

Westcott Village Magazine

June 2022

Free Entry!

WESTfest

ON THE BEACH

THE WESTCOTT VILLAGE FAIR

SUNDAY **26th** JUNE TWENTY TWENTY TWO

Cradhurst **12PM - 4PM**
Recreation Ground

★ PONY & CARRIAGE RIDES ★ FUN DOG SHOW
LIVE MUSIC ★ BUNGEE TRAMPOLINES ★ GIN BAR ★
FREE GAMES ★ LOCAL ARTS AND CRAFTS ★ COCKTAILS
★ SILENT AUCTION ★ WELLNESS ZONE ★
KIDS SOFT PLAY ★ DANCE DISPLAY

facebook.com/WESTfestSurrey
Please note there is no on site parking

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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

July issue:

8th June 2022

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



Summer's here! I hope the weather plays ball this summer, with all the concerts and events for the Queen's Jubilee that are planned, and of course, our own WESTfest, on 26th June down at Cradhurst. See centre pages for details of the day, and page 43 to see how you can get involved and help.

It's also time to start planning your entries for the Gardener's Club Show,

which is open to all, (see page 10 for more information). Fingers crossed that we have had the right weather for a bumper harvest of fruit, veg and flowers! So far my potatoes are growing like they're Jack's beanstalk, whereas my beans are doing nothing at all!

I wish anyone sitting exams this summer the best of luck, it'll soon be over and then you can relax for a good few weeks.

Cath
editor@westcottmag.com

VOLUNTEER/BABY MEALS

Maria & Vlad and family who arrived in Westcott from Ukraine in May are pictured receiving their first meal from Westcott's Volunteer Cooks.

Please get in touch if you think you could help out occasionally cooking meals for families with new babies and other Westcott residents in need, or if you know of someone in a time of difficulty, who might benefit from a few home cooked meals. And of course, please also get in touch if you're a Westcott



resident expecting a baby, we have over 40 volunteers ready to cook for you in those first few weeks of new-baby chaos!

Anna Kemkers
annakemkers@hotmail.co.uk

...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



“IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE, PLAY ON...”

How does music play on in your life? Perhaps listening is your preference. A quiet quintet on radio three as a gentle accompaniment to your breakfast, maybe. Or head banging heavy rock bashed out on the steering wheel in the frustration of yet another traffic jam...

Could participation be your love? Voice and/or instrument combining to produce beauty of form, of harmony, of emotion...

...HOW DOES MUSIC PLAY ON IN YOUR LIFE?

Whichever works for you, Shakespeare's oft quoted line from Twelfth Night surely rings true; I'll admit it does for me, just don't get me started on my love of food, we'll be here all day. On marrying and moving to our first cottage in Bailey Road some four decades ago (note to self; remember it's Ruby Wedding this year), I recall being a bass voice in a very traditional choir at Holy Trinity. Cassock, surplice, processing 'twixt vestry and choir stalls; almost the works, with only ruffs missing.

A different world now; I share your wry smile. Yet one founded on church life as a young chorister (treble voice, complete with ruff!), setting a foundation of faith, a rock on which I have relied through life's ups & downs, from family bereavements to several major redundancies before setting up my own Speak Performance & Public Speaking business. Oh, the voice again!

Today, it is our music group at Holy Trinity that delivers harmony, elicits emotion, vocal cords the instruments that resonate with your soul, whether toe-tapping sing fest or deeply contemplative a cappella psalm that has you close your eyes in contemplation of a celestial universe – maybe parallel universes – beyond our comprehension.



...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

Faith is an oft mysterious thread that weaves through the tapestry of our lives; for me inextricably linked with (strictly amateur) singing, although I should declare we were paid sixpence (6d) per week in my choirboy days! In later years Dorking Choral Society and the Leith Hill Music Festival (where I seem to now be Chairman & Trustee) all add rich threads to my personal fabric, and will I hope continue to add swathes of colour over coming years.

If music be the food of love, it can also be a foundation of faith. How does music play on in your life?

Ges Ray



Can you find this stained glass window in Holy Trinity Church?



YOUR CHURCH
WEDDING

FUNERALS

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

SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY



8.30am Book of Common Prayer Communion, A warm welcome in our beautiful, traditional service.

10.15am Friendly, relaxed service, using Common Worship and a range of music styles. This service is also livestreamed on Zoom.



For 10:15am Zoom service connection, please scan this QR code, or visit the Online Services page of thechurchinwestcott.org.uk and follow the link.

Mask wearing is no longer mandatory in church, but there are designated seating areas for those who prefer to wear masks.

If you feel unwell, please do not come in person - join us on Zoom at 10:15am.

DATE	THEME	8:30AM	10.15AM
5th June	Pentecost Queen's Jubilee	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
12th June	Trinity Sunday The Trinity	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship
19th June	Trinity God the Father	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
26th June	Trinity TLG	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship

MIDWEEK PRAYER & WORSHIP

Wednesdays	10am	Communion at St John's
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Please note, **no Wednesday 10am Communion on 1st June**



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SHARING
LIFE



THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

A prayer of thanks for the reign of Elizabeth, our Queen

Gracious God, we give you thanks
for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen,
and for the example of loving and faithful service
which she has shown among us.
Help us to follow her example of dedication
and to commit our lives to you and to one
another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.

“When I spoke to you last... I asked you all, whatever your religion, to pray for me on the day of my Coronation - to pray that God would give me wisdom and strength to carry out the promises that I should then be making... I have been uplifted and sustained by the knowledge that your thoughts and prayers were with me.”

Her Majesty the Queen, Coronation Day, 2 June 1953

THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

Ukrainian Support



Are you hosting, or planning to host, Ukrainian visitors?
are you interested in helping?
or just finding more about what's involved?

Information, and links, can be found in the Resources
section of the Church in Westcott website:

https://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk/Groups/377459/Ukrainian_Support.aspx



Parent, Baby and Toddler Group

St John's Community Hall, Westcott
Thursday mornings 9-11am, term time



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grandparents & carers,
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St John's Community Hall,
Furlong Road, Westcott RH4 3PP

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

Paul Stacey paulstacey88@gmail.com, may be able to help with **debt advice**.

Holy Trinity Pastoral Assistants:

Margaret Packham 01306 885915 Mark Shakespeare 01306 888010

Ali Mabley 01306 889641

For help, more information, please contact churchwardens:

churchwardens@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk,

or visit thechurchinwestcott.org.uk



THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



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for private prayer
or reflection

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pray, reflect, breathe, be.

All are welcome

FLOODLIGHTING

The floodlighting for June has been sponsored in loving memory of Hazel Clear, who passed away on 16th March 2020, from husband John & all her family.

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:

23rd April 2022

Max and Sofia Gordon

Death:

11th March 2022

Ronald Duncan Watson (87)



THE GARDENERS' CLUB SHOW - HAVE A GO!



