

ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR
Parish News



MARCH 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: dhachbr@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

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 (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

MARCH

- 1st Abinger Progressive Supper
1st *Great Games* activity, Dorking Library, 10am
4th SALV talk *The Menopause*, Albury VH, 8pm
5th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
6th WI, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
6th Shere Cinema *A Hologram for the King*, 7.30
7th Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30–11.30
8th Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12
8th Dorking Library family activity, 10am
12th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
16th Shere Cinema *Wilding*, 8pm
19th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
22nd Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12
23rd Great Abinger Bake Off, Ev Hall, 2–4
26th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
29th South Street Caves Tours, various times
29th Leith Hill Big Band, S Holmwood, 3pm
29th D and G concert *Bach to the Future* at St James'

APRIL

- 2nd SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
3rd WI, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
3rd Shere Cinema *The Room Next Door*, 7.30
4th Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30–11.30
5th Haydn's Creation, St Martins
9th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
11th/12th Leith Hill Music Festival, Dorking Halls
3th Eater Egg Hunt & Fun Day, QRMW
16th SALV evening, Shere Village Hall, 8pm
18th Wintershall's Passion of Jesus, Trafalgar Square
20th EASTER SUNDAY
27th Shere Cinema *Fly Me to the Moon*, 7.30

Reflections from the Rectory

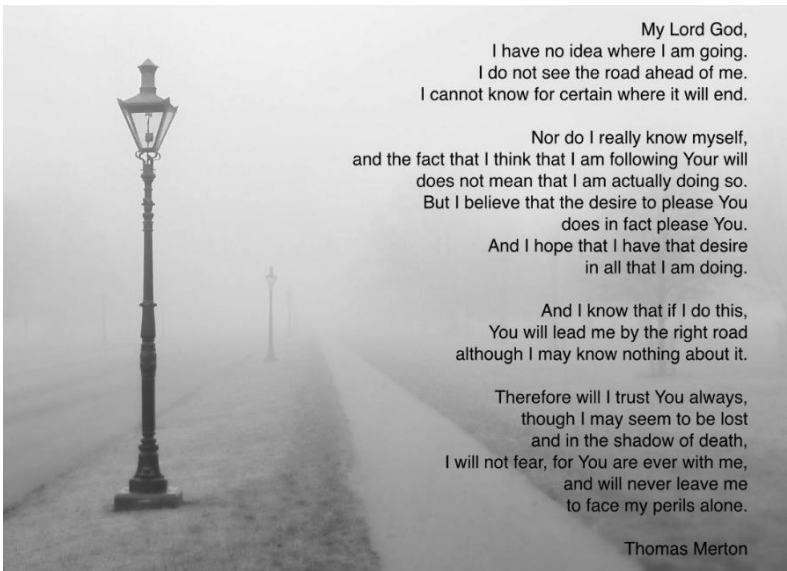
For me, these past few weeks have been ones of change, of endings and new beginnings.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to our 14 year old cocker spaniel following a stroke and we are left with our very opinionated 3 year old miniature dachshund!

Our youngest daughter spread her wings for a month in Ethiopia, our eldest daughter moved house (just up the road now!), and our son bought his first house in Petersfield.

At times of great change, upheaval or major life events I find myself becoming reflective; pausing to try and gain greater clarity, perhaps on where I find myself amidst the swirl of movement.

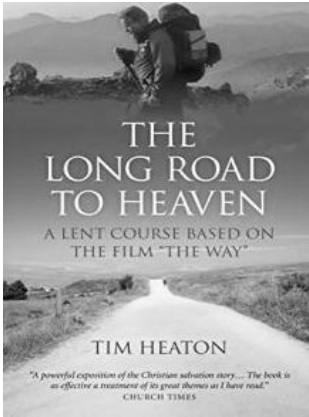
I love this prayer by Thomas Merton as it resonates with me at moments like this.



In the Christian year we find ourselves approaching Lent (4th March – 17th April), a good time to pause and reflect personally and corporately. With this in mind do join us as we explore the film ‘The Way’, shown recently in the church (more details on next page).

