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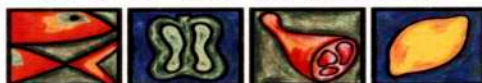
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

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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

Anglican • Team Vicar: Revd. Vince Short

Church Correspondence • The Rectory, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2NA (577289; 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 (07483 337461)

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

Website • 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

OTHER CONTACTS

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

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

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

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Village Website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

Cover image: With thanks to Kim Jennings and David Bacon.

EDITORIAL

The talking at November's COP26 meeting in Glasgow to limit climate change is over but now we all need to take action. I was encouraged to hear of a teenager who has asked to receive much less this Christmas in order to reduce their carbon footprint. Yet, at the same time we hear and perhaps share the hope that our High Streets will do well this Christmas and bounce back from the setbacks of recent years caused by internet shopping and the Pandemic. Perhaps, the recovery could be based around eco-friendly products. I realise that my simplistic reflections only scratch the surface of the complex web of relationships at work in the modern world, but we have to begin somewhere.

Last Christmas, some aspects of the celebration were scaled back or even cancelled and so there is a sense of rebuilding from a smaller base. At the heart of Christmas itself, there are also small beginnings with a baby born in Bethlehem. When everything else is stripped away, that belief remains that God loves us and came into the world to save us – a concept with renewed weight in the light of our present fragility.

I wonder what we make of it all? The wise men (otherwise known as magi or kings), in the Biblical account of the Christmas story, made a long journey from a very different culture to find, understand and ultimately worship the newborn Christ. It has been said that the longest journey on earth is the journey from the head to the heart, from knowing about someone to knowing them personally and I think that the wise men could be a picture of this, inviting others to do likewise.

At St Mary's, we hope to host our traditional range of in-person Christmas services this year (details are in the enclosed Christmas greeting card and St Mary's news) and whether you join us or maybe view a service on the internet or TV, I hope that you will have a meaningful celebration.

With best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year, from myself, the Magazine Team and St Mary's Church.

Vince

Tel: 01959 577289 Email: vince@lttm.org.uk

TATSFIELD ONLINE

Village website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

Village facebook page: search for 'Tatsfield Village' on facebook

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and ask to join to be able to view and post.

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LETTERS

Dear Editors

Last month much yodelling went on in the London Alps, and a very effective yodelling it was! Our lovely village (in the London Alps) never fails to respond when yodelled at enough.

So, on Friday October 22nd a “Think Pink” event for raising “dosh” for Breast Cancer research was held and the women of this village came bearing cakes and books and money. A young barista served coffee and tea and cake to these generous souls. The ladies ate cake (made by many of them) drank coffee, swapped books. They had been asked to bring a book to swap or buy and were encouraged to buy bulbs for their gardens. This was a happy event for all who came bearing cake and books and we would



like to thank everyone who sent money even though they couldn't join us!



We are delighted to tell all of you we paid in £430.25p to Think Pink Breast Care research. **Dawn Forrester Groom**

Dear Editors

The small but effective sign situated opposite the turn into Approach Road towards the village, appears to have been demolished (or otherwise removed) again? With the season of winter mists imminent, the reflective nature of this sign provides the only visible warning of the exact point to turn into this road for vehicles travelling in either direction along Clarks Lane. Particularly at night with approaching headlights, this can be a dangerous junction, and an early replacement would surely reduce the threat of a serious accident? **Steve Bull**

Ed: The Parish Council have put in a request for a replacement sign.

Dear Editors

May I say a huge thank you to the superb team who made the Tatsfield Remembrance Service go so well on Saturday 13th November. People came from as far away as Manchester to thank fallen relations who had given their all for our country. The Air Training Corps from Biggin Hill and our local 1st Tatsfield Scouts looked terrific. The hard-working Community Volunteers, Tina and her staff of the Ship, and the Tatsfield Singers were all



The Standard Bearers of the ATC Cadets from 2427 Squadron Biggin Hill and the local Tatsfield 1st Scouts

brilliant. Revd. Vince Short conducted the Service with many assistants - thank you to you all!

This was a celebration without the two original ex-servicemen who started it all five years ago. Do we do it anymore is the question, because if we do, then we really will need some younger helpers to make it a positive - "yes we will!" **Dave Bishop**



HELP NEEDED FOR 18th TATSFIELD CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG

Outside Ye Olde Ship
Friday 17th December from 7 – 8pm



Help is needed during the day on 17th December to put up the marquee etc. Please, please contact me if you can give an hour or so before and after to de-rig. My telephone number is **01959 577550** or email me at [**davedbsound@gmail.com**](mailto:davedbsound@gmail.com).

- 🌀 Music from the Tatsfield Saints conducted by Lesley Lake
- 🌀 Father Christmas and his Elves at 7.45 to give every child a present.
- 🌀 Mince pies and mulled wine on sale from Tina's team at the pub.
- 🌀 Song sheets will be provided.

TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE NEEDS YOUR HELP

We are looking for a new recruit to join our group of Parish Magazine deliverers. The round is only 35 houses in Lusted Hall Lane (just the village end) and should only take about 20 minutes of your time every month.

If you would be willing to take on this round, please get in touch with us. We would be most grateful! Many thanks.

Jim and Ruth Yeeles
Tel: 01959 577489 Email: jimandruth@yeeles.co.uk

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Report of meeting held on 8th November 8pm at Aileen Mchugo Building.

It was sad news to report before the meeting – the recent passing of Roger Pearce and Terry Waite. We send our condolences to their families and friends.

During the Public Participation it was lovely to receive thanks from a parishioner for all the work put in to help the community during the pandemic.

Officer's Report

The clerk reported that the second precept payment had been received and we had also received a small Covid grant from TDC. The exterior works on the village hall will be carried out over several Saturdays. Starting before Christmas.

Planning

TA/2021/1701 Neville House, Edgar Road, TN16 2LL External alterations to include the insertion of roof lights and windows to the existing dwelling. *No Comment.*

TA/2021/1630 Parkwood, Rag Hill Road TN16 2LS Change of use from C3 (dwelling house) to residential supported living accommodation for children with associated extension of hardstanding to allow for additional parking spaces.

As there are no proposed extensions or external alterations, simply change of use and supported by a registered children's charity, there are no grounds for objection. *No comment.*

TA/2021/1792 Clarks Lane Farm, Clarks Lane, TN16 2JU Proposed replacement and roof to building including solar panels to roof. TPC supports the development of the Microbrewery. *No comment.*

APPEAL: APP/M3645/C/21/3281869. TA/ENF/2021/14 Russetts, Old Lane TN16 2LS Without planning permission, the erection of an extension to the garage. This matter has been under enforcement since 2018. *Members agreed that no further comment was needed.*

Notified Items

The Christmas Carol singalong will take place again this year. The event will run from 7-8pm. This event is sponsored by the Parish Council. I hope to see many of you there at this always joyous and fun evening.

Platinum Jubilee

Becky Rush has kindly donated £250 from her fund to go towards our celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee. The dates for this celebration is 2nd-5th June 2022. The PC discussed options and will hope to finalise at our December meeting.