Twice a year (in July and September) the Westcott Village Gardeners' Club hosts the Westcott Flower Show – an exhibition of flowers, fruit, vegetables and home produce. People are allowed to enter the show regardless of whether they are a member of the Gardeners' Club or not and everyone is welcome to come and view entries on the day to see the items laid out and how well participants have fared (along with tea and cake). You've probably seen signs up in the village highlighting these events and wondered 'what's all that about?'. It's a quintessentially British village event giving people the opportunity to enter a wide range of items into a competition that has official judging (by invited experts from other villages).

"I don't think I'm good enough for that" you might think, but did you realise that it's not just beautifully grown flowers, fruits and vegetables but also offers a chance to enter your art, handicrafts, home produce and, better still, there are entry opportunities for children. This isn't the cut-throat competitiveness that you might have seen on British dramas – it is a very welcoming and supportive group of people happy to share their experience and encourage everyone to 'have a try'. For example, how about having a try at:

Section I - Children's Classes

Age 7 and under: a decorated wooden spoon, a coloured picture from the show schedule, or a drawing of a bird decorated with flower petals

Age 8-12: A flower arrangement in a jam jar, a decorated mask, or 3 gingerbread men (decorated)



Section K - Handicrafts

A photograph of a single flower, a landscape watercolour, a child's soft toy or a limerick to include the word 'Queen'

If you're interested then please grab a copy of the schedule from Nisalocal so that you can see the full range of what's available to enter. You deliver your entries to the Reading Room on the day of the show (3rd July and 11th September) before 11am after which the judges walk around and score the entries. You can return at 2pm to see how you've done, walk around the other entries, have a cup of tea and some cake and then await the prize giving. Even if you're a novice you could win a cup. It's such a wonderful village thing to do.

Jo Smewing

Westcott 100 Club

The Westcott 100 Club is planning to hold its 27th quarterly draw, including a one-off Platinum Jubilee draw, at WESTfest on Sunday 26 June. The draw is open to all who were members of the scheme on June 1, but for this special occasion we will consider late entries. Membership costs £25 per year per "ticket". Your number(s) will be entered into four quarterly draws (June, September, December and March) and the regular annual draw in December. Prize values are based on the number of eligible tickets – the more tickets, the bigger the prizes. Don't delay!

Since the scheme opened in 2015, we have raised over £9000 for good causes in the village, given out over £5000 in prizes and are eagerly looking for new applications. We have around £4000 ready and waiting for your ideas.

For more information on joining the scheme or for the process for applying for funds from the scheme, please email us at westcott.100.club@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

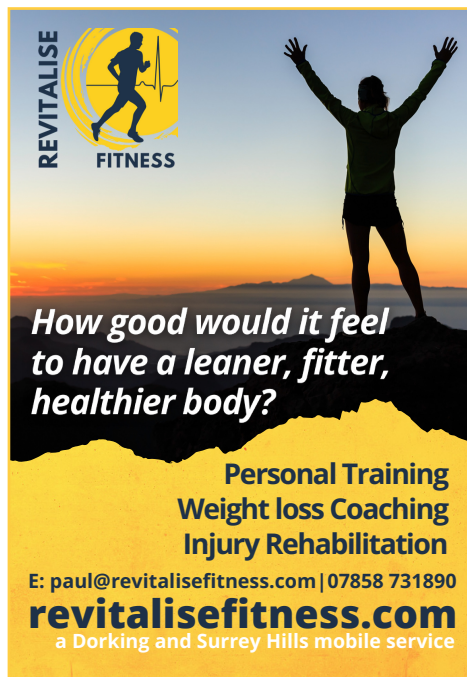
*Alda Andreotti (Chair), Edwin Harland (Treasurer),
Richard Packer (Secretary)*

The Westcott 100 Club is a Small Society Lottery registered with Mole Valley DC no. 48965.

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary - See the Changes for Yourself



On Wednesday 20th July from 5.30pm there is an open invitation to all in Westcott Village to come in to school, see the improvements and changes and meet the Head, Simon Coles, who's looking forward to meeting everyone. More details will follow in the July issue.




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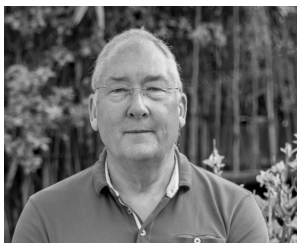


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Speed Watch



During the last 12 months 689 vehicles have been reported to Surrey Police for

speeding through the village, some of them multiple offenders. Simply mounting these patrols is having an impact on speeds and certainly the majority of people travelling through the village are adhering to the speed limit. Unfortunately, there are those who do not think doing 30mph through our village applies to them. Recently one driver saw the patrol and then sped up to 57mph while overtaking two vehicles in front of them. Sadly, the patrol was so flabbergasted that they failed to accurately record the vehicle details – next time the driver won't be so lucky!

If you are a resident who gets frustrated with this sort of behaviour then joining the speed watch patrol team is the answer. All we ask is that you commit to two 1½ hour sessions a month and we will buddy you up with someone who has more experience to help

you become confident in the activity. Please drop a note to contact@westcottvillage.com and we will make contact with you

Surrey Hills (All Saints) Primary School (SHASPS)

The Abinger site closed at the end of the Spring term and the pupils in years R, 1, and 2 have now transferred to the Westcott site. For Surrey Hills All Saints, as with many schools across the Dorking area, pupil numbers remain lower than in previous years and one of the key focuses of the school leadership team is to ensure that all local parents know about the strengths of, and send children to, our village school.

Forest School

A huge thank you to the Westcott residents who have offered part of their land as a possible Forest School site, discussions are now underway. In case this first offer does not come to fruition, if you do have suitable land within walking distance of the school, we would love to hear from you.

Proposed changes to Mole Valley District Council

The Local Government Boundary Commission is carrying out an electoral review of





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Mole Valley District Council in advance of the 2023 elections. The recommendation is that Mole Valley has 39 Councillors (instead of 41 today) spread across 13 wards with 3 Councillors covering each ward.

This means Westcott would no longer have a dedicated Councillor and instead would be part of a much larger ward called Leith Hill which ran from Mickleham in the north to Ockley in the south, covered by 3 Councillors. We believe this is not a sensible or workable solution and have already responded to the consultation setting out our reasons (see the village website) we urge you to also submit your views in response to the public consultation **before the 6th June deadline.**

WVA Committee Members

We are delighted that Jo Astor has re-joined the WVA Committee with responsibility for Communications including the village website, our social media platforms and direct mail. Jon Mears, who many of you will know from the St John's greengrocery, Jon and Mum Groceries, has also agreed to join the committee. Jon is ideally placed to pick up views from within the village and feed them in to the Committee. Welcome to both of them.

