

Westcott Village

Magazine

October 2021



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Westcott has a population of over 2,000 and this is the only magazine written specifically for the Westcott area by the people of Westcott. It is hand delivered, free of charge, to every household and further copies are available at the church, local shops, pub and doctor's surgery.



If you have any articles, photos, letters, etc that you think we may like to feature in the next issue, please email the Editor on:

editor@westcottmag.com

But please note, publication will always be subject to space and at the discretion of the Editor.

Copy deadline for
November issue:

8th October 2021

This magazine, published by the Church in Westcott, is printed on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) accredited paper from a sustainable source. The views expressed are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Church, Editor or Westcott residents.

FROM THE EDITOR



Autumn seems to be finally on its way, after some topsy turvy seasons, although in the garden we have had a flower out on a rhododendron

- only 5 months late. Things are definitely growing when they feel like it rather than when it says they should in my gardening books! I have also discovered a downside to gardening for the bees this autumn - it suits the butterflies too, which I love, but leads rather obviously to far more caterpillars to pick off!

We have the proposal for Surrey Hills All Saints School from page 37, please do have a look at it (and submit any comments by 6th October), and also details of Mindfest, held at the

Ashcombe School on 9th October, see below and page 11. There is an appeal collecting new pyjamas for children in hospital which is a great idea, please see page 36, where you'll also find the results from the latest 100 club draw.

There are several art exhibitions by the local art clubs at Denbies in October and November and various opportunities to experience live music during the month, including the Leith Hill Music Festival 'come and sing' event at Dorking Halls on 16th, so no excuses not to get out and about.

I hope you also get a chance to get out and enjoy the beautiful colours of October, always good for the soul!

Cath

editor@westcottmag.com

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...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALRIGHT?

As I write this there are still a few weeks to go before Alan our vicar retires, but as you read it, he will have left! This means we will have a gap before a new vicar arrives and during that time it is the responsibility of the churchwardens to make sure things continue during "the vacancy".

Many of you have kindly asked if we will be okay managing without a vicar, and all the extra responsibilities that will bring - and since originally writing this article, we have tragically lost our dear friend and exceptional churchwarden John Witt. We grieve for him and for his family. And in that context my heartfelt response is "No, we can't possibly be alright". But, the experience of the last few weeks is that while there will be a huge hole left by Alan & Jenny's retirement, and John's tragically early death, we will, ultimately, be okay. And I don't say that lightly, because each one of them is irreplaceable, but I say it because we are part of an amazing community in Westcott.

WE ARE PART
OF AN AMAZING
COMMUNITY IN
WESTCOTT

This magazine is a wonderful example, it is brilliant the way so many people give their time to ensure articles are written, magazines printed, and then an army of distributors get them out to every home. There is a wonderful willingness in Westcott to get involved, look out for each other and generally help.

So I know already that many people are going to chip in and help in the temporary absence of a vicar and as we cope with our loss. And the church will remain here to help you. Sunday services; times of prayer and reflection; baptisms, weddings & funerals; pastoral support; St John's activities and more. We are here to work with you and alongside you wherever and whenever we can, and play our part with you in our community.

If my holiday Italian is right, then "community" literally means "with unity", and as the Bible says "How good and how pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!".



...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

We are so fortunate to have a taste of that here in Westcott.

And as a final plug – in the hope you are reading this magazine early – October 3rd is Harvest Festival. Do join us in Church, or on Zoom, and bring some tins and other non-perishable foods for our collection for LeatherHead Start, who provide



emergency, direct access, short-term accommodation for homeless men and women over the age of 18 in Mole Valley. (the church is open through the week for donations). Another important way we can support our wider community.

So thank you for all your support and involvement in the Church and Village - it is great to be a part of it.

Simon Mabley, Churchwarden.

...live a life worthy of the calling you have received

*Be completely humble and gentle;
be patient, bearing with one another in love.
Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit
through the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:1-3

Harvest

Sunday, 3rd October
Services at Holy Trinity Westcott

8:30am BCP Communion

10:15am Morning Worship

Join us in giving thanks for all we have, and in remembrance of all who do not share in the material bounty.

You are invited to bring non-perishable goods and money for giving to 'LeatherHEAD START' hostel for the homeless.



THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



The Church in Westcott is part of the Westcott Good Neighbour Scheme and we are always here for a chat, prayer, pastoral need.

Holy Trinity Pastoral Assistants:

Margaret Packham 01306 885915

Mark Shakespeare 01306 888010

Ali Mabley 01306 889641

Paul Stacey paulstacey88@gmail.com, may be able to help with [debt advice](#).

Samaritans provide emotional support to anyone who is struggling to cope and needs someone to listen. Local branches can be visited during the day.

Helpline: 116 123 Every day, 24 hours

SMS:07725 909090 Email: jo@samaritans.org

Bereavement Care: Cruse supports people after the death of someone close. Their trained volunteers offer confidential face-to-face, telephone, email and website support, with both national and local services. They also have services specifically for children and young people.

Helpline: 0844 477 9400

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Email: helpline@cruse.org.uk

For help, more information, please contact churchwardens:

churchwardens@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk,

or visit thechurchinwestcott.org.uk



MARKING LIFE EVENTS

All who live in Westcott or have a connection here, are very welcome to have christenings, funerals, weddings in Holy Trinity.

Contact the churchwardens for more information.
churchwardens@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk,



THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

STAY IN TOUCH

We would love to stay in touch with you, sending you weekly updates about our services and activities.

Please sign up to receive emails by going our website:

https://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk/Groups/342308/Join_our_Emailing.aspx

or return this form by post to: Parish Office, St John's Community Hall, Furlong Road, Westcott, RH4 3PP

Name:

Address:

Telephone number:

For contact by e-mail, E-mail address:

Please add me to The Church in Westcott emailing list for information about church events and news.

I understand that:

*the emailing list may be administered using MailChimp

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* any use of my personal data will be governed by Holy Trinity's PCC Privacy Notice which is available on The Church in Westcott website.



Join a Life Group

Small groups of people who meet online or in person every 2 weeks to chat and pray about life & faith.

