

SEPTEMBER 2020

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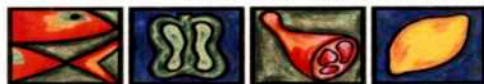
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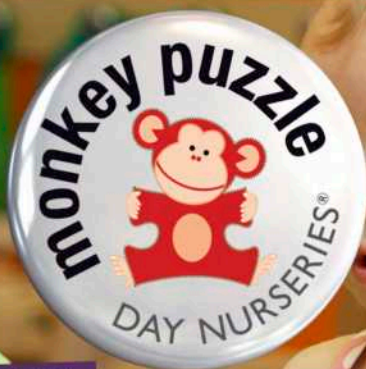
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

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Ian Mitchell • Ruth Yeeles

CHURCH CONTACTS

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Anglican • Team 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)

Chair • Kim Jennings email: kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk, (577328)

Website www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield

Tandridge District Councillor • Martin Allen, 38 Paynesfield Rd, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (577201)

Surrey County Councillor • Becky Rush Becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk

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)

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Village Website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Organisations must include contact details in their submission, which will be published. Copy date for the Magazine is normally 16th of the preceding month, except for July/Aug and Jan/Feb double issues. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment in an email to: tatsfieldpm@gmail.com. Alternatively they may be posted to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine, The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, Westerham, TN16 2NA.

Enquiries concerning advertising or loose inserts should be made to Sarah Tait (tatsfieldmag@gmail.com). All loose inserts need to be booked an approved at least ONE MONTH in advance of insertion.

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?

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

Cover image: Photo taken by Ruth Yeeles at Barry Bull's Memorial Celebration at the Tatsfield Composting Site.

EDITORIAL

I would like to reiterate Vince's words last month – *"We are very fortunate, on the whole, in our village of Tatsfield. I hope that you can join with me in being extremely thankful for our local surroundings and the loving care of many toward their neighbours and the wider community"*. My hope is that this continues over the forthcoming months as things will most certainly not return to the "normal" we once knew. It has been wonderful throughout this time to have had, on the whole, great weather, which has allowed us to get outside, let the sun warm our faces and absorb that much needed vitamin D which nourishes both body and mind! While COVID restrictions are slowly lifted we are all concerned about what will happen as we move into autumn and winter. As the weather becomes colder, as the evenings draw in, there is always a tendency to hunker down to keep the cold weather and the Tatsfield fog at bay! However, I believe that this year we will need to be more community minded than ever – not just practically (such as ensuring we help the more vulnerable in the village to get their shopping) but also emotionally (ensuring that people can get out for walks and ensuring there is someone to talk to), and also with an increased sense of social responsibility (we ALL have our part to play in helping to keep the virus at bay - washing our hands, wearing masks, keeping to the social distancing guidelines).

As we are also learning, we all have to be adaptable – guidance can change from one day to the next. The children who returned to school before the summer holiday had to stick to their bubbles – and this will now be a new experience for the other year groups who returned at the beginning of the month. As our children (whether primary, secondary or on the cusp of leaving home) have had to learn to adapt to a new way of living, so we must continue to behave appropriately, to set the example for them, to support them through this time and help them come through it stronger and more resilient.

Throughout lockdown has been very apparent the value that we place on books and reading. Villagers were leaving books at the end of their gardens and letting others know they could collect and share via Tatsfield Talk – for both adults and children. I love reading – especially a good murder! – and have read many during lockdown; but I have also dipped into others that made me stop, think and question myself as an individual and as a parent, marvel at people's bravery etc. I thought I would share a few titles with you and also a few that my teenage daughters have read – perhaps you have read them, perhaps you haven't, perhaps you would like to write in with your own recommendations – I'm always on the lookout for another book to try, and I am sure that many others are as well: *12 Rules for Life – An Antidote to Chaos; The Underground Railroad; The Nickel Boys; A Woman of No Importance – The Untold Story of Virginia Hall, WW2's Most Dangerous Spy; The Natural Health Service; Little Fires Everywhere; The Last Rhinos – One Man's Battle to Save a Species; The Elephant Whisperer; Fashionopolis – The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of Clothes; Hell Bay – A Classic Novel of the Isles of Scilly; Hamnet*.
HAPPY READING.

Tara

KEY HELPLINES

Fraud: If you need to report a scam, please contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

Domestic Abuse: If you are at risk, please contact East Surrey Domestic Abuse Service in confidence on: 01737 771350 or the National Helpline 0800 2000 247 which is manned 24/7. The Surrey Domestic Abuse Partnership is aware the measures to reduce the spread of Covid-19 will put survivors of domestic abuse at further risk. Being unable to leave the home will make accessing support even more difficult and being isolated at home with a perpetrator increases the risk of serious harm or worse. The Home Office has published advice and guidance for those who are experiencing or feel at risk of domestic abuse during the outbreak.

In danger, need the police, but can't speak? SILENT SOLUTION is a way for the public to access help in an emergency situation even if it's not safe, or they are unable to speak. This solution allows someone to make themselves heard and let the 999 operator know the call is genuine.

Bright Sky App: Bright Sky is an App providing support and information for anyone experiencing domestic abuse, or someone concerned about a friend or family member. In addition, the app is available for use by employers and service providers and includes:

- A UK-wide directory of specialist domestic abuse support services
- A secure My Journal tool to record incidents of abuse via text, audio, video or photo form, without any of the content being saved on the device itself
- Questionnaires to assess the safety of a relationship, plus a section on dispelling myths around domestic and sexual abuse
- Links to further resources and information on topics around domestic abuse

You can download Bright Sky for free on the Google Play Store and App Store, where it is available in English, Polish, Punjabi and Urdu.

Surrey County Council Helpline: If you need the help of volunteers and community groups, financial support, or help with prescriptions they can be contacted on 0300 200 1008.

Tandridge District Council: If you have a business, Tandridge are responsible for administering the grants and business rate relief that you may be eligible for. You can register on <https://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Your-council/Coronavirus>

Food available for parents struggling to provide family meals: Those finding it hard to put food on the table are being encouraged to talk to their child's school or early years setting, or to contact the Community Helpline set up by Surrey County Council to find out about the options available. There are various other sources of food available, including food banks and community fridges. In addition, food hampers are available for some families who need them and again schools will be able to help with allocation.

What to do if you need urgent police help through the 999 service, but can't speak



If you're in an emergency situation and need police help, but can't speak, Make Yourself Heard and let the 999 operator know your call is genuine.

WHEN YOU CALL 999

All 999 calls are directed to call centres and will be answered by BT operators. They will ask which service you need. If no service is requested but anything suspicious is heard throughout the process, BT operators will connect you to a police call handler.

IF YOU CALL 999 FROM A MOBILE

It is always best to speak to the operator if you can, even by whispering. You may also be asked to cough or tap the keys on your phone in response to questions.

If making a sound would put you or someone else in danger and the BT operator cannot decide whether an emergency service is needed, your call will be transferred to the Silent Solution system.

The Silent Solution is a police system used to filter out large numbers of accidental or hoax 999 calls. It also exists to help people who are unable to speak, but who genuinely need police assistance. You will hear an automated police message, which lasts for 20

seconds and begins with 'you are through to the police'. It will ask you to press 55 to be put through to police call management. The BT operator will remain on the line and listen. If you **press 55**, they will be notified and transfer the call to the police. If you don't press 55, the call will be terminated. Pressing 55 does not allow police to track your location.

WHAT THEN?

When transferred to your local police force, the police call handler will attempt to communicate with you by asking simple yes or no questions. If you are not able to speak, listen carefully to the questions and instructions from the call handler so they can assess your call and arrange help if needed.

IF YOU CALL 999 FROM A LANDLINE

Because it's less likely that 999 calls are made by accident from landlines, the Silent Solution system is not used.

If, when an emergency call on a landline is received:

- there is no request for an emergency
 - the caller does not answer questions
 - only background noise can be heard and BT operators cannot decide whether an emergency service is needed,
- then you will be connected to a police call handler as doubt exists.

If you replace the handset, the landline may remain connected for 45 seconds in case you pick it up again.

If you pick up again during this 45 seconds and the BT operator is concerned for your safety, the call will be connected to police.

When 999 calls are made from landlines, information about where you're calling from should be automatically available to the call handlers to help provide a response.



#MakeYourselfHeard
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www.policeconduct.gov.uk



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THE PASSING OF A BEST MATE

Sandy Webster sadly passed away on Wednesday 22nd July.

Anyone that knew Sandy loved him. He was very much part of Village life and only too ready to help anybody less fortunate than himself. He was the calm in any storm, a very dependable, clever and logical man. Sandy loved growing his own vegetables, and very successfully. His love of cooking and baking bread was second to none. You could guarantee that anything he cooked or baked was perfect.

John Howard, Sandy and I were particularly close, and we regularly took trips away with our ladies to various destinations within the UK and Europe, which invariably finished up with all of us requiring bed rest for a week upon our return. Such good fun, and so many good laughs – far too many to mention. Sandy was a fine balance between me (motor mouth) and John (red herring specialist)! Whenever we met there was always a wind up.

We all loved our trips to the pub. However, Sandy was a Scot! Despite this, he managed the English language very well, that was until he'd consumed more than three glasses of malt, whereupon he would revert to his beloved Aberdeen local dialect; at which point nobody could understand if he wanted another drink, the loo or a lift home!

Sandy's wallet was a marvel – every time he opened it you could hear the bagpipes playing. Similarly, when opening his glasses case, you could hear a rendition of "Roamin' in the Gloamin'!"

He used to enjoy Ken coming around to chop trees down – He always maintained that the sound of the heavy branches hitting the ground reminded him of caber tossing.

His sudden passing has left a huge hole and all of us are in deep shock, not least his "Angel" – His dear wife, Elaine.

Unfortunately, Sandy, it was your round next in the pub and I know you were a little concerned. Little did I know that you would go this far to avoid it! A gentleman and a scholar – love you forever mate.

God bless, Trevor Smith

GEORGE ASLETT 1939-2020

It was a warm summer's day over 30 years ago when we were passing by a little cottage hidden behind shrubbery in the road where we still live, when we noticed a rather dishevelled man wielding a rusty old pair of shears making a valiant attempt to cut the hedge. That was our first meeting with George and was the beginning of a friendship with our family which lasted over many years.

In those days George was a recluse. He and his mother lived in a ramshackle old property which the landlord wouldn't repair. It had no central heating, only an open fire with one cold water tap - a very spartan existence.



As a child George had suffered a blow to his head which resulted in epilepsy preventing him from any formal schooling. But this wasn't by any means a let-off. Being physically strong he did a lot of hard labour for the household which meant chopping and cutting up firewood, digging the garden and growing vegetables and flowers. In his so-called spare time his father, an accomplished artist, sat him down and taught him to paint, mainly flower studies. He would spend hours at a time doing this under strict instruction.

Upon his mother's death the landlord evicted him. As it turned out, this was a stroke of luck as the local council and social services got involved and re-housed him in what must have seemed a palace at the time, and in Tatsfield. Here he stayed happily for the rest of his life.

Now in his 40's, George had acquired a freedom which he'd never had before, and he relished it!

At times he found life difficult - he was also diagnosed with bipolar disorder, and was on many occasions taken out of circulation for both his own and other's welfare! He had a philosophical, humorous approach and took it all in his stride. He seemed to actually enjoy these "holidays" as he called them (in psychiatric hospitals) and spent many happy hours recounting very funny, colourful and surreal experiences he'd had when he was incarcerated!

George loved nature and wildlife. This was reflected in his reading and painting. Like his father, he was an artist of considerable skill, and would go for long country walks with his old friend Michael Perry taking photographs which he'd use later in his paintings.

Physics, quantum physics, astro physics, anthropology, zoology, science, biology, geology, mathematics and religion were just a few of the subjects he taught himself and he could discuss, inform and generally knock you into a cocked hat with his knowledge.

A ramshackle, gentle, slightly wild looking individual, George was a familiar sight in the village and for the most part he got on well with everyone. He didn't, however, suffer fools gladly, and you wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of him - he could put people in their place with a very fierce expression and a few well-chosen words!! He was a very kind man and hated any form of injustice. Because of his love of animals, he decided to become vegan many years ago, long before it became fashionable. George was also very generous spirited, donating to many charities that he cared passionately about.

He loved Tatsfield and was very lucky to have friendly and understanding neighbours who sometimes had to put up with quite a lot! His great love of music, especially classical and opera, led him to completely forgetting time and playing it far into the night, sometimes playing accompaniment on his mandolin or banjo!

