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JUNE 2025

# Tatsfield Parish Magazine

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**TUESDAYS - REGULAR QUIZ NIGHTS 8PM**

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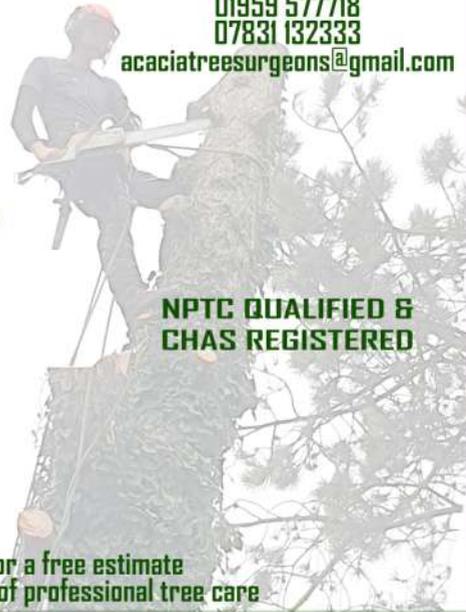


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*Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.*

**Editors** • Tara Barry and Tracey Syrett

**Chair** • Debra Elsdon

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**Advertising Manager** • Sarah Tait **Production** • Ruth Yeeles

#### CHURCH CONTACTS

**St Mary's Church Office** (Thurs 9.30-13.30)

**Admin:** Steve Tatler, The Parish Office, High Street, Limpsfield RH8 0DG.

Phone 01883 712512 / email [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com).

**Team Rector:** Revd Helen Cook email: [hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk)

**Curate:** Debra Elsdon email: [curate.lttm@gmail.com](mailto:curate.lttm@gmail.com)

**Wardens:** Marjory Broughton (01959 541059) / Chris Hancock (01959 577622)

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

#### COUNCIL CONTACTS

**Parish Council: Clerk** • Aileen McHugo Building, Westmore Green, Tatsfield TN16 2AG  
clerk@tatsfieldpc.org.uk (07483 337461)

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

**Website** • [www.tatsfieldpc.org.uk](http://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](mailto:becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk)

#### OTHER CONTACTS

**Village Hall Bookings Secretary** • Helena Garcia-Mcleod ([bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk))

**W.I. Hall Bookings** • Pat Walsh (01959577684)

**Parish Room Bookings** • (07483 337461) email [clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Tatsfield Primary School Head** • Rachel Jewitt (577356)

**Tatsfield Village Club** • (577330)

**Furze Corner Bookings** • 07483 337461 [clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)

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**Village Website:** [www.tatsfield.org.uk](http://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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:tatsfieldpm@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](mailto: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:** Ben Stokoe with his balloon basket at ClubFest.

## EDITORIAL

The sun shone, the grass was cut, and everyone had a wonderful time at ClubFest - thank you to all the clubs, societies, stallholders and visitors who made it a great day! Congratulations to all the nominees, and special thanks and congratulations to our winners, who are listed below for those who were unable to attend on the day (or just need a little reminder!):



*Outstanding Contribution to Tatsfield - Two awards to Kim Jennings and Jill Hancock*

*Club Leader of the Year - Sue Dowse, NSY*

*Friend of Tatsfield - Bill Hutchinson, AKA Bill the postie!*

*Long Service award - Ian Mitchell*

*Good neighbour award - all the TIB helpers*

*Club Secretary of the year - Carol Gaskell*

*Club member of the year - Hilary Harber*

*Judges' special award for Young Person of the year - Bridie Budgen*



We hope you found the afternoon useful to find out more about what there is to do in our wonderful village, or perhaps just found time to meet up with friends, and make some new friends.

A huge thanks once more to Paul Whitehead, Gav and Ken Thurgood, who stepped in last minute to help us cut the grass on the green when it was left a little too long, and to Billy and Wendy for their generosity helping with electricity and water for the day.



And in the spirit of helping out, a

Same time next year, perhaps? **Tracey Syrett**





## TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council update will be in the July/August issue.



*VE Day Beacon Lighting, courtesy of Neil Warren.*

## TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Please excuse the shortness of this report but there has been much going on but even more importantly on the council front not much has happened apart from the **Local Government re-organisation** which seems to be covered by multiple avenues so I will not repeat too much of it except to say nine of the eleven districts and boroughs have proposed that we form a three tier authority in Surrey represented by three councillors per ward/division. The Tandridge councillors supported this proposal except for a couple of abstentions.

Collectively we agree that this proposal aims to protect local democracy, keep decision making closer to communities and reflect Surrey's existing local identities while also being financially viable.

Surrey County Council has proposed that we form a two-tier authority in Surrey represented by two councillors per ward/division.

Then Reigate and Banstead council made a proposal that they should form an authority with West Sussex and included Tandridge in their proposals despite them being strongly advised that we would not support such a proposal.

All the proposals for this fast track unitary are now with the Minister in government to review and advise. Over the summer, the government is expected to consult on the proposals. A final decision will be made in the autumn. Work will begin on implementation, with unitary elections scheduled for May 2026 and the new councils set up by April 2027.

Follow the progress by visiting [www.tandridge.gov.uk](http://www.tandridge.gov.uk) and search for local government reorganisation (LGR).

**Changes are coming to bin collection cycles** In June there will be changes to some recycling and rubbish collections in the district to help improve efficiency. Currently about half the district has recycling collected one week while the other half has rubbish collected. All households will have recycling collected in the same week and rubbish the next. Food waste will continue every week as usual. If your collection cycle is changing, we will let you know well in advance. In the coming weeks, we will send postcards to affected households. Look out for bin hangers too, as they will have key information.

**MyTandridge account** Over 10,000 residents already have a “MyTandridge account” - have you got one yet? MyTandridge is your secure online account for quick and easy access to council services. It saves you time by remembering your details and lets you track requests and stay up to date. With your account, you can:

- Check bin collection days.
- Report missed bins or order new containers.
- Pay your council tax or business rates and set up a direct debit.
- Contact your local councillors.
- Check your housing rent balance and apply for services (council housing tenants and leaseholders only).

**WARNING – Do no put vapes in your rubbish or recycling bin** Please put vapes into a tied small bag, and put it next to your food caddy by 6am on your collection day, or you can take them to the community recycling centres or return them to the retailer you purchased them from.

**Annual Council meeting** I attended the Annual Council on 15<sup>th</sup> May where we voted in a new Chairman and Vice Chairman for the municipal year. This will now be my 11<sup>th</sup> year as your District Councillor and I will pledge to continue to do what I can in the best interest of Tatsfield and its residents. I will update you in next month’s article about the roles that I accepted at the meeting.

Meanwhile enjoy what is looking like a nice period of weather. Don’t forget to reuse as much grey water as possible or leave out bins, buckets, or other receptacles to collect much needed rainwater to water your plants and vegetables.