Life groups:

- explore ways we can bring God's love, justice and joy into our relationships with other people and creation, into our leisure and into our work
- give you an opportunity to explore the Bible and consider what it says
- use worship, simple contemplation and prayer to help us encounter God

Contact Richard Lister richardnwlistler@gmail.com for more information

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS SHARING LIFE



SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY

We are now back in church for all worship

8.30am Prayer Book Communion with organ music

10.30am Worship that 'Builds Friendships, Shares Life'... friendly, relaxed, range of music styles.

This service is also on Zoom.

Visit our website to sign up to our emailing list for weekly invitations and updates.

We ask you to consider taking a covid test before coming & request that masks are worn.



DATE	THEME	8:30AM	10.30AM
3rd October	Harvest	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship
10th October	Hebrews 4:12-end Mark 10:17-31	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
17th October	Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship
24th October	Hebrews 7:23-end Mark 10:46-end	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
31st October	Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion

MIDWEEK PRAYER & WORSHIP

Wednesdays	10am	Communion at St John's
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BUILDING
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SHARING
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FLOODLIGHTING

Many thanks to all our floodlighting sponsors!

The church floodlighting for October has been sponsored by Ann Carvalho, thinking of all those who lost loved ones in New York 9/11 twenty years ago and now thinking too of those who mourn those lost with Covid.

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting, please contact Sarah Massey at sarah@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk. (Suggested donation of £75 to Westcott Church Funds.)

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism:

15th August 2021 Ruben Conor Scott

22nd August 2021 Arlo Frederick Jonas Pearce

Marriage:

21st August 2021 Matthew James Ogbourn & Melanie Joanne Willis

Death:

28th August 2021 John Witt (58)





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MINDFEST

Dorking Minds presents Mindfest 21 - a celebration of what we, as a local community, can offer to support mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

Organisations (statutory, voluntary and community) will offer tasters, demonstrations and talks on key subjects such as understanding how a teenager's brain works, eating disorders, anxiety and self-harm. You will find local groups such as the Mary Francis Trust and Epsom CAMHS, and national charities such as Samaritans and The Charlie Waller Foundation.

There will be top tips for how keeping the body healthy supports the mind and how creativity such as singing, playing music and art can keep us resilient.

Our keynote speaker is Roman Kemp, Radio Capital DJ, television personality and mental health advocate who will explore further the subject of suicide and how to get our young people talking about this delicate subject. You can watch Roman's documentary "Our Silent Emergency" on BBC iPlayer.

Mindfest is open for visitors of all ages! Join us on Saturday 9th October 2021 between 12 and 6 PM at The Ashcombe School in Dorking (RH4 1LY).

Please book your tickets on EVENTBRITE: bit.ly/Mindfest
Spaces for the talks are limited due to the current restrictions.



Follow Dorking Minds on social media for more updates about the event and local services that help support mental health.

For more information about the charity go to: dorkingminds.org.uk

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I know it is very easy to put this magazine to one side and make a mental note to read it later (and sometimes never get round to it!) but this is a very important form of communication with you, the residents of Westcott, and the WVA would really like to keep you up to date with what is happening in the village so...

PLEASE READ THIS NOW

At our September trustees' committee meeting we reviewed the membership discussion which took place at the AGM in June. The outcome of the committee's discussion is summarised below.

Perceptions of the WVA:

- The Trustees of the WVA are acutely aware that the committee is not representative of the social, geographic and demographic make-up of the village despite having made strenuous efforts to change things;
- They are also aware that some people in the community do not believe the WVA does things for

anyone other than a small, largely affluent section of the village.

- As a result of these views the WVA is often seen as irrelevant to the life of the village and people are unwilling to engage with what it does

What the WVA does:

Over the last four years the WVA has worked hard to address the concerns which almost 80% of residents expressed in the Village Survey of 2013. These included:

- preserving the Green Belt through the monitoring of our Neighbourhood Development Plan
- ensuring newbuild dwellings meet the demand for 2 and 3 bedroom properties with parking spaces
- addressing speeding and noisy vehicles through the village
- addressing parking issues
- maintaining or improving local services
- improving the condition of our footpaths and bridleways especially with regard to dog fouling

A key question is "What should the WVA be doing?"

The committee needs the answers to some of the following questions:

- Is the WVA the right organisation to address village issues or is it time (after 47 years) to form a Parish Council or a



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more representative village forum?

- How do we get a broader cross section of residents and particularly younger residents involved in what the village does?
- What do residents want Westcott to look and feel like in 20 years' time – what will we be doing differently?
- How do we ensure that more residents take an active part in decisions which affect the whole village?

These are issues which the Trustees want answers to, and would love to hear from residents about. Please start thinking about what you want in the future and be prepared to express those thoughts in another survey. The WVA exists to represent the whole village and this can only be achieved with ongoing input and feedback from you.

Speed-watch

You may have noticed that a Speedwatch Programme



was active during August at different locations in the village. This was a trial period with a small group of volunteers to identify whether the presence of people in high-viz jackets with a 'speed gun' would have a meaningful impact on vehicles coming through the village.

We are pleased to report that a majority of motorists noticeably slowed down – often expressing their thanks and appreciation of the efforts being made to improve the safety of our roads. Unfortunately, a small minority were somewhat less pleased to see us but over the course of the month, more than 200 warning letters were sent to speeding motorists by Surrey Police.

Given the success we've seen, we are looking to increase the number of volunteers so that we can run more sessions and have an ongoing presence. If you would like to volunteer your time for a minimum of 2 sessions (1-2 hours each) per month, please contact Nick Lund (nlund74@gmail.com).

WVA Open Meeting

The next Open Meeting is planned for **Thursday 14th October at 7.30pm** in Holy Trinity Church. This is the best large space for meetings in the village and with the removal of the pews we are able to offer a socially distanced meeting. We will also look at streaming a live Zoom feed from the church so that if you are still unsure about attending large meetings we can accommodate this as well.

Please continue to write to me with your comments and views. These are



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an important source of feedback for the WVA and help steer us to do things for the village which are important to you the residents.

