

NOVEMBER
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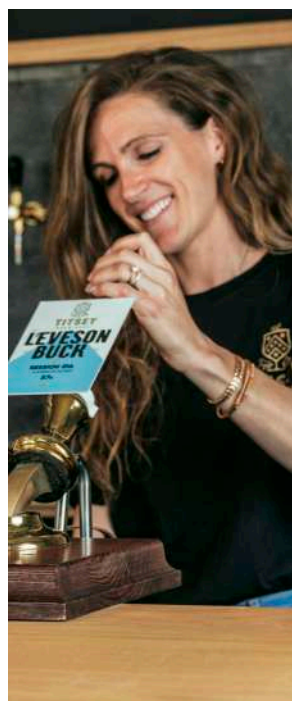
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CHURCH CONTACTS

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

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Church Correspondence • c/o The Church Office, High Street, Limpsfield, RH8 0DG or
email: stmoffice@littm@btinternet.com

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

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Parish Council: Clerk • Samantha Head, 33 Alexandra Rd, Warlingham CR6 9DW
clerk@tatsfieldpc.org.uk (07483 337461)

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

Website • www.tatsfieldpc.org.uk

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-Mcleod (bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk; 07983011028)

W.I. Hall Bookings • Sheila Cook (577443)

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MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. 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: tatsfieldpdm@gmail.com. Alternatively they may be posted to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine, 20 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield TN16 2AU.

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: The children's secret garden in Tatsfield, photo courtesy of Jason Syrett.

EDITORIAL

Dear Friends, as I sit in the Rectory kitchen the leaves on the trees outside my window are turning a beautiful shade of deep red and the evenings are beginning to draw in. Autumn has always been my favourite season.

Harvest is a time to thank God for his rich provision; a time to thank God for his gifts to us; a time also to reach out in prayer and with harvest-gifts. In our own area we can see first-hand the grace of God, of land being ploughed, the seed sown, of warmth and water supporting the growth, until we see the harvest. But let us not forget that even in an age where there is a plethora of food variety on supermarket shelves, we are still dependent on the harvest being safely gathered in. Whether in Britain, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, or the Bahamas, the balance of nature that our harvest depends on is poised so finely, that disease, flood, drought, typhoon or earthquake can drastically and quickly affect hundreds of acres of crops. The effect of a bad harvest in one part of the world can have dramatic impact on another.

In giving thanks to God for the harvest we also give thanks for the gift of farmers and those who work on the land and who have used their skill to support the growing of crops. I recently came across the story of an Englishman who stared in wonder at the rows and rows of lettuces, stretching out in all directions and he asked, just how big is this field. Upwards of 600 acres came the reply. In deep reflection the visitor marveled, think of the seed for all that land.

My prayer for us this harvest is that God will raise up enough workers that the seeds of God love will be planted far and wide, for without the seed there can of course be no harvest! **With my love and prayers, Rev. Helen**

ST MARY'S CHURCH MEMORIAL GARDEN FOR THE INTERNMENT OF ASHES AND BURIAL AREA

Some years ago St Mary's Church was gifted a strip of land adjacent to the current churchyard for the creation of a new Memorial Garden and additional burial spaces.

Now all planning permissions have been granted and the land has been consecrated we are able to create the Memorial Garden.

As the facility is available to all residents of Tatsfield we are opening an appeal to help with the cost of the construction of the Memorial Garden and its future upkeep and the upkeep of the additional burial spaces.



Please give generously to this cause through this QR Code – Just scan with your phone camera and click into 'givealittle' link or call Madie on 01959 577114





TATSFIELD REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

NOVEMBER 11TH 2023

Tatsfield Village Memorial.

With 2 minutes silence at 11 am

Followed by a wreath-laying service

Tatsfield Parish Council

All Welcome - We Will Remember Them



LETTERS

Dear Editors,

I would like to talk about the concert in Tatsfield church in which I performed. It was an evening of music and wine and was a lovely event for the whole community to really come together. St Mary's Church was full of lovely flower displays and local music teacher Sarah Coop organised the concert. Some of the other performers on the night were Luke Tye, Charlotte Rowling and me from the Orpheus Centre. There were young local singers from Tatsfield – including the Budgen sisters - who sang a choral version of “*Bring Him Home*” from Les Miserables at the start, and other numbers later on in the concert. A highlight was professional opera singer Helen Bailey singing “*I Could Have Danced All Night*” from My Fair Lady. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in organising such a wonderful event. **Angus Morton**

please see pg 41 for a full report of the evening by Hugh Corrance

PARISH MAGAZINE ADVERTISING MANAGER ROLE

Our Parish magazine is funded by kind donations and paid advertising from local businesses. We are looking for someone with good organisational and computer skills to take on the volunteer role of Advertising Manager. There is plenty of scope to make the role your own. A fantastic role for someone looking to increase their skill base and to contribute to the Tatsfield community. The Advertising Manager sources and invoices advertisers, manages the advert layout and may occasionally do some advert design. The workflow can be summarised as follows:

Ongoing: respond to enquiries and issue invoices for flyer distribution or one-off ads placed in the magazine. Check with Editors that they have room for ads and that invoices have been paid. Liaise with the Distribution Manager to receive flyers for distribution. **Monthly:** remind those advertisers who refresh their ads (approx. 6) each month of the deadline to send their new advert. **Annual:** invite existing advertisers to renew for the year (in Feb/March) and source new advertisers for available space - invoicing and checking payments received via the Treasurer. **Production:** once the ads have been received, checked and possibly resized they are inserted into a Word document, pages numbered and then PDF versions uploaded to shared Google Drive for each edition.

Please contact Sarah Tait: 07468 589379 or tatsfieldmag@gmail.com

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Monday 9th October. I chaired the meeting in the absence of Kim Jennings to whom we sent our very best wishes. It was a relatively short agenda with no members of the public attending.

Planning

TA/2023/994/TPO 70, Paynesfield Road. Minor works to existing chestnut trees, set well back from Paynesfield Road. **No comment**

TA/2023/1061 and TA/2023/1074 Clacket Lane Motorway Service Area North. Landscaping and single storey building extension/modifications to construct a drive-through McDonalds. Erection of free-standing totem sign and wall-mounted sign. This involves the loss of several semi-mature trees and habitat directly adjacent to Clacket Woods. **Objection:** Based on the loss of a significant number of semi-mature trees and a significant area of established wildlife habitat that is a naturalised continuation of Clacket Woods to which it is adjacent. Clacket Woods is a designated Ancient Woodland and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The proposals would cause loss of important wildlife habitat and impact on the openness of the Green Belt.

TA/2023/1134 Kingswood, Goatsfield Road. Retention of existing small timber shed, open lean-to shed and greenhouse. Retrospective. **Objection:** This planning application is for the retrospective retention of three outbuildings that should not have been built as a result of planning restrictions placed on the property when it was constructed under TA/2014/980. Also, Rose Cottage, a former building on the site that was required to be demolished under the same planning consent, remains on the site in a partially derelict state. And a utility room with cloakroom appears to have been added to the back of the new house without planning consent. The Parish Council requests that TDC investigate potential planning enforcement issues on this property.

TA/2023/1157/NH Newlyn, Ricketts Hill Road. Erection of first-floor extension to form house with internal alterations and reduction of existing side and rear roof. Located in the Green Belt outside the defined village. **Objection:** On the grounds of over-development and harm being caused to the Green Belt. The existing 3-bed bungalow was previously extended through permission granted in 1991. This proposal to add a further storey (making it into a 6-bedroom house) would more than double its volume prior to the 1991 extension. It also represents a disproportionate addition to the existing building.

Further details about these planning applications together with responses by interested parties can be seen on the planning portal of Tandridge District Council's website.

Speed Management Following on from the previous Parish Council meeting when the village "Speedwatch" initiative regrettably had to be discontinued, discussions have taken place regarding the possibility of additional speed humps in the village centre. The VAS (vehicle activated sign) records indicate many instances of speeding, so we are now going to seek a speed data recorder from Surrey Police with a view to arguing the case with SCC for at least two additional humps.

