THIS ISSUE

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Parish Council website www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield • email tatsfieldpc@talk21.com
Tandridge District Councillor • Bob David, The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield TN16 2AN (577357)
Surrey County Councillor • David Hodge, 30 Hareshape Valley Road, Caterham CR3 6HD (01883 337881)

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St. Mary’s Church Hall - Bookings • Jennifer Evans (570190)
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MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS
We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. Contributions should be sent directly to the Editor at The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2AN (Fax: 01959 577357 Email: bob@bobdavid.co.uk) or drop it into Linda’s Stores.

Advertising Enquiries should be made to our Advertising Manager Maureen Perrin (Tel: 577679 Email: tatmag@hotmail.co.uk)

Small Ads These are only accepted from Tatsfield or Titsey residents (No Trade) and are free (Max 10 words plus phone No.) We will include them in the next issue space permitting.

Calendar Dates Our rolling Calendar usually covers 6 weeks from publication so please give us your dates in good time. If you don’t want your event to clash with others why not check with us early.

Ideas/Opinions/Articles We are always looking for items of interest - have a word with the Editor.

Correspondence We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Please state if not for publication.

Advertisements We take no responsibility for the goods and services advertised in the Magazine.
Dear All,

Many of us like to celebrate national sporting success such as England winning the Ashes and we can sometimes be critical when failure comes along, such as in last year’s World Cup or a UK tennis player not winning Wimbledon.

However we have recently been reminded that there is another side to all this. A television programme featured Andy Flintoff describing the pressures of high level sport and the effect it has had on him, and many others, in promoting depression and even suicidal feelings. (For those who are not familiar with Flintoff, he was the swashbuckling “up and at ‘em” hero of England’s cricket side a few years ago.) Others who have experienced such feelings include the boxer Ricky Hatton and the hardman footballer Vinnie Jones. The Test career of Marcus Trescothick was ended by stress and depression.

Flintoff’s public image was one of great self confidence and a zest for all that life has to offer – especially for someone as famous and successful as himself. However, the programme made clear that this was often a façade hiding a troubled individual far from being at ease with himself or the world around him.

In one of those coincidences of life that seem to occur so often, this publicity overlapped with events that made me aware of some Tatsfield residents who also show a confident image most of the time but who are nevertheless in a state of some difficulty and even mental turmoil.

This magazine frequently celebrates the successes and talents of local people: indeed one of the features that makes it such a pleasure to read, when compared with the national press, is its emphasis on the positive good things that are around us rather than problems and sad stories. However, that should not lead us into thinking that everyone is content and cheerful even if they might seem to be.

A healthy community is one in which members are sensitive to the feelings of others and are willing to be with them in the dark places as well as the happier ones. In addition to several voluntary organisations offering telephone support, there are no doubt many Tatsfield residents who are prepared to do exactly this – not least at St Mary’s where there are both clergy and laity who are there for anyone who would to like to talk in confidence.

Gerald South

COVER

The picture on the cover is of the speakers - Paul and Christine Jackson and Aslam and Adam Akhtar - at the Gardening Club meeting last month together with the Horticultural Society chairman Teresa Watts and a friendly chicken. You can read the report in Club News. The picture is by Dave Bishop.
Dear Editor,

A Land of Plenty

I was fortunate enough to be allocated an allotment when they were started in April 2011. My immediate challenge was to produce enough vegetables for Christmas.

Ten of us sat down to lunch, and we enjoyed parsnips, carrots, sprouts and beetroot picked on Christmas Eve, and onions (for the stuffings) and potatoes which were being stored after lifting earlier – and leeks from my garden at home. My plot could have fed 20!

Now all I need is permission to keep turkeys on the plot.....

Peter Maynard, Ship Hill

Dear Editor,

Millennium Wood and Village Pond

Some thirteen years ago the Parish Council asked the Rev. Colin Corke to chair a committee for the restoration of what is to-day called the Millennium Wood. This committee included me, Ken Munday and Jon Allbutt. Jon was to oversee the project and maintenance and Ken to raise the finance. This was considered to be substantial and Ken awaited Jon’s advice on this subject.

In the interval no progress has been made except for some minimal maintenance. The product of which has been that during the heavy winds of the last few days trees have fallen to block Ricketts Hill for many hours. This is in part due to the heavy covering of Ivy which adds to the wind resistance. I believe the time has come for that wood to be properly maintained if for no other reason than to prevent a fatal accident.

This would also be an opportune time to install a path through the wood at the road side to stop the road breaking and slipping into the wood. This would enable people to walk in this area safely, bearing in mind that Ricketts Hill Road has become a bit of a rat race for cars at peak time. Indeed a Gatwick Airport lorry is transporting luggage to and from Biggin Hill Airport on a daily basis.

The Parish Council seems set on increasing its rate setting on an annual basis and yet local Inhabitants see little benefit from this expenditure. In these very difficult financial times I consider the time is right for a change of direction.

In addition I would like to know what is happening to the village pond which is in a disastrous condition.

Tony Erbes, Ricketts Hill Road

Editor: There will be a Parish Council response to Tony’s letter in next month’s magazine.
TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Police Forum started the proceedings at our first meeting of 2012. We were informed about two serious incidents that had occurred in the village centre but, as initial investigations were still very active, there was little the officers could report at this stage. We will expect a detailed update as soon as possible.

Later this year the Parish Council plans to arrange another Village Appraisal and we need to ensure that the questions reflect the situation in 2012. This is a time-consuming and expensive exercise so we must ensure everyone gets involved and gives full and honest responses. We are also intending to develop a Neighbourhood Plan that must integrate with local and national planning policies to maximise our influence on how the village changes and develops in the future. We need to consult the community on many issues including how new planning applications and developments may impact on the character of the village.

The Parish Council encouraged all local groups to consider whether they could benefit from a new Surrey County Council initiative that offers substantial grants, in excess of £10,000, to support local big projects. A representative from the PARROT group arranged to meet some Councillors to explore this possibility.

A small group of local people is working on improving our village communications to support the Parish Magazine and informal networking that already does a fabulous job. This will include the Tatsfield and Parish Council websites, Facebook and anything else that might work so if you are interested or can help please contact Peter Kerry on 577053; pjkerry@gmail.com.

A separate report in this magazine brings you up to date with our plans for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June. Please let us know if you have other ideas or can offer to help organise any part of the planned events.

Sue Smale, Vice-Chairman (Tel: 577660 Email: susan.smale@yahoo.co.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building at 7.30 pm on Monday 13th February.

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Refuse and Recycling Services: At a full council meeting last month, Tandridge gave the go-ahead for a new recycling and refuse service from 1st October as I have outlined in previous reports – i.e. weekly collections of food waste and alternate week collections of mixed recycling and refuse. I know that some people are unhappy about the loss of weekly refuse collections and are doubtful about how practical the new scheme will be in flats and
places with lots of steps. However, the expected outcome is much more recycling, less going to landfill and the council achieving a much needed saving of nearly £1m a year. Much has yet to be worked out. If anyone wishes to discuss this with me, please give me a ring.

**Planning Applications:** Tandridge has **approved** the following Tatsfield planning applications:

- Land adjacent to 85 Paynesfield Road: Demolition of outbuilding. Erection of 2-storey dwelling.
- 37 Paynesfield Road: Creation of vehicular access onto Paynesfield Road and erection of 1.8m gate to existing access to Crossways.
- The Bakery, Westmore Green: Extension of restaurant; landscaping and revised car park layout; adapting first floor to create bed and breakfast accommodation.
- Boundary View, Hillside Road: Use of art studio as granny annexe.
- 56 Paynesfield Road: Erection of part 2-storey part single storey side/ rear extension.
- Bassetts, Westmore Green: Erection of 7 dwellings, detached 7-bay parking barn and 6 additional parking spaces.

Tandridge has also **refused** the application at The Laurels, Hillside Road for the erection of a single storey rear extension.

**Cllr Bob David (Tel: 577357 Email: bob@bobdavid.co.uk)**

---

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Planned Highway Major Maintenance Programme for 2012/13:** The following roads are in the SCC planned programme for major maintenance from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013:

- Clacket Lane: Pilgrims Lane to Westerham Rd (excluding M25) - 2250 metres
- Paynesfield Road: Ship Hill to Crossways - 352 metres

**Council Tax 2012/13:** The County Council Cabinet will make a recommendation to Full Council on 7th February to set the County Council tax base for 2012/13. At the time of writing no formal decision has yet been made but no doubt by the time you receive this magazine the Cabinet will have met on 30 January to make a formal recommendation.

I shall be attending the Parish Council meeting on Monday 13 February and, subject to the Chairman’s agreement, I will be happy to answer your questions on the background and the reasons for the Cabinet recommendations.

**Cllr David Hodge (Tel: 020 8541 8003 Email:david.hodge@surreycc.gov.uk)**
TATSFIELD POPPY APPEAL

We are glad to say that, following last month’s article, volunteers have come forward to run the Poppy Appeal in Tatsfield from 2012 onwards. The formalities are being cleared with the British Legion and when that has been done we will be able to let you know who the new organiser is to be to take over from Lorna Tory.

NEWS FROM THE TATSFIELD SINGERS

The village community choir, ie Tatsfield Singers, will be beginning the new term at the primary school on Thursday February 2nd at 7.45 pm and would be glad to meet any newcomers who would like to consider being in the choir. We shall be learning new material and also preparing for a concert during the summer, between the Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics. Newcomers are welcome to come and see if they like it and are comfortable with the group. We would welcome some younger singers to balance us and would give a special rate to any younger members who are still at school or college.

As we have said before, this is a pastime which is great fun and very healthy as well and it is an excellent way of meeting other people in the village and nearby. If you are suffering from winter blues, we can blow them away with our lovely teacher Alex who is very knowledgeable, about singing and keeping fit. As those of you who have heard us perform at the Church and outside the pub, we have a strong band of men, unusual for choirs (so I am informed) and we have a good balance of sopranos and altos too. We look forward to meeting newcomers. Please phone either Pat Coombe, our secretary, on 577863 or me on 577585 if you are wanting to come along. Happy New Year and a healthy one too.