We are looking to move completely away from collecting subscriptions by knocking on doors to collect money. If you have not already done so, an annual standing order with your bank is the quickest and simplest way to pay your annual subscription to the WVA. Our bank details are:

Account Name: Westcott Village Association
Account Sort Code: 82-11-07
Account No: 20072790

Alternatively, you can now set up an annual payment via PayPal on our website or you may want to write a cheque and send it to The Treasurer, WVA, c/o Queens Court, Westcott Street, Westcott, RH4 3NX.

Please speak to your Street Steward if you have any questions.

Tim Way
Chairman, Westcott Village Association
timway.westcott@gmail.com
contact@westcottvillage.com

BABY MEALS

For over 16 years, families of new babies in Westcott have been receiving 'Baby Meals', a gift of a hot meal for the whole family, delivered to their door for two weeks. An initiative driven by the Church in Westcott, it is a practical and highly valued service, provided by people across the Westcott community

Please get in touch if you think you could help out occasionally cooking meals for families with new babies, or other Westcott residents experiencing difficulties, especially during COVID, who might benefit from a few home cooked meals.

Anna Kemkers
07710 425487



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THE HUT & THE READING ROOM

Update on behalf of the Trustees of The Hut and the Trustees of the Reading Room

I am sorry to say that it now looks unlikely that a new doctors' surgery can be built in the centre of Westcott. The provision of NHS funding is too uncertain to enable either the doctors or the trustees of the Hut or of the Reading Room to carry the financial risks involved. Never say never, but the likelihood is that the surgery will have to remain at Riverbank for so long as lease terms permit.

So what next? The Hut remains closed and derelict; the Reading Room is in better shape (and back open for business) but the structure will eventually need to be replaced. The consultants commissioned by the Reading Room to review all options have delivered their report. Their findings indicate that once the footprint required for a new village hall and the construction costs are deducted from such residential land value as the remainder of the two plots might have to a developer, there will not be much of a surplus to set aside for future maintenance of the new building. Letting fees from clubs, events and parties are never going to provide much of an income. In other words, even a 'new village hall only' scheme has its risks.

What is certain, is that any and all further steps in exploring the options and the costs of applying for outline planning permission, securing the necessary Charity Commission approvals and reaching a fully negotiated deal with whatever developer will offer best value will incur substantial costs. The Hut has no funds at all, so all costs would need to be borne by the Reading Room. Understandably, the Reading Room trustees have concluded that before any further costs are incurred, they need the certainty that both sites are under their control.

The Reading Room trustees have therefore put a proposal to the Hut trustees, the outcome of which would be a Charity Commission-approved merger which would leave the Reading Room trustees in sole control of both sites. Holidays and illnesses have so far prevented the Hut trustees from meeting to consider the Reading Room's proposal. It is also fair to say that the Hut trustees are wishing to explore options for going it alone.

By the time this magazine appears in print, this process will hopefully have reached some sort of conclusion. It is not impossible that after over two years of debate between the two sets of trustees, and the doctors (whose valuable input into the thinking I gratefully acknowledge), the Joint Working Party will have run its course.

Bernd Ratzke
Chairman, Joint Working Party
8 September 2021

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES...



Future Mole Valley

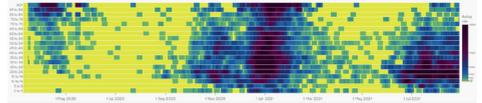
You may well have seen by now that the District Council has published its proposals for where future development – housing and other uses – will be directed for the next fifteen or so years. The documents are all available on futuremolevalley.org and I would encourage you to look both at the Westcott and Dorking site allocations and the policies sections that set out how any developments should come together with respect to:

- Environment
- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Economy

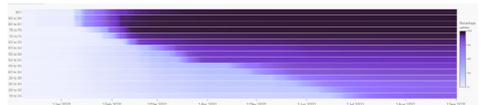
COVID Update

In another very challenging and thought provoking month for us all in Westcott, it probably falls to these pages to continue to encourage you to take responsibility for doing all you can to protect yourself, your family and friends as we head into winter – COVID and Flu.

As I write, cases locally have somewhat plateaued – with the darker colours being more cases and the vertical axis being by age band:



Our local vaccination progress continues to be pretty flat too – and the lower levels of vaccination as the age range falls is clear:



Community Spirit

On a more positive note, over the summer I have witnessed some great examples of what makes Westcott so special as a community. I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has helped foster those examples - whether it is the thriving Westcott Cricket Club, the return of the football season, families playing together on Cradhurst, people taking part in the village litter pick or everyone who volunteered around WestFest, it really is appreciated.

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

On a more personal note, a massive thank you too to everybody from Westcott you came along to the Bank Holiday Fete in Wotton – it was one of the best for many years and we really appreciated it.



Afghan refugees in Surrey

Like other areas, Surrey is working hard to support those from Afghanistan that helped keep us safe.

Local agencies across the county are working in partnership several local districts and boroughs have opened their doors to help house individuals and families fleeing to the UK. Surrey County Council is also working closely with District and Boroughs, health providers, the voluntary and charity sector, other local partners and central government to ensure families can be resettled safely.

While the initial need was to find accommodation to house people once they have completed their stay through Managed Quarantine Service hotels, there are wider needs to be considered, including health, social integration and basic supplies.

Many people have been asking how they can help. Due to operational and logistical challenges, as well as COVID control considerations, Surrey County Council are asking that any donations at this point are financial ones, to charities that are best equipped to immediately support Afghan refugees. The Community Foundation for Surrey has an emergency fund in place to administer donations locally and information on how to donate can be found on their website www.cfsurrey.org.uk



Alternatively, the Red Cross are already active in managing donations and supporting arrivals from Afghanistan, and wider local support will be needed from foodbanks and other charities, which can be found via Surrey Information

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

Point www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Text Scams

Have you received a suspicious text message recently?

Out of the blue messages, maybe telling you that you have a parcel that couldn't be delivered, are likely to be fraudulent. Never click on

links or provide personal or banking details if you receive a text like this. If you are unsure whether a text message is genuine, call the supposed organisation on a genuine contact number and ask them.

