



NOVEMBER 2021

# Tatsfield Parish Magazine

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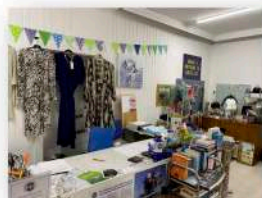
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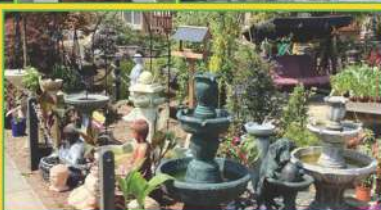
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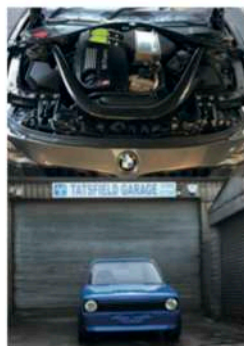
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*Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.*

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

#### **CHURCH CONTACTS**

ST MARY'S CHURCH, Church Lane, Tatsfield, TN16 2JX, [www.lttm.org.uk](http://www.lttm.org.uk)

**Anglican** • Team Vicar: Revd. Vince Short

**Church Correspondence** • The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2NA (577289; [vince@lttm.org.uk](mailto:vince@lttm.org.uk))

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

#### **COUNCIL CONTACTS**

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

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

**Website** • [www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield](http://www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfield)

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

**Surrey County Councillor** • Becky Rush [Becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk)

#### **OTHER CONTACTS**

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

**Village Hall Bookings Secretary** • Helena Garcia ([tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk](mailto:tatsfieldvillagehall@live.co.uk)) (07983 011028)

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

#### **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

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

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

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

**Calendar Dates** Our calendar usually covers six weeks or more from publication so please give us your dates in good time. If you don't want your event to clash with others why not check with us early?

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

**Cover image**: Tara Barry.

## EDITORIAL

On The One Show (BBC1, 11<sup>th</sup> October edition), the musician, Sting, was asked what was behind the title of his new album “The Bridge”. In reply, Sting said it was: “A very nice metaphor for what we are all going through at the moment. Everybody is looking for a “bridge” to the future, where we can feel safe, feel happier... and we don’t know where it is...”

This resonated with me as being true of our situation and reminding me of something that I sometimes say in a sermon, namely that “Jesus is the Bridge between us and God”. For me, both quotations have a feeling about them of moving on from a situation with problems or something that’s lacking, toward a brighter tomorrow – they therefore speak of hope.

I recently read that most of us had our losses, challenges or difficulties to cope with even before the Pandemic! At this time of year that is especially relevant to all who pause to remember loved ones who are no longer with us, around the time of All Souls’ Day (officially November 2<sup>nd</sup>); and as we remember those who gave their lives for our freedom at the annual Commemoration on and around Remembrance Day or Remembrance Sunday. These significant moments are also a “bridge” where we look back and we look forward. Here in Tatsfield, our Act(s) of Remembrance should be back to ‘normal’ this year, with the Poppy Appeal; the Tatsfield Remembrance Service in the Village centre at 10.30am – 11.15am on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup>; and the service at St Mary’s Church at 10am on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

I hope that the events will be well-supported, as we need each other on the journey. May there also be fresh energy and enthusiasm for Tatsfield groups and activities in the coming season. Let’s look out for one another. Let’s play our part. Let’s find that “bridge” to the future.

**God bless, Vince**

**Tel: 01959 577289 Email: [vince@ltnm.org.uk](mailto:vince@ltnm.org.uk)**

### **TATSFIELD ONLINE**

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

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

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

**Twitter:** @tatsfieldtweet

## LETTERS

### CHARITY BIKERS

Many cyclists were seen coming into and going away from Tatsfield village on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, and they entered and exited the playing field at Furze Corner for refreshments and drinks. Some 300 of them were taking part in the London to Brighton ride in aid of women with cancer, organised by the group called Dream Challenges.



*Martin Allen with charity bikers taking part in the London to Brighton ride.*

The weather was not at all kind and got much worse in a run that started at Crystal Palace sports stadium and headed towards Brighton Pier, which is a distance of 100km. The money raised and was for three different cancers: ovarian, breast and cervical. One colourful group called the Babes from Bowness on Windermere, drove down the previous day from far away in the Lake District.

**A CRACKING TALK** For many years I have been attending the monthly Tuesday evening talks hosted by the gardening club.



*Ian Hayman*

The recent talk given by Ian Hayman of Tatsfield Aquatics was superb. His presentation and slides accompanying and displayed by Jon Allbutt was so interesting and delivered in a clear voice to some 26 attendees so well that everyone could hear the whole informative talk from start to finish.

Summing up it was a great evening and well done to Ian, Jon, Martin and Christine.

More talks please!

## TATSFIELD SCHOOL FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Friday 5th November

Gates open from 6pm

Tickets available in advance or on the gate

Please email: tatsfieldpta@hotmail.com

## LOCAL SUCCESS AND A CRACKING DISCOVERY

What a great discovery to find that after travelling to Biggin Hill - Westerham - Warlingham and Oxted almost every Friday evening to buy our usual piping hot Fish and Chip dinner, I have found what is now known in the Bishop household as "the best Friday evening dinner ever" and it comes from our very own Ye Old Ship pub in little old Tatsfield.



*Tina Stacey and her new chef Lillie Wilson*

We had a Fish and Chip connoisseur, our 23 year old grandson, staying with us and he reckons that he enjoyed the best delicious chips with his fish ever "in his life" and we wholeheartedly agreed with him.

Congratulations to you Tina and to your new chef Lillie Wilson - you are Simply the Best!.

**Dave Bishop**



## POPPY APPEAL 2021 IN TATSFIELD



Tatsfield's support for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal 2021 is returning to its traditional

format following the easing of COVID restrictions. Traditional collection boxes will be placed at our regular village locations containing various items including the ever-popular tie pins and paper poppies.

**There will also be a 'Pop up Poppy Shop' table set up at Sheree's Store and Tearoom Saturday 6th November - from 10am to 12pm.** You will also see us on Saturday 13th November when we all come together to remember those from the village who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Thank you for continuing to support us, as your commitment helps fund life-changing work and allows the British Legion to help thousands of members of our Armed Forces community every year.

**David Vale**

## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE – SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 10.30 – 11.15am



*Ted Bonwick and Dennis Tapsell.*

A few years ago I was approached by two friends asking for help with publicity to enable the placement of a Remembrance Stone in Tatsfield. Both Ted Bonwick (ex-Army soldier) and Dennis Tapsell (ex-RAF Ground Radio Fitter) were sincere in their request and I wrote about their request in my weekly reports in the Surrey mirror newspaper. In no time at all (it seems now) other locals and the Parish Council were giving their approval for such a venture and the engraved Remembrance Stone was built. Sadly, both Ted and Dennis have now passed away, but the Tatsfield Remembrance Service carries on and will be conducted again by our Revd. Vince Short.

So can anyone, (or any group) of people wishing to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Stone be kind enough to let me know by telephoning me on 01959 577550 or 07813 4726334. If you have a computer you can email me on [davedbsound@gmail.com](mailto:davedbsound@gmail.com) and I will add you to the list of people wishing to remember loved ones who gave their all.

**Dave Bishop**

## TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

While sitting to write this report we are bathed in beautiful sunshine enjoying a brief Indian Summer. Let's hope that the expected cold winter is a long way off.

### Planning

TA/2021/1417/TPO 17 Shipfield Close TN16 2AU. Ash Tree, reduce back 4 large canopy areas by 5 meters, leaving a residual overall height of 18 meters and a canopy width of 12 meters. Planning consent has already been granted by TDC on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Already approved. No Action.

TA/2021/1374 Tatsfield Court Farm, Clarks Lane TN16 2JU. Demolition of existing stables and hay store and erection of replacement stables. The site is located within the Green Belt AGL and AONB. This application is for replacement of an existing row of stables and a hay store to the south of Clarks Lane. The footprint of the building is broadly the same as the existing. The design is simple and traditional and would not in our opinion cause harm to the AGLV/AONB. No comment.

TA/2021/1125 Charmwood, Greenway TN16 2BS. Validation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission ref:2018/2481 (erection of two-storey four-bed dwelling with associated parking and amenity space) to allow for the grey render to be changed to cream, alternative location for the air source heat pump and a Eucalyptus tree planted

at entrance. Amended description. The Parish Council have previously commented on this application in September 2021. The revised information now reinstates the Air Source Heat Pump that was previously commented on by TPC. No further comment.

TA/2021/1606 Ty Canol, Old Lane TN16 2LH. Formation of loft conversion with rear dormer. (Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed use or Development) The house has no other listed planning history. No comment.

TA/2021/132 5, Shipfield Close TN16 2AU. Erection of two-storey side extension (amended plans, amended description). This property is in the Defined Village. TPC reviewed this application in September 2021 and concluded they had no comment to make. These revised plans are broadly similar to the previous proposal and, if anything tidier in design terms. No comment.

TA/2021/1172 Willowood, Ricketts Hill Road, TN16 2NG. Resurfacing of existing crossover. This is for replacement of the existing vehicle crossover from tarmac/loose chippings to grey brick pavements on Surrey County Council Land. No Comment.

KCC/SE/0495/2018 Covers Quarry, Westerham Kent. Stabilisation and restoration of Covers Farm Quarry using imported engineering materials to restore the site to Grassland, including landscape planting and an ecological receptor area together with a temporary road and ancillary buildings. (Ratification). Tatsfield Parish Council wishes to reiterate that, as referenced in its previous objections, it does not support this application as in its opinion the B2024 Clarks Lane is wholly unsuitable for any routine HGV lorry movements particularly given that the route includes the Hill and sharp bend approaching Pilgrims Way. Use of such a route by HGVs would represent a severe danger to other road users. Not only would this impact the road surfaces, further accelerating their deterioration, it would also increase the damage to the local environment, but quite simply these roads would not be able to support the proposed volume of traffic, even at the recently suggested reduced rates.

## **Finance**

The carpark lighting bollards have been repaired and replaced with LED bulbs, and three street lamps replaced with new LED bulbs. The two remaining street lamps have received replacement drivers. Hopefully these repairs will keep the carpark safe and lit throughout the winter evenings.

## **Remembrance Service**

Once again the Parish Council are funding this event in the village centre kindly organised by Dave Bishop. Taking place on November 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 10.30am around Memorial Green. This is always a very well attended event and I look forward to seeing many of you on the morning.

### **Christmas Lights**

Able Electrical have carried out a check on the Christmas Lights and beside one slightly chewed through string which can be easily replaced, all are in working order. The lights will be switched on at 4pm on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### **Tatsfield Green Mowing contract**

The Council reviewed the contract for the cutting of Tatsfield Green. It was agreed that it was always done on time with excellent service from Nick Dance and his team. It was agreed to continue with this service.

### **Emergency Plan**

Ian Hayman and the Clerk have reviewed the plan and confirmed that all volunteers listed were happy to continue to be involved. A few minor updates have been made to the plan. Ian Hayman and Ashley Clifton are continuing as Snow Angel coordinators. TPC have also secured a new 2-year gritting contract with Church Farm Services to provide extra gritting along Paynesfield Road and Westmore Road which are not included in Tandridge Councils gritting list.

### **Your Fund Surrey- Picnic Bench project**

I am pleased to say that we have now moved on to the full application stage to replace the Benches on Westmore Green. The proposal is to provide six standard brown benches and one with wheelchair access for the area outside shops and around pond. Also, two green benches and one green with wheelchair access for around the childrens' playground area. We are very excited to be involved in this scheme and are also planning to apply for cycle racks to go behind the Old Bus Shelter. Fingers crossed we are successful.

