

ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR
Parish News



FEBRUARY 2025

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 Ministers: Hilary Swift and Amber Wood.

Parish Office: parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

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

Organist and Choirmaster: David Hansell: dhabcbr@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 (contact via Parish Office)
PCC Secretary:	Sally McCance (737160)	Sally McCance (737160)
Treasurer:	Tim Prideaux (730730)	Martin Neve (07974 777448)
Gift Aid Secretary:	Tim Prideaux	Helen Potter (712214)
Flowers Secretary:	Kim Edwards (730809)	Patsy Simpson (via parish office)
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

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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 (07968 417852)

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

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

SALV Rep for Abinger: Alyson Webber: alysonjwebber@aol.com

Good Neighbours (lifts): Jo Kelly (01483 205446 or 07900 302794)

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 07842 978823

abingercommonnursery@gmail.com

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School. Head: Jacky Fyson 01306 881136

Shere School Head: Victoria Beattie head@shere.surrey.sch.uk

EVENTS

February 2025

- 3rd Talk on Jane Morris, 7.15 Crossways Baptist Church
4th HstM Village Hall *Climate Impact* forestry talk 7.30
5th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11ish
6th WI meeting WVH 2.30 *Van Gogh by D Jefferis*
7th Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30–11.30
8th Surrey Serenaders St James' 10–12
8th Dorking Library craft and storytelling for 4–11yr olds 10–1.00
9th Shere cinema. *Only the River Flows* 7.30
12th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
15th SALE Westcott Chapel 11–4
16th Shere cinema *The Critic* 7.30
19th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
22nd Family LEGO activity Dorking Museum 10–1.00
22nd Surrey Serenaders St James' 10–12
26th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
27th JV Hall CH Fete planning committee 6pm
28th Peace fundraising with Rosie & Lucy 7pm St James'

MARCH

- 1st Abinger Progressive supper
1st Wintershall talk at St Dunstons Woking
4th SALV talk *The Menopause* 8pm Albury VH
5th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
6th Shere cinema *A Hologram for the King* 7.30
7th Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30–11.30
15th Surrey Serenaders St James' 10–12
16th Shere cinema *Wilding* 8pm
29th D and G concert *Bach to the Future* at St James'

Reflections from the Rectory

Dear friends,

February – a time of waiting for the nights to draw out and straining to glimpse those first signs of spring! In the church we celebrate Candlemas on 2nd February, which marks the midpoint of winter- so we have come halfway through! Candlemas also signifies the presentation of Jesus as a baby at the Temple in Jerusalem, where we celebrate him being the light to the people of Israel and the world. To remember this special time do join us for our Candlemas service on 2nd February at St. James' 10am for uplifting worship with our Leith Hill Choirs. As I mentioned in the last edition, January and February really are months of light and hope!

"We have such a long way to go," sighed the boy



*"Yes, but look how far we have come," said the horse.
Chloe Mackay*

And can I draw your attention to an article by Rosie McCance and Lucy Pakenham in this month's edition as they hold a fundraiser on Friday February 28th at 7pm at St. James' to help them get to Uganda, where they will be helping the Fountain of Peace charity – do come along and support them if you can. If you are unable to come on the night but would still like to help, please contact Sally at the parish office.

With many thanks

Rev'd Kia 😊

From the Editors

Welcome to a new year of parish news. Thank you for all your contributions and please continue to send us your news and photographs. Our front cover features Mimi and Bea who performed at the Abinger Soiree in December.

Two of our readers have been published in the Times! 'Give up your pension now for cash. Not on your nelly!' wrote Nick Butcher, whilst Philip Harris has been musing on solving the crisis of a Guinness shortage by resorting to a black and tan! (Mixing it with Mild) – We refer you to the Times newspaper week of December 26th to read their thoughts in full.

In the meantime, Pam Pulling Smith who bakes such great cakes for the Coldharbour Coffee mornings has sent us this tasty recipe which we thought you might like to try to decipher! We've started deciphering for you – see if you can finish it- you need a bible! Answers upside down.

An 18th Century Bible Cake:

- 4 and a half cups 1st Kings 4,22 (flour and cornmeal)
 - 2 cups Jeremiah 6,20 (burnt offerings ie brown sugar!)
 - 2 cups 1st Samuel 30,12 (pressed figs and 2 cakes of raisins)
 - 1 cup Numbers 17 8. (almonds)
 - 6 tablespoons Jeremiah 17,11
 - A pinch of Leviticus 2,13
 - Season to taste 2nd Chron 9, 9
 - 1 and a half Judges 5, 25 last clause
 - 2 cups Nahum 3,12
 - 2 tbsps. 1st Samuel 14,25
 - Half cup Judges 4,19 last clause
 - 1 tsp of Amos 4,5
- Follow Solomon's prescriptions for making a good boy. Provs. 23,14 and you will have a good cake!

Answers below and upside down.

