

ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR
Parish News



FEBRUARY 2024

Who's who in your Parish

Rector: The Rev'd Kia Pakenham (01306 737160) rector@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Honorary Assistant Priest: The Rev'd Virginia Smith (01306 885349)

Licensed Lay Minister: Hilary Swift (01306 730898).

Parish Office: parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Secretary: Sally McCance (01306 737160) M, T, W, Th 9 -3 pm

Organist and Choirmaster: David Hansell:dhabchbr@gmail.com

St. James' website: www.stjameschurchabinger.org

Webmaster: Phil Rawlings (01306 730382) web@stjameschurchabinger.org

Christ Church website: www.coldharbourchurch.org.uk

Webmaster: Martin Richards (01306 711885) webmaster@coldharbourchurch.org.uk

St Mary's, Holmbury: www.holmburychurch.com

St John's, Wotton: www.wottonchurch.org

	Abinger	Coldharbour
Churchwardens:	Lucy Harlow (contact via Parish Office)	John Anthony Simpson (712026)
PCC Secretary:	Sally McCance (737160)	Sally McCance (737160)
Treasurer:	Tim Prideaux (730730)	Martin Neve (713382)
Gift Aid Secretary:	Tim Prideaux	Helen Potter (712214)
Flowers Secretary:	Kim Edwards (730809)	Patsy Simpson (712026)
Hall Bookings:	Evelyn Hall (Kim Edwards) theevelynhall@gmail.com 01306 730809 Ab. Hammer Hall (730703)	John Venus Hall (Su Jones) suaj1512@gmail.com 07779 726930 Village Pavilion (712009)

PARISH NEWS

Editors: Liz Hamilton (730382) Jenny Parker (731851), abingerpn@gmail.com

Distribution: Kim Edwards (730809)

Advertising: Sally McCance (737160), PNadvertising@aol.co.uk

ABINGER ORGANISATIONS

Abinger Consolidated Charities: Kim Clark (07775 531912)

Church Choir: Lucy Harlow: lucyharlow@me.com

D&G Choir: Jess Brown (07936542411) danielthreec@aol.com

Fair Secretary: Liz Irvine: lizandkeithi@btinternet.com

Sports Club: Rob Dunn (01306 730320) robert.a.dunn@btinternet.com

Sports Club Booking Secretary: Ed Bigland +447968417852

Abinger Common & Wotton WI: President: Lesley Childs (01483 205461)

Wotton & Abinger Flower Show: Pat Rudling (01306 885696) rudlingpat@gmail.com

COLDHARBOUR ORGANISATIONS

Sports and Social Club/Village Society: www.coldharbour.net

Church Electoral Roll Officer: Helen Potter (01306 712214)

Cricket Club: John Hopper (07957 611664)

Golf Society: Stuart McLachlan (01306 712009)

Village Band: Debby Chapman (01306 711704)

PARISH COUNCILS

Abinger: abingerpc@hotmail.com www.abinger-pc.gov.uk

Coldharbour (Capel): Stuart McLachlan (712009) www.capel-pc.gov.uk

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor: Hazel Watson (880120) h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk/

hva.watson@btinternet.com

SHERE SURGERY 01483 202066; Dispensary 01483 209913*

Monday: 8.30am – 6.30pm (Closed 1.00-2.00pm)

Tuesday: 8.30am - 6.30pm (Closed 1.00-3.00pm)

Wed, Thurs & Fri: 8.30am - 6.30pm (Closed 1.00-2.00pm)

*For dispensary ring after 11.00am. Saturday morning - prescription collection only

WESTCOTT SURGERY & DISPENSARY 01306 875577

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 8.30am - 6.15pm (Closed 12.30 - 2.30pm)

Wednesday: 8.30am - 12.30pm

CAPEL SURGERY 01306 711105 / Fax 01036 712751

Monday – Friday: 08:00 to 18:30.

Emergency appointments can be booked the same day at 08:00 and 14:00. Out-of-hours appointments, including weekends and bank holidays, can be booked via Capel or Holmwood. Dispensary: 10:30 to 13:00.

HOLMWOOD SURGERY 01306 889242

Monday to Friday: 8.00am - 1.00pm.

MEDWYN SURGERY 01306 883816 (PHARMACY 01306 740865)

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8.00am – 6.30pm

Tues, Weds: 8.00am – 8.30pm

Pharmacy, Mon – Sat: 8.00am – 11.00pm

Pharmacy, Sun: 10.00am – 8.00pm

NHS DIRECT 111

POLICE

Non-emergency: **101** or Emergency: **999**

ELECTRICITY POWER CUTS 0800 783 8866

BUSES

COLDHARBOUR and ABINGER COMMON BUS SERVICES: www.buses4U.org.uk

CONNECT BUS: 0300 123 7751

www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/buses-and-other-transport/community-transport/mole-valley-connect

WASP BUS: 07802 460069 or e-mail: waspbusinfo@gmail.com

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Abinger Common Nursery: Pre-School Leader: Hayley Hatton 07842978823

abingercommonnursery@gmail.com

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School. Head: Simon Coles 01306 881136

Scott-Broadwood School: Head: Susan Muat 01306 711181

From the Editors

Welcome to the 2024 season of the Parish News. Its February, and it's a leap year. 'Happy Birthday' to all those whose birthdays only come around every 4 years. Feb 29th – a special day for you. Don't forget Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) on the 13th, and Valentine's Day on 14th. Chinese New Year (it's the year of the Dragon) is celebrated from the 10th to the 15th, and on the 24th look out for the last full moon of the winter - it's called the Snow Moon.

EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 1st WI meeting Wotton VH 2.30pm Talk by Debbie Skiel
- 2nd Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall, 10.30-12am
- 3rd Last night of Sleeping Beauty at Peaslake
- 3rd Shere cinema Winter Event-*Mission Impossible Dead Reckoning* and meal 6pm
- 5th Talk on *Ashtead Pottery* DLHG. 7.30pm Crossways Community Baptist Church
- 7th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11am
- 10th Surrey Serenaders 'Come and Sing' St James' 10-12
- 13th Dorking Library, Play Shrove Tuesday Football 10-2pm
- 14th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11am
- 14th Beginning of Lent and Valentine's Day
- 14th Chinese New Year make a dragon. Dorking Library 2-4 (4-11yrs)
- 18th *The Great Escaper* Shere cinema 7.30pm
- 19th Zoom talk *Dunstable Airfield*. DLHG
- 20th Closing date for marmalade comp Kingfisher's
- 21st SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11am
- 21st Bible studies with Hilary and Bex, The Barn CH
- 22nd Banff Mountain film festival G Live
- 28th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11am
- 29th Coldharbour Fete planning meeting 6pm JV Hall

MARCH

- 1st Banff Mountain film festival Dorking Halls
- 1st Coldharbour Coffee morning JV Hall, 10.30-12am
- 7th WI meeting Wotton VH 2.30pm

Reflections from the Rectory



I find, in February, the silent beginnings of hope and promise. It is still cold but in the earth beneath my feet I am aware of things stirring: the first shoots of forgotten snowdrops, brave daffodils and hardy crocuses boldly begin to emerge.

In the seasons of the church's calendar, we enter Lent – a time of deep reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. Now is the quiet before the noise; the waiting

before the release of unbridled joy – a little like the struggle of those first shoots as they lie dormant in the hard ground, preparing to burst forth and share their colour and vibrancy with the world.

It is a time to count our blessings, and as Charlie Mackesy puts it to be 'grateful to have a glass'.

We are organising some lent lunches across the Benefice - a simple meal with some reflections, if you are interested in attending or would like to find out how you can be involved, do get in touch.



With love, Rev'd Kia



Lent Lunches across our Benefice

This year Lent starts on 14th February and we would like to invite you to lunch!

We are hosting 6 Lent Lunches across our Benefice which will include a light lunch and some reflection on Jesus' journey to the cross. If you would like to attend, offer to host or simply want to find out more, do contact Rev'd Kia (rector@abingerandcoldharbour.org) or Sally on 01306 737160.

Bible Studies

Please note that the dates of Bible Study with Hilary and Bex have changed to 21st February, 20th March, 24th April and 22nd May.

A look back at some happy times last Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE at Christ Church for the Christingle service. Hilary Jupe wrote: "T'was the night before Christmas and I joined a full Christ Church for



the annual Christingle Service. The church looked beautiful, wonderful displays made of winter hedgerow and sparkling lights on the tree. Many children went up to receive their gift of the candle in an orange, the meaning of which was explained so well by Kia. One little girl announced at 4.45 pm that she was going home and straight to bed because she was so excited! We sang carols, and left feeling that Christmas was really on the way. Pictures of Holly, James and Amelia with their Christingle candles.

THE CRIB SERVICE at St James' on 17th December



While shepherds Guy and Neil left their flocks one morning, a little angel Maggie Smith shone her glory all about.



THE MEADVALE SINGERS filled St James' on 6th Dec with their wonderful concert in aid of the charity 'Dementia First'. Carole Worsfold, the Day Care and Support Services Manager, wrote to thank everyone: "The audience were very generous with their donations which amounted to £680 - a fantastic amount! This money will boost our much-needed funds to ensure the sustainability of our small charity in the future. We are very grateful for all your support."

THE ABINGER SOIREE saw a great turnout with some wonderful



performances by youngsters and grownups alike. Jayne Farrance wrote: '£275 was raised which we will share between Abinger Nursery and DEBRA, a charity for a genetic skin disorder. I chose

this charity as I met a father of a child who suffered from this condition this year and it was heart-breaking.'

An enormous thank you to everyone who entertained us and especially to Jayne for organising such a great start to Christmas. Message to all villagers: "Get practising for next year!"

CAROLS ON THE GREEN in Abinger

A HUGE thank you to everyone who came together to make our Carols on the Green evening at Abinger such a beautiful Christmassy evening for us all to enjoy. Not only did we get to sing and enjoy mince pies and mulled wine together on Christmas Eve, but we also raised £250 for Farm Place at Ockley, run by the Amber Foundation which helps young people to move away from homelessness and transform their lives. This money will make a massive difference to them, so thank you everyone.