With love, wherever you are on the journey,

Rev'd Kia 😊



The Way

Come and join us for discussions on 'The Way' this Lent at St. James', Abinger Common.

Clips with discussions 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March and 1st April – 7pm St James'.

Starring Martin Sheen, the film follows a journey of pilgrims as they walk the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. It explores their transformation as they wrestle with the BIG questions – what are we saved from, for what and for why?

Our Vibrant Village Cafés



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

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

And take place on Wednesdays, 9 till 11. Join us for tea, coffee, croissants and chat...

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



Some April/Easter Events for Your Diary

Easter is very late this year – towards the end of April – let's hope for some beautiful weather.

Haydn's Creation – Sat 5th April

Performed by Brockham Choral at 7.30 pm at St Martin's, Dorking, RH4 1UX.
More information: www.brockhamchoral.org.

The Leith Hill Music Festival – 11th and 12th April

Come and see Holmbury Choral in Will Todd's Passion Music and Jazz Missa Brevis on the 11th. Other choirs are performing Elgar's Dream of Gerontius on the 12th. See lhmf.org.uk

QRMW's Easter Egg Hunt and Family Fun Day - Sun 13th April

We are going to have a great Easter Egg Stall at extremely good prices so come to the woodland and fill your shopping bags which in turn will help our Veterans who are struggling. There will be lots for the family to do; the Easter Egg Hunt which will commence at 12.30 followed by Egg and Spoon races. Please contact Debbie (debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk) to register the children as places are limited.

Wintershall's Passion of Jesus in Trafalgar Square – 18th April

Preparations for the Passion of Jesus have started. No time to waste, so please put 18th of April in your diaries and come and see us (for FREE!) in Trafalgar Square. Thanks to you all for helping to make this happen. Do spread the word and tell your friends it's the best thing to see at Eastertime.



NB Discover the Story behind Wintershall's Biblical Plays on Saturday 1st March at St Dunstan's Church in Woking GU22 7DT 2.30-3.45pm

**Sunday 20th
Easter Sunday**

Good news! Hazel not to retire until May 2027

Recently Hazel Watson announced that she would be standing down at the next County Council Elections, having represented the Dorking Hills for the last 32 years.

Hearing this news, we expressed our gratitude to her for all she has done for us locally. She always takes our issues and concerns seriously, responding quickly and doing whatever is within her power to



ensure something is done. The 20 MPH speed limit through Abinger Common is one example of this, and whatever people say about drivers not sticking to it, it really does make a huge difference to pedestrian safety. *Liz Hamilton*

Hazel acknowledged our appreciation as follows:

“Many thanks for thinking of me in this way. I had expected to retire when the County Council elections were held at the beginning of May 2025. The Government, however, has different intentions for me and has postponed the elections and extended the current term of the County Councillors elected in May 2021 to May 2027 with elections to the proposed Shadow Unitary Authority in May 2026. This has thus pushed back my retirement to May 2027 when both the District and the County Councils will be abolished.

I have always been a firm believer that further devolution from Westminster to local regions and communities would be in the best interest of Surrey residents and businesses and I am delighted that we are now in a position to move forward quickly with devolving powers in Surrey.

I am also happy to let you know that my vital work supporting residents will continue until whatever new unitary council is fully established to take on the new devolved powers given to Surrey and that, throughout this period, I will remain the principal point of contact for Dorking Hills residents on County Council issues.”

Some Abinger reactions:

“Irrespective of party politics she has been a fantastic lobbyist and advocate for our community and so that is indeed good news”

“Very good news indeed” “So pleased to hear this, I think she is superb”

For more about the re-organisation of Surrey County Council:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/lgr>

“Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Local Government Reorganisation plans for Surrey. On 16 December 2024, central government published a White Paper on the topic of devolution – the de-centralisation of government power to local or regional authorities. The White Paper proposed the creation of more Mayoral Strategic Authorities in areas that don't currently have one – like Surrey. www.surreycc.gov.uk”

A Coldharbour Farewell

In January, Sheila Briggs who lived at Master Builders since 1979, died. Sheila and her late husband moved there in 1979. The house was designed, built and lived in by Brian Wait of Songhurst Builders a few years before and the Briggs bought it from him. Graham, her husband of 66 years, an architect and amateur pilot, died in 2015. For most of her working life, Sheila worked in finance, becoming Head of Finance at Lufthansa's offices in London and this meant that she and Graham were able to travel abroad a lot. She retired at 55 in 1986.