**Cllr Martin Allen, your independent councillor for Tatsfield and Titsey Ward**  
**01959 577201 [cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk) or [martin\\_allen@talk21.com](mailto:martin_allen@talk21.com)**



## CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

Last month we commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day, marking the end of conflict in Europe in 1945 after six gruelling years. We remember how Winston Churchill told jubilant crowds that “VE Day marks what is not a victory of a party or of any class, but a victory of the great British nation as a whole”. A huge well done to all the volunteers who helped to organise the many fantastic events across East Surrey – from our parish councils to the Royal British Legion, to community groups and everyone in between.

In support of East Surrey’s hardworking farmers, Alexia Lescure’s first farmers’ market was held in the glorious sunshine a few weeks ago to great acclaim. Local farmers will be selling cheese, flowers and crafts at Lingfield Primary School from 9am-1pm on Sunday, 8th June – so please pop by if you get the chance.

In Claire’s rail survey many residents called for the return of the direct Caterham to London Victoria service. This has been a key request in our discussions with Govia Thameslink Railway. A key factor is the planned onward transfer from GTR’s upgraded Great Northern fleet to Southern and Southeastern. Once additional carriages become available (expected from May 2026) one option is to bring back direct peak time services between Caterham and Victoria. While GTR have highlighted other potential uses for the extra carriages, we have made it clear, thanks to feedback from the rail survey, that East Surrey residents see this service as a priority. GTR has agreed to include the rail survey findings in discussions with the Department for Transport. We will keep up the pressure to bring this important service back.

As always, we are here to help while Claire is on maternity leave. If you are having trouble with anything and you could use our help, please don’t hesitate to get in touch on [Claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk).

### Team Claire

#### **TATSFIELD ONLINE**

**Village website:** [www.tatsfield.org.uk](http://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

#### **PARISH MAGAZINE EVENTS LISTINGS**

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

## THAMES WATER, WATER PIPE REPLACEMENT, BIGGIN HILL

Key details of the project have been confirmed (to date).

Thames Water is investing £5m in the replacement of 2.2 miles (3.9km) of aging water main along Main Road. This essential work will strengthen the network, reduce leakage, and improve the long-term reliability of water supply for the local community.

**Project dates:** work began on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The scheme is expected to run until September 2027. Teams will be working Monday to Saturday, six days a week.

**How the works will be delivered:** works will **begin at the roundabout junction with Downe Road** and progress in 200-metre phases towards the Churchill Way roundabout. To minimise disruption:

- **Lane closures and multi-way traffic lights** will be used throughout the scheme. These will be **manually operated between 7am and 7pm** to help manage peak-time traffic flows.
- **A road closure will be in place on Blackness Lane**, at the junction with Jackass Lane/Church Road, for approximately eighteen weeks. Access for residents will be maintained, and diversion routes will be clearly signposted.
- **Parking restrictions** may be introduced at times. Signage will be displayed in advance wherever this is required.
- **Bus services will continue to operate** as normal, with coordination from TfL.
- We will notify any customers who may experience temporary water supply interruptions in advance, with clear information about timing and duration.

**Customer Engagement:** a community drop-in session was held on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Thames Water are planning further engagement opportunities as the project progresses and will ensure residents and elected representatives are informed well in advance.

To keep the local community fully informed, we are sending letters to all households in the impacted areas and will also be issuing SMS text messages to help amplify awareness of the works and reduce confusion during traffic management phases.

More information can be found on the website: [thameswater.co.uk/bigginhill](https://thameswater.co.uk/bigginhill)

**Support for Vulnerable Customers:** if any residents require additional support, they may be eligible for our Priority Services Register, which offers extra help during supply interruptions. Further details are available at [thameswater.co.uk/priorityservices](https://thameswater.co.uk/priorityservices) or by calling 0800 009 3652.

**Queries or Concerns:** if you have questions or concerns, you can contact Thames Water on 0800 316 9800 (option 1) quoting the project reference number (BB00993673). Business customers may wish to contact their water retailer for specific advice.

**The Tatsfield Singers**  
**Present**  
**Songs That Make You**



**At The Village Hall, Tatsfield**

**5 July**

**6.30pm**

**(Doors open 6pm)**



**Tickets: £8 (Children - free)**

**Available from Sheree's Store,  
Tatsfield or on the door.**



## *Little Acorns Pre School*

*During the first half of the summer term, we have been planning activities around several popular children's books.*

*In particular - The Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson and Elmer the Elephant by David Mckee to name just a few.*



*The children have enjoyed activities such as painting with balloons, making magic wands and creating caterpillar fruit kebabs!*



*Little Acorns Celebrated VE Day by holding an afternoon Street Party in our outside area for Parents, Grandparents and children.*



*We all enjoyed various fairground games, Tombola's, cakes and cream teas!*

*Thank you to all who attended.*



*Please contact [office@littleacornstatfield.co.uk](mailto:office@littleacornstatfield.co.uk) for spaces available for new starters in Sept'25*

## MONKEY PUZZLE DAY NURSERY



We at Monkey Puzzle Tatsfield have had a fun-filled month!

Now the weather has warmed up the children have been spending more time in our lovely garden – taking part in bug hunts, bird watching and planting! We even had a ‘swimming costume day’!

We love going for outings to explore our local area, especially to the park and pond!



Here at Monkey Puzzle Tatsfield we love celebrating our lovely families!

With Father’s Day coming up we will be hosting a Father’s Day Breakfast for all our amazing dads.

They will come in to enjoy a lovely breakfast and receive the sentimental gifts their children have made.



### Are you looking for childcare?

We offer a high standard of care to children aged 3 months to 5 years old. Providing a range of fun and exciting activities, both indoors and outdoors all year around, exploring our local environment and all it offers on local trips, celebrating all traditions and cultures.

**We have spaces available here at Monkey Puzzle Tatsfield**, if you are interested and want to book a tour of the nursery, please contact us

**Phone: 01959 928427**

**Email: [manager@monkeypuzzletatsfield.co.uk](mailto:manager@monkeypuzzletatsfield.co.uk)**

## EASTER TWINNING WEEKEND IN VERN D'ANJOU

This Easter was the **50th anniversary** of the twinning between Tatsfield and Vern d'Anjou. About twenty people from Tatsfield made the journey by minibus or car to Vern for a fantastic weekend of friendship and hospitality. Over the years, good and long-lasting



friendships have been made going right back to the first year when Rosemary Brown from Tatsfield visited Vern with her family, she has visited on a regular basis ever since and was with her family for this visit.

Sadly, this year was the final twinning exchange due to difficulties in finding new committee members, but it will continue with informal visits and friendships and communication between the Tatsfield and Vern d'Anjou schoolchildren and of course the exchange could always be reignited in the future.



Twinning was born out of a time following the Second World War to promote friendship between countries and allow people to travel. The twinning was further encouraged by the European Union in the 1980s to promote relationships and cultural exchange.

We were treated to a warm welcome and a weekend of visits to local towns and beautiful botanical gardens, boat trips and delicious meals.

There were several past presidents on the trip and speeches made by the president of Vern d'Anjou and Tatsfield. We presented the French with a slate plaque, and we will also have one made to put up somewhere in the village commemorating the 50 years of twinning. The history society very kindly gave us some of the Tatsfield history books to distribute and Ian Mitchell put together a slideshow with commentary in French which was very well received.