For more information about Amber's amazing and valuable work, please go to <https://amberweb.org>

THE COLDHARBOUR BAND had a busy Christmas

It all started with the Dorking Dickensian Christmas market. We played at the carols on the Green in Ockley followed by Carols by Moonlight outside Christ Church. The weather was thankfully kind to us on all occasions despite opposing views on the weather forecast! We were very happy to



play at the Coldharbour Carol service this year, in conjunction with the choir and organ, and finished off the season with a concert of carols at Dorking Hospital which was enjoyed by patients, staff and visitors. It was a joyful occasion and hopefully bought some Christmas cheer to the hospital. Debby Chapman

THE CLOTHES SALE in aid of 'Peace Children's Foundation' raised a fantastic £594. Catherine Russell wrote: "A huge thank you to everyone who donated so generously and came along to the second-hand sale at St James'. It was a busy afternoon, and it was great to see so many come and support the sale."

MERRY MAGI CHRISTMAS PARTY

An enormous THANK YOU to the 33 children who turned up at St. James'



before Christmas for the frenetic fun of our Christmas Party. We were thrilled that so many of you came! Games were tackled, prizes were snagged, snowmen were whipped up and the Christmas Mouse went wild at musical Bingo..... Because of you, SJ's was able to donate 33 gifts to patients and families at St. Peter's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Chertsey. Thank you to you and everyone who helped. Watch this space for the next opportunity for chaos and merry making!
Lucy Harlow



THE TIGERS AND TIARAS DINNER DANCE FOR BORN FREE



Tigers and Tiaras – normally two words that you would not associate with each other. But this was the name of a wonderful black tie dinner dance held in November in Christ Church, Coldharbour to raise funds for the Born Free Foundation.

Coldharbour has great affection for *Born Free* as its founders, Dame Virginia McKenna DBE, Will Travers OBE and the late Bill Travers MBE, have lived in the village for many years. The team at *Born Free* works tirelessly to ensure that all wild animals, whether living in captivity or in the wild, are treated with compassion and respect and able to live their lives according to their needs.

The church was packed with over 60 guests dressed in their finery, with one gentleman going the extra mile and sporting a fine tail from under his jacket. A delicious three-course meal was provided, with the starters and main courses kindly provided by village residents, and puddings generously made and donated by the village pub, The Plough. Both Virginia and Will talked passionately about the Foundation with Will citing some impressive statistics underlining the successful work of the charity. Andrew Coppe then encouraged everyone to dig deep and to bid for a long list of donations provided by generous individuals and businesses.



After dinner the pews were pushed back and live music from *The Men In Sheds* band enticed guests onto the dance floor. By the end of the evening a fantastic £5,801 had been raised and sincere thanks go to Amanda Harlin, Sue Jefferies and Chrissie Coppe for working tirelessly to ensure the evening was such a success.

Gaye Tindall and pictures by Peter Tindall

BACK TO THE PRESENT! - February 2024

Community Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a word which has increasingly come into our awareness, but what does it mean in our community?

Many of us are happy to say that we enjoy supportive friendships and a sense of safety in our daily lives, but what would you do if there was someone in our community who you thought might be vulnerable to harm or neglect?

Safeguarding hopes to protect the health and wellbeing that we all have a right to, and across our churches, we have safeguarding representatives who you can contact if you need confidential advice.

In Coldharbour, Helen Simkins can be contacted on 07743 893221.,

In Abinger, Lucy Harlow can be contacted on 07941 032744.

We also have this dedicated email address which you can use, also confidentially safeguarding@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Dorking Foodbank

Please don't forget the foodbank, donations are so necessary, especially at this time of year. If you live in Coldharbour donations can be left at the front at the back of the Church or in the box in the drive to Plough Have, next to the Plough. In Abinger donations can



be left in the green crate on or under the bench in the porch of St James'. Or if you prefer to donate money then you can go to <https://dorkingarea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Thank you to everyone who donates.

Coldharbour welcomes new residents

We have recently welcomed two new families to the village.

Tina Sexton has moved into The Barn right in the centre of the village with her welsh springer spaniel Lincoln. Tina has recently returned to Surrey after

living in West Sussex for 13 years. She has already met some of the villagers and is enjoying exploring the locality on walks with Lincoln.

At the end of November, Paul and Dee Donlevey moved into The Lodge with Alfie their dog. Paul grew up in Surrey but ended up working in London where he met Dee who came from Dublin. They spent many years living in Harrow where they brought up their two children. Paul was a police officer and Dee worked in the leisure industry. Retirement has led them to Coldharbour and they look forward to joining in with local activities, walking and enjoying a well-deserved pint in the Plough.

Hils Jupe

WHATS ON

There's always a welcome at the village coffee mornings.

St James' Café and Repair Café meet every Wednesday during term time, in the church. Come along between 9 and 11am for a warm welcome. Coffee, tea, cakes, and a chat- will set you up for the day. And bring any mending that our willing sewers will fix for you. The first Café in February will be on Wednesday 7th Feb.



Coffee mornings at Coldharbour take place on the first Friday of every month. The next one will be on 2nd Feb.

Here's a taster of what happened at the last two:

Christmas coffee morning was a jolly affair with a full house! Pam Pulling Smith filled a table with her lavish collection of sweet treats- a marzipan ring and Florentines were amongst the favourites. A raffle was set up and everyone in the room went home with a prize! It also raised £238 for *Crisis at Christmas*.