Westcott Village Communications

We are currently working through the Westcott Village website to ensure it is up to date and reflects our desire to represent the whole village. We have also expanded our social media coverage to include Instagram in addition to the already successful Westcott Village Facebook page.



nextdoor

We also share all our posts to Nextdoor. Regular email updates are sent out to our mailing list so please make sure we have your correct email address so you don't miss out. We will only use your email address for communicating directly with you and we will never share the information with anyone else or any other organisation. To add or update your email details please get in touch contact@westcottvillage.com

Proposed prohibition of Traffic Order 202 – Wolvens Lane

Thank you to those who responded to the on-line petition concerning the County Council's decision to ban four-wheel vehicles from Wolvens Lane and continue to allow motorcycles to use it. 179 people responded to the survey with 97.2% in favour of banning motorbikes in addition to four-wheel vehicles and only 2.8% wanting to leave things as currently planned with motorbikes still being allowed



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to use it. We have written again to Surrey County Council voicing our strong objections to this short-sighted decision by the Local Committee and seeking for the decision to be changed to permanently ban all motorised vehicles, including motorbikes, from Wolvens Lane. A copy of our letter can be found at www.westcottvillage.com



Diary Dates

WESTfest is on the 26th June.

The WVA will be running a bottle tombola to raise money to support the work of the WVA. Please search your wine racks and cupboards for bottles to donate and drop them off to 55 Parsonage Lane no later than Thursday 23rd June. This event is an important contributor to WVA funds all of which is spent on the village – please give generously from your bottle stocks, and come and buy tickets to potentially win some seriously

good wine!! There is no better way to spend money and have fun at the same time.

WVA AGM is on 30th June 7.45pm at Holy Trinity Church. There are important changes we are proposing to make to the constitution and you are encouraged to attend this meeting. Drinks and nibbles will be served after the meeting and you are welcome to chat with members of the committee and other residents. Comments, suggestions, and other feedback are always welcome and helpful in steering the Association's thinking and actions.



Tim Way

Chairman, Westcott Village Association

timway.westcott@gmail.com

contact@westcottvillage.com



This Greylag Goose family were seen marching down the A25 through Westcott, photographed by Anna Kemkers. As she said, very responsible parenting with one at the front and one bringing up the rear - but slightly hapless on the main road! Please send in any other photos which might amuse our readers. Thanks for this one, Anna.



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Life's Sweet Caress

Quelle que soit la durée de votre séjour sur cette petite planète...le plus important c'est que vous puissiez...sentir la caresse exquise de la vie. (J-B Charbonneau)

*The years that are gone, the years we exchanged for things.
Getting and spending we lay waste our powers
The years we gave away our status and success
The jewel that we sold our time
We have given our hearts away
The cash you steal is trash, time stolen is happiness
Time past a devalued currency, time left a treasure
The most important is from time to time
You feel life's sweet caress.*

Edward Williams

WESTCOTT VILLAGE HALL TRUST



Update on behalf of the Trustees of Westcott Village Hall Trust CIO

There is some really good news to share this month! The Charity Commission has granted the 'Cy-près' scheme, meaning that as from 3 May 2022 the old charitable trusts which for decades have governed the operations of The Reading Room and of The Hut were replaced by a single, modern, framework consolidated into just one charity known as Westcott Village Hall, of which Westcott Village Hall Trust CIO is the only trustee. You can find a copy of the scheme at <https://www.westcottvillagehall.com>.

Recognising the significant efforts made by the CIO trustees to consult on these proposals in the village, the Charity Commission granted the scheme without imposing the usual requirement of a second round of consultations. Moreover, the Charity Commission included powers in the scheme to sell all or part of the land at The Hut and at The Reading Room if the outcome is to provide replacement village hall facilities. These powers are only exercisable subject to the procedural safeguards required by the Charities Act 2011 and require prior consultation in the village, but the implicit recognition by the Charity Commission that the current state of the buildings is not optimal, and that the village might be able to achieve something rather better, represents huge progress.

Once again, I would like to express my thanks to all those in the village who by their attendance at the various meetings which this process has required, and in so many other ways, have sustained me (in my capacity as Chairman of the Joint Working Party set up in 2019) and the current and former trustees of the Reading Room and of The Hut in pushing through seemingly endless legal and procedural hurdles.

The beginning of Phase 3 of this project, the phase in which designs are developed and Planning permission is sought, offers an opportunity for me to take my legal kit-bag home and to hand over to others whose skills lie in property development. This is therefore my last update on behalf of the trustees of Westcott Village Hall Trust CIO, a group which is in the process of appointing others to their ranks who have offered their services as part of an enlarged, and refreshed, group of trustees. You will read more on that next month.

Bernd Ratzke

On behalf of the trustees of Westcott Village Hall Trust CIO

8 May 2022

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WESTCOTT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING



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The Reading Room*



Jigsaw and Book exchange

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10.30 - 12.00 midday*



**Punch Magazine : Halcyon Days
Tuesday 14 June 2022**

Laughter rather than crying is a good tonic! Punch Magazine with its blend of cartoons, jokes and satire holding up a mirror on Society with a wry grin gave plenty of that. Tim Stimson will educate us on how questionable politicians, unimaginative beaurocrats, rich foreigners, rising prices were depicted - nothing new in history!

Our Society brings people together through a shared interest in the Arts. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30am in the Dorking Halls. We welcome new members and further information about how to join us or attend one of our Lectures as a visitor as well as information about our cultural visits and holidays can be found on our website www.theartssocietydorking.org.uk.



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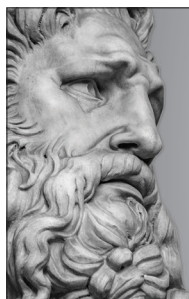
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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES...



It's Tree Time for Mole Valley

If you have been out for a local walk as the days have become longer and warmer (although that latter element is clearly a politician outright lying; I am writing this at the start of May absolutely freezing and wondering whether the sun will ever return to warm our solar panels) you may have noticed both the destruction that the winter storms brought to our trees and woodlands – especially along the escarpment – and a lot more trees having been planted. A massive thank you to anyone that has volunteered to help with this tree planting.

You may also remember that for 2020 I encouraged us as a village to plant 2000 new trees. Although a certain



pandemic slightly changed things, these are now coming into their own as this one from our garden shows.

In a circle of life manner, the result of the storm did give the opportunity to upcycle a louvre door system into a log store (and to fill it).



Overall, the trees planted in Westcott and Wotton are helping Mole Valley to be number three in the list of Surrey County Council Districts & Boroughs for new trees planted in the last year:

Districts & Boroughs	
Area	No. of trees planted
Elmbridge	1815
Epsom & Ewell	112
Guildford	4637
Mole Valley	8600
Reigate & Banstead	2706
Runnymede	1464
Spelthorne	1142
Surrey Heath	1255
Tandridge	8790
Waverley	15039
Woking	550
Total	46,110

Through its website, Surrey County Council reminds us that planting a tree is one of the top ten things you can do personally to help tackle climate change:

- Walk, cycle or take public transport
- Switch to a low-carbon energy provider
- Insulate your home and install solar panels
- Plan ahead to reduce food waste
- Switch to an electric car if you can
- Plant a tree

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

- Reduce, reuse and recycle
- Shop, eat and enjoy leisure locally
- Choose energy efficient appliances
- Talk about the changes you make.