If you receive a text message you were not expecting that you think is suspicious, please report it by forwarding onto 7726, then delete the text message.

James Friend

NEW DATE! WESTCOTT CHILDREN'S NEARLY NEW SALE



Saturday 6th NOVEMBER 2021 2-5pm
Westcott Reading Room



F@SH in collaboration with WESTfest are running this event to enable local parents to buy good quality, locally donated clothes at low price, to re-use clothes locally and reduce our environmental impact, and to raise money for F@SH (Surrey Hills All Saints School).

Donate clothes to Surrey Hills All Saints School after term starts or contact westfestsurrey@gmail.com to arrange alternative drop off/collection, or bring a bag on the day. *New/slightly used, good quality children's clothes only please.*

See you there on **6th NOVEMBER!**
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



More info at [www. Facebook.com/westfestsurrey](http://www.facebook.com/westfestsurrey)



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WESTCOTT LADIES' CRICKET



Started 4 years ago by a handful of Mums watching their children at Friday evening cricket practice, the Westcott Ladies' cricket team has gone from small beginnings to, well, certainly a group which can be proud of themselves!

This year our numbers have increased and with the support of the junior girls, we have been able to put together a team to play against other Ladies' teams in the surrounding villages. Covid has caused some matches to be cancelled due to teams not being able to field enough players, but the matches we have played, have been friendly and fun.

I had my arm twisted to go along and join them about 3 years ago, and found myself hooked! I have never

been able to throw a "long" ball, our coach tells me I persistently try to bat the ball as though I was holding a tennis racquet, and no longer being a youngster (except at heart) my sprinting speed is not as fast as it used to be! However I've been playing Stoolball for the last 25 years and so in both this sport and cricket I have carved my niche as wicket keeper. I mention this just so that all you Ladies out there can see there is potential for all of us.

The season is now over, but hopefully 2022 will be better all round, and perhaps a few more ladies and girls will come to the Westcott Sports Club on Friday evenings to "have a go". Watch this space in the Spring for more info.

Jacki Moss





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'Cooking Apple Green' I can taste,
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'Rectory Red' imagined in parson's library.
'Muzzle' and 'Dimpse' are puzzling,
And 'Arsenic' gives pause for thought,
The blues are heavenly...
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The blacks so black...
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Edward
Williams

Lulworth Cove - Collage
by Felicity Redman

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WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP

On 9th May 2017 Julie Wileman gave us a lecture about 'The Town of Dorking'. There are a number of historical buildings, especially the pubs, in Dorking.

From being an agricultural village Dorking became a staging post on Stane Street, the Roman Road running from London to Chichester in Roman times. It appears in the Domesday Book in 1086 as the Manor of Dorchinges held by William the Conqueror and it rendered £18 per year to its overlord. Subsequent Lords of the Manor included the Dukes of Norfolk who lived in Dorking but later moved to Arundel. In medieval times it was a prosperous agricultural market town with milling and brewing businesses, with some lime works and brick making. In the 18th century

around 1750 the White Horse Hotel was established as a staging post. It was originally called the 'Cross House' which had belonged to the Knights Hospitaliers from 1278. Many of the pubs in Dorking date back to medieval times.

The church of St Martin was rebuilt in 1866 and 1873 when the lofty spire, 200 ft high, was raised as a memorial to Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, the famous campaigner against slavery. Stane Street passed through the NW corner of the churchyard.

Dorking was well known for its wheat and cattle market held in the main street and an area now occupied by St Martins shopping precinct and car park. Stage coaches using the turn pike from London to Brighton disappeared when the railways were built in the late 19th century.

We hope to hear more from Julie Wileman about the colourful history of our local town – known as 'the town with a view' on account of its outlook to Ranmore and over the Weald.

Roger Christian





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Dear All,

It has been such a pleasure to welcome all our children and families back to Surrey Hills All Saints. The children returned with huge smiles, full of enthusiasm and energy and have settled back in to school life well. With the easing of Covid restrictions, we have been pleased to be able to restart assemblies and clubs.

We have adjusted our Covid protocols so that we are no longer operating a bubble system, however, we are following all advice and ensuring hand washing and sanitizing processes are in place. We will remain vigilant and all guidance will be followed going forward.



Open Day Events 2021/22

We would be delighted to welcome you to our annual Open Day Mornings

on Monday 15th November 2021 and Friday 19th November 2021. These are held during the school day, so you will be able to see the school in its usual working order and have the opportunity to see lessons in action. On arrival, you will have a tour of the school with existing Surrey Hills All Saints children and then an opportunity to talk to the Headteacher over coffee.

We are currently finalising our plans for our Open Mornings. Please check the school website for updates and exact timings.

Highlights for the Autumn Term

Years 1 and 2

This term the children's learning adventure in Year 1/2 is titled 'What is it like where we live?' This theme supports them in settling back into school after the holidays. The children will be exploring the local area and their surroundings, comparing different types of places. They will also be looking at their houses and homes and creating these through the different techniques of drawing, painting and collage.

Years 3 and 4

It has been lovely meeting the Abinger children and welcoming them to our Westcott site especially three

LOCAL PHOTOS



Happy, or sad?
Babs Lawrie



Blossom
Fiona Humphreys



Westcott Footpath after the rain
Fiona Humphreys

SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS (cont.)

new children who joined our community for the first time. All the children are getting used to their new routines and enjoying the freedoms of playing with children across all year groups now that certain restrictions have been eased. This half term we will be looking at Mayan culture and history as well as furthering our understanding of forces and magnets. We have started our learning by reading a Mayan folktale on how people first came across chocolate so have got off to a 'sweet' start!

Years 5 and 6

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back and they are settling back into old routines extremely well. This half term, we will be exploring SPACE and the children have thought of some fascinating and deep questions which we hope to find answers to - or at least enjoy trying! Our class text is 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell



Boyce which we will read and use to inspire a range of writing genres. In October, we hope to visit the Space Centre at Winchester. How lovely it is to be able to mix as a whole school once again.