### **Platinum Jubilee Tree Planting**

In a joint initiative with Tatsfield in Bloom the PC have agreed to the possibility of planting new oak and beech trees in specific areas around the village. The planting would take place October/November 2022.

### **Police**

The PC continue to invite our local PCs to attend our meetings but as yet have had no response. The Clerk did have a short correspondence from Rupert Kelly our PCSO. Rupert is now back on light duties following his accident earlier in the year and sends his best onto all in the village. I'm sure you all agree Rupert is missed and wish him speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him back with us soon.

### **AOB**

We received a Parishioner request to consider applying for an Asset of Community Value (ACV) to be submitted for The Grasshopper Inn on the A25. Members discussed the

request and noted that The Grasshopper Inn has extent permission as a hotel, this means it does not meet the criteria to be considered for an ACV.

The AMB continues to be upgraded and refurbished. This month we have replaced toilet seats, new taps in the kitchen and have introduced a new sanitary system.

Wow if you are still reading - thank you. Sorry it seems to be an extra-long report this month, hopefully I have managed to fit in everything. With the evenings now getting shorter and winter upon us we have less opportunity to get together. I look forward to seeing as many as possible at the Remembrance Service. Don't forget you are always welcome at The Parish Council Meetings on the second Monday of the month at the Aileen Mchugo Building 8pm. Further details can be found on the Village Website.

**Kim Jennings**

**Chairman Tatsfield Parish Council**

**Email: [kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)**

## **TATSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR ALL RESIDENTS AND ANY NEWCOMERS TO THE VILLAGE**



Tatsfield is in the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan that we hope will set out a vision for the development of our village over the next 15 years. The Neighbourhood Plan if accepted must be referred to by the Planning officers at Tandridge District Council when they are considering any application for development in Tatsfield. It is essential that the plan is written and that it protects what Tatsfielders love most about the village.

An essential element of this project is to consult the public (you!) throughout the process – **your participation is vital to the success of the plan** and continued harmony of the village.

### **HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED? THERE ARE THREE WAYS:**

**[1] MEET THE STEERING GROUP** at their next meeting usually held on a Wednesday in the Aileen Mchugo Building. Please come along and see the work completed to date.

**[2] JOIN THE STEERING GROUP** During the “pause” for Covid much has changed and we have lost some members of the committee and are in need of new interested persons to join the committee and one of the groups below.

**Minutes Secretary** We are in particular need of a Minutes Secretary / administrator to handle the minutes and processes of the committee. If you are interested in assisting us

in this way and joining the committee, please contact either myself or Susan Smale or Kim Jennings. Contact numbers are below.

**[3] JOIN ONE OF THE TOPIC GROUPS** Each of the topic groups focuses on specific areas of the plan. If there is one area that you feel particularly strongly about, or have specific expertise to share, please do get in touch.

- a. Community Facilities
- b. Housing
- c. Built Environment
- d. Natural Environment
- e. The Local Economy
- f. Transport and Infrastructure
- g. We would also ask someone that would be prepared to take on the role of Group Leader of a “**Sustainability for the Future**” in the Neighbourhood Plan. You would be starting from scratch but would be offered all of the assistance needing to get the papers completed in time.

**DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE SOME TIME OR ADVICE TO GIVE TO THE VILLAGE?** Then please contact one of the steering group members for a no obligation chat. Contact details can be found at:

[www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfieldneighbourhoodplan](http://www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfieldneighbourhoodplan)

or contact

Martin Allen (Chair)      Email: [martin\\_allen@talk21.com](mailto:martin_allen@talk21.com) / Tel: 577201

Sue Smale (Deputy)      Email: [sue.smale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sue.smale@yahoo.co.uk) / Tel: 577660

Kim Jennings      Email: [kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk) / Tel: 577328

**WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW, TO SECURE THE NEXT 15 YEARS IN TATSFIELD**

**Please consider the role of the Minutes Secretary and  
contact one of us for any information you may require.**

## TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### **Revenues, benefits and payments services available again**

Our revenues, benefits and payment services are available again, following a short period where they were unavailable, as we prepare to introduce our new online system later this year, which will improve the way we manage these services.

There will be some delays in processing any benefits claims or payments as we work hard to clear the backlog of cases resulting from these services being unavailable since 1 September.

Residents currently waiting for a response to their benefit claims should expect to hear from us within the next two weeks.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience. **For help with any urgent queries, please contact Customer Services by e-mailing: [customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk) or calling 01883 722000.**

### **Nominate your favourite community assets**

Have you got a favourite building, structure, sculpture, park or garden which is not already listed or protected?

A new project is underway to identify assets across Surrey which are valued by the community, so we need your nominations for buildings or other features you think play a key role in reinforcing a sense of local character and distinctiveness.

Over the next year, Surrey County Council will be working with us to produce an updated local heritage asset list for the district. This list can include any building, monument, site, place, area or landscape which has heritage significance, but is not recognised by another planning designation.

Heritage assets can take many forms and can be almost anything which gives an insight into the history of communities and places and provides us with a physical link to our past.

The nomination process closes at 5pm on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

To find out more, including the criteria being used and how to submit a nomination, please visit **Local Heritage List Project** on the Surrey County Council website.

Surrey County Council will recommend which nominations it thinks should be added to the local heritage asset list. We will then decide if we'll add them to the list (known as Buildings of Character), which will give some protection if a planning application is submitted.

### **Recycle Your Electricals**

Small old electricals are one of the fastest growing waste streams in the UK, with 155,000 tonnes of waste electricals being thrown away and 527 million small electricals items hoarded by UK householders.

Over the next few weeks, *authorities* will be issuing a series of rallying calls to local people across radio, social media and outdoor posters to increase this number even further.

You can recycle small electrical items and batteries, along with textiles and paired shoes every week, by leaving them out in a small plastic bag with your other bins.

Material Focus is a not-for-profit organisation whose goal is to stop the nation throwing away or hoarding all their old small electricals. The campaign is funded by producers of electrical appliances. The [Recycle Your Electricals Campaign](#) is making recycling small old electricals easier by providing an information hub for the UK on how to recycle electricals and a postcode locator with details of over 3,000 recycling, repair and reuse points across the UK.

### **Autumn street cleaning**

The autumn leaf fall presents a significant challenge for our street cleaning team to clear whilst trying to maintain the cleanliness in our streets. We would ask you not to clear any parts your property of leaves by sweeping or blowing them into the street. They will build up in the gutter and are likely to block drains, will disguise the edge of the road and so may cause trips or falls or damage to vehicles, and are likely to compress and create a slippery surface.

**To deliberately blow, and therefore deposit, leaf matter or debris onto the highway is an offence, pursuant to section 148 of the Highways Act 1980.** – an offender risks prosecution and possibly a civil action for damages should an accident occur due to their actions. (Prosecution would be a matter for Police or the Highway Authority).

We are unable to alter the cleaning schedule to deal with accumulations of leaves created in this way, and your road will not be visited until the next scheduled visit. A clear instruction to your gardener **NOT to do this** would make things easier for us all.

### **Group Leaders Meetings**

I continue to be involved in a series of Group Leaders Meetings with senior officers and external consultants over the past few weeks that will continue into the future in an effort to understand and get to grips with a shortfall in funding that will affect all residents within Tandridge in the future.

### **Summer Additional Restrictions Grant**

This scheme has now closed for applicants but I am pleased to see that the news of the grants appear to be reaching some “other “businesses that may not have realised there were eligible in the past. Grant funds should be with every approved applicant by the month’s end.

A new Autumn 2021 ARG is in the throes of being put together so please continue to watch this space for further details.

## Overflying of the NSA of Tatsfield

I and Parish Councillor David Pinchin will be setting up further meetings with the CEO of Biggin Hill Airport to get to grips with this problem, but in the meantime I hope you will agree that our perseverance is having an effect and there are fewer instances.

## Proposal to bring Gatwick Airport's northern runway into use

Gatwick Airport is seeking the views of residents and the local community on its proposal to bring its existing northern runway into routine use. A twelve-week public consultation is taking place, for anyone interested. Gatwick Airport has published a [Statement of Community Consultation](#), which provides detailed information on its proposal.

## Support Local Businesses and Societies

Lastly and importantly for Tatsfield can I urge you to support our local businesses and societies in every way that you can. We rely on our local business so much and we need to show our support to them to ensure that they continue to operate through these hard times and prosper well into the future also.

## County Lines, know the signs

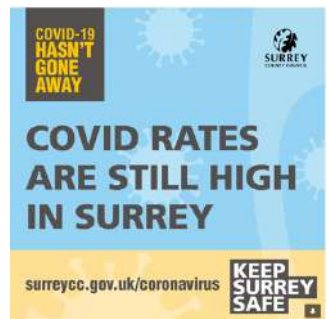
Do you know what County Lines is or how to spot the signs a child or vulnerable person has been recruited? Via Tandridge County Council website you can watch a video which gives an introduction to County Lines and is targeted at professions which come into contact with vulnerable people, like teaching, policing and health and social care. However, this is equally relevant to all of us in our day to day lives.

If you think you've seen signs of drug dealing in your community, or suspect any County Lines activity, you can [report it online](#), call 101 or, if you'd rather not speak to the police, you can anonymously call independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers will never ask for your name or trace your call.

## Covid-19 is still with us, let's keep life moving

Covid-19 rates in Surrey are still quite high, but there are things we can all do to help keep life moving:

- Get vaccinated.
- Let fresh air in or meet outside.
- Wear a mask in crowded spaces or on public transport.
- Get tested at least twice a week.
- Stay at home if you feel unwell.
- Wash your hands.
- Download and use the NHS app.



You can find out more on the latest Covid-19 rates on Surrey County Council's website. Thank you for continuing to be cautious and considerate of others. You are helping keep Surrey safe.

### **Have you booked your free flu vaccination?**

This year, it's more important than ever for eligible people to have their free flu vaccination to protect themselves and others. More people are likely to get flu this winter as there were not as many cases of flu last year due to lockdown and social distancing, so fewer people will have built up immunity.

Many adults and most children can have a flu vaccination. Visit the NHS website to check if you are eligible.

It is important pregnant women have both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine as well as the flu vaccine to protect you and your unborn baby. Thousands of pregnant women have safely received the Covid-19 vaccine in the UK and NHS figures show no pregnant women with both doses of the vaccine have been admitted to hospital. Autumn is the best time to have a flu vaccine, before flu starts circulating, although you can still have the vaccine in the winter.

### **Visiting the Council Offices**

Our reception at the Council Offices in Oxted is open to residents from Tuesday to Thursdays.

To guarantee you get the best possible service when visiting us and to continue to keep our staff as safe as possible, please make an appointment before visiting, by e-mailing [customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk), visiting [www.tandridge.gov.uk](http://www.tandridge.gov.uk) or calling 01883 722000.

Alternatively, you can arrange to meet a council officer if you are already dealing with them.

**Also Remember to help Tatsfield Good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets.**

**As ever, if there is anything you think I can help you with please contact me accordingly.**

**Cllr Martin Allen 01959 577201 [cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk) or [martin\\_allen@talk21.com](mailto:martin_allen@talk21.com)**

## CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

Thank you so much for your extremely kind messages. I'm heartbroken for Sir David Amess' family, friends and staff having to make sense of this hateful act. He was on my corridor in Parliament. A kind, gentle colleague filled with wisdom and humour for us new MPs. You would struggle to find a more devoted local MP. He was an example to us all.