Dawn Forrester Groom

BULKY RUBBISH COLLECTION

The first bulky rubbish collection of the year will be on Saturday 25 February, when a Tandridge refuse vehicle will be at the Village Hall car park from 7.30 to 10.45 am. You can take household rubbish, furniture, garden waste, glass, metal items and up to 2 washing machines but not asbestos, car batteries, concrete, fridges, freezers, hardcore, hazardous chemicals, oil, paint and trade waste.

The use of the Village Hall car park as the site for bulky rubbish collections is still on a trial basis. If you have any comments on this, please let any parish councillor know.

The next collection will be at the same time on Saturday 12 May.
By the time you read this, hopefully work will have started on a long term project to redevelop The Bakery.

Ground work should have begun on Phase 1 of what will be a four phase plan to:

1. Extend and completely refit our kitchens.
2. Convert a loft area, above the lower restaurant, into staff accommodation.
3. Remodel our upstairs area into 5 en-suite letting rooms.
4. Extend to the rear of the Bakery to introduce a small private dining area with an outdoor courtyard eating area and extend and refit our toilet facilities.

Hopefully by the end of March we should have completed the first phase and have extended our kitchen to provide us with a walk-in cold room and freezer facility and have refitted the kitchen with a state of the art “Charvet” Cooking Suite complete with new flooring and wall coverings.

With luck plans should progress to convert the redundant loft area above the lower restaurant into a self contained 2 bedded staff flat and strip out the existing flat above the main restaurant to introduce 5 "boutique style" en-suite letting rooms. It is hoped these will be ready prior to the Olympics to enable us to tap into the valuable business associated with any extra demand for rooms that Biggin Hill Airport may require, with the anticipated number of extra flights they will be receiving during the Olympic period.
Later in the year or possibly at the beginning of next year we will endeavour to complete the project. This will see new Gents toilets, refitted Ladies facilities (at last I hear you cry!), a new disabled toilet and an extension to the rear of the property which will block off one entrance to the car park and provide a separate dining facility which it is hoped will be suitable for Private Dining, Small Private Parties such as Christenings, Buffet parties, Children’s Birthday Parties, Funeral gatherings and small Corporate events or Functions. Its usage should not affect our main restaurant or bar area and should provide a perfect setting to hold such events. The extension will also see an internal floodlit garden visible by means of a full length glass wall, as well as a small walled garden with water and fountain attraction. The area, finally, will be landscaped to provide an attractive rear entrance from the car park and from Westmore Road.

We plan to introduce new, more affordable menus for both the bar and restaurant. We will consider opening later on a Sunday for lunch and review the possibility of opening 7 days a week and most probably to open for breakfast, especially at weekends. It is hoped that the bedrooms will attract custom to the village from nearby businesses, travelling businessmen, tourists and not to mention guests dining at the restaurant who may wish to stay over after dinner or a Wedding or Birthday Celebration.

We plan to continue to be at the heart of the village for many years to come and look forward to welcoming and serving the people of Tatsfield in whatever form. It is also hoped that the programme of works will not cause any inconvenience to you, and in particular to our neighbours.

It is an exciting time at The Bakery and sees the biggest investment to date since I took over here nearly fourteen years ago, one which comes during a very difficult trading period and during this economic downturn. But one which has been in the planning for possibly the last 8 – 10 years!

I hope that it will provide a unique and diverse dining and lodging facility, that not only I can be proud of but Tatsfield can too!

Andrew Bond
MAUREEN’S MARAUDERS

On the 15\textsuperscript{th} of December, six of Maureen Perrin’s Keep Fit class plus Maureen went to the Royal Albert Hall for a Carol concert. Two short bus journeys, one by train to Trafalgar Square then the last hop by bus to the Albert Hall. Not having been to London recently I was given a guided tour by the keep fitters in our party. We passed the London Eye, Big Ben, Christmas Tree at Trafalgar Square, then the Ritz, Burlington Arcade, Eros and finally arrived at the Albert Hall.

We went over to Kensington Gardens; I wonder if it is only slightly eccentric women from Tatsfield that would sit by the Prince Albert Memorial on a freezing cold winter’s afternoon and have a picnic? The mind “boggles” but we enjoyed it, frostbite and all.

Once in the Carol concert we were seated on “the shelf” as the compere called it repeatedly. Luckily none of us suffered from vertigo. Just to be on the safe side I think next time I’ll get Michael to buy me a parachute! The orchestra, choir and female soloist were all excellent. Traditional and pop Christmas songs were all sung with great gusto.

Heading back home, a Danish girl joined in my return guided tour. What a mine of information she was. We arrived home at about 8, leaving behind the fumes, noise and traffic for the fresh air and peace of Tatsfield. Our thanks go to Maureen for a great day out.

Enid Garrard

TATTY KNITTERS

Tatty Knitters had a successful move to the Ship in January. Alcohol obviously is a good incentive and goes down quite well with cake!

In February we will be meeting on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Tuesday as we didn’t think couples trying to have a romantic Valentine’s meal would appreciate the clicking of needles and clacking of tongues in the background. So the February meeting is on the 21\textsuperscript{st} in the Ship (round the fire), 7.30 – 9.30. Cake provided, buy your own tipple.

Val Quick (Tel: 576264)
Free event
Chocolate Extravaganza
Sunday 11 March 6.30pm
Village Hall

Families welcome! Join us for an evening celebrating chocolate during Fairtrade Fortnight.

A light Ploughman’s meal and a variety of drinks will be provided as well as a selection of chocolate desserts.

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Enjoy a light ploughman’s supper and a selection of Fairtrade chocolate desserts.
A free event sponsored by the Parish Council

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Join us at our Chocolate Extravaganza, find out more and help the Fairtrade Foundation meet it target of 1.5 million steps by the end of 2012. Start your journey at www.fairtrade.org.uk/step and see where your steps will lead.

Jennie South

ST. MARY’S TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

In 2010 we were able to donate £375 towards the upkeep of St. Mary's church. Part of this was due to the exceptional generosity of Phil and Judith Pinder, former residents of Tatsfield and also Liza Player who donated their winnings back to St. Mary's.

We were delighted to gain 9 new members last year, two of whom have already won prizes, but we still need more members. Please do contact me if you would like the opportunity of winning a cash prize and also help to raise funds for our village church – and it's still only £1 a month!

Members who won prizes in the last year (some more than once) are as below – it could be you next month if you join now!


*Prizes are (pro-rated) £100 each quarter, £25 and £20 all other months.

Veronica Geary, Secretary St. Mary’s Tatsfield 100 Club (Tel: 577377)
Thank you to those who responded to the invitation from the Parish Council to share your thoughts and suggestions for the June celebrations. On the 11th January the most popular events were discussed at a public meeting in the W I Hall and we now have an outline plan for the weekend of the 2nd – 5th June.

On Saturday 2nd we hope to organise a Children’s Party, probably on Westmore Green, and maybe to include fun and games and a tug of war competition. On Monday 4th we propose a Hog roast or Bar BQ, based at the Village Hall and Aileen McHugo Building followed by a torchlight procession to a high point in the village to light a beacon.

Over the whole weekend there will be the fantastic Flower Festival at St Mary’s, with teas and lunches served in the Millennium Hall. We hope also to organise a presentation/ display of ‘Down Jubilee Memory Lane’ – a selection of photos and memories from any residents who have personal stories to tell of 1952. In addition we are seeking volunteers to lead groups who want to Walk the Tatsfield Walks – they are all family-friendly and can be completed in less than two hours.

We are also considering the Woodland Trust initiative ‘Plant an Oak’ which has the aim of planting 6m oak trees across the UK; we could plant one tree with a time capsule. We would still love to hear from anyone who can add further ideas, particularly around sport, children’s activities and music. Also please let us know if you and your neighbours plan a ‘street party’ so we do not clash too much with other village events.

Feed back any views and ideas to Jon Allbutt on 576481 or Sue Smale on 577660.

GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday 21 February at 8 pm
WI Hall

GROWING POTATOES AND SOFT FRUIT

An informal evening of tips and advice from experienced local growers

ALL WELCOME
BADMINTON FOR THE UNDER 11s

The junior section of Tatsfield Badminton Club at present caters for 11 to 16 year olds. The club is considering extending its classes to the under 11s and wants to see whether there is any interest for this in the village. Would any parents who think their children might be interested please contact club chairman Gordon White on 07706 052775.

IF YOU NEED A FRIENDLY DRIVER – WE ARE THERE TO HELP YOU

If there is anyone in the village who requires assistance with transport to attend medical appointments, collect prescriptions, etc., they need only ring the Helpline’s Co-ordinator Sylvia Waters on 577524. Sylvia will find a volunteer driver to match the request. The cost is only the driver’s petrol expenses plus a nominal amount for administrative expenses.

RING SYLVIA ON 577524

YOGA AND PILATES

Margaret Cooper’s classes starting again in February

At Tatsfield Primary School
7.30 to 8.45 pm on Mondays
At the WI Hall
10.00 to 11.15 am on Tuesdays

Just turn up or ring Margaret on 07778 566503 if you want to know more.

Margaret is also a trained HYPNOTHERAPIST. If you want to lose weight, stop smoking, stop nail biting, etc., let Margaret help you. You will enjoy the experience. Tatsfield residents half price. Phone Margaret on 07778 566503 to make an appointment.

FOUND

A remote control helicopter. Please ring 577749 to recover.
ST. MARY’S – A FAIRTRADE CHURCH
Informal Service Sunday 26 February at 6.30 pm
‘Taking a step towards a better world’

At the start of Fairtrade Fortnight join us at a relaxed and informal service of praise and prayer with contemporary and traditional music followed by Fairtrade refreshments!

EVERY TUESDAY
Tatsfield Primary School

ZUMBA
7 pm to 8 pm

TOTAL BODY WORKOUT
(New Instructor)
8 pm to 9 pm

Classes are £5 per person

SPECIAL OFFER
Pay for 4 classes up front and get the 5th class free
(Equivalent of £4 per class for every 5 booked)

For further information please contact Vicky on 07891 295972
Victoria.cooling@btinternet.com
LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL

Little Acorns has now been back for a while and the children have been settling in nicely.

This half term the children will be looking at the topic ‘People who Help Us’. This week the children will be playing at Doctors and Nurses! They will be practising their bandaging skills, talking about healthy exercise and making nurse headbands. In the role-play area is our Doctor’s Surgery/Hospital where the children can pretend to be ill and get better, all in one morning!