For more years than anyone can remember, Sheila was always the cashier at the Tea Tent at the annual Coldharbour Fête. She never used a calculator but was able to add everything in her head instantly.



Sheila at her till, enjoying a cake'n tea break.

And she also always enjoyed the cakes and teas.

She was also a regular at our Coffee Mornings every month. In the last few years Sheila became quite frail and increasingly unable to drive her car. Many will remember that she would take her treasured Subaru on regular shopping expeditions to Dorking, to get cash at HSBC and to shop for home supplies. Sheila was quite small and many of us treasure the frequent sight of an apparently driverless car passing through

Coldharbour en route to Dorking. But in recent times she had to stop driving and really did not like that at all. She also disliked the closure of all banks in town. “How do you get cash now?” asked she and many of her generation.

Sheila loved living here. She was kind, interested in everything that happened and she kept in touch with many others who had left the village, including Jane Ekins who lived at Roffeys before us. She also helped many people. Our wonderful eccentric and brilliant carpenter John “Smiler” Steele and later his student carpenter and friend Jimmy Hill used to do some of their work using facilities provided by the Briggs.



Sheila with Graham and one of their beloved dogs

She had many interests and activities which she loved. Among these were tennis; she was glued daily to Wimbledon and then began to enjoy and watch major tennis tournaments on TV from all over the world. And as much as this, or probably more, she loved looking after stray animals. She would go out daily to care for feral cats that came to Master Builders and learned to trust her. Then at one time she and Graham also had horses and more than one dog. And at one time there was a regular visiting goat called Wilf, who belonged to a school but on holidays would stay with Sheila. She chopped wood and swam every day in their swimming pool and had not much desire in later years to go on holidays as they had all they needed in Coldharbour.

The person who looked after Sheila much of the time over the last few years, Linda Tobitt, was a good friend to Sheila, from being her hairdresser in the '70s to her carer at the end. She was well looked after by the team of carers who Linda organised who also did their best to take Sheila out, including to Coffee Mornings. We will all miss her very much.

Graham Mytton

A Coldharbour Welcome

We welcome a new villager this month and say goodbye to two others. Tina and Jerry Freeman who bought Forge Cottage after the death of Brenda Ward now have grandchildren and needed a garden for them and have moved to Holmbury. Sharon Smith has moved in and we give her a warm welcome. She has two dogs. Formerly, Sharon lived in Albury. She is already enjoying life here and we hope the dogs are too.

ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

At our February meeting we heard about the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh. Daphne Jefferis is a regular speaker for our group and as expected we enjoyed an interesting and well-illustrated talk. One of the best-known artists of all time, Van Gogh (1853-1890) is often remembered as a man who severed his ear, and he was indeed a troubled young man and a worry to his family, especially to his younger brother Theo, who supported him throughout his adult life. Vincent tried several occupations and lived in various places including Brixton, Ramsgate and Isleworth in the UK as well as The Hague and Amsterdam in his home country.

He only started to paint at the age of 30 and lived only a further 7 years, spending part of this time in Arles in the South of France where he planned to set up a commune of artists. This never came about, causing Vincent to become distressed, so Theo arranged for him to be cared for at St Remy, an ex-monastery hospital, before bringing him back to live with him and his wife in Paris. His last 70 days were spent at Auvers-sur-Oise, just north of Paris. He painted 70 paintings during those 70 days.

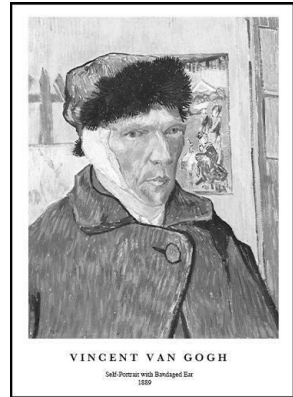
During his lifetime only one painting ever sold, and that to a family friend, so Vincent never knew how his art would be appreciated in the years ahead. It was thanks to the widow of Theo, Jo Van Gogh Bonger, that Vincent's paintings were eventually appreciated by the art world following an exhibition she arranged in Amsterdam in 1905.