I need to keep my staff safe, so I will be reviewing security. However, my number one ambition in this role is to be an accessible MP, someone who you feel is visible and easy to reach. Like many MPs yesterday, I continued with the rest of my day's engagements after the news broke and I plan to keep going.

Politicians sadly have always attracted the obsessive grievances of disturbed individuals. But we can't stop being with our constituents. It is a core part of our democracy that keeps us rooted in the things that matter to residents and builds the relationships we need to affect change.



### **GRANTS OF UP TO £2,000 AVAILABLE TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Local community and voluntary organisations can now apply for grants of up to £2,000 from the Tandridge Together Community Fund. The grants will be awarded early in 2022 to local charities and voluntary groups which demonstrate the work they do improves the health and wellbeing of people living in the district.

Eligible organisations are invited to apply for funding of up to £2,000 towards initiatives which will directly benefit residents in the district, through one or more of the following activities:

- Support people to be able to live independently for as long as possible.
- Support people to improve their emotional and physical health.
- Target services at under-represented and / or hard to reach groups.
- Effectively safeguard people from abuse, neglect or poor treatment.
- Reduce social isolation.
- Help reduce reliance on alternative, higher cost state interventions.
- Support and enable carers to carry on caring for as long as possible.

The application form is now available and applications must be submitted by midnight on Tuesday 30th November. The grant allocations will be decided by the Tandridge Health and Wellbeing Board in January 2022. The overall fund available is raised by people buying weekly tickets for the Tandridge Together Lottery.

## FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY AT FREEDOM LEISURE THIS AUTUMN



Freedom Leisure has a range of activities on offer to get residents active this autumn:

- Freedom Leisure's free **Walking for Health** walk gives residents the opportunity to join trained walk leaders and enjoy walks of around 75 minutes for people who want to improve their health and wellbeing, lose weight or just make new friends. The walks take place every Wednesday, starting at 10.30am, meeting outside the reception at de Stafford Sports Centre at 10.20am.
- Run in partnership with de Stafford School and One Time Youth Agency, **Move to Improve** is a free dance and wellbeing workshop, helping young people improve their mood and reduce stress and anxiety while learning new dance trends.

There will be more exciting activities coming up as we approach winter, so **keep checking our e-newsletters and Freedom Leisure's website to find out what's going on at your nearest centre.**

### TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM

The Tatsfield Village Hall Management Committee AGM will be held on  
1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 at 20:00  
in the Parish Room of the Aileen Mchugo Building, Tatsfield Village Hall,  
Westmore Green, Tatsfield, TN16 2AG



## Emotional wellbeing and mental health support for young people

A number of organisations are working together to deliver the new emotional wellbeing and mental health service for children and young people in Surrey, Mindworks Surrey.

The service provides children, young people, families and carers in Surrey with essential information to help improve emotional wellbeing and mental health, including how to ask for help in a crisis via its 24/7 Crisis Line. More information on the support available, including a dedicated area for professionals, schools and GPs, can be found on [Mindworks Surrey's website](#).



## Looking for a Job?



### FREE JOB MENTORING BY EXPERIENCED VOLUNTEERS

Flexible service is offered:

- on a one to one basis; and/or
- in small groups

Support includes:

- coming to terms with being out of work
- determining career objectives
- researching relevant sectors/companies
- completing CV and job applications
- coaching for effective networking
- preparing for interviews
- negotiating job offers



TO FIND OUT MORE OR REGISTER PLEASE EMAIL:

[jobcluboxteddistrict@gmail.com](mailto:jobcluboxteddistrict@gmail.com)

## LITTLE ACORNS PRE SCHOOL



We have had a very busy first month back after the summer with lots of visitors!

Our first visitor of the month was Jan Akthar who came along to read to the children. The children really enjoy these special story times and were enthralled by Jan's animated story telling.



Next to visit us was Rev Short from St Marys church. The Rev came to share the story of harvest with the children and why it is so important, we also had a great sing along while he played the guitar! He collected the pre-schools donations for Harvest Festival and was very grateful for all the kind donations.



scorpion and a tarantula interesting, and the experience.



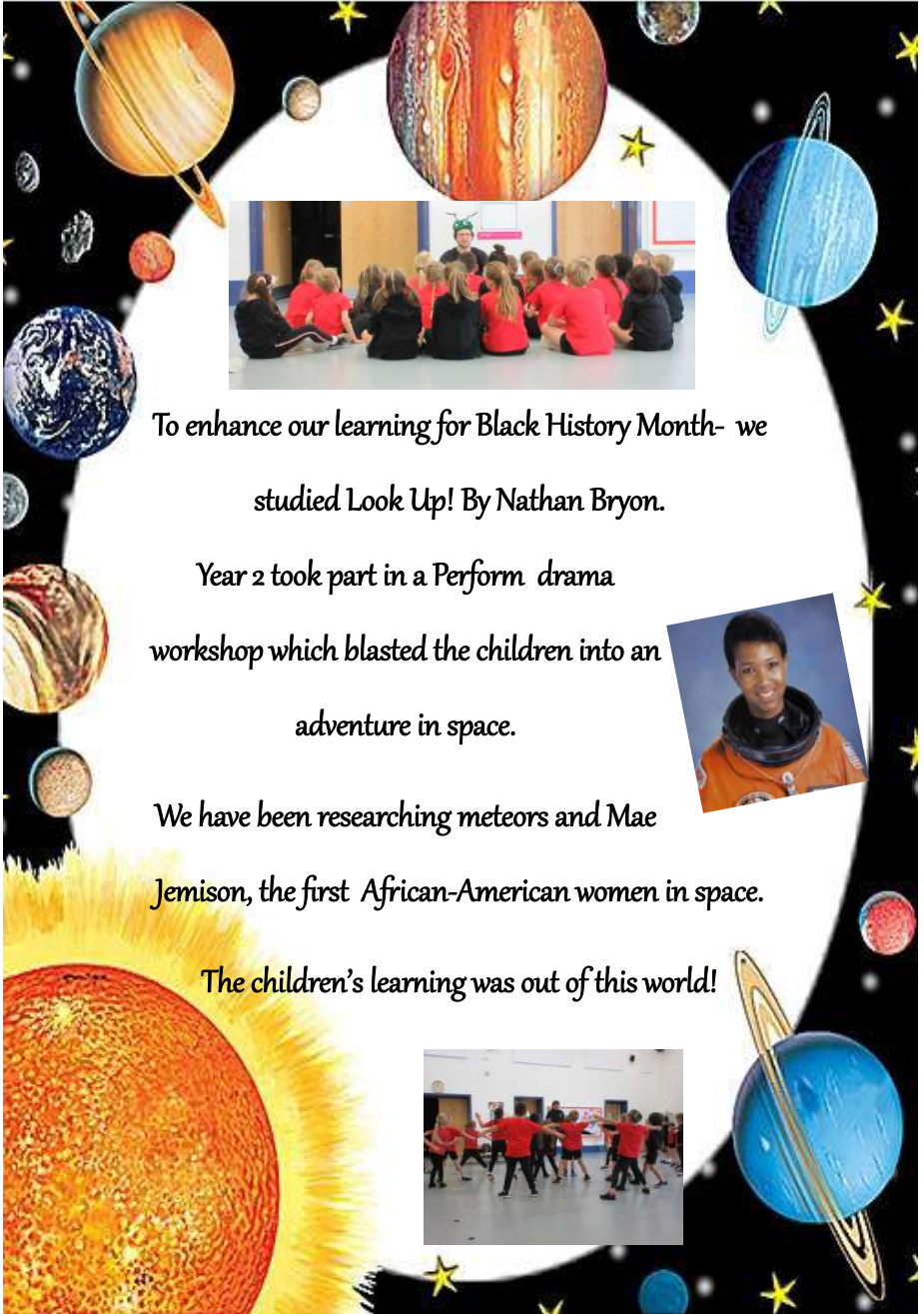
Our last visitors were from Tatsfield Aquatics. Lisa bought in a variety of creepy crawlies for the children to look at and learn about. There were wax worms, woodlice, and meal worms for the children to hold and a to look at! It was very children all loved the

Finally, we are planning ahead to Christmas and are asking for any local businesses to donate to our Christmas Raffle to raise funds for the preschool. If you are able to donate anything please get in touch, we would be most grateful.

If you would like to enquire about a place for your child from September 2022, please do get in contact; we'll be happy to answer any questions you may have and you'll be welcome to visit the preschool.

**The Little Acorns Team**

**Email: [office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk](mailto:office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk) Tel: 01959 540775**



To enhance our learning for Black History Month- we  
studied Look Up! By Nathan Bryon.

Year 2 took part in a Perform drama  
workshop which blasted the children into an  
adventure in space.



We have been researching meteors and Mae  
Jemison, the first African-American women in space.

The children's learning was out of this world!



## TATSFIELD MUMS AND BABIES NETWORK

Tatsfield Mums, along with their children under one, are invited to a one-off drop-in session in order to meet other Mums and babies. The WI ladies have very kindly said that Mums and babies can join the usual drop-in session at the WI Hall on 24<sup>th</sup> November. The toddlers of the village are lucky to have the **Tots on Top** weekly sessions to attend (please call **Jo Chevalier on 07789 636048** for more details). However, those of you with younger babies may not yet have had the chance to meet any other Tatsfield Mums and babies. The drop-in session will provide the opportunity to create a network of Tatsfield Mums and babies, whilst enjoying some cake.

The drop-in session is being organised by Bryony Martin. Bryony says “My daughter, Cecily, arrived in April and we have not found the opportunity to meet any other Mums and babies in Tatsfield. I will be taking her to Tots on Top session when she is a little older and able to enjoy the free play sessions. In the meantime, it would be lovely to meet some other Tatsfield Mums and babies. I hope that you are able to join us at the drop-in session on 24<sup>th</sup> November.”

Bryony and baby Cecily look forward to meeting you **10:00-12:00 on Wednesday 24 November in the WI Hall (29 Paynesfield Road)**. If you have any questions, or you are unable to join but are keen on meeting other Tatsfield Mums and babies, then please email Bryony ([bryonymines@hotmail.com](mailto:bryonymines@hotmail.com)).

## TATSFIELD WI

Tatsfield WI hosted an afternoon Cream Tea on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> as part of the nationwide Macmillan Coffee Morning initiative. Despite a rather overcast morning the afternoon weather was fine, and we were able to use both our outside garden patio space and our newly refurbished hall to host the traditional cream tea. A great opportunity to meet up with old friends and greet newcomers. We even made up ‘take away’ packs on request. A total of £140 in donations was raised which (with the Gift Aid forms) will all be sent to Macmillan Cancer Support.



Our Harvest Lunch on 5<sup>th</sup> October was attended by 16 members, 3 of whom have recently joined and were warmly welcomed. The delicious food was enjoyed by everyone and included plenty of fruit and vegetables grown on Tatsfield’s allotments. I am pleased to report that our members are unashamed foodies and welcome every opportunity to enjoy dining in convivial company.

Our next meeting in the WI Hall in Paynesfield Road, at 2.15pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> November will be a presentation by a representative from Sal’s Shoes, a local charity. We are open every Wednesday morning from 10.00 till 12.00 for a Coffee/tea Pop In so if you are at a loose end please join us (children and well behaved dogs are very welcome).

**Susan Smale, 01959 577660**

## TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY – MY PATIO GARDEN

The past two years have been a difficult but interesting time for gardeners and gardens. 2020 discovered many new vegetable growers in every community and Garden Centres quickly ran out of seeds and plants. 2021 dawned with a further lockdown but the Garden Centres had worked hard to provide seeds and plants for those who had got the bug for growing.