Remembrance Service Arrangements are well under way for our annual remembrance service. Everybody is welcome to attend at the memorial from 10.40am on Saturday 11th November. Two minutes silence will be held at 11am.

Christmas Carols The Christmas Carol Singalong this year will be held in the garden of Ye Olde Ship pub on the evening of Friday 15th December.

David Pinchin, Vice-Chair, Tatsfield Parish Council

TATSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Finally, the Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan has been properly and fully reviewed by the Local Planning Authority officers from Tandridge District Council under the process, this part is known as Regulation 15.



The committee has met twice since the last report, and we have been through the officers comments (these can be found on the Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan website) and have taken much of the comments on board; but some we have disagree with and have explained why as we feel the differences would just amount to a “difference of opinion”. At the time of writing this we have returned a third and we hope final draft version and an updated SEA/HRA document which you can also find on the website, so please let me know if you have any comments once you have read the Council’s response and our submitted copy. I will be sending an updated Consultation document within the next week and by the time you read this you will also be able to find this document on the website. We hope to progress the plan quite quickly now requiring an inspector to review, with the plan coming to referendum in May of 2024.

For those that are interested in the wider issue of the Tandridge Local Plan do have a look at the Local Plan examination update on the TDC website: <https://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Planning-and-building/Planning-strategies-and-policies/Local-Plan-2033-emerging-planning-policies/Local-Plan-2033>

Neighbourhood Plan website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldneighbourhoodplan/>

Martin Allen (Chair), Email: martin_allen@talk21.com Tel. 577201

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

My report is a bit light for this month as having spent a lot of September out of the country I admit to being a little behind with Council business, but I will catch up quickly I assure you.

Before going away the Parish Council and I hosted three senior officers from TDC and we took the opportunity to discuss much what we believe is going awry between the District Council and the Parish Council. One of the main areas of concern remains Planning and Enforcement. Strictly that is two concerns, but they are under the senior wing of the new Chief Planning Officer. This officer will be visiting the village again before the end of October so we will be seeking an update on the outstanding matters that have accrued.

I missed the Audit & Scrutiny committee, of which I am the Vice Chair but caught up with much of the procedure in the review meeting after I was back. There was more financial bad news within this meeting as the auditors currently undertaking our 2021/2022 audit and who are due to undertake our audit of the 2022/2023 year have put in an increase in fees way above the standard rate and for which I, my fellow councillors and the Finance Officers strenuously object to.

Tandridge District Council – Local Plan You are probably aware that the Inspector has offered the Council two options none of which are positive. One option is for the Inspector to write a report concluding that the planning is unsound and that it is not adopted; and the second option is for the Council to withdraw the plan. There are implications to both outcomes. The decision as to which option to take will be discussed and agreed at the full council meeting on Thursday 19th October.

Household Support Grant Phase 4 - to provide financial support to vulnerable households The first round was launched on 18th September but it has closed as available funds have been fully utilised. The second round will be launched on 11th December using all of the same media channels, including in the September magazine so ensure you apply before the final £211,000 are also used up.

Autumn leaf clearing – a reminder The autumn leaf fall presents a significant challenge for our street cleaning team to clear whilst trying to maintain the cleanliness in our streets. **Please help by not clearing any leaves on your property by sweeping or blowing them into the street.** They will build up in the gutter and block drains, will disguise the edge of the road and so may cause trips, falls or damage to vehicles, and are likely to create a slippery surface. **To deliberately blow, and therefore deposit, leaf matter or debris onto the highway is an offence**, pursuant to section 148 of the Highways Act 1980. An offender risks prosecution and possibly a civil action for damages should an accident occur due to their actions. (Prosecution would be a matter for Police or the Highway Authority.) We are unable to alter the cleaning schedule to deal with accumulations of leaves created in this way, and your road will not be visited until the next scheduled visit. If you employ a gardener, a clear instruction to them **NOT to do this** would make things easier for us all and will help you avoid prosecution.

Government's cost of living payment schedule Since 31st October eligible households have been automatically receiving the DWP second cost of living payment. Eligible pensioners will also receive a further £300 payment later this year as an addition to the Winter Fuel Payment. More information at: helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk.

Collection vehicle fire caused by lithium battery Please do not put batteries in your rubbish or recycling bin. Recently, a lithium battery in one of the collection vehicles caused a fire, prompting the fire services to respond and affecting our collection service. The cost to repair the vehicle, which is still in the garage, is over £17,000. Batteries, as well as gas canisters and helium tanks can explode and cause a fire inside the vehicle. This also creates a risk to the safety of the crew and the fire service.

To dispose of:

- Batteries, including e-cigarette batteries - put them in a small, tied sandwich bag **next** to your bin on your collection day. Your local [community recycling centre](#) and supermarkets also accept them.
- Small electrical appliances and power tool batteries - put them in a tied carrier bag next to your bin on your collection day.
- Gas canisters and helium tanks - make sure it is completely empty and contact the shop or supplier you bought it from to find out if they will take it back or take it to your community recycling centre.

Support local businesses Importantly for Tatsfield, please can I urge you to **support our local businesses and societies** in every way that you can. We rely on our local business 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. Also remember to help Tatsfield Good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets.

Unclaimed Child Trust Fund HMRC is encouraging 18-21 year olds to check whether they have claimed their Child Trust Fund, worth an average of £2,000. Young adults and parents can search to find out where their Child Trust Fund account is held by visiting: www.gov.uk

Are you a charity or voluntary group? Charities and voluntary groups can apply for a grant of up to £2000 from the Tandridge Together Community Fund, if the work you do improves the health and wellbeing of people living in the district. Applications can be made on www.tandridge.gov.uk and must be submitted by **Thursday 30th November**. The grant allocations will be decided by the Tandridge Health and Wellbeing Board in January 2024.

If there is anything you think I can help you with, please contact me accordingly.
ClIr Martin Allen 01959 577201 / 07484 185363 / cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk / martin_allen@talk21.com

CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

My work in Westminster has never been busier, but I continue to work on the issues that matter most to you. In my surgeries I continue to hear from parents that they are struggling to get updates on education, health and care plans, for their children with SEND, so I organised a meeting with Clare Curran and Jim Nunns from Surrey County Council's SEND team. When I was the Minister responsible for SEND, I used the experience of families in my surgeries to implement reforms to fix some of the most common problems families face. In the short term, there are a number of procedural changes that Surrey can make to smooth things over for families, including making sure that caseworkers have their out-of-office replies turned on and provide regular updates to families, even when there is no progress. I am grateful that Clare agreed to implement some of these changes at our meeting and look into the specific cases I raised from my surgeries. If you have any issues you would like me to take up on your behalf, please

don't hesitate to get in touch – this month I have solved problems for residents having trouble with family visas, social care, HMRC, housing benefit and more.

I also wanted to update you on my work as Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, which I know many of you are incredibly passionate about. Since the Prime Minister's speech on Net Zero at the end of September, I have had one key message: I am deeply committed to tackling climate change and achieving Net Zero, but we must take people with us. We've seen in other countries what happens when people feel that the green transition is something that will make them worse off or reduce their quality of life; you risk undermining public support for the cause altogether. We must take a pragmatic and proportionate approach, while building on our genuinely world-leading record in reducing our emissions.

Many of you have told me, for example, that you are worried about solar farms covering the countryside that we all cherish. That is why I announced that we are working to reduce pressure on rural communities by making it easier for solar panels to be installed on industrial rooftops, warehouses, car parks and factories – saving firms £3 billion a year in the process.

And if we are to protect our environment for our children and grandchildren, we must continue our fantastic record in transitioning to cleaner sources of energy. At the start of October, I announced the six companies which have been shortlisted to build small modular nuclear reactors, one of which is Rolls Royce. This iconic British company powered the Spitfires which took off from Kenley Aerodrome 80 years ago, and in a few years' time they may be powering a significant part of our nation's electricity supply.