Grease and line a deep sided cake tin. Cream together butter and sugar. Gradually add eggs Sieve the dry ingredients and fold into the mix with the milk and honey. Bake for 2 and a half hours at 150 C, 275 f gas mark 2.	22 oz plain flour 12 oz soft brown sugar 12 oz raisins 4oz blanched chopped almonds 3 large eggs Pinch salt Half tsp grated nutmeg 12 oz butter 12 oz soaked chopped figs 2 tsp runny honey 5 fl oz milk 1 tsp baking powder
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Today's ingredients make a 20-23 cm (8-9-inch cake)

STOP PRESS.....THE ABINGER PROGRESSIVE SUPPER will now be held on **Saturday 1st March** (changed from 29th). Although the closing date was 30th Jan, we may still have a few spaces, so if you would like to take part we will try to fit you in - please email acprogressivesupper@gmail.com for more info. *Michelle, Bin, Emma and Amanda*

We Say Goodbye

Very sadly two villagers passed away in December. They will be much missed.

Frankie Burt 1950 -2024

Frankie died unexpectedly on 7th December. Her funeral service was held at St James' on 16th January.

Frankie and Kevin raised their family in Abinger and had been residents of Abinger Common for over 40 years. Kevin died in December 2022. Frankie and Kevin threw themselves into village life and were involved with all that this wonderful community has to offer. Frankie will be greatly missed and mourned by all. We will have a full obituary in the next edition. Here is a photograph of Frankie on her wedding day which the family posted in the order of service for her.



Should you wish to make a charitable donation in memory of Frankie, the family ask you to consider the Celia Cross Greyhound Trust or The Celia Hammond Animal Trust.

Mary Cooper 1933 -2024

Mary Cooper and her husband Basil came to live at Kitlands Court in Coldharbour about 45 years ago. Basil died in 2021. In her later years, two serious falls reduced Mary's mobility severely. But she always enjoyed seeing visitors and they also enjoyed seeing her and sharing the latest village gossip.

Mary was the youngest of four daughters. She grew up in Tyne and Wear and met Basil at a dance to which she had gone with an older sister. They married when Mary was 19 and not long afterwards Basil went to take a job in Malaya. Mary followed him on a cargo ship. The couple's two daughters, Adrienne and Alayne were born there.

Mary played tennis, was a keen gardener and made clothes for the girls. She has two granddaughters and two great grandchildren. She and Basil travelled a lot. After their long time in Malaya, Mary often went with Basil when he visited the several energy projects he ran in Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Mary died on 16th Dec 2024. The funeral service for Mary was held in Christ Church on 21st January.

LOOKING BACK ON LAST YEAR

Storms, floods and fallen trees interfered with many events..... In fact, the White Down crossroads flooded so often it's often referred to as **White Lake!**

Storm Bert caused the leaf sweep at St James' to be postponed. Hopefully this will now happen in March. The Magic Tree in the Memorial Woodland was toppled over and



then Storm Darragh prevented Father Christmas from visiting the Woodlands on the 7th December.

But thankfully Santa later made it to the Abinger Nursery – and here's the proof!

Sweeping the Leaves at Christ Church

Thankfully it was dry for the Christ Church leaf sweep on 29th November. Whilst the storm that week had stripped the branches bare, a thick layer of leaves was conveniently gathered under the trees! Just as well, as the team of volunteers was a select band. After an hour and a half of sweeping they enjoyed coffee and multiple mince pies in the sunshine! (Well, it was only polite to help eat the supplies Anthony provided!). Here's a few of the merry band. *Kerry Day*



Fundraising for the Amber Foundation with the Meadvale Singers at St James' Abinger

In early December the Meadvale Singers held a concert to raise money for the Amber Foundation, a charity that helps homeless young people get back on their feet. Louise Cheung, who works for the charity in Farm Place in Ockley, came along to the concert with Patrick.

Patrick has become quite a media star, having just featured in an article in *The Independent* about young people facing homelessness. He clearly touched people's hearts as we were able to send a magnificent £1020 to Amber! A year ago, 25 year old Patrick was sleeping in a field. He had nowhere else to go after fleeing an abusive ex-partner. After years spent sofa-surfing following a fallout with his parents over his drug use, (which saw him kicked



out of the family home), Patrick found himself with nowhere to turn. But he was fortunate. With the help of the Amber Foundation, he was quickly able to get back on his feet. He gave our concert audience the good news that he has just started a job with Thames Water and is about to move into shared accommodation with other young people in Sandhurst.

Patrick is one of 136,000 18- to 24-year-olds who faced homelessness in the past year, according to latest estimates.

For more about Amber: www.amberweb.org *The Meadvale Singers*

The Abinger Soiree. The Friday before Christmas the Abinger Soiree was held at the Evelyn Hall – a long tradition which we worked out must go back at least 20 years. Many thanks to Jayne Farrance- Chaffe for organizing it once again. It is an evening where both adults and children perform, and this year marked the debut of several talented children. We think they deserve a special mention this year: **Raffa** performed some amazing magic tricks – from the disappearing £10 note to card tricks where he baffled us all. Not only that, but he also volunteered to perform a solo in one of the carols. **Elsbeth and Izzie** entertained us with carols – Elspeth playing the piano and Izzie playing the tambourine and singing. Well done to both on a slick performance. And then **Bea and Mimi** performed a wonderful dance, wearing spectacular costumes, a dance which they had choreographed themselves. The finale,

which looked like a star, was just beautiful. You can see Bea and Mimi on the front cover.

