHugo Building
- CGA - Community Games Area
- CH - Church Hall
- 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

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### EMERGENCY INFORMATION – DIFIBRILLATORS

The following Automatic Emergency Difibrillators (AEDs) are available in and around Tatsfield. No prior training is required as instructions and audio guidance is provided:

- Village Hall, Tatsfield, 24 hours a day
- Crossways Court, Tatsfield, 24 hours a day
- Mayfield Stables, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, 24 hours a day, on left hand side of entrance.
HORTICULTURAL HOTSPOT

116 classes, 44 entrants, 320 exhibits, 5 judges, 12 cakes for teas and nearly 200 visitors! These statistics which lay behind the Tatsfield Horticultural Show on September 8th are impressive but do not tell the whole story. A large number of people were concerned that there would be fewer exhibits this year as growers have struggled with the prolonged hot weather. Luckily the doomsayers were proved wrong and we were treated to a glorious show with dahlias reigning supreme in the flower section, tomatoes and leeks showing to great advantage in the vegetables and apples of marvellous quality in the fruit section.

The flower arrangement classes were fantastic, 10 exhibits this year with Rita McKay winning three first prizes and the McHugo trophy.

We were pleased to see more exhibits in the junior section but would love even more next Spring. Well done to nine-year old Elsie Cole for securing The Tatsfield School Cup.

The art section featured 27 exhibits and Sandra Shury secured the Peter Warner Cup.

The craft pieces were of fantastic quality and Catherine Webber secured both the Slatter Trophy and the Tom Black Cup for her domestic skills. We have some great crafters in Tatsfield who meet regularly to knit and natter. Hope to see your entries into our Easter categories. Please get in touch with ideas for classes to include.

Some exhibitors entered a huge number of classes: Bob David 45; Britta Erbes 35; Peter Maynard 24; David Hadden 22; Dawn Forrester Groom 21; Brian Ling 18; Sue Warren 15; and Alan Armitage 13. They must have been up with the larks on Saturday to ready all their exhibits. Bob, Peter and Alan were all awarded cups, medals and prizes for their expertise, as were Phil Brett, Ann Vatcher, Val Payne, Nicola Le Provost and Sue Warren. The Warrens secured the most points as a family and secured the Goddard trophy. Thanks to Ray Collins for taking photographs for our next Yearbook and to David Bishop for writing up the show and taking pictures, which will be in the Surrey Mirror shortly.

Sue Warren signed off as our chairperson in her final presentation speech and will be succeeded by Jon Allbutt. Luckily Sue will remain as a committee member, so we look forward to more cakes at committee meetings.

We look forward to seeing you all at our BIG TALK and AGM on November 6th.

Our 2019 Yearbook will be distributed early next year. Membership of Tatsfield Horticultural Society entitles you to 10% off prices At Knights Garden Centres at Chelsham and Warlingham so well worth the fee of £5 for a family (£1 senior citizens).

Carol Gaskell
Thank you to Ray Collins for his fabulous photographs.
IDENTIFYING AND MANAGING JAPANESE KNOTWEED IN YOUR GARDEN

Japanese Knotweed has been a problem weed in our gardens, in the countryside and industrial sites for a very long time. It was first introduced around the late 1880s as a garden curiosity and soon spread over a large area of Europe. In the UK it is a major problem over much of the South, South East, South West, the Midlands, Wales and is spreading steadily northwards.

It has the ability to break up concrete and paving, it is very persistent and spreads underground, it has proved to be a most difficult weed to control; for these reasons where it has been found it has caused a blight over the value of houses and is a major limiting factor for potential development sites.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act it has been identified as an invasive species and it is illegal for any person to move any piece of it, and plant or dispose of it as normal waste. You are not obliged by law to remove it from your garden; but you could be liable if it is proved that your infestation has invaded a neighbour’s property. If you decide that you want to dispose of this weed (roots or stems) or move any soil or rubble containing parts of it, you can only do so by using a specialist, licensed, waste disposal contractor. Moving any waste containing Japanese Knotweed must be carried only by a specialist contractor to a designated and licensed waste disposal site; you must retain your copy of the Waste Transfer Notice as proof that you have complied with the Law.