He was also heavily into recycling - only problem was he didn't want to put it outside in the bin! Hoarding was one of his life's pleasures!

George was an unusual, eccentric, happy, blissfully unaware, interesting, intelligent, frustrating, lovable friend with no pretensions whatsoever. Thanks to Tandridge Council, social services and the mental health support he received, he was able to live life the way

he wanted and remained independent until the end. We will miss his chuckle and "Hello chick".

Rest in peace George and you never know - there might just be a big recycling heaven in the sky!

The Webster family

Congratulations to Sheree's for stocking super Fairseat eggs packed in recycled plastic (recovered from the sea!) with the added bonus that the packaging is also recyclable.

ATTENTION ALL TATSFIELD BUSINESSES

Small office available to rent at the Aileen McHugo Building.

Central village location. Parking available.

For further details, please contact the Parish Clerk:

clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

Closing date for submissions: 11th September 2020 by 5pm

FREE DELIVERY OF FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS TO TATSFIELD

Moyna is able to deliver most items from the Traidcraft catalogue - www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

You can email her on moynabridge@yahoo.co.uk or leave her a message on 01883 716257.



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

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

As I sit to write this it is 34 degrees and certainly HOT! HOT! HOT! And although the grass is brown and dusty, the flower beds in our village are looking beautiful. Thank you to the hardworking and dedicated team from TIB who have been amazing during the last difficult months and have adapted to work within the government guidelines. The Tatol bed and the paintings are an absolute triumph, and the planes above the pond the finishing touch. Well done to all involved.

The addition of the picnic benches by the pond, organised by the Parish Council and kindly supplied by Alex Walker of Waylands Farm have been appreciated by all. Positioned under shady trees they are the perfect spot to meet your friends, have a picnic by the pond and of course enjoy a takeaway coffee and cake from Sheree's Tearoom.

The Parish Council held an extraordinary meeting in August as this is usually our month of recess, but we had two planning applications for us to consult on.

Planning:

TA/2020/1200 Little Orchard, 102 Paynesfield Road Erection of a single storey rear extension and extension to existing patio: No comment.

Appeal: TA/2020/410 Holly Cottage Barnsfield Road Erection of two-storey rear extension single-storey extension and replacement front porch. The PC have already made objections on original application and have no further comments.

Aileen McHugo Building

We have at long last been able to start on the refurbishment of parts of the Aileen McHugo Building. Currently we are decorating the boardroom. A small team of Parish Councillors have been taking in turns with a paintbrush and roller! Hopefully the room will be ready for letting as soon as restrictions allow. A new boiler is being fitted during the last two weeks of August which will be more efficient and provide a reliable heating system.

Fingers crossed, we are slowly coming out of lockdown and can make plans for the future activities in the village. It has been great to see The Ship, Bakery and Village Club reopen please support them and keep Local business alive.

Meanwhile stay safe everyone!

Kim Jennings

Chair

Tatsfield Parish Council (email: kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)

TATSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL RESIDENTS

The Steering Group and the Parish Council reluctantly agreed that due to the restrictions brought in to force over the COVID, pandemic that all work be paused on the neighbourhood plan.

But now that there seems to be some light at the end of a very bleak tunnel we are intending to start the process again. We hope that the members of the committee that were with us at the time of the work being paused will come back to us. However, we would also welcome anyone else that would be willing to put some time in to the project for the benefit of the village for the next 20 years.

To remind everyone, Tatsfield decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan so that we could set out a vision for the development of the village for the future. If completed and adopted our Neighbourhood Plan must be taken in to account by the Local Planning Authority at Tandridge District Council when they are considering any applications for development in Tatsfield. It is essential that the plan is written and that it serves to protect what the villagers love most about the village.

An essential element of this project is to consult with the public (you) throughout and having completed one consultation earlier in the process we were readying for another consultation at the end of March, which of course we had to postpone due to the pandemic but we intend to bring these back as soon as we can. Your participation is vital to the success of the plan and harmony of the village and we hope you will share your thoughts with us at that time.

As we are restarting the process, I wanted to remind you of the ways you can become involved or be informed of the process as it happens.

1. You can join the steering group. We generally hold monthly meetings to discuss and progress the matters dealt with by the Topic Groups where you will see the work completed to date.
2. You can join one of the Topic Groups as each of the Topics (below) focuses on specific areas of the plan. If there is one area that you feel particularly strongly about or have specific expertise to share then please get in touch. The Topic groups are:
 - a. **Community Facilities, The Local Economy and Transport and Infrastructure** Whilst these topics are mainly completed they will need to be refreshed before final completion.
 - b. **Built and Natural Environment, and Housing**

If you feel you have some time, knowledge or experience to give to the village, check out the Neighbourhood Plan website <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldneighbourhoodplan> for all you need to know as to where we are now.

You can also email us at Tatsfield.plan@btinternet.com.

Contact one of the Steering group members for a no obligation discussion:

- Chairman Martin Allen martin_allen@talk21.com or Tel 577201
- Vice Chair Susan Smale sue.smale@yahoo.co.uk or Tel 577660
- Publicity Manager Jon Allbutt jon@allbutt.co.uk or Tel 577100
- The Parish Council Chair Kim Jennings kim.jennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

When we return to masterminding the Neighbourhood Plan we will need your help to try and secure what you would like the village to look like in the next 20 years, so please come forward and help us.

PS. Since we have paused the process the Government has announced on the 4th August 2020 in a press release:

£1.3 billion investment to deliver homes, infrastructure and jobs

Funds to deliver up to 45,000 homes, create up to 85,000 jobs and upgrade skills and infrastructure to help fuel a green economic recovery announced

So, we need to know what your thoughts are about our proposed suggestion to build between 50–150 mostly small affordable houses in and around the borders of the village. Full details can be found on the website. We will be back with you (hopefully) later in the year with the rearranged consultations that we had to cancel earlier this year.

Martin Allen, Chairman Neighbourhood Plan

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

FREEDOM LEISURE

Tandridge Leisure Centre in Oxted opened its doors on 10th August 2020, welcoming members back to enjoy the use of its gym facilities. The centre has opened **the gym only** at this stage; the studio is too small for socially distanced classes to be viable; the pool is currently closed. Other activities will reopen, on a phased basis, as soon as possible.

De Stafford Leisure Centre should now be open. The gym will open as will studio classes, though some classes will take place on two badminton courts, which gives more space for social distancing and means they can offer classes to up to 30 people.

All members must book a gym session before coming to the centre, with pre booking now available. Bookings can either be made online or by calling the centre's reception desk on **01883 716717**, selecting option 1.

WARLINGHAM COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE OPEN

The Warlingham community recycling centre reopened on 1st August, along with all other Surrey recycling centres. The Warlingham centre accepts **GREEN WASTE ONLY** at the moment; **no other waste can be accepted at this time and the re-use shops are staying closed**. The recycling centre at Caterham is open and accepting black bag and

green waste only. More information, including opening times, is available on Surrey County Council's website.

BULKY WASTE COLLECTION – TBC

Saturday 19th September 7.30am – 10.45am Village Hall Car Park. Please check the Tandridge District website for details.

SHOWCASING OUR BUSINESSES

As part of our *Backing business campaign*, which encourages people to shop, eat and drink local, we've been filming some of the local businesses in Caterham, Lingfield, Oxted and Warlingham, which are welcoming back customers.

You can find all the videos on our [YouTube](#) site and we will also be sharing them across our social media channels. Please like and share them and tag us on Facebook at Tandridge Council and on Twitter @Tandridge DC. Thank you to all the businesses which agreed to be involved in the filming and to Creative Colony for producing such great videos, which highlight the range of businesses and demonstrate how hard they have worked to make their businesses safe and ready for customers.

Please can I urge you to **support our local businesses** in every way that you can. We rely on them so much and we need to show our support to them to ensure that they continue to operate through these hard times and prosper well into the future also. The next few months are going to be a challenge for them so let's all please support them.

THREE HOURS' FREE PARKING TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO SHOP LOCAL

To help support local businesses and encourage people to shop locally, from 12th August 2020 Tandridge District Council are offering three hours of free parking in all our car parks, until 30 September 2020. (Bank Holidays and weekends will be free as usual.)

If you need to stay longer than three hours in any of our car parks, details of the charges for parking are displayed on the car park tariff boards and can be found on our website. Under the new arrangements the car park charges will be:

0-3 hours	Free	3-4 hours	£4.50	4 hours plus	£6.50
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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND WIN PRIZES

With hundreds of fundraising events in the district being cancelled due to COVID-19, it's more important than ever we continue to support charities and local organisations at a time when our most vulnerable residents need them most.



The Tandridge Together Lottery supports 160 registered local good causes, including community centres, sport clubs and charities, helping them deliver their valuable work for residents.

All the profits from the £1 lottery ticket you buy goes directly to your chosen good cause. By supporting our lottery, players have raised more than £181,000 for local charities and voluntary organisations. To buy tickets, or register as a good cause, visit www.tandridgelottery.co.uk or call **01883 460555**.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Government has announced that in the Autumn of 2020 it will be publishing a White Paper proposing a framework for Local Government in England. Indications are that it will contain proposals to move away from the current 2 tier District/Borough and County Council model.

In anticipation of this, Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council and all Surrey District Council Leaders have written to the Secretary of State putting forward views on what model they wish for any new Council in Surrey. Copies of these letters are on the following pages and also can be found on the Parish Council website. If you would like copies emailed to you then please let me know on the usual email address below.

Although the white paper is not expected to propose any specific changes to the current model of Parish Councils, such changes to the County/District & Borough structure will of course have implications for how Parish Councils work with the district and county council.

Although there has been much wringing of hands, raised voices and objections about the number of unitary authorities suggested for Surrey, that being one, there seems to be a very strong and growing opinion that unitary authorities make common sense to small District Councils like Tandridge who will benefit from being part of a larger authority.

Seminars are being arranged for all Councillors during September; all Parish Council Chairs in Tandridge will be invited to attend and listen to the arguments and propose ways forward – this is intended to be for the benefit of local council tax payers. At the same time, of course, we are hoping to save millions of pounds for the treasury against the costs of running the system as it is - which barely receives enough government funds to cover what is needed now, let alone for the future.

I will of course keep you updated on any developments with regards to this important matter but do please join the debate and have your own say and input.

If there is anything you think I can help you with please contact me accordingly.

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



Cllr Tim Oliver
Leader of Surrey County Council

County Hall
Penrhyn Road
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey
KT1 2DN
02085418003
tim.oliver@surreycc.gov.uk

The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP
Secretary of State
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
[by email: robert.jenrick@communities.gov.uk]

Friday 10 July 2020

Dear Secretary of State,

Further to your Minister's announcement in his speech to the LGA Annual Conference on 3 July 2020, I am writing to set out our ambition for Surrey and our wish to engage with you on the reforms needed to ensure its achievement. I want Surrey to be a uniquely special place where everyone has a great start to life, people live healthy and fulfilling lives, are enabled to achieve their full potential and contribute to their community, and no one is left behind.

As a nation, we are facing new and growing challenges. The economic shock the country has experienced arising from Covid-19 and the recession we are facing will have profound and lasting effects. Local government faces a huge challenge to support communities and businesses at the same time as finding ever greater efficiencies.

Surrey County Council is ready to face this challenge. We have amply demonstrated our creativity and flexibility in leading the local response to Covid-19. We established a new community hospital, NHS Seacole Centre at Headley Court, in just 35 days. We are a good practice area for Local Outbreak Control Plans. We worked at pace with local partners to deliver extra refuge space for victims of domestic abuse, helping to meet urgent local need following the Covid-19 lockdown.

We have made excellent progress, delivering £188m efficiencies in the last two years alone, and turning around the performance of our children's services. This has been achieved by demonstrating strong leadership, innovative thinking and transformative action.

We could do so much more, better and at less cost, if we transform the current system of local government in Surrey (12 sovereign local authorities, in a two-tier structure). It is too fragmented and complicated. I believe that a single unitary council, underpinned with a flourishing new model of local accountability would be more effective, efficient and resilient in addressing the current challenges, better serving our residents and taxpayers. A new model would also maximise the potential of the county going forward.