So, only 11 months to go before the next one – get practising, the more the merrier!!

The Christmas party in Christ Church was a great success and the talented Flying Giraffes played - two of the members live in the village. Everyone



brought food and a great time was had by all.



A traditional carol concert was held in Christ Church. Then the next night the Village Band performed again in the courtyard of the Plough.



On 15th December the crib service – an interactive nativity was held at St James’ – here’s a picture of Hilary Swift as Star-geant!

Then on Christmas Eve the village met on the green in Abinger for carol siinging.



Graham Mytton's stamps sales topped £1,500.

The discount stamps for villagers' Christmas mail were again popular. This year's sales topped £1,500. Graham buys 100s of valid unused stamps, mainly from the legacies of deceased collectors, at a discount. He completely ran out of all that he had purchased for the year. But he still has a few hundred 1st class single stamps at a discount. Royal Mail's price for 1st Class is now £1.65 per posted item up to 100g weight. This kind of stamp is always worth the 1st class rate. And they cost you only £1.10 each.

Let him know if you want any and how many. gmytton@gn.apc.org or text 07854324571.

Profits from sales before Christmas mean that donations of £160 have been made to each of our two churches. Additional funds will also go to Save the Children Fund.

On 13th December £165 was raised for Crisis at Christmas by the Coldharbour village coffee morning.



A banquet of cakes was provided by Pam Pulling Smith and the villagers were spoilt for choice.

Many thanks to Pam for all her hard work.

Hils Jupe

WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR

Congratulations to.....

Enes and Özgün Uner, of the Plough in Coldharbour, on the birth of their baby boy born at East Surrey Hospital. The first Coldharbour baby of 2025.



Greetings to a new arrival in Abinger



Holly Milner has recently returned to England from Australia to be with her family here.

Holly is an artist who uses watercolour painting to promote wellness. She has joined her Mum Bin Watmore at Careys in Abinger and hopes to soon start up some wellness art sessions in the village.

Can you make a difference to someone's life?



Age Concern are looking for volunteers to befriend some of the older, lonely and isolated people in Mole Valley. For more details please contact Coordinator Diana Webb on 07821 649683/01306899104 or email diana@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk

SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH, ABINGER

2nd February

10.30am

Candlemas

Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children

Refreshments after the service

9th February

6.00pm

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

Choral Evensong

16th February

10.30am

The Third Sunday before Lent

Come and See Sunday

Refreshments after the service

23rd February

10.30am

The Second Sunday before Lent

Sideways Church

New angles on faith with breakfast, laughter and conversation

6.00pm

Julian meeting

Half an hour of stillness with God



SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH, COLDHARBOUR

2nd February 9.00am	Candlemas Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9th February 10.00am	The Fourth Sunday before Lent Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments after the service
16th February 9.00am 6.00pm	The Third Sunday before Lent Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
23rd February 10.00am 6.00pm	The Second Sunday before Lent Parish Communion (Common Worship) Refreshments after the service Julian meeting <u>at St James' Abinger</u> Half an hour of stillness with God

From the Registers

Coldharbour

4th January Baptism Sebastian Hatton

Parish Office at Coldharbour will take place on: Monday 3rd and 17th 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!



**SATURDAY FEB 15th Sale for Local Charities at Westcott Chapel.
11-4pm. BARGAINS GALORE.....contact Hilly Bradley**

Help! Toads on the Roads Project. Toads are feeling amorous and looking for a love nest.

Every year around this time, we start to put in place the arrangements for the annual Toad Patrol under the auspices of Froglife's "Toads on Roads" project. Common Toads are very particular about where they breed and often migrate back to their ancestral breeding ponds each year.

There are numerous crossings nationwide, one is in Coldharbour Village.

Our aim is to raise the awareness of road-users to the presence of the toads and to physically assist them to cross safely, by translocating them from the road surface or opposite verge or ditch, to the nearby pond.



We need volunteers who are willing to spend a couple of hours in the evening at Coldharbour once a week, locating the migrating amphibians and assisting them across to the

pond. Ideally volunteers work in pairs but individuals can work alone if they wish, with the appropriate lone working protocols in place. Further guidance in terms of the process and the risks and control measures associated with it, along with appropriate equipment, will be made available to those who wish to get involved.

If you think that you'd like to help these amazing creatures, please email me so we can get an idea of numbers. Also, if you could identify the likely day(s) that you might be available to help, that would assist in putting together a rota to cover the week. We normally manage the process through a WhatsApp group so please also confirm that you are happy to be part of that and provide your best contact number. Jon
jon.webb1@nationaltrust.org.uk 07785 771509 / 01306 712711 My normal workdays are Monday to Thursday, so there may be a slight delay in responding to your message. *Jon Webb National Trust Ranger Leith Hill*

Fundraising evening, 7pm Friday 28th Feb at St James'

After a wonderful visit from Peace last summer, Rosie McCance and I, Lucy Pakenham, decided to look into how we could go about volunteering with the Fountain of Peace Children's Foundation in Uganda.