Memorial improvements proposal

Dave Bishop had sent the PC a proposal for railings around the paved area of Memorial Green. Members discussed and other ideas were suggested. At this time it was deemed

to require further investigation and ideas, and would be discussed again at a later meeting.

VAS sign for Parish

Becky Rush had offered TPC a refurbished VAS from the Police. The cost to TPC is to purchase two rechargeable batteries @ £50 each. This was gratefully accepted and will soon be on display in various spots around the Village.

Airport

David Pinchin attended the ACC meeting on 28th October. He continues to follow the overflying issue of infringements of the NSA over Tatsfield.

Neighbourhood Plan

Jason Syrett reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering group is now up and running again after its break for COVID. The draft plan is now progressing and will soon be sent to TDC for comment. Following that it would be sent to PC for approval and then out for public consultation.

Westmore Green – Rose Cottage parking

The infringement of parking on Westmore Green has continued despite the PC interventions. A letter has now been sent to residents by TDC legal Department, to request that they desist parking on the green.

The full report of this meeting can be found on the Village website from 14th December www.tatsfield.org.uk.

At the time of writing this I have attended The Village Remembrance Service. Organised once again by David Bishop, it was a very moving and fitting way to remember our lost men, women and animals.

Please remember you are welcome to attend our meetings we meet on the second Monday of the month at 8pm in the Parish Rooms.

As this is our last Magazine entry for 2021,

All that leaves me to do is

Wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kim Jennings

Chairman Tatsfield Parish Council

Email: kimjennings@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Grant payment to businesses affected by Covid Lockdowns

There is a final sum of £147,000 left from the Government grant systems that have been administered by the TDC and between Councillors and Officers we have decided that the fairest way of using up these funds is to administer a one-off top up payment to those micro-businesses and those occupying serviced offices who submitted an application under the summer scheme. This totals approximately 85 businesses across the district and will mean a one-off payment of approximately £1,500 per business.



TDC Chief Executive David Ford laying a wreath in Tatsfield on November 11th during his

The new Chief Executive of Tandridge District Council, Mr David Ford, accepted an invitation to visit Tatsfield and to see the village, to meet the Parish Council representatives, residents and some shop / business owners. This he did on the 11th November and he was welcomed by myself, The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, Kim Jennings and David Pinchin along with Susan Smale, Ian Mitchell, Bob David and Dilogen de

Alwis. David joined us at 11am along with other villagers to lay a wreath and to commemorate Armistice Day with a twominute silence.

At the completion of this the Revd Vince Short gave a short blessing and then we all went off to the AMB for talks followed by a more informal lunch at The Ship. With thanks for the photos from David Bishop.

The shortfall in the TDC budget for 2022/23 is getting closer to a satisfactory conclusion and is looking more hopeful and final numbers will be presented to the Strategy & Resources meeting to be held in December.

Apart from attendances at my committees, in my role as group Leader I am now meeting with both officers and other group leaders separately to try and resolve the problems of the budget for the next five years which means a fundamental root and branch look at everything the Council does and how we do it.

There continues to be much correspondence between David Winstanley, David Pinchin and myself. There seems to be a clearer understanding that the 2nM turn and the extent of the NSA are no longer doing the job that was intended as there has been an increase of flights since its inception. The BHACC reported approximately a further 30 infringements of the NSA during the meeting David Pinchin and I attended.

David and I will continue to monitor any breaches of the Noise Sensitive Area of Tatsfield.

I have been made aware that others like to see the Heritage Hangar aircraft and I want to confirm that I do as well, but I am merely asking them through due process to stay clear of the NSA of Tatsfield as was agreed back in 2018. If you have any comments on this, please do let me know.

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.

And finally for 2021 may I wish you the best that is possible over this Christmas and the New Year.

As ever, if there is anything you think I can help you with please contact me accordingly.
Cllr Martin Allen 01959 577201 cldr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk or martin_allen@talk21.com

TANDRIDGE TOGETHER LOTTERY

A GRAND PRIZE FOR YOUR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

If you enter the Tandridge Together Lottery before Saturday 1st January 2022, you have the chance to win £1,000 to spend at Decathlon, as well as the jackpot of £25,000 and other cash prizes. Decathlon sells sports gear and equipment and has shops in Bromley, Croydon and Crawley.

The lottery has raised over £270,000 for local good causes and tickets only cost £1, with 50p going directly to the player's chosen good cause.

To buy tickets, visit www.tandridgelottery.co.uk or call 01883 460555.

If you are a local good cause who hasn't yet signed up to the lottery, it's quick, easy and free to register and can provide you with a steady income and lots of fundraising support.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Help support our call for community equipment returns! Surrey's Community Equipment Service lends out items such as walking frames, crutches, beds and chairs to help people stay independent at home, but many never find their way back when no longer needed. Once returned, the items will be cleaned and recycled to support someone else who is in need.



All equipment that the service lends out has a barcode sticker somewhere on the item.

If you or a loved one has items that are no longer needed, please contact **Millbrook Healthcare on 0330 124 1247 or email SurreyFeedback@millbrookhealthcare.co.uk**.

CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

November was a very busy month. Here are a few of the things I have been engaged with.

Many of you will have watched the COP26 Summit in Glasgow. We made a great deal of progress that we can be very proud of. But the devil will be in the implementation. If you'd like an independent view, I will be organising a Zoom event with Geoffrey Lean, our country's longest standing environmental journalist, where we will discuss the progress made at the Summit and what comes next. Please do send me an email at claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk if you'd like to sign up to attend.



I also want to thank the 350 local residents who signed up to attend the Surrey-wide Virtual COP26 Climate Summit, which I hosted in late October. I was joined by a number of guests, such as Secretary of State Michael Gove and Sarah Jane Chimbwandira of the Surrey Wildlife Trust, to talk about the importance of biodiversity, the move to sustainable travel, and our local fight against climate change in Surrey.

An update - in the South East we will hopefully be receiving £495 million of funding for local roads maintenance - enough to fill over seven million potholes over the next three years - which after recent rain is all too needed!

It was a real delight to visit Pedrick's Zero Waste in Caterham Valley again recently, which was founded to help people reduce their plastic waste. They have a tremendous range of local products, including weekly supply boxes, which you can order for delivery straight to your door. Emily and team are green giants in our local community and we are so lucky to have them, so please do show them your support in the run-up to Christmas by dropping in on the shop or visiting their website at pedricks.co.uk.

Finally, please do remember that if you haven't booked your Covid booster vaccine yet and it's been five months since your second dose, you are now able to book your appointment online at nhs.uk or by calling 119. Recent data shows it really does make all the difference, with a booster vaccine bringing protection levels back up to 95 per cent.

With that - and I can't quite believe I'm writing this already - I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas season and a happy new year. I'll be putting up my Annual Review on my website in early December where you can read about all of the things I've been up to in my second year as your MP.