I am not a gardener and I make it up as I go along. I have a patio garden which has a six foot by three foot raised bed and several patio pots. At the end of spring 2020 I left the spring bulbs in the pots which I am pleased to say all flowered in spring 2021. I just kept the area tidy during the summer of 2020 and enjoyed reading in my outside space during that time.

2021 dawned and I decided it was time to make progress in my garden, although in lockdown again. I ordered two roses, three courgette plants and three tomato plants which were all late in arriving due to the snow and the cold wet weather we had in spring. I have little space indoors to plant seeds, but I did plant sunflower seeds for five of my grandchildren. Then there were rats.



*My shady patio planting*

In February I saw a rat crossing the end of my garden and found that neighbours had seen similar. It is believed that rats came into domestic gardens this year especially for the amount of bird food many of us had put out to enjoy birdwatching during lockdown. I stopped feeding the birds and had a visit from pest control. Fortunately I believe the rats moved home when the food outlets reopened.

One side of the patio is in the shade for most of the day and I decided to develop this area by purchasing two wooden troughs from David Bacon on the village green. I painted these, as well as my two garden seats, lined them and filled them with compost. Planting them was interesting and I really had little idea what would grow in the shade. Two clematis flowered but were not happy. Those that did well were Penstemon, Veronica, Nepeta racemose, Digitalis and Lobelia. Geraniums were very late to flower as were Impatiens. The Petunias were ok until they were flattened in the summer storms.

I had two packs of unopened wildflower seeds from 2020 which I decided to sprinkle on my raised bed as in there were already several perennials. I was pleased to see that several grew and then I had the job of finding out what they were!

All the plants both sides of the patio were much more straggly than usual, particularly the roses, as they were all trying to find the sun during our poor spring and summer this year. The best wildflowers, as pictured, were Wild Mustard, Borage and Mallow.



*Wild mustard*



*Mallow*

I had plenty of courgettes from the three plants, in a large pot, but only early on, some of which I shredded and froze for courgette cakes. The tomatoes were very slow to flower and fruit but I am still eating, in October, the ones which ripened in September! The sunflowers seeds all grew in a pot and grew to great heights but not high enough

I think to win prizes. We are now into autumn and were able to hold the Tatsfield Horticultural Show and the Plant Sale.

I used the community composting site a few times, which has now closed for the winter. Please continue to support the society.

Now for planting a few more bulbs.

I had fun in my garden this year with plenty of interest and colour, as pictured, and I hope you did too.



*Borage*

**Catherine Webber**  
**THS Committee Member**

## **AIR AMBULANCE KENT SURREY SUSSEX**

I have been informed that with effect from the beginning of December I will be unable to forward Tassimo and L'Or coffee pods for recycling. Sadly, Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex will no longer receive sponsorship for this element of the recycling project. If you are collecting Tassimo and L'Or coffee pods for me please deliver to me on or before 14<sup>th</sup> of November. This will give me sufficient time to process the pods and arrange delivery to the recycling centre before the closure date for sponsorship.

To date I have forwarded over 150 kilos of coffee pods collected by the Village and have over 40 kilos waiting to go. A wonderful effort by Tatsfield. **THANK YOU.**

**Collection of crisp and peanut packets will continue as normal. (Leave in porch at 58 Crossways. Heavy sliding door.)**

**Many thanks, Jenny Davies**

## NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

As promised, an update as to what is happening as regards an NDS concert. With the current relaxation of conditions, NDS is extremely pleased to announce that they will be holding a concert on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 7.30 pm. The conductor will be Michael Hitchcock, who has conducted the orchestra several times before – you may remember his 'Evening in Vienna'. Both he and the players are very pleased and relieved to get back to 'normal'. The programme will start with the Mendelssohn 'Midsummer Night's Dream' overture and scherzo, which everybody knows. Not so well known, but equally delightful, is the Fauré 'Masques et Bergamasques' suite. Part 2 will feature the very last Haydn Symphony, number 104, which again is well known.

Of course, we realise that not everyone will want to mingle with others and are therefore not expecting record numbers to attend. This should give us some scope for social distancing, and although masks will not be required, some of the audience might feel more comfortable wearing them.

The prices will be as normal - £10 for adults, and £8 for concessions – and may be obtained by phoning **Peter or Jan on 01959 577659**, or by emailing **northdownssinfonia@gmail.com**. Some tickets might be available on the door.

We hope to see you there!

### WORKSHOPS AT THE WOODHOUSE CENTRE



**The Woodhouse Centre is putting on workshops for the community to come and try some new crafts and learn new skills - at the Centre**

#### **CHRISTMAS EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP** **SATURDAY 20TH NOVEMBER**



**1.30 - 4.30pm**

**£20 per person**

*Includes all materials and light refreshments*

#### **CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP** **SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER**



**10am - 1pm**

**£30 per person**

*Includes all materials and light refreshments.  
Please bring your own scissors or secateurs*

**To book your place call 01883 715189 or [thewoodhousecentre@gmail.com](mailto:thewoodhousecentre@gmail.com)**

**MORE INFORMATION AT [www.thewoodhousecentre.org.uk](http://www.thewoodhousecentre.org.uk)**



# **TATSFIELD ART GROUP**

## **EXHIBITION**

**Sunday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>  
11am – 4pm**

**Village Hall  
Tatsfield TN16 2AG**

**Paintings . Prints  
Cards  
Sculpture . Jewellery**

*Cash, cheques and cards accepted*

***Free Parking***

**07746965334**

**tatsfield-art-group.weebly.com**

**Supporting Janice Akhtar's  
Alzheimer's Charity Wagon**

## FAIRTRADE & THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

It was a quiet misty start to the day on Saturday 25th September as we set up our Fairtrade Tea Tent by the shops alongside the THS Plant Sale, Surrey Wildlife display and local Beekeepers. Before long, we found ourselves busy chatting to Tatsfielders about how Fairtrade is so closely linked to the Climate Crisis whilst serving free cups of Fairtrade tea, coffee and hot chocolate and selling a range of Fairtrade goods.

Our display board highlighted some of the ways in which we can all make a difference in our gardens and when we do our grocery shopping:

- Composting garden and food waste
- Using peat free compost
- Planting trees and flowers for pollinators
- Sowing native wildflower seeds
- Choosing Fairtrade goods each week
- Cutting out or reducing meat and dairy products



We were delighted to be joined by Andrew and Sally Lake who had an interesting display of beekeeping items. Their delicious honey was available to taste and buy too.



The Surrey Wildlife Trust also formed part of the event. Simply by joining the trust you can help since larger membership numbers give the organisation more clout at development planning meetings. Their conservation work focuses on protecting rare and endangered habitats and species throughout the county. There are over 60 sites to visit.



Once again, our loyal committee member Bob David donned the yellow banana suit and, in his inimitable style, invited visitors of all ages to sample a free Fairtrade banana or a piece of Divine Chocolate. Thanks Bob and thank you to everyone who supported the event - a happy occasion raising awareness for a serious message as the COP26 Climate Conference in Glasgow begins.

**So, having celebrated Great Big Green Week, now is the perfect time for politicians to start recognising Fairtrade farmers and workers as experts on what the climate crisis really means.** Farmers and workers are leading our global Fairtrade community in calling for fairer financial support to adapt to the rapid climate change they did so little to cause.

But Fairtraders are also calling for trade deals that empower farmers to invest in low-carbon technologies, and for wealthy nations to take full responsibility for their carbon footprint.

If you are interested in finding out more do go to the Fairtrade website: [fairtrade.org.uk](http://fairtrade.org.uk). If you would like to join the Tatsfield Fairtrade Group, then do get in touch - we are always keen to welcome people to the committee or to help at our occasional events. Do contact our co-ordinator Barbara Hester by email: [tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com)

Thanks for making a difference with every Fairtrade purchase!

**Hilary Harber, Tatsfield Fairtrade Group**



**Do you play Bridge?**

*If so, why not come along to  
the Tatsfield Bridge Club in the  
WI Hall on Monday afternoons  
from 1.30 – 4.30?  
For full details, go to*

[www.bridgewebs.com/tatsfield](http://www.bridgewebs.com/tatsfield)  
Or phone Kay on 01959 577 682

## ST MARY'S NEWS

**Harvest Festival – ‘All Good Gifts Around Us’ – October 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>** It was a joy to welcome a good number of visitors over the weekend at our Sunday Services; and during our open days the following week. The colour, imagination, talent and hard work that went into the floral displays and paintings was really uplifting, with thanks to all who contributed. Many appreciated the opportunity to enjoy tea, coffee and cake in the Millennium Hall for the first time in a good while. Thanks are also due to all who contributed from their own gardens and to the Titsey Estate for their donation of produce, greenery and flowers. The 5pm Reflective Service of Prayer, Scripture and Music for God's Creation with our guests from Warlingham, the St Ambrose Singers (pictured below), was a welcome addition, which attendees found moving and inspiring. Photos of the church and displays (from Peter Maynard and Vince Short) are in this edition of the magazine.



**Harvest Festival Food Collection** Thank you to everyone who donated so generously – through the Church collection, Tatsfield Primary School and Little Acorns Pre-school. We were able to take a large quantity of food to Christ Church, Brixton Road, on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October and to Westerham Food Bank. The food was received with grateful thanks and will go a long way in providing provisions to all those who attend these 2 food banks. As you know we continue to collect food, throughout the year, for both Christ Church and Westerham. **The Christmas deliveries** are planned for the beginning of December, to Christ Church, Brixton Road, (date to be confirmed) and also, to the Westerham food bank. **Food suggestions** are canned vegetables and meat, tinned fish and fruits, ready meals, baked beans, milk, fruit juice and porridge. Also welcomed are rice, pulses, and toiletries. There continues to be a growing need for support from families at both Food Banks. If you would like to give your support you can leave any non-perishable food that you wish to donate in the church, at The Rectory or please contact me. If you would like to donate in the monetary way, this will be used to purchase further food. Thank you for your support, **Hilary Vale 01959 577864**

**Flower Team** Firstly, very sincere thanks to the team of Tina Boys, Pauline Conlon, Sylvia Hyett, Kay Longley, Rita McKay, Kay Roberts, Christine Rosenbaum, Sue Saunders, Sue

Smale, Sam Vatcher, Pat Walsh, Sue Warren, Sara Williams for the incredible floral arrangements, Jan and Peter Maynard for supplying Tea, Coffee and homemade cake and biscuits. Also, to Rory, Head Gardener, and his team at Titsey, for the flowers, amazing pumpkins, gourds and other produce. Also, thanks to Philip Skinner for the loan of milk churns and bags of hay. It was a most enjoyable time of creation and chatting, as we prepared.

Rota for November:

7 <sup>th</sup> November	Jan Maynard
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Tina Boys
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Sam Vatcher
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Advent

Anyone wishing to join our merry team please contact: **Ann 577127     Jan 577659**



**The Churchyard** Many thanks to the Churchyard Tidy up Team for their work on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, when several braved the poor weather and did a great job in keeping the grounds looking beautiful for our visitors at Harvest and beyond. A final meeting of the year may take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November (10am – 12noon), weather permitting.



**Monthly "Happy Hour" Coffee – Autumn dates** We look forward to seeing you at Sheree's between **10am and 11am on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November**, for the last of our current series of "Happy Hour". The Church will offer a **£1 subsidy** for every coffee, tea or hot chocolate purchased. Please mention **"Happy Hour"** when ordering to obtain your discount.

