

SEPTEMBER 2021

Tatsfield Parish Magazine



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

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CHURCH CONTACTS

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Website • www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield

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

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OTHER CONTACTS

St. Mary's Church Hall Bookings • Sheila Cook (577443)

Village Hall Bookings Secretary • Helena Garcia (tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk) (07983 011028)

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Tatsfield Primary School Head • Kevin Bellinger (577356)

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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 and 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: Tatsfield's Village Picnic 2021, by Dave Bishop.

EDITORIAL – A VILLAGE OF KINDNESS

*This month, we have been sent this lovely message, anonymously. It so sums up the brilliant community of the village we decided to use it as our editorial. If it was you that sent it to us, thank you. And please let us know! **Tara and Tracey***

We have had a challenging year or two. On a sunny day in August this year, a young boy approached an older lady who was alone and offered her a gift of a fruit cake. The lady was very surprised at this kind gift. The young boy was with his mother and sister, so the lady smiled at the young mother who explained that “*they had decided to give this gift to the first person they met who was alone*”.

The lady gladly accepted this lovely gift and they parted. The lady was on her way to visit her friend nearby. She told her friend about this lovely cake that she was going to take home for her husband to enjoy – it happened to be his favourite sort of cake.

After telling her friend about the gift, she noticed the young boy and his mother and sister were sitting by the village pond admiring its beauty and the lovely scene of water and plants. So the lady explained some of the history of this village pond and, whilst she was talking to the young family, another lady joined them bearing a coffee for the young mother. The young mother had not expected to have the coffee she had ordered in the shop to be brought out to her – service with a smile – another gift.

During lockdown the older lady had to stay at home a lot because her husband was rather vulnerable. She was given the gift of a newspaper every day, brought to her by two friends who took it in turn to bring the newspaper because they knew the old gentleman loved to do the crossword in his paper every day. Sometimes “the fairies” who live in the village shop put a bar of chocolate in with the paper!

The two friends gave their time. Their reward was time to walk to the house from the village and conversation with another person – because everyone was in lockdown and so talking outside was a gift too. Sometimes the older lady was able to give the newspaper ladies some produce from her own garden.

So, the kindness of everyone rippled through the village like the water on the pond – an energy that Alison Cole wrote about in the last Parish Magazine. How insightful she was! Let kindness envelop us all in our lovely village.

TATSFIELD ONLINE

Village website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

Village facebook page: search for ‘Tatsfield Village’ on facebook

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

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LETTERS

AIRCRAFT OVERFLYING THE VILLAGE

It is very true that there is no point in choosing to live near an airport and then complain about aircraft overhead. Biggin Hill Airport is an important local employer, and as it develops, will become even more so in the future. Attending the shows is a great day out for the whole family and the air displays are wonderful to see. But does this mean that a community like Tatsfield must suffer from the noise of aircraft overhead? The popularity of flying small aircraft, and taking pleasure flights in an historic Spitfire, has caused a significant noise nuisance over the village, and growing concerns over our safety. It is interesting too that it is very rare to see a commercial aircraft using Biggin Hill Airport overflying Tatsfield; if they can do it, why can't the pilots of small planes?

Following a lengthy period of discussion between our local councillors, and others, with the airport operators, the noise nuisance was acknowledged, and it was agreed that Tatsfield would become a Noise Sensitive Area (NSA). This meant that these small aircraft, and the Spitfires, taking off to the South West, would continue along the line of departure keeping well to the west of Lusted Hall Lane and not turning left until they were near the junction of Approach Road and Clarks Lane passing to the east over the golf course. The "London Biggin Hill's Noise Abatement Procedures" as they pertain to Tatsfield as a 'Noise Sensitive Area' were published in October 2019 (and appeared in the Parish Magazine in full) and we looked forward to seeing these aircraft in the distance but not suffering the overhead noise nuisance. There were exceptions to this new arrangement e.g. emergencies, and the police and air ambulance helicopters; there is also the problem of occasional overflights from aircraft using Redhill, but they are usually at a much higher altitude and not so noisy.

It soon became clear that there was a problem with enforcing these new 'flying rules' as these aircraft continued to turn left too early, crossing Lusted Hall Lane and overflying the village. Further discussions, and meetings, were held with promises that the situation would improve, but the aircraft just kept overflying the village. The operators of the airport are now even suggesting that our own observations are inaccurate, and these overflights are not overflights at all! To quote the CEO David Winstanley in his email to me on the 26th July this year "I will point out again that just because someone sees or hears a track it does not mean it is overhead and nor does it mean an aircraft has penetrated the NSA. The Webtrak uses radar data from Heathrow and, therefore, for it to be in error to the extent that is being suggested would mean Heathrow's own radar is inaccurate. I have always acknowledged that at certain altitudes and ranges from the radar source, detection will be subject to the performance parameters of the radar. This has always been the case and these limitations are universal. I do refuse the accusation that the system does not track penetrations of the NSA as the statement is simply untrue and I can prove detections are investigated and action taken if required."

With this entrenched attitude of denial, I believe it is time for the Tatsfield community to raise its voice in protest against the failure of the airport operators to enforce the agreed Tatsfield Noise Sensitive Area, do you agree? Please go to www.inyourarea.co.uk click on the live icon and scroll down; please add your voice to this online petition that will help to convince Biggin Hill Airport Ltd that they must act now.

Jon Allbutt

jon@jonallbutt.co.uk

TATSFIELD FAMILY PICNIC

May I say a huge thank you to everyone that made the Family Picnic on Westmore Green on Sunday afternoon August 15th, such a huge success especially to Him upstairs for making the weather so perfect for the whole afternoon.

I must thank Kim Jennings and the Roseheath Foundation, Ian and Tatsfield Aquatics for sponsoring the event, and Kim, Bobbie and Tracey of Tatsfield Mask Makers who funded the delicious picnic. Jon, Roy, Martin, Les, Karen, Sam, Vince, Alex, Jill, Bob, Jan, "Little Acorns," Local Scouts, David, Abie, Sheree, Alan, Dennis, and so many other very kind locals. You won't be surprised to read that I have already booked the superb Ravensbourne Orchestra under its conductor Les Lake for the same weekend next year.

Dave Bishop



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Our next Tatsfield Remembrance Service conducted by the Revd. Vince Short will be held in the village centre on Saturday November 13th from 10.30 – 11.15. Any organisation wishing to add its name to the roll of honour and to present a wreath will be welcomed. Just give either a landline call to yours truly Dave Bishop on 01959 577550 or email; davedbsound@gmail.com.

FAMILY IN FREE FALL

Recently a mother, a daughter and a son from Tatsfield went into an aeroplane stationed at Headcorn, flew upwards to 12,000 feet and all three jumped out, then at 5,000 feet they opened their parachutes and gently floated down to terra firma. They were all attached individually to a professional team of freefall parachutists jumping for the Chartwell Unit charity on June 15th at Headcorn airfield, near Maidstone. The group were mum, Jane Kells, who will be celebrating a “big birthday” soon, daughter Caroline and son Michael. Caroline has a blood disorder, neutropenia, which occurs when you have too few neutrophils, a type of white blood cells. While all white blood cells help your body fight infections, neutrophils are important for fighting certain infections, especially those caused by bacteria. She has been attending the Chartwell Unit for years and the good news is that the total monies raised so far have exceeded £3,000.



Jane explained, “It all took some eight weeks overall, which included a full medical and training. We were taught how to exit the aeroplane whilst being heavily strapped to a special frame and an experienced free fall expert from the Hungarian Sky Diving team. On a beautiful sunny “jump day,” wearing a face mask and goggles, we sat on the floor of the

aeroplane that has no seats. We were told to cross our arms as we pushed out of the aeroplane into free fall. The parachute was opened at 5,000 feet and it was all quiet and the instructor manoeuvred the parachute by pulling on the cords and showed all the lovely views and where they could and would not land. The way to land properly was to lift your legs as high as the harness allowed possible and come to rest.”

Upon landing and meeting up, Jane's very concerned son Michael's first words to his mum were "Oh you are still alive then?" Both children wanted to do it all again straight away and both wanted to join a freefall club. Jane has received a certificate stating that she has left an aeroplane at 12,000 feet – went into free fall to 5,000 feet at 120 miles per hour. She was asked what her husband Niall thought about it all to which she replied "he was very quiet and seemed to be checking our insurance policy."

Dave Bishop

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall on Monday 12th July. Unfortunately, our Chairman Kim Jennings was unwell so I did my best in her absence to manage the agenda. One immediate thought that occurred to me was however clever Zooming is, there really is no substitute for meeting in person. Thank goodness we are now able to do so once again and let us hope it stays that way.