I do hope that 2022 will draw a veil over the hugely challenging couple of years we've all experienced, and after last Christmas - where so many families were separated from each other - I hope you are all able to take time out and spend some quality time with those you love.

TANDRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Recently officers arrested a man and a woman on suspicion of deceiving an elderly victim, entering his home and stealing his property. The victim is now receiving support from the relevant agencies and the investigation is ongoing.

It is a good opportunity to remind people that it's always important to check and verify the identification of anyone who comes to your house. If in doubt, contact the company they work for, a friend or relative to assist you or call the police if you think a crime is in progress. If you care for a family member or friend who may live alone, then I would encourage you to have this conversation with them.

We want to alert you to potential scammers. Please take some action to protect yourself and your loved one from becoming a victim of fraud.

Your bank or the police will never call you to ask you to verify your personal details or PIN by phone.

If you need to call your bank back to check, wait five minutes; fraudsters may stay on the line after you hang up. Alternatively, use a different line altogether to call your bank. Never share your PIN number, sort code or account number, or enter any of them onto a telephone keypad.

A genuine police officer will not be offended if you ask them to confirm their identity. Your debit or credit card is yours – don't let a stranger take it off you. You should only ever have to hand it over at your bank. If it's cancelled, you should destroy it yourself. Never transfer funds into a new account on the instruction of an unexpected caller – even if they tell you the account is in your name.

Please pass this prevention advice to your loved ones, especially those who are elderly or vulnerable.

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud please call: Surrey Police on 101 or visit <http://www.surrey.police.uk/>

Karen Hughes

Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Inspector





SURREY PREPARED

In Case of Emergency

Complete this form for your household to access key information quickly and easily in an emergency. Store these details on your mobile device as well as keeping a paper copy.

In an emergency, ensure you are not in danger. If the danger is outside, stay inside (if it is safe to do so). If you or another person is in danger always call 999.

If you are asked to leave your home:

- Make sure you take your medication and, if possible, any medical equipment you need with you.
- Remember to tell family, friends and carers where you are going. If you are currently receiving visits from NHS or Social Care providers let them know where you have gone to.
- Take your mobile phone and charger as well as key documents like ID and your purse/wallet.
- Turn off your gas, electricity and water if it is safe to do so
- Consider whether you need to take your pets with you.
- Do any family and neighbours need help?
- Do you have any family or friends you could stay with?

Tune in to local radio, TV and social media for advice and updates.

Returning home:

- Listen to advice from the emergency services and local authorities (e.g. advice about drinking water or power loss)
- Contact your insurance company if needed
- Contact the relevant utility companies. If you turned off your gas it must be turned on again by a professional for safety reason

Contact details for household members

Name	Contact Number

People who can collect children from school in an emergency?

Name	Contact Number

Where we can meet or stay near to home?

Name	Contact Number

Where we can meet or stay further from home?

Name	Contact Number

Family or neighbours who may need help

Name	Contact Number

Who can I call if I need help?

Name	Contact Number

Emergency telephone numbers and twitter details

Organisation	Telephone number	Twitter details
Emergency services	999	@SurreyPolice, @SurreyFRS, @SECAmbulance
NHS – 24/7 support	111	
Police non-urgent	101	
Power cut	105	
National gas emergency:	0800 111 999	
Local council		
Doctor		
School		

Important household information

Name	Telephone number	Policy number or location
Home and contents Insurance:	Tel:	Policy number:
Car Insurance:	Tel:	Policy number:
Gas provider:	Tel:	
Electricity provider:	Tel:	Fuse box location:
Water provider:	Tel:	Stopcock location:
Vet / Kennel/ Cattery:	Tel:	Pet insurance policy:

Current medication

Medication name	Dosage/time	Who

Other useful information:

Environment Agency

Floodline

Pollution / Incident Hotline

Check your flood risk and sign up to flood alerts: Web: www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk

Twitter @EnvAgency

Tel: 0345 988 1188 (24hr service)

Tel: 0800 80 70 60 (24hr service)

Met Office

Check for weather warnings

Twitter @metoffice

Web: www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/warnings

Tune in to local radio stations

BBC Surrey: 104-104.6FM

Greatest Hits Radio (Surrey and East Hampshire): 96.4FM

Heart Sussex and Surrey: 97.5 – 102.7FM

Radio Jackie: 107.8FM



GO IN to a safe building.

STAY IN until you are advised to do otherwise.

TUNE IN to local TV or radio for more information.

LITTLE ACORNS PRE SCHOOL

Welcome to Little Acorns monthly update.

Another busy and fun filled month has been enjoyed by the children at Little Acorns.



The children took part in a texture walk at the start of October, helping to look for squirrel's nuts while walking in trays of different autumnal feeling goodies. This activity was great fun and encourages the use of descriptive language from the children – the squishy mud and crunchy leaves were big favourites! A huge thank you to Natalie Ruggins for organising.

October also saw the celebration of Diwali. The children made some lovely Diya candle holders and some spectacular paintings to mark this event before enjoying a feast of Indian inspired foods.

Finally, the preschool children all helped to make our poppy wreath which was laid by two of our children at the Remembrance service held on the village green.

We are now in full Christmas mode and planning our annual Crafty Christmas event to be held on Sunday 5th December (tickets on sale now) followed by our Christmas play and end of term party. A very busy month ahead!



If you would like to enquire about a place for your child from September 2022 or purchase tickets for our Crafty Christmas event, please do get in contact.

The Little Acorns Team
Email:

office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk Tel: 01959 540775

TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Year 6 children at Tatsfield Primary school have been getting creative this past week by creating some atmospheric artwork to commemorate Remembrance Day (Thursday, November 11).

They have been working in pairs to create these beautiful artwork puzzles which have been displayed in and around the school in honour of Remembrance Day this year!

TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

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

1 st Prize	Justin Naughton	£48.00
2 nd Prize	Simon Hendry	£32.00
3 rd Prize	Keith Woolfrey	£16.00

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

Les

DAVID BACON'S WOODWORK HAS INSPIRED
TATSFIELD'S CRAFTY CHRISTMAS TREE SPECTACULAR



TATSFIELD WI

Our speaker this month was Camilla Bowry who started her charity Sals shoes seven years ago after her son Salvador outgrew his baby shoes. In her first year she had collected 5,000 pairs of once loved shoes and then arranged for them to be sent over to where they were most needed. She now sends shoes to 49 countries. Camilla and her team of four now have a warehouse in Edenbridge where they sort and store children's shoes before they wing their way on to new feet. They also supply shoes to children here in the UK whose families are struggling, for example Wellingtons and snow boots to Yorkshire. Her website is www.salsshoes.com.



Our next meeting will be our Christmas lunch with lots of lovely, mulled wine and food. We will also be exchanging presents with our secret Santa; our charity this year will be in aid of kidney research in memory of Shirley Murgatroyd a very long standing member.

Our Wednesday Pop In is well attended and we open from 10am till 12pm. Our Christmas cards are now on sale, so if you would like some lovely cards all made by our craft club pop in to see us. Next meeting starts at 1pm for our Christmas lunch.