Surrey's economy has been a significant contributor to the Exchequer, contributing £40.4b to the UK economy every year. This cannot be taken for granted in a post-crisis, post Covid-19 environment. I share the Government's priorities around economic recovery and prosperity, climate change, housing and homes, 'levelling up' and healthy and resilient communities and can see many opportunities to transform our approach in Surrey to deliver against these. Dealing with changes in the fundamentals of the economy, in terms of jobs and the labour market, commercial and residential property, retail, travel and transport (including aviation) and infrastructure, requires singular leadership and a more co-ordinated and local approach between planning, investment, housing, skills and education.

We can build more homes more quickly and develop the high streets and town centres of the future, but to do this we need to streamline decision making on planning and infrastructure with a single clear strategic approach. We can tackle inequality and level up within Surrey to ensure inclusive growth. We can reach net zero carbon emissions and deliver a greener future. Our One Surrey Growth Board is well-placed to provide the place-oriented leadership and strategic co-ordination to deliver this.

Surrey's relative overall wealth, however, masks pockets of deprivation in the county, with widening inequalities. As examples, West Surrey contributed £28.1b GVA (70%) to the Exchequer in 2017, while East Surrey contributed just £12.3b (30%) and linked to this, 70% of the jobs and 67% of businesses are in West Surrey. The inequality of life expectancy is even more marked, with women in two adjacent wards within Surrey varying by up to ten years.

We face growing demands as the population changes. The over 65s population will grow by 18% over the next decade, meaning more people will need care and support. Covid-19 will hit our vulnerable residents hardest, including those experiencing domestic abuse and mental health issues. Our Devolution deal and Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System has enabled us to embark on ever closer working and integration to address these issues, but again, more can be done with the right structures in place that bring together health and social care with services that impact the wider determinants of health and wellbeing, such as housing and leisure.

This perfect storm of rising demand and falling income means a bleak financial outlook for local government in Surrey which will only worsen and severely affect our ability to deliver high quality services. Prior to Covid-19, Surrey's local authorities already needed to save at least £137m over the next four years, and the health economy is running a forecast £62m deficit. Moving to a county unitary authority will provide immediate savings of £36m per year and unlock the ability to transform our services further, enabling a further £100m savings per year, in return for a one-off cost of £52.7m.

I am therefore writing to ask you to invite me to submit a business case, as soon as possible, so I can set out our proposals for a single county unitary council for Surrey, as a continuing authority. I am committed to ensuring any new model of local government in Surrey is predicated on a strong locality-based model, with communities at its heart. The council is already transforming its relationship with communities, and will co-design a new local accountability model, including a new role for all our town and parish councils, as well as all the other groups with whom we work.

With devolved powers, this would enable a streamlined and more efficient model for transformative change and give us the tools for better outcomes for residents and a sustainable long-term recovery. If we are to genuinely 'level up' within Surrey, then a single unitary is the only viable model for local government reform.

I have discussed my ambitions with the Surrey MPs who agree that change is needed and can see the benefits of a unitary structure in Surrey. I will work with District and Borough Council colleagues as well as the business community, voluntary, community and faith sector, alongside our residents, to develop our plans as part of a more integrated set of public services across the county.

I look forward to starting the conversation with you on the future of Surrey.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Oliver
Leader of the Council

The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP
Secretary of State
Ministry of Housing, Communities &
Local Government
(robert.jenrick@communities.gov.uk)

If calling, please ask for Elaine Jackson
on 01883 732717

E-mail: EJackson@tandridge.gov.uk

22nd July 2020

Dear Secretary of State

We are writing to you on behalf of Tandridge District Council with regards to the forthcoming White Paper "Devolution and Recovery". You will have already received a letter from the Leader of Surrey County Council, Tim Oliver.

We would like to have the opportunity to put before you what we would consider a much better model, consisting of a Unitary Council for the east of Surrey which we believe would lead to greater efficiencies, cost savings and economic growth, together with a better representation of all demographics of the population in the east of Surrey and thus the preservation of local democracy.

The Council believes that the key to success for residents and businesses for the east of Surrey lies in a specific Unitary Council for the area. This could, for example, include the districts of Tandridge, Epsom & Ewell, Mole Valley and Reigate & Banstead. We enclose a map to show what a proposed Unitary Council for the east of Surrey could look like. Such a Unitary would serve a combined population of around 400,000 people. This would give a cohesive structure where services can be streamlined, savings made, and growth achieved – in contrast to the single Unitary Council for the whole of Surrey which has been proposed and which risks being too unwieldy, both geographically and from a population perspective.

As the figures in Councillor Oliver's letter highlight, there are widening inequalities which have not been addressed by the existing County Council which is not sufficiently focused on the east of the county. This has meant that it has had trouble understanding and reflecting the priorities, needs and indeed the opportunities in the east.

Cont.

hrhelpdesk@tandridge.gov.uk www.tandridge.gov.uk

Tandridge District Council, Council Offices, 8 Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey RH8
OBT Tel: 01883 722000 - Monday-Thursday 8.30-5pm, Friday 8.30-4.30pm

The east of Surrey has very different characteristics to the rest of the county. Growth here has largely stalled, and infrastructure has stagnated. A Unitary Council for the east of Surrey would enable the invigoration of this part of Surrey, giving it the opportunity to fulfil its massive potential. The powerful Gatwick/M23 corridor lies at the heart of the east of Surrey and provides an excellent base from which to develop and regenerate the area. The impact of COVID-19 on Gatwick and its surrounding areas are well known. By having a Unitary Council that can focus on the renewal of the economy in this area, the prospects of success are greatly improved.

Surrey has a population of 1.2 million. A single Unitary Council for Surrey would be more than twice the size of the next largest non-metropolitan Unitary Council (Cornwall) and at least four times the size of all but four such Unitary Councils in England. The sheer scale of Surrey has, we believe, made it difficult for the County Council to remain solvent and to deliver services efficiently, effectively and equally. A single Unitary Council for Surrey would be required to perform not only the County Council's existing functions, but also those currently performed by the eleven districts and boroughs. This would be completely unmanageable.

Representatives from this Council would very much like to meet with you and give you more detail about how a Unitary Council for the east of Surrey could benefit your government's priorities and our residents. Please do let me know if there is a date that would be convenient for you.

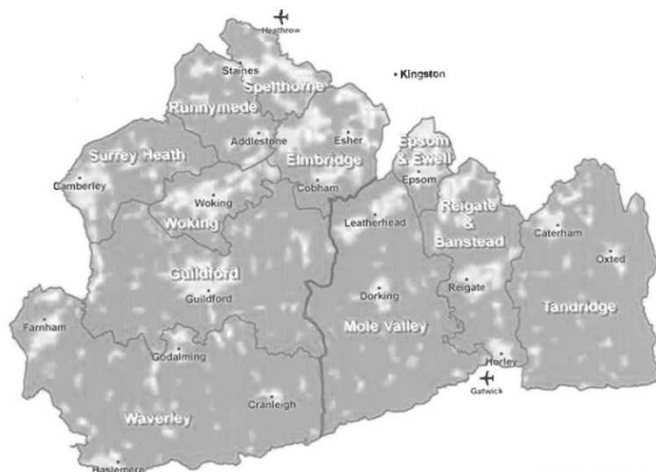
Yours sincerely

Councillor Tony Elias, Leader of the Council and Leader of Conservative Group
Councillor Catherine Sayer, Leader of the Independents and OLRG Alliance
Councillor Chris Botten, Leader of the Liberal Democrats
Councillor Martin Allen, Leader Independent Group

pp



Elaine Jackson
Chief Executive



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Surrey County Council. Version No: 10010013

My Ref: NP/mch

23rd July 2020

Rt. Hon Robert Jenrick MP
Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Dear Secretary of State,

DEVOLUTION AND RECOVERY BILL

It is the stated intention of the Government to publish a White Paper and draft Bill on Devolution and Recovery from COVID in the early Autumn of 2020. District and Borough Councils in Surrey are aware of a letter sent to you by Councillor Tim Oliver, setting out the County Council's perspective on unitary government. This letter sets out the collective view of District and Boroughs at this stage of the debate.

There is a commitment by Surrey Boroughs and District councils to consider the merits of unitary government and a view that this represents a potential way forward. There are a number of principles however that need to underpin any future models for local government in Surrey and we believe it is essential that multi unitary models are fully analysed before any conclusions are drawn about the structure of potential unitary authorities in Surrey. Those principles include: -

- Delivery of place based local government which empowers local people to take more control over their local communities and enables swift, transparent decision making.
- Provision of value for money and efficient ways of using public resources as effectively as possible. This includes considering how demand led services such as adult care and children's services should be provided in the future.
- Creation of a structure and culture which encourages multi-agency working, sharing of strategies and budgets and makes optimum use of our collective resources.
- Facilitation of clear communication and negotiation channels between Surrey authorities and central government. In that respect, if a unitary structure were to be implemented, there could also be a form of combined authority where the collective views of one or more unitary authorities on priorities for economic growth and infrastructure can be articulated. The precise nature of this structure needs detailed analysis and discussion.
- The importance of retaining the representative and democratic basis of local government's relationship with its residents.

The Government has indicated that as a optimum guideline, unitary authorities should represent populations of between 300,000 and 500,000 people per administration. A single unitary authority for Surrey would represent 1.2m people and this would be equivalent to only the larger of metropolitan areas but without the clear sense of locality recognisable to residents

across a vastly different geographical spread. Further to this, it would be the largest unitary in England. This is one of the reasons why it is so necessary to evaluate other options which may represent localities (and the characteristics of Surrey communities) more appropriately.

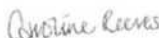
However, please be assured of our commitment to work quickly in seeking a preferred structure. Until a robust evidence base and options appraisal is available, we would urge you to retain an open mind as to the future shape of local government in Surrey. We ask that if minded to invite a submission from Surrey County Council, you also invite a business cases submission for alternative models from the combined Districts and Boroughs grouping of Surrey for the future of local government in Surrey.

Only in this way can you be reassured that any decision about local government reorganisation in Surrey also safeguards the wellbeing of our residents, maximises the future transformation of the area, and secures its contribution to national prosperity.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr. Nick Prescott
Leader, Runnymede Borough Council
Chairman, Surrey Leaders



Cllr. Caroline Reeves
Leader, Guildford Borough Council



Cllr Stuart Selleck
Leader, Elmbridge Borough Council
Deputy Chairman, Surrey Leaders



Cllr. John Ward
Leader, Waverley Borough Council



Cllr Alan McClafferty
Leader, Surrey Heath Borough Council



Cllr. Stephen Cooksey
Leader, Mole Valley District Council



Cllr. David Bittleston
Leader, Woking Borough Council



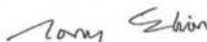
Cllr. Clive Smitheram
Leader, Epsom and Ewell Borough
Council



Cllr. John Boughtflower
Leader, Spelthorne Borough Council



Cllr. Mark Brunt
Leader, Reigate and Banstead Borough
Council



Cllr. Tony Elias
Leader, Tanridge District Council

CLAIRE COUNTINHO, EAST SURREY MP

As we continue to come out of lockdown, I hope we can hold on to the wonderful community spirit that helped so many. I have been working with MPs from across the country to explore how we can further empower and support communities like yours in Tatsfield. I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Community Survey on my website.

Last month I was also delighted to host a meeting between community leaders in East Surrey and Danny Kruger MP – previously an advisor to David Cameron and Theresa May on communities and now leading work on this area for the Prime Minister.

As you may know the environment is one of my top local priorities. I recently enjoyed answering constituents' questions as part of 'The Time is Now' Climate Change campaign. This has inspired me to have a 'Greentember' - for the whole of September I will be particularly focussing on the Environment. I will be litter picking on the 5th September in Caterham, and on 25th September in Horley. On the 28th September, I will also be hosting a virtual open Q&A on the Environment with Zac Goldsmith, Minister of State for the Environment at DEFRA and a long-standing champion of green issues in Parliament. I will also be continuing work to push for the extension of our Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Please email me or follow my Facebook page to join these and other initiatives.

The past few weeks have been a particularly anxious time for students facing their A Levels and GCSEs. I have been in contact with schools and students to communicate the appeals process and to urge flexibility from universities. I will continue to feed all your views in to Ministers and do not underestimate the disruption that COVID has caused to this years' school cohorts.

Lastly, I hope you all enjoyed the Eat Out to Help Out scheme in August. I have visited a number of businesses over the last few weeks which are bouncing back from lockdown and understand the huge amount of effort they have put into re-opening safely.

I was also pleased to launch a Local Economic Taskforce with my East of Surrey neighbour Crispin Blunt MP, and with the leaders of Tandridge and Reigate and Banstead councils and the Chief Executive of our LEP. To date we have helped prepare for our high streets reopening, pushed for a greater share of public funding and are currently working with local job centres on the employment challenges ahead.