Thank you to our tea hostesses, Diana Raisman, Ann Salter and Liz Bennet.

At our next meeting – Easter Crafts – Val Belam will show us how to make an Easter basket. The materials for the basket will be provided and all that members need to bring are something to put in the basket – maybe small eggs or dried flowers.

- Please join us - 2.30pm at Wotton Village Hall on 6th March.
- April's meeting will be on 3rd at Wotton.

Please do get in touch if you wish to join us – new members are always most welcome.



Claire Hill

GARDENS AND GREEN SPACES

Robin's Gardening Tips for March

They say March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers. Well in the past few months we have certainly had our share of both showers and winds. In fact the ground now needs to dry out before sowing seeds, and warm up!

If you have the facilities, now is the time to sow tomatoes, cucumbers, melons, aubergines, peppers etc., but they do need a temperature of 60-65 degrees F.

Nurseries are stocking seed potatoes, which should be chitted (allowed to start shooting) before planting once the soil is workable.

Large clumps of perennials can be divided now, keeping the younger outer portions. If you have a large number why not pot some on for the village fete.

Rhododendrons are starting to flower, do check them if you can, and remove any black looking unopened flower buds. This is usually a sign of a disease called rhododendron bud blast, caused by a leaf hopper.

There is still time to prune the long whippy bits of wisteria, pruning helps increase flowering. Once daffodils have flowered do remove spent flowers so energy is put back into the bulbs and not seed heads.



If you grow sempervivums (old name was house leeks) some should be inserted into crevices of walls to protect the garden's luck and protect from lightening according to old garden lore. Also if you should turn up a very old earthenware pot when digging in the garden, it may mean that someone had taken the advice of Pliny and buried a toad in it to protect against storms and hail!

Robin

SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH, ABINGER

- 2nd March**
10.30am
The Sunday next before Lent
Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children
Refreshments after the service
- 5th March**
7.00pm
Ash Wednesday
Ash Wednesday service
at St. Mary's, Holmbury St. Mary
- 9th March**
6.00pm
The First Sunday of Lent
Choral Evensong
- 16th March**
10.30am
The Second Sunday of Lent
Come and See Sunday
Refreshments after the service
- 23rd March**
10.30am
The Third Sunday of Lent
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
- 30th March**
10.30am
Mothering Sunday
Benefice Mothering Sunday service
at Christ Church, Coldharbour
Refreshments after the service



SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH, COLDHARBOUR

2nd March 9.00am	The Sunday next before Lent Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
5th March 7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday service <u>at St. Mary's, Holmbury St. Mary</u>
9th March 10.00am	The First Sunday of Lent Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments after the service
16th March 9.00am 6.00pm	The Second Sunday of Lent Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
23rd March 10.00am 6.00pm	The Third Sunday of Lent Parish Communion (Common Worship) Julian meeting Half an hour of stillness with God
30th March 10.30am	Mothering Sunday Benefice Mothering Sunday service Refreshments after the service

From the Registers

Abinger

16 th January	Funeral	Frankie Burt
--------------------------	---------	--------------

Coldharbour

21 st January	Funeral	Mary Cooper
--------------------------	---------	-------------

31 st January	Funeral	John Tillett
--------------------------	---------	--------------

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

THE ARTS

Music

Leith Hill Big Band: 29th March, 3pm

The Leith Hill Big Band was formed a year ago. They meet once a month and have their first event - 'Swing into Spring' - on Saturday 29th March from 3-4.30 at St Mary Magdalene Church in South Holmwood. The band plays a variety of swing and big band numbers.



Tickets will be £10 and will include tea and cake. It's a fundraiser for a new sound system for St Mary Magdalene church. Tickets available on the door.

Debby Chapman

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.