Pat Walsh 01959 577684

“A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS EVE” - THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Planning your Christmas purchases? You don't need to travel far. Jan Akhtar has published her second book **“A Magical Christmas Eve”** which is an ideal Christmas present for young children. Jan worked in partnership with the illustrator Marya Yelizarova on both her books. Both are available simply by typing in the titles on eBay - **Snail Loses his Shell** and **A Magical Christmas Eve** or go onto Facebook and search for Janice Akhtar Children's Author. Sheree's Tea Shop and Stores is also another outlet for this pair of super children's bedtime stories.



Don't forget, Sheree's Store also has lots of hand-crafted items for those one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts – so support Tatsfield's talent and SHOP LOCAL!



We have a vacancy for an inspiring and energetic volunteer to deliver a fun, engaging and challenging programme of indoor and outdoor activities for girls and boys aged 6-8 years old at our fabulous Scout Hut in Tatsfield. As Beaver Leader you will be able to demonstrate your organisational and creative abilities in planning a dynamic programme of activities and learning experiences. You will have bags of energy and enthusiasm and be passionate about helping every child to become the best they can be. Your programme will give them confidence to try new things, learn new skills in an environment of fun, friendship and adventure.

Our Beavers meet early evening once a week during term time for an hour. You will be assisted by our experienced Assistant Beaver Section Leader and parent volunteers.

You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join us. You don't even need to know how to put up a tent! Scouts provides full training and all the tools needed to enjoy this role. This could be an ideal position for someone looking to gain new skills or develop a career in teaching.



Volunteer and give young people the skills they need to succeed in life and discover how being part of the Scouting family can be as rewarding for you as it is for them.

Visit <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer/volunteering-with-scouts/> to find out more about volunteering and if you have any questions, please email us at tatsfieldscouting@gmail.com.

Sarah Tait
Group Secretary, 1st Tatsfield Scouts

NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA CONCERT REVIEW 13TH NOVEMBER 2021

Having never seen the NDS before, I found myself eagerly anticipating this year's autumn concert - more so after reading what the orchestra had in store for us for the evening.

Full disclosure, I have a deep love of Shakespeare and was anxious to hear this rendition of Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Following a wondrous woodwind introduction to the overture, we found ourselves transported to Athens with the orchestra fervently guiding us through this fairyland, the untamed nature of which the strings captured perfectly.

Each sector wholly complimented one another and lead by their conductor Michael Hitchcock we were taken on a journey through this enchanted realm. The interplay between the orchestra in the overture and scherzo carried the pleasingly large audience until the very end.



France is our next stop with Gabriel Faure's "Masque et Bergamasques". In keeping with the theatrical theme, the NDS commanded us through Faure's re-worked masterpiece - and I quite honestly didn't want it to end. Being largely unfamiliar with this piece I was apprehensive, but I can speak for everyone when I say that we were taken by this performance. From start to finish the orchestra effortlessly and readily carried each of the four movements of this piece. Michael demanded the best of each musician, and the best is what he was given - the strings came into their own with the woodwind supporting them all the way, maintaining a firm tempo which ensnared us until the last note was played.

Allowing us a brief interval we were all grateful for the tea (or wine) provided before settling into our last instalment of the evening; Haydn's symphony No. 104. This piece consisted of four movements and after a slow and teasing introduction, the orchestra descends into an organised chaos to exhibit this intense and rhythmic symphony. All instruments thrived during the performance of this piece, each given the opportunity to usurp the others. It was great to see the woodwind section break free of the strings and take precedence at times. Each musician noticeably enjoyed playing this piece and it was a pleasure to watch.

The dynamic of the NDS tonight was captivating and I thoroughly enjoyed being a part of it.

Lauren Hobbs



HISTORY WEEKEND



**SATURDAY 4th AND SUNDAY 5th DECEMBER 2021
BETWEEN 12 MIDDAY AND 6 PM**

***AT THE AILEEN McHUGO BUILDING
(BEHIND THE VILLAGE HALL)***

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THESE DROP-IN SESSIONS

- LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VILLAGE, YOUR HOUSE OR YOUR PREDECESSORS
- SEE ORIGINALS AND COPIES FROM THE PARISH ARCHIVE
- BROWSE COLLECTIONS OF OLD POSTCARDS AND IMAGES
- SEARCH FOR ITEMS IN OUR DIGITAL ARCHIVE
- VIEW SCREEN PRESENTATIONS TRACKING THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH
- DISCOVER 'THE LONDON ALPS' AND TATSFIELD'S CONVALESCENT HOMES

**ENQUIRIES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS ARE MOST
WELCOME AT:
01959 577376**

(Email: Tatsfield.history@talk21.com)

ST MARY'S NEWS

On Remembrance Sunday the Church was beautifully decorated with red flowers and poppy wreaths, together with a poppy display. In addition to the poppy collection at St Mary's, the loose cash collection and contactless donations at the service were for The Royal British Legion.



Contactless comes to St Mary's We are pleased to report that we now have a contactless machine as an additional option for donations at services, both for the church and for special appeals.

St Mary's Tatsfield Christmas Services 2021 - *We warmly invite you to join us.*

Sunday 19th December

4.00 pm Carols by Candlelight, with the Tatsfield Singers *followed by mulled wine and mince pies.*

Christmas Eve

4.30 pm Christingle and Nativity Service in Tatsfield School Hall

11.30 pm Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day

10.00 am All Age Holy Communion

We will be collecting for The Children's Society at our Christmas services, and we look forward to Sauro Gabelli's wonderful Christmas Tableau in the Narthex at the church (which is also in aid of The Children's Society).

Christmas Food Delivery We continue to collect food, throughout the year, for both Westerham and Christ Church, Brixton Road. A Christmas delivery will be made to Christ Church on 8th December, with any surplus going to Westerham. Food suggestions are canned vegetables and meat, tinned fish and fruits, ready meals, baked beans, milk, fruit juice, porridge, biscuits, cereals, coffee and tea. 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) 57786**

Flower Team There will be no flower decorations during Advent apart from greenery around the Paschal candle. We will decorate the Church for Christmas on Saturday 18th December. Ann (577127) and Jan (577659)

St Mary's Churchyard The churchyard is now in its resting state for the next few months. Thanks go to the wonderful team of maintenance volunteers i.e. Peter and Jan Maynard, Dickon Poole, Kay and Keith Roberts, Vince and Veronica Short, Bob Dellar, David and Marion Randall, Chris Hancock and David Gulley who have never been daunted by rain, wind or scorching sun and even do extra work between our



monthly Saturday sessions. We do of course depend on our professional helpers as well, James Longley who keeps the broad grass paths cut short, car park hedges under control and has partly tamed the new strip and Gary Abrams who helps by cutting the grass immediately round the church. It is important to us that the churchyard should be a fitting background for all the major life events, weddings, funerals and baptisms as well as the ongoing weekly life of the church. **Mary Smith**

Churchyard Extension Update A provisional date of 2.30pm on Tuesday 7th December 2021 with Bishop Jonathan Clark has been set for a special service, including consecration of the land. This is subject to completion of Diocesan Registry requirements. We warmly invite you to join us – please look out for further announcements on Tatsfield Talk and the notice sheet link on our website, where we will confirm arrangements or publish a revised date, if postponed. Following consecration, there will still be further work to do, including a faculty application in relation to the creation of The Garden of Remembrance for the interment of ashes.