Prior to the pandemic, I had been holding travel surgeries with a plan to visit each town and village across East Surrey. As lockdown restrictions relax, I am visiting local businesses as they start to reopen. I also hold regular MP surgeries by telephone – if you need any help please do email or call me. Thank you all for your kindness, your community spirit and your patience through this time.

You can contact me at: Claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk; Tel - 0207 2195972; or sign-up to my regular newsletter at <https://www.clairecoutinho.com>



Keep your money safe

Surrey and Sussex Police Fraud Newsletter August 2020

Each month we see many incidents of fraudsters targeting our residents in an attempt to defraud them. We're working hard to prevent this and support vulnerable victims of fraud or scams. By following our tips and encouraging family, friends and colleagues to do so too, you can reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

T/Detective Chief Inspector Rob Walker, Surrey & Sussex Police Economic Crime Unit

Be alert to TV Licensing scams

Have you received an email from TV Licensing, asking you to update your personal or banking details, to urgently renew your licence or apply for a refund? Maybe you've been contacted by phone or letter? Although emails, letters and phone calls can seem genuine, be cautious of any requests for payment or personal details. TV Licensing will only email you from donotreply@tvlicensing.co.uk or donotreply@spp.tvlicensing.co.uk and ask you to pay for their TV licence (or apply for a free one):

- By post, using the address TV Licensing, PO Box 578, Darlington DL98 1AN
- Online at tvl.co.uk/75pay or tvl.co.uk/75apply, or via gov.uk/tv-licence
- Over the phone on 0300 790 6151

If you are contacted and asked to pay for your TV licence using a different postal address, website or phone number, it is a scam.

If you are suspicious about any contact that claims to be about your TV licence, get in touch with the TV Licensing Company directly, by searching their contact details or using a trusted method above. Forward any suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk or if you have already submitted your details or been a victim of this type of scam, report it to Action Fraud.



A knock at the door for emergency cash

We have received reports of strangers knocking on people's doors asking for cash in various emergency situations, claiming they will return the money later.

In one case, a man stated he had a young baby and needed money for electricity. The victim gave him £20 after he provided an address on the road the victim lives on. The victim later tried to visit the man's home to make him aware of a local food bank, only to discover the address did not exist.

Never give or send money to someone you don't know or trust, or who turns up to your door unannounced. Make decisions in your own time and if in doubt phone a relative or friend.



Fake FIFA World Cup lottery win

Be alert to any letters claiming you have won hundreds of thousands of pounds from an online lottery program involving the FIFA World Cup. In the letter, victims are asked to phone the number provided to claim their winnings.

Please ignore this type of letter and do not contact the number or disclose any personal or banking details. If you have been a victim of this scam, do not feel embarrassed – contact us immediately and we can provide support.

Mortgage rebate scam

We are aware of people receiving unsolicited phone calls in relation to a mortgage rebate. One local resident was told she was due a refund of £3,000 but in order to release the cheque she had to pay a 10% fee. Luckily she did not believe the caller and hung up.

These types of scams are sometimes called 'advance fee fraud' as victims are asked to make a payment to release the money or get the refund approved.

Act with care if you receive an unexpected call asking you to make a payment or to share your personal and banking details. Check people are who they say they are via a trusted source and when in doubt, hang up.

How you can help us

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud call:

Surrey Police on 101 or visit www.surrey.police.uk

Sussex Police on 101 or visit www.sussex.police.uk

Report fraud or attempted fraud, by contacting Action Fraud at http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or call 0300 123 2040

Contact Citizens Advice in Tandridge:

Tel: 03444 111 444 (available weekdays 10am – 4pm)

advisers@oxted.cabnet.org.uk (monitored weekdays)

office@caterham.cabnet.org.uk (monitored weekdays)

NB Please provide phone contact and postcode for email

TAGGERS KEEP BUSY

We hope that you will enjoy our latest virtual exhibition and that items will be added in the coming weeks.

We have not been able to meet up of course but are planning our new 2021 calendar.



We hope to run a socially distanced workshop in October if regulations allow. More news next month.

If you are interested in joining our group or exhibiting your work under our aegis please get in touch with me on 07815775859.

Many thanks to Sue White for her technical assistance.

Carol Gaskell

<https://tatsfield-art-group.weebly.com/exhibition-august-2020.html>

TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is re-opening in September for most of its regular users (not all regular users are choosing to return as yet).

The Hall's Management Committee will be keeping the position under review.

Anyone with enquiries about hiring the hall should contact the Bookings Secretary, Helena Garcia MacLeod

Email: tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk

Tel: 07983 011028

TATSFIELD MASK MAKERS

Thank you to all the villagers who have so generously supported our efforts to provide face coverings for the village and to raise funds for the community! Now that the Government guidance makes face coverings mandatory in indoor spaces, and that many high street and online retailers are selling good quality cotton masks at reasonable prices, we will be resting our sewing machines for a bit!

We have produced almost 1,000 masks, often producing more than 50 in a day! We are very grateful to Sheree and her team for taking on the distribution and donation collection for us. (Big thanks we couldn't have done it without you. x) Our last delivery of masks stock went into Sheree's store in August and when they are gone, they are gone!

Thank you again for all your support, for all of you who hunted through your sewing boxes for elastic when supplies were short and raiding your cupboards for fabric for us to recycle into fantastic colourful masks.

We are very excited to announce that we have made £2,600 for good causes in the community. We have already bought a bench for Sheree's tearoom, £500 will be earmarked for a Village picnic celebration for all when the guidance allows (probably late Spring/early summer 2021). Further donations will go to the Christmas lights fund, The Not So Young Club and The WI.

It's great to see people out in our masks, so if you happen to see a woman smiling with her eyes in the supermarket behind a mask, it could possibly be one of us happy to see them in good use!

Thanks again Tatsfield, stay safe.

Tatsfield Mask Makers - Kim Jennings, Bobby Pinchin and Tracey Syrett



NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



The Tatsfield Not So Young Club members are currently enjoying slowly getting back to normal and seeing their much-loved families. It has been a challenging year for our members as many of them live alone and they are extremely thankful to everyone who has offered help and assistance during lockdown.

Hopefully we will not go into another peak and can soon start to plan a safe meeting.

The committee are still looking for new members and helpers, if anyone would like to join us then please contact Sue.

Many thanks and keep safe.

Sue Dowse 07816110929 notsoyoung100@gmail.com

THE FAIRTRADE TEA TENT IS BACK

Tatsfield Fairtrade Group are excited to share that there will be a

Fairtrade Tea Tent on the Green on

Saturday 19th September from 9.30am

Fairtrade goods and gifts will be available to buy together with

FREE Fairtrade tea, coffee and hot chocolate

Please come along and say hello



LITTLE ACORNS PRE SCHOOL



We hope everyone had a lovely summer and enjoyed the fantastic weather! We can't wait to welcome back our Little Acorns along with lots of new faces for the start of a new academic year.

From September we'll be using 'in the moment' planning which involves a lot of child lead play. We'll also be utilising our outdoor play area as much as possible with a range of new activities. We're looking at ways that we can enhance our outdoor area and wonder if anyone in the village has recently had some trees cut down and would be able to provide us with some stool size stumps- please do get in contact with us if so!

The current guidelines suggest that we'll be able to offer our popular breakfast club again in September and we look forward to seeing all of our Tatsfield School pupils again after such a long time! We are continuing to closely monitor the latest guidelines and we will of course contact parents if there are any further changes that will affect this.

We would also like to wish all of our leavers the best of luck as they make the step up to 'big school'- we will miss you all very much but know that you'll relish the new challenges that reception class has to offer.

If you would like to enquire about a preschool place for this term please do get in contact; we'll be happy to answer any questions you may have and we can now safely arrange visits outside of our preschool hours.

Thank you for reading!

The Little Acorns Team

office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

ARE YOU SEEKING EXPERIENCE IN JOURNALISM/COPYWRITING?

Tatsfield Fairtrade Group have an opportunity for an aspiring journalist/copywriter to manage their website content on a voluntary basis. For more information please contact

tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com



KIT KAT CONTROVERSY

In May 2020 Nestle announced that KitKat chocolate bars would no longer be using Fairtrade cocoa from Ivory Coast in their production. You may remember that a few weeks earlier in February 2020 we were so lucky to be visited by Rosine Bekoin, a cocoa farmer from Ivory Coast, to hear about the life changing impact that farming as a Fairtrade Co-operative has had on her life and the lives and well-being of her community. The impact of Nestle's decision on Rosine and her fellow cocoa farmers and their families is worrying.



Michael Gidney, chief executive of the Fairtrade Foundation, said its cocoa farmers in Ivory Coast were “devastated” by the news. “It would never be good news, but to face this when the country is looking at one of the worst health crises imaginable makes things particularly difficult,” he said.

“Nestle’s ten year relationship with farmers in Ivory Coast has been able to make a huge difference to village communities, helping them to receive electricity and water pumps. The decision is a huge blow.”

Simon Billington, global technical manager for Nestle Confectionery, said the firm was aware that “the move will have an impact on some farmers”, but said it was “working hard” to mitigate this. Nestle have decided to link with the Rainforest Alliance instead of Fairtrade. This raises a few questions since both labels are a mark of ethical practices. So, what is the difference between Fairtrade and Rainforest Alliance? Does Nestle’s decision really matter?

Rainforest Alliance Certified is not a fair trade label. It is lacking several key components of fair trade programmes including trade standards as there are no requirements for buyers to pay minimum or fairly negotiated prices, develop long-term relationships, or offer financing. Participating farmers are not organized democratically in a co-operative

and are not offered a fair trade premium for community development projects. It is a programme focused solely on management of on-farm environmental resources with some social standards for workers on farms. Because of its on-farm focus and lack of trade standards, it is more naturally suited for larger farms rather than the small producers that are at the core of the fair trade movement.

Without a doubt the environmental benefits of the Alliance have a positive impact on productivity and well-being. Their standards help to address four main areas of sustainability:

- Conserving forests
- Advancing the human rights of rural people
- Improving the livelihoods of farmers and forest communities
- Building climate resilience

But academic studies investigating the impact of each system conclude that the Fairtrade Label is the only one that protects the farmers against falling world prices for products such as cotton, cocoa, sugar and coffee. In addition, the way Fairtrade insists on democratic small-scale co-operatives, ensures that farmers have more control over how they run their business and share the extra Fairtrade premium awarded annually to the group.

So, it seems clear that the Nestle KitKat decision is a step backwards for the welfare of producers. What can we do?

- 1) Choose a Fairtrade snack rather than KitKat.
- 2) Sign the petition asking Nestle to reconsider.
<https://www.change.org/p/ulf-mark-schneider-nestle-global-ceo-keep-kitkat-fairtrade>
- 3) Support the Fairtrade Foundation in their work.
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get-involved/>

Remember the impact that you can have when you choose Fairtrade.

Hilary Harber
Tatsfield Fairtrade Group



ST MARY'S NEWS

We are pleased to report that a short weekly Holy Communion service (with no hymns) has recommenced in church with effect from Sunday 9th August. Our 10am service by Zoom Video Conference also continues at present. For up to date details, please access our weekly notice sheet via the link on the homepage of our website. At the time of writing, the Millennium Hall remains closed as a result of Government limitations on numbers who can meet indoors in groups. For further information or if we may be able to help in any other way, please contact us on 01959 577289.

Revd Vince Short

St Mary's Church is open for private prayer at 2pm-5pm on Wednesdays

Visitors are required to wear a mask. Please also read and follow the **safety guidelines** by the entrance porch, including the use of the **hand sanitiser** provided on entry and exit. The building is still a little bare due to health and safety considerations.



Our regular Open the Bible All Age services continue on Zoom

The next service is at 10am on Sunday 6th September.

Lectio Divine – weekly Bible reflection 7.30pm-8.00pm Wednesday by Zoom

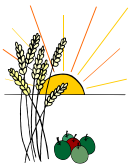
Recommences Wednesday 2nd September, led by Chris and Ellen Goldsmith. We listen to a Bible passage being read and then share a word or phrase that stands out for us. After listening again, participants have the opportunity to comment on why they chose the particular section, which always proves interesting and often educational.

Welcome to our new colleague in the Limpsfield and Tatsfield Team of churches

We extend a warm welcome to Revd Paul Perkin and his wife, Christine, following their move to Limpsfield Chart, ready for Paul to commence as Vicar of St Andrew's at the end of August.