Church Community

As a church school, we have always had close links with the local clergy and parishes. Both Alan and Tony have supported us enormously over the years. We are sorry to see them go, but wish them a fond farewell and an enjoyable retirement. We look forward to forging new relationships with their replacements, when they are announced.

Please don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Here you can see daily life at Surrey Hills All Saints and can share in the amazing learning opportunities the children experience each day. We wish our local community well and hope everyone is staying safe.

Twitter @SurreyAllSaints,
Facebook @Surrey All Saints

Mr S Coles
Headteacher

Westcott 100 Club

There were 90 eligible tickets in the latest quarterly draw, held on September 4th. The winning tickets are **no. 37 (1st prize £112.50)** and **no. 64 (2nd prize £56.25)**.

The next draw will be held in December. In addition to the two quarterly prizes, the annual draw will be held. Prize values are based on the number of eligible tickets. At current subscription levels, the annual prize will be £225.

For more details about the scheme including how to join it and how to apply for grants from the fund, please email us at Westcott.100.Club@gmail.com.

[Registered with Mole Valley DC no. 48965]



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PYJAMAS APPEAL

Unfortunately, some children will be spending their Christmas in hospital. I am volunteering for a charity who help to bring a smile to children's faces at the hardest of time. I am collecting PJs for children in East Surrey Hospital. We are collecting from September 1st to October 31st <https://www.childrenshospitalpyjamas.co.uk/>

- Pyjamas HAVE to be brand new
- Please do not wrap them as they need to be checked by the individual hospitals.
- Please avoid Christmas themed pj's as excess pj's are given to children in need brought in to the wards throughout the year.
- If at all possible avoid fleecy pj's as hospital wards can be quite warm.
 - We need boys' and girls' newborn to age 18 (young adult)

Please email me sallycroffis@gmail.com or call me 07917558964 if you are able to donate PJs and I will either collect or let you know a local drop off point. Thank you x

Sally Croft

The Good Shepherd Trust (GST) is the authority for Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School (School Lane, Westcott, RH4 3QF). The GST, is consulting on a proposed change, designed to ensure the long-term sustainability of Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School.

What is the proposed change?

Due to pressing financial concerns, the GST is proposing to close the Reception/ Key Stage 1 (KS1) site at Abinger, consolidating everything onto the Westcott Site

How can I respond to the consultation?

The consultation will run from Wednesday 8th September 2021 to 12:00PM on Wednesday 6th October 2021. Please visit the Surrey Hills All Saints website, the GST website or use the link at the end of this document. A link will be available on both the school and GST websites. If you require a paper copy of the response form, please request this via admin@goodshepherdtrust.org.uk or phone 01483 910210. It must be returned by 6th October 2021. There will be an informal stakeholders' meeting on Thursday 30th September from 6:00pm-7:00pm at the Westcott site.

Pupil Population

Surrey Hills All Saints is a split-site primary school, formed through an amalgamation of two village schools in 2010. There is capacity for 300 children across both sites. 210 children can be accommodated on the Westcott site and 90 on the Abinger site. Surrey Hills All Saints is not currently achieving its Published Admission Number (PAN) of 30 pupils in Reception and future pupil projections are not favourable. Falling birth rates mean the proportion of school-age children in Surrey and the Mole Valley is declining. In the previous academic year (2020/21), there were 44 pupils in Year 6 and 41 in Year 5. At the Abinger site, there were 9 pupils in Reception, 21 in Year 1 and 19 in Year 2. We have had 13 pupils joining Reception in this new academic year. The total number of pupils on roll 2021/22 is 181.

Funding

As schools are funded on a per pupil basis, there has been a sharp decline in funding in recent years.

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Proposal

It is proposed that the school sites should be rationalised. The Westcott site has the space to accommodate up to seven classes of 30 children (Reception through to Year 6 inclusive), therefore the following actions are proposed: since 2012, the number on roll (NOR) has dropped by over 100 pupils since 2017/18.

- Move Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 pupils (43 children) to the Westcott site during the current academic year (date dependant on decision making process and approval by DfE)
- Ensure pupils currently educated at Abinger move into refurbished, age-appropriate accommodation on the Westcott site.
- A capital funding project commences at Westcott to reconfigure and improve outside play areas and internal areas for the whole pupil population.
- A travel plan will be in place to allow parents several options for a safe and efficient morning drop-off and afternoon pickup.

This consultation is open between 12 noon on 8th September and 12 noon on 6th October 2021. If you submit your response after this date, it will not be counted. If you have requested a paper copy, please send your response to: Surrey Hills All Saints Consultation, The Good Shepherd Trust, Larch Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1JY and ensure it arrives by 6th October 2021.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QJzJmIG4rk22dTSZyZDJs4IkBOW3uCpMorxg6g5ySCNUMUhDSUpMVkU1R1pJNzFGN09JRU1aUjRISy4u>



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We've been busy bees intent on welcoming many new friends who are all settling in wonderfully. We are encouraged to all learn about each other, what we like, what we don't like and that way our teachers can tailor our play based on our interests.

Thankfully this summer many of us were able to have some sort of holiday so we've been sharing our stories and listening to others.

One of our favourite things to do is create! Especially when we get the chance to get a bit (or a lot) messy! We most recently squidged pasta and paint together to make some expressive emotion soup. (of the non edible variety!).



Our great big garden is where we can be found most days, watering our plants and watching them with

wonder as they grow. We have also been using the space to keep active, running races and practicing our hockey skills.



We are delighted to announce that we are now offering breakfast and after school clubs. Full information can be found on our website abingercommonnursery.co.uk.

If you have a child looking to start Nursery please don't hesitate to get in touch. Please call 07842 978823 or email abingercommonnursery@gmail.com We can't wait to show you around!

Kate Fairbrass

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CHAMPION RESCUE PONIES



Liz Harcombe, who grew up in Westcott, has recently become National Carriage Driving Champion for the second time.