St Mary's Church 100 Club results for the November draw

70.M&L Lambert £25 58.Billingshurst Community £15 90.J Marsden £10 St Mary's £50

Records

9th November Funeral of Roger William Pearce

Open the Bible All Age Service – next taking place 10am Sunday 5th December 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.

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.

Sunday Services Our regular Sunday services in church are at 10am weekly, with an additional service of Holy Communion at 11.30am on the 1st 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

St Mary's Church, Tatsfield, is currently open at the following times: approximately 8.30am – 3.30pm 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

TATSFIELD VILLAGE HELPLINE

The Tatsfield Village Helpline is in need of:

volunteer drivers and two more members on the committee

If anybody would like to volunteer please contact

Suzanne Rhule 07940358347

TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM

The Tatsfield Village Hall Management Committee AGM will be held on

1st December 2021 at 20:00

in the Parish Room of the Aileen Mchugo Building, Tatsfield Village Hall,
Westmore Green, Tatsfield, TN16 2AG

TATTY KNITTERS



A few more people ventured back to knitting in November and it was lovely to see them again.



In December we are going to have a Christmas meal.
So, no knitting but lots of fun and games and delicious food.

If you would like to join us on December 14th
please get in touch and I will give you details.

Happy Christmas everyone.

Val Bagshaw (07761571071)

REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	10.00 am Church service – StM
Mon	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
Tue	1.30 pm Whist – WIH (Last Tuesday of the month) 12.30 pm Not So Young Club (2 nd Tuesday of the month) WIH 2.30 pm WI Meeting (1 st 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
Wed	10.00 am WI Pop In – WIH 6.00 pm Cubs – SH 7.30 pm Yoga – VH
Thu	2.00 pm Scrabble at AMB (2 nd Thursday of the month) 4.30 pm Under 8's Judo - SH 5.45 pm Over 8's Judo - SH 7.15 pm Adult Ju Jitsu - SH 7.30 pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS 8.00 pm Table Tennis – VH
Fri	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
Sat	9.00 am Under 8's Judo – SH 10.00 am Composting site (now closed for Winter) 10.15 am Over 8's Judo - SH 11.45 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

DECEMBER

1 st Wed	8.00pm	Tatsfield Village Hall Management Committee AGM, AMB
2 nd Thurs	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
3 rd Fri	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
4 th Sat	12.00pm	Tatsfield History Weekend, AMB
4 th Sat	2.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
4 th Sat	7.00pm	Matilda JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
5 th Sun	12.00pm	Tatsfield History Weekend, AMB
7 th Tues	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
8 th Wed	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
9 th Thurs	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
10 th Fri	7.30pm	Big Fish, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
11 th Sat	7.30pm	A Christmas Gift From Bob, Curzon Cinema, VH
11 th Sat	7.45pm	R.E.M. by REMbrandt, Barn Theatre
17 th Fri	7.00pm	Christmas Carol Singalong, Tatsfield Village Centre
19 th Sun	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight, StM
24 th Fri	4.30pm	Christingle and Nativity Service, TPS
24 th Fri	11.30pm	Midnight Holy Communion, StM
25 th Sat	10.00am	All Age Holy Communion, StM

JANUARY

2 nd Sun	4.00pm	NDS Young Soloist Concert, VH
14 th Fri	7.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
15 th Sat	1.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
15 th Sat	5.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
16 th Sun	1.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
16 th Sun	5.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
19 th Wed	7.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
20 th Thu	7.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
21 st Fri	7.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
22 nd Sat	2.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
22 nd Sat	7.30pm	Beauty and the Beast, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
29 th Sat	7.4pm	Oxted Comedy Night, 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



FAIRTRADE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING



With Christmas on the horizon there are lots of FAIRTRADE and ethical gifts that you can buy online.

THINK.....SUSTAINABLE , FAIRTRADE with PEOPLE and PLANET at the HEART ❤️

Giving a gift that has been sustainably sourced or ethically produced by people who have been fairly paid makes for warm feelings all round.

The following companies have put together ideas for Christmas gifts of varying prices... Here are the links below and some photos of ideas.

Ethical Superstore: <https://www.ethicalsuperstore.com/ethical-gifts/fair-trade-gifts/>

Traidcraft:

<https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/gifts>

Remember to order your Traidcraft gifts through Moyna Bridge on 01883 716257 and save on postage.



Oxfam: <https://onlineshop.oxfam.org.uk/gift-guide>

You could pop down to Oxfam in Oxted, Sevenoaks or Bromley and choose some of their gifts, many of which are fair trade.

Last year's blog from the Fairtrade Foundation has lots more great ideas: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/media-centre/blog/ethical-christmas-gifts-for-2020/>



Having fun choosing gifts knowing that they are ethically sourced helps us feel good about humanity!

Alizon Mooney
Tatsfield Fairtrade Group



NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



It was a sunny but cold autumnal day for our November meeting. It was great to see most of our members again and our meetings becoming a regular event once more.

Members completed a picture quiz, testing their knowledge of seasonal flowers and vegetables. Tina provided the beautiful table flower decorations which were then added to the raffle.

Due to the current climate our next meeting in December will be members only, but our doors will open to new members on 18th January 2022.

The TNSY will be running a Christmas raffle. We have amazing prizes, kindly donated by Suzanne and Caulton of CDR Engineering, Pete and Teresa of The London Road Furniture Company and Annette Lynch. First prize is a Deluxe Hamper, 2nd prize a Tree of Life Ornament, 3rd prize Tower of Chocolates and 4th prize a Handmade Clown.



Raffle tickets are £1 each and available from Sheeree's Shop, Ye Olde Ship Pub or a committee member. It will be drawn on 14th December. Please help us raise as much money as possible to keep our lovely club running.

The committee would like to reassure everyone that our priority at all our events is the safety and well-being of our members, therefore all helpers and committee members are doing a flow test before our meetings and PPE used by all in attendance.

Keep safe. Sue Dowse notsoyoung100@gmail.com 07816 110929



TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

It's been a while since my last update, so we have a lot to tell you. We are now fully open following the restrictions imposed last year and earlier this year. We offer nine separate classes each week over three days, all at the Scout Hut (Thursdays to Saturdays). This is more classes than pre-Covid as we had to introduce additional childrens' judo classes on a Thursday to cope with the number of new starters.

JUDO

Most of our new starters have come from the U8 age group, and we run two U8 judo classes a week. These children all attended a grading back in September, for many it was their first grading, and all passed with flying colours and gained their shiny new belts.