The Parish Council is taking action to have a few small outcrops of Japanese Knotweed treated on parish land. This process is likely to take three to five years of annual treatments before we can be sure it has been totally destroyed. Treating Japanese Knotweed in your own garden with a herbicide specifically approved for this purpose is possible if there are only small areas of infection; however a large established infestation will require specialist treatment by a licensed contractor using industrial equipment.

We are very keen to know where this troublesome weed is growing elsewhere in Tatsfield; we would like to hear from homeowners and landowners who think they may have been invaded. Please look at the pictures attached to this article and/or contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk, the Royal Horticultural Society has a very good section on Japanese Knotweed on their website www.rhs.org.uk.

Jon Allbutt
Japanese Knotweed  *Fallopia japonica*

Often grows into dense thickets, outcompeting native flora, contributing to river bank erosion and increasing the likelihood of flooding. It can also cause significant structural damage to buildings and other structures.

Identification features (summer):

- **Stem:** Up to 3 metres tall. Green, with red or purple specks. Hollow, bamboo-like nodes.
- **Leaves:** Green, heart shaped. Up to 120 mm long.
- **Flowers:** Creamy clusters. August - October.

Japanese Knotweed is among the most invasive species in the world. If left unmanaged, it spreads rapidly, and can be difficult and expensive to control. Please help to prevent the spread of this plant.

If you have this plant on your property and would like further advice, please contact:

**Contact Name**

**Contact Address / Phone details**

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Photo credits: GBN NSS

Organization logo here
TATSFIELD IS BUZZING AGAIN IN 2018!

Pam Bishop and Bob David went to Brighton on 14th September for the results of this year’s South and South East in Bloom, when more than 300 representatives of those entering were there. Tatsfield had six rivals in the Large Village competition. It was good news that we were awarded Gold again and finished second behind Titchfield, a newcomer (they are near the coast next to Fareham). The other entrants were Limpsfield, Eynsford, Akverstoke, Woodchurch and Five Oak Green. Another great result after another year’s effort by the team of volunteers.

Meanwhile, the volunteers have been continuing to water and deadhead the mangers, hanging baskets and containers during the exceptionally dry weather in early September. Soon they will be taken down to be recycled for next year. Autumn planting of polyanthus will replace the summer annuals in the beds and containers during October.

You may also have seen the volunteers clearing the pond recently. Following the spraying of the vegetation the volunteers have been working hard to remove all the dead vegetation before the pond refills with autumn and winter rain - hopefully! Dead vegetation in a pond will break down and cause problems for other pondlife. The Parish Council is currently considering an experts report for the future management of the pond and is also in discussions with the Village Club to see if it is possible to harvest the rainwater from the Club roof.

Jill Hancock - Tatsfield In Bloom (577622)

EROICA BRITAINNIA 2019

I'm riding a cycle event next year, the 'Eroica Britainnia 2019'. So far so good; the only problem is that all equipment used must be pre-1987, in fact the older the better (just like me - 'eroica' = 'heroic') and I don't do retro.

If any readers have any old bikes or parts (any condition) rusting away at the back of the shed I could be very interested - possibly to buy or donation to charity.

Please do call me if you think you can help. Thank you.

Steve Gaskell, 07896861911
COMPOSTER’S CHRONICLE

By the time you read this, the composting site will have closed as far as receiving green waste is concerned but will still be open until the last Saturday in October for anyone who wishes to avail themselves of our compost. During this time, the team will be up there preparing the site for winter and, maybe, the construction of more new bins to replace the old rotting ones if funds become available.

The new “island” was completed at the end of August and includes two new receiving bays exclusively for waste from the allotments – one for “soft” material which does not require shredding and one for larger, tougher stuff which does. Please take a moment to read the notices next to the bays regarding what can and cannot be left there.

We have had a couple of phenomenally busy Saturday mornings which have resulted in us having to organise mid-week shredding sessions. If we get the grant for the additional shredder we will be able to cope more easily next year but we have to accept that, however much shredding capacity we have, we could still be overwhelmed by demand. I will see how things go next year and may have to be more specific about how much can be brought to the site each Saturday.