Next week they will be learning about teachers and we are hoping that we might be able to get one or two of the mums who are teachers to come in and talk to the children. Our role-play area will become a classroom and we will be able to do lots of work with numbers and letters. It is also the Chinese New Year during this week, so we will be learning all about that too. After that, it will be the turn of the Police and all the good work they do, which will take us up to half term already!

We are currently putting together a list of events that we hope to hold over the coming two terms. Once we have done this, we will put a copy up in the hall foyer for you to have a look at, and put in your diary! We are always on the look-out for parents and carers to give us a hand with organising and running these events, so if you feel you could help us out please speak to Jackie or Julie.

If you would like to register your children with Little Acorns for either our morning sessions (3 – 4 year olds) or our afternoon sessions (2 – 3 year olds) please contact Julie Barlow on 541103.

Helen Hartley, Vice-Chair, on behalf of Little Acorns Pre-School (Tel: 576871)

VERN NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY

The Tatsfield Vern d’Anjou Association once again laid on a great New Year’s Eve party for 75 revellers in the Village Hall. The hall was decked with fairy lights and a net suspended over the dance floor to give the occasion an intimate feel. Partygoers were served delicious lasagne and salad with chocolate fudge cake or strawberry gateau to follow. DJ Neil from Hits Disco kept everyone up and dancing until the balloons rained down on the revellers to signify the end of 2011. The popping of champagne corks accompanied the chorus of Auld Lang Syne to welcome in 2012. Thanks go to the Association committee and all those who pitched in to help clear up in the small hours!

Peter Fuller
Well, as we go into the New Year, things are quiet on the allotments, although we often see a body or two, toiling away, as we drive pass. Hopefully, not too much damage from the high winds early last month, and still no sign of snow, so we may scrape through yet.

Like many others, I am sure, we dined on our own carrots, parsnips, courgettes and runner beans on Christmas Day - a wonderful reminder of all our hard work throughout the last year. We managed to get a good supply of manure spread over our plot just before the bad weather set in, and this is working its way through the soil, doing its good work, whilst we snuggle up indoors in this cold weather. Magic.

You may have noticed a large puddle and some subsidence at the approach to the village a few weeks back marked by a cone and in a very annoying position. But take heart - this may actually have been a blessing in disguise! For on further investigation it was discovered that this was in fact a burst water main on the very edge of the road, almost on the verge, in a completely different position from where Thames Water believed it to be! As you probably know, we had dismissed any idea of connecting the water supply via this route as too expensive, believing the supply to be on the opposite side of the road, necessitating huge excavation of the tarmac, traffic lights, the Full Monty! But now it seems that it will be relatively easy to join into the water supply, and this will be investigated and acted upon if possible, as soon as the weather (and Alan’s health) improves. This will, of course, mean we can consider disconnecting the overground pipework connecting us to the farm supply, making it more difficult for the pesky vandals to cause havoc….

In early February, we are planning a get together to celebrate our first year at the allotments and to sign the tenancy agreements. We should know very shortly if our grant application for the hard-surface area has been successful, as the Surrey Hill Leader group panel will decide this at the end of January. Unfortunately, we will be collecting annual subs at this meeting too, in fair exchange for a glass of wine! You should have all received your invitation by the time this magazine is delivered, and we hope you can all attend this social event.

Liz Armitage

LEAF AND SNOW CLEARING

Let me come and clear away your leaves. I have my own blower, rake and barrow. And when the snow comes I can clear that for you too! My name is Harvey and I live in Johns Road. You can contact me on 570097 or 07758 839329. My services are £10 per hour.
**FEBRUARY SHOPPING IN TATSFIELD**

**Tony and Di’s Greengrocers** (Tel: 577603)
- Fresh fruit and vegetables – look out for our specials
- Pet and wild bird food
- Frozen and tinned food
- Pot plants and cut flowers
- *Free delivery to your home – just ask*
- Keep recycling your unwanted mobile phones and used printer cartridges (all makes except Epson) here. Proceeds to charity.

**Linda’s Stores** (Tel: 577152)

- All your Post Office needs here
- Fresh bread and cakes from Plaxtol Bakeries delivered daily
- You can use credit or debit cards to pay for your shopping
- Felix cat food pouches 12s £2.99
- Betty Crocker Shake to make pancake mix £1
- Heinz Beans 2 for £1
- Super Noodles half price now 43p
- Nutella 400g £1.50
- Lynx Deodorant Spray £2
- Utterly Butterly £1
- Goodfellows Thin Pizza Half price now £1.44
- Thorntons Premium Collection half price now £3.99
- Lindor Milk 200g/Assorted 200g/Ferror Rocher 200g/Quality Street 400g £3
- Cadburys Creme Egg 2 for 85p
- Kinder Bueno 2 for 80p
- Bassetts Bags (price mark £1) 2 for £1.75
- Milka Alpine Milk/Toblerone/Milka Daim/Daim Bar/Terry's Chocolate Orange 3 for £1
- Monster Munch 2 for £1
- Birdseye Crispy Chicken half price now £1.19

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**St Patrick’s Night**

Do please join us on Saturday 17 March in Tatsfield Village Hall for an evening to remember - live music provided by *Redwing Barndance Ceilidh Band* with caller to get us dancing the jigs and reels. Light buffet included.

Tickets £12.50 from Jane Cannon on 541148.

Organised by the Patient Participation Group of Stock Hill Surgery to fund projects for the benefit of the Patients.
VISIT TO VERN d’ANJOU - EASTER 2012

Vern, as it is popularly known, lies some 30 minutes NW of Angers in the beautiful Loire Valley. Our villages have been twinned for 37 years now and both Associations are thriving. Each year approximately 40 visitors from the respective villages take turns to visit their twin town. Easter 2012 will be the turn of Tatsfield to travel to France to enjoy the wonderful hospitality laid on by our French hosts.

There are opportunities for couples, families and single travellers to enjoy this fantastic experience this year. Don't worry if your knowledge of the French language is poor - it is for most of us and yet we manage to get by! We'll leave Tatsfield by coach early on Good Friday and return on the Tuesday after Easter (6 – 10 April). Travel costs will be kept to an absolute minimum and will hopefully be no more than £120 per adult and £60 per child. Experience demonstrates that this is a great value weekend as we take advantage of the legendary Vern hospitality.

As usual, we do not know what lies in store as far as an itinerary is concerned because it’s traditional that it’s kept a closely guarded secret until we arrive.

However, we are confident that they will have planned yet another superb weekend for those of us fortunate enough to experience it. It is one of the greatest pleasures in being part of the active village community in Tatsfield.

This really is a fantastic experience for the young and old alike and for first timers and experienced ‘Verners’ and if you have a respect of the French culture and a love of their food, wine and glorious Loire Valley countryside then this could be just the trip for you. If you’re interested then please see one of the committee members around the village (Pete and Rosie Fuller, Huw and Althea Davies, Jonnie Panther, Sean Mooney or John White) or call Peter Fuller on 573554 for more information and to register your interest.

Peter Fuller (Tel: 573554)
**PARROT UPDATE**

Recently, Parrot held another fundraising event, which was a Quiz Night organised by Liz Kelleher on Saturday 3rd December. This event was well attended by over 60 people and Liz ended up raising over £500, so well done and a big thank you to Liz and everyone who helped her.

Unfortunately the donations left at Linda’s Stores have ground to a halt. I appreciate that times are tough at the moment but I would urge you, the residents, to remember that what we are trying to achieve is for the benefit of the children of the village and their future; whether it’s your son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter, niece or nephew or whoever. We need your support to help us reach our target. So far, we have raised a total of £2700, which is fantastic. If there are any local businesses that may be interested in donating towards a particular piece of equipment then please contact a member of the Parrot Team to discuss this further.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for their continued support and guidance. Also a big thank you to Helen Hartley.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update. Just in case you missed seeing the details of our original appeal, we are repeating it on the opposite page. Don’t forget any donations can be given into Linda’s Stores.

The Parrot Team

**ST. MARY’S ANNUAL DINNER**

Sunday 5 February
1 pm in the Church Hall

Three course dinner, coffee, mints and raffle
£8.50 for adults and £5 for under 12s

Tickets for this are available from Sheila Cook (577443) or Jennie South (577598)

*All proceeds to our Zimbabwe link*

**VETS FOOTBALL**

We are continuing with our Vets Football sessions in the Village Hall. We are there from 6.30 to 7.30 pm on Thursdays. Like to join in? Just come along or give me a ring first if you wish. Non-marking trainers to be worn please.

Jon White (Tel: 570097)
Dear Residents,

TATSFIELD PLAYGROUND IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE VILLAGE. As you may or may not be aware, the equipment in the children's playground on Westmore Green is starting to show signs of wear and tear and is becoming unsafe. As this equipment starts to break or become unsafe it will be removed by Tandridge Council never to be replaced. The seesaw is already evidence of this. Consequently, this leaves the children of the village without a playground to go to and forces the parents to go to surrounding areas.

To counteract this problem a fundraising appeal called PARROT has been formed by local residents and Tatsfield School parents. We have set ourselves a target of £25,000 and the reason for this amount is that Tandridge Council have agreed to match anything we raise up to £25,000 by 1 April 2012.

We are starting the ball rolling by having a Halloween Party for the children on Sunday 30 October at 4.30 pm in the Village Hall. In addition to this Joe Greenhill of Park Wood Golf Club gave us £50 from their raffle and Park Wood Golf Club has kindly agreed to donate money to the fund from future raffles held, so thank you Joe and Park Wood Golf Club.

But it’s you the residents of Tatsfield that we are seeking help from. We have worked out that if each household could possibly donate the equivalent of £5 per month for five months (£25) then we would raise over £17,000 towards the £25,000 figure we are trying to achieve.

I know times are very hard at the moment for people so whatever you could spare would be gratefully received and if you can give more then please do. Please remember that we are talking about providing somewhere safe to play for existing children of Tatsfield and future generations.

All donations can be handed into Linda’s Stores. If you donate by cheque please could you make the cheques payable to ‘PARROT’ and any cash donations to be placed in an envelope with PARROT written on the front and given into to Linda’s Stores. You can also hand any donations to any of the fundraising team: Vicky Cooling, Lisa Stokoe, Kevin ‘Arnie’ Arnold, Sarah Turrell and Tara Jones.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this appeal and please, please remember that THIS IS FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE VILLAGE.

