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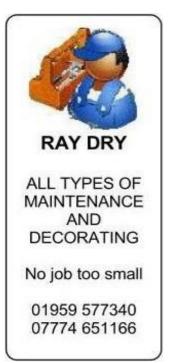
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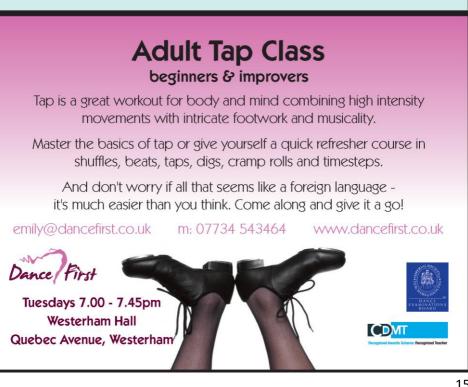
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

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Treasurer • Madie Langford (577114) Distribution Manager • Jim and Ruth Yeeles (577489)

Advertising Manager • Sarah Tait

Production Team

Ian Mitchell • Ruth Yeeles

CHURCH CONTACTS

ST MARY'S CHURCH, Church Lane, Tatsfield, TN16 2JX, www.lttm.org.uk

Anglican • Jeam Vicar: Revd. Vince Short

The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2NA (577289; vince@lttm.org.uk) Wardens • Marjory Broughton (541059), Chris Hancock (577622)

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Parish Council: Clerk • Samantha Head, 33 Alexandra Rd, Warlingham CR6 9DW clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk (07483 337461) Chairman • Nichola Stokoe, Meadowside, Paynesfield Rd, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (576443)

website www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield Tandridge District Councillor • Martin Allen, 38 Paynesfield Rd, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (577201) Surrey County Councillor • David Hodge 07815 533 550, 020 8541 8003

OTHER CONTACTS

St. Mary's Church Hall - Bookings • Sheila Cook (577443) Village Hall - Bookings Secretary • Helena Garcia (tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk) (07983 011028) W.I. Hall - Bookings • Sheila Cook (577443) Parish Room - Bookings • (07483 337461) email clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk Tatsfield Primary School - Head • Kevin Bellinger (577356) Tatsfield Village Club - 577330 Furze Corner Sports Pavilion - Bookings 07533 033325 Doctors • Stock Hill Surgery 580011 • Westerham Surgery 564949 Tatsfield Helpline - (577749) • Pet Register - Val Moore (574810) Village Web site: www.tatsfield.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment in an email to: <u>tatsfieldpm@gmail.com</u>, 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. Cover Photo: With the kind permission of Kate Bamber.

EDITORIAL

As I write, I wish to express a big thank you on behalf of St Mary's Church to all who will have completed our Tatsfield Community Survey by the 31st March deadline. We have already received valuable feedback and suggestions and, as might be expected, more electronic returns than paper ones. I hope to comment further next month in our St Mary's News pages.

This month, St Mary's are working towards a thrift (charitable) sale of good quality second hand clothes at the WI Hall, 2-5pm Saturday 27th April (further details in this edition) and our Flower Festival scheduled for the end of May.

Without giving too much away concerning our theme, the flower arrangers and artists will again be using their skills to depict or point to meaningful things.

With Easter approaching, I am reminded of one of the primary symbols of the Christian faith, namely the Cross – the cross on which Jesus died and the empty cross - symbolising the Christian belief that He died for our sins and rose again from the dead.

Whether as jewellery or accompaniments to worship and devotion, crosses come in many shapes and sizes, as well as being incorporated in other designs. However, their basic shape can also be used to attempt to further describe the mission of Jesus Christ. For example, the arms reach outwards left and right, speaking of the potential to bring peace between people and the vertical beam points up and down, speaking of the potential to bring peace with God.

In the uncertain and changing times in which we live, I believe the message of Easter can still be seen as a reassuring reminder of God's love for the world. All are welcome to our Easter services detailed in the St Mary's News pages.

With my best wishes for a joyful Easter.

Vince Short

Tatsfield online

Village website: www.tatsfield.org.uk Village facebook page: search for 'Tatsfield Village' on Facebook Tatsfield Talk facebook group: search for 'Tatsfield Talk' on Facebook, and ask to join to be able to view and post. Twitter: @tatsfieldtweet

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Trevor Smith has been our popular (with everyone) helper to Father Christmas along with his daughter Lucy for many years. Trevor is recovering from an awful accident when he broke his neck some time ago. Please hurry up and get better Trevor.

The Surrey Mirror. For nearly 20 years I have been

writing a weekly column about the "goings on" in Tatsfield which has included hundreds of photographs that I have taken. I took the job over when the previous correspondent said he had enjoyed my commentaries for many years at airshows at which I was presenting. He was leaving the village to go elsewhere and he knew that I enjoyed reporting events in aeroplane magazines and had a short column called Borderlines in the Surrey Mirror. In those days we 12 correspondents were paid (not a lot mind). "It was easy" he said because "all you have to do is to copy what was written in the local Parish magazine and Bob's your uncle". Well seeing as there are over 30 different organisations in the village I soon found out that I needed to go and see for myself these partakers in person and write their points of view. And that is what I have done along with my camera and I do a job that takes at least two very long days each week plus the time taken to visit people in local clubs etc.

One of my best friends for many years was the late CBN editor Kevin Black and many of the pictures and local Tatsfield stories in the County Border News came from yours truly at Kev's request. The thing is that, just before he passed away, he told me that "people no longer read newspapers and everything is on the Internet." Well if that is the case then I don't know how much longer the Surrey Mirror local newspaper will be published but until that day comes, I, (God willing) will continue to come and meet all Tatsfielder's with my digital recorder and two camera's and see what you local lovely people are all about, each and every week. So please keep the local Surrey Mirror newspaper supported and you will see you and your club, wedding, sports day and all the rest, published weekly. All you have to do is ask me and if I am available, I'll be there.

Forthcoming events in 2019. On Saturday 17th August there will be a Family Picnic on Westmore Green from 3–5pm sponsored by Park Wood Golf Club. The Tatsfield Saints band will play well-known tunes (under the leadership of Leslie Lake). They will also play

for the Remembrance Service on Saturday 9th November and the Christmas Carol Singalong on Friday 13th December.

A Huge Thank You. I have been involved with, and taken part in, many events in Tatsfield since I arrived here as a young BBC engineer in 1952. It all started with the St Mary's Church Youth club, the



Sevenoaks & District Model Flying cub, the early Tatsfield Carnivals, the Saturday Ballroom Dances, the Christmas Carol Singalong, the Children's Tea Parties on Westmore Green, the annual Leslie Irvin's "marathon runners" around the village, the afternoon Tea Dances and the Picnics on the Green and the annual outside broadcast Remembrance Service. I must say a huge thank you to the people who always have been so helpful. I could make a massive list of so many people who are so kind with your offers of physical help and backing money and I am so grateful to all of you. You are simply the best.

Dave Bishop

NEW ADVERTISERS

In April our advertising for the year refreshes. We would like to thank our repeat advertisers and urge readers to browse the new adverts. We are delighted to welcome 13 new advertisers. If you would like to go on the Waiting List for spaces next year please email Sarah Tait, Advertising Manager on tatsfieldmag@gmail.com. We are also able to distribute A5 flyers with the magazine on occasion.

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TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

We were delighted that the advertising of the Post Office letter in last month's magazine and on Tatsfield Talk Facebook page created some interest in the village. We are pleased to say that the Village Club has agreed to investigate the possibility of taking on the role of opening and running a post office. We are a long way off and it may not even be possible, but talks are starting to take place and options explored. The Parish Council has offered its support and help.

We have received a number of comments regarding delivery vans getting lost or stuck on the unmade roads in Tatsfield. As more and more of us use these services the problems are becoming exacerbated. We have been asked to erect signs such as "Ignore your Sat Nav"/"Access Only" etc. Having spoken to a number of delivery companies they have, sadly, confirmed that these signs do not work. The only answer appears to be writing explicit instructions (including details of the route and no access areas) in the "Special Instructions" box on the various websites when the order is placed. These instructions are passed on to the drivers and notice will be taken. If we all try this then, hopefully, we will see an improvement.

We have been sent details of the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service's "Making Surrey Safer plan for 2020 – 2023" public consultation. If you would like to participate in the consultation then it can be found at <u>https://www.surreysays.co.uk/environment-and-infrastructure/surrey-fire-and-rescue-service-making-surrey-safer/consultation/intro/</u>

It was also raised at our February meeting that a number of residents have been dumping grass cuttings and garden waste in the Millennium Wood in Ricketts Hill Road. This practice is tantamount to fly tipping on public land and should cease.

As many of you know, there are Parish Council elections taking place in May. A number of villagers have come forward to stand for election and I am looking forward to supporting the new team in whichever capacity I am able to.

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 2nd April from 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We look forward to welcoming you then.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building on Monday 8th and Tuesday 23rd April at 8.00 pm. As always, the agenda will be made available on village notice boards and at: <u>www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield/</u>

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

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATES

The Tatsfield Parish Council Elections will take place on the 2nd May. At the time of going to print, the candidates below have submitted their biographies to the Parish Magazine. Any candidates who submitted after this issue was sent to print have their biographies on an enclosed flyer.

ASHLEY CLIFTON

Hello. My name is Ashley Clifton; my wife and I have now lived in Tatsfield for 30 years come this September, the very month in 1990 when my wife and I were married and arrived in Tatsfield to live.

We have two grown up daughters who both attended Tatsfield Primary School, and then went on to Oxted School. They now both have successful careers in London, and I believe that living



in Tatsfield, with the surrounding people, schooling and general well-being of the village has made this possible for them.

I myself have a civil engineering background and having moved from the private sector many years ago, went on to work for Kent County Council Highways. This became privatised some years later, where I continued to work on the Kent Contract responsible for many highway schemes such as drainage, bridge maintenance, footways, lighting and new road construction to name but a few.