The latest thing to be renewed is the ramp which we can use to empty wheelbarrows directly into the compost bins if they are particularly heavy or if there aren’t two people available to lift the barrow, which is how we normally do it. The old one had become dangerously rotten and a bit of an eyesore.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our “extra” volunteers who each do one Saturday a month. So, thank you, Ruth and Jim Yeeles for doing the first Saturday, Elly Goodwin for doing the second and Ian Longley for the third. It is great to have your support and a real pleasure to see you each month. The fourth and fifth Saturdays are still looking for a willing helper.

If you would like to support the Composting Scheme in another way, you could always have a flutter on our part of the “Tandridge Together Lottery” which we share with the Horticultural Society. We can always use the extra cash to rebuild the composting bins and one of our supporters has won the biggest prize so far: £2,000! So, why not see if you can benefit from the “Luck of the Composters” and help us with the continued renewal of the site at the same time? Go to https://www.tandridgelottery.co.uk and search us out, or direct to https://www.tandridgelottery.co.uk/support/tatsfield-horticultural-society-and-composting.

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

We are still harvesting huge crops despite the summer heatwave, although we did lose some underground plants, and the strawberries were disappointing. But this year we picked white currants - never seen them before and was a bit dubious; they looked like frogspawn when frozen. But they taste delicious, like tiny gooseberries. And Carole Cudden rescued our abandoned beetroots and has since made several jars of pickled beetroots out of them...we are waiting for our promised sample!

Our annual BBQ coinciding with the Biggin Hill airshow was well attended again this year, and the sun came out just in time after a cloudy morning. Plenty of food, plenty of wine, plenty of laughter and plenty of cheering as the planes swooped overhead. The Red Arrows never fail to impress and the hurricanes & spitfires were exciting. But when the magnificent Lancaster bomber came straight at us, we were transfixed. It then rumbled right over us, almost touching the treetops, so low it cast a huge dark shadow over us all for a few moments, and we were awestruck. A truly splendid day.

Buses: On a slightly different note, we were pleased to be invited to the Horticultural lunch; but talking to some of the "village elders" I was amazed to learnt that some of them have never used our lovely 464 bus, some don't even have a bus pass! Alan and I use the bus regularly, several times a week each, despite both owning cars...why wouldn't we? It’s cheaper, it saves parking, and it’s fun! We have made many "bus friends" as there is always an interesting conversation to be had with another passenger. All the regular drivers are helpful and friendly. We sometimes have an opera singer who practises his repertoire. We book doctors, dentist or optician appointments in Biggin Hill to coincide with bus times, and we always go to the PRU (& Kings) by bus - no worries about excess parking fees if appointments run over. We have been to Greenwich, the O2, Bluewater (handy at Christmas), Bromley, Orpington, Tunbridge Wells. English holidays and weekends away with friends - we always park just out of town and get a bus to the centre/seafront. Many a country driver has been stunned to see a crowd of us waiting at an otherwise bleak bus stop (slight disappointment when no exchange of cash follows!). A bus pass is free to over-60's - anywhere in England. Just apply at Tandridge Council. Use it or lose it!!!

Felicity Armitage

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.
Our meeting in September was a talk entitled ‘Can I help I’m a Paramedic’.

Bob Harding-Jones (before becoming a Paramedic at the age of 40) was a Dairy Farmer. He then chose a very different career path. Bob gave us a very informative and funny talk on the highs and lows of being a paramedic; he writes very amusing books and poetry about his experience of public speaking and his work as a paramedic started his talk with a very funny poem about a ‘Nose’!

Bob took us with his stories into the world of paramedics giving us a glimpse of the joy when a baby is born, the sadness of death, how people make malicious calls over and over (32 times by one individual in just 24 hours) and mental health issues.

He told us over the years he had dealt with most things and nothing much surprised him anymore, but when attending a lady of 103 years old, she certainly surprised him by suddenly punching him in the face knocking his glasses off!

Bob received one call out from a member of the public, who opened the front door to him when he arrived, giving him three pages of notes listing all the medical conditions they had self-diagnosed on the internet. Fortunately after a medical check and chat over a cup of tea, that person was reassured they were not suffering from 20 different life-threatening illnesses.

Our next meeting is 2nd October. We will be holding our annual Harvest Lunch at 1pm.

If anyone would like to come and try out one of our meetings or would like further information about the WI, then please get in touch. There is a post-box by the door of the WI Hall if you would like to drop us a note, or come to one of our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.15pm or you can ring Sue Smale on 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 and always happy to welcome new members.