**We are sorry that we had to reluctantly postpone the Classical Guitar Concert on Saturday 16th October, due to insufficient ticket sales.** The event may be rescheduled in 2022.



**New CMS Link for St Mary's, Tatsfield** For a number of years we have supported David and Shelley Stokes in their work in Argentina and we now wish them every blessing in their retirement. In August we met Lea and Petra Williams and their children to learn about their forthcoming work with CMS (Church Mission Society) in support of the Church in the Czech Republic. At their meeting on 8th September the Parochial Church Council approved our new link with Lea and Petra for the coming years.

### **St Mary's Church 100 Club results for the October draw:**

10. M Broughton £25    66. A Hopkins £15    87. B Fairclough £10    St Mary's £50

### **Records**

28<sup>th</sup> September – Funeral of Edward (Ted) Joseph Bonwick

**Open the Bible All Age Service – next taking place 10am Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November** Children and families are welcome at St Mary's every week. On the first Sunday of the month our lively (and slightly shorter) Open the Bible service includes additional involvement of the children and young at heart.

### **Remembrance Weekend 2021**

10.30am Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November - Service of Remembrance in the Village Centre.

10.00am Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, including Holy Communion and the observance of the 2 minute silence at 11am.

**Sunday Services** Our regular Sunday services in church are back to their pre-pandemic pattern: 10am weekly, with an additional service of Holy Communion at 11.30am on the first Sunday of the month. Further information is in our notice sheet which is posted on the noticeboard at the church entrance and can also be accessed via the link on the home page of our website: [www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys](http://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys).

**Lectio Divina – weekly Bible reflection 7.30pm-8.00pm each Wednesday by Zoom with Chris and Ellen Goldsmith.** Each session explores and brings to life a short Bible passage as we first listen and then each share a word or phrase that stands out for us. All are welcome, as each week stands alone. The Zoom link can be found in our notice sheet which is accessible via the homepage on our website.

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

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

The **Millennium Hall** is open for bookings.

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





## REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

<b>Sun</b>	10.00 am Church service – StM
<b>Mon</b>	9.30 am Tots on Top – CH 1.30 pm Bridge Club – WIH 5.00 pm Boom Dance Academy Junior Street Dance - VH 5.45 pm Boom Dance Academy Break Dance for All – VH 6.30 pm Cubs - SH 7.15 pm Adult Ballet - TPS 7.30 pm Art Group – VH [Term time] 8.15 pm Bingo – TVC
<b>Tue</b>	1.30 pm Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month) 1.45 pm Not So Young Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH 2.30 pm WI Meeting (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH 6.00 pm Beginners Step Class - VH 7.00 pm Scouts and Explorers – SH 7.00 pm Beginners Step Class - VH
<b>Wed</b>	10.00 am WI Pop In – WIH 1.30 pm Short Mat Bowls –VH 6.00 pm Cubs – SH 7.30 pm Yoga – VH
<b>Thu</b>	2.00 pm Scrabble at AMB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month) 4.30 pm Under 8's Judo - SH 5.45 pm Over 8's Judo - SH 7.15 pm Adult Ju Jitsu - SH 7.30 pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS 8.00 pm Table Tennis – VH
<b>Fri</b>	10.00 am Pilates – WIH 9.30 am Self-defence and HIIT, Tatsfield Martial Arts -SH 11.15 am Pilates – WIH 1.30 pm Short Mat Bowls –VH 6.30 pm Over 10's Ju Jitsu- SH 8.00 pm Badminton Club – VH
<b>Sat</b>	9.00 am Under 8's Judo – SH 10.00 am Composting site (now closed for Winter) 10.15 am Over 8's Judo - SH 11.45 am Adult Judo – SH

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

### NOVEMBER

2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	2.30pm	Finding New Feet for Pre-loved Shoes – Sals Shoe Charity Talk
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	10.00am	Cancer Research Christmas Fair, The Barn at Botley Hill
5 <sup>th</sup> Fri	6.00pm	Tatsfield School Fireworks Display
6 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.00am	Pop-up Poppy Shop, Sheree's Store
9 <sup>th</sup> Tues	7.30pm	Tatty Knitters, The Bakery
13 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.30am	Remembrance Service, Village Centre
17 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.45pm	Jack the Ripper, Comedy Music Hall, Barn Theatre
18 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.45pm	Jack the Ripper, Comedy Music Hall, Barn Theatre
19 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	Jack the Ripper, Comedy Music Hall, Barn Theatre
20 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.45pm	Jack the Ripper, Comedy Music Hall, Barn Theatre
20 <sup>th</sup> Sat	1.30pm	Christmas Embroidery Workshop, Woodhouse Centre
24 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10.00am	Mums and Babies Network Drop In, WIH
27 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.00am	Christmas Wreath Workshop, Woodhouse Centre
28 <sup>th</sup> Sun	11.00am	Art Exhibition, VH
30 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00am	Monthly "Happy Hour" Coffee, Sheree's Store

### DECEMBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	8.00pm	Tatsfield Village Hall Management Committee AGM, AMB
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	2.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
7 <sup>th</sup> Tues	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
8 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
9 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
10 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
11 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.45pm	R.E.M. by REMbrandt, Barn Theatre

### Venues

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

## NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



How lovely it was to be back in the freshly painted WI Hall for our monthly meeting. It was great seeing all our members tuck into vegetable soup, homemade rolls and, of course, the obligatory cakes.

Members also completed an autumnal quiz, testing their little grey cells! Of course we ended our meeting with our much loved raffle. Members paid the new fee of £2 (£1 per raffle ticket).

Time flew by as we discussed future plans and menu options!

Our next meeting is on the 9<sup>th</sup> November and we will be holding another themed light lunch that will hopefully go with a bang.

Christmas is also looming and as ever we will be hosting a celebratory event. This will be a closed meeting so if anyone new members would like to join the Not So Young you will need to come along to the November meeting or contact one of the committee members.

Finally, our raffle prize stock is quickly becoming depleted so if anyone has any unwanted new toiletries or gifts that they would be willing to donate we would really appreciate them. If you could contact one of the committee, we are willing to collect.

**Keep safe. Sue Dowse [notsoyoung100@gmail.com](mailto:notsoyoung100@gmail.com) 07816 110929**

### CHRISTMAS FAIR IN SUPPORT OF CANCER RESEARCH UK

Brand new venue: The Barn at Botley Hill  
Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, CR6 9QH

Preview Evening: Tuesday November 2nd 6 - 8.30pm  
£15 advance tickets only through Eventbrite

Main Day: Wednesday November 3rd 10am - 3pm  
£4 pay on door, or in advance through Eventbrite

The Barn is a luxury rustic events barn with three distinct spaces.

There will be a dedicated food hall and a range of gifts to include clothes, accessories, bags, jewellery, garden goods, belts and boxers, quality kitchenware, solid oak homeware, stocking fillers for men and women, soaps and skincare.

There are no refreshments available at the fair, but the site is next door to the Botley Hill Farmhouse pub. Prebooking for lunch is essential <http://www.botleyhill-farmhouse.co.uk/>. Coffees and teas are available in the Sheep Shed.

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

Visitors will be encouraged to wear face masks. Please do not attend if you are feeling unwell or have symptoms of Covid-19.



## "1917" SHOWING AT THE VILLAGE HALL



"1917", the outstanding British war film, is being shown at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 20 November by Curzon Country Cinema. All seats are £5. Pay at the door or reserve and pay online – [www.curzoncountrycinema.com](http://www.curzoncountrycinema.com).



The film is directed and produced by Sam Mendes, who also directed and produced the recent James Bond film, "Skyfall". It is based on a tale about World War 1 recounted to Sam Mendes by his grandfather, and tells of two young lance corporals tasked with delivering a message to Colonel McKenzie, commander of the Second Battalion. With 1,600 soldiers taking

position in trenches ready to attack the newly formed Hindenburg Line, British intelligence realised that what appeared to be a German retreat was in fact a trap. With less than 24 hours to deliver the letter from General Erinmore, the film follows the pair as they travel across the appalling remains of German occupied territory devastated by the scorched earth legacy of the enemy.

You will be familiar with many of the actors appearing in the film, including Mark Strong, Andrew Scott, Richard Madden, Colin Firth and Benedict Cumberbatch.

**Bob David**



We're back the Tatty Knitters have started meeting again.

It was so lovely to see everyone again.

Our next meeting will be on  
Tuesday November 9th from 7.30 until 9.30 in the Bakery.

Any type of craft welcome. Come and say hello to us.

**Val Quick (07761571071)**



## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

Let's start, this month, with an email from 'Adventuress Ruth' (Yeeles). As Steve (Gaskell) previously pointed out, the Box Tree moth may be attractive, but it's most certainly not to be encouraged.

(14.09.21) *'I was very interested to read about Steve's encounter with the **Box Tree moth** and would like to thank him for solving a mystery for me. I came across a very distinctive moth a couple of months ago, in the garden, and spent a lot of time looking through all our guides trying to identify it, but couldn't find a trace of this attractive white moth with brown border and I now know why! Our visitor also flew off... but obviously not before laying eggs on our small Box shrub which is now looking rather decimated!!'*

Oh, dear – sorry to hear about your Box plant, Ruth. I guess we'll simply have to do the thing that is most difficult for us naturalists, but is what the experts advise: kill any moths

or larvae of the Box Tree moth that we find, thereby helping to save our native Box trees.



Steve has been particularly observant recently, sending in not only his report of the Box Tree moth but also some very colourful caterpillars (photo 1).

(04.08.21) *'Ragwort everywhere this year including these in Westmore Road hosting a large number of **Cinnabar moth** caterpillars, pretty but poisonous.'*



'Poisonous' isn't really a word we like to associate with our garden visitors. But, as always, there is a good reason for these caterpillars to be poisonous: survival. And it's not just the caterpillars; the poison is transferred to the chrysalis and onwards to the emerging moth (photo 2). It's worth noting that at no time does the moth want to poison any other creature. The bright colours of both

caterpillar and moth are an active deterrent to that occurrence. If, however, a foraging bird, mammal or amphibian tries its luck, it will soon realise its mistake and move on, leaving the rest of the caterpillars unharmed. The question worth asking is, 'Where does the poison come from?' Well, the caterpillars feed on Ragwort and Groundsel, both of which hold high levels of alkaloid poisons. These are stored in the caterpillar's (and the moth's) body and form a chemical defence against predators. Unless you are a Ragwort or Groundsel farmer, there is no need to destroy these insects. It is, however, worth warning young children that colourful insects (like most berries) are to be observed, not played with, and are most certainly not for eating!

Continuing with the 'moth' theme, I would like to throw in my own contribution. A couple of months ago I found a delightful moth sheltering in the front porch. Like most of us, I'm pretty good at identifying butterflies (apart from skippers!) but when it comes to moths I don't really have a clue. So, like Ruth, I went diving through my field guides (which are still well-used despite the joy of Google) until I found an illustration of my visitor – the **Swallow-tailed moth** (photo 3). Apparently, it's common throughout Britain, but if I had



seen one before it certainly wasn't stored in my moth memory box. I daresay that, like most butterflies, the concept of a 'common' moth is somewhat different now to what it was when the book was published back in the 1980's. Anyhow, I was delighted to see it, particularly as it was clearly displaying its swallow-like tail; a feature not always apparent.

It's late October, and yet, a **Comma** butterfly appears on the sedums, **Red Admirals** and **Honey-bees** are busily collecting nectar from the ivy flowers, **Small Whites** are dancing over the front lawn, and in the field towards Beddlestead, feeding low-down amongst the corn stubble is a flock of migrant **Skylarks**, no longer ascending on a cloud of song but chirruping their presence, earthbound. Summer may have passed, but there is still plenty to be seen for those with open eyes and an inquiring mind.

