

NOVEMBER 2025

Tatsfield Parish Magazine



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TUESDAYS - REGULAR QUIZ NIGHTS 8PM

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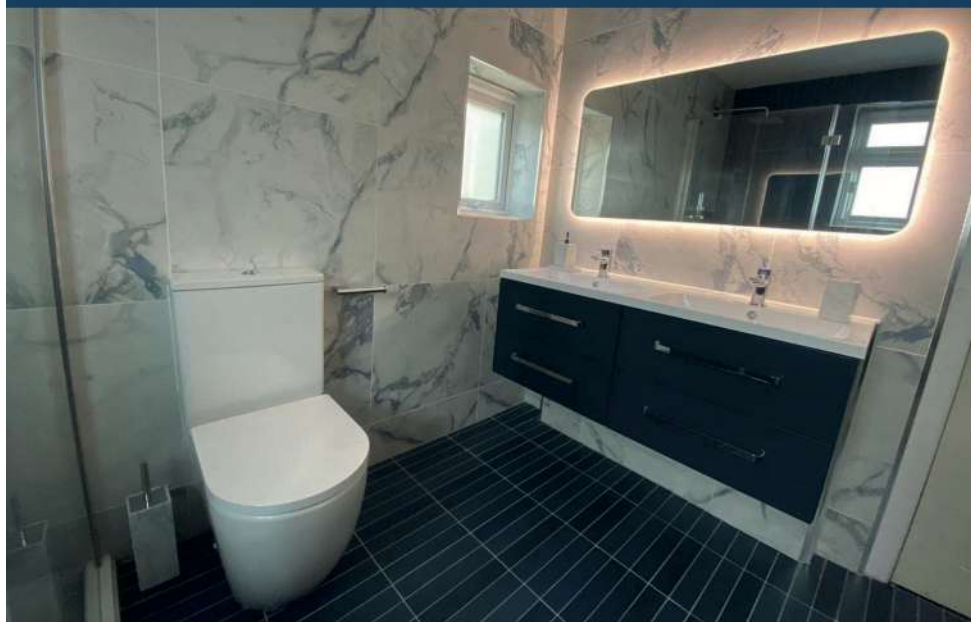
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

Editors • Tara Barry and Tracey Syrett

Chair • Debra Elsdon

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, Limsfield RH8 0DG.

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

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

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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 16th of the preceding month, except for July/Aug and Jan/Feb double issues. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment by MIDDAY on the copy date in an email to: tatsfieldpm@gmail.com. Alternatively post to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine, 20 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield TN16 2AU.

Enquiries concerning advertising or loose inserts should be made to Sarah Tait (tatsfieldmag@gmail.com). 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: Trough and wreaths at Remembrance, by Tracey Syrett.

EDITORIAL

As the weather closes in, we might start thinking of journeys we could take under blue skies, across new landscapes – or maybe long-cherished and well-known to us.

This November, we have a wonderful opportunity to reflect on such journeys, as Tatsfield resident Bishop Chris Goldsmith shares an illustrated talk on the Camino de Santiago and the Cornish Celtic Way. (further details on the St Mary's Matters page).

These ancient paths, trodden by countless pilgrims, are nonetheless new to every fresh pilgrim who heads out to discover something about themselves and world we live in. Recent programmes on television indicate that pilgrimage is as relevant today as it has ever been, as Bishop Chris will explore.

As we journey through these autumn months, with the days growing shorter and the anticipation of Advent beginning to stir, we are all on a path towards Christmas. This is a journey of preparation, of hope, and of joyful expectation.

Potential travellers and armchair pilgrims alike; all are most welcome to join us on Saturday, November 29th, at 3pm in the St Mary's Church Millennium Hall.

Blessings to you all

Reverend 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 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

NOVEMBER 8th 2025

Tatsfield Village Memorial.

Service commences at 10:45

2 minutes silence at 11 am

Followed by a wreath-laying service

Tatsfield Parish Council

All Welcome - We Will Remember Them



TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

Starting at 10.45 by the Memorial Stone Westmore Green. If anyone is available to help with traffic control for the two minutes silence, please give me a call. Kim 07951 072326.

SANTA VISIT

On Friday 18th December Santa will be making a visit to Tatsfield. More details in November Magazine.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 13TH OCTOBER 2025.

PLANNING

TA/2025/1060 Mirabilis, 65 Paynesfield Road. Proposed single storey rear extension (5m from main house and 2.78m from existing Garage.

Recommendation- No comment but request for planners to take note of neighbours' comments.

FINANCE

Essential repairs to the Gable ends of Village Hall Roof were approved and will be done in coming few weeks. A new lighting system for Westmore Green including new downlighters in front of shops, new outside plug sockets for events and all Christmas Tree Lights to be overhauled and tested.

External Auditors report was circulated to members with no matters to report. All documents are available on the Parish Council Website.

PC RISK ASSESSMENTS

All risk assessments have taken place for this year. No immediate actions, but Simon Cook reported on recommendations for future.

EV CHARGING

Simon Cook reported that the SCC plan for EV charging points in Paynesfield Road had been cancelled after community complaints. Simon has written to Surrey offering spaces in the VH carpark but as yet has had no reply.

DEVOLUTION SURREY

Martin Elmer is following progression of the planned devolution at the moment any decisions have been delayed till 28th October, hopefully more news next month.

VILLAGE HALL/SCHOOL CARPARK

It has been noted that many cars are being left overnight and sometimes all day in the car park. This car park is for Village Hall and School users only. Letters will be sent to the regular offenders requesting vehicles are removed.

MUGA (MULTI USE GAMES AREA)

The Parish Council have been successful in its bid for a grant to improve and add to facilities at the MUGA. Two Table Tennis tables will be added, along with clean and new lines painted for Tennis, Netball, Basketball and Pickleball. All work will be undertaken during the next few weeks, and we look forward to a great new sports facility with opportunity for new clubs.

FURZE CORNER

Now Cricket season is over it has been decided to close Furze Corner for the winter. We are hoping to hear in early November the outcome of our funding application for build of new clubhouse from Your Fund Surrey.

Kim Jennings

Tatsfield Parish Council kimjennings@tatsfieldpc.org.uk

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

It was a quiet month for me in September, although only shadowing my independent colleagues at committee, I do tend to turn up and support them and have my say on things that I believe are not correct and not in the best interests of residents.

I attended Housing Committee had an independent group meeting with David Ford and Thomas James from planning where I raised the matter of the unsightly demise of The Grasshopper. I will follow up with agent to see if there is any sign of an amended planning application.

I attended the Strategy & Resources committee on the 25th where even more district assets were approved for asset disposal for no return. I attempted to take part in the first Neighbourhood Area Committee (NAC) but was asked to leave the meeting as I was not one of the nominated Councillors. I called for a meeting with the Deputy Chief Executive for an explanation as to why, and to follow up from the meeting.

The update is that there are four proposed NACs (pilots), ours being the North Tandridge one. They are being led by Surrey County Council with meetings scheduled by the end of the calendar year when they will evaluate the input from the designated councillors and businesses and use those findings to start Public Consultations. I am also advised these meetings will not be open to the public during the period to the end of the year. I and my Group put across our feelings about the exclusion of Elected Councillors and asked the DCE to take away that message to consider how us as elected members were to get the information passed to our residents.