Three years ago I had an opportunity to leave the Kent Contract and along with my wife became self-employed (so not quite retired) allowing us to spend more time in the village we are very fond of.

I now feel that I would like to help the new Parish Council team retain, preserve and support the great assets that the village has developed over the years to help keep Tatsfield a very desirable place to live.

ALEX DAVIES

Hello! I'm Alex Davies and I have lived in Tatsfield for 22 years. I moved here from London to raise three daughters who all went to Tatsfield Primary then onto Oxted High School.

I have always done my best to be actively involved in village life. I was Chairman of the Little Acorns committee when my girls were there, then joined the Tatsfield Primary PTA. I also conducted our local choir, The Tatsfield Singers, for many years.

My business, Source Health Clinic, is in the heart of the village, my personal trainer is on Ricketts Hill Road, my yoga class is in the Village Hall and my martial arts class in the Scout Hut!

But best of all are the friends I have made here. With my own family in Australia, I have found a new one here.

Tatsfield is a wonderful community that thrives because of the many who give their time and talents freely. I hope to be a part of that as a Parish Councillor.

IAN HAYMAN

Hello Tatsfield. My name is Ian Hayman, I first arrived in Tatsfield in Jan 2007 when an opportunity arrived for me to buy and take over the small aquatic store at Waylands Farm on Approach Road. Twelve years on I am still thoroughly enjoying running our family business which has grown to also include a successful landscaping and maintenance side to the business, which we are very proud to have recently renovated Tatsfield's village pond.

We live in the Center of Tatsfield fully enjoying village life. I have three young children, one of which attends Tatsfield School. Bringing up a young family while living and owning a business in Tatsfield drives me to be part of the future of all aspects of this great run village.





KIM JENNINGS

Hello. My name is Kim Jennings. I am standing as a candidate for Parish Councillor in the forthcoming elections.

I have lived in Hillside Road for 26 years together with my partner Alan.

Our children grew up in the village attending Tatsfield Primary School and then Oxted County. They now live and work in London but love to return to the village and still call it home.

I have always been an active member of the community. I was Chair at the Village Playgroup, a founder member of The Art Group, Chairman of the school PTA, and organiser of the Tatsfield Fun Run for The Charity Action Medical Research of which I am still a fundraiser.

For the last three years I have volunteered with the Citizens Advice Bureau working for the Witness Service at Croydon Crown Court.

I am currently a member of the Parish Council having been co-opted in May 2018 and would like to continue. I love living in Tatsfield and enjoy our vibrant community. I believe in keeping Tatsfield rural and protecting Tatsfield's position in the green belt.

If elected I will do my utmost to represent you and our community to the best of my ability.

STEPHEN MITTINS

Hello, my name is Stephen Mittins. I am standing as a candidate for Tatsfield Parish Council in the May election 2019.

I have lived in the village for just under 11 years with my partner Gillian. I have two daughters and two grandchildren, with a third on the way.

Soon after moving to the village we joined the Tatsfield Food and Wine Club and we soon started to get to know people.

I volunteer on Saturday mornings for Tatsfield in Bloom helping to keep our village looking great.

I started my working life as an apprentice engineer with GEC in Wembley in 1975. I completed my apprenticeship 4 years later and qualified as a toolmaker. I studied for a further three years and gained Mechanical Technicians certification. I then studied electro mechanical engineering and worked with GEC on a wide range of diagnostic imaging equipment as a service engineer and now as a business manager for GE Healthcare.





23

I have just completed my second year training as a counsellor and intend to use this new skill to volunteer for Kent Mind. I would dearly love to be given the opportunity to carry on the great work that is being done by the Parish Council.

I love living in Tatsfield and the great sense of belonging to a vibrant community.

Tatsfield is a peaceful, rural and attractive village and I would love to contribute to maintaining and improving it where it is needed. The new pond, shop, Bakery and pub truly enhance the centre of the village.

My hobbies include golf, walking, kayaking, photography, vegetable gardening and trying to play the guitar and ukulele.

Gillian and I will be opening up our garden on June 2nd this year for the Tatsfield Horticultural Society Open Gardens event, so please come along and meet me.

I think my role as Business Development Manager for a large company has given me some great skills in negotiation and communicating with people. I believe I can use the Parish Councillor.

Areas I would like to focus on, if I were to become a Parish Councillor, are enhanced interfacing with Tatsfield school, promoting support for local businesses and looking at the public transport provided to Tatsfield to see if there are some services that could be aligned better to the villager's needs.

DAVID PINCHIN

My name is David Pinchin. My family and I have lived in Paynesfield Road since 1982. Our two boys, Mark and Stuart, grew up in the village attending both Tatsfield Primary and then Oxted County Schools.

Tatsfield is a very special village with so many assets; it has been a real privilege to live here in such a safe and welcoming environment. Now that I am retired and reducing other



commitments I would very much like to help the Parish Council continue its important work.

My background is almost entirely public sector. I spent 30 years in NHS management culminating in the post of District General Manager for Bexley Health Authority. I then had two years as Appeals Director for South Bromley HospiceCare – including setting up the Biggin Hill charity shop. I finished my career in the Senior Civil Service as Director of Investigations for the Health Service Ombudsman - or poacher turned gamekeeper as some people called it!

For 26 years I have also taken an active role in criminal justice and prison monitoring, most recently chairing the Independent Monitoring Boards for HMP Belmarsh and YOI Isis prisons in South-East London.

Village life has always been important to me. I was a school governor at the primary school for a few years including during the important period of moving to its present site and I took part in several drama group productions in the village hall before, sadly, the group was disbanded. For many years I also attempted to play league snooker for TWMC as the Village Club was then known...

If elected I will do my very best as part of the team to help preserve and enhance the future of our village.

JASON SYRETT

Hello, my name is Jason Syrett. I have lived in Tatsfield since October 2016, moving to our newly built woodland home in the village two years ago with my wife and two children.

Over the past few years, our children have settled into judo, cubs and scouts in the village and we have been warmly welcomed as part of this wonderful community. My wife set up the Tatsfield Talk Facebook group and is co-editor of Tatsfield Parish magazine.



We first discovered Tatsfield in 2014. Whilst living in Forest Hill, South London, we saw an opportunity for sale that is now where we live. We came up to the Downs and found the site for our future home buried in overgrown woodland.

I designed a contemporary and low energy family house and, with Ling and Sons builders and trades from the village, we built our new home and moved in. Whilst planning our new home, we were grateful for support from the Parish Council and in particular Bob David, who at that time was our District Councillor and supported us through our planning application process.

We were delighted to open our garden last year for the annual Open Gardens Day. It is very much a 'work in progress' woodland garden, but I am a keen amateur gardener, and there is still much hard work to do over the coming years.

Professionally, I am an Architect and a Partner in a practice in Southwark, London. My work, and the process of building our own house in the village, means I have extensive knowledge on housing, building work, the planning process and the protection of the Green Belt, which I hope to be able to use to support the needs and demands of our village.

I have a practical and enthusiastic attitude to life and enjoy getting things done. I would now like to support the Tatsfield community further and feel that I can make a useful contribution to the Parish Council and the future of the village.

GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR AREA

Do you care passionately about where you live? What matters to you in your local area? Is it the state of the local park, the need for more activities for young people, improving services for older people, making the roads safer or ensuring local businesses can thrive?

Have you thought about becoming a local councillor and helping change the lives of people in your area?

What do councillors do?

Councillors are elected to the local council to represent their local community, so they must either live or work in the area.

Becoming a councillor is both a rewarding and privileged form of public service. You will be in a position to make a difference to the quality of other people's daily lives and prospects.

Being an effective councillor requires both commitment and hard work. Councillors have to balance the needs and interests of residents, the political party they represent (if any) and the council. These will all make legitimate demands on a councillor's time, on top of their personal and professional lives.

There are 42 councillors for Tandridge District Council and 167 parish councillors representing their local community and all with their own reason for doing so.

Find out more

If you want to find out more about being a councillor or how to stand as a candidate. vou can find lots of information the Be on а Councillor website, https://beacouncillor.co.uk, also You can email <u>customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk</u> or call 01883 722000.

The next district and parish elections take place on 2 May 2019 and the closing date for applying to stand as a candidate is 3 April 2019. If you are reading this online before the closing date – there is still time! Alternatively, there is the opportunity to find out more and apply next time round!



CONSULTATION SESSIONS IN THE PARISH ROOM

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL, 2.00PM – 8.00PM

SATURDAY 4TH MAY, 11.00AM – 5.00PM

HELP US SET OUT A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS – AT THESE SESSIONS YOU WILL SEE:

- THE LATEST VERSIONS OF OUR TOPIC PAPERS FOR THE BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT; LOCAL ECONOMY; TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE; COMMUNITY FACILITIES
- THE RESULTS AND ONGOING ANALYSIS OF THE HOUSING SURVEY
- THE LATEST DETAILS OF THE CALL FOR SITES
- THE LATEST DETAILS OF OUR SURVEY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES

COME AND SEE THESE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE PROJECT AND LET US HAVE YOUR FEEDBACK

MORE PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSIONS ARE PLANNED – IF THESE DATES DO NOT SUIT YOU PLEASE CONTACT JON ALLBUTT ON 577100 OR BY EMAIL ON jon@jonallbutt.co.uk

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tandridge Magazine. I am pleased to report that I have received my copy this time round delivered by our trusty postmen and women. If yours has not yet arrived please let me know and I will have a copy posted.



Tandridge District Council. The meeting with the new SCC Leader Tim Oliver went extremely well, we invited him for lunch as you can see from the picture below. He came across as a very honest and sincere person and he acknowledges that there is a lot more work yet to be done but with a new chief executive and a new executive director team in place they have a clear plan for the future which they are working through. Let's give them a chance to prove this is the right way forward.



From left to right, District Councillor Martin Allen Surrey County Council Leader Tim Oliver and Ian Mitchell and Kim Jennings from the Parish Council.