SURREY POLICE

We are currently seeing a rise in tool thefts from vans and vehicles across the county. There has been a rise in vans parked at hotels being targeted overnight. Local Safer Neighbourhoods Teams have been working to help reduce thefts across the county by patrolling hotspot areas and engaging with local businesses to help increase security measures. We hope to host a series of tool marking events soon. Find out more about keeping your belongings safe by visiting: <https://www.surrey.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe>. To report tool theft, please call us on 999 if a crime is in progress, or report via our website:

<https://www.surrey.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

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 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for September 2023:

1 st Prize	Matthew Perret	£51.00
2 nd Prize	Michael Evans	£34.00
3 rd Prize	M Budgen	£17.00

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 Eames**

TATSFIELD WI



Well we are in Autumn months now and in October we held our Harvest Lunch for all members. A heart warming lunch, great conversation and a mind stretching floral themed quiz all added up to a satisfying afternoon.



On 7th November we will be welcoming local journalist and author Bob Ogley to the WI Hall. He has written many books on local history, events and people and will be talking about the poets of the Great War. December 5th will of course give us the opportunity again to have a great afternoon of Christmas food and entertainment

Don't forget, everyone is invited to come along for a cup of coffee or tea and a friendly chat every Wednesday morning between 10am and 12pm in the WI Hall in Paynesfield Road. A great way to meet other village residents – all ages welcome. So, if you are passing, please pop in. **Susan Smale 01959 577660**

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

Christmas Event

Open to all
Tickets £15 per child
2-11years
Ticket includes:
4 festive crafts to make and take home
A buffet snack box
Meet Father Christmas
& Christmas gift

Games, gifts, novelties, raffle, refreshments and much more....

Monday 18th December 11am-1pm Village Hall

Contact - office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



Who would have thought we would be in the WI hall with windows and doors wide open in October? Despite it being 23 degrees, members enjoyed cottage pie with veg followed by fruit crumble and custard.

There was a special quiz today, we collected pictures of members from when they were younger and we all had to guess who they were, not as easy as it sounds.

Last month, using some of our Friendship Project grant, a few of our members attended the Curzon Cinema screening in the Village Hall. We have enough funding for two more visits.

Our Christmas lunch this year will be hosted by Tina in Ye Old Ship in December.

Take care, Sue Dowse, 07816 110929.



**OXTED & LIMPSFIELD
CHORAL SOCIETY**



A Christmas Concert Featuring
Te Deum - Henry Purcell
Gloria - Karl Jenkins
A Selection of Christmas Songs & Carols

Musical Director: Michael Burbidge. Organist: David Thomas
Date: Saturday 2nd December, 5.00pm
**Venue: United Reformed Church,
Bluehouse Lane, Oxted RH8 0AA**



Tickets: £15 (to include wine and mince pies)
Tel: 01959 577749 or On the Door
www.olcs.org.uk Registered Charity No: 298200



BARBIE
Curzon Cinema presents
"Barbie (12A)"
Showing at Tatsfield Village Hall
Saturday 25th November, 7.00pm

The Chartwell Charities

Presents

STRICTLY 2023

Saturday 2nd December

Tatsfield Village Hall

£65 Per Person

Inclusive of Fizz Reception

Two course meal & drinks

Raffle & Auction



TO BOOK:

Call 01959 570322 / Scan QR code

E: info@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk



"Funds raised will help improve the lives of cancer and leukaemia patients and oncology communities by making a real difference to cancer care.."



**The Chartwell Cancer Trust, Aileen McHugo Building, Westmore Green, Tatsfield, TN16 2AG
chartwellcancertrust.co.uk Reg Charity No: 1109784**

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

Our Little Acorns children have been very excited to talk about their birthdays, parties and celebrations this half term.



We had a mini party complete with presents, cards, play food and hats. We made pretend cakes and looked at photos of the children's past birthdays talking about what they did to celebrate, how old they are and how old they think the ladies at preschool are!



We also celebrated Grandparents Day this term and invited the children's grandparents into preschool to play and enjoy a cup of tea (and a few biscuits!).

CLUBS Our Monday Science Club children have continued to be busy exploring all sorts of concepts. From how to build a bridge using plastic cups to measuring their feet and comparing sizes.



The children have also enjoyed lots of messy and sensory play on Fridays new Messy Club. They have made potions from herbs, explored the textures of cereals, built towers with pool noodles and shaving foam and washed our ride on cars!



We also have Dance Club on Wednesday afternoons hosted by Boom Arts Academy and our very popular Gardening Club on Thursday mornings – all included in our session prices.



NEW OPENING TIMES After half term Little Acorns will be changing our opening hours. Mornings will now start from 8:30am and our afternoon sessions have been extended to 3:20pm. We will still be offering mornings and afternoons (or whole days Monday-Thursday) – and hope that these extra minutes at the start and end of the day help parents with siblings at 'big school' and those trying to avoid the morning traffic.

Thank you for reading!

Little Acorns Preschool
office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

HARVEST AT TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



On Thursday 21st September, Tatsfield Primary School values of respect, enjoyment, kindness and community were evident as the whole school celebrated their Harvest Festival. Children and families donated a generous amount of food and toiletries for Westerham Foodbank and Christchurch Brixton, that were gathered together along with the contributions from the congregation of St Mary's Church.

Reverend Wendy Harvey visited the school and spoke to the children about their kind donations and the importance of respecting the environment and the food that grows for everybody to enjoy. Reverend Wendy also spoke to the children about growing into good, respectful people – respectful of others and ourselves. After a variety of presentations from every class, the children sang a rousing rendition of 'Harvest Samba' to finish their special Harvest Festival.



NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

Our concert on Saturday November 11th, at 7.30 in the Village Hall, is one not to be missed! Tchaikovsky wrote his acclaimed Violin Concerto in 1878, shortly after separating from his wife of only nine weeks after a disastrous marriage in 1877, which brought him close to mental collapse. He composed it in Switzerland, where he had gone to recover after falling into deep depression at the failure of his marriage. It was at first declared unplayable because of its technical difficulty, and was not well received at its first performance, but has since become a firm favourite in the orchestral repertoire. It will be played by Haru Ushigusa, who has played brilliantly with the orchestra before, with 'The Lark Ascending' and the Beethoven Violin Concerto. Those who have heard her play before will not want to miss this!

Also being played are the Beethoven 'Nemedy' Overture, one of his lesser known, but still beautiful works, and Schubert's Symphony No 4, 'The Tragic', which was written in 1816 (when Schubert was 19) but only had its first performance in 1849, more than two decades after his early death.

As usual, tickets are £10, and £8 for concessions, and may be obtained by emailing northdownssinfonia@gmail.com, or by phoning 01959 577659, or in Sheree's Store.

THE JOGLE

Thank you Tatsfield for all the support, encouragement and sponsorship for my Jogle (John O'Groats to Land's End) bike ride raising funds for Jan Akhtar's charity wagon (funds for Dementia UK, Alzheimer's UK and Alzheimer's Research)

After sixteen days cycling, trying (unsuccessfully) to dodge hurricanes Lee and Nigel that barrelled their way across the Atlantic and dumped biblical amounts of torrential, monsoon like rain on me with fierce 45mph headwinds - I arrived in Land's End on Tuesday 26th September just before Hurricane Agnes (with more torrential rain and 70-80mph winds) hit the south west.....this after the ride started at John O'Groats in benign conditions but within a day had morphed into 35mph headwinds that meant I had to cycle even going down 10% gradient hills!



Lots of money was raised for the three wonderful charities Jan Akhtar's charity wagon supports - Dementia UK, Alzheimers UK and Alzheimers Research (a total of £1,270 was raised and we are still counting as more money comes in and goes straight to the charities). 1,034 miles cycled and 17,500 meters of climbing hills (the Scottish Highlands, Devon and Cornwall were really tough); meeting loads of wonderful people along the way; riding through the beautiful English and Scottish countryside (the Highlands - even in the drizzle and wind are just wonderful - especially around Dunkeld); six punctures (the roads and cycle paths in England and Scotland are sometimes wonderful and sometimes poor for cyclists). Pre the hill climbing days my legs and heart felt they could power the UK national grid! Post the hill climbing days I would be lucky to move a hamster wheel! But kept the pace up to cycle between 65 and 90 miles a day.

An special mention for the Cure Leukaemia charity folk - after my third puncture of the day in Scotland, I was in the middle of nowhere (30 miles off Dumfries on a 90 mile ride from Edinburgh), it was late afternoon, chucking it down with rain and I was trying to repair my rear inner tube with my puncture repair kit. After five minutes and out of nowhere eight of their riders and two support vehicles appeared (they were also on a charity bike ride around Northern Ireland and Scotland) provided new inner tubes, repaired and got me going again. When your luck's in...