A More Stable (Meadow) Westcott?

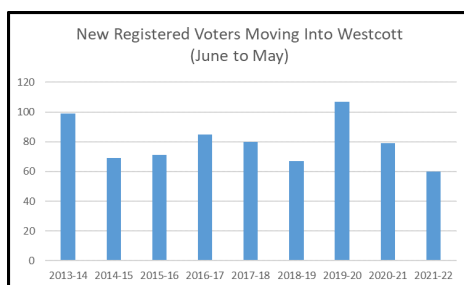
At this time of year, it is opportune to invite readers to come down to Westcott Sports Club at Stable Meadow in Milton Street either to experience a Friday evening social, with the club bar open, or to watch or take part in a game of cricket.

Both our junior and women's squad train on a Friday evening (separately I should add) with the men training on a Wednesday evening. One of the advantages of the club is that you can walk there from the village and so you can leave your car at home.

Absolutely no experience is necessary for any of the training sessions and new players are constantly welcomed and in demand (this is in large part to juniors graduating off to university sides, rather than some injury crisis). If you want to know more about the Cricket Club do come down or pop into the Prince of Wales to see if our international superstar first eleven captain is around.

Perhaps this season is time for existing Westcott residents to rekindle an interest in the game. That could be as children have grown up and want

to play too, because children have moved away and portion sizes are being shared amongst fewer of you or because you are looking to enjoy your leisure locally. Such interest would help offset the drop in new folks moving into the village which the District Council tells me has hit a new low for the last nine years of only 60 between June and May.



That might mean that the population of our village is becoming more stable or it could be the impact of the pandemic. Let's see what the next year brings.

Green Westcott

Finally, a big personal thank you to everyone getting the Green Westcott initiative up and running / into its next phase. Part of my role is to join folks together in this and as an example (hopefully) Clarion Housing are going to help find a good location for a Westcott Community Garden.

Alongside a garden, which could even include garden waste to composting

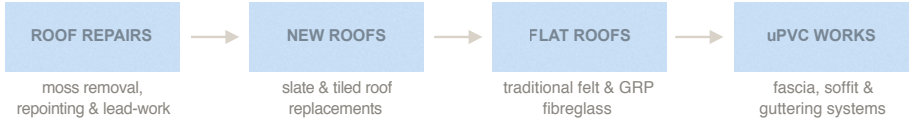


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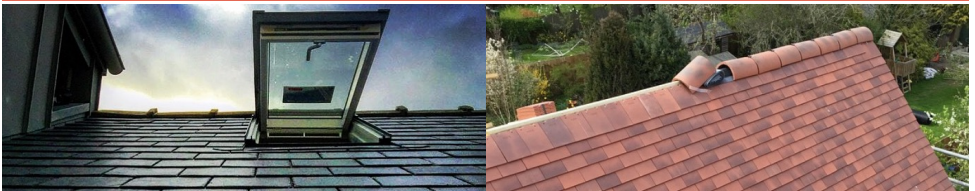


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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

recycling, there are a range of other infrastructure ideas that we as a village community could come together to deliver. Ideas that could be considered include revisiting the proportion of the village's power needs that come from our natural water resources. Think about the number of water mills that were once within our village – could modern day mini-turbines help us regain that power source? Do you have a property with the Pipp Brook or Milton Brook running through where you might be interested in this opportunity?

Ground source heat pumps are another topic that the village could think about. These are not always

the most economic investment to implement home by home, but they may make more sense on a co-operative basis with several dwellings joining together to gain grant funding and to install such equipment under roads or open spaces.

As much as anything, Green Westcott is a conversation about how our community can collectively do our part to protect what we have for the generations to come. Let's have that conversation. There you go, I think that's at least eight of the ten on the list in just this one article.

James Friend



DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The DLHG continues its popular programme of talks on a fascinating range of topics. Talks are free to members but non-members are welcome. The programme in June includes:

- **Guildford: The Rock & Roll Years:** Talk by local author and journalist David Rose. Followed by some LIVE music from some people who were playing Guildford pubs & clubs in the sixties! 6th June at Crossways, Community Baptist Church, 7.15 for 7.30pm (£2 at the door for non-members).
- **Victorian Ways of Death:** A Zoom talk by Bristol-based author Helen Frisby. Expect something about Brookwood Cemetery (near Woking), the largest cemetery in the world in Victorian times. 13rd June, <https://www.meet-up.com/Surrey-History-Meetup/>.

For further details of these talks and other activities – or to join DLHG – go to <https://dlhg.org.uk>

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Holy Trinity, Westcott

Wednesday 13th July, 7.30 p.m.

After an enforced break of two years, The King's Men Cambridge are returning to Westcott for another concert, with a repertoire including early church music, spirituals, folk and pop songs.

Tickets £18, 07590 652490, or margaretj.stephen@gmail.com



WESTCOTT ENTREPRENEUR WINS BUSINESS AWARD

Linda Norton was a winner of the 'Entrepreneur of the year' award at the Business Champion Awards in London hosted by BBC TV news presenter Huw Edwards. Linda owns and runs two award-winning businesses, Surrey Locations, an agency providing locations for the film, TV, photographic and events industries and Ranmore Rise Retreat, a boutique B&B. She has just launched two further businesses 'Surrey Pictures', a photoshoot business and 'The Surrey Hills Tour Company' which provides guided tours in a vintage bus.

"I am very honoured to receive this award. I am extremely proud of the businesses I have started here in Surrey. My sincere thanks go to the judges for recognising my achievements." Linda has, over the years, founded four successful businesses. She started her career in Barcelona before moving to Sydney where she established marketing consultancy 'Marketing Measures'. She then set up the business in London when she returned to the UK. She later moved back to Surrey, where she grew up, and launched Surrey Locations and Ranmore Rise Retreat.

The event took place at The East Wintergarden in London's Canary Wharf, two years to the day since Britain was placed into lockdown. It was a carbon neutral event, and all suppliers had sustainable practices in place, while the awards process and carbon footprint from it was kept to a minimum by moving judges' presentation days to online zoom calls. This move alone saved over 1,000 people travelling to London. Richard Alvin, awards director and Surrey resident himself said: 'The last two years have been some of the toughest for many businesses in living times. And the courage, strategic nous and tenacity we have seen are some of the many reasons behind why these awards exist. They are designed to celebrate the champions of British business in quite extraordinary times. Every business winner and shortlisted company demonstrated huge amounts of creativity and strength, and whether they went home with a gong or not, they should all be incredibly proud of their achievements.'