We spent a lot of time discussing an issue raised by several residents who attended the meeting concerning the recently extended double yellow lines in Westmore Road, particularly the ones leading from the corner of Redhouse Road. Concerns were expressed about the loss of two more parking spaces and the limited notification given. Our Surrey County Councillor, Becky Rush, explained that the request had been made by other residents on safety grounds and that there had been responses in support of the proposal during the consultation period. However, she fully understood the concerns now being expressed and would be taking the matter up again with the SCC parking officer. The PC made it clear that they had neither supported nor opposed the extended lines and would like SCC to engage with the PC regarding a strategic forward look for future parking in the village centre. Meanwhile, residents of the properties on either corner of Westmore Road will be asked to trim back their hedges to improve visibility for those turning out from Redhouse Road on to Westmore Road.

Planning

This month we had four applications to consider:

TA/2021/1023 10 Shipfield Close. Erection of single storey rear extension, conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation and associated works. The proposed extension is infilling of what is currently decking at the rear of this U-shaped property. No comment.

TA/2021/557 and TA/2021/942 Colegates, Edgar Road. Construction of an external swimming pool. This will have no impact on neighbouring properties. TDC will consider this in the context of listed buildings. No comment.

TA/2021/1018/TPO 70 Paynesfield Road. Reduction of the crowns of two horse chestnut trees in the rear garden to maintain suitable size for the location. No comment.

Picnic on the Green

With fingers crossed we were able to give final approval for Dave Bishop's Picnic on the Green to go ahead on Sunday 15th August and, as I write this a week before the event, the good news is that no more government restrictions are currently planned. Dave has been asked to check all is well with the District's Safety Advisory Group and to confirm insurance is in place for the event. A big thank you to him for all his efforts. So, by the time you read this I hope you will have enjoyed your free picnic courtesy of our COVID mask-makers and appreciated this long-awaited village get-together. I also hope the weather plays ball.

AOB

TiB are still awaiting the outcome of this year's SSEIB judging which took place at the beginning of June. Volunteers all worked extremely hard again this year despite dwindling numbers. THS had another successful visit to Wisley at the end of June when the weather was kind and Fairtrade had a tea tent on Westmore Green, also at the end of June, when plenty of Fairtrade products were again sold. Thanks are due to all members and organisers of those events.

And finally

It has been such a relief recently that, after an awful last eighteen months or so, we do now seem to be heading in the right direction. Let us hope it stays that way and that we can enjoy the rest of the summer. But please do be careful....

David Pinchin

Vice-Chair, Tatsfield Parish Council

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

New Winery and Brewery

There has been an application received for an Alcohol Premises Licence in the council division of Tatsfield for The Old Stables, opp. Westwood Farm, Clacket Lane, Tatsfield, Surrey TN16 2EP. The applicant is Simon Fisher, who used to run this business out of a Warlingham address but since having been asked to move out has been looking for a new property and has settled on the Westwood Farm Barn in Clacket Lane. The business will be for the On and Off Sales and Supply of Alcohol.

Having been contacted by Simon I went down to see him and the business proposal. I have to say that it is a very small building, and the business is intending to be upmarket and a bit exclusive, aimed at professional working people and for 25 + age group.

Access for the most part will be through the Moorhouse Sand Pit access road, and over time it will have an area set aside and managed for the growing of vines for the use of the business.

I am assured we will have none of the problems arising that would make an objection necessary and Tatsfield will then have its second micro-brewery in the local area, with the recently received news that the Titsey Brewery will be moving to Clarks Lane Farm having outgrown the building behind Botley Inn.

New Additional Restrictions Grant

A discretionary one-off payment through the Summer 2021 A.R.G. is now available to some businesses severely impacted, but not forced to close by the Covid 19 pandemic.

This grant is available to claim until 30th September 2021. To check whether you or your business are eligible, please refer to our [summer scheme](#) detailed on the Tandridge District Council website before completing an [application form](#). But if you are in any doubt just complete the form anyway - there is nothing to lose.

Businesses and employees affected by Covid 19 could still benefit from a different range of grants on offer. For further details go to the Tandridge District Council website.

Remember even more so now to help Tatsfield good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets. Thank You.

Fly tip

For those that did not know, there was a rather nasty fly tip that effected the closure of Parkwood Road at its junction with Rag Hill Road in the morning of Monday 9th August. Having been advised of this at about 3.15 I immediately reported it to the emergency number at Surrey County Council who did a sterling job of clearing a pathway through, put up the warning barriers and cleared away all of the fly tip by the early hours of the next morning. A marvellous job which allowed residents to get in and out of Parkwood Road for which we must thank the officers and staff from Surrey County Council.

A lorry was seen and approach made to the company who denied everything, but these details are with Surrey so let's hope a prosecution follows.



Short disruption to some benefits and payment services

Some of our benefits and payment services will be unavailable for a short period as we introduce a new online system which will improve the way we manage these services. Our new system, which will be available later this year, will make it quicker and easier for residents and businesses to deal with us, whether they're paying council tax or business rates or need help with their benefits. It will also mean we're able to assess new applications, pay benefits and respond to queries more quickly. However, before we can introduce it, we need to move all the information we hold over to the new system, which means there will be some disruption to some of our services for a short time - from 1st

September until 4th October 2021. When the new system is in place, residents who don't have online access will still be able to talk to one of our officers as they do now.

We're sorry for any inconvenience this might cause but this work is necessary to enable us to deliver the improvements the new system will bring. If you need any help during this period, please contact Customer Services by e-mailing customer.services@tandridge.gov.uk or calling 01883 722000.

Lastly and importantly for Tatsfield 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 for them to ensure that they continue to operate through these improving times and prosper well into the future.

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

NATIONAL SURRENDER SCHEME

Surrey Police took part in a National Surrender Scheme for certain types of firearms and offensive weapons which was held from the 10th December 2020 and ended on the 9th March 2021.

This scheme was completed prior to a change in legislation to adopt the Offensive Weapons Act 2019. Several specific types of weapons, including rapid firing rifles and certain types of knife and baton, were able to be surrendered for reimbursement where they were legally held and where appropriate, registered.

During the period, a total of 11,967 items were surrendered across both Surrey and Sussex, with a value of £373,080. Firearms and their ancillary equipment accounted for the bulk of the high value surrenders with 47 firearms being surrendered in Surrey.

It is now an offence to possess certain items such as knuckledusters, throwing stars and zombie knives, even in private, through changes to the Offensive Weapons Act (2019) – this will help us to continue keeping Surrey safe and feeling safe for its residents.

Other sections of the act that commenced this month include an updated definition of flick knives to reflect changes in weapon designs, and the banning of the private possession of flick knives and gravity knives.

The rest of the act will commence later in the year and will bring in new provisions for the control of goods sold online, as well as placing responsibility onto delivery companies to conduct age verification at delivery stage. These are important developments that will help us to address the growing issue of online sale of knives and reduce knife crime within the County.

Karen Hughes, Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Inspector

TATSFIELD COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The residents of Tatsfield, fully supported by the Parish Council and Surrey County Highways, are working in partnership with Surrey Police to monitor vehicle speeds in an effort to calm traffic and nurture road safety within our village.



Tatsfield's Community Speedwatch team consists of volunteers from our village who have been trained under Surrey Traffic Police guidelines. The team carries out random Speedwatch sessions at sites within the village and with the approval of Surrey Police.



Speedwatch activity is indicated by two warning signs at the site location. Team members wear yellow hi-vis jackets to further warn traffic of their presence. The team is equipped with a hand-held radar gun that measures accurately the speed of vehicles approaching or driving away from the Speedwatch site.

This is not an enforcement check, but details of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are passed to Surrey Police, who in turn will write to registered keepers asking them to encourage those who use the vehicle to keep to the speed limits within the village. Drivers who offend regularly may be targeted by police enforcement activity.

Please take care when driving in the village. If you see us standing by the roadside, give us a cheery wave.

Our local team invites volunteers to join the Tatsfield Community Speedwatch Group. Please contact Chris Rowson, Tatsfield CSW Co-ordinator: 07765 255455

BE VIGILANT – DISTRACTION THEFTS

There has been an increase in distraction thefts involving expensive watches in Surrey. A number of thefts and robberies have taken place, with fraudsters pretending they are collecting for charity, asking them to sign a petition or asking for sponsorship. On a number of occasions, the thieves have grabbed their victims or tried to hug or kiss them. Thieves have got away with cash and jewellery and it appears that they have also been deliberately targeting people wearing Rolex or expensive watches, sometimes stealing these without the victim's immediate knowledge.