Fountain of Peace is a charity which houses abandoned children in their village. Each house has two women acting as parental figures and multiple children under their care. These houses act as a family unit rather than the children going into an institution such as an orphanage. The village has a school and church, with Christian principles being fundamental in the way the children are brought up.

As I planned my gap year for 2025, I realised this would be the perfect opportunity to lend a helping hand. Rosie shared my excitement and enthusiasm for the project, and we decided to plan the visit together. I reached out to the volunteer team at Fountain of Peace and after some inspiring conversations over Zoom, Rosie and I confirmed our plans to travel to Uganda for 10 days in April 2025. We discussed why we wanted to travel over and what sorts of things we would be able to help with. We decided our strengths were more pastoral than physical, as building was not one of our main strengths! We both agreed that we simply wanted to help in any way we could, with a main focus of meeting, talking to, and spending time with the women and children over there.

To help make our journey possible and support the Foundation's fantastic work, we invite you to join us for a fundraising evening on **Friday 28th February at 7pm at St. James' Church, Abinger Common**. There will be music performed by us and our friends, alongside a short presentation about our mission. Nibbles and drinks will be available, whilst we learn more about the Fountain of Peace, and the essential role community support plays in their work. Donations will be gratefully received by card or cash on the evening. Or you can support our trip and Fountain of Peace, at <https://tinyurl.com/4vrex2tn> or you can scan this QR code. Every contribution, no matter how small, will help cover our travel expenses and enable us to make a donation to the charity. We are extremely excited and are so grateful for the opportunity to embark on this trip and we can't wait to share our experiences with you all on our return.



Lucy & Rosie xx

PARISH NEWS DONATIONS

If you enjoy receiving the Abinger and Coldharbour News, we would be very grateful if you would consider making a donation towards the cost to produce it.

A BACS payment can be made to either church:

St. James' Abinger

Account name: PCC Abinger (Parish News)

Sort Code: 60 07 02

Account no: 39447332

Christ Church Coldharbour

Account name: Christ Church Coldharbour PCC

Sort Code: 202397

Account no: 40192422

Please contact the Parish Office for information on where to send a cheque.

With many thanks.



YOUR LOCAL
ELECTRICIAN

TOBY STEVENSON

T: 07903 773 996

E: phase.surrey@gmail.com

SHARE A CUPPA



The Coldharbour Coffee Morning is held the first Friday of every month in the John Venus Hall. The next one is on February 7th.

Abinger Coffee Mornings (SJs) and the Repair Cafe at St James' continue every week.

And take place on Wednesdays, 9 till 11 ish.

Join us for tea, coffee, croissants and chat....



.... and bring along your material items to be repaired.

The Coldharbour and Abinger Fair Committees are looking for help to make the 2025 celebrations as wonderful as last year. Can you help?

Coldharbour Fete (May 17th)

Planning Evening: Thursday 27th February, 6pm at the JV hall

Please join in the planning for the Coldharbour Fete to make it another Best Fete Ever. Everyone is welcome. The Fete will be on Saturday May 17th from 2pm at the Coldharbour Memorial Ground. Do come along to the meeting on 27th February to find out more, bring your ideas, meet people and maybe volunteer to help. No previous experience necessary and everyone is welcome.

Kerry Day kemday@btinternet.com

Abinger Medieval Fair

Saturday 14th June

The new year has begun, bringing with it the start of all the meticulous planning that goes in to making the Medieval fair such a great village event. Many of you will have started a new calendar with the new year so don't forget to mark the date – SATURDAY 14th JUNE. I believe some other

communication may have gone out with a different date but the fair date is definitely SATURDAY 14th JUNE!

As part of our preparations, we are looking for a new volunteer to run the raffle. Each year the raffle contributes significantly to the money that we raise for local charities, so this is a really important part of the fair. There is a very clear manual on how it all works and what needs to be done so we just need someone to take it on. We would love to hear from you if you think this is something you might be interested in or would just like to know more details. You would be joining a great team and making a meaningful contribution to our community! Please contact Liz Irvine, Fair Secretary.

lizandkeithi@btinternet.com

MUSIC AND ART

Surrey Serenaders' Come & Sing mornings continue at St James

The Surrey Serenaders rehearse on the second and fourth Saturdays in the month, from 10 till noon at St James' Church. There is no need to sight read and all music is provided. The rehearsals will be led by Liz Wilcox. For more information get in touch with



Avril Sharman 01306 731396 or sharden11@mac.com

Sing with the Brockham Choral Society on Tuesdays evenings

The group rehearse every Tuesday 7.30-9.30 at St John's C of E Primary School, Dorking RH4 2LR.

Cole Bendall will guide and prepare the choir to sing Haydn's *Creation* for a **concert on 5th April** at 7.30 at St Martin's Church Dorking. If you want more information, or want to talk to someone about this, email brockhamchoral@gmail.com. Further details www.brockhamchoral.org

D&G Concert at St James' 29th March "Bach to the Future"

The D & G choir will be singing at St James in March. Featuring music from the Renaissance era – Thomas Tallis and William Byrd to the present-day including music by Queen and the Beatles there will be something for everyone.