Households should have received their council tax bill which has a leaflet inside and the Tandridge Magazine which both have a feature about the new wheelie bins. From 1st April, for two weeks

Biffa will be attaching bin hangers to the blue lidded recycling bins. These will also advertise the new wheelie rubbish bins.

By Friday 12th April, most households will have received direct correspondence from TDC about this initiative through their council tax bill, Tandridge magazine and bin hanger. If you can please complete the online form at <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/newbins</u>. To request additional or different sized bins.

And finally... As this magazine will come out in early April when the "purdah" period for the election will have been announced I will refrain from giving any further information about my activities on your behalf during March and April and will, if re-elected, come back to you in the June edition.

But having declared that I will stand again as your District Councillor on May 2^{nd} I just wanted to confirm that I will continue to do what I stated when I stood in 2015. I stood as I thought I would be the best candidate to do what is best for the village(s) and the people like myself who work and live in the village. I promised to do what is believed best

by the people - I will listen to what people have to say and do my best to influence matters in the best interest of the villagers. Ultimately it will be your choice.

Enough with the independent politicising. I think we have all had enough of that as we creep toward Brexit or a delayed Brexit. Who knows what is coming our way. If this is my last column may I say it has been a pleasure.

Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan. Please look out for the Public Consultation dates/times and I look forward to seeing you there.

In the meantime, 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 <u>cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk</u> Or <u>martin_allen@talk21.com</u>

Homelessness Prevention Strategy to launch public consultation

The Housing Committee approved a month-long public consultation to invite comments about the Council's draft Homelessness Prevention Strategy: Not every homeless person sleeps on the streets (2019-2023).

The draft strategy sets out the Council's vision and key focusses to prevent homelessness in the district, over the next five years. The Council will provide widely accessible advice and support and build strong integrated partnerships to deliver creative solutions to housing problems.

The three priorities the strategy addresses are how the Council will:

- 1. Raise awareness of the advice and support to prevent homelessness that is available.
- 2. Identify the top causes of homelessness and develop outcome focussed, innovative housing solutions.
- 3. Develop strong integrated partnerships to prevent homelessness.

A public consultation where you can have your say on these priorities will take place between 9th April and 6th May 2019. Full details will be available at <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk</u>.

Councillor Nick Childs, Chair of the Housing Committee, said: "The Strategy's aim is to protect and improve peoples' lives and their wellbeing by preventing homelessness and eliminating rough sleeping in the district. It is important we seek the views of everyone. This includes the views of people who have experienced homelessness and the many different agencies and charities who work hard to prevent homelessness."

All Committee meetings are broadcast live and remain available to view on the Council's website for six months. Visit <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/webcast</u>.

New wheelie bins for rubbish on their way

Later this year the Council will be delivering a new, free, 180 litre wheelie bin to all households for their rubbish. This bin should be big enough for most households, as it holds around three full bags of rubbish.

Smaller or larger bins or council bin bags for residents with access issues can be ordered by completing a form at <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/newbins</u> by 30th April 2019.

Once the new bins have been delivered, they can be used straight away. Residents should put their new wheelie rubbish bin at the edge of their property, where they normally leave their recycling wheelie bin, by 6am on their scheduled waste collection day.

If residents already have a rubbish bin this can be reused in many ways, for example as a water butt or as storage for the garden. The Council will alternatively arrange to collect old bins and recycle them into new products such as picnic benches and residents can request this by completing a form at <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/newsbins</u>.

The changes are being implemented following a formal direction from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) that the current back door service and lack of rubbish bin provision has put the waste collectors at increased risk of injury. Having a bin for rubbish will reduce issues with sacks being ripped open and waste being spread by rodents and other pests.

Councillor Pat Cannon, Chair of the Community Services Committee, said: "These new wheelie bins and changes to our collection service will help keep our streets clean as rubbish will be securely stored. We will also be following the HSE's recommendations, to make our waste collections easier and safer. If residents need a smaller or larger bin and please visit <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/newbins.</u>"

Launch of the Oxted Open for Business campaign

The "Oxted Open for Business" campaign has now been launched, which is being led by the Council and the Love Oxted Business Improvement District (BID) to encourage residents to support local shops.

The spring issue of the Tandridge magazine features profiles of people from the local business community who are helping create a vibrant future for the town. The campaign will offer support to the shops and businesses in Oxted, while the building work associated with RegenOxted takes place.

The RegenOxted programme is an ambitious multi-million-pound programme of strategically important projects which includes the removal of the gasholder, the provision of additional parking, an Urban Redesign project and commercial space and a business hub to encourage the start-up and growth of local businesses.

The demolition of the gasholder in Oxted is well underway and due to complete around May 2019. Following the demolition, groundworks will take place before work begins to

build 111 one, two- and three-bedroom apartments alongside car parking and landscaped courtyard gardens. The first homes are due for completion in January 2021.

The RegenOxted programme is being delivered in partnership with Surrey County Council, Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership, St William Homes LLP and the Love Oxted BID.

Councillor Martin Fisher, Leader of the Council, said: "I am delighted to support the Oxted Open for Business campaign. As local resident, I am a regular visitor to the shops which provide a wide variety of services. It is so important we invest in our town to ensure it remains a vibrant place where all businesses can thrive."

Tracey Shrimpton, Love Oxted BID Manager, said: "We are delighted to partner with the Council in this initiative – Oxted is a very special town, which we must ensure is sustainable for the future. Many of our businesses have long standing relationships with customers and benefit from their loyalty and support, but we all recognise the challenges currently faced by small businesses. This campaign is an opportunity to celebrate the unique businesses in our town which make Oxted a great place to visit, shop, eat out and work."

To keep up to date with the RegenOxted programme, please sign up for the Council's enewsletter by visiting <u>www.tandridge.gov.uk/signup</u>.

Support local good causes to win an adult and child annual pass to Godstone Farm Anyone taking part in the Tandridge Together Lottery between now and the first birthday special prize draw on Saturday 6th April will not only be in with a chance of winning £25,000, but could also win an adult and child annual pass to Godstone Farm.

The special additional prize was generously donated by Godstone Farm. The winning ticket holder will receive a 12-month adult and child annual pass. Godstone Farm has regular special events and on Saturday 6th April will have launched its Wiglet's Easter Eggstravaganza for the school holidays, where there will be a full and family packed range of activities including admiring the new lambs and recently hatched chicks.

Lottery tickets cost £1 and all profits go to good causes in the Tandridge district. Anyone buying a ticket can select the local good cause they want to support from those registered.

Winners are drawn at random every Saturday, with the jackpot being awarded for a matching sequence of six numbers. Other cash prizes include £2,000, £250 or £25. Since its launch, the Tandridge Together Lottery has had over 2600 lucky winners winning more than £26,000 worth of prizes.

To buy tickets or register as a good cause visit <u>www.tandridgelottery.co.uk</u>. Residents who don't have access to the internet can also take part by calling 01883 460555.

Councillor Martin Fisher, Chair of the Strategy & Resources Committee, said: "We are grateful to Godstone Farm for donating an annual pass for an adult and a child to help celebrate our first birthday. It is great to be able to offer this additional prize to our players, who support so many good causes in the district by buying Tandridge Together Lottery tickets. Good luck to everyone who takes part and thank you for supporting our local community."

Dear Country Watch Members,

We have had an increase in rural incidents of Fly Tipping. The illegal dumping or abandoning of waste litter is an offence. It can result in imprisonment and fines handed out by the district council. The authorities are responsible for keeping all relevant land and water clear and safe for public access. They rely in part with local Tandridge land owners and passing members of the public; alerting them to incidents that have, or are, taking place. Fly tipping in the United Kingdom is defined as:

'The illegal discarding or deposit of waste materials and rubbish products on land or water contrary to the **Environmental Protection Act 1990**.'

Fly tippers may get prosecuted for illegally dumping any garbage. But typical and common items that are fly tipped include: discarded shopping trolleys; unwanted furniture; rubber tyres; black bin liner bags; hazardous liquid and industrial waste; construction materials.

The term **'fly tipping'** is most likely to have originated from an English expression of doing a deed 'on the fly'. It refers to rushing to achieve something without thinking it through. Thus, being on the move or in a hurry - to reduce the likelihood of getting caught.

Inspector Dan Gutierrez, Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Inspector

POLICING

Hello Tatsfield. It's nearly Easter time.....eggs-ellent. Let's hope the sun shines high and the crime stays low.

Good news. The crime report section will be short. After a lot of activity previously, it's all thankfully gone a bit (quiet).

While other surrounding North Tandridge areas (e.g Warlingham, Caterham) are still suffering a few burglaries and other acquisitive crimes, Tatsfield has only suffered a couple of minor incidents. At the end of February, a vehicle on Crossways was deliberately damaged by being keyed along the side. The victim mentioned another neighbour had the same, but no report has been received. We believe it is regarding issues over resident parking. Please report immediately on 101 any suspicious activity around parked vehicles here, thanks.

The only other incident of note has been the theft of some post from a property on Westmore Road, by a courier picking up a returned parcel. We know items were subsequently returned, and may have been simply a mistake, but it does highlight the general issue of security of delivered items, both post and parcel deliveries. Please make sure your post box is either internal, or if external that it is not liable to be opened or stolen. In this age of various financial frauds and thefts, we cannot be too careful when it comes to the security of our property and information.

Lastly, I would like to highlight the subject of speeding vehicles through the various parts of the village. A number of reports do come through to Surrey Police, and though normally it's a case of 'the moment's gone', getting the information is still valuable, as it forms a picture of activity. Thanks to the efforts of the Community Speedwatch group, some monitoring has been done. This has already borne fruit, with a local persistent driver being issued a Section 59 motor offence warning, given by one of our Roads Police team last year. This acts as a kind of 'yellow card' to any driver. If a second one is issued within 12 months of the first, even if driving a different vehicle, that vehicle will be seized and possibly crushed.

On this subject, please take care driving on Ricketts Hill Road. Despite having a 40mph limit, it is a bus route, relatively narrow in places, and without pavements, so please exercise caution. I speak from plenty of experience, having encountered buses suddenly at the wrong moment!!