As always, this time of year the budget process has started and we are now charged with findings more savings over the next two years as we head to a new Unitary authority.

The Local Government Review decision has now been delayed until late October, but they expect that this announcement will include the decision on which proposal will be implemented, the initial amount of debt support intended to be provided to Woking in 2026-27, and the next steps on devolution in Surrey. Please continue to keep up to date on this matter on the previously advised links.

Parish Cllr David Pinchin and I had a meeting at Biggin Hill Airport where “moving the NSA south” was kept high on the agenda and on their behalf I have included a chart from the Head of Sustainability at the airport, see separate article.

Parish Cllr Simon Cook and I had a fruitful but nonetheless disappointing “Meet the Beat” police officers as only three residents attended the session. It is therefore unlikely we will see this type of attempted communication again.

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 of our local businesses** who will continue to need us to show our support to them to ensure that they continue to operate well into the future.

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

Cllr Martin Allen 01959 577201 cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk or martin_allen@talk21.com

HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND – EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS E-VOUCHER

As part of Household Support Fund 7 funding by the Department of Work and Pensions, Surrey County Council has launched the Everyday Essentials E-voucher.

This is open to eligible Surrey residents who may be struggling with the financial costs of everyday essentials. Eligible residents can receive up to £300 in the form of an e-voucher which can be redeemed at a supermarket of the applicant's choice.

Applications opened on 1st October and can be made until March 2026 or the funding runs out. The application portal opens each month and will close once that month's funding has been fully allocated and reopen again the following month.

For more details visit: **www.surreycc.gov.uk/everydayevoucher**

BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

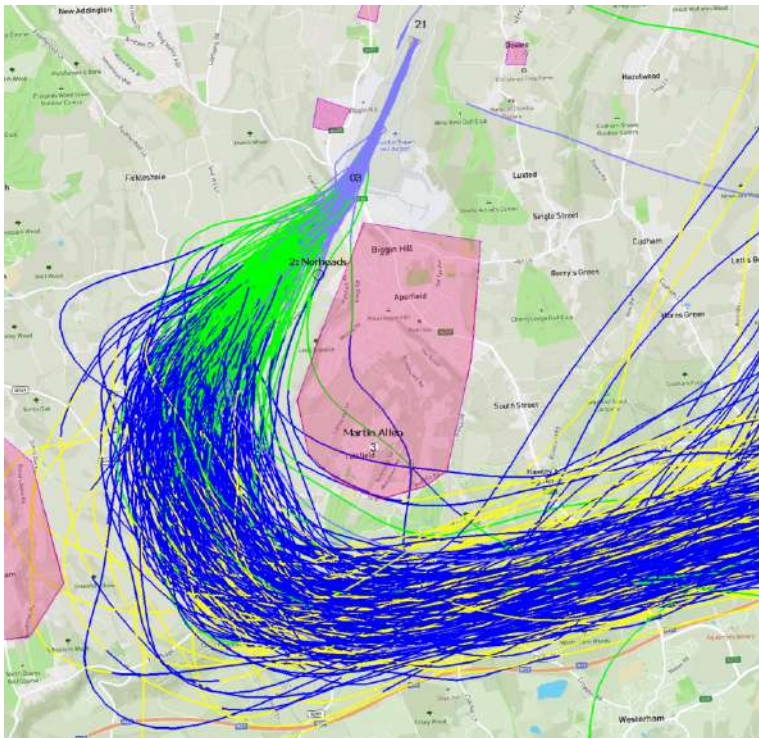
BIGGIN HILL AND TATSFIELD NOISE SENSITIVE AREA

You will see from the chart below that all the work that has been done by Councillors Allen and Pinchin with BHA has had a really beneficial impact in improving the flight path of the general aviation aircraft departing from Biggin Hill Airport and turning to the east.

The data for August, one of the busiest months in the calendar, shows the very large majority of aircraft flying the ideal route or better, giving us all encouragement that this can be established as the new ideal route taking departing aircraft away from the centre of the village in the south to somewhere over or near to Clarks Lane / M25. The Airport has data for the past year showing very similar track profiles.

We hope the previously reported trial that is underway to assess any safety concerns from extending the NSA to the south will prove successful and we will continue to communicate with the airport on the matter going forward.

Martin Allen & David Pinchin



SURREY HIGHWAYS – HAVE A SAFE T.R.I.P. THIS AUTUMN

As the autumn weather sets in, it's more important than ever to make sure your tyres are in good condition. Worn, underinflated, or damaged tyres are far more likely to lead to breakdowns or collisions with the numbers speak for themselves.

In 2024 alone, tyre-related issues caused over 53,000 breakdowns on major roads and motorways - almost one in five of all incidents. Despite this, many drivers remain unaware of the risks: 55% admit they don't check tread depth before a long journey, and nearly half don't always check tyre pressure.

According to TyreSafe, there are an estimated six million illegal tyres on Britain's roads today. Poor tyre maintenance also affects your wallet, wasting up to £1 billion a year in fuel from underinflation. Most importantly, it can cost lives: in 2023, more than 190 people were killed or seriously injured in collisions where tyre condition was a factor.

This October, TyreSafe's Tyre Safety Month is encouraging all drivers to take a moment before every journey to carry out simple Safe T.R.I.P. checks - focusing on Tread, air Pressure, and overall tyre condition. These quick checks can help you stay in control, prevent breakdowns, and keep you, your passengers, and other road users safe.

Before setting off this autumn, take a few minutes to check your tyres:

Pressure matters: A 10% difference can make braking slower and handling harder.

Tread depth counts: Low tread is illegal and reduces grip, especially on wet roads.

Efficiency saves: Well-inflated tyres improve fuel economy and reduce pollution.

TANDRIDGE TOGETHER COMMUNITY FUND OPENS

The Council is inviting local charities and voluntary groups which demonstrate the work they do improves the health and wellbeing of residents to apply for a grant of up to £2,000 from the **Tandridge Together Community Fund before Friday 28th November 2025**. This fund is made up of money raised by people buying weekly tickets for the Tandridge Together Lottery. The continued success of the lottery means the overall fund available to local good causes this year is £23,000. Tickets for the Tandridge Together Lottery can be bought online at **www.tandridgelottery.co.uk**.

Since the fund started, it has contributed to a wide variety of projects helping support people of all ages and abilities. These include collecting and distributing shoes for children from low-income families, befriending services for the elderly, care and support for domestic abuse survivors and a wide variety of workshops for students, adults and young adults with learning disabilities, disabilities and or mental health challenges.

To apply for a grant please visit www.tandridge.gov.uk/communityfund.

CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

I hope you all had a fantastic October. I visited Manchester at the start of the month for the Conservative Party Conference. Back at home, the conference recess allowed me to step back from Westminster and soak up the history, heritage and beauty of East Surrey's towns and villages. From Outwood's iconic windmill to Crowhurst's Yew Tree, our little patch of England is steeped in heritage. We should be proud of where we come from. In the run-up to Christmas, I will be exploring and sharing East Surrey's history, from well-known stories to the hidden gems. If you know of any spots of historical magic, please share them with me and I will add it to my list of places to visit.



