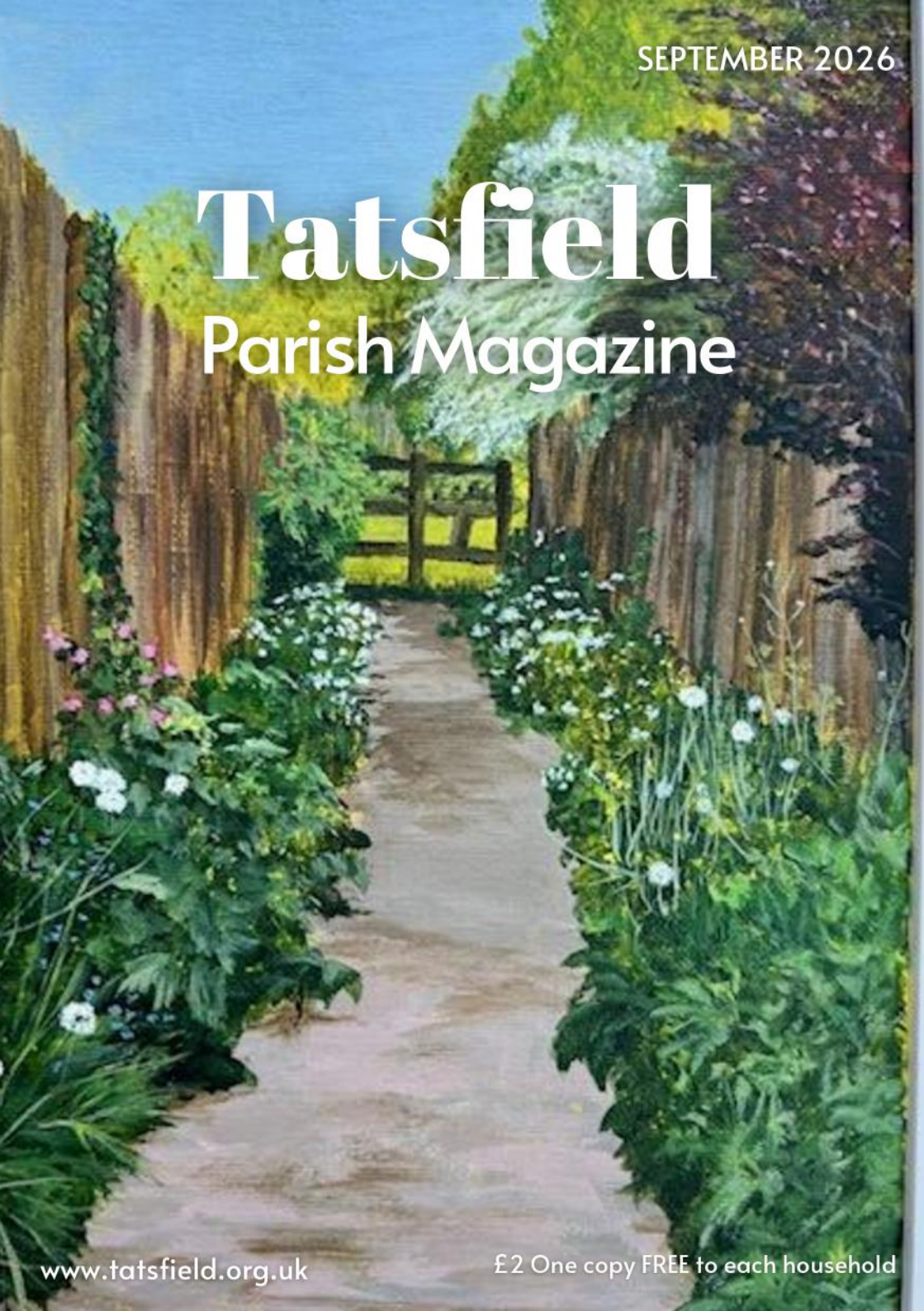


The background of the cover is a detailed painting of a garden path. The path is made of light-colored stones or bricks and leads from the foreground into the distance. On either side of the path are lush flower beds. To the left, there are pink and white flowers, possibly roses. To the right, there are white flowers, possibly daisies or ranunculus. A wooden fence runs along the path, and a wooden gate is visible in the distance. The sky is a clear blue.

SEPTEMBER 2026

Tatsfield

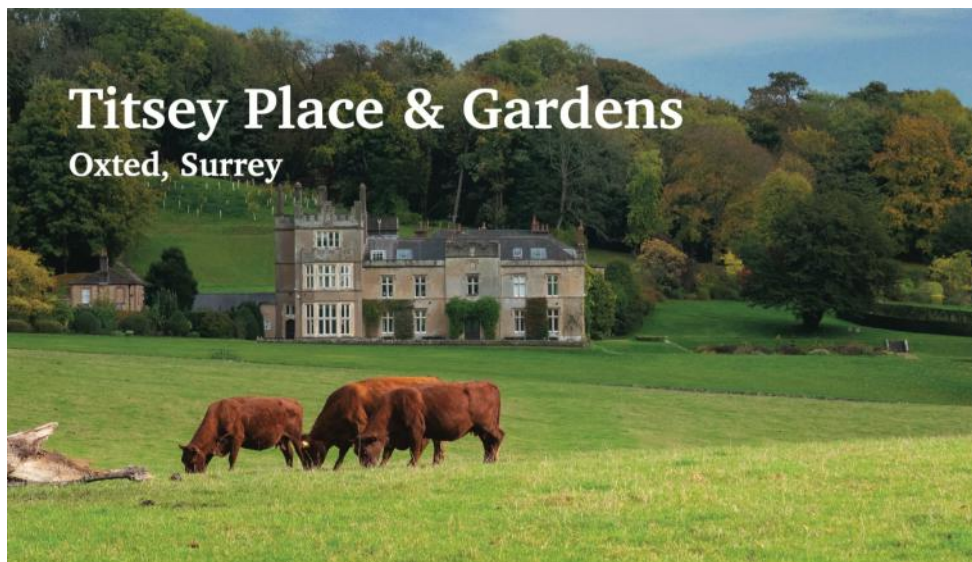
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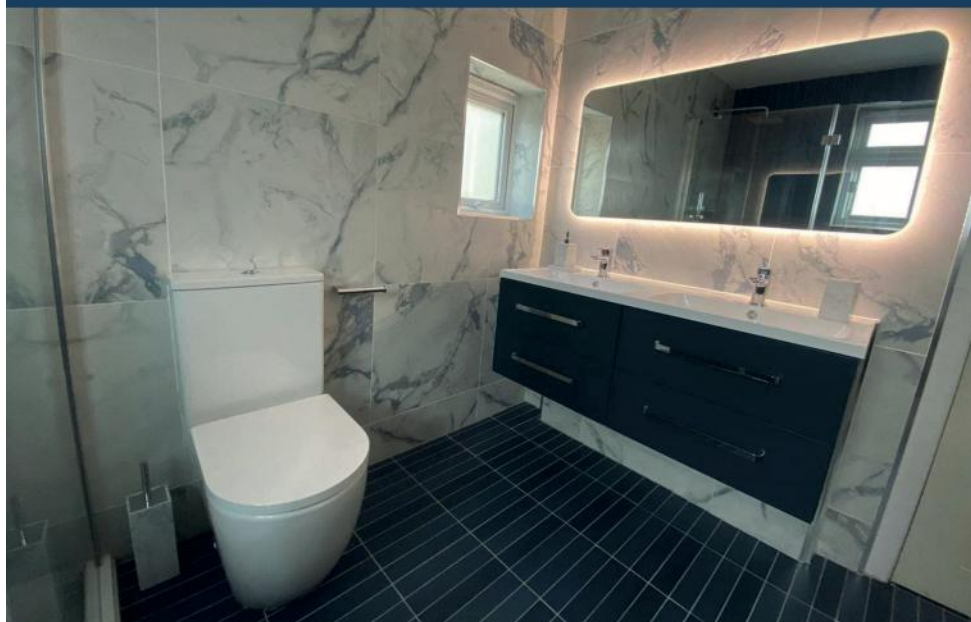
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Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of Tatsfield Church.

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Chair • Debra Elsdon

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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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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 • Cllr Jacquie Thomson

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)

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Village Website: www.tatsfield.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Organisations must include contact details in their submission, which will be published. Copy date for the Magazine is normally 16th of the preceding month, except for July/Aug and Jan/Feb double issues. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment 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: "Foot Path" by Christine Stainer.

EDITORIAL

Between two heatwaves we held a carefully supervised barbecue in the garden at The Rectory, inviting folk from St Mary's and some other friends, family and neighbours.

It was a lovely day in which garden furniture was moved as the shade shifted round the garden and there was a fiercely contested competition to see who could get out the hammock quickest and with dignity intact! There were no prizes...