Kids: enjoy the Easter break, riding your bikes, and enjoy eating all those chocolate eggs. But please, not at the same time. Road safety!!

That's all folks......see you around the village.

Rupert, PCSO 12599 KELLEY, Surrey Police



Since my last snapshot there have been updates on some of the constituency issues that I'm working on and I wanted to write again to give you the latest.

a debate in the House of Commons on Environment Agency permits following the problems faced with Oxted Quarry and Chalkpit Lane.

As you will know, ensuring Chalkpit Lane does not become an HGV Highway is something I have been focusing on, making numerous representations on behalf of concerned residents. I was pleased to see Surrey County Council agree a lower HGV limit than the one originally proposed, though I understand the difficult position they were put in by this permit.

I called on the minister to give local authorities a greater say in permitting arrangements.



I am pleased that the Environment Agency has committed to consulting more widely in Surrey than is statutorily required and will be writing to them for more information on this, and on any lessons learned from the situation at Oxted Quarry.

You can watch my speech, and the minister's response, here: <u>https://goo.gl/UikCp3</u>

I was very pleased to welcome Councillor Martin

Fisher to Parliament to watch the debate. Martin has worked very hard on this issue and I was pleased to support his suggested reduced numbers at the Surrey Planning Committee meeting.

Warlingham Recycling Centre. Every resident needs somewhere convenient to drop off their rubbish and help recycle what they can.

This is why I have been working hard with Councillor Cindy Steer to campaign to keep the Warlingham Recycling Centre open. As you may know from my previous update, I welcome the news that Surrey County Council have postponed this closure for a review, however I do still remain concerned about the Centre's future.

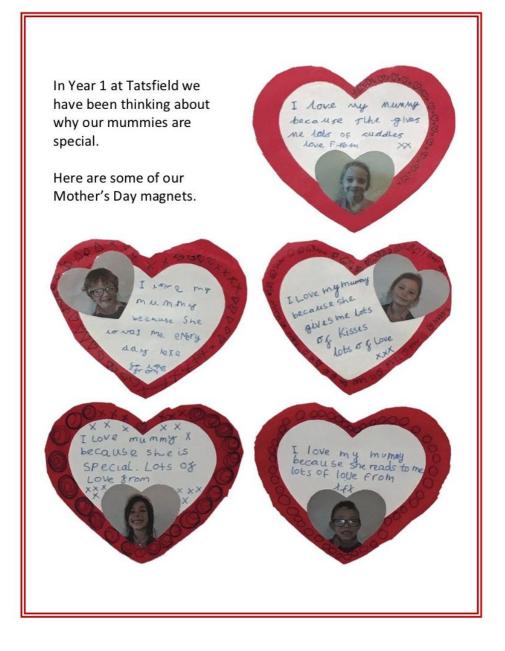
A task group has been set up to examine the existing costs of providing the CRC service and look or opportunities to reduce costs without closing sites. I will be meeting with the leader of the task group, Cllr Andrew Povey, to make the case for Warlingham CRC.

Please do write to me about this issue as any and all correspondence will help our efforts to keep it open.

Many of you will have received periodic updates on particular issues you have individually contacted me about, so if you want further details please do email me at <u>sam@samgyimah.com</u> for the latest news.

Best wishes, Sam Gyimah MP

TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

Term Topics

So far this term we've had lots of fun celebrating pancake day with a visit from Reverend Vince Short, who came to visit the children with his guitar to sing some songs. The preschool would like to thank Vince once again as the children especially enjoy his visits.





Our theme for this term has been Spring, which has seen the children engaging in lots of sensory activities, as well as visits to the wildlife garden. We have looked at mini beasts, baby animals, made Easter baskets and Easter bunny houses and have created paintings using toy animal footprints!

The children enjoyed dressing as their favourite book characters for World Book Day. Encouraging young children to share books and listen to stories really does inspire them to explore their imaginations,



whilst building upon their listening and attention skills. We chose the book 'The Tiger that came to tea' to base some of our activities on. One of which was a sensory tray themed on tigers. This included pictures, toys and various materials with a range of textures to be explored - all tiger coloured!



Little Acorns Pre School successfully held its first open day on 16th March, allowing new and prospective parents to come and see all the exciting learning through play activities we have to offer. It was lovely to meet and chat to new parents, along with their children having fun in the setting. For anyone who was unable to come to the open day but would like to know more about us, do contact the preschool for a visit or simply for some more information.

Our popular event 'Eastercise' was held on 3^{rd} April and once again proved to be a valuable fundraiser for the preschool. We

would like to thank our parents and carers for being so supportive of their children in this event. As a charity organisation we are extremely grateful for the fantastic support this provides us.

Little Acorns were also inspected by OFSTED this term. We're delighted to share that we are a 'Good' preschool. We are all very proud of this result and continue to strive to provide valuable learning and play experiences for the children.

Jen Creed, Practitioner at Little Acorns Preschool office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk



at 3pm SATURDAY 13 APRIL

THE VILLAGE HALL



Entry forms to be sent in by 11 April to any member of the committee or enter on the website tatsfieldhorticulturalsociety.weebly.com



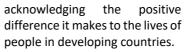
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF FAIRTRADE IN TATSFIELD



Villagers watched a short film about cocoa farming in West Africa and were encouraged to Buy Fairtrade Chocolate.

There was the opportunity to buy from the Traidcraft Stall and to purchase a bag of fairly traded rice to help send a child to school in Malawi.

Councillor Lindsey Dunbar, Deputy Chair of TDC, congratulated Tatsfield on 10 years as a Fairtrade Village, thanking the Group for their hard work and the Villagers for showing their commitment to Fairtrade



Catherine Webber the was winner of the Baking

Competition with her Delicious Carrot Cake, the judges were Shirley Murgatroyd, Ian Longley and Heather Evans

WHY WE NEED A FASHION REVOLUTION

Like plastic, over recent years we have become increasingly aware of the huge environmental impact of the fashion industry and more particularly 'fast fashion'. Fast Fashion began about 15-20 years ago when trends in fashion became more important than functionality and style. The UK has the highest consumption per head of new clothing in Europe. Here are some of the statistics:

235m items of clothing ended up in landfill in 2017. Three in five of those garments are within one year of purchase.



delicious Fairtrade tea whilst listening to beautiful baroque music provided by the very talented Harber String Trio.

Sunday

а





 Fashion is the second largest polluter in the world, after the oil industry. Garment manufacture emits more greenhouse gases than aviation and shipping combined.



- 1.2 billion tonnes of carbon emissions were produced by the global fashion industry in 2015.
- Fashion is the greatest polluter of waterways from toxic dyes and microfibres through too much washing. 700,000 fibres are released in a single wash, which fish are then eating.
- It takes 2,700 litres of water to produce just one cotton t-shirt (which is the amount of water an average person drinks in a year).

Added to this is the shocking human cost of Fast Fashion. On 24th April 2013, 1,138 people died and another 2,500 were injured when the Rana Plaza building in Bangladesh collapsed. The victims, in the majority young women, were all working for five garment factories manufacturing clothing for big global brands.

Out of this disaster the now global movement, Fashion Revolution was born. What began in 2014, as Fashion Revolution Day has now become Fashion Revolution Week, which this year is marked on 22-28 April. During that time members of the public are encouraged to challenge the brands they buy from, asking "Who Made My Clothes", how much are they paid and what are their living and working conditions like.

A garment's journey is a long and complicated one with many people involved, for example, cotton farmers, spinners, weavers, dyers and sewers.

Approximately 75 million people work to make our clothes with 80% being women aged between 18 and 35. The majority are paid so little that they live in poverty unable to afford even life's basic needs. Many are subject to exploitation, abuse and unsafe and dirty working conditions.

Thanks to the movement's efforts a growing number of fashion brands are beginning to answer their customers' #whomademyclothes questions bringing greater transparency to the industry.

So, what can we do?

- Buy fewer items.
- Choose natural rather than synthetic fibres and organic cotton which doesn't use harmful pesticides.
- Wash clothes less often and at lower temperatures.
- Line dry whenever possible.
- Be aware that when you recycle or send an item to a charity shop it may end up in landfill or the incinerator.

• Look out for Fairtrade cotton brands such as People Tree, Thought, Nomads or look out for the new Fairtrade Collection from White Stuff.

This April 22-28 why not join in the Fashion Revolution and ask some of your favourite

brands #whomademyclothes or go along to the Thrift Sale being organised by St Mary's Church at the WI Hall on Saturday, 27th April from 2-5pm. More details are elsewhere in this magazine.

Barbara Hester Tatsfield Fairtrade Group



NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

The Sinfonia held its first concert in July 2005, at which time an adult seat cost £9. In the intervening years, costs have of course increased considerably, but the price has been held at £9 by making various savings, although the subscription for orchestra members has had to increase twice. A recent informal survey of local concerts has shown an average adult ticket price of £14, but it is still with reluctance that NDS is forced to raise its prices to £10 for an adult and £8 for a concession.



Our next concert is on Saturday May 11th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall as usual. We are proud to introduce an international soloist, Edwin Kim, who will be flying in especially for the concert, and will play the Elgar Violin Concerto. This was composed in 1910, and

recorded by Elgar with a young Yehudi Menuhin playing, in 1932. In the first half, we will also be playing the overture to the Mozart opera La Clemenza di Tito, his very last opera, composed in the year of his death, 1791.

The second half will consist of Beethoven's masterpiece, the Symphony No 5 in C minor, composed in 1808 when his deafness was increasingly apparent. Everyone knows this of course, with its unmistakable first da-da-da-dum notes.

The programme will be conducted by Francis Griffin, and tickets will be available as usual from Jan or Peter Maynard on 01959 577659 or by emailing <u>northdownssinfonia@gmail.com</u>. There is no booking fee, and tickets can be reserved in advance and picked up and paid for on the door.