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

Music in Dorking in March

1st, 7.30, Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra at St George's Church, Ashtead, £16, 01372 275907

2nd, 3.00, Brodsky quartet at Dorking Halls, £23, 01306 740619

3rd, 1.00, screening of Swan Lake at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717

7th, 1.00 & 7.30, Jesus Christ Superstar at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717

9th, 7.00, LHMFM Messiah at Dorking Halls, £20-25, 01306 881717

15th, 7.30, Dorking Philharmonia at St Martin's Church, £15

20th, 7.15, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717

24th, 2.00, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717

The first concert of this year's Leith Hill Music Festival is a performance of Handel's *Messiah* given by a large choir of festival singers with the baroque orchestra Canzona. It will be the first concert with the new festival conductor Neil Ferris, who has been leading the singers through a series of lively and inspiring rehearsals. This will be an exciting and dramatic performance of Handel's great masterpiece. Two further festival concerts will follow in April.

The Dorking Philharmonia has a programme of Russian music, beginning with Borodin's evocative tone poem *In the steppes of central Asia*. Louis-Victor Bak will then be the soloist in Rachmaninov's ever-popular second piano concerto and the concert will finish with Tchaikovsky's brilliant symphony no.4.

The Dorking Concertgoers present the world-famous Brodsky string quartet in the third of a three-concert series that began in February. Beginning with an arrangement of a Bach violin sonata, they will play Debussy's beautifully atmospheric string quartet and Schubert's moving *Death and the Maiden*, its title inspired by one of Schubert's finest songs.

The Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra, playing in Ashtead, begins with Mendelssohn's rarely-heard overture *Son and Stranger*. Gerard Flotats is the cello soloist in Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations* and a lovely *Romanze* by Richard Strauss. There are also two pieces by Delius, and the concert finishes with Saint-Saens' second symphony.

There are several screenings at the Dorking Halls this month: Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* and Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* from the Royal Ballet, and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*, filmed during its UK tour.

Ian Codd

Films in March and April



**SHERE
VILLAGE
CINEMA**



**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 Babett 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: 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. Start: 8pm.

Thursday 3rd April - The Room Next Door – is the first English-language feature film by the Legendary Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar. Tilda Swinton plays Martha, a driven former war correspondent now dying of cervical cancer and keen to reconnect with an old friend, Ingrid (Julianne Moore), who has latterly become an acclaimed writer. Martha and Ingrid were once colleagues on a hip New York magazine and briefly shared a lover, Damian (John Turturro), but they haven't seen each other in years; their lives have spun them down different paths. Martha is in the hospital, determined to go out on her own terms, and asks Ingrid if she can stay with her until the end, in the room next door. A thought-provoking drama about friendship, life and death - talking about death is hard, but it's the one thing we all have in common. Classification 12 (Running time is 1 hour 46 minutes). Start: 7.30



Sunday 27th April – Fly Me to the Moon – is set in the 1960s when the space race has revved up and the moon landing is months away. However, the public has lost interest in all things NASA-related, so a

professional marketing hotshot Kelly Jones (Scarlett Johansson) is hired by the Nixon administration to reignite the collective excitement around the space programme. Sparks fly between Kelly, peppy and chic in her tailored suits, and Nasa launch director Cole Davis (Channing Tatum), who carries with him the heavy burden of a previous failed mission and the deaths of three astronauts. *Fly Me to the Moon* is a refreshing take on the classic romantic-comedy genre, blending whimsical storytelling with an emotional depth that resonates long after the credits roll. Classification 12A (Running time is 2 hour 12 minutes). Start: 7.30

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

CHILDREN

Abinger Common Nursery



If you were thinking of travelling the world you would probably have a mode of transport in mind. Let us guess – would it be long, wiggly, green and sort of slimy? No? Well that's what ours was! We all hopped aboard our ginormous green snake and slithered to the farthest corners of the world to celebrate the year of the snake. In our crafty corner we continued learning about the Chinese

New Year and made some beautiful lanterns to hang throughout the hall. We all had the opportunity to get to grips with chopsticks both by playing with playdough and by swirling them in the sand to make all sorts of symbols.



