# ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR Parish News



**FEBRUARY 2022** 

#### Who's who in your Parish

PCC Secretary:

Gift Aid Secretary:

Flowers Secretary:

Treasurer:

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

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Mrs Hilary Swift (730898).

Parish Secretary: Sally McCance (737160) M. T. W. Th 9 -2 pm

parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

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

St. James' website: www.stjameschurchabinger.org

Webmaster: Phil Rawlings (730382) web@stiameschurchabinger.org

Christ Church website: www.coldharbourchurch.org.uk

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

St Mary's, Holmbury: www.holmburychurch.com St John's. Wotton: www.wottonchurch.org

> **A**binger Coldharbour

Churchwardens: Dominic Roberts Dan Russell John Anthony Simpson (712026)

> (contact via Parish Office) Mary Hustings (711846) Sally McCance (737160) Sally McCance (737160) Jim Hartlev (07968 797578) Martin Neve (713382) Helen Potter (712214) Tim Prideaux (730730) Kim Edwards (730809) Patsy Simpson (712026)

Trish Syms (712100) Evelvn Hall (Kim Edwards) John Vénus`Hall (Su´ Jones) Hall Bookings: suai1512@gmail.com

theevelvnhaÌl@gmail.com

01306 730809

Ab. Hammer Hall (730703) Village Pavilion (711754)

07779 726930

#### PARISH NEWS

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#### ABINGER ORGANISATIONS

Church Choir: Lucy Harlow: lucyharlow@me.com Fair Secretary: Liz Irvine: lizandkeithi@btinternet.com

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

Sports Club Booking Secretary: Anne Burge (730950) anndaveburge@yahoo.co.uk

Abinger Common & Wotton WI: President: Leslie Childs (01483 205461) Wotton & Abinger Flower Show: Trudie Bree (730976) t.bree@dsl.pipex.com

#### COLDHARBOUR ORGANISATIONS

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

Church Electoral Roll Officer: Helen Potter (712214)

Cricket Club: John Hopper (711754) Golf Society: Stuart McLachlan (712009)

Village Band and Ukulele Orchestra: Debby Chapman (711704)

Book Club: Emma Moreno (710024)

Village Fête and Women's Gardening Group: Jodechi Tiggs Morton

tiggs@womengardeningincoldharbour.com

#### PARISH COUNCILS

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

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

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillor: Hazel Watson (880120): councillor.watsonh@molevalley.gov.uk

[for Surrey County Council matters: h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk]

#### SHERE SURGERY 01483 202066 / Fax 01483 202761 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)

\*Dispensary takes calls after 11,00am

Dispensary is also open Saturday morning for 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 / DISPENSARY\* 713010

Monday to Friday: 8.30am - 6.30pm; www.leithhillpractice.co.uk

\*Prescriptions cannot be picked up between 12 and 4

#### **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

#### **OUT OF HOURS EMERGENCY COVER - THAMESDOC**

Just call your surgery and you will be put through automatically

NHS DIRECT 111 COVID 119

POLICE

Non-emergency: 101 or Emergency: 999

#### ELECTRICITY POWER CUTS - 0800 783 8866

WASP BUS - Soo Dean 07802 460069

COLDHARBOUR BUS SERVICES www.buses4U.org.uk

#### LOCAL SCHOOLS

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

abingercommonnursery@gmail.com

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School. Head: Simon Coles 730747 (A) 881136 (W)

Scott-Broadwood School: Head: Susan Muat 01306 711181

Belmont, for boys and girls aged 2 to 16: 01306 730852

# **SERVICES**

# ST JAMES' CHURCH, ABINGER

| 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br>10.30am  | <b>The Fourth Sunday before Lent</b><br>Holy Communion.   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br>6.00pm  | The Third Sunday before Lent<br>(No 8.00 am Said Holy Communion this Sunday)<br>Choral Evensong |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br>10.30am | The Second Sunday before Lent<br>All Age Service -  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb            | The Sunday next before Lent (No 8.00am Said Holy Communion this Sunday)                         |
| 10.30am                         | Sideways Church – new angles on faith with breakfast, laughter and conversation                 |

All services will be live at St James'.

Please do visit the St. James' website for further information and updates.



# CHRIST CHURCH, COLDHARBOUR

| 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br>9.15am                  | <b>The Fourth Sunday before Lent</b> Said Holy Communion   |
|--|--|
| <b>13<sup>th</sup>Feb</b><br>10.00am           | <b>The Third Sunday before Lent</b><br>Second Sunday Service   |
| <b>20<sup>th</sup> Feb</b><br>9.15am<br>6.00pm | <b>The Second Sunday before Lent</b> Said Holy Communion Evensong  |
| <b>27<sup>th</sup> Feb</b><br>10.00am          | The Sunday next before Lent Holy Communion The service will be celebrated by the Venerable Martin Breadmore, Archdeacon of Dorking |

All services will be live at Christ Church
Please do visit the Christ Church website for further information and
updates

# From the Registers

| Abinger | - |
|---------|---|
|---------|---|

Wedding 18<sup>th</sup> December Henry Skrine and Sarah Jones

Coldharbour

Funeral 29<sup>th</sup> November Judith Adams

#### **IMPORTANT!**

The Parish Office email address has changed.

Please send all emails regarding parish matters to:

# parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Please do check your Junk folder.

The new Parish Office email appears to not like delivering to certain email addresses!

