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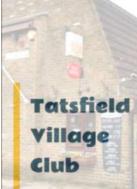
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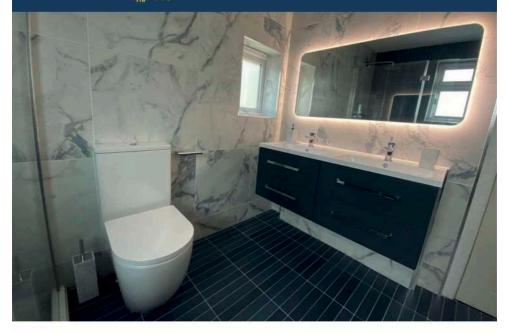
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

Editors • Tara Barry and Tracey Syrett

Chair • Debra Elsdon

**Treasurer** • Madie Langford (577114) **Distribution Managers** • Jim and Ruth Yeeles (577489) **Advertising Manager** • Sarah Tait **Production** • Ruth Yeeles

#### CHURCH CONTACTS

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

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

Phone 01883 712512 / email stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

Team Rector: Revd Helen Cook email: hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk

Curate: Debra Elsdon email: curate.lttm@gmail.com

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

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

#### COUNCIL CONTACTS

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

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

Website • www.tatsfieldpc.org.uk

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

Surrey County Councillor • Becky Rush becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk

#### OTHER CONTACTS

Village Hall Bookings Secretary • Helena Garcia-Mcleod (bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk)

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

Parish Room Bookings • (07483 337461) email clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk
Tatsfield Primary School Head • Rachel Jewitt (577356)

Tatsfield Village Club • (577330)

Furze Corner Bookings • 07483 337461 clerk@tatsfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

Doctors • Stock Hill Surgery (580011) • Westerham Surgery (564949) • Oxted Medical Centre (01883 734000)

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 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: <a href="mailto:tatsfieldpm@gmail.com">tatsfieldpm@gmail.com</a>, Alternatively they may be posted to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine, 20 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield TN16 2AU.

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

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

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

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

**Cover image**: The Clangers, Flower Arrangement, Debra Elsdon.

#### **FDITORIAL**

At the beginning of July, we had a little ceremony at St Mary's Reigate for the four new curates in the Croydon Episcopal Area.

After a year of being in place in our various churches this was the moment when the training wheels were taken off and we could fly solo. A mixed metaphor – but I hope you get the picture.

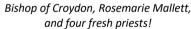
The folk in the Limpsfield and Tatsfield Team Ministry were so generous; and I was given a beautiful green stole. So, I feel like I'm dressed for action!

**Reverend Debra** 

My new stole









Team Rector, Helen, and Assistant Curate. Debra.

#### **TATSFIELD ONLINE**

Village website:www.tatsfield.org.uk
Village facebook page: search for 'Tatsfield Village' on facebook
Tatsfield Talk facebook group: search for 'Tatsfield Talk' on facebook,
and ask to join to be able to view and post. Twitter: @tatsfieldtweet

#### PARISH MAGAZINE EVENTS LISTINGS

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

#### TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **PLANNING**

**TA/2025/277** Land at Shaw Road. This is an update on the application previously objected to in April. The update now includes an Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Sustainability and Energy Statement which are noted. However, the main points of our objection remain. **No comment on the new statements** 

**TA/2025/880/NH** Mirabilis, 65 Paynesfield Road. First floor extension to this bungalow within the defined village appears to fall under permitted development allowances with little or no impact on adjacent neighbours. Design is in keeping with the existing property. **No comment** 

**TA/2025/885/NH** Mirabilis, 65 Paynesfield Road. Erection of two rear extensions which appear to fall under permitted development allowances with little or no impact on adjacent neighbours. **No comment** 

**TA/2025/737** Hill Cottage, Barnfield Road. Slight adjustment to previously agreed position of the building to increase separation to the southern boundary. **No comment** 

**TA/2025/1011** Moorhouse Sandpits, Westerham Road. This application is part of a periodic Review of the Minerals Planning Permission related to the continued long-term extraction of soft sand under previous planning permissions for supply to the construction industry. No objections have been raised by either TDC or SCC. **No comment** 

**EV CHARGING POINTS** The Parish Council has recently been very concerned to receive information about a proposal from Surrey County Council (SCC) in partnership with Connected Kerb to install four EV charging points halfway down Paynesfield Road. Not surprisingly, it has caused opposition from residents. The PC had previously done a considerable amount of work in formulating plans to install chargers in the AMB car park behind the village hall and had submitted details to SCC asking for it to be included in their roll out programme. We regarded that as an ideal off-road location in the centre of the village. Our proposal was not accepted. The PC has not been consulted at all about this latest proposal for Paynesfield Road which we regard as entirely inappropriate. It is a complete mystery as to why such a grass verge location outside a private property has been chosen on a no-through residential road that already has considerable parking problems. We have taken the matter up with our County Councillor and formally objected with our reasons and asking for our original plans to be reconsidered. We also encouraged residents to object through the Surrey website prior to the deadline of 9<sup>th</sup> September. We have so far had no response from Surrey.

**FURZE CORNER** By the time you read this, we will have hopefully heard good news that our application for money from TDC's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has been approved for the development of Furze Corner. This is such an important moment for our major project after all the hard work that has gone into it so far. Fingers crossed....

**POLICE MATTERS** Our police liaison Simon Cook reported that Kevin Stimpson from Surrey Police agreed to hold a 'Meet the Beat' occasion for residents on the afternoon of 29<sup>th</sup> September outside Sheree's Store which is really good news (providing it doesn't get cancelled again at the last minute!) We haven't had such a meeting for several years. Surrey Constabulary has also been invited again to attend our October PC meeting.

**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** Our annual service will be held this year on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Do please put it in your diary.

David Pinchin, Vice Chairman, Tatsfield Parish Council

#### TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Hi. Back again. I hope your summer, well at least the early part of it, was really enjoyable in the so called three heatwaves that hit us during that time. I trust you all took advantage of all the events that have happened in Tatsfield recently. You can find the future events that will be happening in Tatsfield over the rest of the year in the middle pages of this magazine.

Tandridge District Council have continued to function through the summer. The main emphasis has been the Local Plan, Local Government Reorganisation and freshening and improving the Housing Improvement Plan across the housing stock across the district.

Local Government Reorganisation - North Tandridge Neighbourhood Area Committee It has been suggested by Surrey County Council that the makeup of these committees (under their two-tier Unitary proposal) be formed as follows:

**Membership** We have set the following membership structure for the pilot committee (from now through to December):

- Eight elected members (two County Councillors, three District Councillors, three Parish Councillors)
- Seven voluntary sector and business representatives (Caterham Business Improvement District, Tandridge Access Group, Voluntary Action Surrey East, Citizens Advice Tandridge, Caterham Foodbank, Westway, Tandridge Family Centre)
- Four public sector partners (North Tandridge Primary Care Network, Growing Health Together, Surrey Police, Warlingham School)

Just to remind you the Government's expected response to the two Unitary proposals is expected to be known on 14<sup>th</sup> October. We are all waiting with baited breath.