Food Bank Update

Thank you to everyone who has given so generously in a food or a monetary way to enable us to support Christ Church Brixton. The next delivery there is planned for 24th August. Clients at Westerham food bank have increased and they are anticipating some further increased demand when the current furlough arrangements unwind. If anyone would like to know specific items that they need or would like to donate, please contact me on 01959 577864. **Hilary Vale**



Harvest at St Mary's

Service arrangements for Sunday 4th October will be finalised nearer the time but we will in any case be collecting contributions for foodbanks.

Here is a note of suitable items: Christ Church, Brixton, are particularly glad of the following which go in their 'store cupboard' and provide the makings of a simple meal for those in immediate need: rice, pasta (including pot noodles) and tea bags; breakfast cereals; cans of protein foods including baked beans, tuna, sardines,

meatballs, meat pie, stewed meat; cans of tomatoes and canned vegetables such as carrots and peas' canned fruit and fruit cocktail, packets of custard, jars of jam.

Flower arranging team

We do hope you are all keeping well and that we will be able to contact you soon regarding re-starting of the rota, now that a vague glimpse of normal is on the horizon.

Ann 577207 Jan 577659



Records

11 th August	Baptism of Jessica Thorpe
11 th August	Baptism of George Munns
15 th August	Baptism of Edie Thorpe

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

91. A Long £23.75 85. C Hancock £14.25 41. M Broughton £9.50 St Marys £47.50

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

28. S Cook £23.75 62. M & L Lambert £14.25 97. B Heffernon £9.50 St Marys £47.50

Looking outwards

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to include Welcare in our recent donations to charities. Here is an extract from their acknowledgement:

"Thank you so much for your much-appreciated donation to support our work with children and families in East Surrey. We have continued to work throughout lockdown and began a phased return to work from our centres from 22nd June.....please pass on our sincere thanks.....With best wishes, Anna"

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

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.



FILM SHOWS AT THE VILLAGE HALL ARE BACK!



Yes, Curzon Country Cinema will be back here with “Military Wives” on Saturday 12th September. Doors will open at 7pm and the programme will start at 7.20pm. All social distancing and other Covid 19 measures will apply. Masks are to be worn please. The number of seats will be limited, so it will be necessary to book and pay online - at www.curzoncountrycinema.co.uk. Tickets are £5.



“Military Wives” was released in March. It follows in the tradition of other British films such as “Calendar Girls”, “Brassed Off” and “The Full Monty” (whose director, Peter Cattaneo, made this film too). It tells a story based on true events. A military unit serving in Afghanistan leaves families behind, and a group of women join together to ease the time of separation by forming a choir for mutual support. As unexpected friendships develop, music and laughter transform their lives, helping each to overcome their fears for loved ones in combat. The film culminates in a moving performance at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. Leading parts are played by Kristin Scott Thomas and Sharon Horgan, names many of you will recognise.

A date for your diary – the October film will be “1917”, showing at 7.30pm on the 17th.

Bob David

BARN THEATRE, OXTED

These are the events we hope to have at the Barn Theatre in September and October. Obviously, this is all very fluid at the moment and is totally dependent on us being allowed to open so please check that the event is going ahead before you turn up!

SEPTEMBER

Magicians Live – Magicians Live on Stage (*A breath-taking magic and mentalism theatre show designed to blow-your-mind*). Saturday 5th (7.30) (Tickets (£13.50 - £16.500) available from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811)

KHW Company – Musical Showstoppers (*An evening showcasing some of the most memorable songs from the world's best loved musicals*). Sunday 6th (7.30) (Tickets (£10.00) available from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01883 331400)

Oxted Comedy Night (*When did you last have a good laugh? Change that and come and see Mike Gunn and the comedians from House of Stand Up*). Saturday 12th (7.45) (Tickets (£12.50 - £17.50) available from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811) **18+**

OCTOBER

The New Foxtrot Serenaders – The Giants of Jazz (*From Dixieland to Swing, featuring the music of Louis Armstrong, Bix Biederbeck, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, Fats Waller and many more*). Saturday 10th (7.45) (Tickets (£16.00) available from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811)

Information pertaining to all the above shows can be obtained from:
www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811

TATSFIELD PFA 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for the following draws in 2020:

June:

1 st Prize:	David Parker	£49.50
2 nd Prize:	Michael Evansnn	£33.00
3 rd Prize:	Brian Wiggins	£16.50

July:

1 st Prize:	Gary Heasman	£48.00
2 nd Prize:	Gary Weaver	£32.00
3 rd Prize:	Justin Naughton	£16.00

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 les.eames@ntlworld.com

THE OXTED ROTARY CHARITABLE TRUST IS NOW OFFERING TO HELP FAMILIES LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

It's a year since we launched our Grant Scheme to help single parent families and a lot has happened since then. We've received applications and awarded funds toward a varied selection of projects that the families we've helped would not otherwise have been able to afford. For instance, we provided one mother with a dehumidifier to help dry out the dampness in her baby's bedroom and another with a short break at the seaside with her two children, one of whom had never had a holiday. School uniform was featured in one applicant's request for her teenage daughter and funds for the son of another mum to enable him to attend a summer Scout camp.

These and more have given our club the chance to bring a little bit of happiness to many families in need around Oxted and, judging by the generous donations that we have received, it seems as if our efforts have met with your approval.

We received donations from the grown-up daughter of a single parent, a gentleman who wanted to help local families and one via our Facebook page. As a result, we now use a Donate facility on our Facebook page and by using Facebook's payment platform to process your donation, we pay no fee, so you can be sure that 100% of your donation goes straight into our charity fund for the benefit of local families.

Sadly, we are now faced with arguably the most extreme circumstances since WWII and, because of social distancing rules, we can no longer be as active as we were. People have been affected in different ways, so we modified our Grant Scheme to specifically help those single parent families directly affected by the epidemic and called it CoronaCare in the Community. That scheme has been running for some weeks but there are several other local agencies offering similar help, so we have now decided to extend our scheme even further and target another social group, namely those families living with a disability.

This scheme is being launched as you read this article and any family on a low income and living with some kind of registered disability or chronic illness can apply, just so long as they meet the criteria. Applications must be for the benefit of the family as a whole and the applicant's family must live in areas where the Rotary Club of Oxted & Limpsfield operates. Locality has been a problem because we have received several applications from families living outside of our area of operation, although still within Tandridge, and we have had to turn them down. This does not sit well with us, so we have teamed up with a number of other local agencies and are now able to refer such cases on. This means that even if you are not successful with an Oxted Rotary Grant, you may still be eligible to receive help from another source.

So, if you are a single parent, struggling to bring up your family in these hard times, or a family affected by a disability, you can apply for a grant now by contacting our grants administrator on grants@oxtedrotary.org.uk and requesting an application form.

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Our first item of correspondence, this month, is from Shelly (Bashford). Has the tropical weather brought us an exotic visitor? (20.07.20):

'Hi Nigel. I hope you are keeping well. Do you have any idea what this is? [Video recording provided.] At first I thought it was a very fast butterfly/moth, but it had a loooong nose like a hummingbird! Never seen anything like it before but I'm hoping you might have!'

I have on a couple of occasions, Shelly, and I can say without doubt, that this is a **Humming-bird Hawk-moth**. A great sighting! They fly over from the south of France, so I'm sure this one is very grateful for the nectar it's feeding on. The numbers that arrive vary greatly each year; sometimes there could be less than 100, in other years there could be thousands. I expect with the heat we've been having there may be quite a few around this summer. Unfortunately, I haven't seen one this year - yet!

*'Wow! That's pretty amazing. I've never seen one before but will keep an eye out for more. We counted over 40 butterflies on the buddleia then this little fella flew in. If I wasn't on the pathway I would have missed him. We have quite a lot of activity in the garden at the moment; the **Hedgehogs** are still about, as is the **Tawny Owl** and an abundance of **frogs**! Long may this beautiful weather continue!'*

It's always good to know that people are actually reading these notes! Here's an email from a new contributor, Peter Fawke (26.07.20):

*'Evening Nigel. I always read your notes in the magazine and thought I'd drop you a line. I live at 59 Paynesfield Road and we get the usual birds you'd expect. Latest customers on our feeders are a pair of **Jays** that come to feed together. We also have two **Pheasants** that are getting so tame it won't be too long before we can hand fed them. We can tell them apart as one has a slightly bluish tint on his wings. Wonder if they have been reported in other gardens looking for the best offer!'*

Good to hear from you, Peter. Jays are such beautiful birds, aren't they? We are lucky to see just one, now and again, here in Greenway, so I think you are very fortunate to have a visiting pair! No other reports of tame Pheasants. Looks like they are all yours. Enjoy!

Of course, summer wouldn't be the same without some form of butterfly report from our resident explorers, Ruth and Jim (Yeeles). Here, they bring news of an uncommon butterfly that has chosen to take up residence in our own 'back yard' (02.08.20):

*'Glad to see the return of Nature Notes in the last Parish Magazine. Welcome back! Thought you'd be pleased to hear that a **Brown Hairstreak** (finally) turned up on the reserve [Hill Park] after much anticipation. This species has slowly been spreading eastwards through Surrey, but despite annual winter egg-searches we've found no evidence of it breeding locally. Imagine our surprise and delight when we stumbled upon this beauty while doing our survey last Wednesday. We were extremely lucky because*

*this elusive butterfly spends most of the time high up in the tree canopy and is seldom seen. It was very obliging and happily posed for us while nectaring on **Hemp-agrimony**. It was still on the same plant when we returned after completing our walk two hours*



later! This looks like a male and, unlike females, don't tend to range very far, suggesting that we may have a local colony. This brings our species count for the reserve up to 30. Not too shabby, I think you'll agree. Ruth and I will keep our eyes peeled and fingers crossed for further sightings.'

Excellent news, Jim! Thank you so much for sending it in, and what a great photograph! Do you think the appearance is as a result of any particular change in the locality? Any deliberate planting of sloe? Any change in

hedge-cutting procedure? Incidentally, my species count is currently 11, so I guess 30 isn't too bad!

'Although it is a seldom seen butterfly, findings from winter egg surveys over the past few years are suggesting that it is more widespread than previously thought. As you know, many eggs are lost each year when hedges are annually flailed to within an inch



*of their lives. Knowing that there are colonies not too far away, we try to keep our stands of **Blackthorn** at varying age structures because Mrs BH is very fussy where she lays and often prefers the younger growth. We manage the Blackthorn by laying, coppicing or complete removal when it starts to compete with the chalk grassland fauna. No planting is required as it suckers readily and can be very invasive. We've found the tree-popper*

[mechanical tree sapling extractor], kindly funded by our Parish Council and modelled here by Ruth, an invaluable tool in our scrub management work over winter.'

Thanks for these additional notes, Jim. I've just watched a video about tree-poppers. Apparently, their use becomes quite addictive. Not sure where Ruth is? Don't worry, she'll be out tree-popping!

Autumn's here, but it's not too late for your summer news. Be bold, be brave - send it in!

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

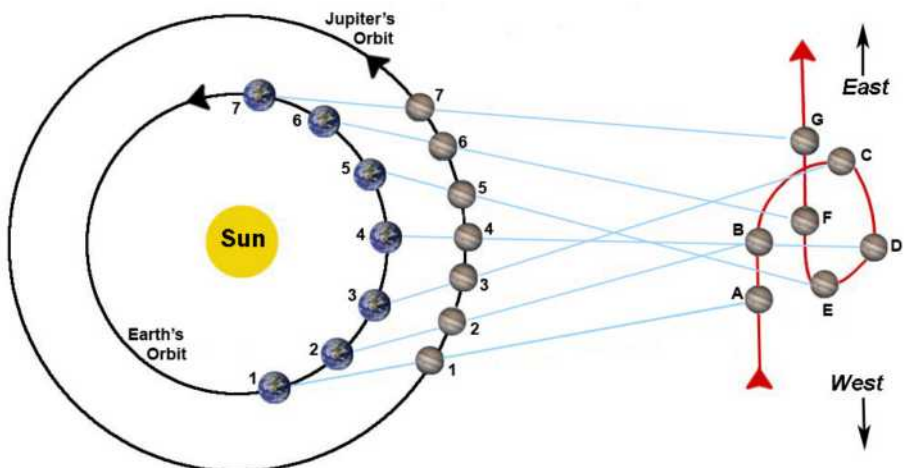
Alternatively, drop a note in to 'Primrose Ridge', Greenway.