Sandra Shury
NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

The meeting was rather quiet this month. Of course, we had the usual joke sheet from George. Thanks again George. Pam brought in a batch of sausage rolls. All were polished off in no time! Many thanks Pam. And thanks go, once again, to the extra help given by some of the members.

Next month, on 9th October, we are having a fish and chip lunch. Any member who has put their names down and finds they can’t make it, please let Enid know (577719) the day before.

Babs Heffernon (540602)

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Christmas Fair in aid of Cancer Research UK
Wednesday 7th November 2018
The Grasshopper Inn, Moorhouse, Westerham Road, Westerham, TN16 2EU
10.00am - 3.00pm.  £3 on the door.  oxted.cruk@gmail.com

Do all your shopping in the wonderful ambience of an old coaching inn. Our preview evening, on 6th November, is by advance ticket only, and the fair then continues all the next day. Tickets for the preview evening on Tuesday 6th November, 6 – 8.30pm, cost £15 to include bubbly and canapés and are available from debbieinnes@hotmail.com or https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-fair-preview-evening-tickets-48087279347?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

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The 14TH Annual Christmas Singalong

I know it’s not nearly Christmas time but I would like to remind readers that the 14th annual Christmas Carol Singalong will be held outside Ye Olde Ship pub on Friday December 14th. The event starts at 7pm and we will be singing 15 well known carols with everyone being given a songbook with all of the words beforehand. There will be the usual band of the “Tatsfield Saints” under their conductor Leslie Lake and Father Christmas and his Elves will be arriving at 7.45pm with a present for all of the children. The Parish council chair Nichola Stokoe will give us a Christmas message and the Revd. Vince Short will give us a Christmas Blessing. All we need is you - and don’t forget your warm hats and gloves because whatever the weather, it will all happen that Friday evening. It’s a terrific way to put you in the mood for Christmas. Dave Bishop
VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE ON NEW YEAR’S EVE!

There’s something special about an event or party which brings in the New Year! The Village Hall used to be the scene of great New Year celebrations for many years and there was much competition to be first in the queue each year. But there have been no takers in the last two years and the hall was silent on each occasion as Big Ben brought in the New Year. Do you fancy hiring the hall on Monday 31 December to see in 2019? Perhaps for a special party or for a special fund raising event? Interested? If so, contact the Bookings Secretary, Helena Garcia-MacLeod to discuss the possibilities – phone 07983 011028 or email tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk.

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The Centre is open Monday to Thursday inclusive from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. with breaks for Easter, Summer and Christmas. We are delighted to have visitors and we are always looking for new members, young and old alike. Why not come and see what we have to offer – if transport is a problem call our Manager on the number above and we will try to help.
THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – OCTOBER 2018

Venus is now close to the Sun and has been lost in the evening twilight but will appear later in the year in the east in the early morning before sunrise. Jupiter can still be seen very low down in the south west around 7pm at the beginning of October although it too is moving closer to the Sun and will be hard to spot by the end of the month.

The other two bright planets can be seen towards the south if you look slightly later in the evening (around 7.30). If you find where south is, then the bright object slightly to the west (right) of that will be Saturn and the brighter object slightly to the east (left) will be Mars. This is the easier of the two to locate as it has an obviously reddish hue. Sadly both of them are quite low down at this time. As an aid to identification, the Moon is close to Saturn on October 14th and close to Mars on the 18th.

Previously I have mentioned the term “asterism” and drawn your attention to one or two. An asterism is composed of a number of stars that form the shape of an easy to identify object which, is something that cannot be said for many of the constellations. The stars do not even have to belong to the same constellation as is the case in the “Square of Pegasus”, an asterism that will become more dominant in the coming months.

So while you are outside and facing south look up towards the overhead point (the zenith) and find the bright star close to it. That will be Deneb in the constellation of Cygnus, the swan, which is alternatively referred to as the Northern Cross (an asterism). A little to your right will be a brighter star – Vega in the constellation of Lyra, the harp. Below these two, around half way to the horizon, is another star midway in
brightness between Deneb and Vega. This is Altair in Aquila, the eagle and is easy to find because it has a star each side of it close by. Collectively the trio of bright stars is known as “The Summer Triangle” which, as you may have guessed, is an asterism and is the area shown in the map. As well as the three major constellations I have also included two smaller ones that you almost certainly will not have heard of before. They are Sagitta, the arrow and Delphinus, the dolphin. Contrary to what I said earlier, with a little imagination, you can imagine both of them as the objects they are named after.