Whatever happens in the future, anyone who has been a part of the twinning experience will vouch for the warm exchange between the two villages.

**Alizon Mooney on behalf of  
Tatsfield-Vern d'Anjou Twinning Association**



## NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA CONCERT 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY

A sunny evening greeted the May concert of North Downs Sinfonia, held in the Village Hall. The title of the concert was “The Famous and the Forgotten” indicating that there would be a contrast in the works played, some being well known and others not so well known.

The concert opened with one of Schubert’s Overtures in an Italian Style following the classic style of a slow opening leading to a fast middle and end.

The overture can well be noted for its highly difficult parts for the wind players, and these were attacked with keenness from the NDS players. Some slight errors in these parts didn’t distract from the overall uplifting and fervent nature of the piece, and the scene was set well for Bruch’s Violin Concerto that followed.

The Violin Concerto was played by Haru Ushigusa, well known to NDS audiences for her previous performances of Vaughan-Williams Lark Ascending, Beethoven’s Violin Concerto and most recently Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto. All previous performances had audiences open mouthed and shedding tears throughout, and tonight was no exception! The virtuosity of Haru’s playing in the first movement was astounding, then contrasted with the deep emotion of the second movement. Through the whole concerto, her connection with conductor and orchestra was obvious for everyone to see and shows why she is such a cherished soloist for NDS to perform with – we sincerely hope it continues! The final movement was taken at an energetic speed and was flawless throughout, culminating in rousing final chords that drew instant, long-lasting and well-deserved applause from the audience. Haru should be playing in larger venues to larger audiences, but we are so glad that she is still playing in Tatsfield and we can’t wait for her next performance with NDS!

Due to the pleasant evening temperatures, tables and chairs had been set up outside the Village Hall, which made for a wonderful way to enjoy a glass of wine in the interval.

The symphony for the evening was Mendelssohn’s 8<sup>th</sup> String Symphony which he had reworked to add in wind and brass instruments, prior to composing his first full symphony. This is therefore not very well known or played often, so it was interesting to hear this symphony as a ‘fresh’ piece of classical music repertoire. Despite it being early on in Mendelssohn’s composition career (he wrote it at the age of 14!) his mastery of different instrument sounds was very clear. The second movement stands out in this regard, as it was written for violas in three parts, supported by cellos, bassoons, and small parts for flutes and clarinets. The result was a movement very reminiscent of earlier Baroque period music with unique musical textures, and the abilities of the NDS viola section shone through. The final movement ended with a very lively presto section and



galloped the work to a pleasing and stirring conclusion, with Ben Knowles taking deserved applause for his conducting on the night and clearly diligent preparation of the orchestra beforehand. The orchestra also deserved the applause for their stamina throughout the demanding programme and overall execution.

We very much look forward to the next concert on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November where the incredible Mariatu Kanneh-Mason will come back to Tatsfield to perform Elgar’s cello concerto – tickets will go on sale for this at the beginning of September and will surely sell out very quickly! Tatsfield is very lucky to have such a fantastic orchestra and top-class soloists – long may it continue.

**Jon Maynard**

## THE ARTS SOCIETY LIMPSFIELD



**Vermeer and Music – The Art of Love and Leisure** by Lydia Bauman.

**Date: Wednesday 25 June 2025. Evening lecture only starts at 7.30pm**  
Limpsfield Church Hall and refreshments will be served before the lecture. Guests: £10.

The role of music and musical instruments in both life and art of the Dutch Golden Age. This talk comes with musical excerpts which illustrate particular instruments shown in paintings. Based on a popular exhibition at the National Gallery by the same title some years ago.

## TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE ADVERTISING MANAGER POSITION



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.

**For more information, please contact Sarah Tait: 07468 589379 or [tatsfieldmag@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldmag@gmail.com)**

## TATSFIELD RESIDENT TO RECEIVE KING’S AWARD FOR ENTERPRISE

On 6<sup>th</sup> May it was announced that “**Re:Water**”, the sustainable aluminium bottled water brand, has been awarded a prestigious King’s Award for Enterprise for excellence in Innovation.



Launched in 2021, Re:Water has sold over 10 million bottles in the UK and has removed more than 235,000kg of single-use plastic from the supply chain.

Re:Water, owned by Berrington Pure Spring Water in Herefordshire, has a compelling backstory — it was three years in the making, with a launch originally planned for 2020. However, when Covid hit, the hospitality sector was hit hard, and the business lost its customer base. Instead of pausing, the team used the downtime to refine and perfect the product, setting the stage for a strong launch in early 2021. The result is a premium reusable bottle that is stylish and sturdy yet lightweight, made entirely from 100% recycled aluminium and infinitely recyclable – cap included. The goal was to create a truly sustainable product for drinking water on the go without resorting to the kind of greenwashing that’s all too common in the market today.

Tatsfield resident Matt Crocker, Founder of Re:Water, commented: “Since launching four years ago, we have sold over 10 million bottles. We now have products in M&S, Co-op, Pret A Manger, Cafe Nero, Itsu, National Trust, London Zoo, Four Seasons hotels, and many more. Innovation is at the heart of everything we do — not just in our products, but in how we think, how we work, and how we challenge convention to create real impact and become market leaders. To win a King’s Award for Innovation is an extraordinary honour and a testament to the hard work and creativity of our entire team.”



The King’s Awards for Enterprise, previously known as The Queen’s Awards for Enterprise, were renamed in 2023 to reflect His Majesty the King’s desire to continue the legacy of HM Queen Elizabeth II’s by recognising outstanding UK businesses. The Award programme, now in its 59th year, is the most prestigious business award in the country, with successful businesses able to use the esteemed King’s Awards Emblem for the next five years. This year 197 businesses have been recognised for their contribution to International Trade, Innovation, Sustainable Development and Promoting Opportunity (through Social Mobility).

### Well done Matt!

For more information, visit: [rewater.co.uk](https://rewater.co.uk)

Instagram: [@rewateruk](https://www.instagram.com/rewateruk) | LinkedIn: [Re:Water](https://www.linkedin.com/company/re-water) | Facebook [Re:Water](https://www.facebook.com/Re:Water)

## TATSFIELD IN BLOOM



Thank you to all those who supported us at Clubfest on Sunday. Although there was no interest in our superfluous mangers and hanging baskets, the begonias, cordylines, tomatoes and rhubarb sold well. We were delighted to receive the Good Neighbour Award and hope that we can continue to keep the village centre looking attractive.