A sacrosanct part of our heritage are East Surrey's brilliant pubs, restaurants and hospitality venues. As one publican said to me recently, our pubs are the nation's living rooms, another home from home. I was pleased to welcome many of East Surrey's businesses to my hospitality roundtable in September. It has been a tough year for the sector. The Hare & Hound, where we held the roundtable, is more than 400 years old. To lose these places would be to tear a chapter out of our local heritage. With the concerns raised, I will be writing to the Chancellor ahead of her next budget.

As a self-confessed community centre superfan, I was thrilled to be invited to officially open The Master Park Pavilion in Oxted last month. I cannot tell you how few things I have actually seen built in my six years as an MP. The new community hub at Master Park is a tribute to the passion of Pammy McNaughton and all the Trustees and donors who made it happen through their mammoth fundraising efforts. Praise must also go to Surrey County Councillor Cameron McIntosh for his support, and the brilliant Titsey brewery, who are running the bar. Community spaces like these do wonders for our sense of belonging and wellbeing. I look forward to the joy it will bring to residents in the years ahead. Huge well done all!

For residents of Godstone and Bletchingley, the High Street collapse continues to cause knock-on issues – one of them being the volume of traffic now zipping through previously quiet roads, with Eastbourne Road bearing the brunt of the diversion. I met with homeowners to discuss what can be done to ease the pressure. One possibility was to temporarily reduce the speed limit; unfortunately, this idea was rejected by Surrey County Council when I approached them, citing a lack of evidence of speeding. I am now working with residents to set up a Community SpeedWatch. This initiative has seen huge success in Oxted, so I hope the benefits can be mirrored here too.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the fourteen wonderful ladies from the Lingfield WI who made the trip up to Westminster for a tour of Parliament a few weeks ago. The Palace of Westminster belongs to us all, so I run free tours for constituents in East Surrey when Parliament is not sitting. If you are a constituent and would be interested in a tour, please email me with your full name and address and I will get back to you with details of our next sessions.

Claire Coutinho claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk

NEW DIGITAL MAPPING SPEEDS UP HIGHWAY SURVEYS IN SURREY

Where does the highway end and private land begin? For us, that simple question carries big consequences. From who is responsible for maintaining a verge or ditch, to resolving disputes about access and ownership, having a clear, accurate boundary map is essential. Until recently the Highway boundary team relied on traditional surveying methods – paper maps, measuring wheels, and two-person survey crews. Surveying the county's 5,400km road network this way would have taken more than 5,600 staff hours – over 1,100 working days.

To tackle this challenge, the council partnered with mapping geospatial and data specialists MGISS to adopt new digital surveying technology. Using the Arrow Gold GNSS receiver and Esri mobile apps, surveyors can now record boundary data directly in the field with sub-centimetre accuracy. The information, including photos and notes, is uploaded instantly to the council's mapping system.

This new approach has cut survey time by more than 85% - reducing the effort from 6.66 hours per kilometre to just 1 hour. What once would have taken years can be achieved in months. The benefits go beyond efficiency. The highly accurate data gives the council stronger evidence when resolving disputes, supporting insurance claims, and planning future works. Real-time updates provide the ability to monitor survey progress 'live', facilitate rapid responses to information requests in time sensitive situations, and also allow other teams across the council to use the information immediately.

The technology is already inspiring other council teams, with interest in using it for countryside management and transport studies. By embracing digital innovation, Surrey is making highways management faster, smarter and more reliable for the future.

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

GO GREEN AT OUR FREE CLIMATE AWARENESS EVENT

Residents, community groups and businesses are invited to join us at our free, Climate Awareness event to discover practical ways to live and work more sustainably.

When: Wednesday 12 November, 10am-3pm

Where: Tandridge Council Offices, Station Road East, Oxted RH8 0BT

The event will feature expert talks, practical workshops and a showcase of local green businesses, all designed to help you reduce your carbon footprint and adopt eco-friendly habits.

What's on offer:

- Expert tips to cut your carbon footprint.
- Energy saving advice for home and work.
- Simple, practical ways to live sustainably.
- Inspiring ideas for greener living.
- Workshops and demonstrations and local business showcases.

Book onto any of these free workshops:

- 10am-11am: **Plans with Purpose.** Carbon literacy training.
- 11am-12pm: **Energy Action Redhill and Reigate.** Warmer, greener living: practical ideas to make your home cosier, greener and cheaper to run.
- 12pm-1pm: **Surrey Wildlife Trust.** Nature based solutions.
- 1pm-2pm: **Bio Cubes.** How climate, water and biodiversity are connected, with solutions which benefit all three.
- 2pm-3pm: **Met Office.** How climate change affects us.

This event is a chance to learn, share ideas and take away small changes which can make a big difference for a cleaner, greener district.

Free tickets to the event and workshops can be booked on [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

DO YOU CARE FOR SOMEONE WITH DEMENTIA? DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE HERBERT PROTOCOL?

**To print out a copy of the form, go to
www.surrey.police.uk and search for Herbert Protocol Form.**

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 999 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

Tatsfield Singers Present



A Holly Jolly Christmas

on

13 December

@ 5pm

(doors open at 4.30pm)

Enjoy a cup of tea and mince pie on arrival!

Tatsfield Village Hall

Tickets: Adults £8
Children free

Tickets from
Sheree's Store, Tatsfield
or on the door





WHAT NEXT? LOOKING FOR A JOB?



Background

The Job Club exists to support job seekers find a new satisfying role. We deploy trained facilitators who have experience of diverse sectors. The volunteers offer weekly one-to-one support either digitally or in person. The service is tailored to the needs of job seekers.

An essential part of the service is ensuring the job seeker feels supported throughout their 'job campaign'. Job seeking can be a lonely and dispiriting journey.

The role of the facilitator is ***"to cycle beside the job seeker but not pedal for them"***.

Examples of job seekers to date include:

- *Graduates and school leavers* looking for their first job
- *Mothers/fathers* returning to work after career breaks
- *Mature individuals* who have been made redundant

Case studies:

- A recent physics graduate considering a career in medical physics was supported with making applications. After re-evaluating the career options, this candidate found a role working for a leading Financial Advisor, which is proving highly satisfying.
- A maths graduate was unsure whether to follow a career in IT/accountancy or pursue a passion for film/game music composition. Following Job Club sessions, this individual has built up an extensive portfolio and is now studying for an MA in composition which offers strong employment prospects.
- A business analyst with twelve years' experience in the financial and media industry was assisted to realise a desire for career change and moved into the teaching profession.

The Job Club offer is nicely summed up by a manager previously working in HR consultancy, who has used our services: ***"My facilitator's knowledge, enthusiasm and natural coaching skills make him the ultimate career mentor. Each weekly session with him left me with new insights, ideas and fresh positivity that kept my spirits and inspiration high and eventually landed me a fantastic job! I cannot recommend the Job Club enough!"***

**For more information or to register contact:
jobcluboxteddistrict@gmail.com**

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

Little Acorns had a busy start to the Autumn term.

The children enjoyed trips to the park and autumnal walks around the village, looking at our local area as part of ***'Where I live and getting to know me'***.



Recently, the children took part in an engaging pet visit, learning how to care for and respect animals.

Little Acorns was also pleased to host a special ***'Stay & Play'*** morning, welcoming a family member into preschool to share play time with their child. Everyone had a fantastic time together!

We are excited to offer a new Art Club on a Tuesday morning, adding to our exciting activities. Our weekly clubs on offer are:

Science Club, Monday
afternoons

Art Club, Tuesday mornings

Boom Dance Academy,
Wednesday afternoons

Gardening Club, Thursday
mornings

Messy Play, alternating with
Cooking Club, Fridays



All clubs are included as part of your Child's Preschool session!