**By-Election** Having thought we had got away with elections after the county was allowed to postpone them in 2025, an unexpected resignation from a Liberal Democrat Councillor who was both a District and County Councillor has now made it necessary that a by-election will be held for the Whyteleafe District and Caterham County seat on 16th October. This will show us the political leaning of those persons eligible to vote to see

whether there will be any Tory recovery, a Liberal hold or a Reform/Independent sweep of both seats. Keep watching this space.

**Grasshopper Inn** For those of you, just like me, that are fed up with seeing the run-down state of the Grasshopper Inn on the Westerham Road, you will be interested to know that the Planning Inspector has dismissed the Applicant's appeal against the TDC decision to refuse planning permission for the 60+ bed care home on the site. I would suggest that this would still have been a better option than what we have now.

**Titsey Tap Room** An application for longer licensing hours was heard in early September and the committee agreed to the application with conditions, and it was restricted to only three events of over 500 persons. This is a thriving business that I know many of you make use of, so it was important that we did not restrict the business by too many burdensome conditions.

**EV Charging Points** EV Charging points on Paynesfield Road caused lots of consternation with the residents not least for because it makes no sense at all to put them there - in fact that there was NO consultation beforehand with either the Parish Council or myself. I am aware that many consultation responses were that this site was not suitable and that efforts should be concentrated on and around the village centre for public use. Which is exactly what the Parish Council have been looking in to.

**HGVs on unsuitable roads** After a report and photos from a local resident I wrote an email of complaint to the company whose driver of a car transporter ignored all the road signs to take his vehicle down Rag Hill Road/Tatsfield Lane and blocked the road for some time. He followed a sat nav.

<u>Please take note</u> On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024 White Lane will be closed for the annual Bec climb.

Remember to help Tatsfield good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets. Also please volunteer to assist the clubs and societies that need committee members to help run them. Remember to support all our local businesses who will continue to need us to show our support to them to ensure that they continue to operate well in to the future.

If there is anything you think I can help you with, please contact me accordingly.

Cllr Martin Allen Tel: 01959 577201 or 07484185363 Email: cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk or martin\_allen@talk21.com

# AN UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT LTD REGARDING THE BIGGIN HILL AND TATSFIELD NOISE SENSITIVE AREA

The engagement between the Parish Council and District Councillor with the Airport continues to be positive and, after some considerable work behind the scenes, the compliant data is now up to date.

We have seen a marked reduction in the inadvertent penetrations in the Noise Sensitive Area (NSA) and the facts shows the great majority of all Visual Flight Departures (VFR) OFF Runway 21 flying well to the south of the NSA. The Airport has data for the past twelve months showing very similar track profiles. We are pleased to confirm that most flights are flying the ideal profile or better.

As a result of this collaboration, the Biggin Hill and Tatsfield NSA has become the most respected and consistently observed NSA within the NAP. Whilst achieving zero overflights is unachievable due to safety requirements impacting certain flights, the very low penetration number indicates pilots are taking their responsibilities seriously.

Notwithstanding this success, the Airport will shortly commence a trial to assess any safety concerns from extending the NSA to the south. Whilst the extension of the NSA has not been finalised, work is already underway to agree the safety parameters for the trial and work with the system design to see how the Airport can monitor both the existing NSA and the potentially extended NSA. The Airport is not able to formalise this as a change to the airport's published noise abatement measures for VFR flights, as this would require the agreement of the London Borough of Bromley, nonetheless we are taking proactive steps to safety assess the proposed change.

#### Kind regards

David Winstanley, Chief Executive Officer, Biggin Hill Airport Limited

#### SURREY HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT 2024-2025: A YEAR IN REVIEW

It's been another busy year for Surrey's Highways and Transport teams as we've worked around the clock to keep roads safe, improve travel choices, and prepare our county for the future. From resurfacing roads to rolling out greener buses, our focus has been on making Surrey safer, stronger, and more sustainable.

**Investing in Surrey's Network** This year, we resurfaced over **120 miles of roads** and **47 miles of pavements**, while also investing £9.5M to strengthen 22 bridges and embankments. Our new **Fix My Street** reporting tool has proved popular, with more than **85,000 reports** logged, making it quicker and easier to raise issues. We've also introduced **AI technology** to spot potholes faster and helping repairs happen sooner

Creating a Greener Future Responding to climate change remains a top priority. We planted 1,400 new trees, upgraded 89,000 streetlights to energy-efficient LEDs, and introduced 54 new hydrogen buses with our partners. Over 14,500 young people now benefit from discounted travel with the Surrey LINK card, helping families with the cost of living while encouraging greener journeys

**Keeping Surrey Moving** From tackling **56,000 potholes** to cleaning **120,000 drains**, our teams have been busy behind the scenes. Passenger numbers on local buses rose by **1.9 million trips**, reducing congestion and emissions. During the winter months our gritters travelled more than **100,000 miles** to keep our road network moving safely

**Working with Communities** We've engaged with residents more than ever, from our first **Highways Open Day** to newsletters, social media updates, and direct support for schools and local groups

Making Progress: Keeping the Network Safe and Moving From April this year, we're making great progress. So far, we've: responded to 2,825 emergency incidents; repaired 16,475 safety defects; cleaned 58,087 gullies and catchpits; refreshed 599,309 road markings. Our Roadside Rangers have also visited 247 sites, carrying out multiple jobs to improve safety and cleanliness across Surrey's network. Together, we're making a real difference, thank you for your continued support in helping us keep Surrey moving safely. Find out the latest highways updates by following us on social media: www.facebook.com/Surreyhighway



#### **CLAIRE COUTINHO MP**

As Parliament sits after summer recess, I'd like to look back at all the wonderful events and activities that took place over the summer period

and thank all the amazing volunteers that made these events possible. From country shows to village green fetes, we're so lucky to be surrounded by nature and the beauty of Surrey's idyllic countryside.

Catching up with constituents at the Edenbridge & Oxted Agricultural Show The summer fete season reached its crescendo over the August bank holiday weekend. I'm often asked by children when I visit local schools what superpower I'd like to have, and I tend to reply that in this role it would be the power to be in multiple places at once. Bank Holiday weekend was no exception; there were so many events I would have loved to attend. From Godstone's infamous Donkey Derby to the Chaldon village fete, the weekend



offered families so much to see and do. The fantastic weather was an added bonus. And this year's Edenbridge & Oxted Agricultural Show and it was an absolute belter! It was great to take the whole family and see all the livestock on show as well as this beautiful pup. The dancing diggers were magnificent. Talking to local farmers, it feels like our countryside way of life is under siege. I grew up in the concrete jungle of London but have been so blessed to come to East Surrey and see how important our farms are, which go back generations, and learn more about the traditions that are part of our heritage. Huge thank you to the organisers for a brilliant weekend.