Our churchyard has suffered with the heat and visitors will notice that there is a lot of red tape around the beech trees which may drop their branches as they try to cope. We are all seeing the effect of drought on our treasured gardens and open spaces; we are all having to consider how we will adjust to changes and it encourages me to see how much our community in Tatsfield cares so deeply and practically about our environment.

As we order extra water butts, consider more drought tolerant planting schemes for our village and our gardens – we show that we can all adapt to changing conditions. It can take some effort; some cost – emotionally as well as financially as we say a sad goodbye to those plants that are at risk. But it makes us more agile and aware and better stewards for this place we all love.

Blessings, Reverend Debra

Autumn Charity Music Concert

Join us for an evening of wonderful live music featuring a variety of genres and talented local performers.

Date: Saturday 26th September 2026

Time: 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Venue: St Mary's Church, Tatsfield, TN16 2JX

Tickets: £12 per person

Includes a complimentary drink and refreshments after the concert.

Come along, enjoy the music, and support a great cause as we raise money for Chartwell Cancer Trust and our beautiful Village Church.

For tickets and enquiries please email/text Chris or Marjory:

chrishancock12@outlook.com / 07957 273225

marjorybroughton@gmail.com / 07790 241070



Summer Teas at St Mary's

Thank you for coming to our lovely churchyard and supporting the upkeep and the ministry of St Mary's.

The church building is open during the day should you wish to explore or spend some moments in quiet reflection.

A short service of prayer will be offered to anyone who wishes to come along on the following dates at 5pm.

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'Pop in and Pray'

5th July

Praying for Peace

2nd August

Praying for Travels and Staying at Home

6th September

Praying for children and young people
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27th September

Thanks for a Summer of Tea and Cake!

Blessings

St Mary's PCC
and Reverend Debra



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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

TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Hello all. The Parish Council do not formally meet in August so I will just fill you in what has been happening and what's to come.

Ship Hill planning

The planning application for the 84 houses on Ship Hill is now closed and with the planners for a decision. We will let you know as things progress. Thanks to all of you who put in responses to the plans - over 250 were lodged.

5G boxes on Ship Hill

We were informed this would be happening some months back but unfortunately, we had no opportunity for objection (although I agree they are horrendous). The Government has given these contractors free access with no planning consent required. The boxes are on Surrey County Council land with their permission and are classed as essential infrastructure. I fear it's not finished yet and a mast is yet to be erected. Please email complaints to Surrey County Council.

Tatol Bed

Now some better news. The Tatol bed as you enter the village is to be refurbished at the beginning of September. This will be moved back slightly to try to stop damage by vehicles. It will also have low lighting to make corner more visible.

New Playground

I'm pleased to report that plans are now being drawn up for our new playground. The School Council will be consulted for the childrens' opinions. The work will hopefully start in November. If you haven't yet given to our fundraiser please do now. We are still over £2000 away from our minimum total needed. Donate here <https://gofund.me/49813c5e3> or click the QR code:



The MUGA is now up and running for table tennis, pickleball, tennis and we have a fun Netball meet up every Wednesday evening. For Pickleball net and bats please follow directions on the grey lockers at the AMB.

Upcoming events

Of course, our usual events will be on

Halloween 31st October, 5pm-7pm at the picnic area.

Remembrance Service will be a joint event with the Church and will take place on

Remembrance Sunday 8th November in the village centre.

Saturday 5th December Christmas light switch on event.

Craft fair in Village Hall with lots of entertainment for all.

Details will follow soon for all events.

The Summer has been long, and our village planting has suffered during the drought. TIB have been wonderful watering our displays by watering can. Thanks to all the volunteers.

Our next meeting is 8pm AMB Monday 14th September. All welcome.

Kim Jennings Chairman. Email: kimjennings@tatsfieldpc.org.uk

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Looking at my previous reports in August for the September magazine it reads “August is generally a very quiet time for any District Council” but that has not been the case this year as the Local Government handover draws ever closer.

There has been a strong emphasis in **“saving the village”** from residents in relation to the planning application where the many and varied objections have ranged from Green Belt/Grey Belt argument, scale and village character, highways and traffic, sustainability, infrastructure and our own Neighbourhood Plan policies. Many of the 130 villagers who attended the Parish Council meeting aired their objections through the proper channels to the District Council.

Then there was the Tandridge Local Plan meeting that took place in the village on Monday 20th July, a meeting I firmly requested from the Council as I was aware of the concerns that would be raised, similar to those above and did not feel we should have to travel to Warlingham to see “for ourselves” when we had perfectly good venues in Tatsfield. The sites proposed under the HELAA call for sites were shown but formed only a small, but nevertheless, important part of the spatial plan being proposed. We had close to 100 people attend this meeting and it was fair to say that “views were shared” so I hope you all made your comments known on the “Have your say” page on the website.



Cllr Allen with some of the residents who attended the Local Plan meeting.

We then had the problem of the failures of waste, green waste and recycling collections which took most of the last four weeks to resolve with a lot of work being done between senior officers of the Council and of Biffa. At the time of writing all services had been caught up with and I hope that problem has been resolved permanently.

All the time the above was happening, we were also being hauled over the coals about social housing as we had fallen behind with the standards we had previously set ourselves. Again, due to good work from the senior officers and the Leader Cllr Sayer, we believe we have now employed the services of a reputable agency to guide us through

these measures and get us back to the levels previously held, and in a position to hand over the estate in a good condition to East Surrey.

For those of you that use the Tandridge Leisure Pool there has been a lot of work done there getting the boilers back to working order as there has been some weeks without heat either in the pool or in the showers. TDC are currently investigating what will need to be invested to get this back to normal.

I have been involved with a lot of the above as the Group Leaders have set aside their party divides to work together over the remaining seven months to try to resolve as many of the outstanding matters as possible for the ease of the handover.

As well as the above and day to day normal business, we are also preparing for the formal handover of duties and roles to the new East Surrey Authority.

During July and August, I continued with my attendance at Council meetings as well as the Biggin Hill Airport Consultative committee where we continue to monitor a vast reduction in over flying over the village and pursue details of the moving south of the NSA. David Pinchin and I hope we can report some positive news on this later in the year.

The Independent Group will continue to meet with officers to pursue matters relevant to their wards where matters still need to be reviewed and resolved.

On matters further afield, just when we all thought we were trying to reduce layers of Government, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has launched a government-led statutory consultation to establish a Strategic Foundation Authority!

So, I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer whether it took you abroad or whether you stayed at home and enjoyed the Mediterranean temperatures that we have seen over the last five or six weeks.

I have a feeling that we will all be back to normal as soon as the rains arrive, and, when that happens, **remember to help Tatsfield Good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets.** Thank You. But please consider going further than that and think about volunteering 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 into the future.

On your part I would ask that you consider the things that make this village what it is and why you choose to live here. There are many societies and clubs that operate across the range most of whom could use a little more volunteer help from you. Please consider helping them

Cllr Martin Allen Tel: 01959 577201

Email: cllr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk or martin_allen@talk21.com

TANDRIDGE POLICE

Thinking of selling your vehicle? Have you considered some quick checks you could make, to ensure your sale runs smooth and safely? Our officers are aware of a continuing number of scams targeting vehicles for sale online. These offences can typically involve individuals visiting private sellers for a viewing and test drive, either distracting the seller or asking them questions which force them away from the vehicle. We are reminding the public to remain vigilant online, and offer the following advice when selling your vehicle privately:

- Never leave potential buyers alone with your vehicle – consider organising to have someone with you when a viewing is arranged.
- Listen to any advice offered by a company through which you are selling – online platforms occasionally provide information on private buyers which might make you think twice about who you are selling to.
- If a potential buyer claims your vehicle is damaged and tries to haggle on the price, do not accept this and notify police.
- If you have a Ring doorbell/CCTV system, make sure these are activated and working prior to a viewing.
- Ask to see a copy of the potential buyer's driving licence before they attend the viewing.

If you feel you might have been the victim of this scam, or know someone who has, you can report to us <https://orlo.uk/gdK3g>

Catalytic converters Over the last two months there have been some catalytic converter thefts across Surrey. This is a metal device that sits under your car near the engine and helps to clean exhaust fumes. Your car insurance isn't valid without one, and they are crucial to the smooth running of your vehicle.

Catalytic converters are stolen because they contain valuable metals such as platinum, rhodium or palladium. Hybrid vehicles such as Lexus are particularly at risk because their catalytic converters are less frequently exposed to hot exhaust gases and the metals stay in better condition for longer, making them more valuable when sold on.

To deter potential thieves, park close to building entrances or the nearest road in public car parks, so that your car is more visible to passers-by and less likely to be an attractive target for thieves. Consider investing in a video doorbell, CCTV and motion sensor lighting for the front of your property that can double as a burglary deterrent.