Our O8 judo classes have been grading on an ad-hoc basis during classes. Since the return of judo, everyone has had one grading and some individuals have had two – with no judo for over a year, it is a case of playing catch up with the grades but without going too fast and over grading people.

Our adult judo class continues to grow. There are now fifteen on the register including five with black belts, plus we have several 14-year-old juniors who are starting to stay on with the adults – not every week, but slowly making the transition from junior to senior judo.

Outside of the club, we have continued with our strong relationship with Warlingham School and there are plans in place to start a regular judo session at the school.

I've also been busy regarding my own personal development. Just before lockdown one and after two years of training, assessments, and exams I qualified as a Senior Examiner for the BJA (British Judo Association). This means I can run black belt gradings and run technical development courses for other coaches / clubs on behalf of the BJA. I have also become Chairman for the Surrey County BJA Committee and fellow club coach, Andy Mumford, has taken on the role of Treasurer.

Finally, I'm pleased to say that our annual club competition will be starting back in February. This is a TMA organised competition that allows other clubs (clubs I have ties with) to also enter. Typically, we have between 70-80 children compete on the day. I'm really looking forward to this, one of my favourite club events.

JU-JITSU

The junior jujitsu class on a Friday evening has continued to grow and there are now 16 in the class. The senior class on a Thursday has twelve adults, most of who have been at the club for several years and are now higher graded students – some of which will be going for their black belts in 2022. Sunday 28th November is grading day for our jujitsu members; everyone has been working hard towards their next belts so I'm confident everyone will pass.

During November, we have been running a free beginner jujitsu course, the idea being that following the course people will join the regular classes – assuming they have

enjoyed it. We are presently halfway through the course and the numbers have been great and people have been returning, which can only be a good thing.

On Saturday 9th October, we ran a free self-defence seminar in the afternoon - around sixteen people attended. The feedback has been excellent, and this is definitely something we will be looking to do more of in 2022.

COMBAT FITNESS

Our Friday morning HIIT session has also grown in numbers, normally there are around eight of us ready to get a sweat on. No fighting or grading, just lots of pad work and martial art fitness-based drills to get ready for the weekend.



NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

For several years we had a gentleman coming in to the library (Oxted Public Library), normally about five minutes before closing, to photocopy various articles from our collection of daily newspapers. (These were the days when the Surrey Library Service could afford such luxuries.) He would rush off out several minutes after closing time, much to everyone's annoyance, leaving me wondering what it was that he felt the compulsion to copy and collect, and what he was doing with it. Well, having become that man in my own collecting habits, I now have answers. The only difference is that I cut or tear articles from publications (never books, I hasten to add) rather than photocopy them. And I don't inconvenience library staff at the end of their working day! The reason for this tearing and snipping is quite simple; there are frequently very informative and well-written articles to be found in disposable publications that would simply be lost if not gathered together by 'info-scavengers' such as myself. Not having any correspondence to review this month, I am devoting my allocated space to a few of these recent articles of interest. If you learn anything from this, let it be that, should you invite me into your home, it's probably best to hide your newspaper!

The bigger picture

While we wait for significant effects of global warming to become apparent, across the globe it's a reality. Lake Tuz, like other lakes in Turkey, has dried up as a consequence of climate induced drought, leading to the death of 5,000 flamingos. Meanwhile hundreds of fires have ripped through Siberia, fuelled by a heatwave and the worst draught in 150 years. "They have reached a catastrophic scale, offering a terrifying glimpse of a world ravaged by unchecked climate change". The largest in Russia's recorded history, the Siberian fires are bigger than all the other blazes in the world this year combined, burning an area larger than Portugal. The fires have pumped 800 million tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere since the start of June, which is more than the total annual emissions of Germany (Europe's biggest polluter). We seem to have reached a point where some aspects of global warming are simply beyond human control.

I have always thought that the British are basically a nation of animal lovers. I was shocked, therefore, to read a report about crowds hurling stones at a dying seal in Great Yarmouth. The police were called to protect it and to stop people taking selfies with the distressed animal. Meanwhile, across the planet, New Zealanders have been mourning the death of a lost whale calf. Specialists and hundreds of volunteers had tried to save the calf, but to no avail. Ian Angus from the Department of Conservation stated that, "Toa (the calf's given name) passed quickly, surrounded by love, with his last days made as comfortable as possible. This calf had captured hearts and no one wanted to believe that he didn't have a fighting chance. We will continue to treat Toa with the dignity and respect that he deserves." Shame on the Brits.

COP26 is over and once again world leaders, especially from richer, polluting nations, have failed to do enough to tackle the climate crisis. The U.N. blasted governments and businesses for utterly failing to meet their climate obligations. The only reason we got

what little progress we did is because young people, Indigenous leaders, activists and countries on the climate frontline forced concessions that were grudgingly given. Fortunately, while the UK mainly talks about climate leadership, Costa Rica, Denmark and other nations are actually starting to take meaningful action. They've created the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance; a coalition that commits to set an end date for oil and gas exploration and production in alignment with the Paris Agreement. What amazes me is that the 'obvious' isn't obvious to those in power. Or perhaps it is, but is simply being ignored. We need to be transitioning away from fossil fuels right now, but many of the richer nations, like the UK, are failing to take the necessary action. We are even planning to open a new coal mine! As mentioned last month, there were some terrific reports and programmes about alternative energies broadcast in the run-up to the COP Conference, including the experimental implementation of tidal generators. We are surrounded by tidal waters so let's get on and use this natural form of energy to at least provide some of our national power requirement. Meanwhile, as Boris pointed out, the clock is ticking. I wonder at what point the powers that be (and they are not all governmental) will realise that simply sitting back and watching the hands rotate is not going to save the planet. We need to cut emissions by around 45 percent below 2010 levels by 2030 to stay on track and limit the rise in temperature to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. Unfortunately, the timing of pledges to keep below 1.5 degrees is running out. "If we wait five years, 1.5 degrees Celsius is probably not achievable anymore," says Niklas Höhne, a partner at the New Climate Institute. "We have a huge task ahead of us, and that task has to start immediately after this conference." Thinking time is over – action time is now.

On the home front

There was a wonderful entry by Miriam Darlington in The Times', 'Nature Notebook', earlier this month. "A baritone hum was coming from the great oak tree by the river. Lit up in the sun, the green-gold branches shimmered with a miasma of strange insect life." (This is a reference to the European hornet; the docile, 'gentle-giant' of the wasp and bee clan whose sting is actually no worse than that of any other stinging insect.) "The loosely scattered veil of hornets shone where they caught the sun. I tipped my head back and marvelled, immersed in the tannin scent of the oak and the mesmerising buzz. Surrounded by the textures of whirring wings among bark, twig and leaf, the moment mingled its warm saffron with the honey rays through the leaves." Great, poetic writing, depicting the simple joys of being with nature.

A Merry Christmas to you all. I sincerely wish that 2022 proves to be a year of blossoming hope and renewed joy for us all. (And please remember to add, 'Contribute to Nature Notes', to your list of resolutions. You don't have to write as well as Miriam – I certainly don't, and I get away with it constantly!)