Space has invaded the nursery this month with a fully functioning space station popping up for us to explore. We have learnt every planet's name and were excited to light up some glowing stones with our colourful torches.

Back on earth we have had some super hailstorms. One of our teachers volunteered to go out into the cold to scoop the hail up and bring it inside for us to get our hands on! Tiny weeny snowballs that melted at our touch!

Spring rolls were on the menu as we carefully rolled up delicious chopped vegetables in our delicate filo pastry then cooked them to crispy perfection. For those with a sweet tooth, valentine's cookies were baked and decorated with perfect pinks. And what has now become a February tradition we made marmalade in earnest to enter the best marmalade competition in Surrey at the Kingfisher Farm Shop!

We'd like to say a BIG thank you to the Abinger Fair Committee for our donation which we have used to buy a new picnic table for the hall garden. It's wonderfully toddler sized and can fit a lot more of us round it! We love it!

And finally a date for your diary – the Great Abinger Bake Off returns on the 23rd of March from 2- 4 pm at the Evelyn Hall. Be the next Paul or Prue and battle it out for Star Baker! With the Chocolate Tombola, Egg Hunt and crafts galore. Not to be missed!

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

Kate Fairbrass

Ockley Panto

Local children star in Snow White!



The annual Ockley panto had sell-out shows this year and it was Susy Puckett's eighth year choreographing the show for ODS who have been running for over 75 years. Susy - of Anstie Lane Coldharbour – says: “the children come from schools all over our surrounding villages in the Surrey Hills, ranging in age from 4yrs-14yrs and they rehearse for months in advance with me to perfect their dance moves! It is absolutely wonderful to see so many Coldharbour residents turning up at each performance to support us and I'm so proud of all the children involved-photo of the children with me on opening night!”

We are holding open auditions for our next panto in September: it's FREE for any child to take part so please email Susy for more info: tta@the-theatre.org



Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School

A massive thank you to Marion at the Abinger Farm Shop for donating compost to our Nature Garden. The children in Bees and Butterflies class were quick to get to work, planting daffodils and tulips for the garden. They also planted a daffodil to take care of at home!

We will also be using the compost to enrich our soil for our fruit and vegetable growing, as well as for the traditional giant sunflowers.



New Deputy Head



Hello, my name is Kathryn Saunderson and I am the new Deputy Head at Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School. I joined the school in January, just in time for the snow and ice but thankfully the welcome I have received from the school community has been much warmer and friendlier! Before I joined Surrey Hills All Saints, I had worked as Assistant Head across an infant and junior school in Horsham for just over seven years. It has been a busy six weeks getting to know the children and staff as well as working with Mrs Fyson on understanding the school's journey and how I will be able to support its continued journey and growth. I have been enjoying getting to know about the community of Westcott which stretches beyond the school gates and I hope that as the year progresses I can get to know village life even more through the various events I have been told are held every year.

Family Activities in March at Dorking Library

Saturday 1st March, 10am-1pm: 'Great Games!'



Back by popular demand, we welcome the return of the Shrove Tuesday 'blow' football game – commemorating the historic (and infamous) game that was played on Dorking High Street until it was banned in 1897. Other unseen traditional games

from the Dorking Museum collection will also be available. **Don't just play it, make it!** Create your own skittle alley using recycled materials. With generous support from the Arts Society Dorking.

Saturday 8th March, 10am-1pm: For Women's History Month, families are invited to come and find out about **famous women from Dorking (aimed at 4–11-year-olds)**.



Both free events take place at Dorking Library, St. Martin's Place, and children must be accompanied.

Dorking Museum

DORKING MUSEUM IN MARCH

South Street Caves tours: One of Dorking's most popular attractions, the 17th century South Street Caves lie beneath Dorking's busy streets. Staircases, galleries, wine vaults and chambers lead down to the 'Mystery Chamber', 50 feet below street level. Guided tours take place on the last Saturday of each month starting on Saturday 29th March at 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm, lasting 45 minutes. Tickets will be on sale from 1st March on dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/. These sell out quickly, but

private group tours from the beginning of April may also be arranged (email caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk).