The most recent incident was in Reigate. We have also had one in Godstone. If you have any information which could help, please direct message us or report online using webchat or our web form on our website, quoting crime reference number PR/45210065028. If you do not wish to leave your name, please call the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

LITTLE ACORNS PRE SCHOOL

July saw the end of the school year at Little Acorns preschool and we said goodbye to 14 wonderful children as they go off to start their 'big school' journeys.

To mark this event we held our very special Graduation Celebration. Our leavers, in their graduation gowns kindly donated by Ian Hayman, stood proudly on stage in front of their families and received their certificates. It was a lovely performance and we will miss each and every one of these little people.



We marked the last day of term with a party for all our children, with dancing, games and party food. An afternoon enjoyed by children and staff alike.

It has been a difficult school year, with many obstacles and new challenges to overcome. Our children, families and staff have all been amazing and we wish to thank them all for their continued support. Also, huge thanks to those in the local community who have offered their knowledge, assistance and services to Little Acorns over the last year.

We will be returning to preschool on Monday 6th September and are excited to be welcoming new children and families to Little Acorns. The staff have lots of fun activities planned already! We will also be offering our Breakfast Club facility to all children from 2-11 years from 7:15am every school morning.

If you would like further information about either our preschool or Breakfast Club, please contact us on the email below and we will be happy to assist.

Thank you for reading.

The Little Acorns Team

office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL REOPENING

The Village Hall Management Committee are pleased to announce the re-opening of Tatsfield Village Hall for open bookings.

In using the hall, we are asking that a common sense approach is adopted.

We are currently limiting bookings to a maximum of 40 people in the hall at a time, and we are encouraging the use of masks and social distancing rules.

This will be reviewed at the September Management Committee meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation in the matter.

Further information can be obtained on the Tatsfield Village Hall Web Site at:

www.tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk

COMMUNITY COMPOSTING GROUP

We are now well into the season and receiving loads of materials - thanks to everyone bringing in your garden waste. We are just about coping with the input and producing lots of nice compost.

It would greatly help us if you could separate your garden waste into grass mowings, woody matter like hedge trimmings, and green matter like weeds and thinnings from your flower beds.

Please also think about volunteering, even if only once or twice a month. We are a great team, friendly and supportive of each other. Lots of fresh air and exercise without a gym fee or bullying exercise guru in sight. Guaranteed to improve your wellbeing. And free compost to all the volunteers, too!

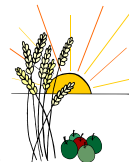
If you wish to buy some compost, it's £2.00 per bag or £5 per barrow/sac load. Tatsfield Horticultural Society members get a discounted rate of £1.25 per bag or £2.50 per barrow load.

Our compost is very rich in nutrients/organic materials and includes soil life such as earthworms, bacteria and fungi. Perfect for mulching, improving soil health and providing slow-release nutrients to your flower and vegetable beds. Not suitable for pristine beds as there will be active weed seeds. Wonderful material for no-dig gardening.

Dilo de Alwis

ST MARY'S NEWS

Harvest Flowers and Art Display at St Mary's Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd October



We look forward to welcoming visitors over Harvest weekend, when the church will be open from 9am – 5pm for viewing the harvest displays of flowers, produce, and artwork. Our main Harvest service will take place at 10am on Sunday 3rd October. We will be collecting contributions for foodbanks, as in the past. Refreshments will be available from 3-5pm on Saturday and Sunday at the Millennium Hall, where additional displays can be viewed

Guitar Concert - Classical Guitarist, Mark Jennings - 7pm Saturday 16th October



Ticket price will include light refreshments. For enquiries and ticket reservations, please contact the Church Office 01959 577289

Sunday Services

Regular services in church are currently at 9am and 10am on Sundays. Full service arrangements and further information are published in the notice sheet which is posted on the noticeboard at the church entrance and can also be accessed via the link on the home page of our website: www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys

Monthly "Happy Hour" Coffee to continue

We look forward to seeing you at Sheree's between 10am and 11am on Tuesdays 28th September, 26th October and 30th November, when the Church will offer a £1 subsidy for every coffee, tea or hot chocolate purchased. Please mention "Happy Hour" when ordering to obtain your discount.



Food Bank Deliveries

We have made our most recent deliveries to Westerham Food Bank on Thursday 12th August and Christ Church, Brixton Road, on Wednesday 18th August, which were gratefully received. We aim to make further deliveries soon after our usual collections at Harvest. Food suggestions are canned vegetables and meat, tinned fish and fruits, ready meals, milk, fruit juice and porridge. Also welcomed are rice, pulses and toiletries. These items will provide much needed supplies. There continues to be a growing need for support from families at both Food Banks. Westerham has 50 adults and 55 children registered with them. Any non-perishable food that you would like to donate can be left in church, at The Rectory or please contact me. If you would like to donate in the monetary way, this will be used to purchase further food. Thank you for your support.

Hilary Vale (01959) 577864

Flower Team

Our thanks to Kay Longley for her beautiful pedestal and Paschal candle arrangements in July and Sue Warren and Sarah Williams during August.

Rota for September:

Pauline Conlon: 5th/12th September.

Christine Rosenbaum: 19th/26th September.

Harvest Festival will be the weekend of 2nd/3rd October and happy to say that after discussions we will make it more special this year to include artwork. All the flower ladies will be receiving an e-mail shortly with more details.

Ann 577127 Jan 577659

Church Teas

The recommencement of Sunday teas has now been postponed until 2022. However, we hope to be able to offer some afternoon refreshments over Harvest weekend

3pm-5pm 2nd-3rd October.

The Church and the Environment

St Mary's Church itself is heated and lit solely by electricity. Arrangements are in hand for 45 dimmable bulbs to be changed over to LED, with an anticipated saving of 90% on their power usage.

The Churchyard

The churchyard has changed over the last year. The former boundary hedge between the main churchyard and the new strip of land has disappeared, having been checked for nests (none) and insect eggs on leaves. In years to come the new strip will be used for graves, so it is gradually being prepared for this but it is planned to allow grass and wild flowers to grow until that land is needed. We have already had displays of violets, primroses, lady's smock, cowslips, bluebells, ox-eye daisies, forget-me-nots, herb Robert, black medick, bedstraw, clover, teasels and many others in the churchyard earlier in the year. We have a wonderful band of volunteers who come to help with our churchyard tidy-up on the first Saturday of each month and have managed to keep up with mowing, edging, weeding, hedge cutting and compost making. The compost is getting better and better as a pound of wiggly wrigglers (compost worms which, amazingly, come by ordinary Royal Mail) was added to the existing wormless compost and there are bags of compost to be collected, free of charge, for anyone who would like it. The church wheelbarrow is now kept in the compost area to enable people to take bags to a car. Hopefully we shall one day be able to use the churchyard for teas again, but it is still used daily by walkers and cyclists and those who just want to sit quietly in a beautiful place.

Mary Smith



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

55. D. Spicer £25 43. M.&L. Lambert £15 73. D. J. Gulley £10 St Mary's £50

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

53. S. Cook £25 25. P. Draper £15 12. M. & R. Smith £10 St Mary's £50

Records

29th July - Funeral of Barry (Brian) Alan Adlington

12th August - Funeral of Anthony Colin Crowhurst

16th August - Interment of Ashes of Malcolm Derek Meehan

St Mary's Church, Tatsfield, is currently open at the following times:

9am-4pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, with Sunday services at 9am and 10am. Visitors are kindly asked to continue to wear face masks.

The Millennium Hall is now open for bookings.

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

NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

In last month's magazine, I said that NDS would like to hold a concert in November – as we always used to do! – and that, “As soon as WE know, we will let YOU know!” Well, at the moment, we still don't know, but are still exploring options. The Village Hall is now allowed to have up to 40, rather than 30, people present, so we will be able to hold rehearsals with all of the orchestra participating. However, with only 40 people, it would obviously not be possible to hold a concert. Let's hope that limit is increased. Even if it is, it might still be necessary to make changes, though, and one of the possibilities – nothing is decided as yet – might be to hold two short concerts on the same day, with smaller audiences each time. One could be in the afternoon and one in the evening.

When things become clearer, we will make decisions, and guess what “As soon as WE know, we will let YOU know!”.

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.

TATSFIELD WI

At last, we are able to open the WI Hall again.

Our first meeting in 16 months was held in July as a Garden Meeting in Sandra's beautiful garden. We were rewarded for postponing from the wet beginning of July with a hot sunny afternoon. Fifteen members and their seven guests enjoyed an afternoon of catch-up conversations and delicious afternoon tea.