Kevin (Arnie) Arnold – Chair of Little Acorns Pre-School
GOOD COMPANY – THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

The Tony Award winning musical within a comedy
7.30 pm Wednesday 8 – Saturday 11 February
2.30 pm matinee on the Saturday
Tickets from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or
goodcompanyboxoffice@gmail.com

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DRAMA FESTIVAL
The first round of the All England Theatre Festival
7.30 pm on Tuesday 21 – Saturday 25 February
Tickets from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811

TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION 100 CLUB
Congratulations to the following December winners
1st prize: Margaret Burton £37.50
2nd prize: Michael Burbage £25.00
3rd prize: Gary Weaver £12.50
Please contact me by e-mail: leseames @ yahoo.co.uk if you (or your family or friends) wish to join the Tatsfield 100 Club

LOCAL POLICE NEWS
Over the past weeks there have been several reported catalytic converter thefts, all from Toyota Hilux vehicles in your area. I would like to warn all drivers, especially owners of this model, to be extra vigilant of this crime.

The following security measures should be considered to reduce the risk of further crime:

- Use of lighting can be a very successful crime prevention measure during the hours of darkness. It will be less attractive to the criminal whilst reinforcing personal safety issues.
- Use of CCTV to offer formal surveillance for your parked vehicles accompanied with the appropriate signage.
- Always use a security vehicle alarm.
- If you are able to, always garage your vehicle overnight.
- Report any suspicious behaviour to police immediately.

PCSO Matthew Nottidge
THE PEACE CHILD
Saturday 3rd March
Village Hall at 3.30 pm

Children from St Mary’s and across the village will be performing this musical drama. They have been working very hard at rehearsals and are looking forward to this exciting production.

Please do come along and support them.
Tickets are £3 adults and £1 children over 5.
All profits will go to PARROT, to help raise money for refurbishing the Tatsfield Playground.

For further information or tickets please contact Maureen Perrin on 577679 or Becca at: becca.childrenandyouth@hotmail.co.uk

TATSFIELD FILM NIGHT – R.I.P.

Unfortunately, due to licensing issues completely beyond our control, we are prevented from showing any more films at St Mary’s Church Hall. Many thanks to the loyal members who’ve supported us so well in the past …it’s been fun. Who knows…with a bit of luck and the wind blowing in the right direction, we might return!

Elaine Webster (Tel: 577753  Email: elainez@btinternet.com)
Wendy Harvey  (Tel: 562340  Email: wendyharvey@talktalk.net)

THE MARCH MAGAZINE

Contributions for the March issue should be with the editor by 16 February. Email or post them to the editor or drop them into the box behind the counter at Linda’s. Share your views on what is or isn’t happening in the village – praise or criticism or just an observation. Anything that isn’t libellous will be printed!

DONATIONS TO THE MAGAZINE

Each year, the Magazine invites its readers to make a donation to its funds. We have always had a generous response, which has helped us to keep producing a free magazine for every household in the parish every month and has enabled us to achieve a sound financial position and to continue to improve the magazine. Our request this year comes in the slip delivered with this month’s magazine.

We are grateful meanwhile for the generous donations which continue to come in from village organisations, the latest of which are from the Horticultural Society, Little Acorns Pre-School, Short Mat Bowls Club and Tatsfield School PTA.
TITSEY ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS DRAW

Every year, the Titsey Rotary Club organise a Christmas raffle for charities in the area. The Rotary Club print the tickets and provide the prizes. The charities sell the tickets and keep the proceeds of their sales. The Village Hall Management Committee take part each year and sell tickets in the village and to friends and family.

The winning ticket numbers this year are:
£500  20131   £100    17749
£250  04988   £  50   00166
£150  08535   £  25   14024

The Village Hall’s funds benefitted by £157 but sadly none of the winners are from Tatsfield.

TREE DOWN IN RICKETTS HILL ROAD

Readers will remember the gale force winds we had in the first week of January - winds of 59 mph were recorded in the area. Not surprisingly, hundreds of fallen trees were reported in Surrey, many blocking roads. Tatsfield’s roads largely escaped but one road which was completely blocked for much of a day and a night was Ricketts Hill Road. The picture shows the scene. No-one was hurt but the situation was made more complicated because the power line was brought down too.
MAGAZINE ADVERTISMENTS

Maureen Perrin, our Advertising Manager, has written to all our existing advertisers about advertising in the magazine for the next year beginning in April. We have a waiting list of businesses wishing to advertise and, if there is anyone else who is interested in starting to advertise from April, they should contact Maureen (Tel: 577679  Email: tatmag@hotmail.co.uk).

THE POLICE NON – EMERGENCY NUMBER 101

Surrey Police report that the new non-emergency phone number – 101 – is being well used. Since its launch last September, more than half the non-emergency calls coming into Surrey Police are made by people using 101 rather than the previous 0845 number. 101 calls cost 15p per call from both mobile phones and landlines, irrespective of how long the call is or when its made. Calls to 101 from phone boxes are free.

You should of course use 999 in a real emergency but in all other circumstances you should use 101 to contact the police.

CROSSWORDS AND PUZZLES

There were three correct entries for last month’s crossword. The first one opened was from Andy Shrubb, and a voucher for use in the village shops is on its way to Andy. The answers to the crossword are below:

Across
1 Prosperous  6 Play   9 Be thankful  10 Brer  12 Idiot  13 Opulence
15 Field of  17 Lambert  18 Concert  21 Panther  23 Awarders
24 Alpha  26 Ides  27 Added a nine  28 Ears  29 Saint Mary’s

Down
1 Public face  2 Outside  3 Plant  4 Rake off  5 Unusual  7 Lord Coe
8 Yard  11 Ten men  14 Stargazers  16 Dreary  19 New Year
20 The idea  21 Postern  22 Happier  24 Alarm  25 Mike

Taking the place of the crossword this month is an intriguing puzzle set by Gerald South which you will find on page 57. You will see that it asks you to identify the locations of 9 letters, from A to G, all but one of which can be found in the village centre. It tests how observant you are and how well you know your village. Do have a go and let Gerald have your answers.
“SILENT SIGNS AND SYMBOLS”

A talk by Lyndall Hacker, who guides at both Lambeth Palace and Rochester Cathedral, which brings new insights into familiar artefacts found in Christian Art and Architecture

8 pm on Wednesday 1st February

Westerham Hall

Arranged by Westerham Fine Arts Society

SWITCHING TO DIGITAL TV

TV is going digital all over the UK and the traditional analogue will be switched off in our area in April. If you don’t have digital TV by the time of the switchover, your TV screen will go blank.

You can get advice about switching to digital by contacting the Digital UK advice line: phone 08456 505050 or visit www.digitaluk.co.uk.

The BBC’s Switchover Help Scheme, which is for older and disabled people, can be reached by phoning 0800 40 85 900 or visiting www.helpscheme.co.uk.

You can visit the Digital UK Roadshow when it appears at the following locations:

06 February  Outside Somerfield and Ken Autos, The Green, Warlingham
06 March   Outside Costcutters and Moss Chemist, East Grinstead Road, Lingfield.
07 March   High Street Car Park, High Street, Godstone
09 March   Morrisons, 43 East Hill, Oxted
15 March   Queensway Car Park, Queens Way, East Grinstead

HEDGEHOGS SURVEY

A study was conducted 40 years ago which suggested a link between climate and when hedgehogs come out of hibernation. The study is now being repeated to see if climate change has affected hedgehog hibernation patterns.

Your help is needed to collect hedgehog records from 1 February until 31 August 2012. You will be asked to record every time you see a hedgehog, noting its location and whether it is alive or dead. To find out more, contact the British
TATSFIELD IN BRITAIN IN BLOOM 2012

Last year, more than 1,000 communities took part in their regional In Bloom competitions. Of those, 73 have been selected to compete in the Britain in Bloom 2012 finals. Tatsfield is proud to be one of those – we are one of four in the South East region (the others are Chichester, Crawley and Herne Bay). We shall be competing in the Large Village category and we are up against the best villages in the UK. We last took part in Britain in Bloom as recently as 2010, when we achieved a Gold award but were pipped at the post by Comrie, which is a beautiful village in Scotland.

We will be doing our best again this year and, as ever, we are hopeful and optimistic. The Organising Committee have been busy for months discussing and designing displays for the village centre and deciding on floral colour schemes. We decided we could hardly avoid choosing this year’s big national events as our themes and we hope you will like the displays we have designed for celebrating the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. We know that many others will be making the same choice but we hope that once again we will be producing displays which are something special. We are very fortunate to have in our village skilled artists and craftsmen who are willingly giving freely of their time to help us. This is of course on top of the continuous all-the-year-round work of our team of volunteers, without which we could not even start.

Our costs are kept down by our huge voluntary effort but we still need funds to carry out our programme of displays and other work to keep the village clean, attractive and tidy. Once again the “home team” of the Parish Council and Horticultural Society are supporting our efforts, as they have every year for the past 15 years. In addition, we are very glad to announce that two major local businesses, Park Wood Golf Club and Whelan Homes, are sponsoring our programme this year. We are very grateful for their support and generosity. Our fundraising continues and we will let you know of other developments.

Meanwhile, we would be very glad to have others who have not been involved before to join our team of volunteers. No special skills required! Just get in touch with our volunteers organiser, Angela Sawyers, on 577434.

Jon Allbutt and Bob David
MATHS IS FOR ADULTS TOO ….

Last month’s magazine included some Maths problems from the Primary Schools Mathematics challenge taken last term by some children from Tatsfield School. It has been encouraging to hear that many adults have also enjoyed (is that the right word?) the challenge. Many thanks to all those who have shown interest.

A doughnut was worth 20p and the folded paper gives the mitre shape. However the challenge question for adults was: A simple lock on a safe uses two numbers. Each can be from 1 to 6. To enter the safe, any even number and any odd number is needed (in any order). What is the probability that someone choosing numbers at random will open the safe in one go?

The best solution received was from Teresa Watts. Here it is:

To open the safe, the only two possibilities are:
Odd number followed by even number
Even number followed by odd number.