The awards were supported by a stellar judging panel that included a range of UK business leaders including Phil Jones MBE, MD of Brother UK; Alex Robson, founder of Soho Gin, and Charlie Mullins OBE, who has just exited Pimlico Plumbers in a £150m deal.

Linda Norton



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Lots going on during this final term of the year ... I hope you all had a good break and are starting this term refreshed and ready to run! The children certainly all seem to be settled, happy to be back and keen to learn, which is great as we have a busy term ahead with lots of exciting things planned for everyone to look forward to.

Rabbits performed our first, (in quite a while) class assembly recently and it was fantastic. I am so proud of all their hard work and commitment. I can't wait to see what comes next.

Easter projects completed

We are very excited about our Easter projects! The artificial grass installation in the Reception and KS1 outdoor



learning spaces was completed over the holiday period

for children to use on their first day back. It has been

very well received by the children who are enjoying the colourful and satisfying

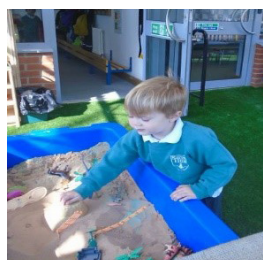


scooters and trikes they donated money towards are just fantastic...the children love it all.



The new turf laid on the bank and the bottom section of the field has become lush and green having taken well – a huge thanks to all the staff who were on hose pipe duty during the holiday period! **A huge thanks to all for your continued support for our ambitious programme of improvement and change.**

Butterfly class have settled brilliantly into their new learning environment at Westcott. Well done all! What an amazing first day for Bees in



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their new environment! So exciting!



Well done to our girl's football team who played St Theresa's and won 10-0. Go Surrey Hills All Saints! Thank you again to Mr Guest for organising.

On **Wednesday 20th July from 5.30pm**

there is an invitation to Westcott Village to come in to school, see the improvements and changes and meet the Head, Simon Coles, who's looking forward to meeting everyone. More details will follow in the next issue.

Simon Coles



Become a Community Champion for Florence Nightingale Hospice

Could you be a local representative for our Charity in Westcott? We are seeking a team to be our eyes and ears, and feet on the ground, in your community, letting us know of any new fundraising opportunities, collecting green tubs, putting up posters and just generally making as many people as possible aware of the work Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity does.

Amy, our Community Events Fundraiser says, "We really appreciate all the support, we get from the local communities, and it is really important for us to be aware of what is going on in the local areas and all the different fundraising events that are taking place."

If you have a friendly and professional manner, are happy on the telephone and have your own transport and you think this sounds like something you'd enjoy doing to help the Charity, please get in touch via volunteering@fnhospice.org.uk or call our Volunteering Team on 01296 429975. Or to find out more visit our website <https://www.fnhospice.org.uk/work-for-us/>



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2022 12-4pm

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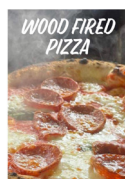
Surrey Hills Hog Roast
Westcott Kitchen
Napoli on Wheels Pizza
Silent Pool Gin
Cocoa Island cocktails
Dorking Brewery Beers
Delights from the Dub - Prosecco, Pimms and soft drinks
Girl Guiding Faurefold - Tea and Cakes
Marc's Ice Cream Van



Arena Entertainment



GMan Baker - Westcott's DJ in residence!
12.00 OPENING THE SHOW Surrey Hills All Saints Maypole Dancing
Live music from Andy & Maggie Duerden and Bob Loveday
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1pm Desire 2 Dance - fantastic youth dance group
2pm Fun Dog Show!
Poetic interludes from Mole Valley Poets
Kickboxing with 'Next Generation'



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New stallholders include - CookieDolicious, BillyTong, Surrey Hills Plant Supports, Fazeone Clothing, Ivy Thumbs Eco Cards, Snug Studio...

Local community groups

Westcott History Group, Village Association (with their Bottle Tombola!), Westcott Gardeners' Club, Westcott 100 Club, Bridge Club, Abinger Common Nursey and Friends @ Surrey Hills School (F@SH) among many others...

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See you there!



WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP

The History of Brooklands – Motor Racing & Aviation

Brooklands Museum is holding a Celebration on 18/19th June this year with speed competitions and a concours d'elegance for visitors among other events. Motor Racing enthusiasts will no doubt be there in force. At our meeting on 9 January 2018 Tim Morris, the Administrator for the Brooklands Museum Trust, gave us a most interesting illustrated account of the history of the Brooklands Motor Racing Circuit since 1906 and the evolution of Vickers Aircraft building on this site up to the present Brooklands Museum.

In 1906 the car enthusiast Hugh Locke King, a local land owner, visited France and saw Marcel Renault racing one of his earliest motorcars on the open road. He had observed that the roads in England were becoming more dangerous and speed limits were being imposed. So, on his return he enlisted the support of Brig. General Sir Henry Capel Lofft Holden to build a motor circuit known then as the Weybridge Motor Track. This was the first dedicated motor racing circuit in the world – 2.5 miles long. The Club House was opened with great ceremony and many new motorcar enthusiasts in 1907.

From the tower one could see the whole circuit including the great Banking



curve. It proved to be a tremendous success both for the sport of racing the new motor cars and for the manufacturers as a test track for their new models - especially on the hill for the efficiency of the engine going up and the brakes going down. Many of the rules and traditions of horse racing were adopted to govern the sport. Like Ascot it became part of the social scene. New motoring records were set as in June 1907 Selwyn Edge broke the 24-hour distance record, driving a 60hp Napier six around the Brooklands track. He covered 1,581 miles and 1,310 yards at an average speed of 65.905 mph and Percy Lambert's 100 miles in an hour by covering 38 laps of the Brooklands Outer Circuit at an average speed of 103mph in his 4.5 litre Talbot in 1913.

At the start of WW1 motoring stopped and the Air Corps moved in on the new airstrip. The golden era of motoring started in 1922 with celebrities including Count Louis Zborowski, John Cobb and Malcolm Campbell bringing their cars to the circuit. Campbell made his run

at 302 mph in 1935 followed by Cobb in his Napier Railton 24 litre reaching 350 mph in 1938. Tim Morris showed a number of exciting movie clips of the old cars racing round the track. There were events for the indomitable ladies as well, led by the Hon Mrs Lister Bruce.



Aviation activities began at Brooklands in 1907 when AVRO built a biplane that did not get off the ground but they succeeded in 1909 with a triplane. In 1911 The Daily Mail sponsored the first Round Britain Air Race of 1300 miles starting and finishing at Brooklands with a prize of £10,000, a magnificent sum to stimulate aircraft development activity. This started the Kings Cup annual air race. The Royal Flying Corps used the site as a flying school between the wars, whilst in this period Vickers, Hawker, Sopwith and others were building the Sopwith Camel and Snipe and other memorable planes. During WW2 Vickers built 2,500 Wellington bombers there and the one which fell into Loch Lomond has been recovered and restored for the present Brooklands Museum.