If you see what you think is a catalytic converter theft in progress (car jacked up on the street or in car parks, loud sound of metal being cut underneath), do not approach those involved. We have previously received reports of members of the public being assaulted

by thieves and seriously injured when they tried to intervene. Call 999 from a safe distance and give us as much detail as you can instead.

Inspector Rob Staplehurst, Tandridge Borough Commander

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

I wrote to Tandridge District Council stating my objections to the proposed development on Ship Hill. I also submitted a member's enquiry with several questions to Tandridge to which I received a detailed reply and because of which I submitted additional comments. My letter and follow up comments are detailed below:

I am writing to register a formal objection to the proposed development of 84 dwellings at Ship Hill, Tatsfield. My objection is based on multiple **material planning grounds**, including highway safety, landscape harm, ecological impact, flood risk, and insufficient infrastructure mitigation. The application fails to demonstrate that these impacts can be acceptably mitigated or that the development complies with the relevant policies of the development plan.

Highway Safety and Traffic Impact The proposal would result in **unacceptable harm to highway safety**. Ship Hill and the surrounding road network are narrow, constrained, and already under pressure. The Transport Statement significantly underestimates trip generation and does not demonstrate that safe and suitable access can be achieved for all users. Key concerns include:

- Insufficient visibility splays and unsafe access geometry.
- Increased peak-hour congestion at local junctions.
- Lack of safe pedestrian routes and conflict with users of Public Rights of Way.
- Over-reliance on private car use due to limited public transport.

The development therefore conflicts with national and local transport policies requiring safe and suitable access.

Landscape and Visual Harm The site contributes meaningfully to the rural character and setting of Tatsfield. The proposed development would cause **significant and demonstrable harm** to the landscape, including:

- Loss of open countryside and rural skyline.
- Visual intrusion from key viewpoints and public footpaths.
- Erosion of the village's distinct rural setting.

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment understates the magnitude of harm and fails to demonstrate that the development can be integrated without unacceptable landscape impact.

Biodiversity and Ecology The ecological evidence submitted is **insufficiently robust**. Survey coverage is incomplete, seasonal timing is questionable, and mitigation proposals

lack enforceability. Biodiversity Net Gain claims rely on optimistic assumptions and are not supported by binding long-term management plans. Concerns include:

- Loss of habitat and fragmentation of wildlife corridors.
- Uncertain protection for species recorded on or near the site.
- Lack of secured, costed, and monitored ecological management.

The application fails to demonstrate compliance with biodiversity protection and enhancement requirements.

Flood Risk and Drainage The Flood Risk Assessment and drainage strategy do not provide adequate assurance that the development will not increase flood risk locally. Specific concerns include:

- Insufficient detail on SUDS design and exceedance routing.
- Lack of evidence regarding foul sewer capacity.
- Absence of long-term maintenance arrangements.

Without robust, enforceable drainage measures, the proposal risks increasing surface water runoff and localised flooding.

Local Infrastructure Capacity The application does not demonstrate that local infrastructure can support 84 additional dwellings. Schools, GP services, and public transport are already under strain. The proposed S106 contributions are vague, uncosted, and lack delivery triggers.

The development risks placing unacceptable pressure on essential services, contrary to local infrastructure policies.

Lack of Enforceable Mitigation Many of the proposed mitigation measures are **aspirational rather than guaranteed**. They rely on future assessments, voluntary monitoring, or unspecified management arrangements. Without precise, enforceable obligations, the council cannot rely on these measures to mitigate the development's impacts.

Conclusion For the reasons set out above, the proposed development at Ship Hill, Tatsfield would cause **significant adverse impacts** that are not adequately mitigated. The application fails to comply with the development plan and should be **refused** unless the applicant can fully address these issues through independent assessment and binding obligations.

I respectfully request that the council considers these objections in full and refuses the application.

Yours faithfully, Cllr Jacqui Thomson (Warlingham)

Additional comments following response to my Member's Enquiry:

The information supplied by you raises serious questions as to whether the scale of development proposed under planning application 2026/559 is proportionate to the demonstrated housing needs of Tatsfield.

Whilst there are currently 20 households living within Tatsfield who are on the Housing Register, Tandridge District Council has confirmed that this does not represent the full extent of local connection need. However, the evidence also shows that affordable housing turnover within the parish is extremely limited. Over the last five years only fifteen affordable properties have been allocated in Tatsfield, of which ten were age-restricted accommodation for those aged 65 and over. This means that, on average, only one general-needs affordable home per year has become available within the village.

The housing register data identifies 20 currently registered households' resident in Tatsfield, comprising:

- 11 households requiring one-bedroom accommodation.
- 5 households requiring two-bedroom accommodation.
- 3 households requiring three-bedroom accommodation; and
- 1 household requiring a four-bedroom property.

The evidence therefore points towards a need for a relatively modest number of affordable homes, primarily smaller one and two-bedroom properties, rather than a large-scale housing estate.

Furthermore, the Council's own figures show that across the whole district, 99.7% of affordable housing allocations over the last five years were made to applicants with a local connection to Tandridge. This demonstrates that the existing allocation system is already succeeding in prioritising local people without the need to release substantial areas of countryside for development.

Tatsfield is a small rural settlement with significant Green Belt constraints, limited infrastructure, restricted public transport connectivity and increasing pressure on local roads, primary school capacity, healthcare provision and other community services. In circumstances where the demonstrated local need appears relatively modest, the adverse impacts arising from a development of this scale are unlikely to be justified solely on affordable housing grounds.

Accordingly, whilst there may be some evidence of local housing need, the information supplied by Tandridge District Council does not demonstrate a requirement for development on the scale proposed at Ship Hill. The data instead supports a much smaller, genuinely local-needs-led scheme focused on affordable housing for existing residents and those with a strong connection to Tatsfield. The current proposal therefore risks representing overdevelopment of the site and an unnecessary erosion of the character and openness of the rural area relative to the evidenced level of need.

Jacquie Thomson, Surrey County Councillor (ReformUK, Warlingham; surreycc.gov.uk)

BACK TO SCHOOL? DON'T MISS OUT ON HALF-PRICE BUS TRAVEL

As families across Surrey prepare for the new school, college and university term, now is the perfect time to apply for a free Surrey LINK card and save money on everyday travel.

The Surrey LINK card is available to young people aged 20 and under who live in Surrey and provides 50% off adult fares on single and return bus journeys that start and/or finish in Surrey. For many young people, this works out at the equivalent of a child fare, helping to make travel more affordable throughout the academic year.

Whether travelling to school, college, university, an apprenticeship, part-time job or social activities, the card can help families reduce the cost of regular bus travel. The scheme has already proved popular, with around 19,000 young people using a Surrey LINK card and around 100,000 journeys being made with the card every month. Students travelling to further and higher education are among the biggest users.

The card is free to apply for. Parents, guardians and carers can apply on behalf of children under 16, while young people aged 16 and over can submit their own application. The card can be used on eligible bus services across Surrey, although it is not valid on Transport for London (TfL) bus routes.

By making bus travel more affordable, the Surrey LINK card helps young people travel independently while encouraging greater use of public transport.

With the start of the new term just around the corner, families are encouraged to apply now so their card is ready for September, and savings can start from day one.

Find out more and apply for a Surrey LINK card - <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/buses-and-other-transport/tickets-and-discounts/apply-for-a-surrey-link-bus-card>

CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and managed to spend some time visiting our local businesses and beauty spots to soak up the glorious weather. I had the joy of taking my family to Godstone Farm! There are more than 500 animals to see, so it is very much worth a visit if you have not been before.

At the time of writing, I have just wrapped up this year's Summer Surgery Tour. Over the past two months, I have visited more than half a dozen towns and villages across the constituent, talking to people in their own communities about a wide range of local and national issues. Thank you to everyone who made the time to talk to me – it is always a privilege to help where I can.

To the collective relief of residents in Godstone and along the A25, the High Street has finally reopened. This seemingly never-ending saga dragged on for nearly eighteen

months and, while I am sure no one is in the mood for celebrations, I hope the reopening will allow the village to get back to some normality.

And finally, I am delighted to see the Crowhurst Yew has been selected as one of the Woodland Trust's contenders for Tree of the Year 2026. At over 4,000 years old, it has a remarkable history. The Yew was once used as a prison, is thought to have been the centre of an English Civil War battlefield after a cannonball was found imbedded in the trunk and even hosted a council meeting at one point. Please go to the Woodland Trust to vote for the Crowhurst Yew!

As always, if there is ever anything I can do to help, or if you would like me to visit a local project or business you are involved with, please do get in touch on claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk.