At the first coffee morning in January, we were treated to Norman's delicious date and walnut loaf which was served with cheddar cheese!

So, do join us in the John Venus Hall for hot drinks, cake at 1980's prices, and lots of loud chat and laughter!

Kingfishers are holding Fanny's Marmalade Competition



This is the tenth year that Fanny's Marmalade Competition will be held at the Kingfisher farm shop in Abinger.

The closing date is 20th Feb and judging will take place on the 21st. The Winning marmalades will be on display at the Farm Shop from 22nd to 25th Feb.

Fanny Maiklem and her daughter Nellie started the competition at their farm shop and since Fanny's death Nellie has supported the continuation of the competition at Kingfishers and will hopefully be one of the judges,

As with previous years, £1 per entry will be donated to Phyliss Tuckwell Hospice Care in memory of Fanny, and Margaret Arminson of Kingfishers.

Entry forms are available from the farm shop or you can download one from www.squid-perch-z8pe.squarespace.com/marmalade-competition



**SHERE
VILLAGE
CINEMA**

Due to the good attendance at films, and the generosity of your donations to our charity box, we were recently able to give £500 to Shere Parish Council towards a new/replacement defibrillator (for outside the Co-op/Alldays in Shere).

We always have a donation box for our charity donations, and now have a card reader specifically for donations. We rely on any profits from sales and ice creams, plus any donations, to give to a local charity. All this is made possible by your attendance at films, and the generosity of your donations. Thank you.

We are very happy for you to bring along your own wine or other beverage to drink whilst watching the films and many of our 'members' bring a bottle and put it on the table to share with others. **However, please note** that we do not have a licence to sell alcohol at our regular film shows, and cannot accept donations towards the cost of buying wine or beer etc. It's one of those things that makes Shere Village Cinema special.

Saturday 3rd February – Mission Impossible, Dead Reckoning. – this is our special **Winter Event**, with table seating and a pay bar for wine, beer and soft drinks. The cost of the tickets is: £10/adult and £7/child (under 16), which includes a warming beef or vegetarian casserole. **(The doors will open at 6pm**

for drinks, food will be served from the tables at 6.30pm, and the film will start at 7.15pm.)

Mission Impossible, Dead Reckoning. This is the 7th in the Mission Impossible series of films, but there is no let-up to the action, so prepare to have your adrenaline pumping and your breath stolen as it delivers an explosive and jaw-dropping cinematic experience. The plot weaves a web of twists and turns, keeping audiences engaged and guessing until the very end. This is 'a must-see for action-enthusiasts and moviegoers alike'. Classification: 12A (Running time is 2 hours 43 minutes) Start time: **7.15pm**

Sunday 18th February - The Great Escaper -is based on the true story of 89 year old British World War II Royal Navy veteran Bernard Jordan who "broke out" of his nursing home to attend the 70th anniversary D-Day commemorations in France in June 2014. It is a very moving story with terrific performances from Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson as his wife, in her final role. The story celebrates their love without sentimentality and with an eye to the lessons we can all learn from the Greatest Generation. Classification: 12A (Running time is 1 hour 36 minutes) Start time: **7.30pm**

To sign up to our newsletter and/or to book tickets for future films please go to the website: www.sherevillagecinema.com). You can also buy tickets from the shops: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child. Thank you for your support in 2023 and over the past years, we very much hope that you will continue to support us in 2024

Shere Village Cinema Team

ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

Our December meeting was a crafty one: Val Belam was our guide in Christmas cracker making.



Components needed: a cardboard tube with a hole, Christmas paper round it, a yoghurt pot sunk in the hole, filled with either Christmas decorations or sweets, et voila! Though that wasn't as easy as it sounds. Everyone was busily at work and tables were littered with greenery and sparkly decorations. So, both nimble fingers and double-sided Sellotape were much in demand.

Before enjoying a splendid festive tea prepared by the committee, the results were laid out on a table and the makers gathered behind it and sang "We wish you a Merry Christmas." There was another celebratory get-together before Christmas – a very good Christmas lunch at "The Parrot", which was a great success.

In January it was back down to earth. First, we voted for one of four proposed resolutions to help decide which one would be taken up nationally by the WI. The one which carried the day for us was about addressing the impacts of poor housing conditions. Then Helen Esplen, a Gomshall based physiotherapist and Pilates instructor, took us in hand and directed us in sitting and standing exercises that we could, and should, do to improve our balance and flexibility and to strengthen our arms and legs. She suggested that we might better remember to do these exercises if they were combined with a regular activity. For example, standing on one leg while cleaning our teeth (!) or sideways walking while working at a kitchen surface. She added that, when sitting, we should not cross our legs, and our hips should be higher than our knees. She also demonstrated other exercises that we could do when lying down or kneeling on all fours - but did not expect us to litter the hall floor by joining in on these!

Helen emphasised the value of keeping moving: walking, cycling, and swimming. She doesn't really like people installing lifts in their homes unless they absolutely must as it is so much better for us to walk upstairs. She quite often prefaced her advice with "When we get older..." which resonated with quite a number of our members!

After all this healthy advice, we enjoyed a wholesome and tasty tea prepared by Jane White, Sheila Sturge and Jan Hunt.