In August our speaker, Sue Goodwin, gave a brief history of Chartwell. Much of the current house is owed to the Campbell Colquhoun family in the late 1800s until bought by Winston Churchill in 1922 as their family home. After the Second World War the



National Trust took overall ownership with provision for Sir Winston and Clementine to continue to enjoy the estate. We were taken on a journey around the grounds and gardens, following the tumbling waters from the pumped source at the top of the grounds past ponds and cascades to the family swimming pool. Slides of the buildings, studio, cottages, and playhouse were shown alongside beautiful kitchen and flower gardens including the Golden Rose Avenue and Wedding Anniversary gift

from the Churchill family. In many slides we spotted Jock – the Churchill ginger cat (or cats as all 7 have been named Jock).

On 7th September we are having a demonstration and talk about silk painting.

If you pass the Hall, you will have noticed the work that has been done. The porch woodwork has been repaired and the outside and roof repainted. This completes a programme of maintenance both inside and out. If you are considering hiring a small local venue for a family party, a meeting or a charity event, please contact us (577443) and ask to have a look around.

We are open every Wednesday morning from 10.00 till 12.00 for a coffee/tea Pop In so if you are at a loose end, please join us (children and well-behaved dogs are very welcome).

Susan Smale, 01959 577660

GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

18 –26 SEPTEMBER 2021
A NATIONAL WEEK OF EVENTS
CELEBRATING ACTION ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK, and everyone's invited!

For more information visit:
greatbiggreenweek.com



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FEED THE EARTH AND THE EARTH WILL FEED YOU

I feel I should have been wearing a robe and sandals when I was typing this title.

Countless generations of farmers and gardeners have dug, and in many cases double dug, their fields and gardens. It was very much the mantra. You had to till, dig and turn-over the soil before planting, be it acres of farmland or the backyard vegetable plot.

In most cases, this was followed by copious additions of fertiliser. Even the environmentally sound growing of cover crops at the end of harvest was followed by tilling and turning over before planting the next crop.

For some years, voices have been raised in the wilderness, first about no-dig gardening and then, more recently, about cut-and-drop, polyculture and permaculture food production.



Almost ten years ago, I watched some YouTube videos by one of the most respected adherents of no-dig gardening in the UK, the languid and soft-spoken Charles Dowding, and was instantly converted. It was not just the simplicity and the reduction in labour but also his elegant experiments demonstrating that no-dig beds often produced more crops than similar-sized dug beds.

Soon my vegetable beds were all no dig. And then, when a local allotment plot became available, I took these still radical beliefs with me but did so almost furtively, not wishing to face the scorn of the old hands benevolently looking at the efforts of the newbies.

With time, the no-dig concept became more widespread and a body of scientific evidence started to pile up, providing an understanding of the mechanisms underpinning the philosophy. One of the most enlightening areas of knowledge was on the role of various organisms in the health of the soil and the symbiotic relationship between plants and, hidden underground, vast colonies of fungi. It appears that plants need fungi to transport vital nutrients, especially minerals, to their roots and, in exchange, reward the fungi with a steady feed of sugars extruded by the roots. Mycorrhizal fungi raised their heads and soon packets of fungal spores were finding their place in the garden centre shelves.

As research continued to pile up, more and more people joined the no-dig revolution, and our understanding of soil structure and soil microbiology grew. Not only was no-dig better, but research also clearly showed that digging made the soil less productive and led to long term loss of fertility. No-dig was here to stay. So much so that, at this year's RHS Hampton Court flower show, there was Mr Dowding in a place of honour and much in the forefront of the media.

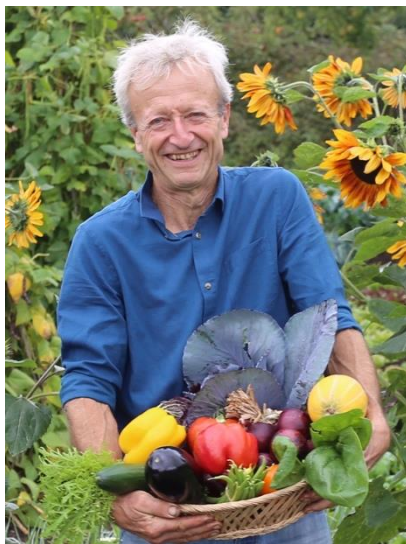
And then, on Gardeners World, the debonair Don, Monty himself, admitted that he had adopted no-dig. The revolution was done. Welcome no-dig UK.

Evidence continues to amass as ecologists, soil biologists, botanists and other scientists explore this new environment of soil as a living organism. We now understand the symbiosis between plants and fungi, not only in nutrition but also in communication - trees message each other through enormously spread fungal networks, warning each other of weather changes and infestations. Healthy soil is not just earthworms but also insects, fungi and bacteria. Healing the earth has begun, hopefully, not too late.

So what does all the science tell us? A healthy soil is a self-sustaining, complex environment with millions of animals, plants and fungi all interacting together. An army of creatures such as worms, insects and even snails and slugs constantly feed on organic matter such as dead leaves, rotting fruit, flower petals and poo, breaking it all down to products that can be utilised by other forms of life. Worms are particularly good at dragging organic matter from the surface deep into the ground. The end products of all this activity, basically faecal matter, makes nutrients available to plants and fungi. With millions upon millions of fibres (mycelia) infiltrating every nook and cranny of this subterranean world, fungi are ideally evolved to extract the riches of these processed organic materials. With an abundance of carbon compounds fabricated from carbon dioxide and water, plants can afford to swap sugars for some of these other nutrients, especially minerals, so intricate symbiotic relationships have formed between grasses, shrubs, and even vast trees and the tiny but massively distributed underground fungal networks.

In simple words, don't mess with what nature has created over millions of generations - stop digging! All you have to do is to add materials to the top of your soil: compost, leaves or other organic materials (mulches) and leave the rest to nature. And all those nasty slugs and snails? Just give them stuff to chew on like some of your kitchen waste or dying leaves from your crops and they will leave your precious plants alone. They prefer dead stuff to fresh and they will industriously make compost for you.

I hope to write more about new ideas for managing your soil and the land such as cut and drop, polyculture and permaculture. Meanwhile, if you're not already an adherent, give no-dig a go - it's easier and will add another tiny step to saving our planet.



Dilo de Alwis

GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK
TEA TENT SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 10am

This September, between the 18th and 26th, organisations all around the country will be holding events to celebrate action being taken to tackle climate change and protect nature.



In Tatsfield, the Fairtrade Group will be providing the Village with an opportunity to show their support for taking steps to make our gardens and shopping kinder to the planet by holding a Tea Tent on 25th September at 10am. As well as the usual Free Fairtrade tea, coffee and hot chocolate we will be giving away some Fairtrade chocolate and bananas and we will have ideas for how to re-wild our gardens, increase biodiversity and protect wildlife.

To get us all thinking, here is a short quiz:

What's one of the easiest ways we can help prevent global warming?

- a) Become a climate scientist
- b) Wear all your clothes at once
- c) Eat less meat

Answer C

What everyday activity counts for almost a quarter of the carbon footprint of a typical UK home?

- a) Driving to work
- b) Heating up water
- c) Leaving the light on

Answer B

How much water is required to produce just ONE T-shirt?

- a) 7 litres
- b) 70 litres
- c) 270 litres
- d) 2700 litres

Answer D*

*Equivalent to how much water one person drinks in 2.5 years!

In 2020, Fairtrade worked in partnership with Ben & Jerry's and their cocoa trader, Barry Callebaut, to plant 40,000 shade trees on cocoa farms, which benefited over 5,000 farmers. These trees act as protection for cocoa plants, to stop them getting stressed from heat and lack of water. Which of these other options is NOT a benefit of planting trees amongst a Cocoa plantation:

- a) boost soil fertility with the shed leaves
- b) increases the workload for farmers
- c) reduce soil erosion
- d) attracts pollinators

Answer B

Some Fairtrade Coffee farmers are now using waste husks from the coffee drying process to make briquettes. This project has seen a saving of time for women searching for firewood for cooking stoves plus a reduction in the tonnage of firewood used among coffee farming households of

- a) 60 percent
- b) 6 percent
- c) 90 percent
- d) 30 percent

Answer A

Which of these key environmental protection areas do the Fairtrade Standards NOT require smallholder farmer and larger hired labour production set-ups to comply with?

- a) Energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction
- b) Soil and water quality
- c) Pest management
- d) Biodiversity protection
- e) Prohibition of genetically modified organisms and harmful chemicals
- f) Waste management

Answer ALL



Hope you can join us on the Green on the 25th at 10am.

Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



The sun has shone on our members for our last two meetings!

As the sun shone over Tatsfield in July we held our AGM garden party with a Wimbledon theme, plenty of strawberries and Pimm's (not necessarily in that order!). It was a glorious day and a busy meeting with Martin Allen in attendance answering questions from members and taking away an added workload. We would like to thank him for coming and closing our meeting in style.