Music in Dorking by Ian Codd

February begins with The Dorking Concertgoers concert by the Brodsky string quartet. The Brodsky is one of the world's leading string



quartets, so we are privileged to have them play for us in Dorking. On 2nd Feb they will play Bach, Schubert and Shostakovich, and on 16th Feb Bach, Britten and Beethoven. Please note that both concerts are in the afternoon. Contact 01306 740619

Screenings at the Dorking Halls this month include a staged concert version of *Les Miserables*, the brilliant musical based on the novel by Victor Hugo and then Tchaikovsky's ballet *Swan Lake* from the Royal Opera House. The Band of His Majesty's Royal Marines promise an evening of music for everyone, including marches, solos, overtures and film music. Contact 01306 881717

Dorking Chamber Orchestra are playing in Great Bookham. They have a concert of music by Bach, Handel, Haydn and Saint-George. They will be directed from the violin by Guy Button who will also be the soloist in Bach's violin concerto in A minor. Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-George, was a French violinist, conductor and composer whose music has been increasingly performed in recent years; the orchestra will play his first symphony.

2nd Feb at 3 pm, Brodsky quartet at Dorking Halls, £23.

4th Feb at 1.00 & 7 pm, screening of *Les Miserables* at Dorking Halls, £19.50.

15th Feb Dorking Chamber Orchestra at St Nicolas' church Great Bookham

16th Feb at 4pm, Brodsky quartet at Dorking Halls, £23.

19th Feb at 7.30pm, Band of Royal Marines at Dorking Halls, £23.50.

27th Feb at 7.15pm, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £19.50.

LIGHT! Arts Week Art Exhibition in Shere - a call for artworks in 2D & 3D!

A big shout out to our artists! Come and help us celebrate art in all its forms and share the joy of creativity with our community.

Please email artsweek@parishofshere.com to express your interest or for any enquiries. The Arts week is held (June 9-15th). This year's sub theme is "Light" and everyone is invited to celebrate the interaction of words, art, music and faith. All artists are welcome to submit their work in 2D or 3D, loosely based on the theme of Light. There is no fee or commission taken, although a donation to the church is most welcome if an artwork is sold. All events are held in St James' Church and are free to attend, with donations very welcome. The Arts Week Coffee Club will be open every day and all are warmly welcome to attend any or all of the activities!



Do mark the dates in your diary: June 9th - June 15th. The programme details will be available from March.

Films in February and March

In February 2025 we will be showing the following films:



**SHERE
VILLAGE
CINEMA**

Thursday 9th February – Only the River Flows – is an intriguing and ingenious thriller where an ambitious police detective attempts to solve a series of murders from a disused

cinema. Dedicated police detective Ma Zhe is assigned the case of a series of horrific murders in a rural Chinese town. As the investigation progresses, pressure from his superiors to find the suspected serial killer mounts, leading to a hasty arrest. But while his colleagues rush to celebrate, several clues push Ma Zhe deeper into a desperate investigation of his own – leading him into a dark world where mystery hangs over his every lead. In Mandarin with English subtitles.

Classification 15 (Running time is 1 hour 41 minutes). Start time is: **7.30**

Sunday 16th February – The Critic - London, 1934. Jimmy Erskine (Ian McKellen) is the most feared theatre critic of the age. He lives as flamboyantly as he writes and takes pleasure in savagely taking down any actor who fails

to meet his standards. When the owner of the Daily Chronicle newspaper dies, and his son David Brooke (Strong) takes over, Jimmy quickly finds himself at odds with his new boss and his position under threat. In an attempt to preserve the power and influence he holds so sacred, Jimmy strikes a Faustian pact with struggling actress Nina Land (Arterton), entangling them and Brooke in a thrilling but deadly web of desire, blackmail and betrayal.

Classification 15 (Running time is 1 hour 41 minutes). Start time is: **7.30**

In March 2025 we will be showing the following films:
Thursday 6th March - A Hologram for The King – Adapted from a novel by Dave Eggers, the film tells the story of a down-on-his-luck businessman, who hopes to get back on track by travelling to Saudi Arabia to sell his new idea to a wealthy monarch. Alan Clay (Tom Hanks) arrives in the Middle East with a lot on his mind. Reeling from a recent bitter divorce and trying to stave off imminent foreclosure, he needs to land a career-saving IT contract by making a big sale to the king for a massive development in the desert. However, shortly after landing, still jetlagged and under intense pressure to deliver from his superiors back in Boston, Clay is dismayed to learn that the king is nowhere to be found. While Clay waits for what seems like an eternity in the desert, he befriends a local driver (Alexander Black) with an affinity for 80s rock, and shares flirtations with a Danish woman (Sidse Babet Knudsen). “You never know quite where this film is going, and in an era of so much cinematic predictability that's a welcome attribute.” The cast also includes Ben Whishaw, Sarita Choudhury and Tom Skerritt. As usual, Tom Hanks makes this a very watchable film. Classification 12A (Running time is 1 hour 37 minutes). Start time is: 7.30