# Letter from Virginia



i thank you God for most this amazing day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes.

# e e cummings

#### Dear Friends

I am writing this on what has come to be known as 'Blue Monday' because apparently, it's the worst day of the entire year as regards feeling a bit down. All the fun and jollities of Christmas and New Year have passed and in their place the scales have taken a definite upward turn and the credit card bills have come rolling in which I admit can be a bit depressing.

That is until we realise that a lot of what we have spent has been to make our celebrations something extra special and those gifts we've bought for family and friends have, for the most part, given very real pleasure. Agreed there are always one or two which will be hastily exchanged or put aside for the summer fete but with luck we'll never be aware that our choice wasn't quite perfect and just what we thought our loved ones wanted!

Agreed too that we may have to hunker down a bit now and some will have opted for a 'dry January' but compared to so many in other parts of the world we really have very little to grumble about - unless it's that perennial British grumble about the weather!

Mind you, as I type, I can see from my window the most gloriously clear blue sky and I know the first snowdrops and hellebores are showing in my garden which is just one more reason to feel cheerful rather than down in the mouth.

Aah! I hear you say but what about all the news which is relentlessly dreary and pessimistic. We forget that it's a sad fact that 'good' stories are apparently not regarded as 'good' news. Yet, if we bother to look, time and time again we can discover and be shown beautiful and loving acts of kindness, of generosity and of selflessness, to warm out hearts and remind us that the world really isn't the dreadful place that the media would have us believe it to be.

There is no question that optimism provides us with a far more sustaining diet that pessimism so I really hope that in the coming weeks you can recognize that there is so much that is good in our world - even if it's just that sustaining bar of chocolate that can provide such a pick-me -up or that smile of greeting you exchanged with a fellow walker.

One other cause for optimism is that all being well the next Parish Magazine will be able to announce the appointment of a new Rector for Abinger and Coldharbour and the Rectory will have a new family for us all to come to know. And here our thanks must go to all those who have worked so hard and tirelessly in the complicated appointment process.

So, I really hope that when you read this and look back, you will realise that 'Blue Monday' really wasn't the nadir it's portrayed to be and it was certainly a great deal better than those old 'washday blue Mondays' before we had modern appliances to make the task of laundering so remarkably easy. And finally, I hope too that February will bring the delight and joys of the first real signs



of spring to keep your spirits bright and that you can wake in the increasingly light mornings and like e e cummings give your thanks for another of God's amazing days.

With all my very best wishes and love Virginia Smith

# From the Editors Happy New Year everyone!

We open the 2022 Parish News with this inspiring poem by Maya Angelou which Virginia Travers read at the Coldharbour Carol Service in December. Virginia made a special recording for the occasion as she could not be there in person and her beautiful voice rang around the church and these words had everyone mesmerised.



#### What I've learned

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.

I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life." I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.



I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.
I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

## **Our Churches**

# Music at St James' on February 6th - the 70th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen's Accession to the Throne

In the second week of January various announcements were made regarding the secular celebrations of the Queen's Jubilee in June. However, none that I saw or heard mentioned that the actual date of the anniversary is February 6th, or that a possible 'issue' for churches wanting to mark the occasion in June is that the Sunday of the weekend in question is the Day of Pentecost! In her capacity as The Supreme Governor of the Church of England, Her Majesty may well feel that we should not ignore that, so one way and another we have every reason to celebrate and give thanks for her remarkable life and service on the 'correct' day.

Almost all the music chosen for the Eucharist at St James' on February 6th was used at either the Queen's Coronation or her wedding a few years earlier. Coincidentally, this also allows us a first opportunity to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams, who arranged 'All people ...' and composed 'O taste and see' for the Coronation.

#### The full list:-

Organ Trumpet Tune\* Henry Purcell

Choral Pretroit Zadok the Priest\* Handel

Hymns

493 Rejoice, O land, In God thy might

459 The Lord's my shepherd  $\Delta$ 

436 Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven  $\,\Delta$ 

334 All People that on earth\* & National Anthem\*

Anthem O taste and See\* R Vaughan Williams

Organ March Crown Imperial\* William Walton

David Hansell Organist and Choirmaster

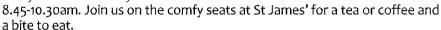
(\* Used at the Coronation Service  $\sim \Delta$  used at HM's Wedding)

## Coffee Mornings Coldharbour village coffee morning:

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30 a.m. in the John Venus Hall.

#### SJ'sCafé:

Every Wednesday



# The Leaf Sweep at St James' - thank you to all who helped



Back in December Peter Wrigglesworth organized the annual leaf sweep at St James'. On a bright winter's day this hardy group turned out to do a great job of clearing the churchyard and enjoyed a cup of tea while Percy the dog scavenged for biscuits!

#### Liz Hamilton

#### David John interviewed our editor Liz for the Parish News

Liz has had a long involvement with Parish News over 10 years, as Co-Editor with Brian (Morgan) over several years and latterly with Jenny Parker.

Liz was brought up in the 1950s in the village of Flore in Northamptonshire where her family had been wheelwrights. blacksmiths. hakers and farmers centuries. She went to the tiny village school before gaining a scholarship to a nearby High School for Girls. (At this point Liz's mother sent her to speech lessons - to lose that Northamptonshire lovely



dialect and 'learn to talk posh'!) After A levels Liz went to work as a care assistant in an old people's home in Bavaria for 8 months (unaware that the Bavarian dialect would not make improving her German easy) before studying German at London University. She then spent a further 2 years in Germany studying for an MPhil in Bonn.