Our August meeting was equally as glorious. It was the first meeting starting at our new time of 12.30, enabling us to share a light lunch of a ploughman's followed by fresh fruit salad and of course the traditional NSYC cakes. It was also lovely to welcome two new members.

In September we will be visiting the Biggin Hill Memorial Museum.

It is so nice seeing all our members enjoying themselves and being back together especially being outdoors, whilst keeping them as safe as we can. If anyone would like to join our club the next available meeting for new members is on October 12th at the WI Hall in Paynesfield Rd at 12.30.



Finally, a big thank you to the Committee and helpers who do a fantastic job making things run smoothly.

Keep safe

Sue Dowse

notsoyoung100@gmail.com

07816 110929



TATSFIELD ART GROUP CALENDAR

Sept 2021 – Sept 2022

7

SESSION DATE	TUTOR & SESSION FOCUS	NOTES	COST GUEST
2021			
26 June	Adie	Workshop	£15
14 Aug	Pippa (Carol)	TBC	
6 September	AGM - IF POSSIBLE	TBC	
13	Kit Leese	Stormy skies & coast – w/col Demo	£10
20			
27	Emil Nikolla	Portrait Demo	£10
4 October			
11	Mike Fryer	Knife Painting Demo	£10
18		Knife Painting Workshop	£15
25-29 October	HALF TERM	LINGFIELD	
1 November	John Kenyon-Roberts	Framing and Mount cutting workshop	
8 November	" " "		
15 November			
22 November	Pre exhibition	Preparation	
Sat/Sun 27/28	TAG EXHIBITION WEEKEND		
29	Last meet for year	Post Mortem of Exhibition	
	WINTER BREAK		
2022			
14 – 18 Feb	HALF TERM		
21 February	Adrian Leppenwell	w/c snow scene - Demo	£10
28 February		w/c snowscene - Workshop	£15
7 March	Ian Henderson	Portrait Painting (Demo)	£10
14 March		Portrait Painting (Workshop)	£15
21 March			
28 March	Stephen Cheeseman	Pastels/Pencils/Graphite Townscape - demo	£10
	EASTER HOLIDAYS	& BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	
25 April	Chris Forsey	Rip, Stick & Paint	£10
2 May	BANK HOLIDAY		
9 May			
16 May	Emil Nikolla	Landscape Workshop	£15
23 May			
30/31 May	BANK HOLIDAY		
6 June			
13 June			
20 June			
27 June			
4 July			
11 July			
	SUMMER BREAK		
3 September	AGM 7.30	Venue to be agreed.	

Members Annual fee £150.00 Includes: All Demos, Tutored Sessions, self directed sessions and hire of hall and Exhibiting at our annual Art Exhibition - 27 Sessions @ £ 5.55 per session

Guests fee for Demos £10.00 : Guests fee for Tutored Session £15.00 : Guests charged a fee for exhibiting at our Art Exhibition

Blue = Not yet booked/confirmed/Self run Red = Booked Green = Half term/bank holidays/holidays

(2021Sept to 2022 Sept TAG Calendar – guests docx)

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – SEPTEMBER 2021

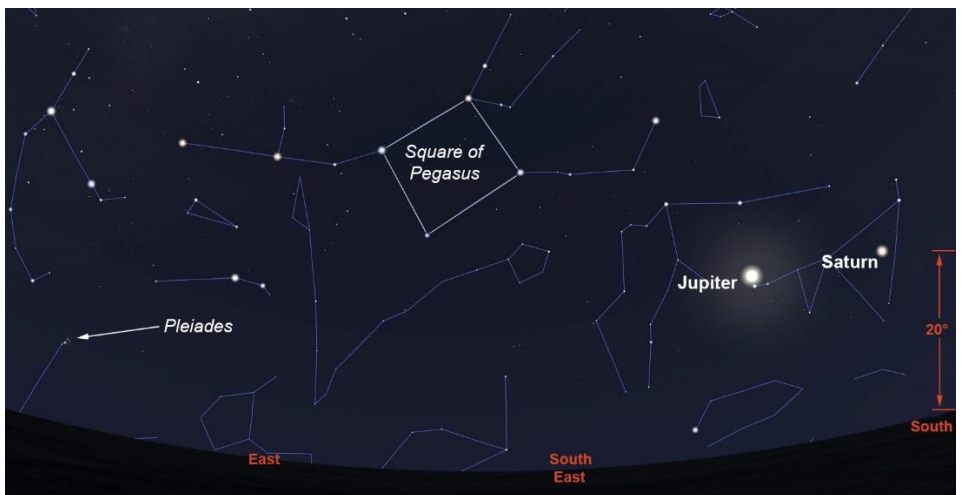
Venus is visible low down in the west-south-west as soon as the Sun has set. Despite being extremely bright already it continues to brighten until almost the end of the year. Its brilliance is compensation for the fact that it is not nearly as well presented as it was last year. The reason for this comparatively poor showing is that the ecliptic lies very close to the horizon during the early evenings at this time of year.

The ecliptic is the path that the Sun appears to follow as it moves through the constellations over the course of a year which incidentally is not the path of its daily rising and setting. The ecliptic could equally be described as the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun, and as the planets orbit close to that plane, they consequently always appear close to the ecliptic.

Jupiter lies almost exactly southeast at 9pm on the 1st of the month with an altitude slightly less than 15°. By 10pm this has grown to 20° and the planet has moved slightly westwards (to the right).

Saturn is approximately the same elevation as Jupiter but is 18° to the west and considerably fainter although as both the gas giants lie within the borders of Capricorn, there are no other stars in that area that are nearly as bright.

As the days pass the planets rise earlier and earlier each night until by the middle of September Saturn is due south at 10pm followed by Jupiter an hour later. When a body is due south (known astronomically as culmination) it has reached the point of maximum elevation before it begins to dip back towards the horizon in the coming hours. When these two planets culminate in mid-September Saturn will be 20° high and Jupiter 25°. On the night of the 17th a waxing gibbous (between first quarter and full) Moon will lie between the planets although closer to the horizon.



A sure sign that autumn is with us is the appearance of the Pleiades star cluster, colloquially known as the Seven Sisters. It can be seen low down in the east-north-east by mid-month at 10pm or if you wait until the end of September, it will be almost 20° above the horizon in roughly the same direction at 10pm. The cluster earned its nickname because it was said that from a dark location it was possible to see seven distinct stars although there are unverified claims that some people can see as many as fourteen with the unaided eye. It's now known that the group contains more than one thousand members that are tied together gravitationally and are moving through space as a group.

The diagram is drawn for 10pm on August 15th but just bear in mind that objects rise approximately four minutes earlier each night.

The Earth reaches the Autumnal Equinox on September 22nd at 8:21pm. That is the moment when the centre of the Sun will lie at the intersection of the ecliptic (as described above) and the celestial equator. The celestial equator is simply the Earth's equator projected out into space and onto the (imaginary) celestial sphere. On that date the Sun will rise due east and set due west with day and night being of approximately equal length.

Brian Mills FRAS

TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for June 2021:

1 st Prize	Bob David	£48.00
2 nd Prize	Nigel Gracie	£32.00
3 rd Prize	Chris Maynard	£16.00

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for July 2021:

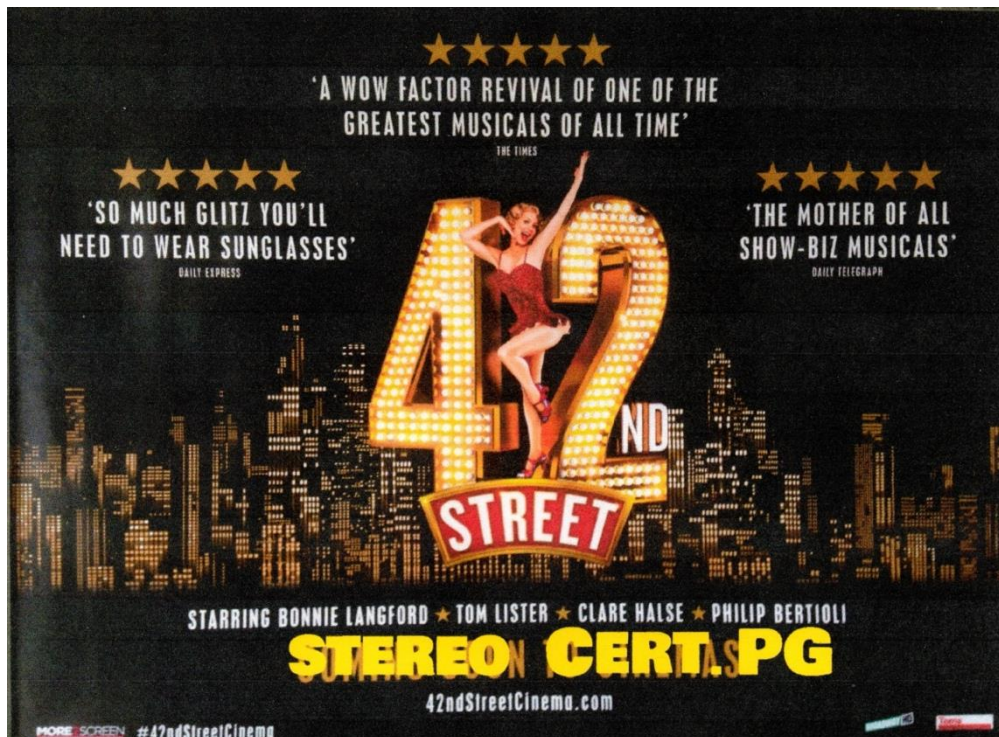
1 st Prize	Chris Heasman	£48.00
2 nd Prize	Simon Hendry	£32.00
3 rd Prize	Alan Thorpe	£16.00

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.