ARE YOUR DETAILS CORRECT?

Every year, we check the details on the **Electoral Register** are correct, so everyone who is eligible to vote in elections can have their say. This is known as the **Annual Canvass**.

You should have received your form either by post or e-mail. Please ensure you check the details carefully.

The form or e-mail will explain whether you need to respond, as not all households will have to. If you do need to make changes, it is quick and easy to do online. All the details you need, including the security codes, are on page one of the form. If you prefer, you can post the form back to us: Electoral Services, Tandridge District Council, The Council Offices, 8 Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0BT.

You can include anyone aged 16 or 17 who lives in your home, even though they can't vote until they are 18.

In September/October, if we haven't heard from residents that need to reply, we will visit them at home to collect this vital information. We will never ask for financial information and our representatives will have identification. They won't ask to come into your home. If in doubt, please call Customer Services on 01883 722000.

For more information, visit the annual canvass webpage at tandridge.gov.uk. Don't forget, completing your annual canvass does not register new individuals to vote. Anyone you add must also register to vote at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

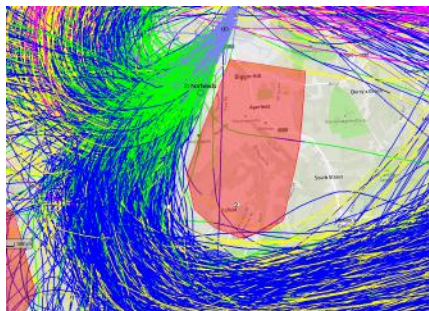
TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE – LONDON BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

As many residents will be aware, for the past few years Tatsfield representatives, sitting on both the Biggin Hill Airport Consultative Committee (BHACC) and the Airport Residents' Noise Action Forum (ARNAF), have been working with the Airport to reduce the noise impact on residents.

Meeting regularly with the Airport, this work has focused on reducing the number of aircraft entering the Noise Sensitive Area (NSA) without appropriate mitigation. The work has focused on encouraging pilots to fly a route to the south of the golf club house and, in doing so, remain well clear of the NSA. This work has seen a dramatic reduction in the number of aircraft entering the NSA over Biggin Hill and Tatsfield.

It is important to note that the NSA is to be avoided by pilots - if it is safe to do so. If a pilot is following an Air Traffic Control instruction, or procedure, or encounters a flight safety concern, then they are permitted to enter the NSA - in the case of Tatsfield, this is a rare occurrence.

The diagram below shows the NSA (in red) and the tracks, covering the period April-July inclusive, for the most part following a track to the south of the golf club and remaining well clear of the NSA.



The diagram shows all departures from Runway 21 between 1st April and 30th July 2026. During this period, 9 aircraft overflew the NSA.

As part of our obligations under the Noise Action Plan, London Biggin Hill Airport continuously monitors all NSAs to ensure compliance. We work proactively with pilots and operators, based at Biggin Hill, to help them maintain full adherence to the agreed noise abatement procedures. A recent innovation to enhance this engagement is the creation of the Private Pilots' Group (PPG). This group represents around 80 of the airport-based pilots, with its creation making it easier for the airport to discuss challenges, share messages and reinforce instructions with most

resident pilots. It also creates a forum for additional self-policing and peer-to-peer engagement on topics including noise abatement measures. We believe such engagement is central to a continued minimal number of unmitigated NSA penetrations.

Following on from the safety analysis undertaken by the Airport regarding extending the NSA to the south, discussions regarding such an amendment will form part of the ongoing NAP review process with London Borough of Bromley.

The level and depth of engagement by both Martin Allen and David Pinchin have established a blueprint on how best to engage with the Airport to make a real difference for residents. This proactive and open approach was the forerunner to the establishment of the now very successful Airport Residents' Noise Action Forum (ARNAF).



AUTUMN SHOW!

12 september
3pm
Tatsfield village hall!



ENTRIES ALL ONLINE BY FRIDAY
11TH SEPTEMBER!

[HTTP://TATSFIELDGARDENINGCLUB.ORG.UK/](http://TATSFIELDGARDENINGCLUB.ORG.UK/)



- * Flowers
- * Fruit and vegetables
- * Crafts
- * Junior categories
- * Drought affected
- * Photography and much more!

Exhibitors can set up from 8:30
on Saturday 12th, any queries call
07815775859 Carol our show
secretary.



1ST TATSFIELD SCOUTS

Our Scouts have recently been having fun in the hot air balloon and the adventure trail at the Downe Activity Centre before the summer break. Over the summer some of our Scouts joined the Surrey County expedition to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland where adventures include high-altitude mountain walking, white-water rafting and attempting the high ropes courses in Interlaken. They have certainly been making memories for life.



1ST TATSFIELD SCOUTS NEEDS LOCAL VOLUNTEERS TO SECURE ITS FUTURE For generations, Scouting in Tatsfield has given local young people friendship, adventure, new skills and a place to belong. We want to make sure that today's young people, and those growing up behind them, continue to have the opportunity to enjoy Scouting in the village.

We are looking for a new Scout Leader to take over from Matt, but there are also other ways you can help. You don't need Scouting experience or lots of spare time, roles can be shared, regular, occasional or behind the scenes and full support and training are provided.

We have a fantastic Scout hut, brilliant young people and Leaders on hand to guide you, but we do need people to come forward to help to us keep this valuable village asset for our young people.

Could you help? For a chat about how you can get involved give SJ a call on 07966 227202 or email tatsfieldscouting@gmail.com

Thank you, 1st Tatsfield Scouts

LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL

The second half of the summer term was a busy one!



Little Acorns had been practising their Graduation show for several weeks, inviting parents and carers to watch them perform on stage. All the children were brilliant speaking and dancing to their audience and did themselves proud. This year we say a farewell to our leavers going onto Primary School and wish them every success for the future.

It is lovely for us to see our Little Acorns grow into confident and capable individuals, who are sure to continue to flourish in their early education. We wish them the best of luck and will certainly miss them all!

If you are looking for a unique childcare provider with a great free flow area, we'd love to welcome families to come and visit us in the beautiful village of Tatsfield.

Places are now available for September! Email to book your visit: office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk.

The Little Acorns Team



***THE ECLIPSE FROM TATSFIELD, 12TH AUGUST 2026,
courtesy of Miriam and John Barry.***

MONKEY PUZZLE DAY NURSERY



Monkey Puzzle has been busy as always! Forest school has been in full swing, consisting of potion making, planting, extracting colours from natural resources and lots more!



The nursery have been looking at Mr Brainwash as our Artist of the Month which has allowed us to be able to really explore colours and shapes, also on a bigger scale! The children have absolutely loved having the freedom to be creative!



We celebrated our Preschoolers at our annual Graduation which went amazingly! We would like to wish them good luck as they start school! We will miss you so much, don't forget to come and say hello once in a while!

Forest School Holiday Club

We have spaces available for 5–8-year-olds to join in the holidays: 19th, 22nd, 26th and 28th October!

We now offer extended sessions (time slots), contact us for more information.



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

NATURAL FIRST AID

talk by

Elaine Roberts

on the four main plants she uses in her basic kit.
Elaine will bring ready-made kits plus individual items for members to buy if they wish.

7.30pm Tuesday
8th September 2026
TATSFIELD WI HALL

Entry fee £1
Tea and biscuits available.

Organised by
tatsfieldgardeningclub.org.uk

TATSFIELD HISTORY PROJECT

Would you be interested in taking part in the **Tatsfield History Project**? We're a small, informal group and you may have some fresh ideas on what we should be doing. If so, please get in touch. **Ian Mitchell**

Email: tatsfield.history@talk21.com Tel: 577376

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/>

ST MARY'S MATTERS

SUNDAY SERVICES Our main Sunday service with hymns is at 10am followed by refreshments in the Millennium Hall. All are welcome.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND Please contact Revd Debra at curate.lttm@gmail.com



PERSONAL PRAYER REQUESTS We would love to support you in prayer. Please add your request to the Prayer Request Book near the Baptism Font, or email stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

LIFE EVENTS For enquiries regarding baptisms, weddings, funerals, burials and the interment of ashes please contact stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com.

ST MARY'S SUNDAY TEAS Our ever-popular Teas season is underway on Sundays from 3pm to 5pm in the Millennium Hall and continues until the end of September. Visitors old and new are all very welcome to join us and enjoy delicious cake with tea or coffee.

5PM SUNDAY 'POP IN AND PRAY' A new offering of a short service of prayer following Sunday Teas on 6th and 27th September, for anyone who wishes to come along.