The Little Acorns Team

Tel: 01959 540775. Email: office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk

MONKEY PUZZLE DAY NURSERY



ALL THINGS AUTUMN

Over the last month the nursery has been looking at the change in seasons. We have all loved exploring natural resources that appear in the Autumn months. Preschool created bird nests, hibernation station and continued looking after their vegetables/herbs they are growing. Babies and Toddlers have enjoyed taking part in lots of sensory activities that involve the colours of Autumn!



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 – 01959928427

Email – manager@monkeypuzzletatsfield.co.uk



TATSFIELD SCHOOL

CELEBRATING FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: 'BREW IT FAIR'

Fairtrade Fortnight 2025 took place from 22nd September to 5th October 5 2025, with the theme "Brew it Fair", under the main theme of "Do it Fair", focussing on tea farmers. At Tatsfield Primary School, we began our fortnight with an assembly led by Hilary Harber, a key member of the Tatsfield Village Fairtrade group.

She explained how the campaign encourages people to support Fairtrade by choosing certified products, advocating for fair trade, and learning about the positive impacts it has on farmers and communities.

Over the fortnight, each class learnt about the journey of tea from bush to cup, how tea farmers are supported by the Fairtrade initiative and the tea supply chain. We even made our own Fairtrade pledges.



At the end of the fortnight and to tie in with our Harvest celebrations, we shared our learning at our Harvest Festival assembly with Reverend Debra.



NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

In September, on a wet and cold afternoon our members were transported (by the committee) to the Everyman cinema in Oxted to be taken back in time to enjoy the wonderful film Downton Abbey. For a few hours members were transferred into the beautiful world of old England.

Jackie was our cook for October and provided a delicious cottage pie followed by Pam's amazing bread pudding, certainly a meal to warm the heart. Members then enjoyed our Connect 4 quiz hosted by Claire. It is so nice that over the last few months we have had a few new members join us and we hope they will join in on our activities over the coming months.

In November we will be visiting Haskins garden centre to see all the lovely Christmas goodies they have and perhaps indulge in afternoon tea. Our next meeting is on 11th November 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.

October marks the Autumn season and we organised a hearty Autumn Lunch to celebrate this time of meeting with good friends for a shared meal and good conversations.

In November we will hold a creative event when we will be making Christmas themed decorations. We will also join the Remembrance Service in the village centre on Saturday 8th November. 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 **September 2025**:

1 st Prize	Michael Evans	£43.50
2 nd Prize	Justin Naughton	£29.00
3 rd Prize	M Budgen	£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 www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys 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 relaxed shorter service with hymns and songs suitable for families led by Team Rector Revd Helen or Team Curate Revd Debra. Future dates are 16th November and 21st 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 9th November and 7th December.

HARVEST SUNDAY

Thanks to all our leaders and volunteers for decorating the church so beautifully for Harvest and to Titsey Estate for a wonderful supply of greenery and fresh produce. The church remained open during the day for viewing the harvest decorations and displays of produce, including from Tatsfield Primary School. More photos appear in this magazine.



FOOD BANK COLLECTION AND HARVEST FOOD GIFTS

Thank you to Tatsfield School and all who donated this year's Harvest food gifts. These were taken to Westerham food bank, which has seen an increase in households needing support in the last year, referred to them from a variety of agencies. Food donations are made throughout the year. The next delivery will be Thursday 21st November. **Hilary Vale 01959 577864**



ALL SOULS SERVICE



Revd Debra Elsdon will lead a short service to remember those we have loved and see no more, as we gather to share our sadness and to give thanks for the lives that have meant so much to us. All bereaved are welcome wherever your loved ones are laid to rest. If you would like the name of anyone who has died to be read at the service, do contact the Church Office at stmooffice.lttm@btinternet.com

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10AM 9TH NOVEMBER - Our 10am Holy Communion will be led by Bishop Chris Goldsmith and will include an Act of Remembrance with two minutes silence and singing of the National Anthem.

TO BE A PILGRIM?



3pm Saturday 29th November in St Mary's Millennium Hall
An illustrated talk, open to all, on the Camino de Santiago and the Cornish Celtic Way.
With reflections and conversation on the significance of pilgrimage both then and now from Bishop Chris Goldsmith.



For further information email c.goldsmith100@outlook.com

CHURCHYARD TEAM - Our annual programme of work is coming to a close with final clearing and tidying activities. Weather permitting, we aim to fit in a final session in November. In the meantime, my sincere thanks to all our volunteers including from the Pfizer organisation, who helped keep the churchyard at its best for our parishioners, wider village and the many visitors we have each year from near and far. **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. 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 opposite for times). Monetary donations will be used to buy more food. Thank you for continued support. **Hilary Vale 01959 577864**

LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS 2025 AT ST MARY'S TATSFIELD

4.30pm Sunday 7th Dec

Carols by Candlelight, led by Bishop Chris Goldsmith with the Tatsfield Singers.
Mulled wine and mince pies follow in the Millennium Hall.

3pm & 5.30pm Tuesday 24th December

Christingle and Nativity Service in St Mary's Church led by Revd Debra Elsdon.

11.30pm Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Holy Communion with carols led by Revd Debra Elsdon.

10am Wednesday 25th Dec - Christmas Day

Christmas Morning Family service led by Revd Debra Elsdon

ST MARY'S TATSFIELD 100 CLUB RESULTS FOR OCTOBER 2025

76 K. Moffat £25; 7 N. Ellis £15; 74 S. Payne £10; St Mary's £46.

LIFE EVENTS - We welcome enquiries for baptisms, weddings, funerals and interment of ashes. For further information email stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE-BOUND - Those unwell and/or house-bound who wish to receive Holy Communion at home or place of residence can contact our Churchwardens. Contact details below.

ST MARY'S OPENING TIMES - Our pretty church is open for viewing, prayer or personal reflection from 8.30am - 3.30pm approx, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

CONTACTS

St Mary's Church Office Admin: 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 / hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk (off Fridays)

Curate: Revd Debra Elsdon 07436 172130 / curate.lttm@gmail.com (off Mon & Fri)

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

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

HARVEST FESTIVAL FLOWERS



REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Sun	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, VH
	10.00 am	Church service – StM
Mon	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	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 nd Tuesday of the month) WIH
	2.30 pm	WI Meeting (1 st 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 UNTIL APRIL
	6.00 pm	Shape and Tone with Gary – WIH
	6.00pm	Over 8s Jujitsu, SH
	6.30pm	Latin Fusion Dance Fitness for Adults, TPS
	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 nd Thursday of the month)
	1.30 pm	Hear Here Sessions – AMB (1 st 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
Fri	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
	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-12pm	Composting Site CLOSED UNTIL APRIL
	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