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

Work on the car park beds continued during March with all the shrubs pruned and the beds re-mulched with wood chippings very kindly supplied by Kenny Thurgood of Acacia Tree Surgeons.



The winter planting of mixed polyanthus and dwarf daffodils are now in full bloom in the beds and containers and I think you will agree look delightful.

Plans for the 2019 summer planting are now well under way with orders placed for the plants for the Fairtrade logo on the Tatol bed and also the other plants for the beds and containers. The volunteers have been weeding the perennial bed and the



containers during the month and also clearing the branches and twigs along the north side of Westmore Green. However, this could be an ongoing job following the large tree which fell on the Green on 12th March and the severe gales the following week!

The Committee are in discussion with the Allotments Association to start a tree nursery to grow some native British trees to mark the centenary of The Forestry Act and the formation of the Forestry Commission.

Please use the donation slip at the bottom of this article if you would like to help us this year. Donation boxes are also in Sheree's Store, the Bakery, Old Ship and Village Club.

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM APPEAL FOR FUNDS 2019

I should like to contribute £

Name (optional)

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

Contributions can also be made direct to: Tatsfield In Bloom A/c No: 65383694 Sort Code: 08-92-99

Jill Hancock (577622)

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Tatsfield Community Survey. Thank you to all who took part. Further information will be included here next month.

World Day of Prayer. On Friday 1st March, St Mary's hosted and led one of the local services for this annual event, which was well-attended and appreciated. Attendees also enjoyed coffee and cakes afterwards.

Men's Breakfast at Ye Old Ship. On Saturday 16th March, 25 of us enjoyed a delicious cooked breakfast at our local pub. The event was organised jointly by St Mary's Church and New Life Church, Biggin Hill, and included some after breakfast "food for thought". Our speaker, Dave White, told of his faith journey, as well as some of his travels and work in interesting places overseas. We hope to offer a similar event in June.

Food Bank Deliveries. Thank you for everyone's continued support to the St Mary's food bank collection. At the beginning of March, we were able to support the local food bank at Westerham with some of the food donations and household cleaning items. Also, another food delivery was made on Monday 18th March to Christ Church, Brixton, supporting their weekly food bank. Please keep donating! **Hilary Vale**



Lent Lunches. In support of the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal for projects in Sri Lanka, Kenya, London and Zimbabwe. Our final Lent lunch, including the raffle draw, will be held on SUNDAY 14th April (Palm Sunday). This lunch will run on from

our post-service coffee and chat and as well as the above will also include an opportunity for all ages to participate in some fun Easter Crafts, including decorating some real eggs for our Easter Tree! **Maryrose Fawke**

Flower Team. We will be decorating the Church on Easter Saturday, 20th April at 9.30am and would welcome anyone who would like to help with adding to the beauty of the building. No experience required - some of us have just learned through watching and helping! If any would like to contribute to the cost of the lilies, please send your donation to The Rectory in Ricketts Hill Road TN16 2NA in an envelope marked "Easter Lily Donation".

A reminder there is to be a Flower Festival on the 25th - 27th May to be supported with paintings by some of Tatsfield's talented artists. **Ann Vatcher**

Flower Rota: 28th April, Ann Vatcher



Open the Bible. Our next monthly All Age Services will be at 10am on April 7^{th} and May 5^{th} .

Holy Week and Easter $(15^{th} - 21^{st} \text{ April})$. Please join us for any of the services and events below, as we celebrate Easter. In addition to those at St Mary's, please note that some take place at our Team Churches and in the wider community. For further information, please contact Vince on 01959 577289.



Mon 15th April, 8pm Meditation Service (the messages of Jesus) at St Peter's, Limpsfield Weds 17th April, 8pm Tenebrae Service at St Andrew's, Limpsfield Chart Thurs 18th April, 8pm Eucharist for Maundy Thursday at St Peter's, Limpsfield Good Friday, 19th April, 10.30am Devotional Service <u>at St Mary's, Tatsfield</u> Good Friday, 19th April, 12 noon Walk of Witness in Oxted (meet at Council Offices) Good Friday, 19th April, 2pm Liturgy of Good Friday at St Peter's, Limpsfield Easter Sunday, 21st April, 10am All Age Eucharist for Easter Day <u>at St Mary's, Tatsfield</u>

Thrift Clothing Sale 2-5pm Saturday 27th April. St Mary's welcomes you to pop along to the WI Hall, Paynesfield Road, for our Thrift Sale of new, nearly new and good condition second hand clothing, shoes and accessories on Saturday, 27th April, 2pm till 5pm. Entry £1 on the door with a hot or cold drink (& biscuits!) to help you browse. Items will be on sale for no more than £10 with a range of prices to suit all budgets. Proceeds will support the "Bishop's Lent Call" helping projects in Sri Lanka, Kenya, Southwark Diocese and our Link Diocese in Zimbabwe, along with other charities supported by St Mary's.

We would be very grateful for any donations of good condition women's, men's or children's clothes, shoes or accessories. Please bring with you or drop off to the WI Hall earlier in the day where a team of volunteers will be on hand to assist. So, come and share in what we hope will be a successful and enjoyable afternoon for all!

Sunday Teas. These will start on 5th May and will continue every Sunday afternoon, 3-5pm, until the end of September.

Records

17 th February	Baptism of Lydia Pearce
20 th February	Interment of ashes of Sylvia McMahon
24 th February	Confirmation of Lydia Pearce (at St Peter & St Paul, Lingfield)
27 th February	Funeral of Dennis Tapsell (at Kent & Sussex Crematorium)

St Mary's Church 100 Club results for the March draw

13. M.&L. Lambert £23.75 90. J. Marsden £14.25 49. A. de la Torre, *RIP* £ 9.50 St Mary's £47.50

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

REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	10.00 am	Church service – StM
Mon	9.00 am 9.30 am 1.30 pm 7.15 pm 7.30 pm 8.15 pm	Fitness classes with Charlotte Limpenny - WIH Tots on Top – CH Bridge Club – WIH Adult Ballet - TPS Art Group – VH [Term time] Bingo – TVC
Tue	1.30pm 1.45pm 2.15pm 5.30pm 7.00 pm	Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month) Not So Young Club (2nd Tuesday of the month) WIH WI Meeting (1st Tuesday of the month) WIH Beavers – SH Scouts – SH
Wed	10.00 am 1.30 pm 6.00 pm 7.00pm 8.00 pm	WI Pop In – WIH Short Mat Bowls –VH Cubs – SH DnB Workout – VH Yoga – VH
Thu	1.30 pm 2.00pm 4.30 pm 5.45 pm 7.15pm 7.30 pm 7.30 pm 8.00 pm	Hear Here – AMB (1 st Thursday of the month) Scrabble at AMB (2nd Thursday of the month) Under 8's Judo - SH Over 8's Judo - SH Adult Ju Jitsu - SH Duplicate Bridge – WIH Tatsfield Singers - TPS Table Tennis – VH
Fri	10.00 am 10.00 am 11.00 am 1.30 pm 5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Pilates – WIH Self-defence and HIIT, Tatsfield Martial Arts (SH) Pilates – WIH Short Mat Bowls –VH Badminton club for Juniors – VH Over 10's ju jitsu
Sat	8.00 pm 9.00 am 10.00 am 10.05 am 11.00 am 11.30 am	Badminton Club – VH Under 8's Judo – SH Bootcamp (TPS outside) Composting site (CLOSED for winter) Over 8's Judo - SH Parish Council Café -The Bakery [to noon] Adult Judo – SH

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

APRIL		
2 nd Tues	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting, VH
7 th Sun	10am	All Age Service, StM
8 th Mon	8pm	Parish Council Meeting, AMB
9 th Tues	7.30pm	Tatty Knitters, The Bakery
10 th – 13 th Wed-Sat		Iolanthe, Barn Theatre, Oxted
13 th Sat	3pm	Tatsfield Horticultural Society Spring Show, VH
19 th Fri	10.30am	Devotional Service, StM
19 th Fri	12pm	Walk of Witness, Oxted
20 th Sat	9.30am	Decorating St Mary's Church for Easter
20 th Sat	7.45pm	Stan and Ollie, Curzon Cinema, VH
21 st Sun	10am	All Age Eucharist for Easter Day, StM
23 rd Tues	8pm	Parish Council Meeting, AMB
27 th Sat	9.30am	Big Village Spring Clean, Westmore Green
27 th Sat	2-5pm	Thrift Sale, WI Hall
30 th Tues	2-8pm	Neighbourhood Plan Public Consultations
ΜΑΥ		
2 nd Thurs		Parish Council Elections VH
4 th Sat	11 Enm	Parish Council Elections, VH
	11-5pm	Neighbourhood Plan Public Consultations
5 th Sun	11-5pm	TAG Exhibition, VH

<u>Venues</u>

AMB - Aileen McHugo Building • CGA - Community Games Area MH - Millennium Hall • SH - Scout Hut • StM - St. Mary's Church TACG – Tatsfield Allotments and Community Garden • TVC - Tatsfield Village ClubTPS - Tatsfield Primary School • VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute

EMERGENCY INFORMATION – DEFIBRILLATORS

The following Automatic Emergency Defibrillators (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.

BIG VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN!





SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019 STARTING AT 10am MEET AT WESTMORE GREEN

* EVERYONE, YOUNG AND OLD, INVITED TO HELP. PLEASE JOIN IN EVEN IF IT IS ONLY FOR A SHORT WHILE

> * WE AIM TO COVER AS MUCH OF THE VILLAGE AS WE CAN, INCLUDING FOOTPATHS

> > * LITTER PICKERS, BAGS ETC PROVIDED

> > * REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Arranged by Tatsfield in Bloom



ST MARY'S CHURCH BRINGS YOU A THRIFT SALE! OF NEW, NEARLY NEW AND GOOD CONDITION SECOND-HAND

OF NEW, NEARLY NEW AND GOOD CONDITION SECOND-HAND CLOTHING, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES FOR WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN

WI HALL, PAYNESFIELD ROAD, TN16 2AT

SATURDAY, 27TH APRIL 2PM – 5PM

ENTRY £1 ON THE DOOR WITH A HOT OR COLD DRINK & BISCUITS TO HELP YOU BROWSE

PROCEEDS TO CHARITY

GOOD QUALITY CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED AND WELCOMED! DROP-OFF TO THE WI HALL EARLIER IN THE DAY OR BRING WITH YOU



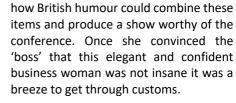
WI REPORT

Have you ever been to the fiery top of Mount Etna? No – neither have I, but the story told by our speaker Ann Chance lived up to expectations and was not the usual holiday adventure.