A big thanks to the always wonderful **Fiona Pendleton** who came with me for the first eleven days, meeting me with my stuff in the evening and then at Land's End - was unfailingly loving, cheerful and supportive as I collapsed at the end of each day into the shower and bed. For anyone considering doing it - a beautiful ride through the wonderful English and Scottish countryside – it's exhilarating and to be highly recommended! **Mike Pendleton**



MILLENNIUM ART GROUP

Our Autumn term of twelve sessions on Wednesday afternoons started on 13th September and our last meeting will be on 29th November.

The group has now produced its first calendar illustrated with paintings from each member of the group. The front cover is shown in the picture and copies of the calendar are available to purchase by contacting the group.

We have plans to introduce one or two tutorials including, if possible, a return visit by Simran Kumar, but these have yet to be finalised.

If you are interested in joining us why not come along to one of our sessions to get a taste of what we do. We are a friendly bunch, and we have room for a couple of more members. We have already welcomed one more member this term. If you want to visit us to see us in action we can offer you tea, biscuits and sometimes cake served at about 3pm. To take up this invitation please contact me.

Douglas Dawes millartg@icloud.com



Christmas Card Competition



Enter Tatsfield Art Groups

Free Festive Kids Christmas Card Competition

There are two age categories under 7s and 7-11yrs

The winner in each age group will each receive a

£10 Hobbycraft voucher

How to get involved:

Ask your parents or guardians to take you to Sheree's Store and Tea Rooms and pick up a blank card. Use this card to design your creation using pens, crayons, paints, glitter anything you want to use. We encourage you to get as creative as you'd like make it bright, bold and Christmassy!



On the back of the card write your name and age, also a parents or guardians phone number then take your finished card into Sheree's Store and Tea Rooms. The closing date is 8th December 2023.

The winner in each age group will be announced on the 12th December 2023.

We can't wait to see your entries!

OXTED & LIMPSFIELD MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENT

**ANNA CAVALIERO and
SHOLTO KYNOCH**

Sat. 25th November 2023 at 19.30

**The Bawtree Hall Hazelwood
School Oxted RH8 OQU**

The Society is excited to be hosting a diverse and attractive song recital by the marvellous Soprano Anna Cavaliero accompanied by pianist Sholto Kynoch, the founder and artistic director of the Oxford Lieder Festival.

Tickets are £30 (free to under 25s)
either on the door or on the
website: www.olms.org.uk

TATSFIELD ART GROUP



We have an exciting new calendar for 2023/24 broken down into ten projects. Our second project, entitled '*Birds on a Wire*' was lino cutting with the brilliant Jane O'Keefe. Many of us had experienced lino cutting in our youth but nothing as detailed as the ones Jane inspired us to attempt. Both workshops were fun and surprisingly relaxing.



Project three is on Monday 6th November starting at 7pm, Hannah Franklin will lead this workshop entitled '*Photo Development*'.

Project four will be two workshops on 13th and 20th November with Pippa Doig entitled '*Seedpods and Succulents*'. Pippa plans to use plants, cactus and other organic materials such as seed heads and dried flowers and possibly some fruit as stimuli to create some mixed media studies and simple printmaking. The inspiration is mainly coming from artists such as Angie Lewin perhaps with a nod to the more tropical colours of Frida Kahlo. Week one: Direct observational studies, drawing in a simple concertina sketchbook (which Pippa will supply) from the still life objects. These studies will combine both figurative and abstract concerns and will explore different ways of drawing and responding to the stimuli. This session will end with an introduction to simple collagraph techniques that can then be created and prepared as independent work between the sessions, to print from in week two. Week Two: Printing from collagraphs. Working from earlier sketchbook studies or creating new experimental studies to explore simple printing techniques and develop ideas for a mixed media artwork. Pippa is hoping to show Gelli printing and/or cyanotype techniques. If not, then we will be using mark making and mono-printing techniques, working in layers to simplify and abstract some of the forms. In terms of equipment bring the following basic equipment: watercolours; acrylic inks/ ink pens; different sized paintbrushes; old book pages (Pippa can supply some of these); oil pastels and coloured pencils; also interesting seed casings or dried flower heads, house plant/cacti that could be easily transported.

At present TAG's paintings are on display and available to buy in Sheree's Tea Rooms and Ye Old Ship Pub. Being a member of TAG includes all tutors, entry to display your work at our annual exhibition, access to our store cupboard of equipment and refreshments at all our sessions. We meet Mondays at 7pm until 9.30pm in the Village Hall during term times. Our Annual Fee is still only £150 which breaks down to less than £5.50 a session. Cost for non-members - Demos £10, workshops £15.

For further details contact: Sandra Shury: wallernuttytart@aol.com or Carol Gaskell: carol.gaskell1@btinternet.com. You will find Tatsfield Art Group on Facebook. Website: tatsfield-art-group.weebly.com

ST MARY'S NEWS

Harvest Sunday Sincere thanks to all ladies who helped make St Mary's look so beautiful for Harvest Festival: Tina Boys, Pauline Colon, Kay Longley, Ann Lovelace, Jan Maynard, Sue Saunders, Pat Walsh. And of course, to Rory the Head Gardener of Titsey Estate and his team, for the produce, flowers and greenery. A big 'Thank You' to all who donated food produce, including pupils and families from Tatsfield Primary School. **Ann Vatcher**



St Mary's Musical Evening - 'September Soiree' Thanks to all those involved in arranging and performing a wonderful concert of music and song at the end of September. It was a truly joyous, uplifting and moving evening with a diverse range of talented performers, enjoyed and loudly applauded by a full house. The funds raised will support St Mary's and its charities. Nearly £700 was made of which £100 was donated to the Orpheus Centre, several of whose Alumni Students gave memorable performances. Special thanks to our concert producer Sarah Coop, whose efforts made the evening possible.

October Ecumenical Service Revd Helen Cook, our Team Rector, led a warm and welcoming spiritual service of prayer, scripture and music with Fr Stephen Hardaker of Oxted and Warlingham RC Parish, joined by members of the Roman Catholic community and other local Christian denominations. Refreshments followed in the Millennium Hall providing an opportunity to relax in friendship and fellowship whilst enjoying a drink and some delicious cake!



All Souls' Service 3.30 pm Sunday 5th November Team Rector, Revd Helen Cook will lead a short service to remember those we have loved and see no more, as we gather together to share our sadness and also to give thanks for the lives that have meant so much to us. If you would like the name of someone who has died to be read at the service, contact the Church Office on email: stmooffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Sunday 12th November - Remembrance Sunday Our 10am Holy Communion will be led by Bishop Chris Goldsmith and includes an Act of Remembrance with two minutes silence and singing of the National Anthem.

St Mary's Churchyard David Bishop who submits articles about Tatsfield each week to the Surrey Mirror asked for an article about the churchyard as he was so impressed with the way it is looking. An article was sent to him and was published, with pictures, in the 6th October edition. Our next 'Churchyard Tidy Up' session will be on 4th November from 10am to 12noon with coffee and cake at 11am. This will be our last one this year. All are welcome to join us and help keep our churchyard looking beautiful for our many visitors.

Mary Smith

Summer Teas Season We had a very successful season making just over £3,000. This amount allows us, among other things, to make annual contributions to various charities including the Church Mission Society to support our mission partners in the Czech Republic and Welcare who offer Family Support in East Surrey. A huge thank you to all who have given up time on a Sunday afternoon serving and providing cakes. Thanks also to those who come to support us. It is great to see so many returning faces. Hope to see you all again next year! Also, this year you have been able to view the Millennium Art Group exhibition on your visits to the hall and they have given us £156 commission from the sale of pictures which we loved seeing. Many thanks to all the artists.