Brian Mills FRAS

TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELD 100 CLUB

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

1st Prize: David Hines £49.50
2nd Prize: Richard Olive £33.00
3rd Prize: K Budgen £16.50

And for August 2018:

1st Prize: Brian Wiggins £49.50
2nd Prize: Jon Dunn £33.00
3rd Prize: Margaret Burton £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.

Les Eames

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
Correspondence:
None. Again. But, to be honest, I’m not surprised. My own observations have been minimal throughout the hot, summer months. We’ve had several visits from a roaming Hedgehog, which has been most welcome, but bird visitors have been very few and far between with days in a row of nothing in the garden apart from Woodpigeons and Magpies. Where do the songbirds go, the finches, the tits? Presumably somewhere more hospitable; more able to support their needs. Not that the summer has proved a complete disaster. A trip along Pilgrims Lane on the last day of August was well rewarded with a glorious sighting of 20+ House Martins and Swallows picking off insects over the grassland, seven Pheasants running aimlessly in a panic, and a soaring Red Kite, so obligingly displaying its manoeuvrability in flight, swooping down low across the hedgerows. (As I’ve said before, if you want to see the variety of wildlife that inhabits our locality, you need to go further afield than your own back garden.) Butterfly sightings have fared no better. A farmland walk yielded one or two sightings of the following: Gatekeeper, Large White, Meadow Brown, Small Heath and Speckled Wood. Within the garden, Large and Small Whites and Holly Blues have been the mainstay. Other sightings throughout the year have been exceedingly rare with one or two recordings only of Brimstones and Red Admirals. In fact, I cannot recall a worse year for butterfly observations.

Our white butterflies – friend or foe:
As we know, the more common a species the more often it is overlooked. With this in mind I thought it would be a good time to take a closer look at the white butterflies that we surely all observe in our gardens. Of course, our opinion as to their appeal will differ according to the priority of our interests. If you happen to grow anything in the brassica family you may well view them as pests. You will, doubtless, spend much time closely observing your green leaves, keenly destroying any eggs or caterpillars found upon them. But as floral gardeners you may, by contrast, enjoy the sight of these delicate insects flitting across the lawn, feeding on the nectar of your various summer blooms. If you hail from ‘The Emerald Isle’ you will perhaps hold the belief that they carry the souls of children. Indeed, in seventeenth century Ireland there was an edict that forbade the killing of white butterflies for this very reason. Unintended conservation at its best!

There are four ‘common’ species of white butterfly to be found in the British Isles; the Green-veined White, the Large White, the Small White and the Orange tip. Others that may be found in particular or isolated locations are the Wood White, the Cryptic Wood White, and two possible migrants; the Bath White and the Black-veined White. There is also a butterfly called a Marbled White (seen to the south of Clarks Lane) which is actually a black butterfly with white markings, and a member of the ‘brown’ butterfly family!
Gardeners need to know that not all white butterflies are their enemy. Neither the Green-veined White nor the Orange-tip have any interest in cultivated brassicas, preferring wild plants to breed on. The Small and Large Whites, on the other hand, most certainly do enjoy invading your brassica patch, hence their collective, common name – ‘cabbage whites’! The signs of each species presence is completely different. The Small White lays its eggs singly on cabbage leaves and, when hatched, the green caterpillars feed on the heart of the cabbage. The Large White lays its eggs in clutches of 50 or more and, when hatched, the grey and cream coloured caterpillars feed on the outer cabbage leaves. I intend to grow some cabbages next year, in an unused (and unseen) bed, not for consumption, but purely to encourage the butterflies to breed, along with some nettles for other species. Others may choose to do likewise, or at least leave one or two plants outside of any netted area. Assuming they survive, the caterpillars soon become chrysalises and eventually emerge as fully formed adults.