Walking in Dorking: The Museum's popular programme of guided walks in the town centre and at Betchworth Castle and The Deepdene Trail resumes at the beginning of April. Please see dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/ for scheduled walks and private group bookings.

Get involved: Could you spare a few hours each month to help support this valuable community resource? We are looking for new volunteers for the front desk, or who could bring their skills to a variety of other important roles with flexible working in the Museum, in the community or from home. See dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities for further details and application.

Dorking Museum, 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. Open Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm, free entry. www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk 01306 876591.

SHERE SURGERY NEWS

How lovely it is to see the days starting to lengthen again, with more sunlight to cheer us up!

This month we have some positive things to share.

First, a big thank you to SALV (Shere and Local Villages Charity) for buying us a new defibrillator as our old one was no longer meeting UK standards.



We are delighted to share though, that our old defibrillator has been taken to Ukraine by Mike Keeble, together with old medical supplies, to help those in a far worse position than us, who have limited access to the supplies they desperately need. Thank you to both SALV and Mike.

Closer to home, a reminder about the SALV evening talk coming up on Tuesday 4th March. This is likely to be a very lively evening, and all are welcome. These meetings are a really lovely informal way to engage with your health. Please do join.

Finally, some of you may remember back in 2020 my daughter, Sienna, and I were preparing for the Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race. The 125-mile race ends at the iconic Big Ben. We were racing in support of the Royal Marsden, who have been a huge support to us with many of our sick patients. Sadly, Covid meant the race was cancelled, but undeterred we made props and completed the race in the garden, raising nearly £6000 for the Royal Marsden.

For me, the race has felt like unfinished business, and I continue to want to support the Royal Marsden as they provide an incredible service for our patients. My daughter is now at university, so it's just me in the boat this time. To make it even trickier, safety concerns mean that the race ends 119 miles in, at Putney, so if I want to celebrate at Big Ben, I will need to run the last 6 miles. My just giving page is linked here if you would like to support this endeavour.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/dr-emma-watts-3?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Emma Watts



MARCH 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

APRIL SALV EVENING

Dr Ozan Hanci, Consultant Paediatrician.
Wednesday 16th April, 8pm, Shere Village Hall

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

SALV Shere and Local Villages Health Trust, The Charity that supports Shere Surgery. www.salv.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.

Directory of Local Businesses

ANIMAL CARE	
The Mutt Hut dog grooming.	07760 162661
The House Vet	01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net
BEAUTY	
Peaslake Beauty Room. Avril Munford	01306 731182 pamperyourself@thepeaslakebeautyroom.co.uk
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
CARPENTERS	
Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner Cabinet Maker	01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com
CARS	
Service, repairs, MOTs	Dave Mir 07736912751 Dave@Mir-Tech.co.uk
Car Sales, Buy, Sell, Part exchange	Len Edwards 07946705261 Lenedwards@me.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
ELECTRICIAN	
Phase Electrical	Toby Stevenson 07903 773996 phase.surrey@gmail.com
FINANCIAL ADVISOR	
Porter & Co	01306 644695 admin@porterifa.co.uk www.porterifa.co.uk
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
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@sjhgardeservices.co.uk
PEST CONTROL	
EMWOOD	01483 203823 www.emwoodpestcontrol.com
PIANO TUNING	
Nick Harris	07476 729389 info@leithhillpianos.co.uk
PRINTING	
Mark Mitchell, M V Press	molevalleypress@gmail.com
HEALTH, 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
Qigong, meditation, natural health and healing	Email: internitylife@pm.me Mobile: 07919 102332 Website: http://internity.life
Surrey Hill Rehab (for neurological conditions)	07456 641 356 surreyhillsrehab@gmail.com
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
SOLAR PANELS	
UK Solar Power Panels	01306 733965 admin@solarpanels.co.uk
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.dltsc.co.uk
SWIMMING POOLS	
Burgess Pools	01306 730952 burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk

**NEXT ISSUE:
April 2025
Closes 1pm
Wednesday March 19th
abingerpn@gmail.com**

**On the cover this month is Lucien Pissarro's 1916 painting of
Crocker Lane, Coldharbour**