Sunday 16th March - Wilding – is a documentary based on Isabella Tree's best-selling book by the same title. It tells the incredible story of a couple that bets on nature for the future of their failing, four-hundred-year-old estate. the film follows the couple (Sir Charles Burrell and his conservationist wife, Isabella Tree), as they set to work with a ground-breaking vision, battling entrenched tradition and major forces along the way, daring to place the fate of their farm in the hands of nature. Ripping down the fences, they set the land back to the wild and entrust its recovery to a motley mix of animals both tame and wild. It is the beginning of a grand experiment that will become one of the most significant rewilding experiments in Europe and beyond. Classification PG (Running time is 1 hour 15 minutes).

The film is being shown in collaboration with the Parish of Shere Climate Café (Parish of Shere, Peaslake and Gomshall). The doors will be open from 6.30pm for refreshments, followed by an introduction from the guest speaker. The film start time is: **8pm**).

In January, we took part in the celebration for the re-opening of Shere village hall. Village groups had stalls to advertise what goes on in the hall, the photo below shows the cinema's stall with 2 of our helpers on the night.

Several people signed up as volunteer helpers or to receive our newsletters.

A reminder - To sign up to our newsletter and/or to book tickets for future films please go to the website: www.sherevillagecinema.com). For those unable to access the internet, we will usually reserve a minimum of 10 tickets for sale on the door. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child.



Shere Village Cinema Team

ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

December 2024 Meeting - David Allen: The making of *The Sound of Music*

The Committee had decorated the hall very festively and provided an excellent tea. Our speaker, David Allen, talked about the making of the film *The Sound of Music* which he illustrated with clips of Julie Andrews dancing through the fields singing songs like *The Hills are Alive* and *My Favourite Things*. It was fascinating to hear about all the technicalia involved. For *My Favourite Things*, the walls of the bedroom were removable to allow the camera to re-position for the many angles and takes as the Von Trapp children, frightened by a raging storm, gradually crept into the bedroom. The

songs, and most of the dialogue, were recorded and added afterwards and Julie Andrews was the only lead whose singing voice was heard.

The real Maria had sold the rights to her book and made no money from the film. In real life Maria married von Trapp, the children's father, and the children toured the world singing. The film won 5 Oscars. The real Maria commented that Julie Andrews was "not like me, far too gentle". Mr. Allen was an enthusiastic speaker and gave a lively presentation.

Later in December we had our traditional Christmas lunch at "The Parrot" in Ockley which was enjoyed by all.



January 2025 Meeting - Mike Hutchison : The Albury Neo-Gothic Church

We met in January with table decorations of fresh daffodils and New Year greetings. (This W.I. does things in style!) Our speaker was Mr. Mike Hutchinson and his subject the neo-Gothic church, up a drive, off the Albury Road. This is one of several churches in and around London built by the Catholic Apostolic Church, (not Roman Catholic) in 1840. The founding twelve called themselves Apostles, believing they had been called by God and that the Second Coming of Christ was imminent. At Albury the main red door is never opened because they believed that Christ would enter by this door. One of the apostles was Henry Drummond, then Lord of the Manor at Albury Park Mansion, who funded the building. As the Apostolic Movement spread across Europe to America many people still visit today. They can't go in so instead visit the Old Saxon church in Albury Park and make their donations to that church which benefits from the Apostolic Church being closed. Funds and maintenance of the Apostolic Church are managed by Trustees.

After this unusual talk, we had a bountiful tea provided by Jane White, Sheila Sturge and Jan Hunt (the table decorator) + helpers.

Next meeting: **6th February 2025** Wotton Village Hall 2.30pm– Van Gogh, by Daphne Jefferis. Pat O'Brien

GARDENS AND GREEN SPACES

Robin's Gardening Tips for February

Hopefully the very bitter, freezing spell we had in January will not be repeated this month.

Primroses are starting to flower, and snowdrops are appearing. When they have flowered and are just starting to go over is the best time to split them. Replanting bulbs in smaller groups 'in the green' is the best way of increasing them in the garden.

There is still time to

prune fruit trees, apples and pears, but not stone fruits which should wait till summer. Wisterias, roses and summer flowering clematis should also be pruned now, and then given a feed of a general fertiliser.

If you want a really beautiful winter flowering clematis try planting *clematis cirrhoses baleriac freckles*. There is one growing high through an oak tree in Coldharbour lane which was in full flower in January. It likes to have its feet in the shade and tolerates dry soil in summer.

If you have a heated propagator or a spare windowsill, now is a good time to sow onions, melons, tomatoes, peppers and aubergines. Or why not wait till the Coldharbour village fete in May when I am sure some will be available. Why not grow a few extra plants for then anyway, especially if you are trying something different this year.

Should we get a repeat of January's weather please don't forget to feed and put out water for our feathered friends who help gardeners by eating the aphids and bugs we really don't need!