Popping in to the Tandridge Family Centre It was fantastic to meet the team at the Tandridge Family Centre in Hurst Green last month. Family hubs are something I've supported for a long time, including before I was in Parliament, and it was clear from talking to Chloe and the team that they are providing wonderful support to many local families. It was great to meet so many other people



providing different services like breastfeeding and SEND support locally. You can find out more at their website:

https://www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk/tandridge-family-centre

Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day On 15th August, the country commemorated the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. After six hard-fought years, the guns finally fell silent – freedom had won. Fighting in jungles during drenching monsoon rains and on remote islands in blistering tropical heat, our troops battled under unimaginable conditions. The Fourteenth Army, under the command of Lieutenant-General William Slim, often called the "forgotten army", fought one of the longest campaigns of the war, shoulder to shoulder with our Commonwealth allies. Communities across East Surrey came together to mark the occasion with events, services and beacon lightings. A huge well done to all the volunteers who helped. These men and women shall never be forgotten; never was so much owed by so many to so few.

**See the Chamber in Action** We're fully booked up for tickets to watch Prime Minister's Questions, but there are plenty of opportunities to watch other sittings of the House of Commons on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Visit "whatson.parliament.uk" to see what is being debated in the coming weeks, and please do email me at **claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk** if you would like us to reserve tickets in the public gallery for you.

Finally, I wanted to remind you that I host regular surgeries to take up your concerns and solve problems on your behalf. If you have an issue you'd like me to help with, please contact me on <a href="mailto:claim.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk">claim.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk</a> or call 0207 219 5972

#### **TATSFIELD - ANNUAL ROYAL BRITISH LEGION APPEAL**

I have been organising the annual appeal since 2018 and have decided that 2025 will be my last before handing over to another willing volunteer or back to the Royal British Legion. Over these last eight years as a village, we have raised more than £10,000 in support of our veterans and their families, so a huge thank you for all your contributions.

If there is anyone who would be interested in taking this worthwhile cause forward, then please get in touch and I would be happy to talk you through the process and even assist you in your first year.

David Vale Tel: 01959 577864

#### THE HERBERT PROTOCOL

Do you know or care for someone with dementia? Surrey Police operate 'The Herbert Protocol' which is designed to assist with finding someone living with dementia should they wander from home.

**WHAT IS THE HERBERT PROTOCOL?** The Herbert Protocol is a form that carers, family or friends of a vulnerable person, or the person themselves can fill in. It contains a list of information to help the police if the person goes missing, including medication required; mobile numbers; places previously located; a recent photograph.

**WHEN TO FILL IN A FORM** Use your professional opinion as a carer or your knowledge as a family member to decide whether a person is at risk of going missing.

WHO COMPLETES THE FORM? In a care setting, the care provider, the person at risk or their family can fill in the form. Please seek permission from the person at risk or their next of kin. If neither is possible, the care provider should make a 'best interests' assessment. Update the form regularly to make sure the information is always accurate. Filling in the form can be a valuable way of communicating with a relative because it causes them to think about where they used to live and work. This triggers memories that they like to talk about and can enrich your visit.

WHEN SHOULD THE FORM BE GIVEN TO THE POLICE? The police only need the form at the point the person is reported missing. There is no need to hand it to police before then and the form will be returned once the person is found.

**WHERE SHOULD THE FORM BE STORED?** It should be stored securely, where you can find it quickly. In a care setting, the information must be stored in accordance with data protection legislation. Please make sure relatives, friends or carers know where it is.

**PRINTED OR ELECTRONIC FORM** To print out a copy of the form, go to www.surrey.police.uk and search for Herbert Protocol Form. A paper copy will need to be handed to the police officer who attends to take the missing person's report.

**IF THE PERSON GOES MISSING** If you discover a person is missing, conduct a brief 'open door' search of the address, grounds and outbuildings, to see if you can find them. If they're still missing, call <u>999</u> immediately. Don't worry - you won't be criticised for calling the police if you are worried about a person's safety. The sooner the police know someone is missing, the sooner officers can start looking for them.

When you ring the police, tell them you have the Herbert Protocol profile available. If you have an electronic version of the form, the police will tell you where to email the document so that the information can be shared with the searching officers. If you have a paper copy, have it ready for the attending officer when they arrive.

Be prepared to answer the following questions on the phone: where and when the person was last seen; what they were wearing and carrying. Don't worry, this won't delay the police response - officers will be sent out while you are talking.

#### **Inspector Lyndsey Whatley**

#### NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

Every ticket for the November concert, featuring Mariatu Kanneh-Mason, has now been sold. It is, of course, possible that some people will have to drop out, so if you would like to be placed on our 'reserve' list, please email **northdownssinfonia@gmail.com** and if any come up for resale — which might be at short notice — we will let you know. Tickets are £13, or £11 for concessions, and include a programme. Mariatu, who last November played the Saint-Saens Cello Concerto to a full house, is playing the Elgar Cello Concerto, one of the most popular in the repertoire.

Also being played are the overture to Donizetti's 'tragic opera' Roberto Devereux, and the first symphony ever composed by a female English composer, Alice Mary Smith.

Although Roberto Devereux is a 'tragic' opera, the overture is far from tragic, and the opera itself has been called 'one of Donizetti's finest', high praise indeed.

Alice Mary Smith was born to a family in comfortable circumstances in 1839. She was a prolific composer despite her relatively short life – she died of typhoid fever in 1884. The first symphony is a work that deserves to be better known, being very melodic and harmonious in the classical tradition.

The concert will be conducted by Jonathan Maynard, who has conducted many concerts for us in the past, including the one featuring Mariatu last November.

**Peter Maynard** 

#### THE ARTS SOCIETY LIMPSFIELD

At Home Everywhere and Nowhere. Travelling with John Singer Sargent by Mary Alexander. Date: Wednesday 29 October 2025. Afternoon lecture only starts at 2.15pm. Guests: £10. Note Alternative Venue: Hazelwood Centenary Theatre, RH8 0QU.

In childhood and throughout his life, Sargent was described as 'at home everywhere and nowhere.' Born in Florence to itinerant American parents, he adopted a frenetic pattern of international travel throughout his life. The range and duration of his travels is truly staggering. Renowned as a society portraitist, in 1909 his dramatic decision to refuse all further commissions provided a new-found freedom. Sargent also indulged his fascination for all things 'curious' - a favourite word. Accommodation was variable ranging from the White House in Washington DC to a tent in the mountains. We will explore his ability to capture a sense of place - the atmosphere, light, colours and textures of a land or seascape - with an intimately personal and often unusual interpretation. Whether it be luscious pomegranates in a Spanish orchard, brilliant hues of poppies in the Cotswolds, silver light on glistening fish in Norway, jewel-like reflections on water in Venice or Lake Garda, or the intense sunlight and heat of Morocco and the desert. And his most daring journey of all, in 1918 aged 62, as a war artist travelling to the war-torn trenches in France. Many of the works shown will include examples from private collections around the world and correspondence and photographs from friends, family and travelling companions.