NOVEMBER

2 nd Sun	2.30pm	NDCO, Memory, Mystery & Magic, Caterham School
4 th Tue	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre
5 th Wed	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre
6 th Thu	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre
7 th Fri	7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre
8 th Sat	10.45am	Village Remembrance Service, Tatsfield Village Memorial
8 th Sat	2.30/7.30pm	Annie, Oxted Musical Theatre Company, Barn Theatre
9 th Sun	3.00pm	Messy Church, StM
15 th Sat	2.00pm	NDS Rehearsal featuring soloist Mariatu Kanneh-Mason, VH
15 th Sat	7.30pm	NDS Concert featuring soloist Mariatu Kanneh-Mason, VH
20 th Thu	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre
21 st Fri	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre
22 nd Sat	7.30pm	Die Fledermaus, Barn Theatre
25 th Tue	7.00pm	THS Annual General Meeting, WIH
26 th Wed	2.15pm	Gone in a Flash: Firework Displays, Limpsfield Church Hall

DECEMBER

4 th Thu	7.30pm	Moana JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
5 th Fri	7.30pm	Moana JR, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
6 th Sat	10.00am	THS Christmas Wreath and Table Centre Workshop, WIH
7 th Sun	3.00pm	Messy Church, StM
7 th Sun	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight, StM
11 th Thu	7.30pm	Sister Act, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
12 th Fri	7.30pm	Sister Act, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
13 th Sat	5.00pm	A Holly Jolly Christmas, Tatsfield Singers Christmas Concert, VH
13 th Sat	7.30pm	Sister Act, Glow Theatre Group, Barn Theatre
14 th Sun	7.45pm	Oasiz, Barn Theatre

JANUARY

9 th Fri	7.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
10 th Sat	1.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
10 th Sat	6.00pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
11 th Sun	1.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
11 th Sun	6.00pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
14 th Wed	7.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
15 th Thu	7.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
16 th Fri	7.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
17 th Sat	2.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
17 th Sat	7.30pm	Hansel & Gretel, Pantomime, Barn Theatre
24 th Sat	7.45pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre
28 th Wed	2.15pm	Visual Magic in the Musicals, Limpsfield Church Hall



TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

UPCOMING 2025 EVENTS



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.

NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

In our concert on Saturday 15th November, the orchestra will be playing:

- Donizetti Overture 'Roberto Devereux'.
- Elgar Cello Concerto, featuring the amazing Mariatu Kanneh-Mason.
- Alice Mary Smith, Symphony No 1.

The concert is, as I said last month, already sold out. However, it is possible that some tickets will be returned – perhaps at very short notice. So, if you would like to be put on our 'reserve list', please don't hesitate to **get in touch on 01959 577659** or by email at northdownssinfonia@gmail.com. Alternatively, you could come to **the rehearsal**, also in the Village Hall of course, which **starts at 2pm** and ends at 5pm, with tea and biscuits halfway through. Inevitably there will be stops and starts as the orchestra goes over the music, but all the pieces will be played. There is no pre-booking for this – just turn up – and there is no charge either, although you might like to leave a donation.

Everyone is looking forwards to this concert, which promises to be rather special.

Peter Maynard

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2025

A very big THANK YOU to everyone who supported Fairtrade fortnight this year, there were so many of you!



Sheree's Stores were

amazing, as always. As you can see from the photograph Sheree provided an area within the shop highlighting a wider range of Fairtrade goods than usual. This created an opportunity

not only to buy products but also created the chance to look at other options for supporting Fairtrade workers.



Tatsfield Primary School marked Fairtrade Fortnight by holding a special assembly. They kindly invited Hilary Harber to attend on behalf of the Fairtrade group. The students listened intently and participated enthusiastically. It was encouraging to see how aware the children are of products and the impact of looking out for the Fairtrade Mark.

Our main event was our Church Tea Event held in the Millenium Hall. It was great to take our turn in organising the Church Teas on their final outing of the year. We took up numerous cakes and scones all made with Fairtrade ingredients. We also took the opportunity to display many different types of Fairtrade tea from which our guests chose the tea they wanted to have with their cakes.



During the afternoon there was an FT stall with an incredible range of products as you can see by the photographs. It did very good business. Some people started their Christmas and gift shopping, some took the opportunity to restock food cupboards, some extended their sock collection and others just bought something to treat themselves to special item.



Website: tatsfieldfairtradevillage.weebly.com

Facebook: facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade

Email: tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com

The atmosphere in the hall was warm and friendly, people were chatting and laughing as well as shopping and enjoying the tea and cakes. It was a joy to be part of this occasion. As a result of this get together St Mary's Church received money towards the many activities it undertakes, and the FT stall sold many of its wonderful goods. So, thank you again to all who supported this year's FT fortnight and for those who didn't get a chance we'll be here again next year!

Tatsfield Fairtrade Group

TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

New Dan (Black Belt) Grades On 21st September, Harvey Davy and Kayden Plinston (both Tatsfield residents) attended the Southern Area National Dan Grading held at Croydon Judo Club. Harvey was fighting on the brown belt mat for his 1st Dan black belt and Kayden was fighting on the black belt mat for his 2nd Dan black belt.

To gain a judo black belt, you must win contests against the same grade (or higher) in either National Dan Gradings or at certain competitions. Depending on how you win a contest you will be awarded either five or ten points, the total required is 100 points – so you keep plugging away, collecting wins and points until you have 100. Or if you win two contests at a National Grading (not competition) by ippon (a ten-point score), you will be given a line up – where you fight three opponents one straight after the other. If you will all three of these contests by ippon, you will be promoted on the day – but, your opponents in the line-up will gain points if they beat you, so no one ever takes it easy.

Harvey lost his first contest but won his second by ippon, which meant he got a third contest which he won with ippon securing himself a line up against three other brown belts. Harvey is only 16 years old and has struggled at gradings in the past as he was always the youngest and quite often the lightest, however over the past few months Harvey's judo has really come on, along with his confidence. I told him the Thursday before the grading that I thought he was going to get his points, and he did exactly that – winning all three line-up fights by ippon in under four minutes! A thoroughly deserved promotion to 1st Dan and another young black belt into the TMA ranks.

Kayden was fighting against other 1st Dan black belts. He won his first fight with a waza ari score (five points), then won his second with an ippon score. Kayden then won his 3rd fight by ippon, and like Harvey, won himself a line-up. He won the first two line-up contests easily. However, his third opponent was a 40-year-old who was 10kg heavier. This was a tough contest, Kayden having had covid the week before was struggling with his fitness and his opponent was considerably larger and stronger – however, with just eight seconds left on the clock, Kayden threw him for ippon meaning promoted to 2nd Dan black belt, at the youngest age possible (1st Dan min age 15 / 2nd Dan min age 17).

England Squad Selection 2025-2026 Kayden Plinston has retained his place in the England Judo Squad for another year. Normally, this is done by winning a medal at the English Championship, held at the start of September. However, Kayden had to pull out of this competition the day before as he tested positive for covid. We had expected this to mean he would lose his squad place for the next year. However, due to his strong competitive results during 2024-2025 and his ranking position, he has been invited back for the next yearly cycle.

U8's Judo Grading Our U8 judo club members were put through their paces at the club grading in September. For each new belt, they must demonstrate certain throws and holds and learn certain Japanese technology. They all did extremely well and gained their new belts!

TMA Invitational Judo Competition On 28th September we held our annual judo competition. Since the club opened back in 2015, we have always run a children's judo competition. The first few years it was just for TMA members, and we held it at the scouts hut. But for the last seven years we have invited other clubs to take part and moved the venue to the village hall.