Vickers (later becoming the British Aircraft Corporation) purchased the 32 acre site in 1946 to build civilian aircraft in the post war period. The most notable was the Vickers Viscount of which 444 were built and others included the Viking, Varsity and the Vanguard in 1959 of the turbo prop variety. It also built military jets - the Valiant, Vulcan and Victor which were the 'cold war' bombers and some 100 were made in all. Its largest and best long distance airliner was the VC-10 entering service in 1962. About 54 were made and in 1987 the plane specially built for the Sultan of Oman came back to Brooklands and is a popular exhibit with visitors today. Many of them ended up in the service of the RAF and in 1982 it played an important role forming the air bridge to Ascension Island for the Falklands War.

In 1956 work began on the Concorde aircraft which finally took off on 2 March 1969 coming into service in 1976. It could fly at 1334mph (Mach 2) and reach New York in 3 hours carrying 100 passengers. The commercial aeroplanes were built at Toulouse and at Filton near Bristol. About a third of the plane was built in Brooklands/Weybridge and then taken to Filton for completion. Only 20 were made and 14 flew in service for British Airways and Air France. It flew for 25 years but sadly for this enterprising development, after a crash in Paris in 2000 it was retired in 2003. But there is a Concorde



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WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP (cont.)

at Brooklands which can give you a realistic experience of what it was like to be a passenger in its flying days. Between 1907 and 1987 the 80 years of aircraft building at Brooklands produced 18,600 aircraft including 261 different types.



A £8m new hangar has just been opened housing some of its famous aeroplanes such as the sole surviving Wellington bomber which was rescued from the clutches of Loch Ness. The

new hangar is well worth a visit.

Tim Morris, who helps organize many of the events at Brooklands in his role as Trust Administrator for the 6,500 members, ended by describing some of the other attractions at Brooklands Museum including the motor cycle collection and the London Buses collection.

Lots of meetings and events take place at the Museum nowadays to help generate funds for the upkeep of the Museum.

There are no lectures during July and August but they will resume on Tuesday 13 Sept with the AGM. Members are encouraged to put forward ideas for speakers and subjects which they may get to know about elsewhere.

Roger Christian



Opportunities with the Dorking Society

The Dorking Society promotes public interest in, and care for the beauty of Dorking and the surrounding areas. The Society is looking to fill three key volunteer roles that will make a real difference: Society Treasurer, Society Secretary and Chair of the Conservation, Community and Planning Group. The roles could take as little or as much of your time as you wish.

If you have the relevant skills and want to join a charity team which is vibrant and forward looking, then please check out the website for further details of the roles, requirements and application process: <https://dorkingsociety.org.uk/join-us/>. The closing date for applications is 30th June 2022.



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Not many people can say they get to play with squishy, sparkly spaghetti in abundance on a Monday morning. But we can!!!! There was plenty of cold cooked pasta full of pretend bugs to capture our imaginations. We also made spaghetti monsters once we'd discovered some hidden googly eyes! Watch out for the spaghetti monster next time you are eating your tea!



It is a scientific fact that worms cannot help but be encouraged to pop up and say hello if you perform the worm dance. Just tap your feet and have a little jig and you'll be sure to see more than a few coming to the surface. We love a worm hunt!!

We've had a couple of surprise visitors through our nursery doors - one being our new vicar who delighted us by reading SuperWorm - and the other a couple of local children who used to attend the nursery. We were very grateful for both for popping in to spend time with us!

It's been great to continue with our

culinary skills and we can now add sausage and spaghetti spider soup to our already extensive repertoire! What a hit that was with our tummies and our parents. You should have seen their faces when they found out what they were eating!



A big thank you to anyone who baked, bought and helped out at the Teddy Bear's picnic. It was lovely to have this local event back on and we sold an astonishing 266 biscuits!!!

We are delighted to announce that we are now offering breakfast and afterschool 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!

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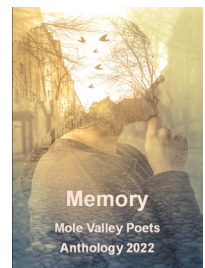
Sign up to help on <https://www.signupgenius.com/> and search for annakemkers@hotmail.co.uk or email Anna directly, or just turn up for Set up and Clear down - always loads to do!

Mole Valley Poets – Anthology Launch 2022

What does 'Memory' mean to you? The theme for this year's Anthology is 'Memory' and a wonderful range of new writing is ready to be shared by the Mole Valley Poets at the launch in person on Monday 20th June 2022 at Narnia Room, The Old House, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1BY. Doors open at 7.15pm with readings from 7.30 - 9.30pm. Tickets £6.00 including a copy of the booklet via <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/mole-valley-poets/t-avqznm> or www.molevalleypoets.co.uk

The poets each have a different take on the theme of memory and the poems are evocative, mocking, humorous, challenging and moving. All attendees will be given a copy of the anthology and an enjoyable and varied evening is promised. This year, £1 from every book sold will go to CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) a charity which works at preventing young sudden cardiac deaths and supporting affected families, in memory of Stevie Jivani, the daughter of a former member of Mole Valley Poets. (www.c-r-y.org.uk) You might recognise a few names as several live in Westcott including Heather Shakespeare, Pauline Watson, Richard Lister, Judith Packer so if you cannot make the launch in person, copies of the booklet will be available from our members for £6 each. You never know, it may inspire you for your own writing or creativity to tap into your own memories!

New members always welcome as is feedback from the Anthology, contact secretary@molevalleypoets.co.uk



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MUSIC IN DORKING



7th at 7.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £18.50, 01306 881717
12th at 6.30, Dorking Choral Society at St Martin's church, 07847 477052
12th at 7.30, Horsley & Oxshott Choral Soc at St Andrew's church, Oxshott, £15, 07444 722318
25th at 3.00, Ladybirds choir at United Reformed Church Hall, £7.50, 01737 843662
25th at 7.30, Dorking Philharmonia at St Martin's church, £15, 01306 730640
25th at 7.30, Epsom Choral Society at St Andrew's church, Cheam
25th at 7.30, Bookham CS and Buckland & Betchworth CS at St Paul's church, Dorking

The Dorking Choral Society, under its new conductor Daniel Mahoney, will present for its summer concert a performance of Handel's last oratorio Jephtha. This tells the Old Testament story of Jephtha, who is called on to lead his people into battle and makes a vow to God that he later regrets. The choir will be joined by soloists and the Bridge Sinfonia. The Ladybirds choir, directed by Helena Twentyman, has a concert to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee, alongside other anniversaries. There will be a selection of hits from 1952 plus a brand new song for the Commonwealth. Other items will mark the anniversaries of Ralph Vaughan Williams and Judy Garland, as well as celebrating Stephen Sondheim who died last year. The concert will be supporting the Mary Frances Trust, a Leatherhead charity that helps adults with a range of mental health issues.