The probability of a) is $\frac{3}{6} \times \frac{3}{6} = \frac{9}{36}$
The probability of b) is $\frac{3}{6} \times \frac{3}{6} = \frac{9}{36}$

Thus, the probability of a) OR b) is $\frac{9}{36} + \frac{9}{36} = \frac{18}{36} = \frac{1}{2}$ or 50%.

This assumes that, having selected the first number, there is no change in the probability that the same number will be chosen again.

Teresa’s solution shows an excellent understanding of the multiplication and addition rules for probability and her presentation and final sentence suggest a very sophisticated mathematical mind – well done Teresa!

One of the (many) enjoyable aspects of Mathematics is finding that there can be different valid approaches to a problem.

For example this one could also have been solved thus: At each selection even and odd outcomes are equally likely. Hence there are four equally likely outcomes for the two choices namely EE, EO, OE, OO. Of these, two give one even and one odd number. So the probability is 2 out of 4 or one half. An excellent solution along these lines was submitted but without the name of its creator – please let me know who you are!

Yet another approach would be to say that the first number selected could be any of the six numbers. Then the second number must be the opposite “even-ness” from the first. The probability of this is 3 out of 6 or one half.

How about a Tatsfield Maths Club?

Gerald South
Memories of St. Lawrence’s Hospital

See our displays of photographs of life at St. Lawrence’s Hospital

Join us and share your memories of living and working at St. Lawrence’s Hospital.

Why not bring along your photographs and tell your stories?

We can scan and copy photographs and record your stories for the archive.

Saturday, 25th February 2012

between 11.00 am. and 4.00 pm.

If preferred, appointments on the day can be pre-booked at the Library.

Caterham Valley Library, Stafford Road, Caterham, CR3 6JG.
Entry is free

Memories of St. Lawrence’s Hospital
is organised by
Caterham & District Local History Centre
Valentine Coffee Morning

Phoenix Cards, the Farm Shop Biggin Hill &
Lin Saines Chutney’s, oils & salts

supporting

Marie Curie Cancer Care

NEW 2012 greetings cards & products from Phoenix,
Chutney tasting, flavoured oils and salts from Lin
&
Local foods, produce, gifts & Valentine cupcakes by Alison
from the Farm Shop
Bring a friend, have coffee & valentine cake, purchase your
Valentine Cards & gifts from local traders.

Wednesday 8th February  9.30am - 12.30pm

25 Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield.

If you would like to purchase any items, but cannot make it on
the day please contact Anne 01959 577596

Email anne-chapman@talktalk.net

My NEW website www.annes-cards.co.uk
YEAR 2 DO SOME THINKING AND WRITING

Our children in Year 2 have been looking at Traditional Tales and then writing about them in their own words, prompted by the questions Who are the characters in the story? What are they like? What happens in the story? Below are a few examples:

**Title:** Sleeping Beauty
My best character is the princess because she is very kind. She has some fantastic fairy godmothers who cast very good spells on her as gifts. Another character is the witch. She is nasty as she casts wicked spells to try to kill the princess. Fairy’s were asked to be godmothers to the newborn princess and they gave gifts of beauty, wit and musical talent. The King and Queen didn’t ask a wicked fairy to be a godmother who cast a spell saying the princess would prick her finger on a spinning wheel and die. One fairy hadn’t given her gift so she changed the spell to one that made the princess sleep for a 100 years instead of dying.

*By Hannah Friend*

**Title:** Jack and the Beanstalk
The two main characters are Jack and a giant. Jack is good. The giant is bad. Jack sells a cow for some magic beans. They grow into a beanstalk, Jack climbs it and takes the hen that lays golden eggs. His mother is happy. The giant was cross. The part I like is when Jack sells the cow as I would like some magic beans. I didn’t like the bit when the giant says “Fee-fi-fo-fum” because he sounds scary.

*By Charlie Typaldo-Cole*

**Title:** Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
The characters are Snow White, King, Queen, Dwarfs, Servant and Prince. The King and Queen had a baby girl called Snow White. The new Queen poisoned Snow White because she was the fairest of them all. I liked all of the story. It’s a great read. 😊

*By Danny-Dow Smith*
EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

1 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH
10.30am -1130am PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR • 8pm Yoga - VH
8pm Explorers - SH

2 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 6.30pm Vets Football - VH
7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH • 7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS
8pm Table Tennis - VH

3 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH
8pm Badminton Club - VH

4 Sat 11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery

5 Sun **8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) - StM**
**10am Open the Book - All Age Service - StM**
1pm ST. MARY’S ANNUAL DINNER - CH

6 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH • 6pm Beavers - SH
7.30pm Art Group • 7.30pm Yoga - TPS
8.15pm Bingo -TVC

7 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 5.30pm Cubs - SH • 7pm Scouts - SH
7.30pm WI Meeting - WIH

8 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH
10.30am -1130am PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR
7.30pm Food and Wine Society - The Bakery • 8pm Yoga - VH
8pm Explorers - SH

9 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** 2pm WI Darts - WIH
5.30pm Brownies -CH • 6.30pm Vets Football - VH
7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH • 7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS
8pm Table Tennis - VH

10 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH
8pm Badminton Club - VH

11 Sat 11am - 12noon PC Cafe- The Bakery

12 Sun **10am Sung Eucharist - StM**
11am Ramblers Walk - Ightham Mote Car Park
TATSFIELD SCHOOL HALF TERM 13-17 FEBRUARY

13 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH • 6pm Beavers - SH
7.30pm Yoga - TPS • 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting - AMB • 8.15pm Bingo -TVC

14 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 2pm Not So Young Club - WIH • 5.30pm Cubs - SH
7pm Scouts - SH

15 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH
10.30am -1130am PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR • 8pm Yoga - VH
8pm Explorers - SH

16 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 6.30pm Vets Football - VH
7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH • 7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS
8pm Table Tennis - VH

17 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH
8pm Badminton Club - VH

18 Sat 11am - 12noon PC Cafe- The Bakery
19 Sun  8am Holy Communion (BCP) - StM  
10am Sung Eucharist - StM  

20 Mon  9.30am Tots on Top - CH  •  1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH •  6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Yoga - TPS •  7.30pm Art Group - VH •  8.15pm Bingo -TVC  
21 Tues  10am Yoga - WIH •  5.30pm Cubs - SH •  7pm Scouts - SH  
7.30pm Tatty Knitters - The Ship •  8pm Gardening Club - WIH  
22 Wed  10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR  
2.15pm Tea Dance Social - VH •  8pm Yoga - VH •  8pm Explorers - SH  
8pm Ash Wednesday Service - StM  
23 Thur  9.15am Morning Prayer - StM •  2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH •  6.30pm Vets Football - VH  
7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH •  7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS  
8pm Table Tennis - VH  
24 Fri  2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH •  5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH  
25 Sat  7.30am - 10.45am Bulky Rubbish Collection - VH Car Park  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery •  12noon - 1.30pm Lent Lunch - CH  

26 Sun  10am Sung Eucharist - StM •  11am Ramblers Walk - Leaves Green  
6.30pm Informal Service for Fairtrade Week - StM  
27 Mon  9.30am Tots on Top - CH •  1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH •  6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Yoga - TPS •  7.30pm Art Group - VH •  8.15pm Bingo -TVC  
28 Tues  10am Yoga - WIH •  5.30pm Cubs - SH •  7pm Scouts - SH •  2pm Whist - WIH  
29 Wed  10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
10.30am -1130am PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR •  8pm Yoga - VH  
8pm Explorers - SH  

MARCH  
1 Thur  9.15am Morning Prayer - StM •  2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies -CH •  6.30pm Vets Football - VH  
7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH •  7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS  
8pm Table Tennis - VH  
2 Fri  2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH •  5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH  
3 Sat  11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery •  12noon - 1.30pm Lent Lunch - CH  
3.30pm “THE PEACE CHILD” - VH  

4 Sun  10am Open the Book - All Age Service - StM  
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) - StM  

5 Mon  9.30am Tots on Top - CH •  1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH •  6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group - VH •  7.30pm Yoga - TPS •  8.15pm Bingo -TVC  
6 Tues  10am Yoga - WIH •  5.30pm Cubs - SH •  7pm Scouts - SH  

Venues  
Amb - Aileen McHugo Building •  CH - Church Hall •  FC - Furze Corner •  PR - Parish Room •  SH - Scout Hut  
StM - St. Mary’s Church •  TPS - Tatsfield Primary School •  TVC - Tatsfield Village Club  
VH - Village Hall •  WIH - Women’s Institute Hall
Things may be tight but …….

Tatsfielders have surpassed themselves with generosity through their Christmas donations. All the collections from the Christmas services have been sent to the Children’s Society, a charity that does so much to rescue youngsters who have experienced a dreadful start to their lives. Added to this money were the donations from the wall safe given in response to the marvellous tableau. Children (and some adults) who took away 19 ‘collecting candles’ from the Open The Book service at the start of December filled them with great enthusiasm since they contributed £47 - an 80% increase over last year! Well done to them. As a result of all these donations we have been able to send over £1000 to the Children’s Society which is well over £300 more than last year! The Children’s Society will also be able to reclaim a further £50 plus from the Inland Revenue, thanks to those of you who gift aided your donation. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this record breaking result.

Christmas Tableau

Once again Sauro Gabelli, his family and helpers produced an amazing tableau of the Nativity in the church entrance area. The fine detail and innovative touches have been admired by many and encouraged much valued donations to the Children’s Society.

Christmas Services

This was a busy time for many of us as we prepared for and undertook duties for the many Christmas services. Many thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas worship, which was attended by many villagers and visitors who gave some very encouraging feedback. Once again the Christingle services proved very popular with young and old and the church was full again at midnight and on Christmas morning.. The flower arrangers made the church look most decorative and we are very grateful to the Titsey Estate for providing greenery.

Open the Book

Our January service kept the momentum of the Christmas season going with a look at those who travelled a very long way to visit the infant Jesus, the “wise men”. We thought of ourselves in their footsteps and considered some questions about our journey through life.

The next OTB service will be on 5th February. If you or your children still have your Baptism candle, please bring it with you: we will light it and remember our Baptisms – don’t worry if you have not got one, there will be plenty of extra candles and you will be just as welcome! This service starts at 10am, lasts no more than 45 minutes and is designed for everybody, including the youngest.
Lent Courses

Lent groups will be taking place at a variety of venues and times. These give an opportunity to meet with others, to study and discuss and to learn from others. There will be a form in church to sign up with your preferred time, or contact Gerald South on 577598.