Barry Watson visited our table and wanted to compose a poem which is included below:

### ***Tatsfield In Bloom!***

*Tatsfield is a little gem, way off the beaten track.*

*Its history is amazing, but it doesn't seem to pat its own back?*

*As a native no longer there I can see it in context now and at a recent village green fair I just came across, I was amazed by the nice people there.*

*"Tatsfield In Bloom" had a little stall in the shade, an insignificant looking thing. But when I started chatting to the holders, I was taken by their love of nice things.*

*I stumped up a little money and came away feeling warmed up inside,*

*Over time, when I'm eating Tatsfield Tomatoes*

*I will remember some really great people and grin.*

*So don't mess about, please, get involved if you can*

*Tatsfield In Bloom is a gemstone, and I really hope that I see them again.*

Thank you, Barry, for your kind words and I hope that his words will inspire some new volunteers to join us as our numbers are very low. We have a great time, especially now with our new polytunnel – we are just growing on all our plug plants and will be planting up the displays soon.

Many thanks to all of you who put donations into our yellow pots in Sheree's, The Old Ship and The Village Club. I was delighted to be able to pay in £111 recently from the proceeds of the pots which will help us to continue our work in Tatsfield.

**Jill Hancock (577622) ([jillhancock12@gmail.com](mailto:jillhancock12@gmail.com))**

## TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for April 2025:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Paul Menham	£43.50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	David Hines	£29.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Pete Small	£14.50

Thank you for supporting sport in Tatsfield. If you know of anyone who wishes to join the 100 Club (for a modest £6 per month), or if you would like additional numbers, then please contact me at [leames200@gmail.com](mailto:leames200@gmail.com). **Les Eames**

## TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

On 27<sup>th</sup> April, the Surrey County Championship took place in Redhill. TMA had seven members competing.

In the u16s, Jane Callaghan won a silver medal in the u57kg group. In the boys' u55kg group, Aiden Wawengkang placed fifth. Maude Stokes, fighting in the u32kg girls competed in only her second competition so lots of valuable experience gained.

In the o16s, Harvey Davy and Kayden Plinston both fought in the high grades u73kg group. Harvey found himself in a difficult pool. Only 16-years old, he was up against a 23-year-old black belt and a very experienced 45-year-old 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan black belt and, unfortunately, he was unable to progress out of his pool. In the other pool, Kayden lost his first fight to another 17-year-old black belt. In his second fight, he was up against a 40-year-old black belt and managed to win, throwing his opponent for a score. In his third fight, the semi-final, he faced the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan that Harvey had fought earlier. It was a tough contest which went into golden score (extra time) before Kayden was caught by a throw so had to settle for a bronze medal – it was his first time competing at u73kg, so positives to be taken. Curtis Gatfield also competed in the u73kg group, in the lower grade division. No medal this time but this was his first competition so plenty of experience gained. Ben Davy fought in the high grades u81kg group and won the silver medal. At 47, he was giving away years to his opponents!

Finally, following his fifth place at the Antwerp Open early in the year, Kayden has been selected to represent England, at the Venray International in the Netherlands towards the end of June. This will involve a 4-day trip away with the England judo squad. Hopefully, he'll put in a similar performance to the one at Antwerp.



**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party!**

As a club member (past or present), a club parent, a regular visitor, a guest instructor or friend of the club – you and your family are invited to join us to celebrate 10 years of Tatsfield Martial Arts!

- When: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025
- Where: Ye Old Ship, TN16 2AG
- Time: 8:30pm to midnight

\*We will have sole use of the pub for the evening  
\*The pub's kitchen will be serving food until 9pm  
\*Kids are welcome to stay throughout the whole evening  
\*DJ playing until late

**Tatsfield Martial Arts**

To mark our Tenth anniversary, we are holding a summer party in The Ship on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Everyone who has been involved with the club since we opened back in 2015 is invited. If this is you, I look forward to seeing you there! **Adam Plinston**

## ST MARY'S MATTERS

We are a friendly Anglican church within the Diocese of Southwark, with a long, proud pilgrim history and continue to welcome those travelling the Pilgrim's Way today.

Our Curate, Revd. Debra Elsdon, is based at the Rectory in Tatsfield with husband Ashley as her vocational journey progresses and her role within the St Mary's community and the wider Limpsfield & Tatsfield team ministry develops. Her journey reaches a key milestone on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July when she will be ordained at St Mary's Church, Chart Lane, Reigate RH2 7RN. Please pray for Revd. Debra on this very special day.

**Important Notice - Sunday Services for June 2025** St Mary's Church has been granted permission by the Diocese of Southwark to go ahead with the interior redecoration of the Church. ***Please note that as from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 the Church will be closed for up to four weeks while the work is completed.*** We hope to reopen on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

The Sunday Morning 10am service with music will continue and will be held in the Millennium Hall during this period.

Should any other services be required while the Church is closed, please contact the Parish Office 01883 712512 / email [stmoffice.ltm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.ltm@btinternet.com).

Our sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may cause to visitors or to the parishioners of Tatsfield. Marjory Broughton & Chris Hancock – Churchwardens.



**Commemoration for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, May 2025** The church was beautifully decorated for the May VE Day celebrations by our flower arrangers – thanks to all involved. And on the evening of VE Day, Revd Debra Elsdon led a poignant and well-attended service at St Mary's followed by wine and nibbles to complete the celebrations.

**Welcome new PCC members** Following our recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting, we are delighted to inform you that Ashley Elsdon and Eleanor Evans were elected to serve on our Parochial Church Council (PCC). Thanks were noted to Sheila Cook who stepped down as a PCC Member following years of loyal service. Sheila will continue leading on Hall Bookings and will be assisting Hilary Vale on the 'Hear Here' initiative. More on that in the next issue.



**St Mary's Sunday Teas 2025** Our popular Summer Teas have commenced and will be held each Sunday until the end of September, 3pm to 5pm in the Millennium Hall. Visitors old and new are very welcome to join us!

### St Mary's 100 Club Results May 2025

23 M Grover £25

93 M Langford £15

75 D Parker £10

St Mary's £46

**Churchyard Team** We had a very successful maintenance session in May. Mowing was undertaken throughout the churchyard as well as plenty of strimming around graves and areas where the mowers cannot reach. The cremation area was weeded and raked, beds tidied and path edgings cut back. Lots of compost was bagged up and is freely available for collection. Our volunteers again did a grand job leaving the churchyard looking well cared for until our next session on 7<sup>th</sup> June at 10 am. **David Gulley**

**Food Deliveries** We continue to support the needs of the local community at Westerham foodbank where more households are being referred from a variety of agencies for short-, medium- and longer-term support. Deliveries are planned for 19<sup>th</sup> June and 17<sup>th</sup> July. Items currently needed include cereal, soup, baked beans, jam, pasta sauces, rice, tinned fish, meat, long-life or powdered milk, custard and rice pudding. Please donate if you can. Non-perishable food can be left in the Narthex at St Mary's church (see below for opening times). Monetary donations will be used to buy food. Thank you for your continued support. **Hilary Vale 01959 577864**

**Life Events** We welcome enquiries for baptisms, weddings, funerals and interment of ashes. Further information and qualifying criteria is on the 'Our Services' section of our website [www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys](http://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys) or email: [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com).

**Holy Communion for the sick and house-bound** Those unwell and/or house-bound who wish to receive Holy Communion at home or place of residence can contact our Churchwardens. Details below.