Other choirs are also performing summer concerts. Horsley & Oxshott Choral Society has a concert entitled 'Gloriana' with music to celebrate the jubilee, including Haydn's Imperial Mass. Epsom Choral Society, celebrating its centenary this year, has a concert of songs from the shows, including Sondheim, Bernstein and Gershwin. The choral societies of Bookham and of Buckland & Betchworth are joining together for an English Summer Evening, featuring works by John Rutter, Elgar and Vaughan Williams. The Dorking Philharmonia's concert will include the lovely clarinet concerto by Mozart, with soloist Sue Looseley. It will begin with Mendelssohn's overture The fair Melusine and finish with Schubert's third symphony. The Dorking Halls is screening a recording of the Australian composer Brett Dean's opera Hamlet. It was first performed at Glyndebourne in 2017 and this performance comes from the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Following the success of the Leith Hill Music Festival in April, it is disappointing that the performance of Handel's Messiah has had to be cancelled. With the continuing uncertainties of covid, insufficient singers have felt able to commit and the festival does not want to present an inadequate performance of this great work. The good news is that next March, the choice is Verdi's highly dramatic Requiem – definitely something to look forward to.

Ian Codd

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Our Easter Egg Hunt and family fun afternoon was a huge success and we managed to raise £600 for the Memorial Fund to help those Veterans who are in need. Thank you all for your invaluable support.

The next two months are the busiest time of year for our Memorial Woodland and for the Charity. As you know we are a small group of volunteers who maintain our memorial woodland for Veterans, their families, and all who wish to enjoy this beautiful place, and we run the Charity whose purpose is to assist Veterans who are going through a difficult time. The only way we are able to keep doing this is to raise much needed funds. Hence we hold a number of events throughout the year.

The first event is our **Annual Anniversary and Commemoration Service which will take place at the Memorial Woodland in Holmbury St Mary on Saturday 11th June**. This event commences at 12.30 with the Redhill Corp of Drums and Band. There will be lots for everyone to enjoy with a bottle tombola, craft stall, raffle and refreshments. There will be a BBQ for whom we thank Tesco's for providing their range of BBQ fare. Plenty of parking at Bulmer Farm and we provide a shuttle service to and from our entrance so drop off your passengers and park the car and we will do the rest.



The second event is our **Charity formal dinner/cabaret on Friday 15th July at Brooklands Technical College banqueting suite**. The three course meal is cooked by the Head Chef of the Catering course at the college and served by some of the students. The bar opens at 6.15, dinner will be served at 7pm and the artists in the cabaret who have given up their time free of charge will most definitely make this evening one of the best they are all fantastic musicians, singers and professionals having won many awards. Get your tickets now from Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 07778873806. At just £30 a head this will be one of your most enjoyable nights of the year and all for a good cause. All proceeds go to the memorial fund to help those Veterans who are down on their luck.

We are keen to include our local residents in this unique facility. If you are interested in helping us either with maintenance at the woodland or with the running of the Charity we would love to hear from you. Contact Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk. I do look forward to meeting you either at the woodland whenever you wish to come and at one of our Summer events. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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HOLMBURY CHORAL SOCIETY

Our Summer Concert on Saturday July 2 at St James' Church, Abinger Common, will be featuring much loved favourites from Stage and Screen. Sadly, this will be our farewell concert to our much beloved Musical Director, Amy Bebbington who will be leaving us after more than a decade of high levels of achievement both at the Leith Hill Musical Festival and in our Christmas and Summer Concerts. So do come and enjoy the concert as well as showing a huge appreciation to Amy for giving us so much pleasure over the years.

Tickets are available from jbkerry@btinternet.com
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DORKING MUSEUM

Well, what a month it is! Here comes summer. And all starting off with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations – with extra bank holidays too.

Dorking Museum's Royal Family Activity:

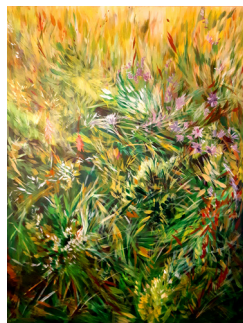
Celebrating the Jubilee weekend, families are invited to come to the Museum and make a King or Queen. It is free and all materials are provided. All children must be accompanied. Drop in at the Museum anytime but allow time to complete the activity – and perhaps look around the Museum – before closing. We will be open 1pm to 4pm on Thursday 2nd, 10am to 4pm on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th June.



It's always a good time to call in at the Museum anyway. There is plenty to see about the history and heritage of the area from the age of the dinosaur to the present day. Recent new additions include a Victorian tabletop stereoscope – an early 3D viewer from the late 1800s – and an historic uniform jacket of the Surrey Imperial Yeomanry from the early 1900s.

'Rewildings': The Museum's special

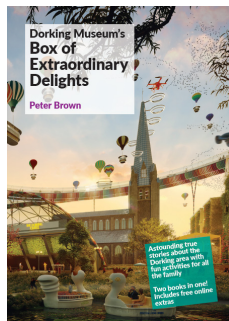
summer exhibition features a magnificent display of new paintings, created especially for this event by local artist Daisy McMullan.



'After a Scattering'
(Daisy McMullan)

Inspired by the landscape on the Mole Trail between Leatherhead and Dorking, they depict various forms of rewildings: the scattering of wildflowers, preservation of rare plants on the riverbanks, and the maintenance of areas of outstanding natural beauty – a reminder to preserve the beauty and ecology of the natural world, and to go outside and find ourselves in the wildness of the landscape.

The Cockerel Press: The Museum's publishing arm offers two contrasting new publications. *Dorking Museum's Box of Extraordinary Delights* by BBC filmmaker Peter Brown is a full-of-surprises miscellany of astounding facts, stories and simple projects based on Dorking's history and landscape, crammed with fun family activities and internet-linked to the Museum's



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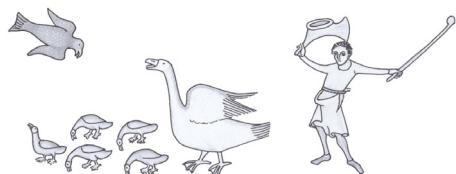
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DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

website to provide free online extras.

A Hundred Years on a Medieval Manor by Susannah Horne explores the development of the town and manor of Dorking between the 1280s and 1380s, providing a snapshot of the people who lived and worked there during these years. Both are available from the Museum shop or online bookshop (see website).



Walking in Dorking: June's guided walks in the town, leaving from the Museum on Sunday 12th June, are Hidden Historic Dorking (11 am); and Family History Detective walk (2pm), suitable for children aged 4-10. Out-of-town walks, both on Sunday 26th June at 2pm are a Betchworth Castle tour, leaving from the entrance to Betchworth Park Golf Club; and the Deepdene Trail, leaving from Dorking Golf Club clubhouse. Both offer access to features not normally accessible to the public.