### Little Acorns Pre School

In September we were delighted to welcome new children and their families to our preschool. The children settled well and we have very much enjoyed getting to know each of them. It's been wonderful to see new friendships forming and the children exploring their new pre school with curiosity and enthusiasm.

We've also had fun playing with new bikes/toys in our outside area and enjoyed visits to our new wildlife garden, as part of our gardening club activities.









We'd love to welcome your child for a play visit and to meet new families looking for an exciting, enriching childcare option.

Please contact us on Office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

for more information.

#### MONKEY PUZZLE DAY NURSERY

Preschool are becoming fabulous gardeners! The children have loved



harvesting our carrots and tipping out the potato planter, ready to take to chef Bryan so he can cook them for everyone's lunch.



Forest School – we have spaces available for October half term: Monday 20<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Monday 27<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> ... please get in touch for more information.











#### **Job Opportunities**



Are you looking for a new career? Or change of setting?
We are looking for enthusiastic, fun, loving, caring and dedicated staff to join our amazing team. If this sounds like you, then please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.



#### Are you looking for childcare?

We offer a high standard of care to children aged 3 months to 5 years old. Providing a range of fun and exciting activities, both indoors and outdoors all year around, exploring our local environment and all it offers on local trips, celebrating all traditions and cultures. **We have spaces available here at Monkey Puzzle Tatsfield**, if you are interested and want to book a tour of the nursery, please contact us

Phone: 01959 928427 Email: manager@monkeypuzzletatsfield.co.uk

# TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL OUR NEW WRENS

Our new Reception Class at Tatsfield (Wren Class) have had a fabulous first few days of school, exploring their classroom and starting to build new friendships. Learning through Expressive Art and Design this half term, the children are focussing on self—portraits, thinking about how to make their portrait accurate. Children spoke about how they are all unique and then used a mirror to look at their faces and features. After talking with the adults in their class about what they could see, they used pencils to help draw their own self-portraits.





#### NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

Our ladies enjoyed seeing the beautiful flowers at the Flower Festival. Tina worked hard to create an amazing display for us. The afternoon was glorious, and we also enjoyed delicious tea and cake at the Millennium Hall. Well done to everyone who created the floral masterpieces.

In September we were back in the WI hall enjoying Tina's warming casserole, followed by Suzanne's Apple crumble and custard. It was lovely to be back in the hall after a busy summer. Members enjoyed a game (or two) of bingo with Neil calling (to practice for our fundraising evening).

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October we will be hosting a Bingo Night in Ye Olde Ship. Eyes down at 8pm. Food available. Cash prizes. Please call Tina to book a table 01959 577311. All profit will go towards our Christmas outing. Please come and join us for a fun evening.

We are pleased to inform you we were awarded a grant from our Surrey County Councillor's Fund to organise cinema nights. It is an amazing opportunity for us to arrange not only for our members but with the possibility to invite other groups. This we will arrange for the dark winter months after Christmas. We are extremely grateful to Becky and her team to allow us this grant. Thank you.

Our next meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> October at 12.30 in the WI hall, new members always welcome. Keep safe.

Sue Dowse, notsoyoung100@gmail.com, 07816110929

#### **TATSFIELD WI**

WI meets on the first Tuesday of each month.



Our September meeting was a creative one. Fifteen members attended a needle felting

workshop run by Jane O'Keefe. We used a pack of naturally coloured wools to create a countryside scene with fields, trees

and cheeky little sheep. Everyone received a pack of materials and step by step instructions, but the final results were still all slightly different and displayed in a deep box



frame. We were all very proud of ourselves!

In October we will enjoy an Autumn Lunch and in November we will have another creative event when we will be making Christmas themed decorations.

As the weather starts to change you may be looking for somewhere warm and cosy for a midweek cuppa. Don't forget, everyone is invited to come along for a cup of coffee or

tea and a friendly chat, every Wednesday morning between **10.30** and **12** in the WI Hall in Paynesfield Road. Apart from a short break over Christmas week, our Pop In runs every Wednesday and has done so for many years, hosted by a small rota of WI volunteers. A great way to meet other village residents – anyone of any age is welcome. So, if you are passing, please do just "Pop In".

I would also like to remind you that our WI Hall is a conveniently local, warm (new radiators just installed) and bright venue available to hire at very reasonable rates for a meeting, family party or celebration, please just give us a call on 01959 577684 to find out more.

Susan Smale 01959 577660

#### TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

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

1st PrizeJon Dunn£43.502nd PrizeKen Budgen£29.003rd PrizeLes Eames£14.50

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

#### **HEAR HERE - HELP REQUIRED**

This monthly session is held on the **first Thursday of the month in the Aileen McHugo Building** behind Tatsfield village hall. The **session runs from 13.30 - 15.00.** 

We provide new batteries, re-tubing, advice and support on maintaining your hearing aid. This is a free service to anyone with an NHS hearing aid.

It's hard to believe, but the Hear Here monthly sessions have been taking place for over nine years. We even managed to continue battery replacements during the Covid lock downs; such was the demand for this local community service.

As I approach ten years as a volunteer, come March 2026, I will be stepping down. The sessions will run only until then, unless we get another volunteer to run them. I would like to thank all those who have attended over the years and a special thank you to my small gang of helpers. It is much appreciated.

**Is there anyone who would be interested in taking over this role?** If yes, there is a one-day training session to be completed, and I can help facilitate this as well as providing a full handover; my contact details are below.

Thanks for reading and remember sessions will continue up to and including March 2026.

Hilary Vale Tel: 01959 577864

#### ST MARY'S MATTERS

Our main Sunday service with hymns is at 10am. All are welcome. You can find out more about St Mary's services and events below and on our website at <a href="https://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys">www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys</a> where there is also a link to our weekly Notice Sheet.

**All Age Services** We have re-introduced a monthly Sunday 10am All Age Service. This is a shorter service with hymns and songs suitable for families led by Team Rector Revd Helen or Team Curate Revd Debra. Future dates are 19<sup>th</sup> October, 16<sup>th</sup> November and 21<sup>st</sup> December.

**Messy Church** This is a new 3pm Sunday afternoon event which includes crafts and stories on the theme of Creation. Children of all ages are welcome. Future dates are 5<sup>th</sup> October, 9<sup>th</sup> November and 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Sunday 5th October – Harvest Sunday & Harvest Lunch** Join us at 10am for a Harvest themed Holy Communion service with hymns led by Bishop Chris Goldsmith. All are welcome. At 12.30pm in the Millennium Hall there will be an informal 'Bring & Share' Harvest Lunch. A sheet will be available at the back of the church for those who would like to come to list what food they can bring and share.

#### Other dates for your diaries

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 4pm Afternoon Pet Service at St Mary's.