You are invited to our first event of 2025:

***Trees & Forestry, Climate Impact and
Implications for the Hurtwood***

Tuesday, February 4th, 2025, 7:30 for 8 pm,

Holmbury St Mary Village Hall,

Felday Glade, Holmbury St. Mary RH5 6PG

Speaker: Alex MacKinnon

Director of Friends of the Hurtwood, AssocICF, BSc (Hons) & Local Forester

Refreshments will be served – tea, coffee and wine. Plus nibbles and raffle prizes.

Tickets on the door - £ 3 for members of Friends of the Hurtwood, £ 5 for non-members

Questions - contact administration@foth.co.uk



Feldemore Corner Open Garden May 18th

Sally and Richard Frost invite you to their garden.

This year Richard and I will have lived in Holmbury St Mary for fifty years, forty-two of them at Feldemore Corner. To celebrate this, we are opening our four-acre woodland garden to the public under the National Garden Scheme on Sunday, May 18th, from 11am to 5pm. Details can be found in the NGS booklet for Surrey which is available now. The NGS raises money for a large number of nursing charities, including hospices. Last year they raised over four million pounds.

On the Saturday, the 17th, there will be a preview afternoon, 2pm – 5pm open to local people and friends. The proceeds from this day will go to St Mary's Building Fund. We hope that you will put these dates in your diary and that you will come along and support these good causes.

SHERE SURGERY NEWS

As I glanced out over the frosty iridescence which visits us each morning at this time of year, my favourite word was evoked – *Apricity*, the warmth of the sun in winter. It captures our surroundings so wonderfully and I have encountered several patients who have vowed to deploy it more and help rescue this wonderful 16th Century term from obsolescence.

The New Year is now in full swing and there is no better time to welcome a new face – Katie Collins has joined us as our new Nurse Practitioner. She brings a wealth of experience having been a leading nurse and emergency practitioner in A+E for many years, and more recently she was a community matron in Guildford.

Congratulations to Dr Elly Balme who completes her training in the middle of the month. She has been a very caring and diligent doctor who has looked after countless patients and their families in her many years with us.

Charlie Wildman, from the Medicines Management team at the surgery, continues to conduct thorough reviews of your prescriptions. She uses detailed protocols that ensure that essential safety checks are followed whilst also offering the chance for patients to raise concerns or questions. We have moved such reviews to patients' months of birth to make the process smoother and easier for everyone.

At the time of going to press, we understand that the spring COVID boosters are due to run from the start of April to the middle of June. It will be offered to the over 75s, those with immunosuppression, as well as those in care homes. We will of course keep you updated as we find out more.

Dr Douglas Wardrop

SALV EVENING

“THE MENOPAUSE”

Dr Charlotte Knight and Dr Helen Barnes will be talking about the latest updates on the menopause

Tuesday 4th March 8pm Albury Village Hall

Do please join us and bring your friends. Admission is free but donations to SALV very welcome

CHILDREN

Abinger Common Nursery



A is for amazing! Just ask our parents and their parents' parents!

B is for beautiful setting that we are lucky to be in.
I is for independence that we gain by learning through play.

N is for nurturing whereby we get the very best care.

G is for great big huge ginormous glorious garden. (with dinosaurs!)

E is for enormous amount of energy that our teachers have!

R is for rural and roaring (see dinosaurs in the garden).

C is for community. We have so much support from the lovely people in our village.

O is for outside – lots and lots of fresh air, and then some more!

M is for mushy and slushy and all the messy play we can muster!

M is for marvellous cooking creations from field to fork! (it's a good day for parents)

O is for outside again of course!

N is for nature that is all around us that we fully embrace!

N is for nattering, we make friends and we chitter chatter away.

U is for uniquely us. Each one of us is the only one of us in the world!

R is for racing around in the garden. We surely will be tired by bedtime? Surely?

S is for safe and secure – a feeling that we have with our friends and teachers.

E is for exploring every new thing that we come across- life is exciting at 2/3/4!!!

R is for rouge, jaune, vert, bleu – oui! We always look forward to our French!

Y is for yippee!!!! The ONLY feeling we have on a Monday morning!

That is us in a (sort of!) Nutshell! We can't wait to show you around! This picture is of our wonderful Mary and Joseph. We had to share even though it's Feb! If you would like to join our nursery family please don't hesitate to get in touch. Call 07842 978823 or email abingercommonnursery@gmail.com

Kate Fairbrass

The Surrey Hills Primary School



SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL



The children in Bees Class have been working hard at Forest School, making decorations and some creative mud Christmas dinners, puddings and mince pies! They persevered with their fire steels, trying to make 'dragon sneezes' to light the fire. The reward was a delicious Smore, the children toasted their marshmallows and were very sensible about the fire circle rules.

Butterflies have been learning about the primary and secondary colours in art this half term. They started by mixing primary colours to make secondary

colours with different media: paint, crayons, cellophane and pencils and ended the topic by looking at the work of Clarice Cliff and making their own interpretation of her plate 'The Tree' Hedgehogs have been developing their sewing skills through a D&T textiles project where they designed and made their own cushions. They thought carefully about their design, made templates, practised a range of stitches. They should be very proud of all of their creativity, hard work and determination! Hedgehogs were glad to be able to use their cushions for their quiet reading time as a reward.