All walks last around 90 minutes (60+ minutes for the family walk) – please book in advance. See dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/

for these and other scheduled dates, details and bookings. Private group bookings can also be made to suit your requirements for timing and itinerary (other themed walks are available).

South Street Caves: Open days for cave tours are on the last Saturday of each month until October, with tours at 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm. At the time of writing, most scheduled tours are already sold out, but check the website for availability, or why not arrange a private tour for a special group or occasion? Please see dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/ for details and booking.

Volunteers' Week (1-7 June) is a chance to recognise the fantastic contribution volunteers make in all areas of our community. This week last year, the Museum team was delighted to have been awarded the prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. The Museum is run entirely by volunteers. For information on current opportunities please visit dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities/.

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

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The Ladybirds Choir will be celebrating a range of anniversaries and events at their summer concert, *1952 and All That*, on Saturday 25th June.

First and foremost will be the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, marked with a variety of hits from 1952 including Unforgettable, Jamabalya and When I fall in love. A special highlight will be a brand new song called A life lived with grace with lyrics by Lucy Kiely and music by Vincent Atueyi Chinemelu, who were the winners of an international competition to write a song for the Commonwealth and the Jubilee.

Other notable anniversaries include that of Ralph Vaughan Williams, born 150 years ago and Judy Garland, who was born 100 years ago. The choir will also remember Stephen Sondheim, who died last November,

This year the choir is delighted to be supporting Mary Frances Trust (MFT), a Leatherhead-based charity supporting adults (16+) in Surrey who are experiencing any kind of mental health or emotional wellbeing issue. MFT offers face-to-face and online support via a range of support groups, physical activities and courses, as well as a specific young people's programme (16-25). They also provide advice on accessing benefits, housing and other services. Clients do not need a formal diagnosis and can self-refer via the website. For more information visit www.maryfrancetrust.org.uk

Please do join the Ladybirds Choir at 3pm on Saturday 25th June at the United Reformed Church Hall in West Street, Dorking and enjoy tea and cake after the concert. Tickets are priced at £7.50 and are available on the door or in advance from Jenny Abbott on 01737 843662.



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GREEN WESTCOTT

Green Westcott Gathering

On Earth Day – Friday 22nd April, over 25 villagers gathered at St John's to explore how we can together create a more resilient Westcott for people and nature. We were an eclectic bunch – ranging from residents who had lived in the village for 55 years to 5 weeks, parents, grandparents, gardeners and growers, shop-keepers and business owners, activists and councillors. Despite our differences we were united in our care and concern for the world, and our desire to create something together to make a difference.

There are so many examples of communities taking charge and taking action to look after nature and create a better future. We're inspired by what other communities have achieved and keen to keep up momentum within Westcott. As a starting point we're keen to establish a community garden in Westcott – a place where we can learn and grow together, and a place where wildlife can flourish. We're busy looking for suitable land in the village and whilst we have a couple of possibilities we're exploring we're keen to hear from anyone who might have ideas or land to share.

Other ideas shared at the meeting included:

- Being ambitious about our aims and focusing on energy and carbon output of the village
- Film nights

- Trading skills/produce & tool share
- Community compost
- Book share
- Village trail

Green Westcott at WestFest

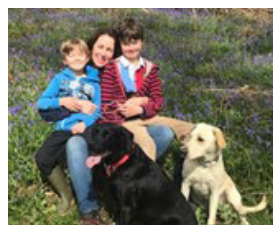
Come and see us at WestFest on Sunday 26th June for a conversation that matters:

- Hear about our plans for a community garden to promote growing and sustainable living
 - Meet other community members who, like you, are worried about the climate and nature crisis
 - Engage in conversations that matter
 - Share and hear about other ideas for a Greener Westcott
 - Come away more hopeful and connected with your community
- We'll also have treats and nature activities for children. See you there!

Rewilding myself & my family

I've lived in the village for 8 years with my two sons who attend the village school, and my husband and stepson who both work in the village. I work for a sustainability charity and work from home these days, it's made me more aware of the community I live in and more than ever it feels important to

me.



Over the past two years I've been on a journey to rewild myself



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and my family. Having been brought up in suburban Swansea in South Wales, I wasn't exposed to much nature in childhood and couldn't identify a tree until two years ago. In lockdown something changed and now nature takes priority in my life. I'm involved with Green Westcott because I believe passionately in our community and love the woodlands and wildlife of Surrey Hills. If you're interested in connecting children to nature and want to share ideas about how to do that get in touch with me on catherinejstevens@gmail.com or get involved with Green Westcott. I wanted to share a poem I read recently, that has inspired me to continue rewilding myself and my family:

A Challenge

Did you ever get up in the muddle before dawn for no better reason
than that you wanted to greet the sunrise?
Did you ever dress quietly, with serious intent,
And pick your way over wintry fields
To arrive at a place that you once imagined
Bathed in the first clear light of morning?
And did you wait as the dawning grew,
Moved through purple, to mauve, to grey,
From excitement to boredom, to a kind of calm
As you gently noticed you're insignificant?
And did you mutter unfamiliar words
That seemed to come from somewhere else,
Ancient words of dread and devotion,
Words of welcome and astonishment?
And when at last the tired sun
Issued from the earth like a molten copper head,
Did you notice the hawk that flew at you,
Rose in a way that made everything sacred,
Stooped in a way that made the day blaze?

Or did you sleepwalk into the morning,
Bending your dreams to another's purpose,
Listening to the news, half hoping for a cataclysm,
Anything to make the tired day more real.



William Ayot

Taken from "E-mail from the Soul: new and selected leadership poems"

Catherine Stevens



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DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

The Dorking Group of Artists Summer Exhibition June 2022

Betchworth Village Hall RH3 7DF,
Thursday 2nd June – Saturday 4th June 10.00am – 5.30pm
Sunday 5th June 10.00am – 4.00pm

The Dorking Group of Artists, probably the largest art group in Surrey, are delighted to be returning with their popular annual exhibition at Betchworth Village Hall. Exhibiting members, many professionals among them, will be displaying over 220 pieces of new and original art, all for sale at affordable prices. The paintings will appeal to all tastes with different subjects and styles, and in 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 Betchworth Village Hall is opposite Knights Garden Centre, so come and make it an afternoon.

The Dorking Group of Artists meets on Tuesday afternoons at Beare Green Village Hall from September through to Easter. Membership is open to artists of all abilities, from beginner to professional and costs just £25 for non exhibiting and £30 for exhibiting members per calendar year. The activities programme is varied and includes workshops and demonstrations. (Outdoor painting and sketching during the summer months).

www.dga.org.uk

For more information contact Jane Anderson Wood (Chairman)

Tel: 01372 375123 Email: dgacommittee@gmail.com

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	Thursday	8.00-1.00	2.00-6.00
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