She returned to London and taught first at a comprehensive school near Elephant and Castle. Here, she realised the investment in the speech lessons had paid off when a pupil asked her why she spoke like the Queen Mother! Then she worked for a long time at the Jews Free School in Camden where the Jewish community made her feel like one of the family.

In 1994 Liz and Phil moved to Abinger and were married in St James' Church. Liz taught at Howard of Effingham School for 10 years. Now retired, Liz still works part time as an assessor for A Level and GCSE German in addition to translation – mainly Anthropology and radio plays.

Liz is a competent sailor having completed two trips on 'Tall Ships' as well as many happy weeks on 'Elusive' a boat that she and Phil kept for several years in Brittany. Here they have a lovely cottage which they have shared very generously with lots of friends and where they have become involved in local life. Together with Phil, Liz makes frequent return visits to Brittany and also

to Greece where she has family living – in her spare time (?) she is learning Greek.

When they first came to Abinger they immediately knew this was the place for them because of the beautiful countryside, church, pub and the sense of community.

Liz is certainly someone of many talents who is appreciated by many for being supportive, positive, reliable with a good sense of humour and strong sense of community.

#### **Charities**

# The Wenceslas Winter Fuel Appeal

#### Thank you Thank you Thank you

The Leatherhead Lions' Wenceslas Winter Fuel Appeal has already raised £4,828.50 to date and helped over 200 households to keep the lights on and stay warm. So a BIG Thank You to all those people who feel they don't



need their Winter Fuel allowance and are happy to pass it on to those who

We receive requests for support through Citizens Advice Bureau, Christians Against Poverty and other charities involved in helping those needing support. If you know of a family or individual experiencing "Fuel Poverty" or in need of support or would like to make a donation please let us know either direct at <a href="https://www.leatherheadlions.org.uk">www.leatherheadlions.org.uk</a> or through one of the organisations in the community. Or send a cheque to <a href="https://www.leatherheadlions.com/www.leatherheadl

#### **Foodbank**

Collections for the Dorking Foodbank continue and donations can be placed in the green crate in the porch of St James'.



# **Abinger Consolidated Charities**

Kim Clark, Chair of Trustees explains the work of the Charity and its debt to a legacy made in 1628.

Many reading this may be thinking that they have never heard of Abinger Consolidated Charities (ACC) even though they have lived in the area for many years. ACC was established in 1974 when it brought together a number of charitable entities whose money was to be used for the benefit of the parishioners of Abinger (including Abinger Common, Abinger Hammer, Forest Green, Walliswood and Oakwood Hill).

In the long distant past wealthy parishioners left money in the form of endowments and legacies to be used for the benefit of the poorer members of the Parish via the Vicar of the Parish. Rev. Tony Berry was the last of a long line of clergy to have assumed this role and the Trustees of ACC will continue to use these monies in the way that was intended.

Our most significant income comes in the form of an annual grant from the Henry Smith Charity. The Henry Smith Charity was established in 1628 on the death of a very wealthy businessman and today it still owns substantial assets, including prime Central London property. So it is one of the largest grant making charities in the UK, distributing almost £40m annually all over the country. Abinger is just one of a number of parishes in the Surrey Hills to receive an annual grant.

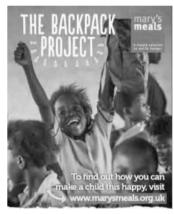
In the past, our grant has been used to distribute a bag of coal to the needy of the Parish, today we give Sainsbury's vouchers to parishioners at Christmas and Easter. It is remarkable that today, almost 400 years after his death, Henry Smith's legacy is still having such a positive impact on peoples' lives.

In addition to the Christmas and Easter gifts, we are able to give one off financial assistance to those whose circumstances have changed in some way such that they find themselves in short term difficulty. For example, due to the death of a partner, long term illness or unemployment. We are also pleased to support other charities operating locally.

Although it is true that many households in the parish of Abinger are comfortably off, there are some families and individuals in need of financial help due to chronic illness, disability, poor housing and lack of facilities and ACC has, over time, been able to make a small difference but one that is much appreciated. The trustees are proactive in seeking out those who may be in need and always value referrals from others in the community which are, of course, treated with absolute discretion. If you need assistance or you know someone else who could do with our help, please get in touch.

Kimclark50@gmail.com

# Mary's Meals – Update February 2022 from Caroline Evans



Temporary storage sorted! Thank you to Sue and Ali who have both offered temporary storage in their garages. We have already taken the majority of our current supplies to Sue, but we have plenty more space for more of your unwanted items such as: backpacks and children's summer clothing (for ages 4-12) that you want to pass on. We hope to be back in 'backpack' business later in the year!

The 'Double the Love' Campaign has now come to an end, but thank you to all those who have donated to it. We will hear later in the year how much was raised.

**Latest News - Mary's Meals** (MM) is now working in **Yemen,** serving life-changing meals to more than 4,000 children affected by one of the biggest humanitarian crises in the world. This is the twentieth country where MM is providing a daily meal for children at school or at a place of education!

The MM founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, says: "Given that Yemen can be described as the biggest humanitarian crisis in the world, and so many children are suffering, we are delighted to begin serving our daily school meals there – meeting the immediate need of the hungry child and, crucially, at the same time, enabling their education." Thank you for all your support in the past, now and hopefully in the future!