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

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – DECEMBER 2021

If, at the beginning of the month, you look towards the south and south west at around 5pm you will see three planets in a line quite close to the horizon. At that time in early December, the Sun will already have set and be 10° or thereabouts below the horizon which means we will be in the period known as nautical twilight. The sky will have darkened considerably by then and furthest from the horizon and due south at an altitude of 25° is the planet Jupiter. Now look more towards the south-west for a brilliant object that is even brighter than Jupiter but is just 10° high – this is Venus. If you draw a line between the two, then the considerably fainter object in the middle is Saturn. As the nights pass the three planets move generally westwards (to your right) until on the 21st/22nd Venus lies exactly in the south west, 7° high at 5pm. The diagram is drawn for the middle of the month and includes four bright stars named in *italics*. A crescent Moon is just to the south of the group on the 7th, 8th and 9th providing a good photo opportunity.

By the last day of this year Mercury, the solar system's smallest planet, is beginning to put in an appearance close to Venus although it is much the fainter of the two.



I don't often discuss the daytime sky but it seems appropriate to mention briefly that the Sun is now awakening from what astronomers refer to as "solar minimum". The Sun's activity varies over an approximately eleven-year cycle with one of the most obvious signs of this being the variation in the number of sunspots visible in the layer of the Sun's atmosphere known as the photosphere.

On the 21st December the Earth reaches the winter solstice at precisely 3:59pm. That is the moment in time when the Sun is "lowest" in the sky. In this case we're not talking about its position with respect to the horizon when its rising or setting, were talking

about the Sun reaching its lowest “declination” of the year. All I’ll say for now is that declination is the sky’s equivalent of the Earth’s latitude and that by the date of the winter solstice the Sun’s declination will be $-23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. I’ll cover celestial coordinates fully in a later article.

Although in the northern hemisphere the winter solstice brings the shortest day, in the southern hemisphere they will experience the longest day or to put it another way the most hours of daylight. If you happened to be on the Tropic of Capricorn, which crosses South America, Africa and Australia, on December 21st then the Sun would be exactly overhead.

To astronomers the winter solstice marks the first day of winter which ends on the day of the spring equinox which in 2022 will be March 20th. However, to a meteorologist the first day of winter is December 1st and the last day is the final day of February.

Brian Mills FRAS

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN DECEMBER

My weather station is still not fixed but I can confirm that by the middle of November we had only 7mm of rain, the long term average is 81mm, I think it is safe to predict a dry month with average temperatures. It is too early to forecast Christmas weather with any accuracy, at the moment the risk of snow on Christmas Day is very low, but it is early days yet!

I noticed that by late October there were large patches of moss on my lawn (my mini putting green), unusually early as moss prefers cool damp conditions to thrive. I was not surprised to discover that the underlying soil had become very compacted after a busy year of use. I scarified the area three times – many barrow loads of moss and dead grass – and have now completed deep spiking it using a garden fork pushed all the way in, giving it a good wriggle and pulling it straight out again. I worked out that the area of around 50 square metres now has over 7,000 holes and has been thinly covered 25 bags of sharp sand. It has been thoroughly raked and brushed several times a week and most of the sand has now disappeared down the holes; it will be interesting to see if the moss disappears.



I was contacted by a local gardener who was very distressed to discover that her lovely lawn had been turned into a ploughed field overnight! After much discussion and a thorough site inspection we deduced that the lawn was infested with leatherjackets (Daddy Long Legs). These soft, grey grubs about an inch long are commonly found in grass where they feed on the roots, but occasionally they occur in huge numbers. Badgers are experts at detecting the presence of grubs in grass and will bring the whole

family for a feast and that is how her lawn was so badly damaged. No easy cure for this problem unfortunately; it is possible to buy a natural control called Nemasys – a sachet full of naturally occurring microscopic eelworms that attack grubs in the soil. The challenge when using this cure is to water them on when the soil is warm, around 10C and that means getting it into the soil in October.

What Christmas present to buy for a keen gardener? How about a composting box made of interlocking pieces of wood or recycled plastic that can be used again and again, available in garden centres or websites. Surprise them with a pot or two of the lovely garden perennial Christmas Rose (Helleborus), in flower and now available in our local garden centres (Coblands in Sundridge or one of the Knights Garden Centres). They are very happy in most soils, they love a bit of shade but also happy with a bit of sun; they also grow very well in Tatsfield soils.

Jon Allbutt

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

During October the rest of the village containers and beds have been planted up with pansies and violas, together with tete a tete daffodils. The bed on the Bakery Lawn has been left for the moment as we are planning a scheme of perennial plants to fill this bed.



The Committee have been turning their thoughts to next summer and the theme we may use. It is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate we shall be making our displays in royal colours of purple, gold and silver.

Tatsfield In Bloom and Tatsfield Parish Council will also be taking part in a joint project to encourage residents to plant as many trees in Tatsfield as possible. This will take place in the autumn of 2022 and we will be using the seedlings which were planted last year at the allotments together with others that have been grown on around the village.

We sent out questionnaires to all our volunteers to ask them how they would like to help in the village and amongst the replies we were encouraged that there was a considerable interest in holding a monthly litterpicking session around the village centre followed by a cup of tea or coffee on Westmore Green. We are working on this and will be announcing when our first 'social litterpick' will take place. If you have not registered your interest and would like to take part, please contact me. For those who help by picking up litter throughout the year, I will be in the village centre most Saturday mornings from 10.00am should you need any bags.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who have helped with the autumn planting.

We are continuing our work sessions on Saturday mornings and we would be very grateful for any help. Please come and join us at 10.00am on the Bakery lawn.

Many thanks for your support.

Jill Hancock (577622)



THE DECEMBER FILM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

"A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM BOB"



Curzon Country Cinema's December film is the suitably seasonal "A Christmas Gift From Bob", which is showing at the Village Hall on **Saturday 11th December at 7.30pm**. All seats are £6 (please note new price). Pay at the door or reserve and pay online – www.curzoncountrycinema.com.

The film is a sequel to the 2016 film "A Streetcat Named Bob", which many in Tatsfield will remember seeing at the Village Hall. The film picks up the real-life story of former homeless addict James Bowen and the stray cat he rescued who helped with his own recovery. James looks back at the last Christmas he and Bob spent scraping a living on the streets and how Bob helped him through one of his toughest times – providing strength, friendship and inspiration – and ultimately teaching each other about the true meaning of Christmas spirit along the way.



It is set against the Christmas bustle of London's Covent Garden and Islington where James busks, often with his ginger cat by his side. The part of James is played again by Luke Treadaway and other main parts by Anna Wilson Jones and Kristina Tonteri-Young – and by the real Bob the Cat as well as a few stand-in cats. Sadly Bob died in a tragic accident in June 2020, about 6 months after filming ended.

Bob David

NDS YOUNG SOLOIST CONCERT

NDS are very excited to announce that their Young Soloist concert is on **Sunday January 2nd, starting at 4pm** (doors from 3:45pm).