Her ponies Yogi (18) and Ted (11) both had bad starts in life and were rehomed by the charity World Horse Welfare then came to Liz for training. After both ponies had inauspicious starts in life, they are now completely transformed to willing, confident ponies who whinny when anyone appears!

Liz and her team of friends have a strong ethos of pony welfare and it is so satisfying to see them succeed in a challenging sport of driving trials.

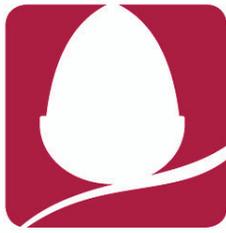
Liz describes Yogi as “shy and retiring but a lion in harness” – he even leaps into the lorry for pony parties! Ted, on the other hand, is a “cheeky monkey on the ground but calm and sensible in the carriage!”

They both live out all year round which is brilliant for their welfare but can be frustrating for Liz as Yogi (who is grey) likes to find the muddiest spot in the field to roll in as soon as he hears the lorry starting for an event!



Liz's Mum, Celia, had tears in her eyes on hearing the news after her challenging year and now agrees perhaps horses are more than just a passing phase for her daughter!

Celia Harcombe



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MUSIC IN DORKING



9th at 5.30, Dorking Chamber Orchestra at St Martin's church

16th at 9.30am, LHMFC Come and Sing at Dorking Halls, £18, 01306 881717

23rd at 7.30, guitar recital at Dorking Halls, £21, 01306 740619

Finally, after many months of enforced silence, we can once again enjoy the pleasure of some live music! The concert season in Dorking begins with the Dorking Chamber Orchestra and their conductor Andrew Morley. Their programme will open with Schubert's lively Overture in the Italian style, and finish with Beethoven's second symphony. In the middle is a rarity, a concerto for double bass by Bottesini, with Nathan Perry as the soloist. Giovanni Bottesini was a nineteenth-century Italian and besides being a conductor and a composer, he was a virtuoso player of the double bass who greatly extended the technique of the instrument. Grove's Dictionary says that 'even today his many double bass compositions are seldom performed on account of their great difficulty'!

The Leith Hill Musical Festival is holding its annual "Come & Sing" event, this year offering a chance to sing Verdi's great Requiem, one of the most powerful and dramatic works in the choral repertoire and highly exhilarating to sing. Participants will learn the music during the day under the guidance of the festival conductor Jonathan Willcocks and then give a complete performance of this magnificent work with four professional soloists and the virtuosic Alan Brown at the piano. Registration is at 9.30 in the morning and the day will end at 4.45.

The Dorking Concertgoers has a full season of concerts planned, beginning with a recital by the Dorking-based guitarist Fiona Harrison. Fiona is a brilliant performer on her instrument and her programme is an unusually wide-ranging one, with music dating from the renaissance up to the present time, and embracing many styles from sedate dances to evocative Spanish music and even some jazz!

Looking ahead to November, the Dorking Choral Society has an exciting concert on the theme of The Sea, including Stanford's Songs of the fleet, two movements from Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony and Elgar's Sea Pictures. The Dorking Philharmonia will play music by Haydn, Beethoven and Saint-Saens. And the Jubilee string quartet will play music by Haydn, Schubert and Beethoven.



Ian Codd

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As I write this update it's early September and Summer seems to have come very early this year and gone in a flash. However the Memorial Woodland is looking really good, the picture here of our pond says it all I think. The young saplings and shrubs have thrived, probably because they have not suffered from lack of water this Summer!



The number of butterflies on the Buddleia in August looked like they were having a festival, there were so many of them and our resident pheasant Henry has been bringing his females to see us everyday which is a delight. One of our Trustees John and his wife Sharon have put a lot of effort into the pond area the last year and this month it has been looking really splendid. The boys and girls who come and help have done a grand job spreading the woodchips provided by local firm LC Energy over the pathways around the woodland keeping the soggy areas safe and sets

us up for the new Season ahead of us. As we go into Autumn and the leaves turn a beautiful golden colour before they fall we are now thinking of what's on our agenda at the woodland up to year end.

Firstly on 11th November we will be holding our usual Remembrance Service at the woodland to which all are welcome. We gather around the Monument in the woodland at 10.40. This year our Patron Blue Cooper BEM and our own Reverend David Grundy plus the children from St John's C of E School in Dorking will join us again now that Covid restrictions are lifted. It is always v e r y s p e c i a l to have the involvement of the children in our service.



Then we look towards Christmas and our popular 'Christmas at the Woodland' event will take place on Sunday 5th December. This is a family day with a treasure hunt for the children and a visit by Father Christmas plus a Christmas bottle tombola for the adults and a number of Christmas stalls for everyone. Please register and pay for the children in advance, the charge is £7 per child which entitles them to join in the treasure hunt and

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QRMW (cont.)

receive a goody bag plus a visit to Father Christmas in his grotto and to receive a gift. We do need children's names, gender and ages to send to Father Christmas! So please contact Debbie to register and pay as soon as you can because numbers are restricted. Contact Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk.

For now though I look forward to seeing you at the woodland over the coming weeks and at these special events. Remember all monies raised at our events go into the Memorial Fund to assist those Veterans who are suffering

from hardship. Our ex-servicemen and women are proud people and do not ask for help unless they really need it and The Quick Response Memorial Woodland's sole purpose is to help when it is needed; immediately! But we can only do that with your support for which I thank you with all my heart.

Paul Cooling
Chairman

The Quick Response Memorial Woodland

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SOMETHING TO PONDER!

This following featured in the August 1998 edition of this magazine, but surely merits a second airing. Lucy Skelly recalled seeing it when visiting a Dorset Church and thought it appropriate since the PCC had recently decided that Holy Trinity should remain open during daylight hours.

Every time I pass a church,
I make a little visit
So when at last I'm carried in,
The Lord won't say "Who is it?"



Terry Wooden

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DORKING MUSEUM

The team at Dorking Museum looks forward to welcoming visitors in October. We note that Friday 1st October is officially 'National Smile Day', the message of which is "Do an act of kindness. Help one person smile". We hope that another month of free museum entry will make you smile!

'Darking 1620': The Museum's current special exhibition, postponed from 2020, marks the 400th anniversary of the sailing of The Mayflower.