At one time Ann, who is a highly talented and entertaining speaker, was the President of the London and Southern Counties

Ironmongers Association, the L&SCIA! It appears that organising the President's Conference to Sicily (with CIA in the organisation's title) for 200 delegates was a monster task and required the winning over of the locals – the Mafia family. Ann went out to deal personally with matters and won over the formidable head of the family, succeeding in her task and soon had the flights, hotel and coach trips were magically all arranged.

Part of her reputation amongst the honourable ironmongers was based on her producing a successful but rather risqué revue for the end of conference entertainment. This in turn required her to include in her 'excess baggage' a variety of bizarre costumes and props, including fairy wands and wings and two baby potties along with a rather extravagant and valuable chain of office! It proved necessary to explain to her new Sicilian friends



The ascent of Mount Etna was the key sightseeing trip for the delegates and her coach was accompanied by the

'godfather' and his crew in his bulletproof limousine. It would seem that those few hours involved travelling up the mountain from a blazing temperature in the 90s through clouds, snow and blizzards to minus temperatures. Ann's determination to go as close as possible to the rim of fire meant that only three delegates plus a guide pressed on close to the fiery volcano. She believes that the reluctant guide was under strict orders to bring her back safe and alive, an offer too good to refuse I am sure.

As wild as Ann's stories may seem, (this one was called 'The Mafia and I Conquered Mount Etna') she swears every word is true – and I believe her. She has many more life's adventures to tell and will, I am sure be making return visits to Tatsfield in the future.

Next month there is a complete change of subject with a talk entitled 'A Taste of Medieval Cooking'. If anyone would like further information about the WI there are a number of ways you can get in touch. There is a post-box by the door of the WI Hall, at 29 Paynesfield Road, just drop us a note, or pop into one of our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.15pm or ring Sue Smale on 01959 577660 for a chat.





TATSFIELD PFA 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for February 2019:

1 st Prize:	Matthew Perrett	£49.50
2 nd Prize:	Margaret Burton	£33.00
3 rd Prize:	K Budgen	£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 at <u>les.eames@ntlworld.com</u>.

TATTY KNITTERS

A fair few of us turned up for the March get together, even a new crafter. New skills were learnt as well, it's always good to learn something new and it was whilst helping someone with a knotty problem.



In April our needles are going to have a rest and we are going to partake of the Bakery culinary delights. The usual start time of 7.30 on the 9th April at a cost of £25 for the meal, drinks extra.

If you wish to come along, please either get in touch with myself or Andrew in the Bakery.

Happy crafting! Val Quick 07761 571071

A message from Sarah Coop

Running the London Marathon in April – in aid of Bowel Cancer UK

This year I am taking part in the London Marathon and have chosen Bowel Cancer UK as my charity as I have friends and family members who have been affected by bowel cancer.

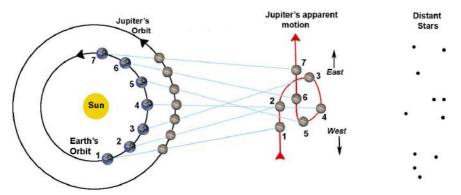
Although this is my fourth marathon – it definitely gets harder every year and when I am training and actually running the marathon, I tell myself 'never again'! I am not a natural born runner – so need as much encouragement and as I can get.

If you feel able to sponsor me, donations can be made through Virgin Money Giving (by searching for my name) or you can click on this link: <u>https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/sarah-coop-SAVMLMBONDS3332016-</u> 28697

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – APRIL 2019

For those of us who are up and about at 6am the brilliant planet Jupiter is due south at that time in early April with the Sun six degrees below the horizon marking the end of nautical and the beginning of civil twilight. As the month passes Jupiter is carried further west (along with everything else in the night sky) until by next month it is so far from the Sun that it rises before midnight to become, what astronomers call, an evening object.

If we could look down on the Solar System from above, we would see the planets moving anti-clockwise around the Sun. When viewed from the surface of the Earth they appear, for the majority of the time, to move gradually from west to east (ignoring the daily rotation of the Earth that carries everything in the sky from east to west). However, something that caused much debate and consternation for our ancestors is that occasionally the planets appear to stop and reverse direction for some weeks or months before halting again and then resuming their original easterly movement. This is known as retrograde motion and is something that Jupiter will experience from early April. It has nothing at all to do with Jupiter itself but is a result of the Earth catching up and overtaking Jupiter "on the inside" so to speak. The diagram shows how this is simply a line of sight effect. On April 10th Jupiter reaches what is known as its first stationary point after which it moves slowly westwards until August 11th. This is its second stationary point and marks the end of that period of retrograde movement because normal motion (or direct motion as it is properly known) now resumes. If you note Jupiter's position carefully on successive clear nights you can watch these very gradual changes take place.



The other interesting thing to note about Jupiter at this time is that although, like the other planets, it stays within the band of sky called the Zodiac, it is not currently hosted by one of the twelve Zodiacal constellations. Throughout April and up until mid November it can be found in a constellation that very few will ever have heard of – Ophiuchus, the mythological serpent-bearer. This is located just north of the better-known groups of Sagittarius and Scorpio and is a large sprawling collection of faint stars with no obvious pattern. Do you know anyone born under the sign of Ophiuchus? No, I thought not. That tells you all you need to know about astrology!

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Brian Mills FRAS

THE TATSFIELD POP-IN

Did you know there is a place in Tatsfield where you can enjoy a great cup of tea or coffee for just 50p every Wednesday morning between 10am and 12 noon? Beautiful handmade greetings cards and second hand books are also available for an absolute bargain price.

But the best bit is that everyone and anyone is welcome – young or not quite so young, with or without children (childminding grandparents and sleepwalking new mums or dads take note!)

Where is this marvellous place? - Tatsfield WI Hall, 29 Paynesfield Road.

Come along and see for yourself!

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

Owing to the stormy weather on the 12th of this month, the numbers were down again. We had a quiet afternoon, after the AGM report.

Pam Miriam very kindly brought some bread pudding, to help the tea along, for which, many thanks Pam.

The next meeting on the 9th April will be our last and we will try to get some kind of entertainment to help the time along. The arrangement for the lunch at The Ship on the 14^{th} May will be finalised then, so let's hope we can all have a GOOD goodbye.

It may be that, by then, there will be a new committee to keep the club going, but it will not be the present committee I'm afraid.

Babs Heffernon (540602)





1ST TATSFIELD SCOUTS



What a month we have had at Beavers. We had a visit from Guide Dogs for the

Blind and learned a lot about how they go about training both the dogs and the owners. Did you know that to own a guide dog you need to pay 50p!! The freedom a guide dog gives to its owner is amazing and the relationship between dog and owner was very clear to see.





The only way to celebrate Pancake Day is to make pancakes! Each Beaver had the opportunity of cooking their own pancake on a burner and adding a topping of their choice. It was great seeing the Beavers flipping the pancakes and licking the chocolate from the plates.

We were very lucky to have Lisa from Tatsfield

Aquatics bring some interesting reptiles to Beavers on Tuesday 12th March. The colourful chameleon was a hit with everyone, including some who were very nervous about holding her. What made this chameleon different from others is that the brighter the colour the happier she was. We also have the chance to hold a snake, stroke some reptiles and watch two baby tortoises move very fast. It was a brilliant way for the Beavers to see reptiles up close but to learn about their lifestyles and the food they eat.

We have only three weeks to go until Easter and still have a trip to Downe Activity Camp for some climbing, making a bouquet for Mother's Day and cooking up some Easter treats.





Jenny Snelling, Beaver Scout Leader



Cubs have had another busy few weeks working on lots of badges (Road Safety and Communicator) as well as taking part in the district night hike and sleepover which was enjoyed by all that attended.

Like the Beavers, Cubs had an enjoyable evening cooking up lots of pancakes which proved very popular with both the Cubs but the leaders as well.

The last three week of term the Cubs will be playing Wide Games at Downe Activity Centre, Mother's Day gifts and an Easter Egg Hunt.

Leigh Keegan, Cub Scout Leader

Scouts EXPLORERS Tuesday 12th March saw a visit from a Fire Investigation Officer Paul and his dog Sherlock, who is one of only eighteen fire dogs in the country. Scouts and Explorers had a very informative talk from Paul and then saw Sherlock at work sniffing out some flammable items. It was a very interesting evening.

As the Parish Magazine was going to print, the Scouts and Explorers were taking part in the annual Colditz event. This takes place on a Saturday night. Each team from the East Surrey District are sent out from around 10am and have to work their way around a planned route without being spotted by patrols in cars. The team who arrives back at base (Oxted School) with the least amount of penalty points are the winners. Tatsfield Scouts and Explorers have a number of teams and we shall give a full report in next month's issue.

Our thanks to anyone who put green tokens in the Explorers slot at Waitrose in Biggin Hill. We have been informed that we shall be receiving a cheque for £288, which will go towards purchasing equipment for this summer's camp.