All Souls service, followed by tea and cake. If you would like the name of a loved one read out during the service, please contact stmoffice.lttm@btinternet

**St Mary's 2025 Flower Festival and Music Recital** Sincere thanks to all the musicians, sponsors, flower arrangers and teams of volunteers who made the 2025 Flower Festival and Musical Recital such a success. £3100 was taken in total with £1000 donated to The Chartwell Cancer Trust. A sample of the wonderful floral displays are at the end of this month's report.





The church was full for a wonderful evening of music featuring the enchanting harp of the acclaimed Luisa-Maria Cordell, the highly skilful and renown Stephen Davies on Organ, and a wonderful selection of classic and modern arrangements from the Ilyrica String Quartet. Refreshments followed in the Millennium Hall to complete a most enjoyable evening.

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

**St Mary's opening times** Our pretty church is open for viewing, prayer or personal reflection from 9am - 4.30pm approx, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

**Churchyard Team** Our most recent churchyard maintenance session was on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. With some volunteers either away or involved in other village activities our smaller than usual team carried out maintenance on the beds around the church, tidied the cremation area and did some strimming and pruning of shrubs. We carried out further work on the slope behind the cremation area, removing flints and stumps which in time will enable this hitherto untamed area to be brought into the programme of grass cutting. Our next maintenance session will be on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. **David Gulley** 

**Food Deliveries** We continue to support the needs of our local community at Westerham foodbank, where more households are being referred from a variety of agencies for short-, medium- and longer-term support. Our next delivery is 21<sup>st</sup> October. Items needed include cereal, soup, baked beans, jam, pasta sauces, rice, tinned fish, meat, long-life or powdered milk, custard and rice pudding. Please donate if you can. Non-perishable food can be left in the Narthex at St Mary's when open (see above for times). Monetary donations will be used to buy more food. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Hilary Vale 01959 577864

#### St Mary's 100 Club Results for September 2025

75 D Parker £25

77 B Heffernan £15

56 A Carter £10

St Mary's £46

**Life Events** We welcome enquiries for baptisms, weddings, funerals and interment of ashes. For further information, email: <a href="mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com">stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com</a>.

**Millennium Hall** Our well-equipped Millennium Hall is open for bookings. Enquiries from individuals and groups are very welcome.

Sheila Cook (01959 577443)

#### CONTACTS

St Mary's Church Office: The Parish Office, High Street, Limpsfield RH8 0DG. Phone: 01883 712512 Email: stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com
Open Thurs 9.30-13.30 - emails are checked regularly for urgent matters.

Team Rector: Revd Helen Cook 07530 609511 Email: hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk (day off Friday) Curate: Revd Debra Elsdon 07436 172130

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

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

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

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













#### REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, VH
Juli	10.00 am	Church service – StM
Mon	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
IVIOII	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary - WIH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	7.00 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
Tue	1.00 pm	Not So Young Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH
	2.30 pm	WI Meeting (1st Tuesday of the month) WIH
	4.00pm	Paracise VH
	7.00 pm	Scouts and Explorers – SH
	6.15 pm	Barré with Fi - VH
Wed	10.30 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	2-4 pm	Composting Site CLOSED FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER
	6.00 pm	Shape and Tone with Gary – WIH
	6.00pm	Over 8s Jujitsu, SH
	7.30pm	Adults Jujitsu, SH
	7.30 pm	Yoga – VH
Thu	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, StM
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary, WIH
	2.00 pm	Scrabble at AMB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)
	1.30 pm	Hear Here Sessions – AMB (1st Thursday of the month)
	6.00 pm	Over 8s Judo – SH
	6.15pm	Barré with Fi, VH
	7.30 pm	Adults (14+) Judo - SH
	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
Fri	9.30 am	Combat Fitness - SH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	4.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Tots Street Dance – VH
	4.45pm	Boom Arts Academy Lower Junior Street Dance – VH
	5.30pm	Boom Arts Academy Theatre and Singing – VH
	6.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Junior Street Dance – VH
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club – VH
Sat	9.00 am	Under 8s Judo – SH
	10.00am-	Composting Site CLOSED FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER
	12pm	
	10.15 am	Over 8s Judo - SH

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND**

### **OCTOBER**

	4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.00am	Churchyard Tidy Up, StM
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sun	12.30pm	Harvest Lunch, MH
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	Messy Church, StM
	14 <sup>th</sup> Tue	7.30pm	THS Garden Club Quiz, WIH
	14 <sup>th</sup> Tue	7.30pm	As You Like It, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
	15 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	As You Like It, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
	16 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	As You Like It, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
	17 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	As You Like It, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
	18 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.00am	Wisley Visit, Tatsfield Horticultural Society, Wisley
	18 <sup>th</sup> Sat 2.	.30/7.30pm	As You Like It, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre
	19 <sup>th</sup> Sun	tbc	Afternoon Pet Service, StM
	29 <sup>th</sup> Wed	2.15pm	Travelling with John Singer Sargent, Arts Soc, Hazelwood Theatre
	31 <sup>st</sup> Fri	5.00pm	Something Spooky for under 11-year-olds, Picnic area
NOVEMBER			

	TO TEMBER				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	2.30pm	NDCO, Memory, Mystery & Magic, Caterham School			
4 <sup>th</sup> Tue	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre			
5 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre			
6 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre			
7 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre			
8 <sup>th</sup> Sat	tbc	Village Remembrance Service			
8 <sup>th</sup> Sat 2.30/7.30pm		Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre			
9 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	Messy Church, StM			
15 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	NDS Concert featuring soloist Mariatu Kanneh-Mason, VH			
20 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre			
21 <sup>st</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre			
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre			
25 <sup>th</sup> Tue	7.00pm	THS Annual General Meeting, WIH			

## DECEMBER

6 <sup>th</sup> Sat	tbc	THS Christmas Wreath and Table Centre Workshop, tbc	
7 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	Messy Church, StM	
7 <sup>th</sup> Sun	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight, StM	
13 <sup>th</sup> Sat	tbc	Tatsfield Singers Christmas Concert, VH	



# TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY UPCOMING 2025 EVENTS



# OCTOBER GARDENING CLUB Tuesday 14th October at 7.30pm in the WI Hall

Jon Allbutt with THE BIG QUIZ - GARDENING, DO YOU KNOW YOUR VILLAGE? AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Come and try your luck. Teas and Coffees and (hopefully) biscuits or cakes will be supplied. Still only £1 to come and have fun with friends.







# WISLEY VISIT SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER Meet at 10.00am at RHS Wisley

We are meeting there but to reserve your entry ticket for free please contact Sue Warren on 01959 542892 or text only on 07555 120427.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday 25th November from 7.00pm in the Aileen McHugo Building
THS Social Event followed by the AGM. Refreshments supplied.