The '2021 Climate Change Conference' (COP26) is happening and, as expected, this is reflected in the presentation of some excellent, environment-related TV programmes. My personal favourites are, 'Restoring the Earth' (BBC4) and 'The Earthshot Prize' (BBC1). What a shame that the programmers couldn't get together to avoid the 20 minute overlap! Nevertheless, that's no problem if you use BBC iPlayer. **Recommended viewing.**

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

## THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – NOVEMBER 2021

Saturn is on the meridian due south with an altitude of  $20^\circ$  at 6pm on November 1<sup>st</sup> with Jupiter reaching that point itself one hour later. It has a slight advantage over its ringed neighbour in as much as it is  $4^\circ$  higher in the sky. As the month progresses the two planets culminate (cross the meridian due south) earlier and earlier until by the 30<sup>th</sup> Saturn is there just before 4pm, which is after sunset, and Jupiter arrives just before 5pm.

If you look towards the south and south west on the 30<sup>th</sup> around 4:30pm the three planets Jupiter, Saturn and Venus are nearly in a straight line and spaced an equal distance apart. Venus, which is the furthest west (right) is by far the brightest, followed by Jupiter which is furthest east (left) which leaves Saturn, the faintest, in the middle. The three bodies continue to be visible next month and into early January with Mercury also joining the party.

The map shows the positions of the planets and Moon in the middle of the month (16<sup>th</sup>) at 5:30pm. I have also shown part of Pegasus (The Square), the two fishes of Pisces as well as the bright star Altair which is part of the Summer Triangle. Towards the top left is a small smudge which indicates the location of M31, the great spiral galaxy in Andromeda which may contain up to 1 trillion stars.



If you have access to binoculars, and can mount them on a tripod, you will be able to follow the daily movement of four brightest moons of Jupiter known as the Galilean moons after Galileo who discovered them. His discovery threw a spanner into the works of those who thought that everything in the universe revolved around the Earth (the Geocentric system) because here was proof that it did no such thing. As time went by the Earth became of progressively less importance as firstly, we realised that the Sun was at the centre of the solar system and the Earth was just one of a number of mere planets

that were in orbit around it. Secondly, it became clear that the star at the centre of our lives was just a common everyday star in an outer arm of a galaxy that contained around 400 million stars, many of which were larger and brighter than our Sun. Thirdly, we learned that our galaxy is just one of possibly two trillion such conglomerations of stars in the universe – our fall from grace was complete.

The question is, of course, whether we are we alone in the universe or not. Are we in some way unique? Just multiply the number of stars in a typical galaxy by the number of galaxies in the known universe and you'll end up with an awful lot of zeroes. To suppose that amongst all those stars with possibly planetary families of their own, that we should be the universe's only inhabitants is bizarre in the extreme. No, I'm afraid there is unlikely to be anything unique about us.

It's true that we still can't be sure how life came to Earth or indeed how water arrived but if it happened here then why not somewhere else? Certainly, the planets around other stars that we've so far found (exo-planets) are to a large extent "hot Jupiter's" – huge planets that orbit quickly and exceptionally close to their parent star and would be unable to sustain life due to intense heat and lack of water. However, methods of planet hunting are being refined all the time allowing us to find smaller planets like the Earth in zones where liquid water could exist. It's just a matter of time.....

**Brian Mills FRAS**

**TATSFIELD 100 CLUB**

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	David Parker	£48.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Mary Wiggins	£32.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Michael Wiggins	£16.00

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

**Les**

## BARN THEATRE

### DECEMBER 2021

**Glow Theatre Group – Matilda JR.** Rebellion is nigh in Matilda JR., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination, adapted from the award-winning full-length musical. Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets £10.00 available from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 07813 916105.

**Glow Theatre Group – Big Fish.** A heartfelt, powerful, and truly magical musical about fathers, sons, witches, giants, mermaids and the stories that we use to define our identities. Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets £12.00 available from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 07813 916105.

**R.E.M. by REMbrandt.** REMbrandt play the best singles and album tracks from R.E.M.'s 31 year, 15 album career, including such hits as 'Losing My Religion', 'Man On The Moon', 'The One I Love', 'Everybody Hurts', 'Shiny Happy People' and 'What's The Frequency, Kenneth?'. R.E.M. achieved 31 UK Top 40 singles and over 85 million sales worldwide, with classic albums such as 'Out Of Time' and 'Automatic for the People'. REMbrandt also perform material R.E.M. themselves covered live on stage by U2, David Bowie, The Rolling Stones, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Elvis Costello, Iggy Pop and more. Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>. Tickets £18.00 available from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk).

### JANUARY 2022

**The Oxted Players – Beauty and the Beast.** A magical pantomime retelling a tale as old as time. Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup>. Tickets £13.00 available from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk).

**Oxted Comedy Night.** Join **Charlie Baker with Ricky Grover** and guests as **House of Stand Up** presents 'An Evening of Top London Comedy' on 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.45pm. Charlie Baker's versatile talents as a stand-up comedian, actor, and highly acclaimed jazz-singer have seen him earn a reputation as 'a superior take on the modern showman' (The Guardian). Baker has exercised his comedy chops with appearances on hit shows The Last Leg, Harry Hill's Tea Time, Comedy Central at the Comedy Store, The Great British Bake-Off: An Extra Slice, Never Mind The Buzzcocks, Edinburgh Comedy Fest Live, The Dog Ate My Homework and Channel 4's Comedy Gala. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets £20.00 until 23<sup>rd</sup> October, £25.00 thereafter, available from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 01959 561811. 18+

## TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Hello everyone

A big THANK YOU to all those who helped with the **plant sale in September**, that was timed to coincide with the Fairtrade tent being operative at the same time. It was the first one for far too long, and the first ever in the autumn. Because of this, we had no idea of what to expect in the way of sales and restricted our purchases to half of what we would normally do for the Spring Plant sale.

We used a different supplier this time and were thankful to Pam, Jan and Jill who kindly arranged and picked up the plants up during the week before.

Because of this, our tables looked a little emptier than usual! So those of you that did purchase the plants please do let us know how you get on with them. Pictures are always welcome.

And thank you also to those who brought plants along to sell on behalf of THS. We sold everything and could probably have sold more of some things.

It was also good to see Fairtrade there as well. I'm sure that putting the two together was the right thing to do and encouraged more people to come. So much so the committee is thinking of doing the same again next year.

It was lovely to begin to get back to some sort of normality, with crowds of people chatting together. Let's hope that spring will be even better! Photo attached shows volunteers Martin Allen, Christine Stainer, Peter Maynard, Pamela Bishop and Catherine Webber setting up the stalls before the villagers arrived.

And following on from that theme, we also had a very successful and informative talk at the **Gardening Club session** on 12<sup>th</sup> October in the WI Hall. Over twenty villagers were entertained by Ian Hayman proprietor of Tatsfield Aquatics on everything to do with Pond maintenance and Landscaping, including that of our own pond that Ian very kindly offered his services free of charge to renovate and maintain the pond for the villagers. And how much better it looks for his input.

Ian showed us pictures of some his work ranging from Wildlife ponds to what appears to be a new trend of Wildlife pools. He explains some of the tricks of the trade, the materials used and some of the costs from a more genteel £6000 to a whopping £ 150,000. How to use and not use plants and the same with lights and what rocks and what liners to use. After Ian's presentation and the tea, coffee and biscuit break Ian was happy to answer questions from the audience all of which went home knowing a little more about how to look after their own pond.

**Annual General Meeting and Big Talk** in the Village Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. This is the opportunity for all members to have their say about how the Society operates and your chance to join the committee for the upcoming Year starting from 1<sup>st</sup> October.

After the formal meeting we will have a speaker **Malcolm Knight** on “**Vineyard Life by a Tour Guide**” rumours are that he will be bringing some wine “to taste”, so that as well as the refreshments that your committee is offering makes sure that the night will be enjoyable.

All for the price of £ 5.00. Pay on the door for your ticket which will entitle you to a free glass of wine or glass of beer or lager. Teas and Coffee will be available if required.

**THS Committee**

## **THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN NOVEMBER**

November can be a month with every type of weather from mild, wet and windy to cold, frosty and yes there can be sleet too. There is a great deal of serious discussion about our winter weather as the warnings of fuel shortages continue. Sadly, my weather station has stopped working and it will be a month or two before it is fixed; one thing for sure we have some weather ahead of us! Here is an old saying to guide you – *“If ducks do slide at Hallowtide, at Christmas they will swim; If ducks do swim at Hallowtide; at Christmas they will slide”*.

I read one of those gardening articles in a newspaper recently telling us it is time to “tidy up the garden”. This is a traditional topic in the garden writer’s diaries and is stuck firmly in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century gardening thinking! They say a garden at this time of the year needs a thorough tidy up; every perennial must be cut to the ground, every twig, leaf and weed removed. I have even seen a garden contractor use a leaf blower in a border! As a young gardening apprentice, I was instructed to rake out every leaf and twig and move huge loads of organic material up to the yard and stacked high on the compost heap and there it languished for years undisturbed until needed for mulching the same borders in the spring.

We now know that this traditional practice is not only unnecessary hard work, but it can have a severely negative effect on the garden environment and the millions of macro and microorganisms all the way up to hedgehogs, badgers and foxes.

May borders are now planted with mainly annuals and perennials and the soil is full of young seedlings of Cottage Marigolds, Aquilegia (Columbine), Myosotis (Forget me Not) and Digitalis (Foxgloves) to name just a few. If I hoe and rake through my border I will lose all these plants that will start flowering in the spring and continue through the summer. That said, I will make sure to continue the war against Creeping Buttercup that is trying to run rampant this year, I think it must have been introduced in brought in compost or in the roots of a new plant.

I have lots of ripening seed heads of Cyclamen that will be scattered in the spring, grow for two years and then join the others in a glorious display from August onwards; this is surely sound gardening practice!

Removing leaves deprives worms and many other tiny organisms of their main food source; they process the dying organic matter and it becomes part of the chain of events that maintains the fertility of the soil, helping your plants to grow without the use of fertilisers.

I have a lot of plants, including grasses, with old flower heads full of seed, at the moment, they are providing food for flocks of Goldfinches and other birds. When they have finished feeding I will then cut them down.

I will be cutting the old untidy foliage from my Hellebores (Christmas Rose) so that I can enjoy the flowers now emerging. Be careful not to cut them off too low as there is a risk of cutting off the emerging flower heads!

Remember that Tatsfield in Bloom is asking you to save your seedling native trees, especially Beech, Oak and Ash, ready to donate to our big tree planting event this time next year as part of celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

**Jon Allbutt**

## **COMPOSTING SITE – GOODBYE HARRY**



A big thank you and best wishes to the longest-serving volunteer at the site, Harry Boys, for his seven years with the team who wish him well as he heads off to university.

Harry started at the site as a

bronze Duke of Edinburgh entrant but having completed through to his gold award, Harry decided to stay with the team thereby recording the longest stint of any of the Duke of Edinburgh volunteers.

If you know anyone that is interested in volunteering at the site as part of their DofE it is open to both boys and girls, please contact: Martin Allen on 01959 577201.

**Martin Allen and Dave Bishop**

## TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

The volunteers have been continuing tidying the village since returning to group sessions at the beginning of September.