**Personal Prayer Requests** If you wish to have prayers said on your behalf, there is a Prayer Request Book near the Baptism Font. Alternatively, email us your request: [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto: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)**

## CONTACTS

**St Mary's Church Office:** The Parish Office, High Street, Limpsfield RH8 0DG.

Phone :01883 712512 Email: [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com)

Open Thurs 9.30-13.30 - emails are checked regularly for urgent matters.

**Team Rector:** Revd Helen Cook 07530 609511

Email: [hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk) (day off Friday)

**Curate:** Revd Debra Elsdon 07436 172130

Email: [curate.lttm@gmail.com](mailto:curate.lttm@gmail.com) (days off Mon & Fri)

**Parish Administrator:** Steve Tatler - Church Office Thurs 9.30 -13.30 (details above)

**Wardens:** Marjory Broughton (01959 541059) / Chris Hancock (01959 577622)

**St Mary's Website:** [www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys](http://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys)

## REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

<b>Sun</b>	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, VH
	10.00 am	Church service – StM
<b>Mon</b>	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary - WIH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	6.30 pm	Cubs - SH
	7.00 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
<b>Tue</b>	1.00 pm	Not So Young Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH
	2.30 pm	WI Meeting (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH
	4.00pm	Paracise VH
	7.00 pm	Scouts and Explorers – SH
	6.15 pm	Barré with Fi - VH
<b>Wed</b>	10.30 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	2-4 pm	Composting Site OPEN
	6.00 pm	Shape and Tone with Gary – WIH
	6.00pm	Over 8s Jujitsu, SH
	7.30pm	Adults Jujitsu, SH
	7.30 pm	Yoga – VH
<b>Thu</b>	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, StM
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary, WIH
	2.00 pm	Scrabble at AMB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)
	1.30 pm	Hear Here Sessions – AMB (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month)
	6.00 pm	Over 8s Judo – SH
	6.15pm	Barré with Fi, VH
	7.30 pm	Adults (14+) Judo - SH
	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
<b>Fri</b>	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
	6.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Junior Street Dance – VH
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club – VH
<b>Sat</b>	9.00 am	Under 8s Judo – SH
	10.00am- 12pm	Composting Site OPEN
	10.15 am	Over 8s Judo - SH

**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

## UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

### JUNE

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	5.00pm	OLCS Summer Concert, United Reformed Church, Oxted
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre
8 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Carlton Kirby's True Tales of the Tour de France, Barn Theatre
14 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.45pm	Bruce Juice (Springsteen Tribute), Barn Theatre
15 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	Dead on Cue by Giles Shenton Productions, Barn Theatre
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	Vermeer and Music, Limpsfield Church Hall
27 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Wind in the Willows, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
28 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Wind in the Willows, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
29 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>

### JULY

3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Cats, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Cats, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
5 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Cats, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
5 <sup>th</sup> Sat	6.30pm	<b>Songs That Make You Feel Good, Tatsfield Singers, VH</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Come From Away, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
11 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Come From Away, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
12 <sup>th</sup> Sat	2.30pm	Come From Away, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
12 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Come from Away, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
13 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	The Unravelling Wilburys, Barn Theatre
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	The Magnificent Music Hall, Barn Theatre
20 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	Much Ado About Falstaff (an evening of silliness), Barn Theatre
26 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.45pm	Echoes of Floyd, Barn Theatre
27 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>

### AUGUST

3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	Grease, Kenley Holiday Workshop, Barn Theatre
14 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Grease, Kenley Holiday Workshop, Barn Theatre
15 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Grease, Kenley Holiday Workshop, Barn Theatre
16 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Grease, Kenley Holiday Workshop, Barn Theatre
17 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> Sun	3.00pm	<b>Summer Church Teas, StM</b>

Almost every year, an item about the West End actress Edyth Goodall (1886-1929) appears in the records. 100 years ago, she had a holiday home in Goatsfield Road and in June 1925 in an interview with the periodical, 'The Era', she described the benefits of having a second home in Tatsfield:

"The charms of country life always entrance me. There is tremendous fascination about it. Mothers love the green meadows; the mud on the country lanes; the farmyards and all the livestock therein; the birds of the air, and what is more, I love the splendid isolation.

"Country life is the closest thing to life. It is tremendously in touch with life itself. Indeed, it is real not artificial life. It is the atmosphere that holds me spellbound. Whether it is wet or whether it is fine, it makes no difference to me.

"Anybody who lives in London for instance, is cut off from the eternal miracle of Spring; and how many millions of people do not see Spring in her beauty.

"It is known that I have a cottage in the country, but when I tell people where it is they invariably say: "Have never heard of it, it is off the map." My cottage is in Tatsfield, exactly on the borders of Surrey and Kent.



"My problem really is how to live the 24 hours of every day. I am crazy about my work and the stage; but I am terribly anxious also to see to everything myself in the miniature farm I have at Tatsfield.

"Country life helps me in my theatrical work. It keeps one young and fresh. Any change of environment keeps me from getting stale. It is an extraordinary complete rest one gets when switched right away from the theatre and the people of big towns. That rest is necessary for one who like myself puts so much energy into her work as to become almost exhausted at the end of the performance.

"I feel sometimes utterly tired when I leave the theatre; and the mere fact that I hear the nightingale as I walk up to my cottage in the country, from the garage is consoling and refreshing to me.

"I always think what an awful thing it is that so many millions of English people die without having heard the nightingale.

"My cottage in the country is quite different from the residences of other artists one sees photographed weekly in the illustrated journals. You would be surprised to see my mode of dressing; a tunic, breeches, boots, and gaiters, and my husband wears clothes he

actually wore on a ranch in California. I have had the snow literally up to my knees; but I don't care, I hear the nightingale.

"I remember on one occasion, two friends of my husband came to the cottage, bringing with them their dress suits. We went into tears with laughter. Fancy a farmer and his wife in evening dress at home.

"My son always knows when I am coming to town, because he sees me in a skirt".

**Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project - [Tatsfield.history@talk21.com](mailto:Tatsfield.history@talk21.com) Tel: 577376  
Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/>**

## **NOT SO YOUNG CLUB**

Firstly we would like to thank everyone for a wonderful ClubFest day, everything ran smoothly, and the sun shone brightly. Thank you to everyone who visited our stall we raised over £550. We are now busy organising another day out for members.

At our last meeting we had jacket potatoes with various fillings followed by jelly, ice cream and as always cake. We then played our very own version of connection four a good time was had by all.

Following a meeting with Francesca at Park Wood Golf Club she kindly offered us free use of a function room to hold a quiz night so in July we will be hosting our very first NOT SO YOUNG QUIZ NIGHT at Park Wood Golf Club. The evening will include a six round quiz and a delicious curry and rice for £15 per person. ***Keep your eyes on Tatsfield Talk and noticeboards around the village for further information or give me a call.***

We are delighted to be joining the Horticultural Society on their trip to Wisley Gardens in June and our members are looking forward to a lovely day out.

This year our for our annual seaside trip we will be going to Brighton. We are extremely grateful to Practical Car and Van Hire for their very generous offer of free minibus hire.