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – SEPTEMBER 2020

If you look due south early in the month around 9.30 pm you will see Jupiter and Saturn just fifteen degrees above the horizon. Jupiter is the more luminous of the two and slightly to the west (right) of Saturn. They were both at their closest to Earth during July so are just past their best but Jupiter, in particular, is still very bright. As the month progresses, they are slightly further west each night. There are two reasons for this.

Firstly, all planets have a motion of their own around the Sun and in the main this causes them to move slowly to the east over the course of weeks, months or years depending on whether you are watching the closer, faster moving planets like Mercury or Venus who naturally move more swiftly because they are nearer the Sun as explained by Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion. The movements of these two planets are subtly different from the others because they are the only ones that lie within the Earth's orbit. We can leave them as a subject for a later date and for now concentrate on the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune that lie beyond the Earth's orbit.

As I discussed previously when the Earth and another planet reach a point when they are closest together astronomers refer to that as "opposition". Around this time the planet in question appears to stop its eastwards motion and move back the way it came before once again halting and then resuming its easterly journey. This is known as "retrograde motion" and, depending on the planet, can last from two to five months. Of course this is a very gradual process given the distances to the outer planets although Mars is comparatively fleet of foot when compared to the sedentary pace of Neptune. This most distant planet takes almost 165 years to complete one passage around the Sun and has only done this once since its discovery in 1846. It's worth remembering that one of the arguments against an Earth centred universe was the inability of that system to account for retrograde movement.



Retrograde motion has nothing at all to do with the planets themselves, this apparent backward loop is caused by the Earth catching up and passing a slower moving planet on the inside track so to speak. This is shown in the diagram which is incidentally not to scale but demonstrates why the planets *appear* to move as they do. As Earth and Jupiter approach opposition and with the two planets at positions number 1 they appear against the background stars to be at point A. Then with them both now at number 2 they would seem to be at point B. By the time they are at number 3 Jupiter reaches its first stationary point (point C) before seeming to move backwards. If you follow the rest of the process you can see how the retrograde loop appears. The second stationary point is at point E before normal service is resumed.

The second reason for the gradual westward movement of the planets, and indeed the majority of the sky, is something that we'll look at next month.

Don't forget to look in the east after 10pm during the second half of September to see Mars a little way above the horizon. It's growing in brightness as the Earth moves in for a closest approach ("opposition" as mentioned above) in mid-October.

Brian Mills FRAS

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN SEPTEMBER

Our weather continues to defy the long-term average tables with record temperatures, both maximum and minimum and hardly any rain. The long-term average rainfall for July should be 51mm, this year in Tatsfield it was just 38mm; and for August the average should be 58mm, but in Tatsfield we only had 0.6 (by the 13th). Between 8th to 13th August the minimum night time temperature did not go below 18C and peaked at 22C on 11th; the highest maximum temperature in Tatsfield was 36.8C on the 10th and 11th August.

With reports of neighbouring water companies running out of treated water and leaving households without a supply for days it is even more important to conserve our own supplies. Please do not be lulled into a state of comfort if we have some heavy rain! This dry spell could continue into the autumn and even then, we will need a good supply of winter rain to replenish our reservoirs and local chalk aquifers. Using water butts (if they have captured any of the heavy showers) and waste water before turning on the tap; watering early or late (watering in the heat results in a big loss by evaporation); soaking the ground around a plant once a week works better than a light watering every day. It is also important to remember that even if soft plants (bedding plants, salads and leafy vegetables) are kept watered they can still suffer major damage to foliage when temperatures are very high, the soft foliage just can't cope with the fierce sun and the heat.



*35cm long;
55cm circumference;
weight 3.6kg/7.9lbs*



*More like triffids than
courgette plants!*

I am hearing lots of stories about the courgettes that got away – thanks to Tara for her pics! A single courgette plant is enough to provide an adequate supply for a family and yet we do tend to plant more and then wonder what to do them all! As Tara found out, if you take your eyes off them, they suddenly become marrows! The problem here is that big courgettes are tough, full of seeds and can taste quite bitter. I wonder why more gardeners are not growing the round courgette. They are much tastier, available in green and

yellow colours, grow more slowly up to the size of your fist so you won't need a wheelbarrow to move them! They are ideal for slicing and frying, putting in a vegetable stew like a ratatouille, they can be hollowed out and stuffed with a wide range of ingredients; why not make a note now to try them next year?



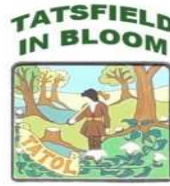
This has been one of the best years for growing; fruit, vegetables and garden plants have all thrived providing you were able to keep them watered – don't say I didn't warn you about how hot and dry it was going to be! Our hedgerows have a big crop of blackberries, crab apples, damsons, sloes; if you are going out to pick nature's bounty please take just enough for your needs and leave some for the local wildlife!

Jon Allbutt

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

As you know, our special displays this year around the village are Tatsfield's way of commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Tatsfield in Bloom planned to mark this with a public event with Biggin Hill Airport on 10 July.

However, the restrictions resulting from the arrival of COVID-19 meant that we had to change our plans, reducing the scope of the event and our invitations.



It nevertheless went ahead on 10 July, at the Tatol bed, the site of our major displays, hosted by Tatsfield in Bloom's Vice Chairman and with several other speakers - the Mayor of Bromley and representatives from Biggin Hill Airport and Tatsfield Parish Council and a local priest, Wendy Harvey, who closed the event with a blessing. Also present were Ben Holmes, the artist who had painted the three large boards at the Tatol bed, and Simon Cook who had made the model warplanes displayed above the village pond. A video of the event was made by a local photographer and can be seen via this link - <https://vimeo.com/437438598>.

The displays are now being watered and cared for by a rota of village people and this will continue through into September.

The Organising Committee are very grateful for the help and support from our volunteers and sponsors and we hope their hard work is appreciated throughout the summer season.

Jill Hancock (577622)



BARRY BULL REMEMBERED

On Saturday 8th August a “Thank you” celebration was held in honour of Barry Bull who was such a wonderful boon to the site. A newly built part of the site has been named “Barry’s Corner” and from here Martin Allen and Jon Allbutt, from the Tatsfield in Bloom (TIB) group, addressed Mary (Barry’s wife) and all who had assembled. They thanked both Barry and Mary for their participation in village life for the past 51 years, they stressed that Barry had been one of the pace setters for developing the compost site, and how important Barry and Mary have been to the TIB group with their advice over many years. Jan Akhtar and Lesley Bennett presented Mary with a card and flower posy on behalf of TIB.



Mary Bull movingly replied “I cannot thank you all enough as everybody has been fantastic, and I think that this is the most fantastic village you could live in. I have had so many telephone calls all saying “if you want anything, ring me”. Neighbours, Sue and Rob, have been fantastic and that’s all I can say”.

The tributes continued with Martin Allen - “Barry was one of the early composting pioneers at the Borough Road site in the middle of Tatsfield and he made a book on everything that includes when the site was moved to its present position in the Approach Road. Barry titled himself as our CRAP man - Community Recycling Administration Person. As long as the compost site is here, we will always remember him. There is a special plant in a large pot that is now placed in Barry’s Corner and if you happen to walk past the place and see it wilting please water it. There is also a nice bird feeder on a stand because both Mary and Barry were keen on feeding birds.

Phillip Brett then said “It’s a real pleasure to do this for Barry, he was a lovely bloke. I think it’s fair to say that his enthusiasm and his optimistic nature kept the composting site going through difficult times and so if you give a drum roll, here we go” and with that Phillip removed a cover and exposed carved words in white wood read “In Memory Of Barry Bull”. It was beautifully carved by Phil himself.

Revd Vince Short said “It’s a privilege to be here to remember Barry. I have been in Tatsfield for just over three and a half years and by the time I came to the composting site, Barry was in charge of the teas and coffees. Recalling his career as a whole, some people will remember he did many things as he started his life as a Lyons Tea Boy and so we could say that he went from Lyons Tea Boy to Tatsfield’s Compost Tea Boy.”

Barry is sadly missed by everyone, but the event was a lovely way for everyone to celebrate his life.

Dave Bishop

COMPOSTER'S CHRONICLE

Thank you all very much for keeping to the social distancing rules. The site has been running smoothly and we are building up a plentiful supply of compost.

As most of you are probably aware, one of the founding members of the Composting Scheme, Barry Bull, passed away earlier this year. Barry was involved from the Scheme's inception in 2001 until 2019 when he had to call it a day due to deteriorating health. To mark his amazing contribution to this local community group, we have dedicated an area near the entrance of the site to him. It includes a planting and a bird feeder in recognition of Barry's interest in nature. A small gathering was held on Saturday 8th August (close to Barry's birthday) where his name, carved in wood, was unveiled.

Looking forward, I would mention that the last Saturday for bringing green waste to the site is 26th September, although team members will be on site during Saturday mornings in October if anyone wants to avail themselves of compost. We will reopen for green waste on 3rd April 2021.

Finally, it is with some personal sadness that I would advise that Phil and Helen Brett are moving in September from Tatsfield to Bexhill. Phil has been our team-leader for the last two years and we will miss his dedication and drive as well as his woodcraft skills, resulting in the transformation of the site with the installation of the new bins and containers he produced.

We wish Phil and Helen every happiness in their new life in Bexhill.

Hints and Tips for using the composting site:

- *Please separate waste three-ways into soft green which does not need shredding, tough green for shredding and woody for shredding.*
- *We will always try to take all your compostable waste, but it helps us if you can try to limit it to no more than a large builder's bag or equivalent in any one week. If you have a larger amount, please get in touch with me in advance. This will allow us to manage the waste more efficiently.*
- *Please keep any soil and especially stones out of any waste for shredding as these are both bad news for the shredders' blades.*
- *Using our compost will greatly improve your soil and helps us pay our bills!*

Rupert Eales-White 570985 ew@rupertwriter.co.uk

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

In the last edition of the magazine, I wondered whether anyone had any information about the enterprise known as 'Herbal Service' which, from the 1940s till the 1960s, placed advertisements for various types of herbal tobacco in newspapers across the country. The 'H.S. Smoking Mixture' was promoted as containing no nicotine or saltpetre and was sold from Lusted Hall Lane, Tatsfield.

Four Tatsfielders who remembered the enterprise got in touch to tell me that it was based in a wooden bungalow on the western, Biggin Hill, side of Lusted Hall Lane, roughly opposite the entrance to what is now Kemscott. The site was transformed by new housing half a century ago. I was also given the name of someone in Biggin Hill itself who would know more, but, sadly, I learned that he had recently died.

It was earlier this year that I 're-discovered' an assessment of our village from some time ago. How things have changed! Really?

TATSFIELD: OUR ADVANTAGES AND WANTS

"Tatsfield, at an altitude of some 700 to 800 feet above the sea level, situated among the famous Surrey hills, though not generally known, is a delightful health resort. It has a tonic bracing air, good especially for those suffering from lung diseases, among other ills to which poor, afflicted humanity is heir. Particularly is it free from fogs in the winter, and thus the visitor has the advantage of a clear, sharp air to tone up his system, whether he be really ill or nervously broken down. Within easy reach of London, it offers an ideal place of rest for the overwrought, and for those who desire to recuperate their health by a stay in the country. Its scenery is on the whole, somewhat wild; the rises and dips of the hills give it variety.

Looking Westerham way from the quaint old church of Tatsfield a magnificent panorama meets the view. Lying at the foot of Tatsfield it would seem in the early morn as if the white, fleecy clouds had fallen on the town and village, and the blurred trees and houses peep forth in weird black forms. The hills rise one above the other and stretch right to the coast line, growing fainter and fainter till they melt in purple grey with the sky.

There are delightful walks in the vicinity of Tatsfield. Westerham, a nice, compact little town, only some four miles distant; Upper Warlingham six miles, before coming to which

SMOKE 6 TIMES AS MUCH
—WITHOUT EXTRA COST.

WHY pay 5/9 to 5/- an ounce for your pipe or cigarette mixture? YOU can now out your smoking bills to a mere SIXTH (or less) without foregoing a single soothing puff.

HERE is a really good, satisfying smoke, skillfully blended and flavoured to please the Virginian or Turkish palate.

Six Smokes for the price of one! — It's worth trying. Isn't it?

HERBAL SERVICE (Dept. NP), Tatsfield, Kent.