Next WI meetings:

Thursday, 1st February, 2.30 p.m. at Wotton Village Hall, when one of our members, Debbie Skiel, will give a talk about India.

Thursday, 7th March 2.30pm at Wotton V.H: *A Visit Round Wotton Estate* with Paula Matthews MBE.

New members and visitors are always welcome. Happy New Year

Pat o'Brien

CHURCH SERVICES

ST JAMES' ABINGER

- 4th February** **The Second Sunday before Lent**
10.30am Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children
Refreshments after the service
- 11th February** **The Sunday next before Lent**
6.00pm Choral Evensong
- 14th February** **Ash Wednesday**
7.00pm Ash Wednesday Service is at St Mary's Holmbury
- 18th February** **The First Sunday of Lent**
10.30am Family Parish Praise
Refreshments after the service
- 25th February** **The Second Sunday of Lent**
10.30am Sideways Church. New angles on faith with breakfast, laughter and
conversation.
6.00pm Julian meeting at Christ Church, Coldharbour
Half an hour of stillness with God.

From the Registers

Abinger

3rd December

Ashes

David Northway



CHURCH SERVICES

CHRIST CHURCH COLDHARBOUR

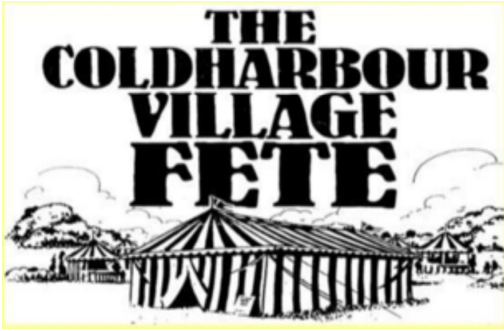
4th February 9.00am	The Second Sunday before Lent Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
11th February 10.00am	The Sunday next before Lent Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments after the service
14th February 7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday Service is <u>at St Mary's Holmbury</u>
18th February 9.00am 6.00pm	The First Sunday of Lent Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
25th February 10.00am 6.00pm	The Second Sunday of Lent Parish Communion Common Worship Refreshments after the service. Julian Meeting Half an hour of stillness with God

Parish Office at Coldharbour will take place on:

Monday 5th February and Monday 19th February from 10am - 11am in the JV Hall.

Do pop in to say hello to Kia and Sally with any questions, or just for a coffee and a chat!!





Fete planning meeting
for Coldharbour Village
Fete: Thursday
29th February at 6 p.m. in
the JV Hall.

Please join in the planning to
make it another Best Fete Ever.

Everyone is welcome. Please come along with your ideas and suggestions, or to find out more, maybe volunteer to help, and meet a few people. No previous experience necessary! (The Fete is on Saturday 18th May from 2 p.m. at the Coldharbour Memorial Ground). kemday@btinternet.com

The Banff Mountain Film festival bring action packed
adventure films to Guildford G
Live on **Feb 22nd** and **12th April**. To
Dorking Halls on **March 1st** and
May 1st. For more information and
to book tickets see www.banff-uk.com



Sleeping Beauty and the 40 Winks by the Peaslake Players

Catch the last few performances of the
Panto at Peaslake Memorial Hall. It runs till
Saturday Feb 3rd.

Tickets are £12 for adults and £6 for
children

Visit peaslakeplayers.co.uk to book.



Save the Date!

Easter Family Fun Day bank Holiday

Monday 1st April!



Come and join us at St. James' Abinger Common for Easter Egg hunts, games, crafts and food 11am-2pm!

Woodland are also thinking about Easter.

An Easter Egg Hunt and Family Day Sunday 24th March commencing at 12.30. The children do need to be registered so please contact Debbie and advise her of the names of the children to register.

Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk

The cost is £8 per child, for which they all get a goody bag at the end of the Easter Egg Hunt. Apart from that there are Egg and Spoon races for the children and Mums and Dads! We have games for the children, an Easter Raffle, an Easter Egg stall (so come and buy your eggs cheaply from us and help us to help those Veterans who need assistance). There will also be a BBQ with hot dogs and Burgers and other stalls to enjoy. Do bring cash with you because bank cards do not work in the woodland. If anyone would like to donate an Easter Egg for the raffle or some smaller ones for the Easter Egg Stall all donations would be greatly appreciated. All proceeds from this event go towards assisting those Veterans who are in difficulty. We are all volunteers and take nothing from the Charity.





YOUNG READERS

Its Chinese New Year and this Year is the Year of the Dragon!

We thought you might have fun colouring in this drawing of a Chinese dragon. Or you could go down to **Dorking Library on Wednesday 14th February, 2pm-4pm**, when you can make a concertina dragon. This event is aimed at 4–11-year-olds, materials are provided free – (with grateful thanks to the Arts Society, Dorking) – and children must be accompanied.



Great Game! The centrepiece of the February half-term family activity run by Dorking Museum will be the return to Dorking of *Shrove Tuesday Football* – as a blow football game for all to try.

This is based on the famous Shrove Tuesday Football match that was played on the High Street until it was banned over a century ago!

Other historical games to try are bagatelle, shove halfpenny and some surprises from the museum collections. Families can also help create a bowling alley out of recycled drinks bottles. With generous support from the Arts Society, Dorking & Dorking Library.