Caroline Evans (email: cwevans\_shop@yahoo.co.uk or phone: 01483 202938)

# Caroline is Fund-Raising to Help Rebuild another Palestine Home with the Amos Trust



This what a demolished house in the West Bank, Palestine can look like. The following are the words of Lola, whose home was knocked down.

"Our house was demolished on 4 September 2018. It was not just the demolition of a house built with stones, but the demolition of every hope and dream built with every stone. Nothing is harder than being here and not being able to do anything — to see 400 soldiers and three bulldozers demolishing your home in the middle of the night without any reason. Nothing is harder than that."

While Israel justifies the demolition of Palestinian homes — through lack of building permits, or as they pose a 'security threat', the reality is very different. Home demolitions are more typically used to pave the way for Israel's matrix of control (the settlements, Israeli by-pass roads, the Separation Wall), and to make it apparent to Palestinians that the land is wanted without its indigenous Palestinian population.

Amos Trust and its volunteers, including me, helped to re-build Lola's house in 2019. Why am I going again? I've helped on re-builds in 2017 and 2019, and it is very difficult seeing the injustices meted out to the Palestinians first hand. However, I go to help challenge the injustice of the Israeli government's use of home demolitions against ordinary Palestinian people. By doing this, I and our group are standing with the family, the local community and the people of Palestine saying that occupation, oppression and violence cannot win.

I would like to raise £1500 to help contribute to the cost of the building materials and the local skilled builders/bricklayers etc, who use us to fetch and carry and mix cement etc. (I will be paying for all my own expenses including, flights, accommodation and food etc.)

I would value your prayers for a safe and successful outcome to the trip and

project. However, if you would like to make a donation, no matter how small, please either visit my Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/cw-evans3 or contact me (email: cwevans\_shop@yahoo.co.uk, phone: 01483 202938)



Caroline Evans

## **Memories of Deborah Redsell**



Deborah Redsell was born in March 1960, one of four daughters of Brian and Dawn Rowling. Her father was a printer in Dorking. For a few years the family lived in Westcott before moving to Chasemores in coldharbour opposite the village hall. Deborah went to Westcott school followed by Ashcombe. At college she studied catering and became a professional chef. She also for several years helped her mother at the Oak Cottage tea room that she ran in Shere. She took time off to travel the world. First to China and the Far East and then later to Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

Returning to "normal" in and around Dorking she worked in catering for the Betchworth Golf Club, eventually becoming its manager. Deborah and Paul Redsell married in 2004.

One of Deborah's many talents was jam making. She made a very wide range of jams, pickles and chutneys and sold them outside their home Mark Cottage next door to the National Trust offices at Leith Hill village. She maintained throughout her life a very wide circle of friends and this was proved at her memorial service at St James' when every seat was occupied. She will be much missed.

Graham Mytton

#### Deborah's Jam

Paul is continuing the legacy for Deborah's jam, having learned how to make it from her. Indeed, he told me, for some time they have been making jam together. Paul told me he would love to have more fruit. So, if or when you have more fruit than you can do things with, let him have some and he can make more jam! I must say that it is one of the things that helped me through Covid! And it is made here! Give Paul a call or send a text. You won't remember this as fruit season is half a year away, so I may need to remind you! (07375 358976)

Graham Mytton

## LOCAL NEWS

# Bleats, goats and bees

One of our favourite walks over the last two years of intermittent lockdown has been the Friday Street circuit – over the bridge just beyond Pugs Corner, where



children enjoy leaning over to spot the odd fish lurking in the murky water, then a chat to the scarecrows in Christine and Jack's garden, a conversation with the pigs who always come down to greet visitors in the Friday Street Meadow, a distant view of the goats beyond and finally the chance to buy a few free range eggs or a jar of honey from Pond Cottage just before reaching the shimmer of the Friday Street Pond and turning back up through the woods for home. If you stop to look over the bridge into Pond Cottage garden you may spot the bees.

Becky Smith, who many will know from when she was running The Plough in Coldharbour, now lives with her partner Mark in Pond Cottage and devotes



her time to rearing animals. Not many of the animals are pets - in fact just the two pygmy goats which were given to Bella as a third birthday present. Even the eight beautiful dogs in her kitchen are working dogs, used for picking up pheasants in the shoots. Otherwise (vegans read no further at this point) all the animals are bred for their milk, eggs or meat, mainly for the family's own consumption but also for friends and neighbours. In fact, Phil and I

are just about to try our first chicken and joint of pork.

All the animals are in Friday Street apart from the flock of pedigree Southdown sheep that are currently at Broome Hall Farm. Becky got her first sheep in 2012 and likes this breed particularly because they are small enough for her to handle on her own as well as being one of the oldest British breeds.



She has 24 breeding ewes as well as Trevor the ram. Lambing will start at the end of February which will keep her pretty busy.

There is a story behind most of Becky's animals. She specialises in pure and rare breeds. Her two Golden Guernsey goats are descendants of the goats that were concealed in a hay barn in Guernsey to stop them being slaughtered by the Nazi occupiers. She has

three Valais

Blacknose breeding ewes, a rare (and very expensive) breed from Switzerland that was only introduced to Britain 10 years ago and has plans for them to get together with a ram belonging to a friend in Cranleigh.





Most of the chickens are Sussex Poultry and she also has a few rather spectacular Jubilee Orpingtons which were bred for Queen Victoria's

Jubilee.