Now for the identification of the white butterflies you see in your garden. You may think that the Orange-tip is easy to identify, but it’s only the male that displays an orange tip to its wings. So, we need to look at the underside of the wings when the butterfly is at rest. If the lower wing has a mottled appearance, it is an Orange-tip. If it shows distinctive veining, it is a Green-veined White. The Large and Small White’s both have a creamy white underside, so for these we need to look at the upper, open wings. It’s worth remembering that size is not necessarily an indication of the butterfly being ‘Large’ or ‘Small’. The best indicator is the amount of black that shows at the wing tips. The Large White tends to have a larger area of black that may trail along the outer edge whereas the Small White has a lesser area of black usually confined to the wingtips. The black wing spots also tend to be more pronounced on the Large White’s upper wings. Like us humans, there are countless variations of markings and, with limited space, any identification notes are bound to be somewhat simplistic. For more detailed notes, and further information on butterflies, try a website such as: butterfly-conservation.org

As I complete these notes, the warm weather is lingering on. There may still be time to make some seasonal observation. If not, autumn is around the corner and I’m hopeful that some of our migrant feathered friends will soon be on their way. It’s time to dust off those binoculars and find the field guide!

Any news or views? Contact: nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com
Alternatively, drop a note in to ‘Primrose Ridge’, Greenway.
ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Towards the end of October 1918, there came news of the second member of the Beagley family to have died in action. Driver George Beagley of the Royal Field Artillery was killed on 23rd October near Cambrai in northern France as British and New Zealand troops advanced towards German positions. Aged 19, he was the son of Stephen and Kate Beagley, whose address was given as ‘3 Council Cottages’. His cousin, Norman, had been reported missing in October 1917 and is buried near Ypres in Belgium.

On 28th October, Pte John Burbage of the 7th (Queen’s Own) Hussars was killed in action against Turkish forces in Iraq. His death is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, in the middle of what was to become - several generations later - a major battleground during the 1990 Gulf War. Born in Winchester in 1896, he was the son of John & Georgina Burbage (née Mitchell) of The Limes, Maesmaur Road. The names of both men appear on the memorial in St Mary’s church.

Across the world, allied forces were advancing and one major participant, Austria-Hungary, had asked for an armistice. In Tatsfield, the end of the war was in sight and there was a prospect of a return to peacetime rural life. In the middle of the month there was an auction of furniture and outdoor effects of Kylemore, which had just been sold in Paynesfield Road and a postcard from 1918 shows the tranquil scene at the junction of Ship Hill and Church Lane.

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project: Email: Tatsfield.history@talk21.com Tel: 577376
TATSFIELD RAMBLERS

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

**Sunday 14th October 2018**

Leaders: Sue Hyder and Maggie Amos
Start Point: 10.45am at The Green, Chiddingstone.
Postcode: TN8 7AH Map Ref: TQ501451
Description: A walk to Bough Beech, stopping there at The Wheatsheaf for refreshments before returning via a different route. One short hill on the return leg. Total distance approximately 5 miles, 3 hours.

**Sunday 21st October 2018 – 70’s Saunter**

Leader: Roger Sawyers and Maggie Amos
Start Point: 11.00am in the Car Park at the rear of the Sevenoaks Garden Centre. Half a mile east of the Sundridge traffic lights turn right (up Dryhill Lane). Car park entrance will be on your left – park in the lower section.
Postcode: TN14 6ED Map Ref: TQ495556
Description: A fairly easy circular walk returning to the Garden Centre Café for refreshments. Approximately 2.5 miles in total, 2 hours, no stiles.

**Sunday 28th October 2018 (**REMEMBER CLOCKS GO BACK 1 HOUR**)**

Leader: Annette Glazebrook and Jean Bossley
Start Point: 10.30am lay-by on A25 just east of Sundridge.
Postcode: TN14 6EE Map Ref: TQ492555
Description: Approximately 5.5 miles and 3.5 hours. One short, steep hill plus one undulating section. Pub stop at The Woodman in Ide Hill. Few 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... ADAM PLINSTON

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

How long have you lived in Tatsfield?
We moved here in December 2008. Prior to this, we lived in Caterham on the Hill.

What are your favourites memories of the village?
I have some great memories from watching my kids grow up and start school in the village. However, one memory springs to mind – winter 2008. I was in Caterham picking my son up from nursery. What started as a couple of snowflakes turned into a blizzard. It took me 7 stressful hours to get back to Tatsfield, and by then I was unable to get my car onto my drive – it spent two weeks stuck at the bottom of Old Lane. We have had a 4x4 ever since!