This takes place at **Dorking Library on Tuesday 13th February, 10am-2pm**. The Shrove Tuesday Football blow football game will then be available to play in the Museum on Thursday to Saturday of that week (15th - 17th February).

SCHOOLS

ABINGER NURSERY

There was a flurry of snow and we all rushed to peer out of the big nursery windows. BUT by the time we had all (and there are a few of us) suited and booted, well would you believe that it? -The flurry had gone! The promise of

snow is an exciting but sometimes impossibly short-lived dream. Who knows by the time this is published it could be a different story.



Staying cosy inside isn't a problem though - not when there is a beautiful beanstalk climbing the stair banister and a castle to clamber in and out of. We were treated to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk – all mesmerised as we travelled throughout the nursery as Jack - first with our cow in tow and then with our magic glow in the dark beans in our pockets.

Whilst digging in the garden, making sure our trucks were fully fed, we came across a familiar wriggly individual wanting to join in the fun! And then another! Big

juicy worms! They just loved to wriggle across the palms of our (already) muddy hands.

On the streets of Paris is where we found ourselves one Thursday – choosing from an array of all things delicious in our French Café. We can now order all the essentials of a petit déjeuner and eat them up too!

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



SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Jacky Fyson wrote: “Thank you so much to everyone who came along to the Christmas Fayre and to our wonderful F@SH for organising such a great event. Christmas is always a time of joy and we



would like to thank all the children for their amazing performances in the Early Years Nativity and the Carol Service.”

Last term **Hedgehogs** made cushions using different types of stitching, and some tiny woollen hats.

Owls and Otters designed, cut out and made waistcoats in DT lessons.

In their 'What the Greeks did for us' unit they wrote their names in Greek, had a wonderful Greek feast and made a Greek pot!

Owls and Otters designed, cut out and made waistcoats in DT lessons.

Artist Louise Scillitoe-Brown visited and helped Year 6 make 3D pieces inspired by the Parthenon Marbles.



BELMONT SCHOOL



It is with great sadness that we report the closure of Belmont School.

The Head teacher Marc Broughton wrote on the 12th of December. *In my short tenure as Belmont Head, I have been so immensely proud to lead a school with such wonderful staff and pupils. Since the moment I set foot on site it was clear that Belmont held a very special place in the hearts of so many people. Over the course of the last few weeks, I have been touched and overwhelmed by the Belmont community and the lengths that they have gone to in order to try and save the School. They have come together and displayed such strength and resilience at such a difficult time and for this they should be truly proud.*"

Alex Morgan a former pupil has fond memories of the school: *The memory of Belmont is very dear to me. Filled with charismatic and nurturing staff, it was a privilege to receive an education there. I can say with confidence that my career in acting was inspired by the then headmaster, David Gainer, who directed the school plays. I only wish pupils could have continued to attend Belmont. It was a fairy-tale school in the countryside.*

The school closed on 15th December 2023.

MUSIC



Come and Sing

February 24th at St James'
10 to 12 noon

With the Surrey Serenaders.

You are invited to join us in singing some lovely and varied songs which we enjoy and wish to share in harmony.

No need to sight read.

Surrey Serenaders rehearse on the second and fourth Saturdays in the month from 10-12 in St. James' Church.

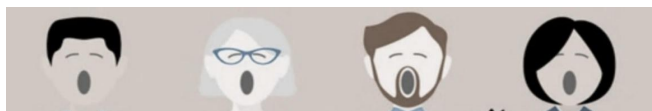
All music is provided and it will be led by our Musical Director, Liz Wilcox.

Refreshments will be provided. Donations welcome.

For more information get in touch with Avril Sharman
(01306 731396 or sharden11@mac.com).

Brockham Choral. You are invited to join Brockham Choral. All voices are most welcome and no audition is required. Rehearsals are every Tuesday from 7.30pm at St. John's C of E Primary school in Dorking.

For the first time in over 20 years, Brockham Choral will present Verdi's Requiem on March 24th at St Martins in Dorking, under the baton of Cole Bendall and supported by the British Sinfonietta. The choir is joined by a quartet of sterling soloists, all graduates of the UK's leading conservatoires. For further information visit www.brockhamchoral.org



Music in Dorking

February 2024 by Ian Codd



February 4th at 3pm, £21

The Dorking Concertgoers present the first two concerts of a three-concert string quartet series. In the first, the **Piatti string quartet** will play quartets by Mendelssohn and Dvorak, plus a quartet by the rarely-heard Irish composer Ina Boyle. 01306 740619

February 7th at 7.15, £19, 01306 881717

In a screening at the Dorking Halls, **Massenet's ballet *Manon*** can be seen in a live relay from the Royal Ballet in London.

February 10th at 5pm, £15

The Dorking Chamber Orchestra, performing in St Nichola's Church Bookham, will play symphonies by Haydn and Mozart, along with Respighi's *Ancient airs and dances*.

February 16th at 7.30, £23.50

The band of His Majesty's Royal Marines comes to Dorking Halls. These talented and versatile musicians will present a varied evening of music including solos, marches, overtures and film music. 01306 881717

February 18th at 3pm, £21.