We had over 80 children taking part from six different clubs including 30 from TMA. Competitive judo is very different to club judo. You are facing opponents you don't know; you have all the additional pressure of a crowd watching you; and you must deal with the nerves leading up to the day that you experience with combat sports. The idea behind the club competition is to give the children a positive experience of competitive judo. They are put into small groups based on age and weight, they have around two-four contests each and everyone wins a medal – the colour of which depends on their contest results.

It was great seeing so many of our club members give their all and get stuck in. For many of them, it was their first competition and win or lose they will have all gained something from the experience.

Adam Plinston

TATSFIELD A CENTURY AGO



November 1925's Parish Council meeting was told that gas had come to Biggin Hill and that it was time Tatsfield had a supply too. As the minutes report, the Clerk was instructed to ask the gas company for a supply to come to Tatsfield. Progress was slow. Our archives contain the map annotated by the Parish Council which gave British Gas details of the state of the roads under which it was proposed pipes would be laid. That was nearly 70 years later!

Gas
Main
~~Proposed by~~
Mr W. Bunnell raised the
Question of having the Gas
laid on to the Village
The Clerk was instructed to
write The South Eastern
Gas Co. Lower Wykeham St &
asking if it was not possible to
have a connection to this Village
from the mains that were being
laid along Biggin Hill.

There'd been rumblings about the state of the pond for much of the year and in August members were told that it was a danger and a disgrace to the parish. A parish meeting was called for November to hear from villagers. At the end they voted 15 to 5 to keep the pond.

Among the events of the month was an illustration of how much rural communities had to rely on their own resources and improvise. The Westerham Herald recalls that at seven o'clock one Thursday evening, 'Westerham Fire Brigade received a call to a stack fire at Lusted, Tatsfield' and 'chartering a large car from Mr Ryall's garage, Capt. Hicks and five firemen, with a quantity of hose, were soon on the scene, other firemen following in Messrs Weller's lorry'. A bungalow appeared to be threatened but the nearest fire hydrant was three quarters of a mile away. The next week, Westerham Parish Council was told that the cost of the turnout had been £10 15s 10d (£570 in today's money) and the cause of the fire – incendiarism.

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



HISTORY WEEKEND



**SATURDAY
29th AND SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER
between 12 MIDDAY and 6 PM**

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

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THESE DROP-IN SESSIONS

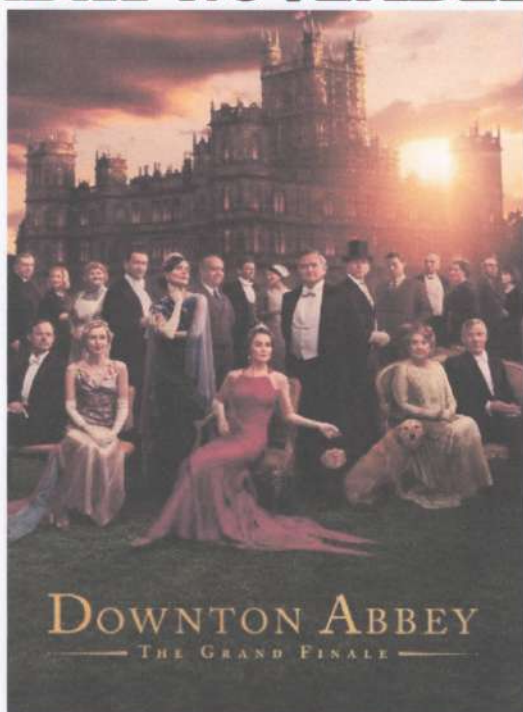
- **VIEW VIDEO PRESENTATIONS TRACKING TATSFIELD'S HISTORY AND SOME OF ITS PAST PERSONALITIES**
- **LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VILLAGE, YOUR HOUSE OR YOUR PREDECESSORS**
- **BROWSE COLLECTIONS OF OLD POSTCARDS AND IMAGES**
- **DISCOVER 'THE LONDON ALPS' AND TATSFIELD'S PAST ENTERPRISES**
- ***COPIES OF "TATSFIELD – THE FIRST 2000 YEARS", TATSFIELD SCHOOL – PAST AND PRESENT" AND "THE PAYNESFIELD ROAD GANG" WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE***

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WILDLIFE GARDENING TIPS FOR NOVEMBER

Crikey, it's November already with winter almost upon us. If, like me, you don't get to do too much gardening during the cold months when little is growing and the ground is frozen, please give some thought to all the life that keeps nature going and ready for springtime. Our gardens have thousands of species of wildlife, and very few actually hibernate so they need much the same as we do; food, clean water and somewhere safe to sleep. These are the pollinators, pest controllers and songbirds that will make life happier for us when we're ready to get back to the garden in a few months' time. Here are a few tips to make their lives easier in return:

Leave ivy alone

We all know ivy can be destructive on a building, but mature ivy is a fabulous source of food and shelter, so please leave it alone if it is on a tree or providing ground cover. Ivy takes ten years to mature to a reproductive state where it will become a late flowering plant essential for bees and produce winter berries for birds and small mammals. And when spring arrives, it provides early cover for nesting birds to raise their young in safety. BTW mature ivy is recognisable by its oval or heart shaped leaves whereas juvenile plants have leaves with three or more pointy lobes that slowly morph into the mature shape.

Leave seedheads

Leave the seedheads on your garden plants whenever possible as food for the birds. Or if you find seedheads unsightly, just remove them and tie them up out of sight on a fence or tree for the birds. I tie my sunflower heads to a trellis under a tree where they are mostly out of the rain, which seems to work well.

Plant crocus bulbs

Jon will have much better advice than me on this there is still time to plant crocus bulbs to provide much needed pollen and nectar for early spring.

Create wildlife stacks

Use any prunings, twigs and clippings to create a dry wildlife stack (AKA brash pile), out of the way, such as behind a shed or at the back of a border. If you have any bigger woody branches, then a wood/log pile will also provide a welcome home and food source for many.

Feed the birds

Perhaps the most rewarding thing to do in the winter garden is to feed the birds. They do struggle in towns and villages where our homes have displaced their feeding grounds, so why not help them out? And in return they'll make the great outdoors a lot more pleasant, and pest free come springtime. Many of them will feed from bird tables but others, such as blackbirds and wagtails, are ground feeders so please do put some seed down on the ground away from any cat cover if you can.

Interesting fact of the month

Speaking of blackbirds, did anyone else notice that all the blackbirds seemed to disappear during our lovely long summer? We had plenty of them earlier in the year but sadly I haven't seen a blackbird in months. Well, I have been told that over half of them fly off to the continent once the young have fledged, and the rest will take the Center Parcs option and have their summer break in our woodlands. Hence there are zero blackbirds in my garden. I have no idea why I haven't noticed this before but apparently, they'll all be back soon.

Jim Kenney

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN NOVEMBER

November is an interesting month for gardeners, there can be cool mornings and mild afternoons, high winds and heavy rain followed by frost and even a wintry shower or two, and amongst that it is a busy month!

While the air is generally cooling down, the soil will still be holding its temperatures for longer and that is the main reason why we choose this month to plant shrubs and trees. Regardless of whether you choose to buy pot grown or bare root plants, they will need to start the process of making new roots and settle into their new environment. A sound and healthy root system is vital for their survival in their first and second year growing in the garden. This year, in April(!) I broke one of my own rules and bought a very special plant – *Camellia sasanqua* “Yuletide” – I knew that keeping it alive and thriving was going to be a challenge! I planted it in partial shade using plenty of Tatsfield Community Composting Black Gold both in the planting hole and as a thick mulch on the surface. During the dry weather I watered it with rainwater from my water butts twice a week. Now, the clue as to why this is so special is in the name; beautiful large flowers in December/January. But this has been a strange year and it started flowering in the first week of October!