Dorking shoemaker William Mullins – whose house survives in West Street – was one of six Dorking residents who sailed on the Mayflower, and his daughter, Priscilla, is sometimes known as 'the mother of a nation'. At that time, Dorking – known as 'Darking' – was a relatively modest market town for the surrounding villages and farms, holding regular markets and well



Centre of Darking in early 1600s reconstruction by Frances Mountford

provided with shops, mills and inns.

The impressive new exhibition, 'Darking 1620', weaves the story of the six pilgrims from Dorking who undertook that perilous voyage to the New World with an examination of 17th century life in the town they left behind.

The exhibition focuses on life in Dorking when Mullins and his fellow pilgrims lived in the town, looking at farming and the food that people ate, the kind of domestic buildings that they lived in, and the clothes that they wore, and seeing how those changed when they reached the colony. Through those themes we can learn something of the lives of the shoemaker, and his fellow traveller, the weaver Peter Brown.

Although the exhibition was delayed by a year and the pandemic impacted on its planning and preparation, it also allowed extra time and opportunity for 'behind closed doors' development of its special features. These include male and female costumes of the period and dressing up clothes for children, created by volunteers Jackie Rance and Penny Tompkins,





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DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

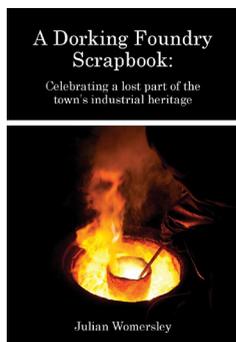
displays of locally found 17th century shoes and replicas made by local saddler Julia Forsyth of the kinds of materials and tools that Mullins would have used in his trade, and a detailed cross-section model of the Mayflower and its fittings and contents – the hard work of the team at The Dorking Men's Shed, whose magnificent Mayflower planters have already been seen bringing colour to the town through two summers.



A short Mayflower 400 film is also on view and an accompanying book, 'The Weaver, the Shoemaker and the Mother of a Nation' by Kathy Atherton and Susannah Horne, is on sale, £8.

New book: It may be hard to envisage now, but 150 years ago, alongside the market for which it is well-known, Dorking had quite an industrial centre. At the heart of it was a brass and iron

foundry. The Dorking Foundry site is now occupied by Dorking Museum and a new book by author Julian Womersley takes a fascinating look at its history. 'A Dorking Foundry Scrapbook: Celebrating a lost part of the town's industrial heritage' is published by The Cockerel Press and available from the Museum and online shop, £5.50.



Archive Sale:

There will be an Archive Sale of duplicate items surplus to Museum requirements, including maps, books, postcards and other items. Please come along to the Christian Centre, Church Street, on **Saturday 23rd October, 11am-2pm**, to buy yourself a piece of Dorking history and support your local Museum.

Walking in Dorking: The October programme of guided walks in the town and surrounds includes Betchworth Castle (including exclusive access to the Castle enclosure) and The Deepdene Trail (including exclusive access to the Hope Mausoleum). Both are on **October 17th at 2pm** – for details and booking see dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/. Or why not organise a group walk with family or friends at a time to suit you?

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DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)



The Museum is at 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am-4pm. Visit www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk. Enquiries to admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk or phone 01306 876591.



The Dorking Group of Artists – November Exhibition 2021

The Dorking Group of Artists, one of the largest art groups in Surrey, is delighted to welcome you to an actual, real life exhibition at Denbies Wine Estate in November, in both the Gallery and the Denbies Suite. Work will be sold 'off the wall', buy work and take it straight away. Our brand new exhibition screens have been finished and we are looking forward to showcasing our members' work using them. Exhibiting members, many professionals among them, will be displaying over 200 pieces of exciting new and original art, all for sale at affordable prices. The paintings should appeal to every taste, featuring different subjects and styles and covering a wide variety of prices and media. There will be large selection of unframed paintings for sale too. Entrance to the exhibition is free and Denbies has a good café and restaurant, runs tours of the vineyard and has an excellent shop, so come and make a day of it! There is plenty of free parking.

Denbies Wine Estate

London Road, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6AA

Monday 1st November – Saturday 6th November 10.00am – 5.00pm

The exhibition closes at 4pm on Saturday 6th November

The Dorking Group of Artists meets on Tuesday mornings at Beare Green Village Hall from September through to Easter. Membership is open to artists of all abilities, and costs just £25 per calendar year. The activities programme is varied and includes workshops and demonstrations. www.dga.org.uk (Outdoor painting and sketching during the summer months).

For more information contact Jane Anderson Wood (Chairman)
Tel: 01372 375123. Email: dgacommittee@gmail.com

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GREEN WESTCOTT

GREEN WESTCOTT COMMUNITY GARDEN

When we held our stall at WestFest this year one of the most popular ideas for Green Westcott was a community garden. So this month we thought we would lay out exactly what this is and how we as a community, might set about getting this idea off the ground.

What is a community garden?

It pretty much does what it says on the tin – it is a piece of land managed by the community, to grow flowers, herbs, fruits and vegetables, for the benefit of the community.

How do we go about setting one up in Westcott?

First things first, we need to find a suitable piece of land in Westcott that either belongs to the council or is privately owned. We then need to gain permission to use the land for the purpose of our community garden.

Green Westcott wasted no time in contacting Mole Valley District Council to see if they could help. Unfortunately, they were not able to offer us a piece of land to use, but instead suggested contacting our local councillor James Friend, and/or the Westcott Village Association. So we did both! And James Friend and Tim Way (Chair of WVA) were both very helpful in pointing us in another direction which, at the moment, looks very promising!

Your Community Needs You!

We need you! To get this project off the ground we need need people to help us – after all, it wouldn't be a community garden unless the community were involved! If you have any skills in organizing or designing a garden, please do get in touch with us as we would love to have you on board at the early stages.



We're also keen to hear from anyone who'd like to help with the setting up this community project and on-going support. We are calling on all members of the community – both big and small, no matter how much or little experience you have. If you would like to be involved in any way, please do get in touch with us and we can add you to our growing (if you'll pardon the pun!) list of interested people.