If you would be interested in joining Explorers and are aged 14-18 years old please contact Sarah-Jane Mumford, Explorer Scout Leader

Bletchingley Bowls Club founded in 1929 and celebrating its 90th Anniversary this year extends a warm welcome to people of all ages and abilities wishing to learn a new sport, making new friends and getting some exercise. The Club is based at Grange Meadow, Bletchingley, RH1 4PE (on the A25 opposite "The Bletchingley Arms) and a **Coffee Morning** is being held on Saturday 6th April from 10am to 12 noon when anyone can view the Club. An **Open Day** is being held on Sunday 6th May from 2pm to 6pm when you can give bowls a try, followed by **PlayBowls4Fun** evenings on 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st May from 7pm to 9pm. All you need for the **Open Day** and the **PlayBowls4Fun** evenings is a pair of flat soled shoes.

To find out more about the Club please contact one of the following members - Brian on 01959 509111; Joyce on 07453 356807; Mike on 01883 714414 or Jane on 01883 743303.The Club's website is: <u>www.bletchingleybowls.co.uk</u>

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN APRIL

Primroses and Snowdrops are in flower and the sun has some warmth even in a chilly breeze heralding the beginning of Spring, a wonderful time of the year. The weather in February was a complete contrast with this time last year with warm days (up to 18C) and hardly any frost and rainfall about average at 61mm (the long-term average for February is 59.5mm). The beginning of March is mild so far but more wind than average with some damage around the village; very sad to see the Lime fallen on Westmore Green; the rainfall for the first half of March is already over the long term average at 83mm – the long term average is only 67.9mm!!

Over the winter period I have been enjoying watching bumble bees out and about on mild sunny days, this is because we have had plenty of flower from November right through to March and still going strong I make no apologies for repeating the list of plants that keep our precious bees going – Daphne, Hamamelis, Winter Honeysuckle (Lonicera fragrantissima, Sweet Box (Sarcococca), Christmas Rose (Helleborus), Violas, Pansies, Tree Ivy (Hedera) – to mention just a few!

Those of us lucky enough to have a garden, however large or small, have our own ideas about how we want to enjoy it. Some are mad for bright green grass mowed carefully in lovely lines, others want that mix of plants that give us pleasure all year round, others too want a space for the children to play. One thing is certain, your garden evolves over time and so do your ideas so don't be shy or hesitant, get out there and make it yours, there is plenty of advice from our own Horticultural Society, TV programmes and of course the web. When making changes to your garden please make sure to try and include features that support our wildlife – plant a hedge rather than put up a fence, create a small pond and always try to have flowers that attract our pollinating insects.

Our lovely Tatsfield clay has been very wet and not in a condition to be dug over; as the temperatures rise this month you will notice a big change in the condition of the soil so be vigilant and ready to get ready for sowing and planting because who knows, by the end of the month it could be hard and dry on the surface, or wet and soggy again! Gardening on clay is about being patient and ready to act when conditions improve.

You will have noticed how lovely the shrub borders around the car park are looking after the pruning, weeding and mulching thanks to our Tatsfield Community Volunteers. Why do we finish the job by mulching? First of all, it shows off the borders really well; secondly it acts as a blanket and holds in moisture and keeps down the weeds, and finally over time it breaks down and provides organic matter to improve the soil and feeds the plants. At Easter our band of composters will have bins full of their awesome Black Gold for sale, why not pop up to the allotment site and meet the team – oh yes and also meet a member of the Horticultural Society 'on duty' for free advice.

Jon Albutt

COMPOSTER'S CHRONICLE

As I write this, we are well on our way to replacing this year's quota of composting bins. The new bins are all along the "White House" end of the compound and around the corner up to the main receiving bays. This will greatly improve the appearance of the site as you approach from the allotments' pedestrian gate and will also help with the efficient running of the facility.

The other good news is that, with a fair bit of horse-trading and by dipping heavily into our reserves, we have now acquired our new shredder. It is a smaller version of our big machine and, being somewhat simpler in design, will hopefully give us less trouble. It may seem strange that we have bought another Eliet shredder when the last one has proved somewhat troublesome, but the reality is there are relatively few makes available (mostly the machines you see around are chippers which would not be suitable at all for our green waste) and Eliet is the only make which is self-propelled, meaning that we don't have to push very heavy machinery around the site and up into the storage container. Also, credit where credit is due, of the two old, small machines we had, the Eliet was by far the most reliable. Part of the deal to afford the new machine was the part-exchange of these two old, worn-out shredders which freed up space in the container and removed the problem of what to do with them.

Message to allotments holders: On Saturday 30th March (the last of the preparatory sessions before we open to the public on 6th April) the team will be emptying the allotment waste that has built up over the winter in the receiving bays and will be putting it into composting bins. Once this has been done, we will revert to the summer allotment waste arrangements whereby we ask you to put waste that needs shredding into one of the bays and waste that doesn't need shredding into the other. Clear signage will be on site and please follow instructions about what we can or cannot accept.

I spoke to our service agent about the wear of the shredder blades and they have advised that sand and fine grit present in soil can greatly accelerate wear. This highlights the need to separate waste carefully. Most plants we get with roots are small and go into the "Soft" bay and then straight on to the heaps, so a little friable topsoil (humus) here is not a problem, but if you do have larger plants with roots, please make sure they are **completely free of soil** before putting them into the shredding bays.

Your help here will be greatly appreciated.

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



TATSFIELD ART GROUP

EXHIBITION

Sunday May 5 11am – 5pm

Village Hall Tatsfield TN16 2AG

Paintings . Prints Sculpture . Cards Demonstrations

Refreshments

Free Parking

07746965334 tatsfield-art-group.weebly.com

Sponsored by

NE TSTEP Managing Director Charles Safapour

THE APRIL FILM: "STAN AND OLLIE"

In the days before we all had television sets, a weekly visit to the local cinema was what many of us did. Often as part of the programme was



a short comedy film and very likely it was a Laurel and Hardy or an Abbott and Costello or possibly the Three Stooges. They were all household names. This month's film – "Stan & Ollie" - brought to the Village Hall on Saturday 20th by Curzon Country Cinema features the first of these.

The true story of, who many regard as Hollywood's greatest comedy double act, Laurel



and Hardy, is brought to the big screen for the first time. Starring Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly as the inimitable movie icons, "Stan and Ollie" is the heart-warming story of what would become the pair's triumphant farewell tour.

With their golden era long behind them, the pair embark on a variety hall tour of Britain and Ireland. Despite the pressures of a hectic schedule, and with the support of their wives Lucille (Shirley Henderson) and Ida (Nina Arianda) - a formidable double act in their own right - the pair's love of performing, as well as for each other, endures as they secure their place in the hearts of their adoring public.

Doors open at 7.15pm and the programme starts at 7.45pm. Tickets are £5. Pay at the door or reserve online at <u>www.curzoncountrycinema.co.uk</u>.

Bob David



A date for your diary

"Mary Queen of Scots"

will be our film on Saturday 18th May.



NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Has spring arrived? One week, 'yes'; the next week, 'no'. Still, whatever the weather, Blackbird's are busily choosing their nesting sites, fritillaries are shooting out of the lawn, the magnolia looks splendid and **we have our first Brimstone sightings!** No one person receives the accolade of 'First Sighting Champion' this year. Instead, the glory is shared between **Nicola** (Reeves), **Steve** (Gaskell) and **George** (Shaw) all of whom saw at least one Brimstone on Friday 22nd February; exactly one month earlier than last year. Close contenders were **Mary** (Smith), **Penelope** (Bateman) and **Louis** (Philibert), who made their observations on Saturday 23rd. Considering the weather we experienced at that time, their appearance was to be expected. Of course, with the susequent return of colder, wetter weather, they've gone back into hiding. But they'll be back soon, when the warmth of the sun hits their wings.

Correspondence:

Having previously published information about the poor conditions many Pheasants have to endure, it is heartening to receive news of a more positive nature. Marian (Godfrey) wrote to tell us about her back door visitors (11.11.18):

'After reading the account of the miserable and short existence of some **Pheasants**, at least some are safe in parts of our village. We have great pleasure in watching these amusing birds as they visit the garden from the fields behind, and as we feed them, some have become particularly tame. Last winter we had at least 20 waiting patiently by the back door first thing in the morning, and felt like we were running a 'takeaway'.

Last year I wrote about out the 'Abba' family, led by Bjorn, who we had watched turn from a dull coloured youngster into a magnificent specimen. He stayed all winter with his group of concubines, visiting twice and sometimes three times a day, but has no doubt found somewhere better – Miami, possibly!

Earlier this year our resident cock Pheasant has been 'Long John' who sadly has only one useable leg and has to hop everywhere. He has plenty of cover in the hedgerows of our and our neighbour's gardens and comes for his corn and his favourite meal worms at least three times a day, has a drink from the pond and then preens himself in front of the Summer House. In the spring, 'Long John' did have a lady friend but, unfortunately, he could not hop fast enough to keep up with her and she found another 'fella'. He is quite territorial and capable of standing his ground with other cocks in spite of his disability. Things however seem to have started to look up for him as, in the last few days, he has been visiting with a new lady friend who he no doubt met on a pheasant dating website!'

Thanks, Marian - great report. 2017's influx sounds like a re-make of Hitchcock's, 'Birds' film! I trust the 'Parkwood Road Pheasant Sanctuary' is still thriving in 2019.

Our final report from last year comes from Laura (Hancock) (22.11.18):

'Very happy to report an abundance of **Nuthatches**. I have had three and four at one time on our feeder this morning. Delightful creatures.'

Delightful, indeed, Laura. I saw one in our garden a week or so ago but it didn't stay long. It's that old story about being in the right place at the right time. Hopefully, your miniflock are still around and will breed locally. Thanks for the report.

Linda (Bennett) also has a fine pair of eyes when it comes to observation. Many of us are visited by an occasional Chaffinch, but what was this that Linda observed? (10.01.19):

'Having just sent you my bird chart [annual report] I then see new birds. Looking them up it appears they are **Bramblings**, a male and female. Very exciting!'

Thank you for your report and news, Linda. You certainly observed a fine selection of birds during 2018. Your Brambling sighting is wonderful. This is almost certainly due to the horrendous weather conditions on the continent during January. Their loss, our gain!