Our next meeting is on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 in the WI Hall, new members always welcome.

**Keep safe,**

**Sue Dowse, [notsoyoung100@gmail.com](mailto:notsoyoung100@gmail.com), 07816110929**

## WILDLIFE GARDENING TIPS FOR JUNE

It's good news month!

**Good News #1:** Hedgehogs are out and about and have been seen in the village. So please do think about encouraging them with some cat biscuits. And maybe introduce a few hedgehog-sized (13cm x 13cm) holes in your fences to help them move about without venturing onto the roads. For more info search 'Hedgehog highway'.

**Good News #2:** There are now plenty of fledgelings about and the really good news for us are the mating pair of starlings in our garden – Mum has disappeared off to the nest and Dad is being run ragged taking food to the brood. Yay! These chirpy little birds were once everywhere but we've somehow decimated their population by a monstrous 85%. So, the poor starling is now on the red list as a critically endangered species. Hence, it's wonderful to see we have a breeding pair in our back yard.

**Good News #3:** Like many of you good folk, the RHS has got into the spirit of No-Mow-May, and they've had spectacular results across all five of their gardens. Flora and fauna have benefited greatly, and rare orchids and moths have made a dramatic comeback with some species making a first-ever appearance. And the Rosemoor meadows are reported to be brimming with wildlife (their words, not mine!).

Anyway, back on the subject of wildlife gardening tips; I recently came across a couple of problems that both have the same solution. Firstly, many of us pet owners will put pet fur out for the birds to nest with thinking that we're doing our feathered friends a favour. But it turns out that, despite our best intentions, the opposite is true. The problem is that if a pet has been treated with flea or tick treatment then that's an insecticide that will poison the brood if it gets in a nest, and it's becoming a big problem. How sad is that; we're killing with kindness - dog groomers beware!

The second problem is that most of us will (or should) be using peat-free compost but I've found that it dries out fast, and my seeds, seedlings & cutting fail. But hurrah, there are water retaining granules you can buy to fix this. But a quick look on the RHS website will tell you that many of these products are plastic, and so the RHS don't recommend them because of the risk of micro-plastic contamination. I'm sure there are reputable suppliers that don't use plastic but it's difficult for us amateur gardeners to tell which is which.

The solution to both problems is one that appeals to me partly because I do a bit of part-time shepherding, so I have a soft spot for our fleecy friends. Yep, its sheep wool. You can put it out for the birds to safely nest with, and it also makes a perfectly natural water retaining additive for compost, especially for hanging baskets and seedlings. I'm going to give it a go and see how we get on. If you don't have access to sheep's wool, the RHS suggest a company called Twool ([twool.co.uk](http://twool.co.uk)) who sell a whole range of innovative stuff.

**Jim Kenney**

## THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN JUNE

It is ironic that as I write (mid-May) we are already hearing that water restrictions are likely, and we must take care to avoid excessive use of water in the house and garden. In over 20 years of warnings that we need to increase storage capacity to capture heavy rainfall in between periods of dry weather, it seems no one was listening! As for leaks, I won't go there! Be in no doubt, it will be the householders and gardeners who will be the first to suffer restrictions on our use of water, so we need to do what we can to store it. This dry period will break down, often with storms and heavy rain; having water butts connected to downpipes to capture rainwater is very effective. I can store 600 litres in two butts, and that will go a long way. Waste water, or grey water, from the house can be used to water the garden especially if it is stored for a while to let it settle before use.

Never water the garden in the heat of the day, water droplets on foliage in direct sun act as a lens and can cause a lot of damage and a lot of the water will be lost to evaporation. Never use a hose without a sprinkler on the end, plants can't absorb such a heavy amount and most of it will be lost.

Spare a thought for our wildlife in these conditions and put out shallow trays of water in a shady spot and on the bird feeders. Make sure to change the water regularly to avoid the risk of contamination and disease.

During May we had several weeks of cold, drying, wind from the North and East causing wind burn due to the drying out, or desiccation, of foliage irrespective of the amount of water used. In these conditions the rate of water loss from the foliage is greater than the plants' ability to replace it. Plants that were put out directly from the greenhouse are particularly vulnerable. The shock of foliage damage can stop a young plant from growing, and with some very soft plants, they may not recover.

This is a great year for flower and growth especially for shrubs and trees. You may be tempted to trim your hedges this month but before you do, please remember that our birds are still busy nesting, some with second broods. Cutting the hedge will cause great disturbance and can result in the nest being abandoned. More information is available at [www.rspb.org](http://www.rspb.org)

**Jon Allbutt**

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Did you visit Park Wood to see and smell the **Bluebells** this May? Splendid as ever. Of course, we mustn't forget the towering **Beech** trees that are equally beautiful at this time of the year, particularly when the sun shines through the canopy of fresh green leaves. Here's a photo to remind you, or perhaps to show what you missed. To my surprise, I got lost when I visited the woods. There are so many tracks to follow, most of which lead nowhere. I must remember to take a compass with me next year!



I'm not the only one who's been out and about with a camera. Amber (Tamcken) sent us some lovely photos of the **Mallard** ducklings on the village pond (25.04.25):

*'I am sure you have had an influx of photos of our beautiful ducklings but I wanted to share mine with you. Prepare yourself for a cuteness overload!'*



Thanks for sharing your photos, Amber. I was lucky enough to see ten adult Mallards on the water as I walked to the Post Office the other day. Having spoken to various locals, I can't help feeling that it is perhaps time to reinstate the duck house that used to adorn our village pond. Or perhaps that's too radical a thought for certain people to entertain?

A couple of weeks later Amber emailed again, this time with photos that prove once and for all that we do indeed have at least one **Raven** flying over the village. Up until now we've relied on purely anecdotal evidence, but Amber has now provided hard, visual evidence of their presence (09.05.25):

*'Exciting news! I have just spotted one of our ravens this morning, unfortunately I did not have my camera but I was able to take a quick snap on my phone, I heard him before I saw him. The photo is not the best but I thought I'd share it anyway!'*

Thanks for this great news, Amber. I don't think I've ever seen you without your camera!



*'I had just finished dropping Lucien off at the nursery otherwise I probably would have had it. I always see amazing birds or plants when I don't have my camera! It was flying over the green by Sheree's. I hung around to see its partner but unfortunately it was alone.'*

I'm amazed it was seen over the central village. Perhaps more sightings will be reported before too long. This reminds me of the time we had our first proven sighting of Red Kites. 'Exciting' is, without doubt, the best way of describing this observation.

This is a rare appearance, not just here in Tatsfield but within Surrey. John Bucknill stated in his book ('The Birds of Surrey', 1900): *'At the present day, whatever may have been its early status in the county, it is not, as far as I'm aware, a resident and only a very, very rare visitor'*. Similarly, in 1972, Donald Parr, while recognising that there were probably Ravens breeding in Surrey in small numbers up to the middle of the nineteenth century, wrote ('Birds in Surrey, 1900-1970'): *'Extremely scarce visitor'*. Did I say this was an exciting observation? I've changed my mind. **This was a mega-exciting observation!**

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

## FAIRTRADE AT CLUBFEST

On Sunday 11th May the FAIRTRADE committee was delighted to join in Tatsfield ClubFest which did so much to help promote and bring awareness for all the groups and clubs that exist in our wonderful village. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon, and we enjoyed selling Fairtrade products and meeting all the people who visited our green gazebo!