Rabbits made their very own chocolate sweets inspired by the book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We melted down chocolate bars to form new sweets and then covered them with a variety of sprinkles. They tasted absolutely delicious!

Laura Belgrave

DORKING MUSEUM IN FEBRUARY

Building between the vines – the story of the Denbies LEGO house: Amazing as it may seem, a full-size house was built of LEGO on the Denbies Wine Estate in 2009 as part of a BBC television series entitled James May Toy Stories, in which the presenter took some of the country's best-loved children's toys and built large scale models from them.

The exhibition tells how and why it was built. A collection of specially designed Lego models of buildings and objects with a Dorking connection are on display, and there are other activities for children. A LEGO Dorking Cockerel trail around the Museum, with prizes, will continue for the duration of the exhibition.

Dorking in LEGO family activity: Taking a lead from the current temporary exhibition, our February activity takes place at the Museum on **Saturday 22nd February, 10am to 1pm**. Families are invited to create LEGO models of Dorking features and buildings. The children's models will be added to the display in the Museum's front window for all visitors and passers-by to see until the exhibition ends. With thanks to Dorking Beatitudes for the kind loan of the LEGO bricks. Children must be accompanied.

Family Activities at Dorking Library: Our monthly family activity in conjunction with Dorking Library, St. Martin's Walk, takes place on **Saturday 8th February, 10am to 1pm**. For National Story-telling week, families are invited to come and use miniature objects to tell a story. This free event is aimed at 4–11-year-olds and children must be accompanied.

DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP (FEBRUARY 2025)

The DLHG continues its popular programme of both live and Zoom talks on a fascinating range of topics. These are free to members, but non-members are welcome. Upcoming dates include:

- **Jane Morris – more than a face:** John Hawks WIM looks at the life and contribution of Jane, the wife of the multi-talented William Morris, who was an icon of the Pre-Raphaelite movement and the subject of many portraits by her lover Dante Gabriel Rossetti. **Live talk, Monday 3rd February, at Crossways Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking RH4 3HB, 7.15 for 7.30pm, £2 at the door for non-members.**

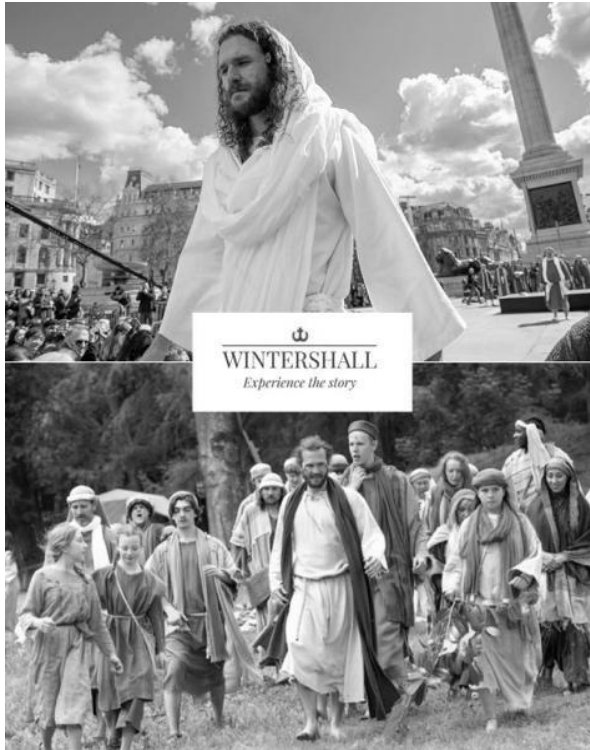
- **The Mayflower Connection:** Zoom talk by Helen Baggott, focusing on some postcards sent in the UK and in America in the early 1900s that help share the story of The Mayflower and connect to other events of international importance. **Monday 17th February, 7.30pm,** <https://www.meet-up.com/Surrey-History-Meetup/>.

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

Discover the Story behind Wintershall's Biblical Plays

Saturday 1st March at St Dunstan's Church in Woking GU22 7DT 2.30-3.45pm

Stephanie Pena, who plays Mary Magdalene and Angel Gabriel, will talk about the history, mission and spiritual challenges of these biblical productions at Wintershall. There is ample free parking. Tickets £5 advance booking recommended at



<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/guildford-district-knights-of-st-columba>

All proceeds will go towards supporting the Wintershall productions and the charitable works of the Guildford Knights of St. Columba. Don't miss this unique opportunity to gain a deeper appreciation for Wintershall's work. <https://wintershall.org.uk/>

Advertising in the Parish News

We are very grateful to all our advertisers, without whom the Parish News would not be able to be distributed free to all households. We are also grateful to Sally McCance for organising the ads.

For details of prices email Sally: PNadvertising@aol.com

As well as your ad appearing monthly, your business will also be in the Directory of Local Businesses at the end of the magazine and we offer a bit of advertorial space when you first take out an ad.

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