When did you first become interested in Martial Arts?
I started judo at Monks Hill sport centre in 1979. My mum did tap dancing there on a Saturday morning and needed to find something for me to do at the same time. The judo coach said I could join – so that was that.

A gentleman called Errol Field took over Monks Hill judo club and renamed it Yoshin Ryu. Errol was such an inspirational teacher and before long I was learning judo, Japanese jujitsu and Shotokan karate. I was also inspired by the club president, Brian Jacks, who had won Olympic and World Medals, had been European Champion four times and British Champion sixteen times. After judo he found fame through his performances on the TV show ‘Superstars’. Errol was my teacher for 38 years and if it wasn’t for him there would be no Tatsfield Martial Arts (TMA). I am currently talking to Brian about visiting and running a couple of sessions for us.

What do you do and how did you start?
Competitive judo is a young man’s game. You are classed as a veteran when you hit 30. In my late teens and earlier 20’s I was in the Surrey and Southern England squads. I was Southern England Champion twice, Surrey Champion numerous times, plus won other events such as the Sussex Open. I came 5th in the Nationals one year – just missing out on a bronze medal. It was around this time I stopped training in jujitsu and focussed on judo. I trained at three different clubs, 6 days a week.
In my mid-twenties back problems forced me to stop competing. In 2005 I had a spinal fusion operation. It was years until I could test myself again on the fighting mat, so I started to concentrate on coaching. I had attained my UKCC level 2 coaching certificate in 1999 qualifying me to run a club within the British Judo Association (BJA). I took numerous technical exams with the BJA and also went back to training in jujitsu as I was doing less judo.

In 2014, after 20 years working for Direct Line Insurance, I took voluntary redundancy. I had always wanted to open my own martial arts club, so took the plunge and bought some mats and, on the 8th January 2015, Tatsfield Martial Arts opened its doors for the first time. From Thursday to Saturday we offer classes in judo and jujitsu for children and adults. We run a self-defence and fitness class on a Friday morning. We have also worked with outside organisations - Woldingham and Warlingham Schools and Tandridge Trust.

At TMA I want the members to feel a sense of belonging. We hold a judo competition for all the children. This year we will be inviting other clubs to enter. We have a Christmas party for the children and trophies are awarded in different categories such as Best Judoka, Team Mate of the Year and Best Competitor. For the adults, we try to go out every few months and we have a Christmas celebration. These nights help to build friendships off the mat. Most Thursdays after jujitsu, we end up in the village club for a beer or two!!

**What is your motivation for running the club?**

I loved coaching and wanting to share what I knew the martial arts offered. Although I was head coach at Yoshin Ryu, I wanted my own club!

I want to keep TMA growing. Considering our location, growth has been outstanding. We opened with six students training one night a week. Now, we provide eight different classes and have 92 members; most train twice a week, some three times a week. Although a recreational club at heart, we are active in competitions and a number of our students are now in the county squad. I hope to have 100 members before the end of this year.
The belt system used in martial arts is very good at installing self belief, pride and a sense of satisfaction – when you get a new belt, you’ve worked hard for it and you know you deserve it. Last year, one of our senior club members achieved his 1st Dan (black belt) in judo plus his UKCC level 1 coaching award. Watching students develop, enter a competition, overcome nerves, fight hard – whether they win or lose – these are all motivators.

“You never stop learning” - there is always a new technique, a new move to master. This is one of the reasons I cross train in other martial arts. I am currently a 5th Dan black belt in judo and a 2nd Dan black belt in jujitsu. 5th Dan is the highest grade you can take a grading for and there aren’t many of us around. The grades after 5th Dan are awarded to you by the governing body. For these you have to show you are active in the sport - developing yourself and others. So, aside from running TMA, I am also Surrey County Judo Squad Manager and am working towards becoming a BJA Senior Examiner.

**What are the benefits from training in Martial Arts?**

Judo has a moral code that students are expected to follow: courtesy, courage, honesty, honour, modesty, respect, self control, friendship. TMA provides students with the following: self defence, confidence, discipline, fitness.

“Get knocked down 7 times, get up 8.” This is what martial arts teach – lessons for everyday life.

**Is it ever too late to start?**

Never! At TMA we provide free taster sessions – so come along, have a go and find the right discipline for you.

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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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