The aim of Tatsfield Group is to promote Fairtrade in the village by supplying products and increasing people's knowledge and awareness of all the many different places that Fairtrade products are available. In late September we are planning an event during Fairtrade Fortnight with a tea tasting event of some of the different Fairtrade teas that are available.



Do look for the logo on teas, coffee, chocolate, bananas, sugar and so many other products in any supermarket.

We would like to thank the Tatsfield Art Group for supporting Fairtrade with an information board and raffle hamper filled with so many wonderful Fairtrade products at their exhibition in May.



Thank you also to Tatsfield Parish Magazine for organising this event and the awards for so many hard-working volunteers, including Hilary Harber the chair of our Fairtrade committee.

If you would like to join us, then do get in touch via the email below.

**Alizon Mooney, on behalf of the Tatsfield Fairtrade Group**

**Website: [tatsfieldfairtradevillage.weebly.com](http://tatsfieldfairtradevillage.weebly.com)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade](https://facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade)**

**Email: [tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com)**



## THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – JUNE 2025

Rather unbelievably, the summer solstice is upon us again with the result that astronomers get restless for more dark skies whilst the less astronomically minded are grateful for the maximum number of daylight hours. To be precise, that is 16 hours 35 minutes and 44 seconds of daylight on 21<sup>st</sup> June which, in round numbers, is 8 hours and 44 minutes more than we had at the time of the winter solstice in December.

The moment of the summer solstice occurs at 3:42am and marks the moment in time when the Earth's northern hemisphere is at its most tilted towards the Sun giving us, in the north, maximum daylight. If you were standing on the tropic of cancer at local midday, the Sun would be overhead. After the solstice the Sun gets imperceptibly lower in the sky each day which gradually reduces the amount of daylight.

However, in the middle of summer, when the Sun is high during the day for us in the northern hemisphere, it is low in the daytime sky for those in the southern hemisphere. We in the north can see that this is the case because at night the sky doesn't get properly dark as the Sun is never very far below the northern horizon. In other words, a Sun that is not far below the horizon for us is not far above the horizon in places such as Australia and New Zealand.

For it to be "astronomically dark" the centre of the Sun must be at least 18° below the horizon, something that doesn't happen from approximately 24<sup>th</sup> May until 20<sup>th</sup> July. During that time, we exist in astronomical twilight during the night when the Sun is between 12° and 18° below the horizon.

At the beginning of June, you might just catch sight of Jupiter very low down in the north west at around 9pm. As the month progresses, the planet gets closer to the Sun until on the 24<sup>th</sup> it passes the Sun (is in conjunction with it) and then appears in the morning sky some weeks later.

In the second half of June, Mercury appears soon after sunset low in the WNW at around 9pm. Please don't search for Mercury or Jupiter with any optical aid until you are certain that sunset has occurred or you risk permanently damaging your eyesight if you inadvertently look at the Sun.

Mars is the only reasonably bright planet that remains easily visible during the evenings this month. On the 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30pm it is almost exactly due west with an altitude of 25°. From the horizon to overhead is 90° so Mars is just over a quarter of the way "up". As an aid to finding the red planet, the Moon is only 5° to the east (left) of it. Then again, on the 29<sup>th</sup>, the Moon is closer still being just 2° to the west (right) this time.

If you happen to look east in the early morning, around 4am, you will see Venus, now in the role of "The Morning Star", just under ten degrees above the horizon. As the month passes it climbs higher in the sky until, on the 30<sup>th</sup>, it is 14° in altitude at a similar time.

**Brian Mills FRAS**

# TATSFIELD ART GROUP MAY EXHIBITION



Entering the hall what a lovely bright, airy start to the exhibition. Colourful stands all around me displaying the talent and creativity of local artists and the buzz of conversations as visitors admired and critiqued the work.

I was offered a lovely glass of wine and, after a surprise encounter with some friends from my own art class, refreshed, I left my bag behind the counter and armed with a pen and notebook I set off enthusiastically to closely examine the individual artists' work.



Starting with BRIAN LING whose work was delightfully varied with a mixed colour palette and some very pleasing compositions. Astonishing when you are told he is colour blind. Any proceeds from his work he kindly donates to The Hospice in the Weald in memory of Wendy Maddison.



TASH WATERMAN next door was also very colourful. Though less colourful, her 'Rainy Day in London'

stood out with beautiful, contrasting light and shade. A great composition. The two silhouettes of ships on SIMON COOK's stand were wonderfully illuminated against dramatic skies. The intricate rigging immediately transporting one back to a bye-gone age. Fascinating also was his portrayal of two soldiers in white acrylic on a black background. CHRISTINE STAINER's paintings showed great originality. Her beautiful haystack surrounded by verdant grassy hills was particularly 'lush' with many of them working well as cards.

MAGGIE GARSTANG, obviously a lover of colour, had transported her love of flowers onto some beautifully modelled and decoupaged pigs and elephants. Her paintings especially the portraits reminiscent of Klimt with his use of gold leaf.



Onto the stage, where NIGEL SHAW had laboriously produced atmospheric oil pastels which led



the viewer into experiences of light and weather and almost, at times, remembered sounds, all within a very contained, almost monochrome colour palette. His mark making very

like Monet's Haystacks creating atmosphere drew you in and I could imagine them treble the size

In stark contrast the flamboyant colours of CAROL GASKELL's flowers, landscapes and fruit were very pleasing. Her orange, plum, pear and apple were bold yet her flowers in vases were more delicate and looked almost like mosaics. Particularly enjoyable were her depictions of Toad, Badger, Ratty and Mole collaged onto a joyful stream. I imagine she is someone who likes to experiment according to her mood.

I wasn't surprised some of the boxed in marquetry and embroidery of RITA MCKAY were not for sale. Time consuming and beautifully presented, they must have taken hours. Hard to put a price on but I hope they are hung where they can be suitably admired. The 'House on the Hill' by SUSAN SMALE draws you straight in with wonderful colours and depth. What a wonderful view! Susan's love of detail and nature was very evident in all her work.



Coming off the stage, an original and English take on Manga design so wonderfully translates into original and delightful cards. MOLLY CHAPMAN has perfected the often overlooked skill of cutting away the unnecessary detail and overworking. Her colour schemes were original and inspiring. In the next corner was STEVE GASKELL's beautifully illuminated butterfly wings and shiny beetle and dragonfly. Bold, beautiful and strangely alive! Such skill catching these colours in oil crayon and biro and making an age-old subject look so contemporary.

The works that LINDA LAMBERT exhibited especially came to life when struck through with flowing 'water' or 'cloud' in swirly multicoloured acrylic.