Les



"42nd STREET" SHOWING AT THE VILLAGE HALL



Curzon Country Cinema will be showing "42nd Street" at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 18th September, the film stars Bonnie Langford and is a film of the West End show at Drury Lane. You may well have seen the film years ago but this is your chance to see again what is held by many to be the best known musical of all time. All seats are £10. Pay at the door or reserve and pay online – www.curzoncountrycinema.com (note new online address).

Dates for your diary – Curzon will also be showing "The Father" on 16th October, "1917" on 20th November and "A Christmas Gift From Bob" on 11th December.

Bob David

BARN THEATRE

SEPTEMBER

Merry Opera – The Mikado (*Merry Opera returns with more Gilbert & Sullivan tomfoolery: a tale of romance, chicanery, executions and betrothals, in this topsy-turvy telling of The Mikado!*) Friday 3rd 7.45pm. Tickets £20.00.

Oxted Comedy Night (*When did you last have a good laugh? Change that and come and see Zoe Lyons and supporting comedians from House of Stand Up.*) Saturday 11th 7.45pm. Tickets £25.00. **18+**

Groove Hoover – A Tribute to Classic Rock (*Groove Hoover present The Ages of Rock, an evening of Classic Rock anthems from the 60's to the late 80's, together in one spectacular live show!*) Friday 17th 7.45pm. Tickets £16.50.

The New Foxtrot Serenaders – Lullaby of Broadway (*A celebration of the Great American Songbook.*) Saturday 18th 7.45pm. Tickets £17.50.

OCTOBER

The Oxted Players – And Then There Were None (*Agatha Christie's most popular murder mystery.*) Wednesday 13th – Saturday 16th 2.30pm (Sat) & 7.30pm. Tickets £13.00.

Kick in the Head Productions – The Haunted House (*A fun filled spooky tale all about ghosts, ghouls and strange things that go bump in the night!*) Saturday 23rd 2.30pm & 5.00pm. Tickets £8.00 - £12.00.

NOVEMBER

Oxted Musical Theatre Company – Jack the Ripper – Comedy Music Hall (*A lively musical comedy set in the East End covering the everlasting mystery of Jack the Ripper.*) Wednesday 17th – Saturday 20th 7.45pm. Tickets £17.00. Group discount available.

The New Aquarian Opera Company – A Night at the Opera including Gilbert and Sullivan's Improbable New Musical Less Miserable. Wednesday 24th – Friday 26th 7.45pm. Tickets £12.00 - £17.00.

Oxted Comedy Night (*When did you last have a good laugh? Change that and come and see The Raymond and Mr Timpkins Revue and supporting comedians from House of Stand Up.*) Saturday 27th 7.45pm. Tickets £20.00 until 25th September, £25.00 from 26th September. **18+**

DECEMBER

R.E.M. by REMbrandt (*REMbrandt playing the music and influences of R.E.M. including David Bowie, U2, Neil Young, Rolling Stones, T-Rex and more.*) Saturday 11th 7.45pm. Tickets £18.00.

Information pertaining to all the above shows can be obtained from:

www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 15a High Street, Westerham. Kent. TN16 1RA. 01959 561811

REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	10.00 am Church service – StM
Mon	9.00 am Fitness classes with Charlotte Limpenny - WIH 9.30 am Tots on Top – CH 1.30 pm Bridge Club – WIH 5.00 pm Boom Dance Academy Junior Street Dance - VH 5.45pm Boom Dance Academy Break Dance for All - VH 7.15 pm Adult Ballet - TPS 7.30 pm Art Group – VH [Term time] 8.15 pm Bingo – TVC
Tue	1.30pm Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month) 1.45pm Not So Young Club (2 nd Tuesday of the month) WIH 2.30pm WI Meeting (1 st Tuesday of the month) WIH 5.30pm Beavers – SH 7.00 pm Scouts – SH
Wed	10.00 am WI Pop In – WIH 1.30 pm Short Mat Bowls –VH 6.00 pm Cubs – SH 7.30 pm Yoga – VH
Thu	1.30 pm Hear Here – AMB (1 st Thursday of the month) 2.00pm Scrabble at AMB (2 nd Thursday of the month) 4.30 pm Under 8's Judo - SH 5.45 pm Over 8's Judo - SH 7.15pm Adult Ju Jitsu - SH 7.00 pm Duplicate Bridge – WIH 7.30 pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS 8.00 pm Table Tennis – VH
Fri	10.00 am Pilates – WIH 10.00 am Self-defence and HIIT, Tatsfield Martial Arts -SH 11.00 am Pilates – WIH 1.30 pm Short Mat Bowls –VH 5.30 pm Badminton club for Juniors – VH 6.30 pm Over 10's ju jitsu- SH 8.00 pm Badminton Club – VH
Sat	9.00 am Under 8's Judo – SH 10.00 am Composting site (now closed for Winter) 10.15 am Over 8's Judo - SH 11.00 am Parish Council Café -The Bakery (to noon) 11.30 am Adult Judo – SH

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

UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

SEPTEMBER

4 th Sat	10.00am	Tatsfield in Bloom Volunteering Session, Village Centre
7 th Tue	2.30pm	Talk and Demonstration, Silk and Silk Painting, WIH
11 th Sat	10.00am	Tatsfield in Bloom Volunteering Session, Village Centre
11 th Sat	3.00pm	THS Autumn Show, VH
11 th Sat	7.45pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre
14 th Tue		THS Garden Club
17 th Fri	7.45pm	Groove Hoover – A Tribute to Classic Rock, Barn Theatre
18 th Sat	10.00am	Tatsfield in Bloom Volunteering Session, Village Centre
18 th Sat	7.45pm	The New Foxtrot Serenaders, Barn Theatre
25 th Sat	10.00am	Tatsfield in Bloom Volunteering Session, Village Centre
18 th Sat	7.30pm	Curzon Cinema, 42 nd Street, VH
30 th Thurs		Policing in Your Community, Godstone Community Hall

OCTOBER

2 nd Sat	10.00am	Tatsfield in Bloom Volunteering Session, Village Centre
5 th Tue	1.00pm	Harvest Lunch, WIH
9 th Sat		THS Plant Sale
12 th Tue		THS Garden Club
13 th Wed	7.30pm	And Then There Were None, Barn Theatre
14 th Thurs	7.30pm	And Then There Were None, Barn Theatre
15 th Fri	7.30pm	And Then There Were None, Barn Theatre
16 th Sat	2.30pm	And Then There Were None, Barn Theatre
16 th Sat	7.30pm	And Then There Were None, Barn Theatre
23 rd Sat	2.30pm	The Haunted House, Barn Theatre
23 rd Sat	5.00pm	The Haunted House, Barn Theatre

NOVEMBER

2 nd Tue	2.30pm	Finding New Feet for Pre-loved Shoes – Sals Shoe Charity Talk
14 th Sat		Lent Lunch, MH

Venues

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

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Correspondence:

It may be summer, but it's still a very active time of year for **Ruth and Jim** (Yeeles):

(04.08.21): *'Thought you'd be interested to hear that we've just recorded our 31st butterfly species at Hill Park. Whilst doing our weekly survey we saw this male, **Chalkhill Blue**. It's a bit of a fluke and is probably a vagrant as we've never found any horseshoe vetch, which is its exclusive larval food plant.*



*We've been seeing plenty of **Silver Washed Fritillaries** this year but it looks like it's going to be a very poor year for **Small Tortoise Shells**.'*

Thanks, Ruth and Jim, for the update and photo. I notice that the Horseshoe Vetch favours chalky soil on dry pastures. Does that not describe some of the land at Hill Park? Could you introduce it as a native species?