Lent Lunches in St Mary’s Millennium Hall 12noon til 1.30pm

Enjoy delicious home made soup and, bread, cheese, drink and accompaniments, all for £4.00. Lent lunches start on 25th February and continue on each Saturday up to and including 31st March, and are served between noon and 1.30 pm. All proceeds go to the Bishop of Southwark’s Lent Appeal. There will be further details of this year’s nominated charities in next month’s magazine.

Ash Wednesday 22nd February

There will be a Eucharist Service at 8pm in St Mary’s to mark the beginning of Lent. This will include the traditional (and optional) imposition of ashes.

St Mary’s – A Fairtrade Church

Informal Service Sunday 26th February, 6.30 pm ‘Taking a step towards a better world’

At the start of Fairtrade Fortnight join us at a relaxed and informal service of praise and prayer with contemporary and traditional music followed by Fairtrade refreshments!

‘The Peace Child’, Saturday 3rd March at 3.30pm in Village Hall

Please see advert in Village News.

Church Flowers

Once again, our grateful thanks go to Mr. David Innes and his head gardener Mr. Steve Tett from the Titsey Estate for providing us with a lovely selection of holly with which the Church was decorated for Christmas. Also a big thank you to Kay Longley for all her help with the organising and to Tina Boys, Pauline Conlon, Pam Draper, Lorna Tory, Sylvia Hyett, Wendy Maddison, Christine Rosenbaum and Kay Roberts for making the Church look so festive and to Bob Fairclough for all his help with the clearing up. Thanks also go to Brenda Fairclough for providing the mince pies and to Jennie South and Louise Ellis for the tea and coffee.
The flower rota for February is

February 5th  Wendy Maddison
February 12th  Brenda Fairclough
February 19th  Brenda Fairclough
February 26th  First Sunday in Lent – no flowers

Jan Maynard  (Tel: 577659)

Parish Records

11th January  Interment of ashes of Susie Ellen Terris.

ST MARY’S FLOWER FESTIVAL

June 2nd –June 5th with preview evening on Friday June 1st
Part of the village celebrations of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee

Thank you to all the village organisations that have already offered sponsorship of a flower arrangement as part of this festival. If you would still like to be involved in this way, please return the form if you have one or contact Maureen Perrin on 577679 for more information.

The festival draws on a large team of flower arrangers coordinated this time by Jan Maynard and Kay Longley. The first planning meeting with them will be on Monday 5th March, 7.30 pm in the church hall. Anyone who thinks they would like to help with the flower arranging side of the festival is warmly invited to come along on this evening. Some of our regular team started off as ‘beginners’ at previous flower festivals: help and friendly encouragement are there for everyone! Do phone Jan (577659) or Kay (577682) if you would like to know more.

Jennie South

One of the lovely arrangements at a previous Flower Festival at St. Mary’s
If you look towards the south west in the early evening you will see that the two bright planets, Jupiter and Venus, are still on show. However, what you will not be able to see unless you have binoculars is that on the 10\textsuperscript{th} the distant and icy world of Uranus will be in conjunction with Venus (though from the UK it is best to look on the evening of the 9\textsuperscript{th}). This simply means that the two planets will appear close to each other, and in this instance they will be less than a Moon’s diameter apart. Of course the two bodies are not in reality close; it is purely a line of sight effect that makes them appear in the same small area of sky. Venus is much closer to the Sun, completing one orbit in just over 224 days, whilst Uranus at a distance of three billion kilometres from our parent star, takes 84 years. Despite it being so far away it is just bright enough to be seen by the naked eye although you would need to be in a really dark location.

The discovery of Uranus is credited to Sir William Herschel, who first observed it in 1781 from his home in Bath, although it had previously been seen and recorded by two other astronomers who both thought it was a star. One of these was none other than the current and indeed the first Astronomer Royal - Sir John Flamsteed. Uranus was the first planet to be found since the invention of the telescope.

Fig. 1 shows the western sky close to the horizon as it appears in the early evening of February 9\textsuperscript{th} and shows the positions of the brighter planets. Fig. 2 is an enlargement of the area bounded by the grey box in Fig. 1 and shows the position of Uranus with reference to the much brighter Venus. Next month we’ll look at planetary positions again.

Brian Mills FRAS
MEET NICHOLA STOKOE, OUR NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR  by Sue White

One of three new Parish Councillors, Nichola Stokoe volunteered for the position in May last year. Seven councillors sit on the Parish Council and, as elections take place every four years, Nichola is looking forward to making a difference in Tatsfield in the next few years.

Originally from Northants, Nichola arrived in Surrey at the age of 22. She had been enjoying a carefree life working locally as a secretary in Milton Keynes when she decided it was time to ‘knuckle down’ and set herself on a new career path. This entailed moving to Richmond and sharing a flat with her brother, from where she commuted to work for two eminent city solicitors. On joining a small niche firm, Hutchinson Mainprice in Belgravia, Nichola decided to retrain as a Licensed Conveyancer – which is in essence a property lawyer.

Nichola has worked for Hutchinson Mainprice for seven years, specialising in central London residential leasehold transactions, dealing with property that most of us could only ever dream about. One recent client purchased a ground floor flat in Belgravia for a cool £4 million!

Although Nichola first met her husband Bob when she was 18 (he was her brother’s friend), they only became an item in 2005. However, Bob didn’t waste any more time and proposed the following year. Once both their flats were sold they had intended moving to a property in Hurst Green but, after many delays, moved into a bungalow owned by Bob’s parents in Paynesfield Road to await completion of the sale. They were married in the summer of 2007 in the village church where Nichola’s parents have lived for 35 years and celebrated with friends and family in a marquee in their garden afterwards. Unbeknown to the couple the house in Hurst Green was taken off the market that weekend but luckily the news was passed to them on the Monday after the wedding, thus not spoiling this special occasion.

However, an incident at the start of their honeymoon very nearly did! On arrival at the airport in Malta their luggage was missing. The British Airways desk was deserted and despite a tannoy announcement no BA staff appeared to help. They decided to use the telephone on the desk to contact BA in London but this resulted in a very irate Maltese airport official threatening to call the police, accusing them of stealing. Following the nod from Bob, Nichola turned on the tears and managed to gain the sympathy of this man and thankfully the couple avoided spending the first night of their married lives in separate cells! (Their luggage was also retrieved!)

Nichola and Bob were lucky enough to enjoy an exciting holiday the following year, when they accompanied Bob’s parents celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary (and Nichola and Bob’s first), on the QE2 cruising the Mediterranean. This was Nichola’s first experience of a ‘walk in wardrobe’, which she intends to install in their new home!
The couple spent four years in the bungalow, from where they searched long and hard for their own property. This proved to be practically on their doorstep, when they viewed ‘Meadowside’ a little further along Paynesfield Road. Nichola instantly fell in love with the house, which they moved into in July of last year. She describes it as her dream home and intends to stay forever!

With this thought in mind, Nichola decided to volunteer for the Parish Council as a way to meet people and give something back to the village. She feels that rather than moan and complain about issues, she can now try and do something about them. Her valuable legal experience has meant that she was involved with drawing up the lease for the allotments and tenancy agreements. She is also the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee. Having a friend who was involved in politics and accompanying them to political functions had given Nichola a taste for what was to come. Although never having done anything like this herself before, Nichola is rapidly soaking up what is required and even learning about places in Tatsfield she had previously never heard of! One of her intentions is to make the Parish Council more accessible to the residents of the 21st century, both young and old, through the internet and social websites such as Facebook and Twitter.

Nichola is delighted to be a part of Tatsfield, where she says you can never be lonely. An example of which is when her new neighbours hosted a barbeque so that she and Bob could meet them all. It is this sentiment and her dream home that will surely keep her here for years to come!
Introduction

I see this is going to be one of those difficult years where I have to pull and squeeze the words out of you. Perhaps the cold winter weather is affecting your typing fingers? Fortunately, we do have three wonderful offerings from glove-wearing, hot-water-bottle-hugging, pen-wielding participants this month.

Bird Survey

As always, John Rosenbaum (Ricketts Hill Road) included fascinating, knowledgeable and detailed notes on the reverse of his ‘Bird Survey’ return:

July – ‘Swallows, Swifts and House Martins all flying on weather front, chasing the disturbed insects. Female Sparrowhawk with kills (Blackbird, Blue Tit and Stock Dove) proceeds to pluck on lawn indicating immature birds being fed by adults.’

August – ‘Again, Swallows and House Martins flying on weather fronts. Up to 15 young Blue Tits on nuts at one time. Lots of owl activity – calling of Tawny Owls and Barn Owls at dusk and during the night, but not seen. Large numbers of immature birds and adults starting to moult. Young Sparrowhawk flying with female.’

September – ‘Immature birds still being fed by adults. Four adult Robins and three young in the garden together!! Some young are now leaving their parents.’

October – ‘Flock of 20+ Mistle Thrushes around 9/10th. Flock of 20+ Starlings flew over around dusk (18:30). First Redwing in trees (26th) feeding on Yew tree berries. Large flock of mixed Chaffinches and Greenfinches on lawn (31st).’

November – ‘Starling flock has increased, flying around at dusk. Flock of 30+ Lapwing flying NE to W. A number of Scandinavian Blackbirds around (black beaks, duller eye-rings).’

December – ‘Owls continue to be calling from dusk. Raids by Redwings on trees for berries. Increase in male Pheasants in garden; four now, all different. Female Sparrowhawk makes regular passes through garden. Middle of month – six Robins in garden at the same time!’

Naturally, no one expects this kind of detail, but it’s certainly a joy to receive. (Thanks for your time and effort, John.) For most of us, however, a simple number written in a box is quite sufficient. You’ve just seen four Blackbirds in your garden? You saw a Kestrel whilst walking the dog? Wonderful - take action! Find the name of the bird at the side of your record sheet which came with your magazine last month, find the month at the top, follow the column and the row until they meet, then write the number of birds seen in the box. ‘Simples!!’ Give it a go. Make it a family activity. It’s fun!