Many of our trees decided to foreshorten their growing season with early seeding and leaf fall, a sure sign of stress after such a hot dry period. At the composting site recently, I was asked about the value of compost made from autumn leaves. Composted autumn leaves have no nutritional value, but they are very good for mixing into our clay soil to help break it up and increase the organic matter content. This encourages an increase in the population of worms and micro-organisms and so indirectly enhance the natural fertility of the soil. Leaves also can be an important ingredient in a compost heap when

added in layers of lawn mowings and other green waste. Where your autumn leaves are blown around the garden into natural heaps in corners, they become warm and cosy havens for many hundreds of species including slow worms and hedgehogs so please be careful, if you can, leave them or even add to them.

The gardening 'rule book' used to say that November is the month for tidying up the garden; cutting back all growth on herbaceous perennials and cutting back rose bushes by about half their height, but times have changed! Roses are now regularly continuing to flower all the way up to Christmas, especially in a sheltered spot, so leave them until you are sure they have finished. Our seed eating garden birds will continue to depend on the seed heads of our perennial plants for food, so please leave them as long as you can. Speaking of our changing climate, don't put the mower away yet! Grass seems to grow throughout the winter now and will need a light cut every month or so. Your lawn is composed of several different species of grass and some of them are much more vigorous; this is what makes the lawn look very uneven when left uncut. The vigorous grasses will dominate if not kept under control and this results in a coarse and uneven appearance next year.

Jon Allbutt

THE ARTS SOCIETY LIMPSFIELD

Gone in a Flash: A History of firework Displays by Timothy Wilcox. **Date: Wednesday 26 November 2025. Afternoon lecture only starts at 2.15pm.** Guests: £10. **Venue: Limpsfield Church Hall RH8 0DG**

Our last lecture before Christmas with drinks and hot mince pies, served before the lecture.

The fireworks that mark great events such as the opening of the Olympics, or even the start of a New Year make an enormous impact. Despite their brevity, the displays live on through film and photography. For centuries, the very fact that the fireworks themselves were seen only for seconds and yet cost large amounts of money provoked a strong desire to record them and a large archive of visual evidence remains. When rulers such as Louis XIV or the Russian Emperors began to see the propaganda value of circulating images designed to impress and amaze, fireworks graduated from popular entertainment to become a sophisticated instrument of statecraft. This lecture takes an exhilarating look at one art form that is never likely to gather dust in a museum.

TATSFIELD ART GROUP



Over the last few weeks in the village hall, we have been working on our own ideas at our meetings, which allows us to relax and have a good old chat. We ended this half of the autumn term with a workshop 'Trees in pencil and watercolour'. We are so lucky to have Susan Smale and Jackie Copeman as members, both brilliant botanical artists. Susan and Jackie planned their workshop to help us paint convincing trees within a composition. Painting with watercolours can be a difficult medium to master so it's good to get out of our comfort zone and try something new especially with such good teachers.

Back in June we enjoyed a two-week figure drawing and painting workshop with professional artist Ian Henderson. I asked Steve Gaskell if he would dress up in his country and western outfit and if he could play his guitar while we attempted to paint him. If you're on Facebook Ian has just posted his finished portrait of Steve on Tatsfield Art Groups Facebook page, take a look. The second half of the autumn term is going to be busy and exciting with so many workshops. If you would like to come to any of our workshops, the cost is £15 a session, we would love to see you.



03/11/25	Sandra Vivian – Workshop - Aboriginal Art
10/11/25	Hannah Franklin Workshop – Art inspired by Elsa Schiaparelli fashion designer
17/11/25	Adie Parker – workshop TBA
24/11/25	Simon Cook – Workshop – Painting on Glass
01/12/25	Ian Henderson – workshop TBA
08/12/25	Closed
15/12/25	Sheila Alexander – Workshop – Painting with Ink and Bleac

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

Sandra Shury

THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – NOVEMBER 2025

Jupiter the gas giant, and in fact the solar system's largest planet, is making a welcome return to our evening skies this month. It rises at 9pm at the beginning of November but by the end it appears at 7pm thanks to the gradual rotation of the sky which leads to stars and slow-moving objects, such as Jupiter, rising approximately four minutes earlier each night. If you want to find Jupiter in the early part of the month then look close to the horizon in the ENE after 10pm when it should be high enough for you to find. It is extremely bright and there is nothing of comparable brightness anywhere close by. As the month progresses it gains some extra height each night until, by 30th it is almost due east, with an altitude of 25° by 10pm. A waning Moon is a few degrees north of Jupiter on the 9th.

Saturn is a different prospect though because it is considerably fainter than Jupiter which makes it more susceptible to being mistaken for a star. Don't forget though that stars are point sources of light and twinkle, but planets have discernible disks and do not twinkle, or scintillate, to give its scientific name. It's true that stars are enormous but it's also true that they are immensely distant which causes them to appear as points of light.

A quick way to find Saturn exists in the first two days of the month because it lies close to the waxing Moon which is a little past first quarter. On November 1st Saturn lies a handful of degrees to the east (left) of the Moon, whilst on the 2nd the ringed planet is a similar distance to the south west. If you need some extra help with identification, Saturn is due south with an altitude of 35° on the following dates and approximate times. At 8:45pm on the 5th, at 8pm on the 15th and at 7:30pm on the 25th.

Having disparaged the term "Supermoon" last month, on 5th November we will have the largest supermoon of the year. On that date our satellite will be precisely 357,218 km distant from us and will rise at 4pm. The Sun will be close to setting at that time so the sky will still be bright, but if the sky is clear, have a look as soon after moonrise as you can and then look several hours later when the Moon looks just as large as it did.

This year sees the 350th anniversary of the Royal Greenwich Observatory. However, it was never designed to be used for astronomical research in the strictest sense but was instead set up to improve navigation. At the time it was comparatively easy to find your latitude when at sea by either observing the height of the Sun to find local noon or by measuring the altitude of the pole star at night. Finding longitude, however, was far more difficult and resulted in the loss of many ships and countless lives when the rudimentary methods for calculating distance and speed of ships went awry and they ran aground.

The observatory was set up to provide vastly more accurate star maps than were currently available at the time and to carefully measure the position of the Moon. It was hoped that once these two things were done it would be possible to calculate positions at sea from the proximity of the Moon to certain stars. This was known as the lunar distance method and the *Nautical Almanac* was printed annually to provide mariners with the tables of data that were needed to make the calculations which could take hours! **Brian Mills FRAS**

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

*'A floating leaf before one's eyes,
brings forth much wonder and surprise.*

*The thread that holds it can't be found,
it simply hangs without a sound.*

*Such a joy it was to find:
Simple pleasure - Simple mind.'*

I increasingly develop ideas about thought as I age. I currently consider a balance of complex and simple thoughts to be the ideal and healthiest aim: a balance of thoughts that encourages research and development on the one hand, the awe and wonder of childlike joy on the other. A good example of the latter occurred as I was following one of my regular routes out of the village, past the lime trees opposite the allotments. It was the final warm day of late summer and the sun shone down, filtering through the early autumn-tinted leaves. Suddenly, to my utter amazement, I was confronted by a dancing leaf; a miraculous vision of a single leaf contained in its personal space, gently moving on the softest of breezes. I stood frozen to the spot for several minutes, refusing to allow adult analysis to spoil the moment. That's not as easy as it sounds but it was so worth the effort. Upon returning to adult mode, it became obvious that the finest of spider threads was the cause of this magical moment. But for a while I entered, or rather returned to, a simpler time. As the old expression goes, 'Simple things please simple minds'. Perhaps we should all try to find a few minutes in our busy day to observe something beautiful, something wondrous, and enjoy recreating our simpler selves.