The pigs are Gloucestershire Old Spots which are known for their docility and intelligence. We have noticed the pigs come and

go..., but there are currently two to talk to and Becky says there will be four in the summer.



Becky loves to share her enthusiasm for her animals with others – so if you are passing by do talk to her. Or she is happy to arrange for people to come down with their children or grandchildren. You might also like to contact her to see if she has any of her meat to spare: pondcottagepoultry@gmail.com

Liz Hamilton

# Abinger Book Club recommends books for the winter

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins tells the story of two characters: Lydia and her 8 year old son Luca. Lydia is a middle-class Mexican bookseller. Lydia



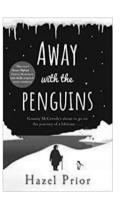
and Luca have to flee Acapulco after a drug cartel violently attacks their family party, killing Lydia's husband Sebastian, a journalist, and 16 members of her family. Lydia has no option but to make a treacherous journey to the United States by the freight train, La Bestia. As she makes this terrifying journey, she befriends other migrants including two beautiful sisters, Rebecca, Soledad and a young boy named Beto.

Everyone at book club thought the book was brilliantly written, totally immersive and thoroughly enjoyable. As a footnote, Jeanine Cummins was highly criticised by some people who felt that as a non-Mexican she should

not write about something that she couldn't possibly have experienced herself and this provoked much discussion.

Marion Cole

Away with the Penguins by Hazel Prior This story is told from the viewpoint of an opinionated old lady, Veronica and a young man, Patrick. After re-discovering a box of memorabilia, Veronica wonders if she has any family left and discovers that she has a grandson she never knew about. She travels down to London to meet him, but the meeting is not a success. After watching a nature documentary about penguins, she decides that saving penguins will be her life's mission and she travels to Antarctica to live at the penguin research station for three weeks. The scientists have told her not to come, but she doesn't let that stop her.



This book is well written and makes you smile and even laugh out loud. It is about understanding age and taking responsibility and highlights many issues: loneliness, trust, abusive relationships, the role of the church and its dealings with unmarried mothers in years gone by. It explores the environment and how the way we live is killing the planet. For Veronica it is about learning to trust, love, and rely on others. A book that was enjoyed by all.

Karen Cheeseman

# **MUSIC** in February



**Coldharbour Village Band** played to a lively crowd at Dorking Christmas Festival back in November. It was the first of the Christmas performances, all of which were outside this year. They also played in Ockley for their 'Carols on the green' plus Coldharbour's first 'carols by moonlight'.

We have a few events planned for 2022 and hope to return to a more normal pattern of rehearsals.

Anyone interested in joining the band should contact Debby on Debby.chapman@hotmail.com

# Ian Codd lists some Music Events this February

5<sup>th</sup> Feb at 12.00. A special free lunchtime recital at St Martin's Church. In memory of the former director of music, Martin Ellis, who died in 2020, and of Michael Kent who also died recently – he was for many years the treasurer of the William Cole Trust which supports the young choristers at St Martin's. The recital will be an extended one and there will be refreshments afterwards in the Christian Centre. 01306 884229

5<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7.30. Ashtead Choral Society at Dorking Halls. The Society is celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a performance of Mendelssohn's great oratorio *Elijah*, which depicts events in the life of the Old Testament prophet through music of great dramatic power. The choir, together with vocal soloists and the Kent Sinfonia, will be conducted by Andrew Storey. £18, 01306 881717

6<sup>th</sup> Feb at 3pm. The Jubilee String Quartet at Dorking Halls make their third and final appearance in the series of three quartet concerts presented by the

Dorking Concertgoers. They will play an early string quartet by the young Schubert, written to be played together with his father and two brothers in their very musical family home. The concert opens with Haydn's final string quartet, written at the end of his life when he had the energy to complete only two movements, and it closes with Schubert's last quartet, a powerful masterpiece despite the composer's sadly weakened state of health. £21, 01306 740619

12<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7.30. The Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra, at St John's School Leatherhead, will open their programme with Beethoven's overture to *Fidelio*, his one and only opera. This will be followed by Brahms' monumental first piano concerto with soloist Dominic Degavino and the concert will close with Schubert's fourth symphony, known as the 'Tragic' – it was written when he was only nineteen yet is full of deep personal feeling. £15, 01372 275907

14<sup>th</sup> Feb. Encore ballet screening Romeo and Juliet Dorking Halls 7.15 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, 7.30 at G Live

#### DORKING MUSEUM

# Reopens 3<sup>rd</sup> February

'Never start with an apology' is established guidance but perhaps we might start this month with one. At relatively short notice, Dorking Museum's re-opening after the seasonal break had to be delayed to allow for essential building maintenance work. The Museum's re-opening date had to be quickly rescheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Museum Chairman Kathy Atherton explains, "The delay was regrettable, but this work was deemed necessary to protect the fabric of what is an old building. There is a danger that some



of the exhibits or artefacts and material stored might otherwise deteriorate over time, but they are important to the area's rich heritage and to keep safe for future generations. Given the added uncertainty of the covid restrictions, it seemed that this was an appropriate time to carry out the work so that we can re-open fully and safely and welcome visitors back in February."