I hope to publish the ‘July-December’ results next month. You have three weeks to return your form and become part of this on-going community project.
Butterfly Survey

You may recall that Margaret and Desmond Bishop were two of our butterfly survey respondents earlier in the year? Well, I’m delighted to report that they continued recording their sightings throughout 2011, making their final entry, of a Red Admiral, on 2nd November. Other species seen during the July – December period were: Small (Cabbage) White, Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, Gatekeeper (Hedge Brown) and Brimstone. Thanks to you both.

As you probably know, the Brimstone is often the first butterfly to appear in the New Year, sometimes as early as February. So – who will spot the first Brimstone of 2012? The competition begins!

Collective Nouns

‘Following your article in the December magazine, we have the following suggestions for collective nouns for birds we have observed in our garden:

A melee of Dunnocks
A shyness of Wrens
A boldness of Robins
A madness of Starlings
A busyness of Blue Tits
A splash of Blackbirds (they are always in the birdbath)
A looming of Collared Doves (they ‘loom’ over the smaller birds)

Hope these provoke a little lightness of heart.’

Yes, indeed. Many thanks to you, Mike and Linda. I have a few more of my own suggestions, based on recent observations:

A squabble of Starlings
A raucousness of Rooks
A jabbering of Jackdaws

It’s not too late for you to add your own ideas to our collection. Simply watch and/or listen then, using your creative mind, describe in words what you see and hear. Mind you, you’ll have a job to improve on these ‘accepted’ nouns:

A parliament of Owls
A congregation of Plovers
A building of Rooks
A murder of Crows (!)

Any news, views or observational reports? Contact: nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com or leave a note in Linda’s.
Low-growing herbs make excellent ground cover planting, with the added bonus of having many uses beyond just being weed-suppressing labour-savers.

**Woodruff** is an excellent example. This attractive little herb has dark green leaves arranged in whorls, literally almost Elizabethan ruff-shapes, hence its name. Tiny white flowers appearing in late spring make this a pretty ground cover plant quite happy to spread under trees, shady corners or even formal rose borders. Try planting just one or two potted Woodruff in a good loamy soil, then watch them grow away over the coming season. To increase your stock try root division after the plants have finished flowering, probably around midsummer.

Woodruff has had many uses over the centuries. When cut it has the scent of newly-mown hay, so was popularly used as a “strewing” herb over floors, tucked into mattresses as a flea repellent, and added to pot-pourri bowls. Medicinally it is still used as a diuretic or added to floral tonic waters, using only small amounts of the herb as it can be poisonous, so for professional use only. Woodruff is one of my favourite herbs and I am never without a little patch of it in my own garden. Easy to pot up as a welcome gift for a gardening friend.

**Chamomile** is another popular ground cover herb with a flowering or non-flowering form to choose from. As with all plants its Latin name denotes a particular feature; in this case “Chamaimelon” means “apple on the ground”, alluding to its strong apple scent when the leaves are rubbed or walked on. We all know that chamomile tea is a popular herbal drink, and that chamomile flowers have long been used to lighten hair, but medicinally it also has antiseptic properties, can be used as a sedative and helps dyspepsia and nausea (again – professional use only). **Flowering chamomile** with its daisy-like single or double flowers is an attractive plant in its own right, but non-flowering chamomile “Treneague” is the one to choose when planning a chamomile lawn, a closely-planted chamomile bench or use as ground cover.

A well-chosen pot of **Treneague** from a herb nursery or garden centre could provide you with anything from eight to fourteen little plantlets to grow on, making the investment of a lawn or bench much cheaper. Knock the plant out of its pot and you will see coming from the mother plant lots of little runners each with a tiny piece of root attached. Gently tease each one away with your hands rather than cut with a knife, make sure the little rootlets are disentangled at the same time and pot immediately into good compost, then water with a weak organic seaweed feed to get each one growing away. Keep in a shady spot until well established, and in a month’s time you can safely plant out in good, well draining soil.

Finally, I would like you to consider **Thyme** varieties for ground cover. There are so many varieties to choose from, but one thing to bear in mind in Tatsfield is the weather for permanent planting, and white-flowering Thyme forms can struggle
over winter up here. Why not try swathes of thyme varieties to give a tapestry-like effect on a long border or allotment edge? You will have a tidy, weed-free finish with the added bonus of good flower coverage, many uses in the kitchen, and lots of bees to pollinate your burgeoning fruit and vegetables! In addition to the many shades of green thyme leaves, one favourite of mine is the variegated sage green and cream “Silver Posie” which gives a particularly attractive look when under-planting a rose border.

At Sissinghurst Garden, Thyme has a complete bed just outside the Herb Garden at the bottom of the Garden itself, overlooking the Moat. Vita Sackville-West planted this to represent a Persian Carpet, and in the gentler Kentish climate wove purple, white and pink thyme varieties through the space, which although replanted every five years or so still retains the original romantic ideal that Vita created. The area is alive with bees throughout the flowering season, and although in some years of drought it can look rather patchy, the bed is well worth viewing and is something to aspire to if space is not a problem.

My other favourite Garden at Athelhampton House near Wareham in Dorset also uses Thyme to excellent effect in its romantic Rose Garden. Athelhampton has won awards for meticulously maintained gardens with fascinating “rooms” of many types all enclosed within high yew hedges and fabulously-shaped topiary. On this page are two photos I took on my last visit, showing a thyme carpet at the feet of the Statue within the Rose Garden. Tiny “minimus” Thyme mixing with broad-leaved Common Thyme, and that “Silver Posie” we discussed earlier give a wonderful carpet-like effect, the wonderfully fragrant old roses both enclosing and framing the scene. Another view from behind the statue shows how that other herb-border favourite Lavender, in colours drawn from a palette of pinks and purples, makes the simple row of steps into this scented garden a magical journey.

In the coming months no doubt the Allotmenteers will have large crops of onions, garlic, tomatoes and perhaps peppers to enjoy, so why not make a tray of Mediterranean-flavoured vegetables cut into equal sizes, liberally anointed with olive oil and lots of thyme sprigs. Just bake until soft and enjoy with freshly-baked bread or rolls to soak up all the flavour!

Next time we look at two under-used herbs of the kitchen - Sorrel and Chervil.

Lin Saines
Meryl Streep

The actress Meryl Streep has just won a Golden Globe award in America for her portrayal in the film entitled “The Iron Lady”, which I am told is a brilliant piece of acting. Scroll back some years and I remember the time I gave a series of talks to aeroplane clubs “up north”, one of which was at Darlington in what had been a miner’s hall. I thanked the packed audience for coming and said how good it was to be invited to such a nice area and then I gave my talk, delivered with a DB Sound headband radio microphone.

At the end, I finished in the usual way of putting on my 30 year old tap dancing shoes, some good jazz music and I tap danced around them all, shaking hands and thanking them for coming. They were such a lovely appreciative crowd of some 300 men, women and children. The chairman of the club thanked me, and then turning to all of the people he said “DB should have come in the good days, when we had something up here to live for”. I asked him what he meant by “live for” and with some bitterness in his voice he went on “In the days we had 1200 pits up here and we dug the finest coal that could be used anywhere in the country. That was before that Thatcher woman killed off all of the miners living in this country”. He went on “Everyone had a job, the same job that was good enough for his father and his father before that and now all of that coal that was good enough to keep this country going for the next 300 years is laying buried, untouched underground!”

It was a very moving experience for me and I could feel the hatred of everyone including that from the wives present that was directed at the then Prime Minister, a lady who thought that she was doing everyone a favour, by squashing what Harold Macmillan called “his secret army”.

And Another Thing - The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

I attended the public meeting that had been called on 11th January to discuss the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. Sue Smale had the results of the questionnaire that had been circulated in the Parish Magazine and it proved once again to me (after years of experience in show advertising) that any such circulation has on average just a 2% reply. So, 8 of us discussed the responses to the questionnaire about what should happen this coming June. It seems that we are about to have a two-day job, unless people have other ideas nearer the time.

Hearken back to when we ran the children’s party on Will’s and Catherine’s wedding day on the Village Green last year. I thought about 25 children (at the most) would like to come. It turned out to be 117 and thanks again to the generous people who contributed to make it a memorable day for all of the children. They all went home complete with a commemorative mug and they didn’t know that some of those mugs cost £8 each!

Dave Bishop
PLACE THE LETTERS

Can you identify where these letters are to be found? All are in Tatsfield and all but one are in the centre of the village.

There is a prize of a £5 voucher for use in Linda’s Stores or the Greengrocers to the best entry, giving as precise answers as possible. Please label each answer clearly with the appropriate letter. Entries should be made by 14 February.

Please drop in your entry to Linda’s Stores or send to Gerald South, Clouds, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield TN16 2NB or email to gp.south@btopenworld.com

Answers will be given in next month’s magazine.
The first 2012 gathering of the Food and Wine Society was titled ‘A Vegetarian Feast’ and organised by Bob David in the WI Hall. It proved a very popular evening especially when ‘us’ ladies found out it was the men doing the cooking!

Bob was an excellent host and we were welcomed with a glass of Kir. Every course was described in turn by the ‘Chef in Charge’ of each dish, the ingredients used and the level of difficulty involved. It certainly was a Gourmet Feast to remember and all the dishes listed on the menu (which you can see on the next page) were new to me except for Tabbouleh and the Pecan Pie. The appetizers were tasty, and I had to stop myself from eating too much, and they were followed by warm interesting starters, truly delicious.

When admiring my main course I said to Brenda David ‘Do you eat food like this very often?’ and she replied that it was all new to her! I knew at that moment Bob had excelled at what he does best - getting people to have a go! I think Ian Jay must have drawn the short straw as he had made enough Pecan Pie for everyone to have a slice (35 people), which was accompanied by Geoff Groom’s Yogurt with apricots and pistachios.

The atmosphere was lively and jovial with everyone catching up with friends and family news and holiday plans for 2012. Kay Longley rounded up the evening by giving Bob and The Men a huge thank you and also a little ditty as follows:

On behalf of the ladies tonight
Thank you Bob for this Veggie delight.
Although converts might be few
It’s good to eat something new.
Thanks go to all the Chefs for starting the year
With such resounding success.

Which of course was followed by a loud round of applause and smiling happy faces all round.

Sue Warren

---

**TEA DANCE SOCIAL**

Village Hall

Wednesday 22 February

2.15 to 4.55 pm

• There will be the usual Cream Tea, Free Raffle and Quiz.
• Everyone welcome • Have a good laugh and exercise and make new friends.