10AM FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER – ST MARY'S TATSFIELD ANNUAL GOLF SOCIETY DAY Please join us at the Parkwood Club Tatsfield TN16 2EJ, a beautiful 18-hole course on the picturesque Surrey Hills. We begin at 10am with a choice of bacon, sausage or egg roll and a chance to chat and meet other people. We tee off from 11am for 18 holes followed by a one course lunch. Cost is £60 with a deposit of £15 payable upon booking. A raffle will follow prize giving with any profits shared by The Chartwell Cancer Trust and St Mary's (towards the upkeep of our ancient Pilgrim Church dating from around 1075). Please contact **Marjory Broughton on 07790 241070, or marjorybroughton@gmail.com** to register or for any queries. Kindly have your handicaps available when booking.

7.30PM SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER – AUTUMN CHARITY MUSIC CONCERT Join us for a varied evening of wonderful live music from talented local performers, with proceeds going to Chartwell Cancer Trust and St Mary's church funds. Tickets £12 include a complimentary drink and refreshments available from chrishancock12@outlook.com (07957 273225) or marjorybroughton@gmail.com (07790 241070).

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 'BRING AND SHARE HARVEST LUNCH' For more details contact stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com. Please note our Church will be open all day to view Harvest displays.

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 3.30PM ANNUAL ECUMENICAL SERVICE Join us for this followed by refreshments.

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER AFTERNOON ALL SOULS SERVICE Join us for this service followed by refreshments. Please contact stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com if you would like the name of a loved one read out.

CHURCHYARD TEAM We met on Saturday 1st August and successfully undertook a range of weeding and shrub trimming jobs around the churchyard. Work was also carried out in the compost area and there are more bags freely available for collection. We meet again on Saturday 5th September at 10am. If you would like to join our friendly Churchyard maintenance team, please contact stmooffice.lttm@btinternet.com. Thank you. **David Gulley**

SUPPORTING WESTERHAM FOODBANK We help our local community in need and will deliver on Thursdays 10th September, and 1st and 22nd October. Please visit <https://www.visitwesterham.org.uk/westerhams-foodbank> to check for the most needed items or to donate funds. Non-perishable food can be left in the Church when open (see below). Thank you for your support and please see some words of thanks below from the Foodbank. **Hilary Vale 01959 577864**

'To our generous supporters at Tatsfield Church....

We are very grateful for the amazing donation.... It is because of the generous and ongoing support of our donors and volunteers that we can help those in need in our community so on behalf of our recipients and the trustees, a big thank you!

Kind regards Liz (Treasurer)'

OXTED BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Bereaved people are welcome on their own or with a friend to chat, share experiences and discuss ways of coping. Trained volunteers are on hand for emotional and bereavement support 1pm-3pm Thursdays 10th and 24th September at Oxted United Reform Church 21 Bluehouse Lane, RH8 0AA.



HIRE OF THE MILLENNIUM HALL If you are looking for a well-equipped venue for your event function, or activity our Millennium Hall is open for bookings. Enquiries from individuals and groups are very welcome.

Sheila Cook (01959 577443)

VISIT US Our ancient pretty church is open 9am–4.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays for viewing, prayer or reflection. You can also enjoy splendid views over the Downs from the Churchyard. Built around 1075 our church has a long, proud Pilgrim history and we continue to welcome those travelling the Pilgrim's Way today.

FOLLOW US Our website is at www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys where you'll find more information about St Mary's and has a link to our weekly Notice Sheet. You can also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/people/St-Marys-Tatsfield/61584833041098/>

ST MARY'S CONTACTS

Our contacts are detailed near the front of this magazine and on our website

www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys

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
	2.00pm	Cosy Crafters, Sheree's Store and Tea Rooms
	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	9.00am	Mat Pilates with Emily, WIH
	10.30 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	2-4 pm	Composting Site OPEN
	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)
	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
	7.30pm	Mat Pilates with Emily, WIH
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
Fri	9.30 am	Combat Fitness - SH
	10.00am	Mat Pilates with Emily, WIH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	4.15-	Boom Arts Academy – VH
	6.15pm	Various classes – contact for details
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club - VH
Sat	9.00 am	Under 8s Judo – SH
	10.00am	Composting Site OPEN 10am-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 & Community Garden • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club • TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute

UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

SEPTEMBER

1st Tue	2.30pm	An Audience with Charles Dickens, WIH
Every Sun	3.00pm	Summer Sunday Teas, StM
4th Fri	7.30pm	Alice present The Sounds of Smokie, Barn Theatre
5th Sat	10.00am	Churchyard Tidy Up, StM
5th Sat	7.45pm	Slade UK, Barn Theatre
6th Sun	5.00pm	Pop in and Pray, StM
8th Tue	7.30pm	Natural First Aid (Gardening Club), WIH
11th Fri	7.30pm	Flash, A Tribute to Queen, Barn Theatre
12th Sat	7.45pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre
13th Sun	7.30pm	Musicals In Their Eyes, Barn Theatre, Oxted
19th Sat	7.45pm	The Ultimate Elvis Experience, Barn Theatre
24th Thu	7.45pm	Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders, Barn Theatre
25th Fri	7.45pm	Bruce Juice, Barn Theatre
26th Sat	7.30pm	Autumn Charity Concert, StM
26th Sat	7.45pm	Classic Rock Revival, Barn Theatre
27th Sun	5.00pm	Pop in and Pray, StM
10th Thu	7.30pm	Musical Bingo Night, Ye Olde Ship
12th Sat	3.00pm	Tatsfield Gardening Club Autumn Show, VH
14th Mon	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting, AMB
18th Fri	10.00am	St Mary's Annual Golf Society Day, Parkwood Golf Club
20th Sun	3.00pm	Fairtrade Stall, MH
26th Sat	7.45pm	Classic Rock Revival, Barn Theatre, Oxted
30th Wed	2.30pm	The Light of Life, Arts Society, St Peter's Church Hall, Limpsfield

OCTOBER

4th Sun	tbc	Bring and Share Harvest Lunch, MH
13th – 17th		Steel Magnolias (The Oxted Players), Barn Theatre, Oxted
17th Sat	7.30pm	Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society Concert, Bawtree Hall, Oxted
18th Sun	3.30pm	Annual Ecumenical Service followed by refreshments, StM
28th Wed	2.30pm	Azulejos: Tiles, Arts Society, St Peter's Church Hall, Limpsfield
31st Sat	5.00pm	Halloween Event, Picnic Area, Westmore Green

NOVEMBER

1st Sun	tbc	All Souls Service followed by refreshments, StM
8th Sun	tbc	Remembrance Service, Village Centre
18th Sun	3.30pm	Annual Ecumenical Service followed by refreshments, StM
14th Sat	tbc	NDS 20th Anniversary Concert, VH
28th Wed	2.30pm	Azulejos: Tiles, Arts Society, St Peter's Church Hall, Limpsfield

DECEMBER

5th Sat	tbc	Christmas Lights Switch On Event, Village Centre
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TATSFIELD WI

Tatsfield WI meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the WI Hall, Paynesfield Road.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



*This Photo by Unknown
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Well the title to this month's talk was "What is the Point of Wasps", a question I ask myself every summer as I swat the pesky little buzzers away from my BBQ. Our speaker for July was a man who had studied insects all over the world and his knowledge was extensive. We learnt about the variety and spread of wasps, their life cycle and importance to the great circle of life. I must admit however that I still don't trust or like them very much.

Next month on **Tuesday September 1st** from 2.30 until 4pm we will have a complete change of pace when we have "An Audience with Charles Dickens".

Unbelievably the following month, given the weird summer we have had, we will be organising our Harvest Lunch.

Don't forget, everyone is invited to come along for a cup of coffee or tea and a friendly chat every Wednesday morning between **10.30am and 12pm** in the WI Hall in Paynesfield Road. A great way to meet and catch up with other village residents – anyone of any age is welcome. So, if you are new to the village or lived here for ages and 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**

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NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

Thankfully the glorious weather enabled us to fulfill our busy summer programme.

In July we headed off to Worthing for our annual day trip to the seaside. We made our journey courtesy of Practical Car and Van Hire who loaned us a minibus completely free of charge. The spacious vehicle was comfy and more importantly the air conditioning kept everyone nice and cool. When we arrived at the Ardington Hotel we were met by Simon who looked after us for the day. After teas and coffee, we were served a delicious ploughman's lunch. Some members then braved the extremely hot weather and took a stroll out, whilst others just sat and chatted in the comfortable lounge. Tina braved the waves and went for a swim whilst her 'lifeguards' (Maggie and Avis) kept a watchful eye on her. As with everything our day soon came to an end and courteously of Neil enjoyed an ice cream on route. We did make one stop on the way home to buy some local cherries, however, after all piling out of the bus, we discovered they had sold out! Everyone had an amazing day, and we must thank Your Fund Surrey for supporting us with a grant, everyone who came to our fundraising Bingo Night, Neil and Graham our trusty drivers and Practical Car and Van Hire for our complimentary minibus.