(07.08.21): *'Yes, you're right about **Horseshoe Vetch** and Hill Park. We have collected seed from Woldingham and tried to establish it but with no success so far - there are too many competing plants. It really needs to be done on a larger scale where a machine scrapes back the soil to the bare chalk as they've done with kidney vetch at Hutchinson's Bank. We haven't given up yet though!*

*Incidentally, I'm typing this whilst sitting in the car outside the old school... looking for any **Swift** activity, but we think they may already be on their way back to Africa.'*

I keep forgetting that the Swifts leave in August. It seems so early. No sooner here than gone. I look forward to reading your report at some point. I hope to see my contact in Oxted before long to find out how the colony at St Mary's Church has fared. I normally hear a few screaming around town, but not this year. I'm hoping that's not indicative of poor migration.



(08.08.21): *'A quick update on the Oxted swifts... we had a walk around the church a few weeks ago and saw them flying around, so hopefully they've been successful.'*

Mary (Smith) has had an unusual visitor lurking in her garden (06/08/21):

'This bird has appeared three times in my garden recently and I think it must be a quail but would like proper identification. I gather there have been comments about such a bird in Tatsfield Talk and that it may be one of several escapees that have now gone wild.

Happy news is that my deserted pond, earlier in the year, is now full of life with breeding newts, small black snails and pond skaters.'

Thanks for your news, Mary. I wasn't sure when I first saw your photograph, but I'm now almost certain that your visitor is a '**Bobwhite Quail**'. They are perfectly capable of breeding in the wild once they have escaped, so we may see more over time. I'm glad your pond is now populated and healthy. It will, of course, improve with maturity.

Steve (Gaskell) discovered, and photographed, a previously unseen moth that proved to be a very unwelcome visitor (06-08.08.21):

*'Caught a moth in the garden that I couldn't identify. A man from the 'Woodland Trust' could though. The **Box Tree Moth**, an invasive species from East Asia, is not in any British field guides (yet). It's considered a pest and I was told to kill it, but I'd already let it go! I got some good photos. [Topside and underside shown.] Check it out on Google. Surely Jim and Ruth can't trump this?'*

Great work, Steve. This is the first time this moth has been reported in Nature Notes. Keeping up with Ruth and Jim is no easy task. In the age of namby-pampyism, it's good to see that the competitive spirit lives on!

The first record of a Box Tree Moth in Britain seems to be from Kent in 2007. The species is gradually increasing in numbers and is now found relatively frequently in the South East of England and even central London. In these newly invaded regions, the moth larvae feed on the leaves of Box, resulting in defoliation, which can kill the plant. The most significant damage, however, can be from the larvae attacking the bark of Box trees causing them to dry out and die. Monty's been showing us the consequences on 'Gardener's World' for quite some time. Knowing that the moth is with us may prove alarming for those with Box hedges. If you are concerned, or simply interested, an excellent source of further information is the 'Invasive Species Compendium' (www.cabi.org).

Are you making the most of these late summer days? Why not go out and enjoy the many hues of green leaves, before they turn and fall? Be mindful of the season. Create and store some happy thoughts to feed on during the long, dark, winter nights. **Be joyful!**



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

BLACK GOLD

This is the sixth in a series of articles by various THS committee members, on gardening seen from a personal perspective.

There is no doubt that ‘you get out what you put in’. In other words, unless you are prepared to feed, water and nurture your plants, the results – whether it is in size and numbers of flowers, or the lushness of your grass, or the weight of fruit and vegetables – will be disappointing. The first step must be to provide a good soil. Most soils are adequate for gardening, but there are very few that cannot be improved, often by the addition of garden compost. This should not be mistaken for fertiliser (although all compost contains small amounts of plant nutrients) but is a soil conditioner. On heavy clay soils, compost serves to lighten the soil and to improve the drainage, and makes it easier for air, rain, nutrients and roots to penetrate. On sandy, light soils, compost gives the soil more body, making it more water-retentive. It adds micro-organisms and worms to all soil

Garden compost is easy to make, and even easier to use – just spread a thick layer on the surface of the soil and the worms will incorporate it.

You can buy a compost tumbler, which has advantages and disadvantages. Firstly, it is expensive. On the other hand, it is moveable. However, the amount produced, whilst it might be quicker than a ‘traditional’ compost bin, is much smaller.

There are many types of ‘traditional’ bin. You can just put 4 stakes in the ground, in the form of a square, and nail a length of chicken wire round 3 sides. Or you can build one from wood, as they



are on the composting site in Approach Road. This can be done very cheaply by using old pallets. Or you can make one out of breeze blocks or corrugated iron. There are however a few things to remember. Firstly, the bigger the better! Large heaps heat up, and stay hot, better, so will kill weed seeds. A bin one meter cubed is more than adequate. Secondly, the decomposition process uses oxygen, so make sure there is provision for air to get in – pallets are ideal.

You can compost almost anything organic – leaves, grass, shreds, peelings, paper, cardboard, coffee grounds, tea leaves – but do not use cooked food waste, as it attracts vermin. It is best if you can gather all the compostable material at one time so that it all heats up together, but of course most people only produce relatively small amounts at irregular intervals, so a bin is built up gradually. For the best, and quickest compost, anything like hedge cuttings and prunings should be shredded first. This breaks down cell

walls, allowing sap out and decomposing organisms in. It is best to put in layers of material, but none of them too thickly. If you use, for example, just grass, a thick layer will not allow any air to circulate, or allow any water to trickle down, and will not have sufficient nutrients to allow it to break down. So I might put in a layer of grass cuttings, but I mix this in with the layer underneath. It is also good to add some kind of activator. I use stable sweepings or horse manure, both freely available at no cost locally, but you can use proprietary activators like 'Garotta', which contains a source of nitrogen and ground limestone. After a period of time, you should end up with a bin full of organic waste mixed in with some kind of activator. At the composting site, where bins are filled in one day, the temperature will then rise by bacterial action to in excess of 60°C in a week, but in a typical domestic setting, each layer will tend to warm up and cool down somewhat separately. It is important that the heap is not too dry. If you are using naturally wet materials like grass cuttings, there may be sufficient moisture already present, but otherwise the mixture will have to be watered thoroughly.

Depending on the outside temperature, the size of bin, and the materials used, the rotting process can take as little as 6 weeks. When it is ready, the compost will have reduced in volume by about a half, and should consist of dark brown, crumbly material, rather like very fibrous soil, with no recognisable pieces, and with a pleasant smell. If your compost is rotting unevenly, or the bin is only small and does not get very hot, it will require turning, possibly twice. It is therefore convenient to have two bins next to each other, and to turn the contents of one into the other. That way, one can be 'finishing' whilst the first bin is being refilled. When finished, provided that the soil is moist, it can be used as a mulch in spring or summer, which will reduce the need for watering, or in the autumn as a thick top dressing, which will improve the soil structure and add some long-release nutrients.



The bins on the left are made of pallets; those on the right from concrete blocks. Both of the bins on the right have light plastic covers, which helps to keep the heat in.

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN SEPTEMBER

Our rollercoaster summer is moving towards autumn, and we are wondering what comes next! In my long memory of such old fashioned 'English summers', they tend to be followed by dry warm "Indian Summers" in the early autumn with cool misty mornings and warm afternoons – we will see.

For the record, our long-term average for July is 51mm of rain but Tatsfield recorded 92mm; our daily temperature was between 32C down to a chilly 10C. The long-term average rainfall for August is 58mm, so far (by the 16th) we have already had 56mm; the temperature finally got to a maximum of 25C but also down to 10C.

Tatsfield is having a 'blight year' with a lot of reports of potatoes and tomatoes going black and dying off. For potatoes, especially earlies and mid-crop, just cut off the tops (known as the haulm) and the spuds should be ok to harvest but make sure to discard any that are showing signs of rot. Tomatoes should be cut down to the root and if in a container (pot or grow bag) discard the growing medium. Do not try to compost these diseased stems, Blight is very persistent and is likely to survive the composting process. If you are growing these tomatoes under cover, make sure to thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces before trying again next year.

This is a record year for growth everywhere, not just our lawns; hedges have needed several cuts, trees and shrubs have made more growth than usual, fruit trees are full of young fruit, hedgerows also look like giving a big harvest if the squirrels would only leave them alone! Late sowings of vegetables are doing very well following the disappointments with earlier attempts. Tatsfield clay is very unforgiving when it is wet and cold!

My usual summer pruning of rambling roses, wisteria and shrubs that flower on mature stems made the previous year have had to have a second trim this year, if you do this there is a good chance of record blooms next year.