In the second **Dorking Concertgoers** concert the **Carducci string quartet** play an early Haydn quartet, a middle-period work by Beethoven, and Ravel's ravishingly beautiful quartet. Dorking Halls, 01306 740619. The third concert is in March.

February 20th - 24th at 7.45pm £20

The Dorking Dramatic and Operatic Society presents a production of ***Grease, the musical*** – a story of teenage romance and with a score containing several well-known numbers, it runs over a period of five days, and there will also be a matinee performance on Saturday 24th, 01306 881717

February 24th at 7.30, £16

The Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra, playing in St George's Church Ashtead, opens its programme with Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*, follows it with Mozart's lovely *Clarinet Concerto* (soloist James Gilbert), and finishes with Haydn's last symphony, his *London symphony*.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

ROBIN'S GARDENING TIPS

As I write this, the ground is frozen hard, and all good gardeners are tucked up inside with a seed catalogue.

Walking on frozen grass can actually damage it. But the time is now right to sow onion seeds, tomatoes, melons, and sweet peas.

Apart from the sweet peas a degree of warmth is necessary for seeds to germinate, a windowsill is ideal. Sweet pea seeds, sown 5 seeds to a pot do need to be kept frost and mouse free, but grown cold will produce strong plants for planting out later in spring.



There is still time to prune apple and pear trees, also if you have them, grape vines. Roses can be left till later but do make sure they are still firmly in the ground as the frost may have caused them to become loose.

Don't be in too much hurry to tidy up borders, old growth does provide some protection to not only new shoots but also wildlife. However, despite climate change, when you do get round to tidying, diseased matter should be burnt not composted.

If you have established rhubarb plants (over 3 years old), why not cover one with an old bucket, or better still a clay rhubarb pot if you are lucky enough to have one, and enjoy young stems of pink, sweet, forced rhubarb in a few weeks.

Allow bulbs like hyacinths, which have flowered indoors to die down naturally and once the soil is frost free plant them in the garden.

As I suggested last time, if you have partial packets of seeds from last year do test their viability before wasting time and energy planting them if they are unlikely to germinate.

Gardening can be very rewarding but also back breaking!

Robin

ABINGER ROUGHS CATTLE



Belted Galloway cattle have been introduced to Abinger Roughts for the first time since the late 19th century. Grazing cattle do a wonderful job of maintaining and improving grassland biodiversity and soil habitats. Safety is a high priority, and the cattle are monitored for their calmness and behaviour around walkers. When around livestock, please keep your dog on a lead and under close control and close the gates behind you.

CONSERVATION WORK ON LEITH HILL

Throughout January and February extensive woodland conservation work is taking place in Dingwall Wood on Leith Hill. The National Trust say that the woodland needs thinning to allow more light in to the understory.

A diverse wood is more resilient, and more light will encourage tree diversity, different species of flora, fauna, fungi and invertebrates.

It may look untidy for a while, but all footpaths will remain open. Please be extra careful when using the orange and purple waymarked routes and footpaths through the area and it would be advisable to keep dogs on leads while the work goes on.



DORKING MUSEUM

Dorking Museum now has a presence on Bloomberg Connects, the app for museums worldwide, which enhances the visitor experience by using video, audio and text to tell the history behind the objects and paintings. Search for Bloomberg Connects in the app store or scan the QR code at the Museum.

Get involved: The Museum is run entirely by volunteers but is still looking for new recruits who can spare a few hours a month. Apply: dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities

Dorking Museum, 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. Open Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm, free entry.

DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP has a programme of both live and Zoom talks which are free to members, but non-members are welcome. Upcoming Monday 5th February **Ashted Pottery After WW1:** Live talk by Anne Anderson on the pottery set up after WW1 to provide employment for disabled ex-service officers and their dependents. Crossways Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking, 7.15 for 7.30pm, £2 at the door for non-members.

Monday 19th February **Dunsfold Airfield in WW2:** Zoom talk by military historian Paul McCue on the airfield built by the Canadian Army and used by allied air forces and the Dutch Resistance in WW2. <https://www.meetup.com/Surrey-History-Meetup/>.

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

SHERE SURGERY NEWS

We all hope that you had a lovely Christmas and New Year and that you have a few health based New Year resolutions! Our Covid vaccination programme continues to be enthusiastically delivered by our superb nurse team. If you are eligible, but not yet vaccinated, do book in to one of our clinics. If you think you could be eligible but haven't received a text or call from us do make contact and we can check for you. In January we welcomed three new doctors in training from the RSCH: Dr Meera Patel who was with us earlier this year and has just completed a post in the Community Mental Health & Recovery Service; Dr Madhavi Berks from A&E; and Dr Sonum Bathia from Paediatrics. They join Dr Alex Argent and Dr Elly Balme, so altogether we have

a wonderful group of young enthusiastic and knowledgeable doctors to complement our team.

Prompted by November’s Remembrance Sunday we have become an Armed Forces veteran friendly GP practice. The NHS has a duty to deliver on a number of health commitments in relation to the Armed Forces community (serving personnel (regulars and reservists), veterans and their families), which are set out in the Armed Forces Covenant and the NHS Constitution. Specifically, they are responsible for commissioning bespoke mental and physical health services for veterans, including Op COURAGE: The Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service and The Veterans Trauma Network. Look out for information on our website and in our waiting room. We’d love you to come forward and let us know if you are an Armed Forces veteran and we will ensure this is recognised and documented in your notes.