Throughout July members enjoyed Sunday Afternoon Tea at the Millennium Hall. We are so lucky to be able to enjoy this facility and thank all the volunteers who organise it. It was lovely to be able to sit and chat whilst enjoying the beautiful weather, views across the glorious countryside and delicious tea and sweet treats. We would like to thank the Parish Council and Your Fund Surrey for a grant towards these afternoons.

In August we held our annual garden party. Fortunately, earlier in the year we were given a huge marquee, so this helped shield everyone from the continual sun. Neil was again on barbecue duty and members enjoyed a host of delicious treats cooked to perfection - not a charred sausage in sight!! After lunch we played a music quiz, which, as usual, turned into a sing song. Another great day was had by all which ended our summer programme of events. We do have more events and activities planned for the autumn/winter, the highlight of which is a Steam Train ride on the Santa Special for which Martin Allen has provided half the funding. Thank you so much.

We are so lucky to have the support of organisations, companies and individuals in the village. In addition, we do apply for and have been extremely fortunate to get grants from Your Fund Surrey, the Councillor Community Fund, Parish Council and Friendship Foundation. Thank you all so much for your continued support we could not organise as much as we do without you all.

Our meetings are always the second Tuesday of the month please contact me if you would like to join us.

Keep safe.

Sue Dowse, notsoyoung100@gmail.com, 07816110929

NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

This November will see the 20th anniversary of North Downs Sinfonia, so to mark this occasion there will be an extra special concert on Saturday 14th. It will begin with a specially commissioned piece, the North Downs Overture, and this will be its world premiere. It has been composed by Daniel Pengelly. If you were lucky enough to have come to our Young Soloists concert in 2020 (when he was 14) you would have heard him play several well-known pieces, and in 2025 he played his own composition, his Flute Concerto No 2. He is now at music college and has composed this piece especially for NDS. An opportunity not to be missed!

Then we have two of our very favourite soloists. Mariela Cingo – who first played for us as long ago as November 2010 - will be playing the much-loved Scherzo from Litolf's Concerto Symphonique No 4, and Haru Ushigusa will be playing the Vaughan Williams 'Lark Ascending'. This was the very first piece that she ever played for NDS in November 2018, and to our delight she has been back on several occasions since.

Then, as a complete contrast, the orchestra will be playing the Emilie Mayer Symphony No 1. She was one of the most prolific female composers of the 19th century, and (she was German) was dubbed the 'female Beethoven', such was the range and beauty of her compositions, which included eight symphonies. She is rarely heard these days, which is a great shame, as she deserves to be heard much more.

Tickets are £13 or £11 for concessions and may be obtained as usual by emailing northdownssinfonia@gmail.com, or by texting/telephoning 07732 724180. We look forward to seeing you.

Peter Maynard

TATSFIELD 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield Cricket Club 100 Club for **June 2026**:

1 st Prize	Pete Small	£42.00
2 nd Prize	M Budgen	£28.00
3 rd Prize	Jon Dunn	£14.00

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield Cricket Club 100 Club for **July 2026**:

1 st Prize	David Parker	£42.00
2 nd Prize	Michael Evans	£28.00
3 rd Prize	Margaret Burton	£14.00

Thank you for supporting sport the Tatsfield Cricket Club. 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

TATSFIELD IN BLOOM

All our displays have continued to grow despite the very hot weather, and I hope that you are enjoying the riot of colour on the mangers and planters.



Very many thanks to the volunteers on the watering rota – we sign up for a week and usually two or three times during the week is enough! But this year our waterers have had to go every day to keep the plants alive. This is a tremendous help to TIB and we are truly grateful for all their efforts.

From September I will be losing my fellow TIB organiser, Jan Maynard,

who, together with her husband Peter, have been the mainstay of TIB for many years. Having lost my other colleague, Marian Godfrey, so suddenly earlier in the year, I am desperate to find others in the village who would be willing to help me. We have a very small band of volunteers who meet usually once a week on a Saturday morning but at other times when the need arises. I remember when I moved to Tatsfield in 1984 that the village was known as “Tatty Tatsfield” and I hope you will agree that we wouldn’t wish it to revert to that title. Please contact me if you feel that you can help – my details are below.



A very big thank you to the Maynards who have helped with TIB, THS, St Mary’s Church composting and flower arranging, to mention just a few of the organisations who will miss them. However, we wish them a very happy time in their new home, nearer to their children and grandson.

If you would like to donate towards the displays in the village, please use the yellow pots in Sheree’s shop, The Old Ship or The Village Club.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Jill Hancock (577622/07711 417387) (jillhancock12@gmail.com)

TATSFIELD ART GROUP



Tatsfield Art Group is for anyone who appreciates art, be they an amateur or professional artist, or someone who simply enjoys art for art's sake. We are a friendly non-competitive group who foster the interests of our members through our varied program. Join us for our fun, friendly adult art classes, suitable for those looking to develop their art skills a little further. Our new 2026/27 calendar will cover a wide range of subjects, from abstracts, still-life, animals, birds, landscapes, sculpture, illustrations, and portraits; there's something for everyone! This year we have invited two new artists to lead our workshops.

Judit Mathews - illustrator Judit is an illustrative artist, her subject matter ranges from quirky illustrated maps to abstract landscapes, with lots of little creatures, animals and figures. She loves pattern and colour. Judit uses acrylics, ink with a dip pen, and some oil pastels and collage. Judit likes to break things down, simplify them. Most of her work has a naive feel.



Ginny Singh will instruct us in the ancient art of 'traditional Indian miniature paintings' with a contemporary feel, these are highly detailed, small-scale artworks traditionally created on paper, palm leaves, or cloth using natural minerals, brilliant plant pigments, and gold or silver leaf.



We begin the new term on Monday 7th September from 7pm until 9.30pm with a tribute to the late David Hockney. Hockney's style is broadly defined as Pop Art, mixed with elements of hyperrealism, cubism and mundane realism. I hope our paintings will reflex some of his unique style and his love of colour.



TAG is passionate about providing opportunities for all ages and abilities, to create, explore and express themselves using a range of media and techniques, also to enjoy art in a fun and relaxed way. If you are an artist, we have activities and facilities to help you develop your art, and as you will see, we provide a supportive environment.

For 2026/27, the annual membership fee will stay at £160 which covers all demonstrations, workshops and participation to our annual exhibition where you can showcase and sell your art. Memberships are renewed in September, but you can join us any time of the year.

If you would like further information, please contact Sandra Shury 07867 502235 or Carol Gaskell 07815 775859. If you don't fancy becoming a member you can always join us for any of our workshops, only £15, we would love to see you. You can find us on Facebook *Tatsfield Art Group* and Instagram *tag_tatsfield_art*

Sandra Shury

THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN SEPTEMBER

As I write (mid-August) we are still waiting for a drop of proper Tatsfield rain, you remember, that lovely soft steady stuff that seems to have forgotten to stop by! My "Tatsfield Links" tiny putting green was lost by mid-June, walking across it is the same crunchy noise as if it was a heavy frost! Using watering cans to water plants has been good exercise! A big thank you to the Tatsfield in Bloom volunteers for watering the village displays; thanks too to the Tandridge team for watering the new trees on Westmore Green using their mobile water bowser!

I am seeing severe drought stress in garden perennials, shrubs and some of our big trees, particularly Beech trees; it will be next spring before we know for sure if they have survived. If you have any drought damage to your trees or shrubs don't anything yet, it's possible that some may show signs of recovery before the end of the year.

Looking around at the brown grass areas is very reminiscent of the summer of 1976, it will be interesting to see the 2026 data on rainfall and temperatures and compare. Do not worry about your brown lawn and be sure to ignore any offers to returf it! Within a couple of weeks of some good rain you can expect the perennial grasses to start growing again, and that will be followed by new grass seedling getting going; they were there all the time in the soil surface waiting for some rain to germinate. Of course there will be some bare patches, give them a good scratching to loosen the surface and sow some additional seed, they will germinate in a couple of weeks. Thanks to climate change we can expect to have good soil temperatures into October and maybe early November.

If your garden flower displays have suffered from lack of watering and the heat of the sun, now is the time to give them a tidy up by removing all dead blooms, seed heads and dead leaves. Make sure you have some liquid feed handy to add to your watering can

twice a week for the first couple of weeks and then ease off to once every other week. You should get a good growth response and some more late flower.

I have heard from quite a few folk about damage in their gardens with lots of holes dug in lawns, borders and soil scattered around, and even some large, planted pots. This is almost certainly the work of badgers digging powerfully in the search of insects and maybe even roots to eat. Hopefully when the drought breaks, they will return to their normal routine and the holes can be filled in.