£6 per person

Enquiries to Dave Bishop on 577550
VEGETARIAN FEAST
Saturday 14 January 2012

Welcoming Drink

Appetizers
Potted Cheese (Ian Longley) & Guacamole (Bob Fairclough)

Starters
Tabbouleh (Phil Stokes)
Cheese & Potato Balls (John Holley)
Beetroot Fritters with Orange Sauce (Ian Longley)

Main Course
Peas with Baby Onions & Cream (Stephen Mittins)
Runner Beans with Garlic (Roger Pearce)
Glazed Carrots with Cider (Rob Saunders)
Courgettes Italian Style (Desmond Bishop)
Mushroom Fried Rice (Paul Jackson)
Peanut Butter Fingers (Bob David)

Dessert
Yoghurt with Apricots & Pistachios (Geoff Groom)
Pecan Pie (Ian Jay)

Tatsfield Food & Wine Society
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 21st February 8pm – WI Hall – Gardening Club: Come along to an informal evening and learn all about growing potatoes and soft fruits.

Tuesday 20th March 8pm – WI Hall – Gardening Club: Put this one in your diary: this session will be giving tips and advice on preparing for the Spring Show.

Saturday 14th April 3pm – Village Hall – Spring Show. If you’ve never entered before and are not sure how to go about it, why not come along to the Gardening Club on 20th March to find out how?!

Sunday 27th May – Trip to Great Dixter. Contact Sue Warren on 542892.

Membership of the Society

Committee members are knocking on doors everywhere in the village with the Society’s 2012 Year Book and details of membership and events. Annual membership is just £5 per family and is free to senior citizens. Each year more than half the village’s households join. Please do so and support the Society’s activities. If somehow you have been missed, let Roger Pearce on 577767 know.

Rosie Fuller

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

The meeting on the 10th of January was rather quiet, after the busy Christmas season, but it was pleasant just to sit and chat together. We had a mini quiz, which helped wake up the brain cells. Enid Garrard entertained us with a few humorous articles from a local magazine. We welcomed a new member and hope he enjoyed the afternoon.

At the meeting on the 14th February, we celebrate our birthday and hope to have our port and stilton and birthday cake.

An oversight from last month - A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE! It should be a momentous year for the country, in spite of the gloomy news!

Babs Heffernon (Tel: 540602)
Keeping chickens was the subject of the first half of the meeting. A highly entertaining presentation was given by the father and son team of Aslam and Adam Akhtar which not only included slides and videos but also the opportunity to meet “Ellie” and a friend – two of the Akhtars’ flock. The flock currently consists of eight birds and, after foraging for themselves and consuming any suitable kitchen waste (mostly vegetable matter – although they are not keen on root crops), they require about £100 worth of corn annually. In return they each produce an egg a day – not to mention the valuable chicken manure. They are normally purchased at “point of lay” at around sixteen weeks old and one can expect a productive life of about 5 years and quite possibly more. “Ellie” was a rescue bird from a battery farm and only cost 50p to buy. Battery farming in extremely cramped conditions has been banned in the UK from the beginning of January this year.

We heard that keeping chickens is fairly straightforward, provided you have some space, and, that after some initial organisation and outlay, they are not particularly time consuming or expensive to run. The Akhtars’ flock live in an enclosure bounded by an electric fence, which keeps them in - and predators out. Within this enclosure is a chicken house. This is fitted with a light-sensitive door which opens automatically to let the birds out at daybreak and closes again as dusk falls. Don’t be late, girls! Footnote: Tyrannosaurus Rex on the loose in Tatsfield. Aslam informed us that scientists had extracted a sequence of DNA from a T-Rex skeleton and the closest living relative is.... the domestic chicken!

Paul Jackson’s fascinating and highly informative talk on beekeeping started by reminding us of the importance of bees as pollinators of our food crops and how, for centuries, honey was the only form of sweetener available. Samples of beeswax and frames containing honey were passed round and the inner workings of a hive were explained. Basically, a hive contains between 50,000 and 80,000 bees. Despite their herculean efforts, each bee only produces a tiny amount of honey each season but because of their vast numbers, the bees in one hive can produce a surprising amount in a good year. Paul’s record, so far, is 140 pounds from a single hive, the first indication of which was the timber of the hive bending under the weight! A bad year produces no honey at all.

Generally speaking, a swarm will not pay any attention to you if you leave it alone but if you are dressed in brown they may mistake you for a bear in search of honey!
It hardly feels as if Christmas and New Year are over, yet February is upon us already. We kicked off the New Year with our now traditional visit to the Barn Theatre with the Beavers and Cubs along with the rest of the District to see the Barn’s pantomime production of Jack and the Beanstalk. A brilliant show and Beavers and Cubs soon got into the spirit of things with ‘It’s behind you’ and ‘Oh no it isn’t’. Leaders appeared to have a great time too.

Beavers are working hard on their Safety Badge this term looking at Road, Rail and Water Safety as well as ‘Stranger Danger’. They will be making dragons and lanterns for the Chinese New Year and also finding out more about China for part of their Global Challenge Badge. As part of their Fitness Challenge we will be having a keep fit session and seeing what effect this has on heart rate. Beavers will be tasting the delights of pancakes and also playing lots of pancake-related games – no doubt this will result in a leader up a ladder extricating pancake off the ceiling! As this February is extra special, as it is a leap year, we will be having an evening dedicated to frogs - a loose interpretation I know but it will be lots of fun!

Scouts had a fantastic visit at the end of January from the Surrey Firearms Squad, who gave a great talk and brought lots of weapons (both real and replica) for us to look at. Much food for thought - a brilliant evening and also most informative. Scouts will be out and about this term with a trip to Edenbridge swimming and a night hike around Toys Hill, this being in preparation for our annual escape and evasion exercise ‘Operation Colditz’ at the beginning of March. They will also be making pancakes and flinging them towards the ceiling (cue the leader with the ladder again!). Something tells me it may be a bit of a challenge?

In addition the Group has joined the ‘Phil the Bag’ Scheme, where we can gain funds from recycling old clothing, bags, hats, belts, towels and bedding. This will be running alongside our Tassimo cartridge recycling, for which the group has already received £20 for returning those coffee cartridges that usually find themselves in the bin! In addition we can now get money for recycling pens, pencils, markers, highlighters and felt tip pens. Don’t throw them in the bin – throw them our way and we can turn them into cash! We have a collection box in the hallway of the HQ along with the stamp collection box and one for printer cartridges and old mobile phones. In fact our hallways looks a little like a mini recycling centre!

Helen Clarke, Group Scout Leader (Tel: 01883 380742 Mobile: 07736 230068 Email: tatsfield.gsl@gmail.com)
W.I.

Our meeting on 3\textsuperscript{rd} January was very different. We held it at 12 noon and discussed and voted on which one of the proposed six resolutions we would like to go forward to the National AGM in June. For a list of the resolutions, see last month’s magazine.

Voting and business over, we were rewarded by a bowl of home-made soup and French bread, then had fun playing board games, safe and snug in the W.I. Hall whilst a howling gale and strong winds raged outside.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 7\textsuperscript{th} February with the speaker giving us ‘Further Tales of a Scotland Yard Detective’. So we obviously enjoyed his last talk! This meeting will be at the new time of 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start.

Margaret Bishop

RAMBLERS

Two walks starting in familiar places this month, one at Ightham Mote just across the border into Kent and the other at Leaves Green, which we pass when we drive through Biggin Hill going north. Details are below. All welcome, including dogs and their owners. Just turn up or give one of us a ring if you would like more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunday, 12\textsuperscript{th} February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meet</td>
<td>11 am at Ightham Mote car park (Map ref: TQ584535)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>5 miles, 3 hours, to Godden Green via Stone Street returning via Fawke Common, very muddy in places, one long medium hill and several undulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader</td>
<td>Mike Evans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunday, 26\textsuperscript{th} February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meet</td>
<td>11 am at Leaves Green (Map ref: TQ414619)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>To Downe, about 5½ miles, 3½ hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaders</td>
<td>Carol Vening and Jean Turner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Angela and Roger Sawyers (Tel: 577434)

BUS TIMETABLES

Not sure about the times of the 3 Tatsfield bus services – the 464, 540 and 595? Pick up your free pocket timetable from Linda’s.
FEBRUARY NOTES

We have been very lucky with the weather so far but please to not think that Tatsfield is going to have a mild winter - we have this month and March to come!

This is the very last month for **pruning hedges, trees and shrubs**. By mid month it is possible for many woody plants to start thinking about making spring growth and this may well result in any pruning cuts ‘bleeding’; this is especially so of Birch and Vines. It is also important to remember that our ‘early birds’ will be investigating likely nesting sites and some may have even built their nests by now. It is almost too late now to prune bush fruit (the currants, gooseberries etc) and top fruit (apples, pears) but remember do not prune plums or any of that family because of the risk that the dreaded Silver Leaf Disease is very likely to enter via the pruning wound; these plants are best pruned when in leaf.

I have been asked about **the spots that are appearing on the leaves of the winter pansies and violas**. Sad to say that this is another problem affecting our garden plants. It is caused by a group of fungus diseases producing leaf spots and in severe cases it can cause the death of the plants. It is not so severe where the plants are in a position out of shade and where they will be in the sun. Try to avoid drips from trees and shrubs above and where they remain damp, do not water unless they have dried out! In severe cases use fungicides containing difenoconazole (Plant Rescue Fungus Control spray), myclobutanil (Bayer Garden Systhane Fungus Fighter) and triticonazole (Scotts Fungus Clear Ultra) all of which can be bought from our local garden centres. When spraying make sure to use a fine spray to cover both sides of the leaves and stems, and also the surrounding area. These are not airborne fungus diseases, they are mainly transmitted by infected plants so make sure to destroy them, and the compost, when finished (do not put in the compost heap!) and clean the containers by washing them thoroughly in a disinfectant mixture. It is also best to avoid growing this group of plants for several years.

By the end of the month you should have completed your plans for **growing vegetables** but keep off our heavy Tatsfield soil if it is wet and sticky; best to wait until it is dry. Look out for early potatoes and get them started ready to plant next month, if the ground is ready! Come along to the Gardening Club at the WI Hall at 8pm on Tuesday 21 February for tips on growing potatoes (and soft fruit too) in Tatsfield.

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