Madie Langford



Foodbank Donations We delivered Harvest gifts to Westerham Foodbank on 5th October. These were very gratefully received, as they are facing an ever-increasing demand for food, whilst donations received have decreased. Christ Church, Brixton Road, also faces increased demand, so all donations are really appreciated in this time of need, especially with the rising cost of living. Items currently needed are: cereal, soup, baked beans, jam, pasta sauces,

rice, tinned fish or meat, tinned vegetables, long-life or powdered milk, custard and rice pudding. If you would like to give your support you can leave any non-perishable food donations in the Narthex of St Mary's church, Tatsfield, which is open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 8.30am to approximately 3.30pm, 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**

St Mary's Tatsfield 100 Club Draw for October 2023

75 D. Parker £22

5 M. & L. Lambert £1

46 C. Hancock £8

St Mary's £40

Sunday Services at St Mary's while the Church is in Vacancy We continue to maintain our main 10am Sunday service with music, led by visiting clergy and/or lay people. All are welcome. Further information is in our weekly Notice Sheet which can be accessed on the home page of our website: www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys. If you wish to receive the Notice Sheet please email: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Vacancy for Office of Verger at St Mary's Tatsfield Our Verger has retired after 20 years of loyal service and we are looking for a replacement. This is a paid, varied role, principally ensuring the preparation and smooth running of Funerals and Weddings around six to eight times a year. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please email: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Holy Communion for the sick and house-bound If you are unwell and/ or house-bound and wish to receive Holy Communion at your home or place of residence, please contact one of our Churchwardens.

Personal Prayer Requests For those wishing to have prayers said on their behalf please note that there is Prayer Request Book near the Baptism Font. Or you can email your request to: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Baptisms at St Mary's Tatsfield We welcome all enquiries relating to Baptism for those of any age, including adults. For further information please email the office: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Millennium Hall Our well-equipped Millennium Hall is open for bookings. Enquiries from individuals and groups are very welcome. **Sheila Cook (01959 577443)**

Donations for sales table in the Millennium Hall Please note that we need any small suitable items or books for the hall sales tables. Donations would be gratefully received. Thank you, **Sheila Cook**

St Mary's Church opening times Our pretty church is open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday from 8.30am to 4.30pm (approx.)

St Mary's Tatsfield Church Office Please note the Church Office has been re-located to the Parish Office at St Peter's Church, High Street Limpsfield RH8 0DG. Our Parish Administrator will be available 9.30am to 1.30pm each Thursday in Limpsfield, by phone as above and by email. Emails are checked during the week for any urgent matters.

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

Email: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com

Telephone: 01883 712512 (via St Peter's Church Parish Office)



Floral displays from Harvest Sunday

REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, VH
	10.00 am	Church service – StM
Mon	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	9.30 am	Over 60s, 70s, 80s fitness class with Gary - WIH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	6.30 pm	Cubs - SH
	7.15 pm	Adult Ballet - TPS
	7.30 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
Tue	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
	10.00 am	Chair Yoga with Mel - WIH
	1.00 pm	Not So Young Club (2 nd Tuesday of the month) WIH
	2.30 pm	WI Meeting (1 st Tuesday of the month) WIH
	4.00pm	Paracise VH
	7.00 pm	Scouts and Explorers – SH
Wed	6.15 pm	Barré with Fi - VH
	10.00 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	2-4 pm	Composting Site CLOSED from 1 st October
	6.30 pm	Shape and Tone with Gary - WIH
Thu	7.30 pm	Yoga – VH
	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, StM
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary, WIH
	10.40 am	Over 60s, 70s, 80s fitness class with Gary - WIH
	2.00 pm	Scrabble at AMB (2 nd Thursday of the month)
	1.30 pm	Hear Here Sessions – AMB (1 st Thursday of the month)
	4.45 pm	Under 8s Judo - SH
	6.00 pm	Over 8s Judo – SH
	6.15pm	Barré with Fi, VH
	7.30 pm	Adults (14+) Judo - SH
Fri	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
	9.30 am	Combat Fitness -SH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	4.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Tots Street Dance – VH
	4.45pm	Boom Arts Academy Lower Junior Street Dance – VH
	5.30pm	Boom Arts Academy Theatre and Singing – VH
	6.00 pm	Over 8s Ju Jitsu- SH
	6.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Junior Street Dance – VH
	7.30 pm	Adults (16+) Ju Jitsu – SH
Sat	8.00 pm	Badminton Club – VH
	9.00 am	Under 8s Judo – SH
	10.00 am	Composting site CLOSED from 1 st October
	10.15 am	Over 8s Judo - SH
	11.45 am	Adult Judo – SH

If you would like your event included in this diary in future, please send details to tatsfieldpm@gmail.com. Please also let us know if any information has changed.

UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

NOVEMBER

4 th Sat	10.00am	Churchyard Tidy up, StM
5 th Sun	3.30pm	All Souls Service, StM
7 th Tue	6.00pm	Cancer Research Xmas Fair – Preview Evening, Botley Hill
8 th Wed	10.00am	Cancer Research Xmas Fair, Botley Hill
8 th Wed	7.30pm	Scrooge, Barn Theatre, Oxted
9 th Thu	7.30pm	Scrooge, Barn Theatre, Oxted
10 th Fri	7.30pm	Scrooge, Barn Theatre, Oxted
10 th Fri	7.30pm	Oxted Rotary Club Quiz Night, St Agatha's Hall, Hurst Green
11 th Sat	11.00am	Remembrance Service, Tatsfield Village Centre
11 th Sat	2.30pm	Scrooge, Barn Theatre, Oxted
11 th Sat	7.30pm	NDS Concert, VH
11 th Sat	7.30pm	Scrooge, Barn Theatre, Oxted
16 th Thu	7.00pm	The Marriage of Figaro, Barn Theatre, Oxted
17 th Fri	7.00pm	The Marriage of Figaro, Barn Theatre, Oxted
18 th Sat	7.00pm	Owl and Raptor Event, VH
18 th Sat	7.00pm	The Marriage of Figaro, Barn Theatre, Oxted
21 st Tue	10.00am	Xmas Shopping Event for Papyrus, The Bull Inn, Limpsfield
21 st Tue	7.00pm	THS Social, AGM & Committee Meeting, AMB
24 th Fri	2.00pm	Fair Trade Sale & Big Brew, URC, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted
24 th Fri	7.45pm	The Alter Eagles, Barn Theatre, Oxted
25 th Sat	7.00pm	Barbie (12A), Curzon Cinema, VH
25 th Sat	7.30pm	OLMS Anna Cavaliero Concert, Hazelwood School, Oxted
25 th Sat	7.45pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre, Oxted
26 th Sun	5.15pm	NDCO Christmas Capriccio, Hazelwood School, Oxted
29 th Wed	2.15pm	Persian Paradise Garden, Limpsfield Arts, Limpsfield Church Hall

DECEMBER

2 nd Sat	5.00pm	OLCS Christmas Concert, United Reformed Church, Oxted
2 nd Sat	evening	Strictly 2023 presented by the Chartwell Cancer Trust, VH
10 th Sun	7.45pm	The Unravelling Wilburys, Barn Theatre, Oxted
15 th Fri	6.30pm	Christmas Carols, Tatsfield Village outside Ye Olde Ship
16 th Sat	2.30pm	A Celebration of Christmas, Barn Theatre, Oxted
16 th Sat	7.30pm	A Celebration of Christmas, Barn Theatre, Oxted
18 th Mon	11.00am	Little Acorns Christmas Event, VH

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

 Charity No 1043204

Oxted Rotary Club
Quiz Night

Friday 10th November 2023
at 7.30pm
St Agatha's Hall
Hurst Green

You are welcome to bring your own food and drinks

 **Tickets**
£5 each
Maximum of six in any team



This Year's Beneficiary
Oxted Rotary Charities

for tickets contact John on 07711 306543
 or by email to president@oxtedrotary.org.uk



Christmas shopping
AT THE BULL INN

Tuesday 21st November 10am-3pm
 Join Bey Tree and friends for some retail therapy in aid of

 **PAPYRUS**
 PAPERWORK & PRINTING

Giftware stalls include:

Bay Tree • Kate Tulott Art • Teddy Locks
 Caroline Williams Jewellery
 Debbie Temple • The Red Hot Fox
 Abigail Williams Leather Accessories
 The Potting Shed • Birgit Underwood Ceramics

Refreshments & Raffle

The Bull Inn, High Street, Umpfield, RH8 0DR
 contact: sue@beytree.com



 **CHRISTMAS FAIR ON BEHALF OF**
CANCER RESEARCH UK

Venue: The Barn at Botley Hill, Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, CR6 9QH

Preview Evening: Tuesday 7th November
 6 - 8.30pm, £17 advance tickets only
 through Eventbrite:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-fair-preview-evening-tickets-666379477957>

Main Day: Wednesday 8th November
 10am - 3pm, £5 pay on door.