**Can you help?** The Museum is run entirely by volunteers. If you would like to support our activities and can spare a few hours a week, we would like to hear

from you. We are looking for Visitor Assistants to meet, greet and assist visitors and there are also more specialised roles in the operations of the Museum, most of which would suit working from home. All roles are voluntary, part-time and full training is given. For more information, please visit dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities/.

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

#### LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH AND APRIL

# 'The Best of the West' 4th 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>,11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> March by the Ewhurst Players

The Best of the West is a 2 hour amateur production featuring a medley of famous song and dance numbers from West End musicals. Directed and choreographed by seasoned professional Meg Bray and with musical mastery from Simon Fraser.7.30 pm, matinees sat 2.30pm. Don't miss out. Book tickets now at



www.ticketsource.co.uk/ewhurstplayers or call 01483 272378.

# Planned reopening of SHERE VILLAGE CINEMA on 20th March

Apologies for the sudden closure of our cinema in December which, as I'm sure you will understand, was due to the fast increase in the rate of Covid 19. Sadly, it also meant that we had to postpone our Winter event and all our other films planned for January to mid-March.

We are hoping that the Covid infection situation will be improved by late March and are planning to re-open on **Sunday 20**<sup>th</sup> **March** with our 'Spring



event'- In the Heights. This is an American musical drama film, with a Latin twist, from the creators of Hamilton. It is a big hearted, vibrant celebration of community, hope & heritage, infused with unstoppable energy - a must-see for music lovers! Running time: 2 hours 23 minutes (plus interval for ice-cream)

We are planning that it will be a fiesta event and a lot of fun - with a pay bar and some form of themed food, but we will give you more details in our newsletter, on the website and on our posters around the villages. Booking will be available from Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January. We will be limiting the number of seats and tables to allow more space between them. Please book early, once tickets are available, so as not to be disappointed. The wearing of masks will be dependent on what is required/recommended at the time.

In April, we will be showing the following films:

**Thursday 7th April** – *The Courier* is based on the real-life story of salesman, turned spy - Greville Wynne, played by Benedict Cumberbatch. (See January magazine for full details)

**Sunday 24th April** – *Blinded By The Light* - is based on the memoirs of journalist Sarfraz Manzoor and tells the coming of age story of a teenage Pakistani migrant who is introduced by his new Sikh friend, to the music of Bruce Springsteen.

If you would like to get early news of our forthcoming films or to sign up to future newsletters, please go to our website:

https://villagecinema.org/newsletter-sign-up

We hope you will be able to join us for our film event in March and/or our films in April.

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Shere Village Cinema Team

# Gilbert and Sullivan Coaching Day Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April with Richard Suart at St James' Abinger

**Richard Suart,** one of the UK's most famous G&S performers will be offering a Gilbert &Sullivan Coaching Day on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at St James' Church, Abinger. Details are also available at www.dandgchoir.net



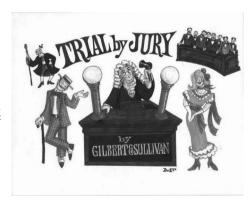
If you love Gilbert & Sullivan this is a unique opportunity to hear how it is done, straight from a top professional. With insights and anecdotes from the world of G&S.

# QRMW – an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April

We are looking forward to a busy year for the Charity starting with our Easter Egg Hunt at the woodland to which all are invited whether you come with children or not. This event will take place on Sunday 10th April commencing at 12.30. The charge is only £6 per child (parents are free) which includes entrance to the hunt, an Easter goodie bag and entrance in the egg and spoon races. Children do need to be registered in advance, so parents please contact debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk (Tel: 07778873806). There will be stalls selling Easter Eggs, cakes, crafts an Easter soft toy tombola and a bottle tombola. This is a very popular event so do register the children now to avoid disappointment as places are limited

# The Abinger D&G Choir 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Peaslake Village Hall

An evening of Victorian entertainment in two parts. The first half of the evening will contain a selection of G&S and other classic Victorian ballads. In the second half the Abinger D&G choir perform the famous duo's comic operetta, Trial by Jury. Tickets £13,



Tickets will be available from February at www.dandg choir.net

# COLDHARBOUR PLANT SALE 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL



Free garden advice for any plants that you purchase.

We are raising money for both the maintenance of the churchyard and also Macmillan Cancer Support



Cash only Come and join us!



## Children



#### Happy New Year!

We hope you all had as lovely a festive period as we did... it turns out we were

all on the nice list. Phew! It was probably because we did such an amazing job when we performed our Nativity loudly and proudly for our parents and carers, in the church. In colourful costumes with dazzling dance moves and super singing, we got Christmas off to a great start.





In fact we attracted the interest of a very special person who visited us early from the North Pole to give us each a present to read on Christmas Eve.

We were all so excited to return to nursery to see our friends and get stuck into the many adventurous activities waiting for us. We've started the year immersing ourselves into some of our favourite fairy tales. Three very well-dressed bears set up home in our role play area, cooking their porridge and sitting on their different sized chairs. We decided that Baby Bear's porridge

was just right!!! We then headed off into the real woods and using our bear masks re told the story to each other in our own way. Whilst we were away the wildlife in our garden decided to make the most of their uninterrupted time and the moles created their own playground. The molehills are everywhere! But we say 'hooray!' freshly dug mud for our tractors and



diggers and our main ingredient for our moreish messy mud pies.

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

If you have a child looking to start Nursery, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Please call 07842 978823 or email

abingercommonnursery@gmail.com We can't wait to show you around!