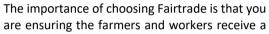
# CHRISTMAS WREATH AND TABLE CENTRE WORKSHOP Saturday 6th December at 10.00am WI Hall

Come and learn how to make
Christmas Wreaths and/or Table Centres.
More details will follow, but if you are interested
let a committee member know.

### FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT IN TATSFIELD

Fairtrade Fortnight has been running across the nation since Monday September 22nd and will continue through to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October. The aim of the Fortnight is to raise awareness and support for farmers and workers in developing countries. Three events in the village have promoted Fairtrade: Tea Tasting at the Church Teas; Tatsfield School Assembly and class activities plus, a wider range of Fairtrade goods at Sheree's Stores.

We can all make a positive difference when out shopping. Please look for the fairtrade logo and try and choose Fairtrade products such as tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate and bananas. If you shop in Sheree's Stores in the village, the Co-op, Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Oxfam, Lidl you will definitely find Fairtrade products.





fair price, decent working conditions and support for their communities. Fairtrade are also helping producers in vulnerable countries to cope with the effects of climate change.



Thank you for all the support you have shown over the years. We first became a Fairtrade Village in 2009! Please think Fairtrade when you are doing your shopping and make the world a fairer place.

Website: tatsfieldfairtradevillage.weebly.com Facebook: facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade Email: tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com



### THS AUTUMN SHOW

Despite the challenging weather which faced Tatsfielders growing flowers and vegetables, the exhibits shown in the HORTICULTURAL SHOW on 6<sup>th</sup> September were of an outstanding quality.

Congratulations are due to the winners of trophies awarded to competitors scoring the most points over the two shows this year:





David Hadden PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE CUP and BANKSIAN MEDAL,

**HORTICULTURE** 

Peter Maynard CLUB CHALLENGE CUP for VEGETABLES, BEST VEGETABLE

**DISPLAY and ALLOTMENT TROPHY** 

Susan Saunders McHUGO TROPHY for FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Linda Lambert SLATTER CRAFT TROPHY
Sandra Shury PETER WARNER ART CUP

Louis Walker GEOFF BLOXHAM PHOTOGRAPHY TROPHY
Stuart Payne TOM BLACK CUP for DOMESTIC classes

Cecily Martin (5) TATSFIELD SCHOOL CUP

Alan Armitage HARRY SHRUBB CUP for best DAHLIA exhibit

Sue Warren CLARK CUP for FLOWER ARRANGEMENT and £20 KNIGHTS

**VOUCHER** 

Sean Mooney TONY ERBES CUP for BEST ONION

Pat Walsh BANKSIAN MEDAL for FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Helen Walker BETTY LYDEN TROPHY for NOVICE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Lucien Roux-Martin (2) GODDARD TROPHY for FAMILY involvement

Margaret Bishop £10 KNIGHTS VOUCHER

It was lovely to receive entries from some new people, and we hope that Sean Mooney and John Moore will enter classes again in the spring.

Thanks to Neil Rowlands of the TITSEY BREWERY for presenting the prizes.

As always, the committee spent a lot of time preparing and running the event. Those who came to view the exhibits enjoyed the homemade cakes and raffle prizes.

Put the DATE for the next show into your DIARY! APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> 2026.

Carol Gaskell on behalf of the Horticultural Society

### TATSFIFLD A CENTURY AGO

Over the years of looking into the history of our parish I have from time to time been asked whether we knew more about a particular building or whether a particular well-known public figure from the



past once lived here. One such name is that of Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union of Fascists from 1932 to 1940 and of its successor, the Union Movement, from 1948 until his death in 1980.

This month there appeared to be little of interest already in our archive from October 1925, so I made a general check in the British Library's newspaper records. Right at the end of October 1925 there was an item in the Derby and Chesterfield Reporter. It recorded the granting of a divorce to a woman who had been living with her husband in Derby but whose address was given as Tatsfield, Surrey.

DECREE FOR SIR OSWALD

MOSLEY'S SISTER.

In the Divorce Court, before Mr. Justice Bateman, Mrs. Gerakline Ellison, of Tatsheld, Surrey, potitioned for divorce from her hustand, Frank Outram Fill.

Mrs. Ellison is a daughter of the late Sir Oswald Mosley, and a sister of the present baronet.

LOCAL DIVORCE

The final paragraph confirms that there was indeed a Mosley connection with Tatsfield.

I then had a fresh look at our archive and found a reference to an interview recorded in 1998 in preparation for the first edition of 'Tatsfield: the First One Thousand Years' but not quoted in the book.

In this, the interviewee recalls that sometimes, in the summer, some of Mosley's blackshirts would come to Tatsfield and stay at Tangland Castle, a folly in Goatsfield Road: "While they were staying in Tatsfield they used to hold meetings on the village green where the bus stop is now. They had the Fascist axe, and a large flag which they stuck in the ground. One night my brother's son came out of the Ship and pulled the flag down. He had a friend with him who was a big chap - there was a scuffle and Mosley's boys ran back to the Castle. They caused a lot of disturbance in the village. They went to Westerham and did some damage to a bus. After that they were ordered out of Tatsfield, and they were not allowed to come back". That would have been in the 1930s.

Now back to 100 years ago: The local social event of October 1925 appears to have been the marriage of Walter Robinson of Park Farm and Annie Baker, a farmer's daughter from Westerham. The Westerham Herald gives an ample account of the event and lists, in addition to gifts from members of the two families, more than 70 wedding gifts from friends.

Also in October 1925 came praise for Tatsfield as a place to live in the illustrated London weekly, 'The Sphere'.

Tatsfield is also a very good centre at which to stay, and is situated on high ground, 800 ft. above sea-level, convenient for London, and in no way overcrowded. There are several farms in the neighbourhood, and Mr. Scott is the local house agent.

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project - Tatsfield.history@talk21.com Tel: 577376 Website: https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/



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### WILDLIFF GARDENING TIPS FOR OCTOBER



With Halloween and Fireworks Night just around the corner, the number one thing to do this time of year is to check bonfire piles shortly before lighting them in case hedgehogs have taken up residence. To hedgehogs, a pile of firewood and twigs will look like a comfy place to live and maybe even hibernate in. So please break down and re-stack a bonfire pile before lighting it — you may save one of our endangered species from a horrible death.

Anyhow, on a lighter note, as already mentioned, hedgehogs do love a good woodpile, or brash pile (twigs, leaves & prunings), so another good thing to do is to build them a pile in a dry quiet corner for them to hibernate in. And even if a hedgehog doesn't move in, plenty of other things will, and it will make a great feeding place for our winter birds. And because it makes life better for our winter wildlife, it will turbo-charge your garden in springtime because you've given the mini-beasts and pollinators a base to springboard from. In fact, a brash pile will become a wholeheartedly beneficial micro-habitat. It provides shelter, and cover from predators, and feeding and nesting sites for various creatures, including birds, mammals, frogs & toads and bugs such as the amazing stag beetle. And with all this life going on, it will break down and return nutrients to the soil and leave it in better condition than when you started. Incidentally, we visited the inspiring and pioneering Knepp Rewilding Garden a short while ago and they've made quite a stand-out feature of their brash piles. They have built them up to 6' tall in brushwood frames to catch the winter sun, and to give the little guys somewhere to go if the lower levels get too waterlogged.