On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October the volunteers started removing the summer plants and planting up the winter pansies, violas and daffodil and hyacinth bulbs. Some of the begonias and lysimachia plants were left on the Bakery Green for people to collect.



They planted the cascade planter, the four rectangular planters at the side of the Village Hall and the six tubs and four mangers at the front of the Village Hall. The containers were topped up with compost before planting, the waste was taken to the composting site and the empty plastic pots were bagged up ready to take back to Coblands for recycling. The rest of the planting will be carried out during October, including the Tatol and perennial beds.

A big thank you to Kenny for the loan of his truck to collect the plants from Coblands as they were having difficulty with transport.

Discussions are now taking place to decide on our theme for next year. Although we have decided not to enter the South & South-East in Bloom competition in 2022, we shall still be planting up the beds, containers and mangers in the village centre. One theme put forward is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which takes place next year, but we are always open to discuss alternatives.

It is a very worthwhile and satisfying experience helping to make our village beautiful and we are always looking for new volunteers to give up an hour of their time on a Saturday morning to come and help us. Please just turn up at 10.00am by the Bakery and we will greet you warmly and buy you a cup of coffee afterwards!

Many thanks for your support.

**Jill Hancock (577622)**

## TATSFIELD IN NOVEMBER 1921

My regular trawl of the village archives is a reminder the local issues of the day were in some ways little different from those of today. The background was, however, quite different.

What appears at first sight to be a familiar example is the roads. At a meeting of the rural district council it was suggested that the junction of Ship Hill and Church Hill was dangerous and that 'something needed to be done'. When you start reading the account of the meeting you are reminded how things have changed. Yes, more and more motor cars were coming onto the roads, but even that important junction for the village was an unmade road. A parish council suggestion that it would be made safer if a fence were removed to improve sightlines was taken on board. If that were done, the meeting decided, "it might not be necessary to metal the whole width of the road".

Then there was the question of a road sign on Paynesfield Road close to the Old Ship. In those days it seems that organisations such as the Automobile Association looked after such things. The idea of a local authority being involved was resisted, but the government was apparently planning to take the work away from the AA and introduce standardised road signs across the country in the near future, so a start was made on the forest of signs that adorn our roads today.

At its November meeting, the parish council heard from a resident "who reckoned the time was ripe for the council to use its influence in having a water main laid in Johns Road". Such a move would need the assent of a parish meeting, since the parish council would have to guarantee ten percent of the cost, and that depended on how many residents said they actually wanted mains water! The meeting decided to pursue enquiries and to include Old Lane in any project as well! It took another sixty years until the whole of Tatsfield was connected to mains water.

## RAILWAY PLANS FOR TATSFIELD

From the first edition of *'Tatsfield – the First 2000 Years'*, twenty-two years ago, we asserted that "between 1863 and 1900 no fewer than eight schemes for a railway line through or under Tatsfield had been proposed. Then the other day I discovered that there was a ninth and that it had come much earlier, only a few years after London got its first trains. The Surrey Mercury of 13<sup>th</sup> November 1845 carried a formal notice from the *'Direct London and Hastings Railway, Pier and Dock Company'* announcing its plan for a railway from Croydon to Hastings via – among other places - Selsdon, Sanderstead, Warlingham, Tatsfield, Tatsfield Green, Tatsfield Court, Titsey, Cudham, Westerham and Edenbridge. Instead, in 2021, we have four buses a day to Westerham.

**Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project - [Tatsfield.history@talk21.com](mailto:Tatsfield.history@talk21.com)**

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

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED: TRUST IN POLICING WITH CC GAVIN STEPHENS



Our Chief Constable Gavin Stephens took questions from the public live on Facebook and Instagram on the evening of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October. There were a huge number of questions asked, so for ease we have identified some common themes and concerns which we have pulled together into this Q&A.

### Theme: Feeling safe

- What can a civilian do to verify the identity and legitimacy if they are approached by a person in plain clothes showing them a police warrant card?
- If anyone doesn't trust an officer for any reason, can you assure us that we will not be arrested or handcuffed while making inquiries about credentials and will be peacefully allowed to challenge anyone's 'authority' if we don't feel safe?
- If I am driving and flashing lights come on behind me to pull over, is it okay to keep going to somewhere with other people? How do I signal that to them?
- Why is flashing not seen as a more serious offence, when it is known perpetrators of flashing are more likely to go on to more high-risk sexual crimes?
- Why is the onus always on the female?

### Response:

One of the key topics that I've seen covered in the media is 'How can women who are on their own, who are stopped by police, be reassured that we're going to keep them safe'. The first thing is that the onus is not on women to find that safety. The onus is on those in policing to give you that reassurance. We've given guidance to our officers here in Surrey about what we expect them to do, but I know that they would be doing that anyway. This has shocked us in policing. It's rocked us to our core, and we will be wanting to do everything we possibly can to reassure you that we're there to keep you safe.

It's very rare for a lone male officer, not in uniform, to be making stops on their own with lone females. It can happen. It does happen. But what you can expect in those circumstances is very quickly for other colleagues to come and assist. I know that male colleagues will be reaching out if they find themselves in that scenario to get their colleagues to come and join them. You shouldn't have to do anything extra to ensure your own safety. That is on us and we will take those steps. Of course, if you find yourself in a situation where that doesn't happen, you can seek help or can request that the officer who's dealing with you to ask somebody else to attend, or to contact the control room, but we will take the initiative to do that and to give you that reassurance and keep you safe.

In most circumstances where we stop somebody, we will choose to stop them in an area that helps them be safe, but also helps officers be safe as well. Of course, we don't know what we're about to encounter when we stop a vehicle so we will want to do that in conditions that are safe for everybody. You don't have to get into our police vehicle when we do routine procedures - you can stand outside if you feel more comfortable. Typically,

if you are offered to get into a police vehicle, in my experience, it might be because it's pouring down and we want to give you shelter, or you might be in a dangerous position on a fast road for example and officers are trying to give you protection, but if you want to stand somewhere else in a safe space that's fine too.

In relation to handcuffing, we only handcuff for our safety and your safety - circumstances where we think somebody's in possession of a knife or a bladed article or drugs for a drug search. Again, in those sort of scenarios officers will be very quickly seeking assistance from their colleagues and are unlikely to do any of that on their own. It's not part of our practice if we've made an arrest and taken somebody into custody to transport that person on our own. We don't do that, not least for police officers' safety as well, so if you do find yourself arrested for an offence by a male officer on their own, they will be seeking assistance with transport into custody.

Considering what's gone on, I understand that people may be feeling nervous. It's something that we're all going to have to work through together because policing relies entirely on the trust and confidence of our communities. Without that trust and confidence, policing is so much more difficult to do, which is why we've got to accept the damage that's been done by Wayne Couzens and it's our responsibility in policing to regain that confidence.

In relation to questions around the seriousness of offences such as indecent exposures - we know that they can be a precursor to sexual violence, and we do take them very seriously. Earlier in the year when we did a survey across Surrey which received well over 5000 responses from predominantly women and girls in our communities about where they feel safe. A theme that emerged was that often some of these scary and dangerous acts were not reported to us.

I would encourage them to be reported because whenever a report like that comes in, we will want to look at the whole circumstances around it. We may have information and intelligence already in our system and you may have the missing piece of the jigsaw. We will look to put themes together where we can and we absolutely want to identify those offenders and intervene in their offending behaviour as you quite rightly identify, these can be pre-emptive to much more serious offences.

Sometimes such offences take place in particular locations that are felt to be dangerous in themselves and we will want to work with our local authority partners to make those areas feel safer too. So, there is a lot that we can do and if this has happened to you and you haven't reported it then please consider doing so. You can do that anonymously through Crimestoppers if you prefer.

There's also now an online tool that anyone can use to report areas where you don't feel safe. You can find it by searching StreetSafe/Surrey Police. It's an online tool where you mark on a map areas in Surrey where you don't feel safe or you've got concerns about safety.

**Theme: Police culture**

- What is Surrey Police doing to root out misogyny, prejudicial, sexist and discriminatory behaviour in any way, shape or form within its ranks?
- This was not just one officer; it was partly the result of the culture he worked in emboldening him. What are you doing to address the broader issues within the system that can ultimately encourage this type of horrific behaviour?
- Is there a fear within the force of police officers coming forward and raising concerns on other officers' behaviours? What is the process of investigating internally within the force?
- What is being done to strengthen your HR processes such as improved screening at recruitment stage, tougher code of conduct rules and disciplinary process, ongoing education of current staff?
- Will you always offer an unprejudiced investigation into any allegations of this matter against a member of your force, regardless of the complainant's relationship with the force or the perpetrator's standing within your own ranks?
- Is there a procedure where an officer can anonymously report if a fellow officer hears another officer making derogatory comments about women?

**Response:**

I've worked at every rank here in Surrey, starting as a Police Constable over in Caterham. One of the things that's being covered in the media over the last few days is around policing culture: Has it changed? And what's acceptable in policing culture now compared to in the past? It's changed enormously in my time in service, but there's still much change to do. I'm a big believer in what an organisation feels like to work for, what the culture of the organisation is, what's accepted and not accepted - it all has a direct bearing on the quality of service that we give to our communities. If we get the organisation right in what's tolerated and what's not tolerated in the very high levels of professionalism and expectations, then that translates into the service that we give.

One of my great passions is doing my best to lead this organisation, but I'm not blind to the fact that in policing we still see misogynistic and sexist behaviour. In Surrey last year we ran a campaign called 'Not In My Force'. It was a campaign that was led by male colleagues taking responsibility to set the standard within the organisation.

You might hear people sometimes call it 'banter' or 'canteen culture'. It's not that. It's completely unacceptable behaviour. It's not acceptable in Surrey Police for anybody to be derogatory towards women, to be sexist in their behaviour, to exchange messages with their friends or whatever it might happen to be, because that is not who we are in policing. I accept that's what we sometimes see in policing, but we are absolutely determined to root it out.

So how do we do that? Well, every police force has a Professional Standards Department and within that we have an even more specialist unit that deals with anti-corruption. They can take intelligence from you, our community members, but also from colleagues and partner organisations that we work with. If they see standards of behaviour and things happening that they're not comfortable with that we can proactively investigate

then I have sadly, and will continue to do so, dismissed colleagues from policing who've engaged in that sort of behaviour. Information from you and inside the organisation will no doubt mean that we'll continue to tackle that.

I mentioned that I've been policing for quite a long time and that things have changed. One of the things that has changed is that colleagues are much more willing now to speak out and challenge this behaviour. There's a particular thing in here I think, for me as a man and for my male colleagues, because it's our responsibility to challenge the issues because it's unacceptable to us as men. It's not the organisation that we want to be part of, and we take it very seriously. It undermines your confidence in us and it's something that we work very hard at. Following that campaign internally, we've been using that to look for best practice.

I hope that in most encounters that you have with us, and I know that this is true from the letters of thanks that we get, that in the majority of calls for our help that we get every day, people are getting a brilliant service with really high standards of professionalism that we aspire to. The standards of professionalism expected in policing are way beyond what are expected in normal society and in many organisations, and rightly so because we have coercive powers that come to us as part of our duties and we must use those wisely and responsibly.

One of the first things that I talk to our new recruits about when they join us is that one of the transitions that they've got to make from civilian life, from being a member of the public to becoming a police officer or a police staff member or a volunteer, is that whether on or off duty, you are bound by a professional standard. When there's a breach of that standard through a complaint or an internal report that's been made, an investigation will take place. Of course, low-level, genuine mistakes can be dealt with by something that we call 'practice requiring improvement'. We can learn from a genuine mistake, but where it's something that's malicious or breaches that standard in such a way that requires disciplinary action then that will be dealt with through a formal process. When it's gross misconduct, unless there are exceptional reasons, those issues are dealt with in public by an independent, legally qualified chair so that process is transparent.