And then, just a few days later Martin Allen wrote (27.01.19):

'With increasing bird activity now that the winter is upon us, I was hoping that I would soon be able to report sightings of the Redpoll, Siskin or even perhaps the return of the Fieldfare we saw last winter. Our resident **Sparrows** have been around in number although we may not have them quite so regularly in the future as the need to bring down the height of our hedge leaves them little coverage at the moment. But they can of course use the eaves so perhaps nothing lost there. We have been seeing good numbers of **Chaffinches**, all of which look distinctly different from the birds we saw earlier in the year, the white flashes look particularly bright compared to those seen earlier. Maybe European migrants? So with flocks of Chaffinches our hopes were high for the Redpoll/Siskin but alas, no. But our disappointment was made up for by having a visit over two days from a **Brambling**; a beautiful looking bird. We last reported sightings of Bramblings during Jan - Mar 2008, 2009 and 2011, so a welcome return. Has anyone else reported the same?'

Well, as you now know, Allen, the answer to your question is, 'yes, they did'. Unfortunately, it wasn't me. This is particularly disappointing as you are just two roads away – so near and yet so far!

Lots more great correspondence coming up next month. Let's keep it flowing!

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

TATSFIELD RAMBLERS

Details of walks in the surrounding area for January and April 2019 are as follows. Everyone welcome, including your dogs.



Sunday 7th April 2019 – 70's Saunter

Start Point: 11.00am Shoreham Station (or if car park is full, in the road adjacent to the station).

Map Ref: TQ 525614 Postcode: TN14 7RT

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

Sunday 14th April 2019

- Leader: Tony and Christine Tomsit
- Start Point: 10.30am at Westerham Green or 10.40 at Mill Lane.
- Map Ref: TQ 446540 TN16 1AS
- Description: To Crockham Hill via Squerries Park and Crockham Hill Common. Returning via Treveraux Manor and Goodley Stock. Refreshment stop at The Royal Oak, Crockham Hill. About 7 miles in total with some steep hills in both halves of the walk.

Monday 22nd April 2019 – Easter Monday

- Leader: Richard Gadd
- Start Point: 10.15am Leaves Green, Ashmore Lane car park.
- Map Ref: TQ 414619 Postcode: BR2 6DR
- Description: A walk of approximately 7 miles, 4 hours (5 miles before stop, 2 miles after). To Keston via Nash. Refreshment stop at The Greyhound. We return via the Wilberforce Oak. Some steepish sections in the first part, 6 stiles.

Sunday 28th April 2019

Leader:	Carol Vening
Start Point:	10.30am Off Chart Lane, Brasted. Drive up Chart Lane. About 300 yards after "Badgers", between the bends, turn left towards Chartfield Farm, right into the first entrance ("Little Cacketts") parking on the field (if dry) or at the top of the drive/behind the stables if muddy.
Map Ref:	TQ 471543 Postcode: TN16 1LP
Description:	This is a 5.5 miles, 3.5 hours walk via Toys Hill to Emmetts and back. There are a couple of short uphills on the way there, and downhill on the way back. Refreshments will be taken in the tea room at Emmetts.

Walks can be subject to change at very short notice. Please either telephone or check the website. <u>www.westerhamramblers.org.uk</u> 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

THE "QUIZ OF QUIZZES"

On Saturday 23rd March, 104 guiz minded people gathered in the Village Hall to take part in this event which started at 7.30pm. Tables of 6 were drawn from the surrounding area with tables from the Singers (2), Westerham Ramblers, Tatsfield Food and Wine, Westerham WI, Art, Badminton, Horti Soc, Composting, Bassetts, Enid and Bridge and 6 other individual teams. 18 teams in all. Terry Cartwright was again question master and set 10 questions on 8 varying subjects with an additional table quiz. Hazel Cartwright and I did the scoring. There was a break halfway through the evening for a wonderful upmarket Ploughmans and a tasty sweet with cream masterminded by Julie Barlow with assistance on the night from husband Paul, Bob David and Lloyd Gulley and a bar run by Jackie Apps and husband David. There was a raffle with prizes provided by: The Bakery, The Old Ship, Sheree's Tea Room, Oxted Everyman Cinema and the monthly cinema in the village hall. There were also some other odd small items masterminded by Helena Garcia-MacLeod who sold the tickets. Competition was intense and the final outcome was not decided till the last table quiz round and double points jokers could be played at any time but in the end third place went to the AUKS with 149 points, second were Tall Dark and Handsome with 154 but victorious were Jacqui's Jokers with 159. A close finish indeed. The event raised over £1000 for the proposed Village Hall kitchen refurbishment. Thanks to everyone who helped with the set-up and on the night with a special thank you to our jovial question master. See you all next year!

Roger Sawyers (for the Tatsfield Village Hall Management Committee)

FIVE MINUTES WITH....ALIZON MOONEY

Welcome to our personal feature. This month we are talking to Alizon Mooney.

How long have you lived in Tatsfield?

We moved to Tatsfield on a crisp, frosty and very icy day in December 1992, three days before Christmas. The removal men were less than amused by the time they had negotiated the unmade up lanes and had the option of 50 steps up or a slippery slope down to the front and back entrance of our new

home on Old Lane. I remember dashing to the village shop to buy salt for the icy path and beginning to share their sentiments when they said 'I don't know why you've moved out here, you had a very nice flat in Sydenham! 'By Christmas Eve we had created a semblance of normality, put up a Christmas tree and rescued our young children from their grandparents and we were installed in time for Christmas!

The children started at Tatsfield School and Little Acorns and we began to get to know people and explore the network of unmade lanes. I love being able to walk straight out of my front door onto footpaths, through woods, doing lovely circular walks.

What are your favourite memories?

One of my favourite memories was going outside the back gate to call the children in for lunch and finding them soaked and very muddy from the big puddles that they have been submerging themselves in! It has been a great place to bring up a family especially with such a strong community spirit. Over the years I have been involved with Little Acorns and Tatsfield School PTAs and I have fond memories of these including the "It's a Knockout" themed Tatsfield School June fair. This was organised by the committee and led by a vibrant Ozzy who recreated some great games (much to the consternation of the headmistress at the time, who admitted we had put her nervous system under a lot of strain!).

You are in the Vern d'Anjou association, please could you tell us a bit more about it?

For the last 14 years I have been involved with the Tatsfield Vern d'Anjou organisation. Our friends Jonnie and Gaye Panther persuaded us and a few other families, over a glass of wine or two, to join the Easter trip to Vern. We were a bit nervous arriving in Vern as our French was pretty limited and we didn't really know what to expect. However, the warmth of our French hosts and the very hospitable and well-planned weekend was amazing. It is a very unique and heart-warming experience which I would recommend to every Tatsfielder. We have had some great fun fundraising events, including our New Years' Eve parties that ran for several years in the Village Hall (maybe forgetting the state of the kitchen and clearing up the next day!).



More recently I have joined the Tatsfield Fairtrade Committee, which has heightened my awareness of the unfairness of many workers conditions. Look out for the fair trade logo when you are buying your tea, coffee, chocolate and bananas.

In addition to working as a nurse at Saint Christopher's Hospice in south London, I decided to expand my interest in health to homoeopathy and, after qualifying in 2002, I set up a practice from my home. Saint Christopher's sowed the seed of health being holistic - paying attention to body, mind and spirit. My initial introduction to homoeopathy came from a consultant paediatrician who was treating our eldest child for a kidney condition, and I started reading around the subject and going to evening classes before eventually doing my training.

What is homoeopathy?

Homoeopathy is a safe and effective way of restoring health by gently stimulating the body with minute doses of substances. When somebody comes to me for a consultation, I take a detailed history of the whole person on a physical, mental and emotional level. The aim is to improve the specific problem they are presenting with by looking at the bigger picture of their health and vitality. I treat adults, children and babies.





Homoeopathic remedies are made from many different substances which are diluted and potentised to create a non-toxic, non-addictive remedy free from unwanted sideeffects.

This gentle approach to health makes homoeopathy suitable for everyone from infancy to old age and can help with most conditions. I am happy to talk on the phone first and will guide you elsewhere if I think a different treatment would be more suitable.

If you become interested in homeopathy for acute illnesses such as coughs and colds and minor first aid situations you

might want to buy a first aid book and a small collection of remedies. There is a very good homeopathic pharmacy called Helios in Tunbridge Wells which you could visit or order over the phone from.

I really encourage people to take an interest in their health, to explore and think about what causes them to feel out of balance and consequently unwell.

To find out more about homoeopathy...

Recommended reading: The Complete Homeopathic Handbook by Miranda Castro.

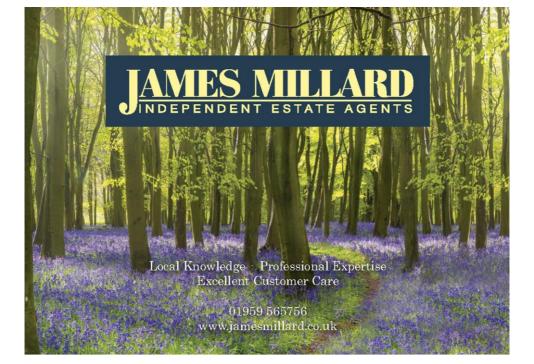
Websites you can find out more from include The British Homeopathic Association and the Alliance of Homeopaths.



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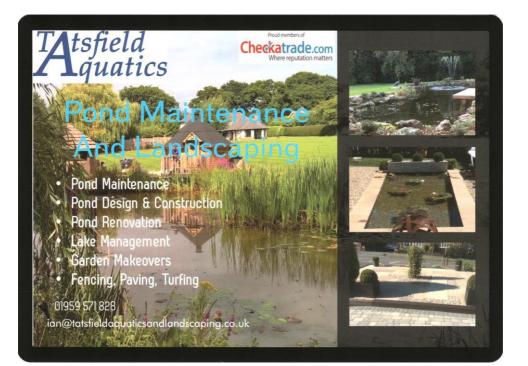
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