JACKIE FLAHERTY's accomplished and prolific paintings showed versatility and, also translated well into beautiful cards. Brimming with skill the MILLENIUM GROUP put together some delightful pictures, varied and worthy.



Beside them were MONICA WADE and SHIRLEY DAVIES, a stand full of mystery and myth with an interesting mixture of other-worldly landscapes. Something always draws me to driftwood and JO WEATHERALD's table with beautiful hanging beads and shells,



Boy Rocks' were original and great.

Coming onto the central aisles of the exhibition, I found TATSFIELD SCHOOL. They were represented very well among the more seasoned artists. Great original work by single pupils and, also, a couple of collaborations which showed a wide variation of skills.



KRIS SPENDLOVE has a very believable talent for depicting human bodies. 'The Workout' looked like he could spring out from the page! I imagine MIKE MOORE's love of flowers may well extend to his garden? He certainly brings the vivacity inside and his vase of flowers were bright and lively. A special recommendation for GILL MANNERS' painting of 'Misty Riverside' an unusual and pleasing composition. In stark contrast the pear next to it was vibrant and showed how not commonly chosen colours can represent the object so well. What a skill!



Round the corner, JANE O'KEEFE uses felted wool to produce interesting pictures and wonderful animal sculptures beautifully mounted on slices of wood showing the rings in the



tree. Next to her, SHEILA ALEXANDER with her wonderful embroidery and beautifully painted backgrounds which added that 'je ne sais quoi' to her work. SANDRA SHURY with her prolific, varied and talented work was a great place to finish my tour. Bright and colourful flowers and landscapes some making an unbelievable colour, totally believable and complementary. A great skill with colour combination.

Thank you so much Tatsfield Art Group for all the hard work that went into producing this wonderful, varied exhibition. This was a feast for the eyes, and I left inspired to continue with my own efforts with renewed enthusiasm.

### Cally Faircloth

## BIGGIN HILL RESIDENT TAKES ON EVEREST-SIZED CYCLING CHALLENGE FOR CANCER SUPPORT



Local resident and endurance enthusiast Paul Clark is preparing for an extraordinary test of stamina and determination to support cancer patients and their families for local cancer charity The Chartwell Cancer Trust. On 21st June 2025, Paul will be conquering Stock Hill, Biggin Hill's steepest climb, at least 240 times in 24 hours. That is a staggering fifty metres of vertical ascent per lap, adding up to a total

climb of over 12,000 metres. Higher than the summit of Mount Everest.

This monumental challenge aims to raise £24,000 towards funding the planned creation of a new Cancer Information Centre at the Chartwell Unit in The Princess Royal University Hospital, Farnborough. The centre will provide crucial support and guidance to patients and families navigating the challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Paul's challenge will begin at 9am, where he will be cheered on by supporters and volunteers collecting donations. The local community is encouraged to come along, show their support, and help keep his spirits high as he battles every lap.

Determined to see it through, Paul has committed to pedalling for the full 24 hours, even if he reaches his goal. "This is more than just a physical test; it is about making a real difference for those facing cancer," Paul said.

Local businesses and community members are rallying behind Paul's inspiring challenge, and there are still plenty of sponsorship opportunities available.

Senior Trustee of The Chartwell Cancer Trust, Michael Douglas added that "We urgently need more spaces where people affected by cancer can turn for support. The new centre will be a place of comfort, advice, and care when people need it most. We hope Biggin Hill will come out in force to support Paul. Every cheer, every donation, will help build something truly meaningful for local families affected by cancer."

**To donate and support Paul's challenge, visit:**  
[www.justgiving.com/page/paul-clark-3](http://www.justgiving.com/page/paul-clark-3)

**For more information, interviews, or media enquiries, please contact:**

**Michelle Calthorpe 01959 570322**  
[mcalthorpe@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](mailto:mcalthorpe@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk)  
[www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](http://www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk)



## BARN THEATRE OXTED

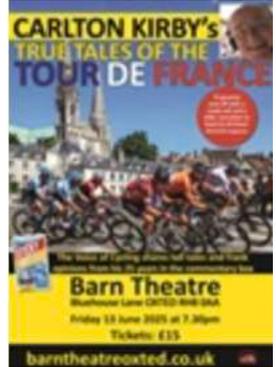


### Oxted Comedy Night, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 7.45pm

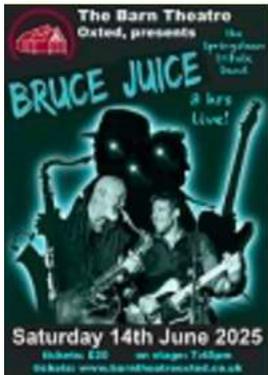
When did you last have a good laugh? See Phil Nichol and Friends from House of Stand Up (age 16+).

### Carlton Kirby's True Tales of the Tour de France, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm

The voice of cycling shares tall tales and frank opinions from his 25 years in the commentary box.



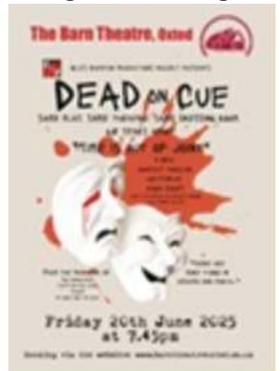
### Bruce Juice, A Tribute to Bruce Springsteen, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 7.45pm



Reputed to be the most dynamic Springsteen tribute in the UK.

### Dead on Cue, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 7.45pm

A spooky thriller set in a theatre dressing room, during the same play, at the same theatre – but 60 years apart!



### Wind in the Willows, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm

A riotous musical comedy following Mole, Rat, Badger, and the impulsive Mr Toad, whose insatiable need for speed lands him in serious trouble.



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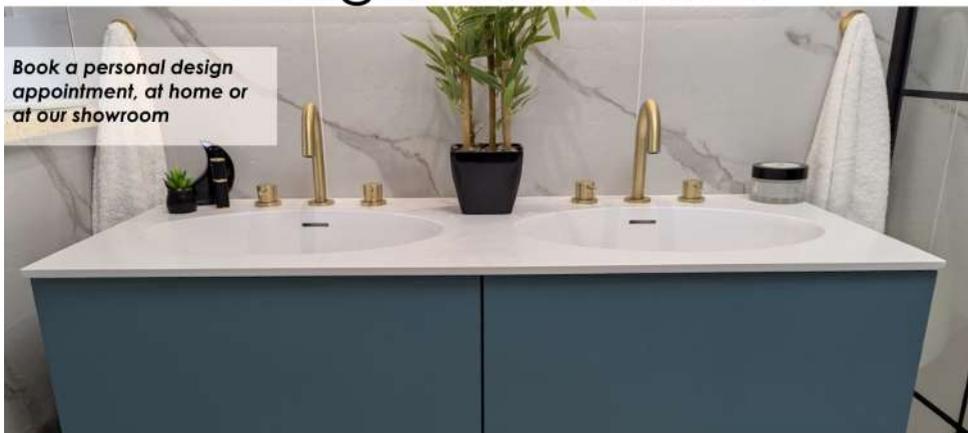
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