Our College of Policing has a barred list, so for colleagues that are dismissed from policing, they will go on the barred list and that is available for people to view. I make the point that these cases are rare and most of the work that we do is done to an exceptionally high standard, but it's important for me to explain that where colleagues do breach those standards then there are very serious consequences.

I'm not naive to the fact that there may be things that still go unreported - concerns from both members our communities and from colleagues internally for whatever reason - but what we try and do is give as many avenues and opportunities for people to be able to raise things. There's a duty within our code of ethics to speak up, but equally we have anonymous reporting systems that colleagues can use. We have systems of support inside the organisation that people can reach out to in confidence, for example through

different staff networks. Externally, if you've got concerns you can report things anonymously, but also our oversight body is completely independent from policing if you didn't feel confident to report directly to us.

Another question that's been topical in some of the media coverage is in relation to the level of vetting involved. I can't speak about the individual circumstances of this case other than I'm sure there will be more to learn. I've worked as our head of Professional Standards in the past and one of the key responsibilities in that department is of our vetting functions. When you come into policing you do go through a process of vetting and if you go into specialist roles that process of vetting becomes even more stringent. Those checks are extensive, but of course there are cases in our past in Surrey Police and in other force areas where things have been missed in vetting so we will be looking carefully at what more we need to do.

There is one thing that's absolutely guaranteed for someone to fail their vetting on and that's on matters of honesty and integrity. If somebody doesn't disclose to us honestly in any of their screening what we then subsequently uncover, then they won't get into the police service. Of course, the other opportunity that we take early on in training is to be setting the standards that we expect. It's sometimes in those early weeks and months of policing, not just because we find people are not meeting the standards, but they find that the standards are sometimes too high for them, that policing is more of a challenge than they expected it to be.

This case has made what is already really difficult work even more difficult and I think that that's one of the aspects that's made me feel so much turmoil. My colleagues have a difficult enough job as it is without what this has done to undermine your confidence in us further. So vetting is something that we will look at, but I guess my final word on that is, that for us to do that effectively we do need information from our communities. If you know of somebody that was joining our ranks and you thought 'I've got an uneasy feeling about that' then that's the sort of thing that we would want to know. Those early warning signals, just in the same way that I've been saying about our expectations of colleagues inside the organisation. If they've got concerns about colleagues, then it's our responsibility to report those in. And not just in the case that we've been talking about but whether we see misogyny or colleagues that may be in policing but perpetrating domestic abuse. That's something the Centre for Women's Justice drew attention to last year and that Surrey Police proactively responded to with a very clear plan around it. All of those things go towards making this a service with the highest degree of professionalism. We need to support each other through that, and I ask for your support in reporting in your concerns.

## **Theme: Policy**

- Why does an off-duty police officer have their badge and handcuffs? Surely the entire uniform should be picked up at the start of their shifts?
- Do officers undergo psych evaluations?

- Will the police recruitment process be reviewed to ensure that any previous offences or re-reported offences have an impact on a potential candidate or practicing police officer?
- How many police officers have abused their powers, and have been sacked, at Surrey police, or any police force?
- Do Surrey Police publish online, details of officers convicted of a crime?
- What are existing demographics of Officers and are we recruiting more female officers and how do we promote careers in Policing to women?
- Does the force encourage Officers to have a zero-tolerance policy with regards to impropriety they see in their shared online/whatsapp groups?

**Response:**

When sworn in as officers in policing, we will carry a warrant card. The warrant card is issued with a wallet, normally a small leather wallet that has a police crest in it as well. The typical thing that you'll see is a warrant card with the officer's photograph on it, their name, and a badge to go with that. If you're an office worker, I carry mine on a lanyard around my neck. We do have that with us all the time because, of course, our policing responsibility extends on and off duty. There are many occasions where officers place themselves on duty to protect the public.

What we will not routinely do when we're off duty is carry kit or equipment with us. For most operational officers, they have lockers at work where they leave their kit and equipment. There may be circumstances such as if we were involved in a joint operation with another force and we were going to a briefing in another area that we would take our equipment with us, but it's not routine for officers to have their kit and equipment when off duty.

In addition, if somebody is suspended from work, then they won't have access to their kit. They may still have access to a card that allows them to meet colleagues for welfare purposes for example - if they're still employed by us we have a responsibility for their welfare so we might still need to make arrangements for them to be able to meet with their supervisor and so on, but they will not have access to their kit when they're suspended.

**Theme: General safety and policing**

- Can the Police please help influence for the overnight streetlights being reinstated across Surrey, to help everyone to feel a lot safer at night?
- Will Surrey be looking to stop plain clothes officers from working alone?
- When are we going to see more police patrolling the streets?
- When attacks on women occur on the streets, is there any review of the location and circumstances, by police and local council safety teams? Might the results of these provide reassurance to local women in the aftermath?
- This is all about women and girls - what about men? Don't they deserve a service?

**Response:**

Surrey Police recently carried out a Women's Safety Survey which was inspired by Cumbria Police's Call It Out campaign to try and establish how safe women and girls feel in the county. We had over 5000 responses to this and a common theme was that women weren't reporting these incidents where they didn't feel safe.

The survey provided useful information to us, but the onus isn't all on women to report. We can all take responsibility. The other responsibility that falls on us as men are to challenge the things that we see on our streets, in our public spaces, in our bars, pubs, clubs and restaurants, on our public transport and in our workplaces that are not acceptable and call them out. We want to be good men and we recognise and accept that women have had enough and that horrific cases like this need to be a watershed and a turning point in our society that helps us become a safer and better society.

In relation to streetlights, that has been a key topic of debate since we did that survey back in May and well beyond that. We do work closely with colleagues in Surrey County Council and you can use the Street Safe tool to report concerns about street lighting. As well as asking you where you might not feel safe, it asks for reasons why. Street lighting does come out as a theme from that and that's what we use for those discussions with local authorities. On a practical point, one of the key things in this is having something that's environmentally friendly and cheap to run.

We'd encourage everyone to report incidents to us and if you'd like to remain anonymous, you can do so through Crimestoppers. We also totally respect that feeling unsafe isn't exclusive to women and girls and that men and boys in Surrey have also experienced feeling unsafe and we will take all reports seriously. The survey, along with reports we receive helps us build our intelligence and better informs us when it comes to putting together our patrols and making plans with local authorities around street lighting and other safety measures.

Questioning in relation to why it feels our service is focusing so strongly on women and girls, our Chief replied: "We're here for everybody. We want our streets to be safe for all, but I think the point here is that it's really important for us not to just portray this case as a horrific and isolated case but to recognise that the circumstances of this case; the fear about being a victim at the hands of a male perpetrator, the fear about being at risk of, or on the receiving end of an indecent attack is a real and everyday one for countless women across the county and that's what we need to focus on. The sort of epidemic that's been described - violence against women and girls - that's got to be our focus and that's why we're spending so much time on it. Of course, we're trying to make the county safe for everybody, but we know from the survey back in May that many thousands of these things are not reported by women and girls. They're everyday occurrences for them and we in policing need to tackle that and take responsibility for that. But our society also take it seriously and act.

Lots of things have changed during the three decades that I've been in policing and one of the things that has changed is the number of female colleagues in the organisation. We're also changing the representation from black and Asian communities as well. I

recognise sometimes there are vulnerabilities and added pressures if you come from a black and Asian community as well and what that means for your relationship in policing, so the representation of policing for communities to be able to see themselves in us and know that we are a service for you because we are from your community and understand your community is so important. We have got so much better at that over the years. There is along long way to go still although in terms of gender it's a much-changed position from when I first joined in policing. There are still other areas of representation where we've got a lot of ground to make up still.

It's so important in terms of communities being able to see themselves in us and know that we understand you to be able to approach these problems with that perspective in mind. A great example of that is the question we had earlier about 'Why is the onus always on women?' - To have a whole variety and range of views on problems helps us not be tone deaf to some of these issues. It does change the internal culture of the organisation when it's more diverse. It helps us to improve our standards and give a better service whether it's through gender representation or through properly representing all aspects of our communities through race and ethnicity. It makes a better organisation.

When asked about crewing arrangements moving forward, Chief Constable Stephens responded: Teams and supervisors will be looking at their crewing arrangements. We won't move to a blanket policy of double crewing because that diminishes the amount of service that we can give. I talked about the hundreds of calls for help that we get every day and we need to get to all of those in good time and in good order. Double crewing as a blanket policy does reduce our ability to do that, but there will be circumstances where we will want to.

I recognise that this is a really difficult time for colleagues in policing. There are implications on us and how we change our practices to reassure communities that we're keeping them safe. Picking up on the theme of how officers feel, one of the things just to recognise and remember is the brilliant work that colleagues do to bring serious perpetrators to justice. That's what we should take our aspiration and inspiration from - remembering the brilliant work that we have done and continue to do across this county.

### **Theme: Specific questions about Wayne Couzens**

There are multiple comments and questions about the case itself, particularly about Couzens' history and how the Met handled previous complaints, the culture around him.

#### **Response:**

We take an oath and promise to keep you safe from harm. In my 28-year career as a serving police officer, never have I been so repulsed by what one officer has done to another human being, a woman, a daughter, a sister. Our thoughts are with Sarah Everard's family and friends at this difficult time. However, Surrey Police is not privy to the background detail and the ownership is with another Force, so it would be inappropriate to comment on the specifics of the case.



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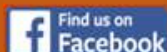
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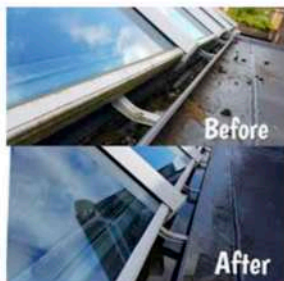
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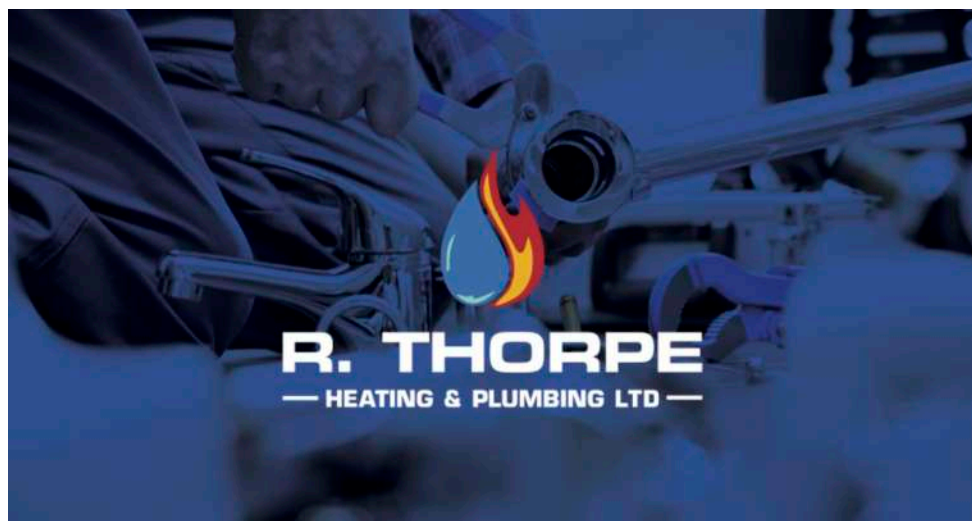


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