If you wish to have lunch at Botley Hill Farm pub, pre-booking is essential:
<http://www.botleyhill-farmhouse.co.uk/>.

Parking on site is limited so please share cars where possible.



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COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
 with Music Director Sara Young

present a concert for your delight

Christmas Capriccio

Featuring music
 from the films Frozen, Polar Express and Mamma Mia
 and by Tchaikovsky, Bizet and Strauss
 along with your Christmas favourites

Sunday 26th November 2023
5.15 for 5.30pm
 Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School, Oxted, RH8 0QU

Tickets £7.50 Under 18s free

Tickets available online
www.thefunorchestra.co.uk

Registered charity no. 1163074

TATSFIELD AND FRIENDS SEPTEMBER SOIRÉE

For those of you who did not attend the September Soiree on 30th September at Tatsfield Church, you missed a wonderful and inspirational evening, and I would urge you to be on the lookout for next year's concert! You will be overwhelmed by the talent from within the village and past students from the Orpheus Centre in Godstone, and other friends of the village who travelled here to perform. The age range of the performers was from 10 years (Arjun Mukherjee) to at least one "senior" performer who was more than 70 years older.

The concert aimed to have something for everyone: music from Schubert and Beethoven; a song written by the Indigo Girls; a trumpet solo written by Abreu; a 50s Medley with guitar accompaniment for us oldies; and a wonderful Skiffle Medley with Ukelele and Banjo - although I think it was billed as a Banjolele?

The evening opened with *Bring Him Home* from *Les Miserables* sung by, as Sarah Coop the MC and organizer for the evening announced them as, "The Von Budgen Family Singers with Sophie Moss". What talent those four sisters and Sophie have. A joy to listen to. The girls went on to delight us individually and collectively throughout the evening, watched I am sure by their proud parents and grandparents.

This was followed by 10-year-old Arjun Mukherjee with his rendition of *An Sylvia* by Schubert sung in German. What an incredible talent for one so young.

Then came a delightful lift in the mood with Jan Akhtar and Chris Lovelace cheering us up with a *Skiffle Medley*. Jan has done so much for charity with her cart outside her home, but who knew she had such a lovely voice? Don't feel outdone Chris, you were also great.

The wonderful soprano voice of Helen Bailey filled the church with her rendition of Puccini's *O Mio Babbino Caro*, one of my personal favorites, and again later in the evening with *I Could Have Danced All Night* from *My Fair Lady*.

A little about the Orpheus Centre. In 1997 the musician and song writer Sir Richard Stilgoe gave his home in Godstone to become a place where disabled people and students could work together to change their own and other peoples' lives by creating new music and performing in public. The students are all motivated by the arts. Three past students of the Orpheus Centre moved us as few can with their singing.

Angus Morton, who has performed before in the Church, has a most wonderful voice and few could fail to be moved by his passion for singing the lovely Matt Monroe number *Softly As I Leave You*. Later in the program he moved us again with his version of *Stars* from *Les Miserables*.

Charlotte Rowling, also from the Orpheus Centre, sung a beautiful version of *Memories* from the stage show *Cats* and later in the show she sang *Love Never Dies*, both by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

And finally from Orpheus, Luke Tye sang the ballad *Lovely Rose of Clare* with such feeling.

Later in the evening Luke took time to ask the audience to remember the dreadful bus accident in Liverpool of that week. He said a small prayer for them and then got most of the audience saying The Lord's Prayer. He then went on to sing *You'll Never Walk Alone* and although he had some difficulty when speaking, when he started to sing his difficulty almost completely disappeared.

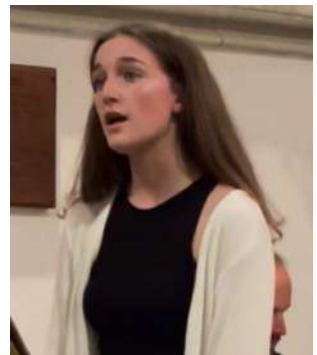
It is impossible not to be inspired by these young people from the Orpheus Centre who have, with help, overcome some real difficulties in their lives and showed us how they can share their achievements with us and the public at large. I am sure there were tears in the eyes of some of the audience.

Local performances included Amy Coop's rendition of *Easy Terms* from the musical *Blood Brothers* which was just beautiful. The piano solos of Sonata No.8 and Rondo alla Turea by Jack Purchase and the trumpet solo of *Tico Tico* by Ethan Syrett were fantastic. Lastly, for the oldies, John Moore singing *And I Love You So* by Don McLean and Tom Ashmore singing *You Belong To Me* rounded off a simply wonderful evening.

Every single performer gave us a most moving and inspirational evening and it would be wonderful if the next Soiree could be in the village hall so that more people in the village can hear and see the wonderful and exceptional talent that the village has.

Thanks are clearly due to Sarah Coop and Ben Knowles, the pianist, for their work in arranging the evening and the music, and all others who gave freely of their time to provide us with such a wonderful evening.

Hugh Corrance



TATSFIELD IN BLOOM



Our summer planting of Begonias, Nemesia, Ivy Leaf Geraniums with a spiky Cordyline in the middle, have thrived since we planted them in June, thanks to the kind weather (!), the volunteers on the watering rota and those who tended them on Saturday mornings. In fact, we have looked after them so well that they are still looking beautiful as you can see from the photos.

However, with the first frosts now upon us in the middle of October, we anticipate that we will be planting up the containers with our Autumn/Spring flowers quite soon. We have already tried out two on the front of the Bakery already with Pansies, Violas and Trailing Pansies in lovely colours. There are also Tete-a-Tete daffodil bulbs in them as well saved from last year.

I need to make a plea for extra help now that the leaves have started to fall. We have lost quite a few of our stronger volunteers over the past few years and if more people are not willing to come and help



us, we will not be able to keep the village centre free from slipping hazards during the coming months.

Please come and join us on a Saturday morning at 10.00am when we can guarantee meeting up with a small but lively group of volunteers and a cup of coffee afterwards.

Jill Hancock (577622) (jillhancock12@gmail.com)

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN NOVEMBER

As I write these notes (16th October) we have already had our second ground frost! Although it is not unusual to have our first ground frost by the end of October, I think this is a record! What does it mean? Folklore would suggest that early frost combined with such a big crop of wild fruit in our hedgerows indicates a hard winter ahead. There is no science to support this of course but who knows how our winter will turn out?

Once again I am being asked whether dahlias planted in garden soil should be lifted and stored over winter, or can they be left in situ, and if they survive, will they flower earlier? Any perennial plant with soft fleshy roots/tubers left in the soil over winter is vulnerable to attack by slugs and rotting diseases especially if it is a wet winter. Our heavy Tatsfield soil holds moisture and that increases the chances of damage. If we have a series of hard frosts and the soil freezes, that will also cause damage to soft fleshy roots. What are the chances of Tatsfield having a mild dry winter? I wouldn't bet on it!

I will be taking up and bringing into the greenhouse my dahlias, brugmansias (datura) fuchsias, cannas, begonias and abutilon, and putting them in trays, or pots, and covering them in old compost from my mangers and hanging baskets (if you do this make sure to check old compost for the dreaded vine weevil grubs). I will trim the tops and collect leaves as they fall off; I will mix sulphur powder into the compost and dust it over the tops of the plants. Over the winter months I will keep the compost dryish and regularly check for signs of damage or rotting applying more sulphur as needed.

Another garden query is, should roses be pruned back now? Vigorous roses can be trimmed back by half as part of the autumn garden tidy up, buddleias can also be trimmed back where they are hanging over borders or paths. This is not pruning! Cutting these plants hard back now could promote growth that can be damaged by winter frosts. Bear in mind that it is not a great idea to be too tidy as many plants are carrying a lot of seed that is a vital source of food for birds.