Emma has previously highlighted the rural inequity of the GP Recovery Plan which pledged £645 million to pharmacists to do consultations on behalf of GPs, excluding dispensing doctors from the scheme. Given 18% of the UK population are rural and attached to dispensing practices this is a significant equity gap. Jeremy Hunt has recently visited the practice and agreed to ensure NHS England are aware so that this inequity can be negotiated on. Watch this space...

Directory of Local Businesses Dr Charlotte Knight on behalf of Shere Surgery

ANIMAL CARE	
The Mutt Hut dog grooming.	07760 162661
The House Vet	01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net
LC Animal Chiropractor	07780 870777 laracoehlanmctimoney@gmail.com
BEAUTY	
Peaslake Beauty Room. Avril Munford	01306 731182 pamperyourself@thepeaselakebeautyroom.co.uk
The Beauty Shed - Garden Beauty Studio	07748 244621 www.thebeautyshedsurrey.co.uk thebeautyshed@gmail.com
BUILDERS etc.	
B A Gunter	01306 628291
Dorking Glass	01306 882971
RB Fencing	01306 640143 01483 414745 info@rbfencingltd.co.uk
LHP Groundwork and Drainage	01306 628412 info@lhpl.co.uk
Lyne & Co Capel Building and Renovation	01293 871008 info@lyneandco.co.uk

AR Surfacing (drives & patios)	07771 808332 alfie.vanloo@sky.com
CARPENTERS	
Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner Cabinet Maker	01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com
CHARITIES	
Abinger Consolidated Charities	kimclark50@gmail.com
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS	
Bullimores	01306 880880 partners@bullimores.co.uk
CHIMNEYS & CHIMNEY SWEEP	
Joe Lund	07930 507115 and 01243 583430
COMPUTERS	
Surrey Hills PC MAC and PC	01483 608242 07771 665863 david@surreyhillspc.co.uk
WMF-IT consultants	01306 731253 sales@wmf-it.co.uk
DECORATORS	
Dorking Decorators	01306 640418 www.dorkingdecorators.co.uk
Leith Hill Decorating	07989 747722 leithhilldecorating@gmail.com
FUNERALS	
Sherlock & Sons	01306 882266
GARDENS AND TREES	
David Ford Tree Care	01306 611661 07940 197911 info@davefordtreecare.co.uk
Capel Tree Surgeons	01306 711124 07775 727121 www.capeltreesurgeons.co.uk
Bury Hill Landscape Supplies	01306 877540 www.buryhilllandscapesupplies.co.uk
Groundscapes	01306 711720 recruitment@groundscapes.uk.com
JOBS IN GARDENING	
Neil McCance Down to Earth Garden Services	01306 730259 evenings downtoearthNFM@aol.com
Osborne Landscapes & construction. Mark Osborne	07818 001840 01306 730090
Phil's Mowing	07905 160765 phil@philsmowingdorking.co.uk
Mart's Gardening Maintenance	07480 831178 marts.65.cox@gmail.com
SJH Garden Services	07792 628785 sam@sjhgardenservices.co.uk
PEST CONTROL	
EMWOOD	0800 092 2277; 01306 501426
PROTECTA PEST CONTROL	01403 259972 07833 259972 www.protecta-pestcontrol.co.uk
PRINTING	
Mark Mitchell, M V Press	molevalleypress@gmail.com
PSYCHOTHERAPY, WELLBEING	
Attune Reflexology, Dorking	07811 526156 @attunereflexdorking
Dora Bek Solution Focused Psychotherapy	07904 392493 dora@safespace-hypnotherapy.co.uk

Jodechi (Tiggs) Morton: Psychotherapy, CBT, TA, Life Coaching	07825 138508 info@jodechicoachingandcbt.com
Surrey Hills Hypnotherapy	07929 253834 www.surreyhillshypnotherapy.co.uk
Qigong, meditation, natural health and healing	Email: internitylife@pm.me Mobile: 07919 102332 Website: http://internity.life
PUBS	
The Abinger Hatch	01306 730737
The Plough Inn, Coldharbour	01306 711793
PROPERTY	
Rebecca Batchelor Country Homes & Equestrian Properties	Rebecca.Batchelor@KWUK.com 07464 043 045
REMOVALS	
EDE BROS	01306 711293 edebros.co.uk
SHOPS	
Coldharbour Village Shop	01306 711793
Kingfisher Farm Shop	01306 730703
Abinger Hammer Village Shop	01306 730701
SPORT & FITNESS	
Abinger Sports Club: Tennis	Charlieye2020@gmail.com 07774 773 993
Dance a Ramix	01306 731182. 07899 842 727 dancearamix@btinternet.com
Dorking Lawn Tennis and Squash Club	01306 889009 www.dltsco.co.uk
SWIMMING POOLS	
Burgess Pools	01306 730952 burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk
TAXI	
Dorking Taxis Ltd	01306 885533 enquiries@dorkingtaxis.co.uk

NEXT ISSUE: March 2024
Closes 1pm
Wednesday 14th February
abingerpn@gmail.com