What are the benefits of a community garden?

Apart from the obvious ones like being out in the fresh air and getting a bit of exercise there are many other benefits



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GREEN WESTCOTT (cont.)

to community gardening. Taking part in a collective activity which improves the place where you live, creates a sense of connection and pride and offers an opportunity for shared learning. Community projects also help us identify the assets that we already have within the village, bringing to light talents which, as yet, may lay undiscovered!

A place for everyone

Community gardens create spaces where people can feel connected, working together as a team for a common goal. Personal growth and invaluable skills can be learned and obstacles overcome, giving a great sense of achievement and reward. Community gardens teach us that through our successes we can strengthen our whole community, by pulling together for the common good.

The wonderful thing about gardening is that it is open to all, no matter what



your age anyone can take part. This offers a wonderful opportunity for the older members of our community to pass on valuable knowledge to the younger members. Building these relationships within our community will be a benefit to all.

Places to learn

Just five minutes spent in a community garden will offer up the opportunity to see birds, insects and plants in various stages of their life cycle all coupled with vibrant eco systems. What a wealth of learning, literally at your fingertips! Not only can youngsters gain a greater understanding of where their food comes from, but they may also develop greater healthier eating habits having had some input into the growing of the food itself.

Restoring and building better health



There is a growing body of literature that points to the health benefits of gardening and spending time in nature. Studies dating back to the 19th century have advocated for the therapeutic advantages of



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GREEN WESTCOTT (cont.)



gardening, for people with mental health issues. There are also studies which suggest that children with ADHD have improved attention when involved in gardening activities.

Food is a vital part of life. Growing food locally in a community garden is a great practical way to help ensure that everyone has access to fresh, tasty, nutritious vegetables!

Greener Spaces

Greener spaces create healthier environments, and although much of Westcott is pretty green already, there is no doubt that those busy little pollinators – bees, butterflies and the like, need a helping hand, with their numbers in massive decline over recent years. If our community garden can set aside a patch for pollinators then so much the better!. Attracting

wildlife with plants is a simple way to help improve biodiversity which in turn benefits us all.

Growing and eating local, seasonal food not only helps in reducing carbon emissions and plastic packaging, there is something wonderful about being able to produce something from source and know the care that has gone into the process.

If you would like to get involved in this project of creating a community garden (or in some other green project) - whether in the design, the preparation, the planting of fruit and veg, or in an advisory capacity - please do get in touch, we would love to hear from you!

Email: info@greenwestcott.org



References

<https://thetouchpointsolution.com/blogs/touchpoints-blog/mental-health-benefits-of-gardening>

<https://www.ahta.org/>

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WEST HORSLEY PLACE REVEALED

Earlier this year, June Davey, local historian and volunteer steward at West Horsley Place, shared with u3a members its rich history and stories associated with West Horsley Place.



Horseledge, an Anglo-Saxon village situated near the present house was first owned by Danes until King William handed the estate over to Walter FirzOtha (the family name later changed to De Windsor) after the Norman Conquest. The Manor of West Horsley was acquired by Ralph de Berners in 1271, probably because his wife Christina was the heiress of the previous owner, Hugh de Windsor.

For the next 260 years, the de Berners and Bouchier families held the manor but when John Bouchier defaulted on a debt to the king, Henry VIII took possession of the property who

retained ownership until his death in 1547. It was handed down to Sir Anthony Browne and Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald (The Fair Geraldine) who are said to have welcomed Queen Elizabeth I stayed at there as their guest.

From 1590 to 1642 the Montague family were in residence and Guy Fawkes worked there as a footman. When the house passed to Sir Walter Raleigh's son Carew, he converted the old Tudor single storey manor house and added the red-brick facade and installed the first and second floors along with staircases to make what essentially the house is today. Legend has it that Sir Walter Raleigh's embalmed head was kept within its walls by his devoted wife.

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Our monthly meetings take place on the second Wednesday afternoon of every month at the Christian Centre and you are welcome to join us. Check our u3a website for details www.dorkingu3a.org.uk or contact us on 01306 711542 (John Sinclair, membership secretary).

Beryl Sinclair
u3a Chair

The North Weald Art Group Annual Exhibition

16th - 28th November 10 - 4 pm
Denbies Art Gallery, London Rd, Dorking, RH5 6AA



The North Weald Art Group, a locally based society that includes both amateur and professional artists, is holding its annual exhibition of paintings, prints and mixed media works at the Denbies Art Gallery.

Most works in the exhibition are for sale as well as a selection of unframed works.

John Yardley, the renowned watercolour artist and the group's president is one of the exhibitors.

There is ample free parking at Denbies as well as a fine restaurant and cafe. There is also a shop selling wine and gifts as well as a farm shop selling local produce. Well worth a visit.

Website: northwealdartgroup.org.uk

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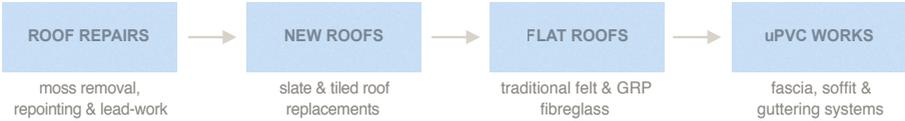


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For information on advertising please contact advertising@westcottmag.com

RIVERBANK SURGERY

Westcott Street, Westcott, Surrey RH4 3PA **Tel: 875577**

OPENING TIMES:		<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
	Monday	8.00-1.00	2.00-6.00
	Tuesday	8.00-1.00	2.00-6.30
	Wednesday	8.00-12.30	Closed
	Thursday	8.00-1.00	2.00-6.00
	Friday	8.00-1.00	2.00-6.30

The emergency out of hours mobile number is **07501 655200**

The surgery is closed and the phones are diverted from 1.00-2.00pm.



Dorking Service Centre Ltd



Award Winning Local Garage



158 - 160 South Street
Dorking
Surrey
RH4 2ES

www.dorkingservice.co.uk 01306 747050