Then there is the question, can I stop mowing now? No, keep on mowing as long as the grass is growing! But make sure to mow the grass lightly, that is leaving it longer that you would in the summer months, it looks better and will not grow back so vigorously.

If you have planted violas and pansies make sure to check them weekly and remove the seed pods, this promotes flower buds in the milder periods over winter. Producing seed pods take a huge amount of energy and this is what inhibits the production of flower buds.

A final autumn tip is to get your bulbs planted now to make sure they root properly and make sturdy growth as soon as the weather improves in early spring.

Jon Allbutt

TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday 21st November 2023

Time: 7.00pm Social Event; 7.30pm AGM; Committee Meeting 8.00pm

Venue: Aileen McHugo Building

The meeting will be preceded by social evening at 7pm where drinks and snacks will be served and there will be an opportunity to discuss matters with your committee. Entry will be free to all society members.

Accounts and reports will be circulated by email prior to the event, but if you would like hard copies then please let me know.

After the AGM there will be a normal committee meeting from 8pm.

This will be our final event of 2023 but the 2023/2024 Yearbook will still be valid through the spring months. If you have not yet got your copy, with all of the benefits within the Year Book and I know there are still members asking for them contact Martin Allen 01959 577201 or martin_allen@talk21.com and I will arrange to deliver a copy.

Our first two events in 2024 will be:

- February 6th – A light-hearted and not totally horticultural quiz. It will not be too difficult. There will be the usual refreshments.
- March 5th- Bryan Everest who will regale us as he usually does with “stories from the potting shed “again refreshments will be available.

At the last Gardening Club, held in October, Jon gave an excellent presentation on visiting the Dutch Bulb Fields on a bike. We had seventeen people, and even though it would have been lovely to have more, those who attended really enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Jon for excellent slides and commentary, plus the delicious chocolate log cakes, which were enjoyed by all. Went down well with the teas and coffees served on the night.

Martin Allen, Treasurer

‘A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS’

Barn Theatre, Oxted Saturday 16th December 2.30 & 7.30pm

The Barn Theatre Oxted, The Really Happy Company and all involved in the ‘Celebration of Christmas’ show are working harder than ever to raise vital funds for two charities: **Young Lives vs Cancer & The Royal Marsden** children’s unit following the devastating news that Abi, the inspiration for the show passed away in September.

Abi, just 18 years of age from Oxted, died the very weekend that many an Oxted teen embarked on their new adventures at various universities and colleges.

We are more driven than before to raise funds for the many other families, sadly in similar distressing times. To hear more about Abi’s story and the Barn Theatre show, listen to the interview with Andrea Oxlade on Ridge Radio:

<https://www.mixcloud.com/AndreaOx/saturday-morning-brunch-show>

The combined forces of Young Lives vs Cancer and the Royal Marsden provide support for young patients & their families from all angles:

- Young Lives vs Cancer: emotional support for all the family, financial advice, logistical support, a navigation tool in the new clinical world families have entered.
- The Royal Marsden: the powerhouse of cancer research and drug development, the centre of excellence for treatment.

The Barn Theatre invites you to join us in any way you can in supporting local families just like Abi’s.

To buy tickets for the show which will feature local young performers visit: www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk. To advertise in the program email Rebecca Farrell for details: Bexnsteve.farrell@icloud.com

Thank you, the Barn Theatre

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – NOVEMBER 2023

As astronomers know only too well, planets are a bit like buses, you can wait for ages and then four come along at once. Both planets that are the so-called gas giants are now visible in the evening skies though Jupiter is very much brighter than Saturn. By coincidence both planets that we refer to as ice giants, Uranus and Neptune, are also evening objects but sadly are too faint to be seen without a telescope from our light polluted skies. From a dark site Uranus should be visible which begs the question of why it was never recorded as a “wandering star” by the ancients who knew very well about the other five solar system bodies Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

Jupiter is the brightest and largest of the four (indeed the largest of all the planets) and is well known for its bands of clouds and its Great Red Spot. This is an anticyclonic storm that is thought to have existed for possibly 350 years although there is some confusion about whether early astronomers were looking at an altogether different spot. The planet is mostly composed of hydrogen and helium gas, hence the nickname, but has a small core of rock and ice. Unbeknown to most people it has a faint ring system but unlike Saturn the three rings of Jupiter (there may possibly be four) are made up of dust rather than of ice particles. The four brightest moons, named the Galilean moons after Galileo who first recorded them, can be seen with small telescopes and binoculars although binoculars either need to be mounted on a tripod or supported in some other way.

Saturn is a little smaller than Jupiter and the cloud belts are far more subtle than its larger neighbour. However, that is more than compensated for by the impressive ring system that makes the planet a favourite with seasoned astronomers and casual observers alike. It has a vast selection of Moons with the largest being Titan which is easy to observe and photograph with a modest telescope and a regular DSLR or mirrorless camera.



So where can you find Jupiter and Saturn in the evening sky? The map is drawn for mid-month at 7:30pm. The planets move very little with relation to the stars during the month, so the map is valid throughout November. What you will have to be aware

of is that the gradual rotation of the sky carries everything (or nearly everything) towards the west (the right if looking south) so you will need to make an allowance if you view earlier or later in the month.

Brian Mills FRAS

FAIRTRADE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

As Christmas approaches, please consider FAIRTRADE gifts when you are shopping, you will have the satisfaction of supporting producers as well as buying your loved ones presents!

Sheree's in the village will be stocking extra Fairtrade gifts for the Christmas period.

Oxfam in Oxted have a variety of Fairtrade products, as does the Co-op which you will find in Biggin Hill and Oxted.

You can also find Fairtrade gifts online at the Ethical Superstore: <https://www.ethicalsuperstore.com/tags/fair-trade/>



Locally we are lucky enough to have Moyna who sells Fairtrade goods in aid of Transform Trade (<http://Transform-trade.org>)

Moyna will be holding a sale and Big Brew on Friday November 24th at the URC, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted from 2–5 p.m where she will have an extensive range of Fairtrade Christmas cards, gifts and

products. The URC will be serving refreshments including a selection of delicious cakes all in aid Transform Trade. Please go along if you can.



Alizon Mooney, Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

THE ARTS SOCIETY LIMPSFIELD

Water, Shade and Light: The Persian Paradise Garden

Presented by: Justin Reay

Date: Wednesday 29th November 2023

Note: there will not be an evening lecture

Lecture starts at 2.15 pm at Limpsfield Church Hall, refreshments from 1.30pm



Learn the art of the 'paradise garden'. Originating in Persia, they are noted for their tranquillity, shade and running water, becoming central to garden planning across the Islamic world, from Seville to the Taj Mahal. Justin describes the Persian chahar-bagh concept, using examples from across the world.

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Back in July, Jon (Allbutt) sent me a sound recording of an unknown bird, asking whether I thought it was a **Ring-necked parakeet**. Was I able to help? Unfortunately not, although I did agree that he may well be right with his identification. A couple of weeks later I received confirmation:

*'Nigel, I have sorted it! On the advice of the Yeeles', I downloaded the Merlin Bird ID App and straightaway it identified it as a single parakeet calling the group, probably an adult male. The *****s have damaged my latest, very expensive, six port feeder holding sunflower hearts for goldfinches!'*

Whoops – I'm guessing you're not a fan of Ring-necked parakeets, Jon! Strangely, as previously mentioned, although only a few hundred feet from your garden (as the rook flies), I rarely see them. Send a few over, I could do with some colour in the garden.