We are privileged to welcome Rebecca Wells, a young Viola player, to play Bruch's "Romanze" with us, which will be complemented by the orchestra playing Beethoven's Coriolan Overture and selections from Gounod's First Symphony, all under the baton of Brynly Clarke, who is a regular conductor with NDS.

Tickets for this completely informal concert are just £2 on the door and include refreshments - we look forward to seeing you there.

TATSFIELD A CENTURY AGO



At first sight, the record of life in Tatsfield in December 1921 suggests that the preoccupations of our predecessors were not all that different from ours a hundred years later. Housing, crime, the roads – they all cropped up in the local papers. It's the scale of things and the subjects that matter that are different.

A mains water supply was a novelty in many parts of the village. The parish council was told that the cost of extending the supply from Paynesfield Road and down Johns Road to Old Lane would be £335 – that's £17,000 in today's money. This was judged to be too much. The rent for the new houses being built by the rural district council was announced at 12/9d a week – about £33 in today's money.

By 1921, the post-war boom was over and unemployment rising fast. One way of providing work for the unemployed was on the roads. 'School Corner', the junction of Ship Hill, Old Lane, Church Hill and Rag Hill Road, was given a hard surface. There was a district council scheme to widen the Approach Road. This was welcomed by Tatsfield's representative who pointed out that there was *'neither inlet nor outlet at Tatsfield as there ought to be, and unless the scheme as proposed was carried out Tatsfield would not develop'*. Another member believed that *'Tatsfield would become an important place if what was contemplated were carried out'*.

One big difference between then and now is the fact that Tatsfield had a resident policeman, but for the parish council that wasn't enough. There was disappointment when the local superintendent ruled that our population was too low to justify a second officer for the village. As it happened, at the end of the month, a Tatsfield crime made a headline. There was a robbery at a house in Maesmaur Road in which gold and silver jewellery and savings bank books were stolen. As the result of a successful investigation by a sergeant from Oxted, a prolific thief was arrested in Golders Green.

The former headmaster of Tatsfield School, Mr Adams, who had retired in March 1921, was in court at Oxted for failing to send his own child to school. He was now working at a school in London and his 11-year-old son was being taught at home by his mother, who was also a qualified teacher. This was not good enough for the county council, which decided that *'the mother having domestic duties to attend to could not devote sufficient time at regular intervals to the education of the child'*.

Also in court was a local farmer accused of allowing his cattle to stray onto the highway in Tatsfield, despite strict controls on movement in and around Sevenoaks because of a post-war outbreak of foot and mouth disease.

Today's rivalry between Tatsfield and Limpsfield competing in South East Bloom had its more traditional equivalent a century ago – football. Limpsfield came up to Tatsfield just before Christmas to suffer a 10-1 defeat and a few days later, Tatsfield beat Warlingham 5-0!

The month had begun on a positive note with a 'review in two acts' at the Village Hall. The Westerham Herald described '*splendid scenic effects*', covering themes such as 'Tokyo', 'the Zuider Zee', the 'Old Bran Pie' from Canada, the 'Opium Den, Limehouse', a sketch entitled 'the Bathroom Door' and songs such as 'the Gypsy's Warning', 'Drake goes to Sea' and 'Oh By Jingo!'. On the next evening, an entirely different show was performed by the same team. It seems to have been a busy month for Tatsfielders.

Don't forget the **HISTORY WEEKEND** this month at the Aileen McHugo Building.

Whether you are a newcomer or whether your family has been in Tatsfield for decades, there'll be a chance to learn more about the village, your house, or your predecessors over the weekend of **December 4th and 5th**. Details are elsewhere in the magazine.

The current planning application for the conversion of a Tatsfield house '*for the purposes of developing a children's home for four children*' has prompted a delve into the records of convalescent homes that were once common in '*the London Alps*'.

We would also welcome the opportunity to copy any items of local historical interest you may care to bring along. We look forward to seeing you!

Copies of 'Tatsfield – the First 2000 Years' will also be on sale.

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

Tel: 577376 Website: www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfieldhistoryproject/



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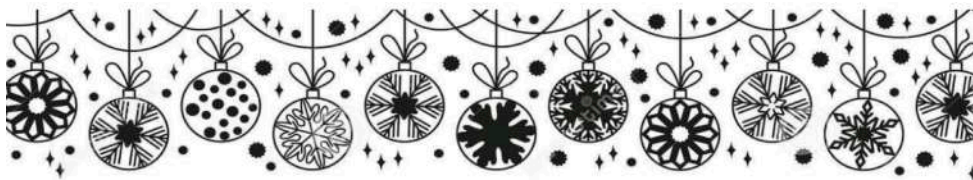
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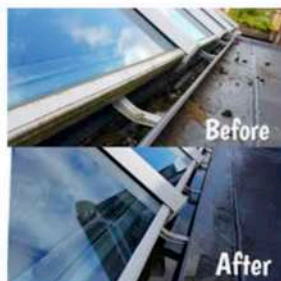
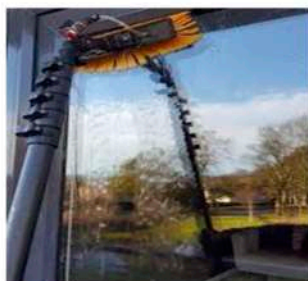
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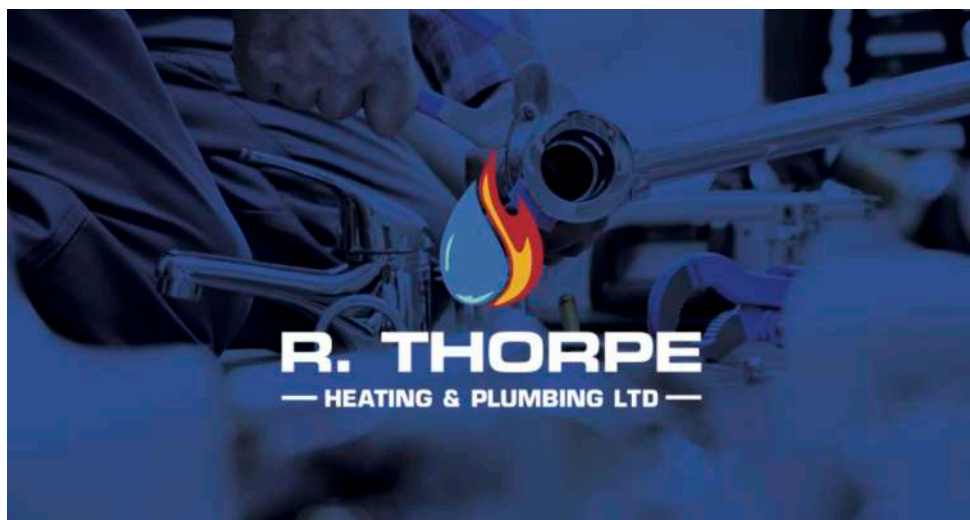


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