Growing fruit and vegetables has been a challenge this year; my apples are mostly fallen and what is left are smaller; vegetable yields are also smaller and our clay soil is hard to dig so be careful not to damage the crop!!

Jon Allbutt

WILDLIFE GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Wow, what an amazing summer! And a horribly tough one on wildlife due to the extreme temperatures and near-zero rainfall. At home, we have been putting dishes of water around the garden and have been visited by oodles of fauna eager for a drink and a dip. Consequently, I've never heard so much birdlife in the garden before which I'm guessing is partly because the birds hatched an extra brood this year so there were gaggles of tiny blue and coal tit fledglings chattering away like excited school kids everywhere we looked. Wonderful stuff!!

Anyhow, it has not just been the climate that has posed an exceptional strain on our wildlife, there is another extraordinary and pernicious threat. As Joni Mitchell once put it, *'they paved paradise and put up a parking lot'*, except in Tatsfield the threat is from the proposed Ship Hill Housing Estate intended to kybosh our green belt.

The simple but brilliant idea of having a green belt around London is more than 150 years old. The intention is to preserve nature and our own health and sanity from the grotty grey shambles of urban sprawl. And around a hundred years ago this piece of blindingly obvious common sense was enshrined in law to protect us from over-development by unscrupulous so-and-sos hoping to make a few grubby quid. But all that is coming to an end as our urbanite government has decided to reclassify any piece of green belt near an existing road as grey belt and therefore suitable for reckless development. It seems to me that this is as bonkers as handing our water infrastructure over to Thames Water for safekeeping. Look where that got us...!



With this in mind, the best wildlife gardening tip I can put out there at this time is to keep an eye on the planning application for Ship Hill, and if it gets permission despite the overwhelming number of objections, please support whatever appeal is made against it.

Here are my thoughts on why this is so important for the wildlife in and around our gardens:

- Wildlife isn't static, all creatures need to move around to find safety, food, water and an unrelated mate to produce healthy offspring. Hence wildlife corridors and mini sanctuaries that allow animals to move and connect are essential. Wildlife islets like Ship Hill are every bit as important as the big nature reserves such as Knepp and Blean.
- The Ship Hill fields are a rare and important natural habitat for many of our native flora and fauna. Known as chalk downlands, these fields are grasslands (ie. not woodland) free from pesticides and intensive farming practices. Furthermore, they have a perfect natural food chain going on in that they have large herbivores (horses and donkeys) eating the chemical-free grass and converting it into poo that gets transformed by bugs and worms into compost for healthy plant growth. These invertebrates multiply and thrive, and in doing so they attract a population of mini predators including frogs, dragonflies, newts, small birds, shrews and hedgehogs. While this is going on, the plants produce seed that attracts birds, and small rodents which in turn attracts the bigger predators such as stoats, owls and kestrels. Add to the mix a few badgers, deer, foxes, red kite, etc and you can see that this quiet, unassuming Ship Hill field contains a fantastic biodiversity of both plants and animals, many of which will be welcome visitors to our gardens while going about their business. Consider this against the other open countryside around us where there is intensive arable farmland soaked in pesticides, alongside manicured sterile golf courses. We do have beautiful woodlands, of course, which provide an invaluable natural habitat, but woodlands are home to different species to those that live in sunny clearings such as the Ship Hill fields.
- We all understand the need to build homes for the massively expanding UK population, but our little parish has an ideal brownfield site at Moorhouse down near Clackets Lane that would be a perfect alternative without destroying the wildlife haven we have on our doorstep. So, if the developers persist in their self-serving plans to bulldoze our green belt, please do support the resistance. One last quote from Joni Mitchell that should be heeded, *'you don't know what you've got till it's gone'*.

Jim Kenney

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UPCOMING LECTURES

Wednesday September 30th at St Peter's Hall Limpsfield

Welcome drinks 1.45pm - Lecture 2.30pm

The Light of Life: The Skagen Painters

Join art historian **Caroline Levisse** as she explores the remarkable story of these pioneering artists, the friendships that inspired them and the breathtaking paintings filled with warmth, atmosphere and the unique light that made Skagen famous and which enchant visitors today.

Whether you've visited Denmark or simply love exquisite art, this lecture offers a vivid exploration of one of Europe's most beautiful artistic landscapes.

Wednesday 28th October 2.30pm - Azulejos: Portuguese Tiles

Have you wandered through the colourful streets of Lisbon, admired the grand railway station at Porto, or explored the fairy-tale palaces of Sintra? Then you will almost certainly have been captivated by Portugal's beautiful azulejos.

Come and take a journey through Portugal's colourful tiled heritage with expert speaker **Imogen Corrigan**.

FAIRTRADE TRANSFORMS LIVES



The Fairtrade Foundation have a clear focus in 2026: **People. Planet. Pay. Do it Fair.**

People - providing rights and safety at work
Planet - protecting the land producers depend on
Pay - earning enough to live well and plan for the future.

In Ghana, **children make up a third of the workforce growing the cocoa** that goes in our chocolate. When incomes are low and there are no schools nearby, many families have no real alternative: children can end up on farms instead of in classrooms. Dora Atiiga refused to accept that future for the children in her community.



Dora is 31 years old, a Cocoa Farmer, a Teacher and a mother of three girls. She is a member of the Kukuom Union co-operative in Ghana and a graduate of Fairtrade Africa's Women's School of Leadership. She joined the Fairtrade Women's School of Leadership. The programme brought together women farmers to strengthen their confidence, skills and voice - from financial management and public speaking to negotiation skills. Globally, between 60 and 80%

of the world's food is grown by women, yet their voice often goes unheard. Dora chose to claim hers. Through the course, Dora began to see new possibilities. When she looked around her village, she saw a problem that went beyond her own farm: there was no early-years school. Parents had little choice but to take very young children with them to work on cocoa farms. **Fairtrade training had reinforced a clear message: children belong in school.** So, Dora started one herself...

She started small, teaching and feeding six children herself. But as parents saw the difference it made, word spread, and numbers grew. Today, it has grown into a registered school with around 170 pupils, eight teachers and cook. Dora continues to provide free care and education for families in her community – helping to tackle the root causes of child labour.

Dora's days are long: she continues to farm cocoa, run her school and raise her three children. Today, she advocates as a Fairtrade Youth Ambassador for living incomes, climate action and children's rights in her community - not as someone waiting for change, but as someone actively driving it.

Do support our Tatsfield Fairtrade Stall at the Church Millenium Hall on **Sunday 20th September 3pm to 5pm**. This will be a key **Fairtrade Fortnight Event in Tatsfield**. You can make the world fairer one purchase at a time.

Tatsfield Village Fairtrade Committee
tatsfieldfairtradevillage.weebly.com
[Facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade](https://www.facebook.com/tatsfieldfairtrade)
tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com



THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – SEPTEMBER 2026

I hope some of you were able to safely observe the solar eclipse last month as well as the lunar one (despite the unsocial hour) and even maybe a few meteors from the Perseid shower.

If you missed the eclipse of the Sun and would like to see one first hand, then there are two to look forward to next year. The first is on 6th February and is an “annular” eclipse which is where a ring of the Sun remains visible even at mid-eclipse. This is caused by the Moon’s orbit around the Earth being an ellipse so sometimes the Moon is closer to us and sometimes further away. On this occasion the Moon is further away and so is not large enough to totally eclipse the Sun leaving a ring or “annulus” of sunlight visible around the dark body of the Moon. Hence the name “ring of fire” eclipse. These events are interesting to watch but don’t quite have the gravitas of a total eclipse because we don’t get to see the tenuous outer atmosphere of the Sun, the corona, because the ring of light leaves the sky far too bright. The track of annularity begins in the Pacific, passes over the south of South America, crosses the Atlantic and just makes landfall in Africa. None of this event is visible from the UK.

The second solar eclipse in 2027 is on 2nd August and on this occasion it is total. The track of totality begins in the Atlantic, moves into the Mediterranean and crosses Tunisia, Egypt, the Red Sea and Yemen (to name but a few) before concluding in the Indian ocean. As an example, from Gibraltar, totality will last for 4 minutes and 28 seconds so weather permitting you will get to the partial phase up until totality, Bailey’s Beads (where sunlight shines through the last valleys at the Moon’s edge) and then the Diamond Ring which is the very last ray of sunlight shining through the very last lunar valley. Then comes totality when you see the corona, the Sun’s outer atmosphere, for the first time. Then the above sequence repeats in reverse. Those of us home in the UK will get to see a 42% partial eclipse.

On 23rd September at 1:05am (BST), the Earth reaches the Autumnal Equinox when, very approximately it’s considered that we have equal amounts of day and night. The equinox can be more correctly defined as the moment when the centre of the Sun is exactly over the Earth’s equator. On that day the Sun rises exactly in the east and sets exactly in the west. Incidentally, it is more correct to say that day and night, this year at least, are closest to being equal on the 25th.