Our correspondence, this month, arrived from Peter (Maynard) (26.09.25):



'Just saw your article in the [October] magazine about Amber's caterpillar photo. I was at Polesden Lacey the other day and photographed this very similar caterpillar, which I am sure is a Pale tussock moth (see photo). The Vapourer moth is just as hairy, but rather darker, with feathery antennae, so I wouldn't be at all surprised if Amber was right.'

Thanks for this, Peter. It's always good to have your input arriving in my inbox. As you know, I'm not a moth expert so at some point a more knowledgeable person will be brought in to make the final identification. (I wonder who that could be.)

Caterpillars must surely be some of the strangest creatures to be found in our gardens. Some are so weird and wonderful it makes me wonder how on earth they evolved as

they have. (Complex thought.) Many of them are the kind of creation you'd expect a lively minded seven year old to draw, having raided a newly discovered box of coloured pencils. This one looks like a bottle brush that's lost its handle! (Simple thought.)

With his 'well above average' knowledge of these matters, I asked Jim (Yeeles) to adjudicate and identify Amber's caterpillar. Prepare to be surprised (or not)!

(08.10.25): *'I'm far from expert when it comes to moths but my field guide strongly suggests that this is a Vapourer moth caterpillar.'*

Case closed. Thanks, Jim. Like it or not, you are our go-to, village moth-man!

I'm sure some readers don't write to Nature Notes for fear of making a mistake and looking foolish. Here's a personal anecdote to encourage you. We all make mistakes!

Note to Ruth and Jim from Nigel (17.08.25):

'Making a final check, but I'm pretty sure I had a Wall (brown) on the plant pots this morning. Don't hear much about these. It was very fresh and beautiful.'

Reply from Jim (18.08.25):

'Wow, a Wall is a rare sighting in Surrey these days. I'm jealous! It was once very common throughout the UK but has suffered a massive decline in recent decades and I've only seen them on the Sussex downs and near the coast. Believed to be another victim of climate change. A great spot - I shall keep an eye out!'



Correction from Nigel:

'Whoops - False Alarm!! Not a Wall (brown) as first thought but a Small copper (see photo). Oh, well; this is the first one I've seen in the garden so I'm not at all disappointed. As it rested several times on my pot of Sorrel, I'm rather hoping that it was busy laying eggs. Time will tell.'

Reply from Jim and Ruth:

'Ah, never mind, the Small copper is a stunning little butterfly, when fresh - one of my favourites. Sounds like you have the right environment and I hope you manage to successfully raise a brood.'

'Never mind' - that's the spirit. I do indeed 'hope' to eventually get things right by raising that brood of little coppers. In the meantime, send in those reports. Rest assured, nothing will ever be published that makes you look foolish. Encouragement is King!

Any news or views? Contact: nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com

Alternatively, drop a note in to 'Primrose Ridge', Greenway.



STATEMENT ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE CHARTWELL UNITY, THE PRINCESS ROYAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (PRUH)



In light of the recent internal review of haematology inpatient cancer care by King's College Hospital, The Chartwell Cancer Trust stands in **opposition** to any proposals to close the Chartwell Inpatient Unit in The Princess Royal University Hospital and to relocate local services. Founded in the Unit's name in 2005, our charity has provided consistent support for the unit for two decades as its principal funding partner. True to that commitment, we will lead rigorous scrutiny of emerging plans while advocating robustly for patients, families, clinicians and the wider community throughout this process. The Chartwell Unit is a purpose-built, specialist ward that manages the acute needs of blood cancer patients and treatment-related complications. It is a critical healthcare asset that brings together co-located expertise, chemotherapy-competent nursing, vigilant infection control and senior medical supervision to deliver consistent, exemplary care rooted in continuity, familiarity and long-standing relationships between patients, carers and clinicians.

We firmly believe that the current proposal carries a high risk of material harm to patients because the removal of local care will necessitate lengthy transfers to an off-site hospital where staffed capacity is not assured, creating delays and bottlenecks already widespread across our system. In emergencies common to this patient cohort, every extra mile jeopardises safety. Additional plans to disperse inpatients across non-haematology wards at the PRUH will further undermine care quality, fragment clinical oversight and worsen patient outcomes. Equity in healthcare begins with proximity. When care is relocated away from communities, patients and families face longer, costlier, more complex journeys, transferring financial and logistical burdens onto households - especially those who are older, frailer, lower-income or juggling work and childcare. At a time when the NHS seeks to prioritise integrated, closer-to-home services to tackle barriers to healthcare access, this action runs contrary to national strategy, widening inequalities and eradicating the neighbourhood-based care our country needs to preserve.

"We will work constructively with the Trust, but our duty and commitment are clear: to protect safe, specialist local inpatient cancer care for the people who depend on it today and in the years ahead," Michael Douglas, Senior Trustee, The Chartwell Cancer Trust. We recognise that this process has been in motion for some time, with the internal review completed and staff briefings already undertaken. As King's College Hospital continues developing plans, we expect clear assurances on patient safety, proven staffed capacity at the receiving site, full and transparent analysis of risk and of access and equity impacts, as well as the fair appraisal of alternatives.

Read more at: www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk

Please sign and share our petition to save
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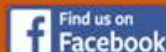
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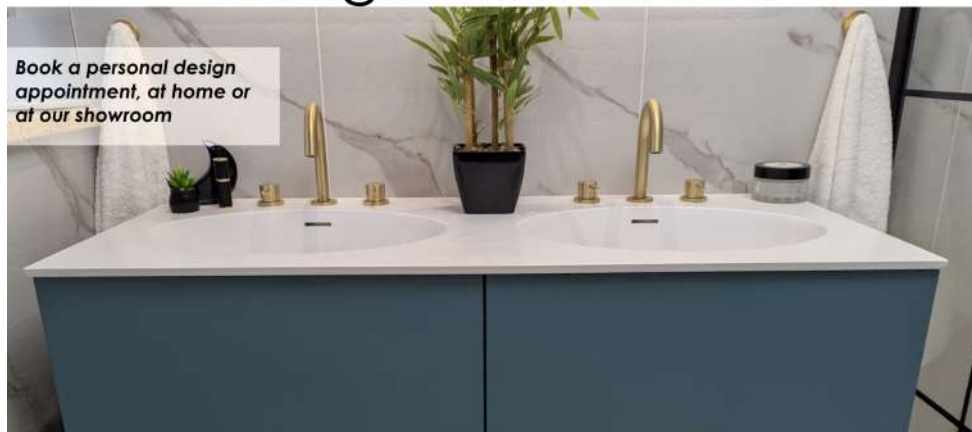


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