H.S. SMOKING MIXTURE
for pipe or cigarette
7 1/2d.
PER OZ. VIRGINIAN OR TURKISH
Flavour.
MINIMUM trial packet
4 oz. for 2/6
POST FREE
or 1lb. for 9/-

one passes through Worm's Heath, a perfectly charming place for outings and picnics, while within walking distance is Cudham, a noted fruit-growing district, and very beautiful; Keston, Knockholt, and other equally picturesque places are quite close at hand.

The high roads to Croydon and Bromley afford pleasurable cycle rides. To those who do not care for walking and do not use a cycle or have not the leisure, transit is somewhat difficult to outlying districts, but this could easily be overcome with a little enterprise, for the high roads offer splendid facilities for the institution of motor and coach services. One private individual has, with laudable spirit, already started in small way a coach service to Bromley, Westerham, Oxted, and Godstone. This, it is to be hoped, is the harbinger of better things to come in the way of transit to other centres of life.

Though Tatsfield is so delightfully placed, it is singularly lacking the ordinary comforts of modern civilisation, the want of which undoubtedly keeps visitors away. It is surprisingly strange that with flints in abundance and close to hand, the roads in the village and streets are simply atrocious. In the wet weather and winter months the roads become one floating mass of mud to the discomfort and annoyance of those resident there. A few private owners have made spasmodic attempts to remedy this state of things, but until the private owners and the Parish Council meet and mutually come to some equitable agreement and take the roads properly in hand, this serious inconvenience will go on. The high roads are splendidly kept. Another grievance is the want of a proper system of lighting for at least the main roads: some steps were recently taken in this direction at one of the Parish Council meetings, but whether it will be gone on with seems somewhat doubtful.

But, perhaps the chief and most serious drawback is the want of a proper water supply. It is a curious fact that while the West Kent Waterworks, the Kent Waterworks and the Woldingham and Chelsham Waterworks supply the precincts of Tatsfield. This boon is denied to Tatsfield itself. The dawn of a better day is, however, at hand, and this much needed necessity of life will come to pass, and Tatsfield will be provided against the inconvenience and discomfort of a dry summer such as experienced recently entails upon people who are not even supplied with proper tank storage.

The time has come for Tatsfield to awaken out of its Rip-Van-Winkle-sleep, and arouse itself to the natural advantages which it possesses, and with a little energy and enterprise to make it one of the most delightful places within sound and call of one of the greatest cities of the world".

Such was the assessment of life in Tatsfield which appeared in the Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser on October 8th 1904!

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project - Tatsfield.history@talk21.com Tel: 577376
Our website address is: <http://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/>

TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE – 25 YEARS AGO

This month we continue our review of the magazine as it was in 1995. This was a time of change for the magazine. It has evolved several times since then, and we would still love to hear your thoughts! Please email tatsfieldpdm@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

The journalistic "silly season" may have been compounded at the end of July by a tropical heatwave but there are some brains still ticking over in the village and our wider area.

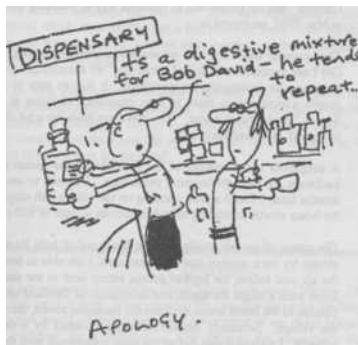
As you will see below, two parishioners sent in their thoughts on the magazine and village participation generally. We're very grateful to Nigel Shaw for putting together his Puddlejump pages these past months. They were well produced, quirky and aimed at involving village youngsters in their surroundings. Sadly, not many were galvanised into action but thank you Nigel for your efforts.

Mary Stokes has some ideas for covers which we are indeed pursuing and we have no wish to cut the number of advertisers as their support enables the magazine to go into every home in the village.

There are certainly those for whom Tatsfield is a haven but I fear this may be a luxury which can be enjoyed only because others are hard at work maintaining and nurturing an active community. Unless most of us support our shops, protect our environment and encourage community spirit, there will be no haven at the end of the century!

We can see from Cedric Oliver's obituary how much people in the past have contributed to village life; current analysis of what can be done for the future should promote debate over the next two months and late news of a Tatsfield might focus attention on our contribution to Tatsfield's future.

So, there are examples and opportunities - let's take them up!



CRICKET AND CREAM TEAS

A Joint Event by Tatsfield Primary School PTA and Tatsfield CC

A wonderful day was enjoyed by well over 100 people on Sunday 16 July at the Playing Field, Furze Corner. Proceedings began at 9.30am with a Colts cricket match when the cream of Tatsfield's youth were narrowly beaten by 3 wickets by a team from Salford near Redhill.

This was followed by the match of the day! Tatsfield CC played host to the Bluebells Gentlemen's Eleven, a team of Tatsfield School PTA members and local notables, boosted by players from as far afield as Biggin Hill, Bedford and Somerset. Boosted to such a degree that at times the Bluebells were actually to have 18 fielders and 15 batsmen participating!

As you can imagine, the game was played in the best possible tradition of British fair play. Tatsfield batted first, the sore heads and stretched constitutions of the Playing Fields Association Hog Roast of the night before being cast aside, a terrific night if you missed it: superb food and lively dancing with music and calling supplied by "Wyvern Sounds". Even the light Tatsfield rain couldn't dampen the spirits!

The game progressed with Tatsfield being all out for a creditable 176, all the more creditable as the fielders at the time were so numerous one might have thought that the Bluebells were blooming in abundance!

The brief interlude between the innings was taken up in the time honoured fashion with a little refreshment, some possibly alcoholic, but a chance for the time honoured tradition of buying the raffle tickets! Also, on this occasion a Dutch auction was held, well managed by Dave Wood, the main prizes being 3 seats on a light aircraft, taking off at 4.30pm from Biggin Hill, supplied (with thanks) by a lovely people at Gulf Air. The winners were Rose Page, Ria Bacon and Jones. They were whisked by limousine to the airport and all thoroughly enjoyed their flight. The pilot, Darren Taylor, also of Tatsfield and an old boy of the school, thrilled everyone with two passes over the Playing Field, before Sevenoaks and Orpington, then safely back to Biggin Hill.

The afternoon went on apace, the younger ones enjoying the bouncy everyone sampling the delights of the barbecue and the sumptuous dined by the PTA.

On through the afternoon, some staying at the crease longer and staying longer in the bar than anyone!! After their fifteenth level the score, their team captain, Geoff Everard, declined to "I think that honour has been satisfied, and this year I'd be the pitch unaided", no doubt remembering last year's off injured, and spent a week having his calf muscles assessed!!

field for a game or two of rounders, while, as the led the glories of the day over some well earned

the event were shared between Tatsfield Primary School PTA, who providing much needed equipment, books and materials to benefit all the children at the school, and the Cricket Club, who will be investing their share in their ongoing policy to provide an all-weather Astro turf strip, particularly for the use of the Youth Section of the Cricket Club.

COUNCIL NOTES

Ricketts Hill Road traffic

Sensors have been placed on the road surface to measure the volume and speed of traffic in Ricketts Hill Road and Church Lane. These will - we hope - provide the clear evidence needed to encourage the highway authority to tell us how it plans to meet the fears of residents about the danger from traffic outside their houses.

Ian Mitchell (Tel: 577376)

REPORT FROM OUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Hello Tatsfield,

One of the most important things from last month is the **Tripartite Funding** for the Village Hall extension. To clarify - the Tripartite Funding consists of equal amounts of money from Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council and the applicant, i.e. Tatsfield Parish Council. Two parts are in place - Tandridge and Tatsfield - but it seems that Surrey cannot commit themselves in this financial year, so co-ordination of the grant is still in doubt. We are working hard on this from every angle - so watch this space with fingers crossed - we need all the monies in place to put those lovely plans into action.

Following on from last month:

Ricketts Hill and Church Lane now have speed and traffic assessor strips across the road - it's a start!

Recycling bins at The Ship - the clothing one has arrived, the can one should arrive within two weeks, as should the fencing. Remember, only use them between 8am and 8pm.

This is the time of the year for **garden parties, fetes and fairs** and I love them all. It's wonderful to see everyone out supporting all the different events in this very active village, even when the weather is not as kind as it could be e.g. Tatsfield School Fair! I've been averaging about two a weekend.

On Sunday 25th June my husband and I attended the annual Civic Service held this year in Lingfield at 11.15 and dashed back to Tatsfield for the awesome task

COUNCIL NOTES

of judging the Scout floats and walkers at 1.15. What a frightening honour - a truly no win situation! So much work went into all the entries, Dalmations, Evacuees, Romans, Tank, but in the end I came down on the side of the ones I thought had done all the work themselves. The W1 came first for the walkers. They were resplendent as Pearly Queens, and the Scouts for their Flower Power float. Well done everyone, you all deserved a first.

I attended a conference at Surrey University for Local Agenda 21 on 13th July, called 'Seeking a Sustainable Surrey'. This stems from the Rio Summit a few years ago and focuses on sensible environmental issues. It serves to teach us how to reduce the amount of energy we use, recycle more things and generally care for our environment. It is believed that involving the community will identify the issues the community feels most strongly about, and to this end Tandridge District Council is holding a Round Table shortly to see how we progress. I feel that this could be exciting and will report back to you.

My Surgery has started in the **Parish Room** and I have met a few people I hadn't met before, and sorted out a couple of problems. Remember I'll be there the **LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 10.30 until 12 NOON**. Please pop in!

1st Tatsfield Scouts

Thank you to everyone who supported the Village Fete, it was a most enjoyable sunny afternoon and we raised over £3000 towards the Scout Hut rebuilding funds

The Ventures have just returned from a challenging 30 mile expedition across the Cairngorm Mountains in Scotland, the Cubs and Beavers from a very wet camp in Sussex and the Troop are off to the Lake District for a week of walking, climbing and canoeing.

We have camps and activities planned for the next 12 months including a Scout week in the Black Mountains, Cub Camps at Bentley Copse and Downe, winter climbing in Snowdonia, the celebration of Scoutabout with 5000 other Scouts, a possible expedition to Kitsburg in Austria, a visit to Birdworld, seats at the Gangshow in the Albert Hall, community help with people in the Village and lots, lots more ... including the **REBUILDING OF THE SCOUT HUT**.

Paul Howard, Group Scout Leader (Tel: 577004)

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society's Luncheon at Beaconsshaw on Sunday 9th July proved to be one of the Society's most successful events for a long time. It was a hot and sunny day; the food provided by the Committee was marvellous and there was plenty of it. Luke James gave us some pleasant light music at the keyboard and was able to meet most people's special requests and Aileen McHugo's garden presented a lovely backdrop. All 90 people there had a pleasant and relaxing time.

Our next event is the Autumn Show, a little earlier this year, on Saturday 9th September. Doors open at the Village Hall at 3 p.m. and prizes will be presented at 4.30 p.m.

There are 106 different classes to enter - as many as 32 for vegetables and another 25 for flowers. I keep encouraging people not to be too modest about the vegetables and flowers which they grow ordinarily in their gardens. Many will be very respectable entries and some could well be prize winners. Just look around your garden, pick the best specimens, check in the Schedule for the right number of specimens in the class and bring them along to the Village Hall by 10.30. a.m. on the Saturday morning. There is nothing more to it than that!

For one reason or another, the number of flower arranging entries has fallen in recent shows; there were no entries at all in the two Novice Classes in the Spring Show. Perhaps more will be encouraged to have a go this time.

Don't forget too the many arts and crafts - paintings, embroidery, dried flower arrangements, Christmas card designs - and domestic classes. As well as the usual jams, jellies and wines, there is the highly competitive set cake recipe, this time for a Dundee cake and the hard fought men only class, which this year is for a chocolate cake.



Photographers too are catered for with four classes which have been settled with the Camera Club - scene at the seaside, a flower, children at play and a street scene. (Apologies for wrongly listing the photographer classes for the Spring Show in last month's Magazine) and of course there are plenty of classes for juniors under 17 years of age.

So let us hope that once again the Village Hall will be filled with entries. Whether or not you decide to enter, do come along in the afternoon to see this display - you will not be disappointed!

A NEWCOMER'S VIEW of TATSFIELD by Tim Rogers

Four years ago Gill called me at work, "I've just seen the house in Tatsfield. I think this could be the one". These words marked the end of an epic search for a suitable house in the Westerham area. When she gave us the house details, the estate agent commented, "Tatsfield... well, you know, you will either stay for life or move in 6 months. It's that kind of village".



We had a good feeling about the place that made us overlook the fact that there was no tarmac on the lane, the house decor was straight out of a 1970's "Homes and Gardens" and the clouds had an ominous way of scudding close to the ground. In May 1991, we moved in.