The reasons that day and night are not of equal length on the day of the solstice is because atmospheric refraction allows us to see the Sun even when it ought to be just below the horizon at sunrise and sunset. So, when the Sun has *theoretically* set, the Earth’s atmosphere bends the light from it in the same way that a lens bends (or more properly) refracts the light passing through it.

If you’re about in the early mornings (around 5am), Jupiter is visible low down in the east at the beginning of September. By the end of the month, you can see it at 6am when it sits 30° above the eastern horizon.

In the evening sky Saturn is now making an appearance and rises in the east at 9pm on 1st. By the middle of the month, at 10pm, it is 20° in altitude in the ESE and then on the last day of September, at the same time, it is nearly 30° high but a little closer to the southeast by then. An almost full Moon is 8° to the northwest of the ringed planet on the 26th and 10° to the northeast the following day. As you are looking towards Saturn, west is to your right and east is left.

Brian Mills FRAS

THE OXTED & LIMPSFIELD MUSIC SOCIETY

CELEBRATING OUR 80TH SEASON

The Society is delighted to be welcoming Elena Urioste, violin and Tom Poster, piano to The Bawtree Hall, Wolfs Hill, Oxted RH8 OQU on Saturday 17 October 2026 at 19.30



Elena Urioste: "... an airy, silvery tone ... with a ravishing cantabile touch" Violinist.com

Tom Poster: "His sound is warm and beguiling ... velvet-tipped sonority" Gramophone

Programme

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Violin Sonata in B flat major

Camille Saint-Saëns - Élégie in F major, Op. 160

César Franck - Violin Sonata in A major

Tickets for each concert £30 (with free entry for those under 25). Either on the door or on our website at www.olms.org.uk.

Season ticket for all six concerts is £125 (see website for details).

NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

We begin with two emails from Jan and Peter (Maynard), both with attached photographs:

(05.06.26) [Moth query.] *'There seem to have been a lot of moths around this month. Some I have recognised, like the **Pine processionary** and the **White ermine**, but many others which – although probably very common – I have not been able to identify. I have attached photos of a couple, and wondered if you might know what they are?'*

(08.06.26) [Caterpillar query.] *'Any idea who this handsome chap (lady?) is? 1½" long, found, with a lot of friends, on a Verbascum. Certainly resembles a Swallowtail, and not dissimilar in size.'*



Well, Peter and Jan, I'm pretty sure that I have positively identified two of the three 'problems' that you kindly forwarded. The caterpillar (below), I believe, will



eventually emerge as a **Mullein moth**, the larger of the moths (above) is a **Silver Y** (what a great name) and the smaller moth (right) I hereby designate to be a Little Unidentified Brown Job! I hope this helps. Of course, not being a moth expert, I could be wrong. Nevertheless, it's been fun carrying out the research. (Without computer assistance!) Thanks for your query and contribution.



Ps. If the caterpillar proves to be that of a Swallowtail I will gladly eat my hat!

A further message from Peter came the same day: *'Yes, I'm sure the caterpillar is a mullein – it was after all feeding on a Verbascum, which is a mullein species, and the pattern*

was very characteristic. My best guess for the larger moth was a silver Y – the mark on the wings is a bit of a giveaway – but what made me doubt it was the colour, which was browner than I expected, but I guess that colouring can be quite variable. Anyway, thanks for all of that – I will continue looking for the LBJ!'

It was also great to hear from Liz (Armitage). When it comes to outdoors drama we need look no further than Liz and Alan's garden:

(18.06.26) *'We took heed to Jim Kenney's advice re bird feeders. We had missed the birds, so I bought a few larger feeders and filled them up with peanuts and sunflower seeds, and niger seeds for the **Goldfinches**. Well, within a day, our garden was full of birds, more than ever before! We are so happy. Mind you, this year's brood of **[House] sparrows** seem a particularly daft lot - we have had several fly into the French doors (no casualties, just one very winded and dazed baby) and one almost flew into the house but did a swift*

impressive 90 turn - worthy of a bat! Our little river is a magnet for them in this hot weather, we have several species of birds bathing and flapping about in it together - sparrows, **Starlings**, goldfinches, **Blue tits** - all vying for space. I counted 15 in it yesterday; it was like the old Purley Way Lido!*

Sounds great, Liz; you've created your very own sanctuary. I just hope the local Sparrowhawk doesn't find out! Any sign of the Grey wagtail lately? (That's the one with yellow feathers.)

(20.07.26) 'I'm more worried about the Bald Eagle that escaped from a falconry display last week, last spotted in Lingfield!!!'

I don't think the birds on your feeders need worry about a passing eagle, Liz. In fact, if the Bald Eagle visits your garden I'll not only eat my hat but also my rubber boots!

You may recall that in the last issue Steve (Gaskell) reported seeing a Grizzled skipper. Well, I'm pleased to report that his good fortune continues:

*(20.07.26) 'A **Purple hairstreak**, sitting on our car windscreen Sat. morning. Brought it inside for this photo then released. Have seen them twice before in our garden but it wouldn't open its wings to show us the purple bits. Think this one is female as it's quite small. (Unusually, males are bigger in this species.)'*

Jim (Yeeles) replied: *'Lovely, Steve. After many years I still haven't managed to see one of these anywhere around the village but, coincidentally, we did spot one this afternoon while doing our butterfly survey over on Limsfield Chart. I shall continue scanning the local oak canopy in the early evening and keep my fingers crossed. I will succeed one day!'*



WHAT? A Purple hairstreak sitting on your car windscreen? Give me a break! Some people have all the luck. Although, to be fair, I may suggest that your 'lucky' sightings probably have something to do with the environment you and Carol have allowed and encouraged to develop around your home. I see this in a much less exciting way in my own garden. The clover infested lawn (usually creeping buttercup, but not this year - at least, not flowering) is attracting Meadow Browns and the flowering plants within the patio nursery are well populated with Gatekeepers. So I guess I should be happy; and I am. It's just that I would very much like to see something unusual for a change.

And it wasn't long before I did, following the advice of Adventurer Jim...

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

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

Among the topics we see on social media these days are cyclists riding on pavements or e-bikes being used irresponsibly. A hundred years ago it was the Westerham Herald which told us about what we now call 'anti-social behaviour'. So it was that our own archive records record that in September 1926, a resident of Redhouse Road was fined five shillings (roughly the equivalent of £20 in today's money) for allowing a horse to stray on Westmore Green. Thanks to the excellent records kept by the British Library, we learn that Tatsfield even got a mention in the Uxbridge Gazette. This was when a man from Paynesfield Road was also fined five shillings – this time for riding a bicycle on a pavement in Pinner in Middlesex.

ELECTION 'FARCE' Local government reorganisation is topical today as Surrey County Council and Tandridge District Council begin to fade into history.

ELECTION "FARCE." — At the monthly meeting of the Tatsfield Parish Council, at the School, on Monday, Mr. W. H. Miller presiding, a communication was received from the Godstone Rural District Council, enclosing a report and scheme from the Surrey County Council relative to redistribution of county electorate divisions. Mr. Hitchcock said that Tatsfield was to be included with Limpsfield and Titsey, and the polling station would be Limpsfield.

In September 1926, their predecessors were under attack in Tatsfield. The Parish Council had been told of plans to share our County Councillor with Limpsfield and Titsey and that our polling station would in future be in Limpsfield. It was decided to send a strong protest to both Godstone Rural District Council and to Surrey

County Council, suggesting that so few people would walk down as far as Limpsfield and back to record their vote that the parish would be '*practically unrepresented*'.

MISSIONARY WORK IN INDIA In the middle of the month an event was held at 'The Grange' – now 'Beaconshaw' – to support the work of Christian evangelists in southern India. One of them, the Rev WVK Trianor, was on leave from his work among the millions of outcasts of India and described what he said was their poverty and suffering and their '*steadfastness of faith under persecution*'. A sale of work raised today's equivalent of £2,000 in aid of the evangelists.

OTHER ISSUES Raised at the September parish council meeting are also familiar to us today – the state of the roads and the damage to verges and footpaths by passing traffic – especially in Maesmaur and Borough Roads.

Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project

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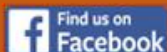
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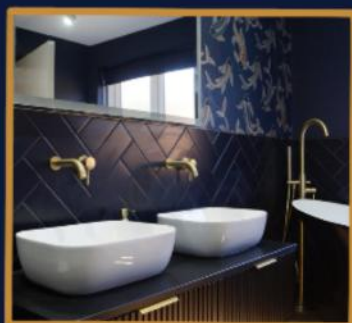
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