In August, Mary (Smith) spotted an unusual butterfly. A rarity, perhaps, blown over from European shores on warm continental air? (05.09.23):

*'I went out to see a very strange looking butterfly which had settled on a flower in the garden. It was unlike anything I had seen before and I had to identify it from the 'Oxford Book of Insects'. It turned out to be a **Cream-spot tiger** moth. In the book, admittedly over 40 years old, it said they are common in southern England and fly in late May and June at night. This one was flying at midday in the third week of August!'*

Moths are so underrated. I guess it's because they flutter around while we are all in the land of nod. This makes them all the more interesting when they do appear during daylight. I was also very excited to see a beautiful, unknown moth this summer and like you, Mary, went diving into a book to discover what I'd seen. It turned out to be a **Large yellow underwing**. The problem with generalist identification guides, like mine, is that they show a representative selection of species; the ones most likely to be seen. In my book this tallies around 140. Quite a lot, you may think. But, to my amazement, I have recently discovered that there are over 2,500 species of moth to be found in our United Kingdom! I find that Incredible, particularly when, within my lifetime, I've probably only ever seen a dozen or so species. Perhaps, as village naturalists, we should pay more attention to moths? We spend a lot of time talking about butterflies (of which there are 59 species seen regularly in the UK) so perhaps now is the time to redress the balance? Let's have more moth news. Send in reports of any sightings and we'll form a village register. (Photos are nice but written or oral reports are good enough.)

In September, both Ian and Doris (Mitchell) got in touch, forwarding more video recordings (26 – 27.09.23). Doris thought the captured images might be of a Nightingale. It was at around 7.15 in the evening. The image was not in colour. Could it be the evasive Nightingale, previously unseen in Tatsfield? Identification was not straightforward but the more I looked at the recording, the surer I was that it was a Robin. Why? Although in monochrome, the brown (grey in the video) colouration on the bird's back and head was above the eye and clear of the beak. This is true for a Robin. A Nightingale has a brown

back that extends across the eye to the bill, covering the upper head. I think the white chest and underbody was simply how the camera recorded the colours in poor light conditions. During daylight I felt sure that the red of the breast would have been apparent, albeit a different shade of grey. That was my opinion. Doris soon responded:

'I guess you are right. It might well be a Robin. Nightingales should have gone south by now anyway. At night the Robin's front should be light in colour in the infrared light of the camera, which our bird is, unlike the picture in the attachment. That photo is simply a colour photo turned black and white. Basically I agree with you. It would have been nice if it were a Nightingale. I have never seen one or knowingly heard one.'

If you should happen to see or hear a Nightingale, Doris, please contact me immediately and I will come running!

Doris (Mitchell) was back in October (01.10.23):

'Reading about starlings in your Parish Magazine article reminded of the ones that come visiting here every day this summer/autumn. We have this old butler's sink in the garden, which was there when we bought the house more than 40 years ago. In July I put a few of the clips from the camera there together into a short video, low resolution so I can send it by email. I particularly like the starling's scene, about 1.25 minutes in, where a pushy youngster gets ticked off by an adult!'



Great video, Doris! I didn't expect such a variety of subjects. (I'm sure that Doris would be happy to forward the video to any interested readers.)

It's mushroom/toadstool/fungi time and I'm hoping we'll receive a few photos of interesting specimens found locally. We had a photo taken last November by Kathleen Grant and forwarded to us via Martin Allen. It was of a **Fly agaric** found on Westmore Green. Its name comes from its historic use as a natural form of pest control. Chunks of the mushroom would be chopped up, then crushed and steeped in a bowl of milk to form a tasty but deadly trap for flies and other insects. (And for unknowing humans. **You've been warned!**)

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

If you leaf through local newspapers from a century ago it is easy to forget that Tatsfield's population was less than half today's size, but village organisations were just as busy as they are now.

On one Wednesday evening in November 1923, for instance, the Choral Society gave a performance of the one-act opera, *Cavalleria Rusticana*. Two dozen singers performed with full stage and scenic effects. The Westerham Herald concluded that the *"beautiful scenery painted and arranged by society members, together with the picturesque costumes of the singers made a delightful picture as viewed from the back of the hall"*. The whole performance was repeated in the village hall four days later.

In the 1920s, as well as the Church School in Tatsfield, there was also a preparatory school in Ricketts Hill Road, run by Frederick Meakin. An advertisement in the Westerham Herald said it had accommodation for weekly boarders. This was clearly a successful enterprise for within a few years the school – now known as Rosedene – was being promoted as changing from being a preparatory into a private co-educational secondary school with boys and girls remaining there until the end of their school days. Teaching was run on 'modern lines' with examinations each term set by the *"Parents' National Education Union"*, an organisation set up in late Victorian times to provide resources and support for teachers and for parents teaching their children at home.

There is also mention in our archives of a school called Etheldene in the same part of Tatsfield. Maybe this was an earlier – or later name for Rosedene. Once again, we'd be delighted to hear from anyone whose family records can provide more information.



Etheldene in the 1920s



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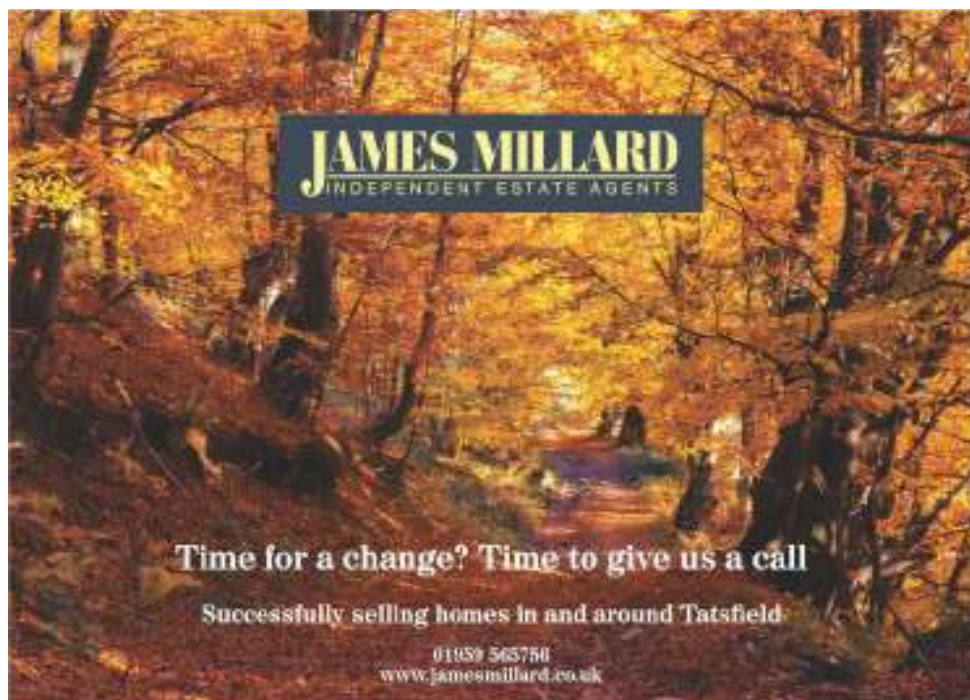


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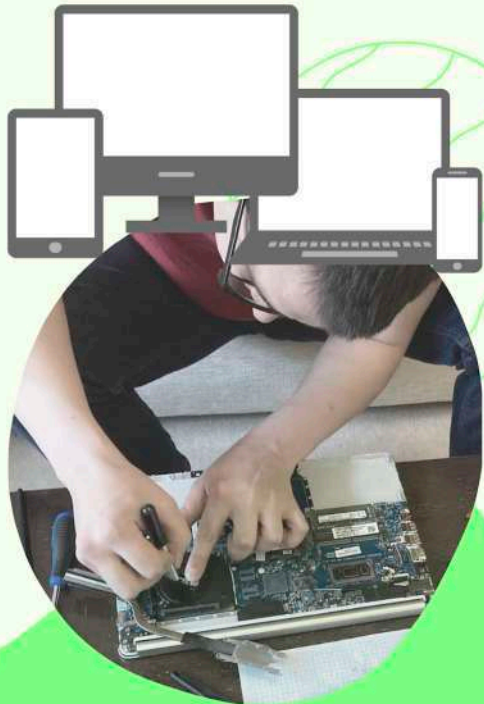
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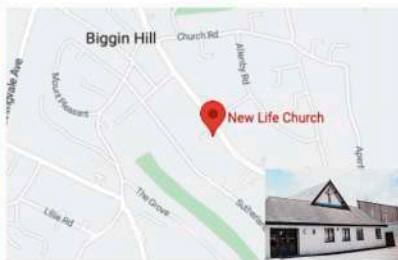
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