That summer was a full one: we seemed to attend numerous 40th birthday parties. Old Lane appeared to be full of interesting "40 somethings" playing strange music. As a nirvana for ex-hippies, we speculated. It was so easy to make new friends. People wanted you to share in their experience of living in Tatsfield. "Join the Scouts," said a Scout leader. "Er - don't you think I'm a bit old," I said. "I mean he replied, "you could help out."

A neighbour and a member of the Tatsfield Drama Group asked if I would do the backstage for their forthcoming production. I agreed to assist. Some months later, I found myself standing on the village hall stage wearing nothing but my boxer shorts, pretending to be a policeman in front of 100 strangers.

The nature of my job entails frequent flying out of both Heathrow and Gatwick. I always try for a window seat for, sometimes, I am able to seek out the village from the air and inform the hapless person sitting next to me that that is where I live. From such a height the appeal and uniqueness of Tatsfield can be fully appreciated. London to the North seems so close; the bordering towns, the strip of green and the village. Seemingly isolated, although attached by a thin grey thread to the suburbs, Tatsfield stands before the open countryside with the city at its back. At once I want to share it and yet protect it by keeping its secrets to myself for what its discovery may bring. How long can it retain its open spaces?

What will become of those strips of land that skirt its fringes just ripe for development? From the air you can see how crowded the South East has become. Borders are blurred, towns merge with villages, individuality appears lost. So, it is perhaps fortunate that Tatsfield is a place that has maintained an identity and a sense of community.

Of course, Tatsfield has its downsides. Waking up one morning and finding your lane has washed away during heavy overnight rain is one of them and the impenetrable fog that builds up on autumn and winter mornings is another. But perhaps the most serious and most worrying, is the uneasy stand-off between the developer and the villager which causes people to view with suspicion anything that may upset the status quo. I have personal experience of a village that has accommodated planned developments to its overall advantage. However, conversely, I have also experienced a village that suffered ad hoc and opportunistic development which ultimately led to its decline.

The strength of Tatsfield possibly lies in the cosmopolitan cross section of people and its mix of buildings old and new. This was highlighted in the recent village appraisal which, incidentally, was a fine piece of work. Also highlighted were the many and diverse interests you can enjoy courtesy of the numerous volunteers and associations in the village.

And so, Gill and I continue to enjoy Tatsfield. We are attuning ourselves to the village concerns about urbanisation e.g. whose house is ready to double in size, what will happen to that strip of land by the scout hut etc. I haven't been to a 40th birthday party recently, but the 9 year old down the road did invite me to go to Chessington World of Adventures for his party!

**TATSFIELD COLTS
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**



Today is Sunday 16 July 1995 and the last Colts magazine contribution of the 94/95 season slowly begins to take shape. So much has happened since last month's Parish Magazine its hard to know where to start. Perhaps the best place would be where we left off in the last issue.

Well, we arrived on time and almost intact at THE WEST WICKHAM JUNIOR FIVE A-SIDE TOURNAMENT on Sunday the 25th June. We had two under 11's teams entered, Jim Gauld looked after the "A" Team, with myself looking after the "B" Team. The games started on time, our supporters (The NIPPERS) arrived, the pace was hot, the sunshine grew hotter, and we learnt a lot from our very experienced and skillful opponents. We also managed to surprise three of the top teams in our division by holding them to a draw, although it was no surprise to us as the Colts were playing well and on form. Men of the match awards went to Keeper Matthew Butcher, "A" Team and John Whyte and Andrew Worsley, "B" Team. Later that day, as the teams returned to the village and amid the welcoming shouts of, "they're back, Jill!", a sigh of relief was heard coming from the direction of the Scout Fete.

During the following three weeks THE TATSFIELD COLTS J.F.C has applied and has been accepted into the TANDRIDGE JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE for the 95/96 season. This has been made possible by the provision of funding and resources given by the Parish Council, and with the help and assistance from Tatsfield Primary School to provide us with the facilities we need to ensure that our 1995/96 Home Fixtures will now be played here in Tatsfield. These developments seemed to give "THE COLTS END OF SEASON BASH", a bit of a lift, but not that "THE NIPPERS" would have noticed as they were far too busy playing 5, 6, 7, and 257 a-side football on the Astro Turf Pitch during our Special Training Session at Edenbridge Leisure Centre. This was followed by a relaxing dip in the swimming pool complete with inflatable. Did I say relaxing? Well it wasn't long before the cries of, "On the head Tel", "Daniels ball", "Its

Edwards!" came bouncing off the swimming pool walls and somehow the echoes of this relaxing dip seemed to round off the enjoyable mornings exercise for the players, and their mums and dads ???, (Parents, keep using the deep heat treatment). Our day ended perfectly at the Playing Fields "HOG ROAST", where the players and parents met up to enjoy the excellent food, drink and Country Dancing. (They must be fit!).

I would now like to take this opportunity to thank our players, parents, helpers and supporters for,

"A GREAT FIRST SEASON"

I would also like to thank Jim Gauld (Assistant Manager) and Dave Alexander (Chairman) for their involvement and commitment to Tatsfield Junior Football, Also to THE PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION and THE TATSFIELD ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB for their help and assistance while we were getting it together.

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

Telephone lines buzzed Tatsfield on 11th July when it started to rain. Was the annual garden party going to be a wash-out? Amy Burbage bravely said "Come whatever the weather, we'll manage". Our members all turned up, the sun came out and a lovely afternoon was had by all.

to have Edna Ward back with us and also Lena Tiedmarsh, who is not able to join us at many of our meetings. Joyce Oliver was welcomed as a guest and we hope we shall see her again.

The 8th August is our craft afternoon, so I trust all members are busy being "crafty" in the nicest possible way. Let's have a lot of entries. A half-day outing will hopefully be arranged for August or September - details later - and a visit to the Douglas Brunton Day Centre is also being organised.

Best wishes to members who are not able to be with us at our monthly meetings - you know you are not forgotten. Thank you Amy for all your hard work which made the garden party so enjoyable.

Monica Russell (577587)

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT TATSFIELD SCHOOL

Give a Hoot - Don't Pollute!

This is a slogan devised by Arran McSporran and Rhys Gordon-Jones in Class 4, as part of their work this term on the theme of 'conservation'.

Kirstie Bailey's drawing reflects this idea too:



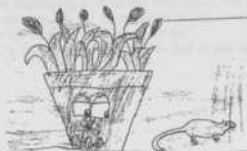
Juliette Jackson has described an experiment she carried out to find out what plants need to grow:

Task

We had to find out how plants grow, and what happened when we did different things to different plants.

Equipment

- 2 1000ml jugs
- 1 250ml jug
- 2 runner beans
- 800mls of soil



Method

We are going to put the 800mls of soil into the 1000ml jug. We are going to put a runner bean in one jug, and in the other jug we are going to put the other bean. We are going to water them every hour with the 250ml jug.

Prediction

We think the one with soil will grow, but the one with just water won't grow.

Result

Our prediction was right! The one with soil did grow and the one with just water didn't grow.



In addition the children have examined the contents of their lunch boxes AFTER lunch. Michael Kells explains:

The people that had packed lunches went over to the Dining Room and got their lunch boxes. We opened them and looked what was inside them. There were things like apple cores, plastic flasks, pots, straws and things. We gave a ✓ to the things that we could use again and a X for the things we couldn't use again and a ? for the things we weren't sure what we could do with them. We could use a plastic pot or a plastic bottle again. We cannot use a can again but we can recycle it. Bio-degradable means that it will soon rot away.



Jennie South,

Head Teacher (Tel: 577356)

FOOD & WINE SOCIETY

The Society celebrated its first anniversary with a repeat of last year's Mediterranean Buffet Al Fresco on 15 July, St Swithin's Day! Not quite as balmy as last year but we didn't decamp indoors until after the main course and puddings were still being polished off as midnight approached. A pat on the back to all the cooks and many thanks to Ann Jupp again for her hospitality.



August's visit to the Wheatsheaf at Marsh Green is scheduled for Monday 21st at 8.00pm. An interesting 3 course menu, with 3 or 4 choices per course, has been devised for us and is very good value at £14 per head, including coffee and mints. House wine is £7 per bottle or by the glass and there is also an extensive range of beers. On this occasion, guests of the society can also be accommodated. Please ring Margaret Bishop on 577583 to book.

In September we are promised a "Vegetarian Feast" by members Bob and Brenda David and Ann Hayes, to be held at the home of Doris and Ian Mitchell at 7.30 for 8.00pm on Saturday 23rd. £4 per head for food, bring your own wine. Book now!



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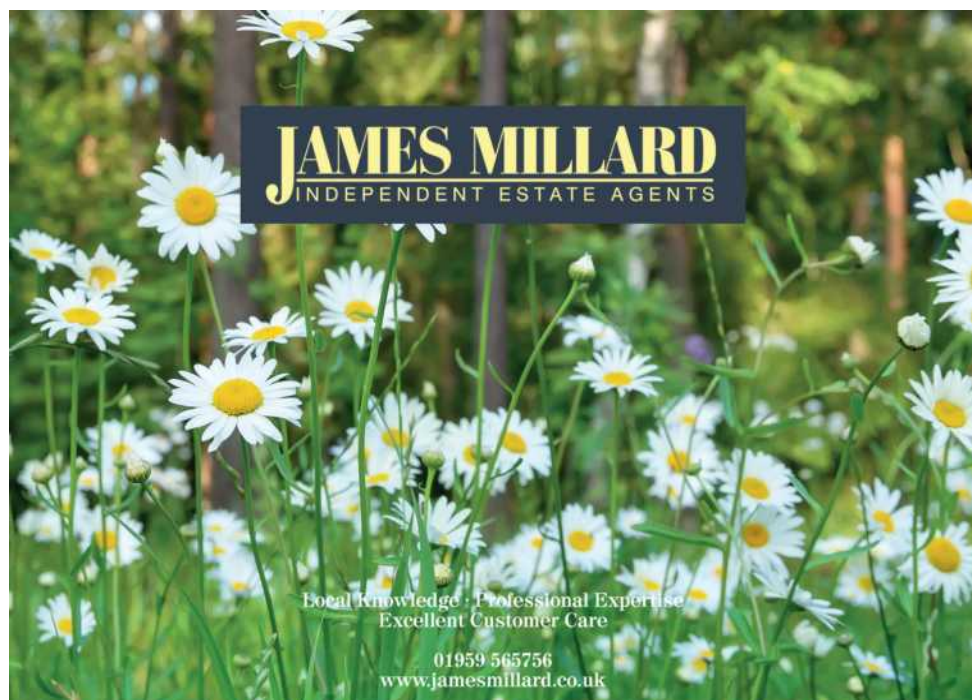
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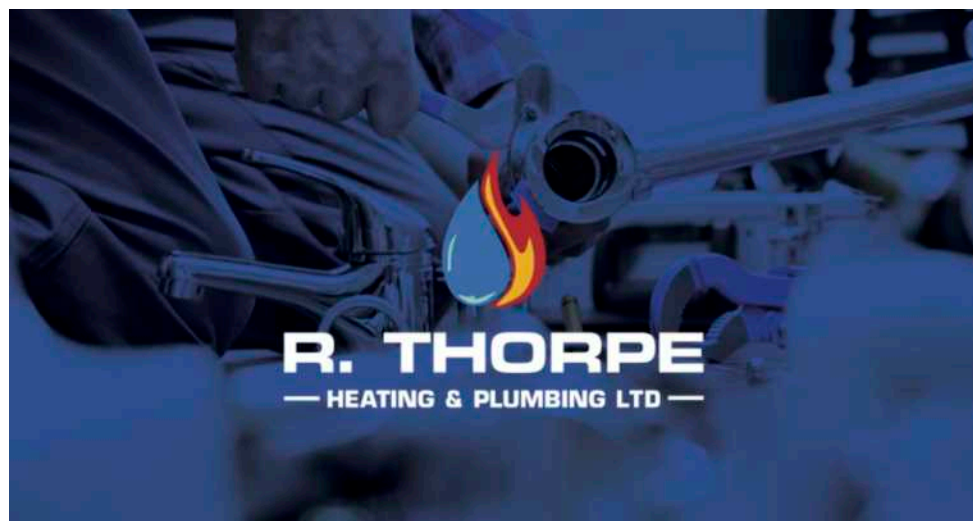


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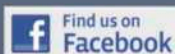
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