**Interesting fact of the month...** We've been looking into planting some wildlife friendly plants and, while doing so, I stumbled over an incredible fact; there are trees alive in Britain that are so old that they pre-date the birth of Christ and are, therefore, older than

Christianity (and Islam) itself. Imagine all the kings and queens they've outlived, and all the wars and storms they've endured. And they make our old oak trees look like mere Twiglets. If you haven't worked it out yet, it's the yew tree, and our oldest one is believed to be somewhere between 3,000 and 5,000 years old, possibly much older, and is considered one of the oldest living things in Europe. So, it was at least 1,000 years old before the Romans invaded. That's bonkers!

## Jim Kenney



The Great Yew at St Peter's Church, Tandridge. Estimated to be 2,500 years old. Photo: Christian Wolf. www.ancient-yew.org

### THE TATSFIFLD GARDENER IN OCTOBER

It is no great surprise that autumn appears to have arrived three weeks early after such an early start to spring and summer. The onset of wind, rain and falling leaves was more October than September; it is going to be interesting to see what October holds, maybe a record first frost? I have brought forward some important garden jobs normally done in October. As I mentioned in my September notes, it is time to think about storing those perennials growing in pots, baskets and in the borders. The recent wind and rain have bashed my Geraniums, Fuchsias, Begonias and Dahlias leaving the displays looking a bit of a mess! So far, I have taken over 100 cuttings of the Geraniums making sure to only

use the top inch or so of firm healthy growth (see pic), notice that most of the cuttings have a short distance between nodes (a node is a small scar where a leaf joined the stem). This indicates a strong firm stem ideal for making a cutting; trim the stem just below a node because this is where rooting will happen. The parent plants will be taken out of the containers and borders and put in pots using the old potting compost from the containers; they will sit on the bench of my unheated



greenhouse until next spring and be kept dryish, or as I say, just on the dry side of moist!

The Fuchsias will get the same treatment, I am aiming for about 50 cuttings of these, including the rare and beautiful Audrey Dahms. You can see how well these have done if you visit the Plant Sale next spring where they will be on sale for funds to support our Horticultural Society.

The corms (a corm is a hard lump of plant material that stores all the nutrients for next year's growth) of my basket Begonias are now in their third year and are as big as a side plate! Back in the spring I experimented with using a panel saw to cut some of these in half while they were dormant, I left them on the bench to dry for a few days, dusted them with Sulphur powder and put them back in their trays ready to plant up in April. They did so well that I will cut some more in half at the end of this month, dry them out and then store them in trays with old compost for the winter.

I will wait until the end of the month to dig up my other tender perennials like Dahlias, Cannas and Abutilons, put in pots and trays for the winter. Who said that autumn is a quiet time in the garden!!

You will have read Jim Kenny's notes and his thoughts on providing shelter for Hedgehogs. I am saddened by the low number of hedgehogs reported in Tatsfield, or am I wrong? Jim is right, we must make provision for these lovely creatures to have a safe and snug place to overwinter!

### Jon Allbutt



### TATSFIELD ART GROUP

Members enjoyed the first of the many workshops we have planned for 2025/26. Carol Gaskell's 'Palette knife play' was fun. Carol began by explaining the different ways and techniques you can use the

different shaped knives. Then it was time to practise with the knives by paint a piece of fruit using only eight strokes, which produced some very strange looking apples and oranges! By the end of the evening our knife painting was improving.



Below are our workshops until the Christmas break. If you would like to come to any of our workshops the cost is £15 a session, we would love to see you.

. Al.	
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Time to be creative; members work on their own paintings
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Jackie Copeman and Susan Smale, Workshop, Trees in
	watercolour and pencil
	•
20 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term Break
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Sandra Vivian, Workshop, Aboriginal Art
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Hannah Franklin, Workshop, Art inspired by Elsa Schiaparelli
	fashion designer
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Adie Parker, Workshop, TBA
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Simon Cook, Workshop, Painting on Glass
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Ian Henderson, Workshop, TBA
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Sheila Alexander, Workshop, Painting with Ink and Bleach
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Time to be creative; members work on their own paintings
Christmas	Social event TBA

If you would like more information, please contact Sandra 07867502235 or Carol 07815775859. Our door is always open Monday's 7pm until 9.30pm at Tatsfield Village Hall in term times, if you fancy trying something new this year, pop in and have a chat.

### NIGFL'S NATURE NOTES

September has been a very quiet month for Nature Notes, which is probably just as well as we have quite a bit of catching up to do, beginning with this message from Jim (Yeeles).

(11.08.25) 'Sad news to report, I'm afraid. Despite it seeming to be a bumper year for insects, the 'Old School Swifts' failed to breed this year. After some initial activity, Swift sightings around the village have been few and far between for me, and the future for the colony doesn't look too positive. It's too early to say the colony is lost so let's hope this is just a one-year blip and they will return in screaming numbers next year. I sincerely hope there has been success in other areas around the village and I am proved wrong.'

Your Swift news is very disappointing, Jim. What factors could be at play either here or abroad, I wonder. I must try to compare with the national picture. Is this a localised failure or more widespread?

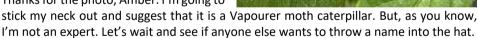
(16.08.25) 'Over the years we've been seeing fewer swifts around the village but with at least two known active nests at the old school site. This year only one pair of birds were seen at the start of the season and for some reason (predation?) they were

unsuccessful. Some of the birds that have successfully fledged in recent years will have the site location 'imprinted' and, hopefully, will return in future years to continue the colony. We shall see...'

Meanwhile, Amber (Tamcken) came across, and reported, an unusual caterpillar:

(16.08.25) 'We have just found this caterpillar on our wisteria. I believe it's a Rusty tussock moth caterpillar.'

Thanks for the photo, Amber. I'm going to



Around the same time, Mary (Smith) reported her garden observations:

(12.08.25) 'A couple of weeks ago this dragonfly [photo supplied] was at the edge of my pond depositing eggs (?). Do you think it was an Emperor? It looks very yellow. Also many butterflies this year in the garden: Painted lady, Comma, Peacock, Gatekeeper, Meadow brown, Large / Small whites, Small / Large tortoiseshell and Red admiral.'

Thank you for your email, Mary. Unfortunately, my guidebook has a very limited selection of dragonflies. One thing I will say is that I don't think it is an Emperor dragonfly; neither the black stripe on both sexes nor the blue body of the male are apparent on your photograph. The nearest I can find is the female Black-lined orthetrum but, to be



honest, I'm in unknown territory here and simply stabbing in the dark. Regarding your butterflies, I am so pleased that you have been enjoying such a colourful variety of them in your garden. I must, however, question your identification of a large tortoiseshell. This is a <u>very</u> rare butterfly and highly unlikely to be seen in a garden, unless you have a mature and healthy Elm tree in the vicinity. Would you care to reconsider your identification? What were the characteristics that you observed?