The warm conditions and high rainfall have resulted in record weed growth. In my garden I am still battling an invasion of the creeping buttercup; missing just one small piece results in it sending out another lot of surface shoots that readily root and sends out more. You may have noticed the surge of growth of the dreaded chickweed in the bed of busy lizzies in the Bakery Lawn flower bed. If this weed is allowed to flower and set seed, there will be a legacy of weeding for years to come. The old gardeners saying "One year's seeding is seven years weeding" is very true!

You may have admired the golden Lysimachia (creeping jenny) in the containers in the village, this is a hardy perennial creeping plant forming a mass of golden foliage and yellow flowers. If you would like to have some of this in your garden borders please watch out for the Tatsfield in Bloom Team (or email me at jon@jonallbutt.co.uk) who will be changing over the plants in early October.

Jon Allbutt

TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW



at 2pm
on



SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER
in
THE VILLAGE HALL

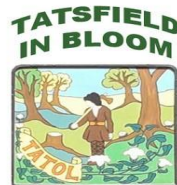


Entry Forms to be sent in by 9 SEPTEMBER
to any Committee member or enter
on the website tatsfieldhorticulturalsociety.weebly.com



TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

Our judge for this year's South-East in Bloom Competition, Ian White, visited the village on **Thursday 8th July at 10.30am**. He drove around the village visiting the Allotments and Composting Site together with St Mary's Churchyard, the Tatol bed and all the planting in the village centre. The results will be known in September.



The volunteers did a marvellous job planting all the mangers and containers which were in situ, together with hanging baskets for the Church. The volunteers are now busy with watering all the plants and deadheading for the rest of the summer.

We worked with Little Acorns pre-school this year to plant up one of the rectangular planters and the two mini-cascade planters outside the Village Hall with the children.



The Committee have been discussing plans for 2022 with serious considerations in mind due to the small number of volunteers who turn out on a regular basis. ***We have therefore decided that we will not be entering the South & South-East In Bloom competition in 2022, having a break to hopefully recover and regroup.*** We have also decided that we will only be providing the floral displays in the centre of the village, hoping that Tandridge DC and Surrey CC carry out their duties fully in the other areas in the recovery period.

We are going to start our volunteer working sessions on Saturday mornings again at 10.00am on 4th September. If you are interested in helping please meet us outside the Bakery or contact me for details.

Jill Hancock (577622)

FORWARD TO THE PAST

Sharing a few moments of chat with my neighbour the other day, she reflected how especially hard it had been for her to not be able to share a hug with her mum and dad during these months of “lockdown”. These were words I have heard echoed time and time again over the pandemic as people have endured months of social disconnection from friends, family and loved ones.

As numbers of people experiencing anxiety and loneliness rise it would be easy to think that this is another result of COVID but this has been an emerging problem, building up over many years. Interestingly, studies have revealed that our social connectedness has declined significantly over the last 20 years. The average number of close friends (defined as “someone they could confide in”) we each have has fallen from 3 to 1 and 25% of people feel that they don’t have any close friends at all. In a world where we are increasingly working at home and connecting over the internet or social media, communicating in “soundbites” and through emojis, what effect is this having on our health and wellbeing?

Sure, most of us know the basics of health: eat our veggies, exercise daily and get proper rest. But how many of us realised that social connection is as important to us until it was restricted? Connecting with others helps us to regulate our emotions, helps us to feel better about ourselves, increases our ability to empathise with others as well as improving our immune systems. Feeling socially connected is important for our mental and physical wellbeing and helps protect us against anxiety and depression. Put simply, by neglecting our need to connect, we put our health at risk. More than this, making connections with others creates a positive feedback loop whereby we become more considerate and compassionate and are more able to trust and want to help others.

During COVID many of us have kept in touch with friends and loved ones over Zoom, WhatsApp and our phones which has been great but hasn’t enabled us to develop strong and deep connections with each other. Research also tells us that it is the quality and not the quantity of our connections that enriches our lives and improves our health.

Next time you are about to say “no” to that invite for coffee or participating in a social event (even online) why not say “yes” a little more often? Learn to prioritise connecting with those around us as much as you prioritise your physical health and with a little courage and a spirit of adventure you might consider joining a new group or getting out and meeting some old faces and new, at the village show.

Why not make this month the month to re-establish some of those past social connections and share experiences and the craziness that we have all gone through.

TATSFIELD A CENTURY – OR MORE – AGO

To judge from a search of our archives, September 1921 seems to have been an exceptionally uneventful month for Tatsfield. Unusually, not enough members turned up for the regular parish council meeting. In the absence of a quorum, it had to be abandoned. A scan of two local newspapers, the Westerham Herald and the Surrey Mirror, also draws a blank, as does a wider search of newspaper archives.

THE "BIKIST" TERROR.
SIR.—Last evening, returning from a run to Westerham, I overtook, about two miles north of Titsey Hill, a party of ladies and gentlemen awheel, who occupied the entire width of the road.

However, whilst catching up with some other aspects of the history of Tatsfield and the surrounding area the other day, I came across an item that, at first sight, could easily have appeared as a recent angry posting in Tatsfield Talk!

In a letter published in 'Cycling' in 1897 - yes 1897 - a writer, himself a cyclist, complained about "*a party of ladies and gentlemen awheel, who occupied the entire width of the road*" north of Titsey Hill, and who made no "*attempt to make way to let me pass*". The only attention paid to his bell was that one of them shouted "*Look out!*"

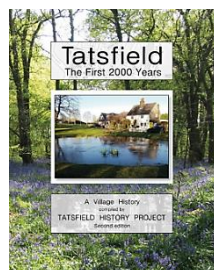
The letter was from a Hugh Cotton, a member of the Cyclists Touring Club – the CTC - founded a decade or two earlier in the days before there were more than a few thousand motorcars on the road. "*Can nothing be done to protect the cyclist from the 'Bikist'?*" was his closing thought. So the competition for road space goes back to before the age of the motor car.

By 1905, the CTC was asking the parish council to put up warning signs at dangerous junctions in Tatsfield. Then in 1909 the Daily Mirror reported a 'hit-and-run' incident in Clarks Lane. A Tatsfield woman walking home from Westerham was found lying in the road suffering from a broken thigh, fractured ribs and other injuries. She told police she had been overtaken and knocked down by three cyclists who had ridden on without stopping.

There's more to be found about the village's past in our second, revised and expanded edition of 'Tatsfield – the First 2000 Years'. The book is on sale at Sheree's Store and Tea Room at £10 a copy.

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project -
Tatsfield.history@talk21.com

Our website address is: <http://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/>



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. Find out more here:

https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/research-learning/Silent_solution_guide.pdf

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.

- 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
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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.



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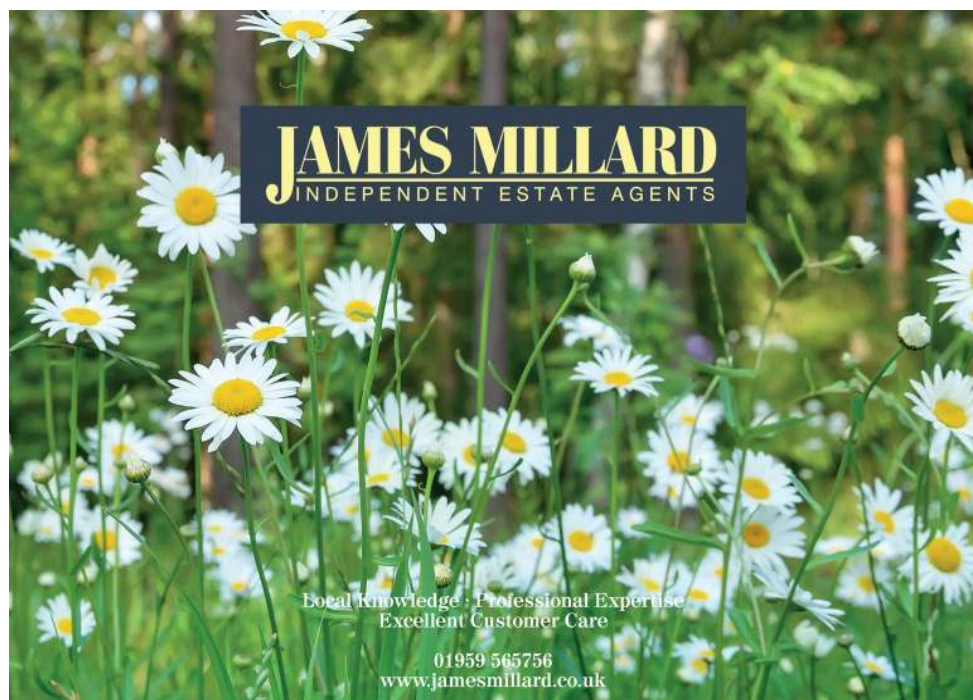
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