(13.08.25) 'Thank you for your thoughtful reply to my information. I shall obviously have to take back my large tortoiseshell identification as I saw a large butterfly and couldn't think what else it was — may have been a fritillary? What I do know I have seen is a **Brown hairstreak** on the **Hemp agrimony** round the pond and identified it because of the touch of colour at the bottom of the outer surface of the wings. Jim and Ruth saw one in the same area on the Hemp agrimony last year. The dragonfly is more of a problem. I have sent the picture to Jim and Ruth to see if they have any ideas.'

With Jim and Ruth reporting a fritillary in their garden, perhaps that is indeed what you saw. A further problem with dragonflies, I recently discovered, is that their identity

changes with age. I think your solution is probably for the best: 'If in doubt, farm it out!' We'll wait and see what 'the adventurers' have to say. (The verdict arrived a few days later — **Southern Aeshna**).

Lastly this month, Martin (Allen) and Julie have been inundated with feathered friends:

(22.08.25) 'We thought you might like to see and know that we have been inundated over the last few days with a large flock of [House] Sparrows, and I



mean larger than we normally get after youngsters have joined the previous flock. Could manage to count around 22/23 and could still see others flitting about in nearby bushes and feeders.'

Thanks for the photos and your note, Martin. This seems to clearly show how neighbouring families of House Sparrows tend to congregate and form flocks at this time of the year, perhaps remaining as such until next year's breeding season when they once again separate into pairs in preparation for nest building, the laying of eggs and the raising of a family.

Summer has passed. Time now to enjoy the colourful landscape that autumn provides.

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

### THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIFLD – OCTOBER 2025

Experience tells us that anything appearing in the media about astronomy is, in general, either vastly over exaggerated or vastly over simplified. One example of this is the regular hype we hear about "supermoons". It is true that because the Moon orbits the Earth in an ellipse, there are instances of a full Moon occurring when sometimes it is nearer and at other times further away from us. This obviously causes variations in the *apparent* size of Moon but not to the wild extremes that the news would have us believe. It has to be remembered that a full Moon when viewed with foreground objects, such as houses and trees, always looks bigger thanks to an optical illusion. The proof of this is that when you look an hour or two after it has risen, and the Moon is clear of foreground objects, it has miraculously returned to its normal size.

This month there is a "Supermoon" on 7<sup>th</sup> when our satellite will be 361,608½ km away. Full Moon occurs in the early morning at 4:48 am when it is about to set but if you look the evening before or the one after then you will get the same effect. Incidentally, on November 5<sup>th</sup> we will see this year's largest Supermoon which will be over 4,000 km closer than October's. It will be the largest because full Moon coincides very nearly with "perigee", which is the point in its orbit when it is closest to Earth.

Saturn was at opposition towards the end of last month which is the time when it is closest to us and therefore larger and brighter. It is also the time when it is visible throughout the hours of darkness, rising as the Sun is setting. During the early part of the month, Saturn is close to the southeast at an altitude of around 25° at 9pm. Looking later in the night, and in the month, will mean the ringed planet is higher in the sky. If you are looking with binoculars or a telescope, the higher in the sky it is, the steadier the image should be because you are looking through a thinner layer of the atmosphere. However, do remember that whatever optical aid you are using, it will give substantially better views if it is mounted on a tripod or somehow supported. On the evening of the 5<sup>th</sup>, an almost full Moon is just 3° to the northwest of Saturn.

On the night before, 4<sup>th</sup> October, NASA invites everyone to take part in "International Observe the Moon Night" where they encourage us all to observe our nearest celestial neighbour and take part in several activities. Go to <a href="https://moon.nasa.gov/observe-the-moon-night/">https://moon.nasa.gov/observe-the-moon-night/</a> to see what they have planned for budding astronomers.

It's hard to believe but it's 50 years ago this month since the first ever spacecraft from Earth touched down on another planet. Russia sent Venera 9 and 10 as a pair, which seemed common in those days to overcome problems of unreliability. As it turned out, both craft made it to the surface of Venus and both transmitted data back (including a surface temperature of 485°C) to an orbiter which acted as a relay station to Earth.

If you have to get up at an unsocial hour, you might see Venus low down and due east around 6am in early October. Incidentally, the bright object considerably higher in the sky and towards the southeast is the gas giant Jupiter. Venus is slowly moving back into the twilight so expect to see it getting closer to the horizon as time passes. By the end of October, it is much lower in the ESE at a similar time in the morning.



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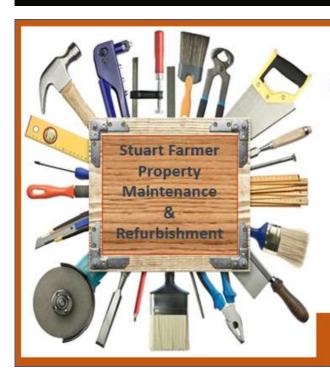
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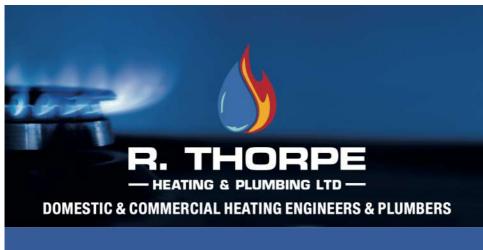
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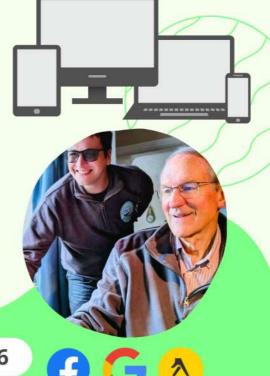
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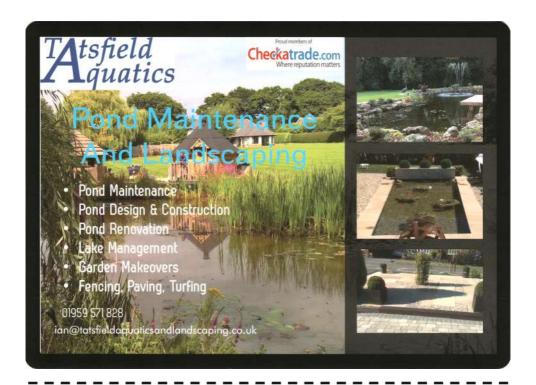
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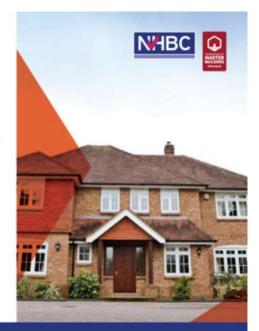
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