# **Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School**

After the long, dark winter months all the children and staff at Surrey Hills All Saints Primary school welcome the return of Spring and all the hope and light that it brings. As the days start to get longer and they begin to stretch out before us, we look forward to sunshine and warmth, to flowers and buds and warm spring winds. In the meantime, here in school, we are all working hard to make improvements. Our children delight and amaze us on a daily basis, with their newfound skills and achievements, with their development of character, their deep resilience and their ability to see through to the end, the most difficult of challenges. They continue to sing and act, read, write, perform poetry and create wonderful art and music. Our doors are open to prospective parents and we invite you to arrange visits to see the developments we are making and the positive changes being wrought and so to consider Surrey Hills All Saints as the school for their child in 2022. We look forward to meeting you as the year progresses, when hopefully and with God's good grace, the world will open up again. We wish you all the very best for you and your families.

Simon Coles Headteacher

# **Abinger Common and Wotton WI**

Christmas is beginning to recede now. However, in December we had a very nice Christmas tea in a festively decorated Wotton Hall. Our meetings at the moment, having to be mindful of distance and ventilation, are necessarily a little lower in numbers and somewhat chilly, but we had a warm welcome with a glass of Dena's mulled apple juice.

We were entertained with a talk by Diana Warnock entitled "Retro: Is anything new?" in which she took us through ladies' fashions from Victorian times, with crinolines and bonnets, through the miniskirts of the 1960s up to the late 20th century. She emphasised the way in which women's fashions have been influenced by the expectations of society, and of men in particular, about a woman's place and role, and particularly the way they were changed after the two World Wars.

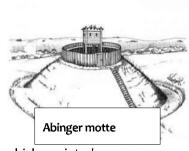
In January we welcomed back Kathy Atherton from the Dorking Museum, who had given us a talk in November about the Dorking area in 1620.

This time she took a wider sweep, looking at this Surrey Hills area from its geological formation millions of years ago when the Wealden clay, chalk and Greensand were formed, through the Ice Age, after which melt water formed larger rivers. The River Mole cut through a gap in the Downs (hence Dorking) and rich soils were laid down, to the period of the first residents between six and four thousand years B.C.

These settlements were all at the foot of the chalk hills. The people were hunter gatherers, living in tents made of wood and animal skins. In the Neolithic period trees were



cleared to be able to till the ground, and there is evidence of trading, while in



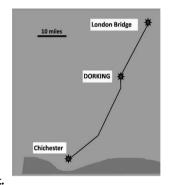
the Bronze Age people were breeding animals, creating jewellery and pottery, and holding religious rituals. At this time, people lived in round houses of hazel and thatch.

There was the period of the Roman invasion and

occupation, A.D.43 to the 5th century in

which society became more sophisticated with coinage and the first solid road (Stane Street) was built.

Stane Street (which means Stoney Street), linked the Roman seaport at Chichester (on the south coast) to the centre of London. Stretching 56 miles from end to end, it was the motorway of its day. By Roman standards, it was a wide road, built between ditches 7 metres (24 feet) apart.



On to the Saxon and mediaeval era with royal ownership, manors, tenant farmers and commons. Most people worked on the land managing livestock and crops, the women occupied with domestic work, weaving and spinning.

Kathy gave us a detailed account of the importance of commons, what people wore and ate, and the

development of houses.

Also of how the Wealden clay made transporting goods impossible until the turnpike road was built in 1750 enabling goods to go to market.

It was a fascinating talk followed by the usual tasty tea.

Next meeting: Thursday, 3rd February 2.30pm at Wotton Village Hall with a talk on Nutritional Therapy. Visitors welcome.

Pat O'Brien

# Your garden in February



**Wisteria pruning** is done twice a year, first in July or August when you cut back the tendrils and then in **January or February.** 

Wisteria has a habit of getting out of control and heading behind guttering and downpipes. Prune to contain the leafy growth and to concentrate the plant's efforts on flowering. The plant is dormant and leafless in the winter, which makes it easy to see what you are doing.



Leave the short stubby side branches with clustered buds as these will bear the flowers

Cut the long, pointed buds as these are the leaf buds. Prune all long side-shoots to just above the second bud at the stem base.

With thanks to Gardeners World who have a great video you can watch.

# Don't Forget the Hedgehogs!

Leave out water and meat-based dog or cat food for hedgehogs that have come out of hibernation early in mild weather, as they'll be hungry. Leave the food out from dusk and cover or discard any that's left first thing in the morning to prevent flies from laying their eggs in it.



# **Directory of Local Businesses**

| BUILDERS etc.                |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| B A Gunter                   | 01306 628291                                      |
| Dorking Glass                | 01306 882971                                      |
| Hampton Building, Effingham  | 07799 536914                                      |
| Martin Pretty                |   |
| 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 | 01293 871008 nfo@lyneandco.co.uk                  |
| Renovation                   |   |
| Morley & Johnson Roofing     | Ben 07824 861902 George 07710 503069 Morley-      |
|                              | Johnson2020@hotmail.com                           |
| AR Surfacing (drives&patios) | 07771 808332 alfie.vanloo@sky.com                 |
| CARE                         |   |
| Assured Care Solutions       | 01483 548964 enquiries@assuredcaresolutions.com   |
| CARPENTERS                   |   |

| Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner | 04206 742272 07060 046024 was a tomorriant co    |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Cabinet Maker                  | 01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com      |
| CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS          |  |
| Bullimores                     | 01306 880880 partners@bullimores.co.uk           |
| CHIMNEYS & CHIMNEY SWEEP       | partiers@bailinores.co.dk                        |
| Joe Lund                       | 07930 507115 and 01243 583430                    |
| COMPUTERS                      | 0/930 30/113 and 01243 303430                    |
| Surrey Hills PC MAC and PC     | 01483 608242 07771 665863                        |
| Surrey milist CMACand C        | david@surreyhillspc.co.uk                        |
| WMF-IT consultants             | 01306 731253 sales@wmf-it.co.uk                  |
| DOG BOARDING                   |  |
| Katy at Boarders               | Boarders4dogs@gmail.com                          |
| DECORATORS                     | 1 0 0 0  |
| David Skerritt                 | 01306 711898                                     |
| Dorking Decorators             | 01306 640418 www.dorkingdecorators.co.uk         |
| Leith Hill Decorating          | 07989 747722 leithhilldecorating@gmail.com       |
| ELECTRICAL                     |  |
| Smithers & Co Electrical       | 01737 843844 07850 563091                        |
| FUNERALS                       | -45/ - 15-117-5- 5-5-5                           |
| Sherlock & Sons                | 01306 882266                                     |
| GARDENS AND TREES              | 7,7  |
| EJM Garden Services            | 07766 081557 ed.j.mason@btinternet.com           |
| 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              |  |
| PJ Oliver & Son                | 07722 158111                                     |
| House & Garden Maintenance     |  |
| Scovell & Sons Horticultural   | 01306 611384 07597 946240                        |
| Services                       | info@scovellandsons.co.uk                        |
| LEAFHILL Peter Nutting         | 07572 712592 info@leafhill.co.uk                 |
| Neil McCance                   | 01306 730259 evenings                            |
| Down to Earth Garden Services  | downtoearthNFM@aol.com                           |
| Osborne Landscapes &           | 07818 001840 01306 730090                        |
| construction. Mark Osborne     |  |
| Phil's Mowing                  | 07905 160765 phil@philsmowingdorking.co.uk       |
| Mart's Gardening Maintenance   | 07480 831178 marts.65.cox@gmail.com              |
| SPORT, BEAUTY, HEALTH &        |  |
| WELLBEING                      |  |

| Keeley Cricket Bats            | 07778 692371 andrewspeters@hotmail.co.uk       |
|--------------------------------|--|
| The Beauty Shed -              | 07748 244621 www.thebeautyshedsurrrey.co.uk    |
| Garden Beauty Studio           | thebeautyshed@gmail.com                        |
| Surrey Hills Hypnotherapy      | 07929 253834 www.surreyhillshypnotherapy.co.uk |
| B-FiT - Health & Fitness       | 07879 333562 bronwyn.hartney@gmail.com         |
| 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        | 01306 889009 www.dltsc.co.uk                   |
| Squash Club                    |  |
| Peaslake Beauty Room.          | 01306 731182                                   |
| Avril Munford                  | pamperyourself@thepeaselakebeautyroom.co.uk    |
| Revitalise Fitness Mobile      | 07858 731890                                   |
| Personal Training and Coaching | info@revitalisefitness.com                     |
| Hannah Schellander             | 07846 508117 www.hannahschellander.com         |
| Hypnotherapy                   |  |
| Jodechi (Tiggs) Morton         | 07825 138508                                   |
| Psychotherapy, CBT, TA, Life   | info@jodechicoachingandcbt.com                 |
| Coaching                       |  |
| HORSE LIVERY                   |  |
| Crockers Farm Coldharbour      | 07584 624990 mail@crockersfarm.co.uk           |
| PEST CONTROL                   |  |
| EMWOOD                         | 0800 092 2277; 01306 501426                    |
| PROTECTA PEST CONTROL          | 01403 259972 07833 259972 www.protecta-        |
|                                | pestcontrol.co.uk                              |
| PRINTING                       |  |
| Dyson printers                 | 07850 518948 neil@dysonprinters.co.uk          |
| Mark Mitchell, M V Press       | molevalleypress@gmail.com                      |
| PUBS                           |  |
| The Abinger Hatch              | 01306 730737                                   |
| The Plough Inn, Coldharbour    | 01306 711793                                   |
| REAL ESTATE                    |  |
| Portcullis & Co                | 01483 283000 portcullisandco.com               |
| REMOVALS                       |  |
| EDE BROS                       | 01306 711293 edebros.co.uk                     |
| SOFT FURNISHING                |  |
| Gill Grist Designs             | 01737 842520 gill.grist@btinternet.com         |
| SHOPS                          |  |
| Coldharbour Village Shop       | 01306 711793                                   |
| Kingfisher Farm Shop           | 01306 730703                                   |
| Abinger Hammer Village Shop    | 01306 730701                                   |

| SWIMMING POOLS    |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Burgess Pools     | 01306 730952 burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk     |
| TAXI              |   |
| Dorking Taxis Ltd | 01306 885533 enquiries@dorkingtaxis.co.uk |
| VETS              |   |
| The House Vet     | 01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net       |

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

| DATES FOR TOOK DIAKT  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Feb   |  |  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | SJs café, St James', 8.45 – 10.30am                |  |
| $3^{rd}$  | Dorking Museum reopens                             |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | WI meeting Wotton Village Hall 2.30pm              |  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>   | CH coffee morning, JV Hall, 10.30am                |  |
| $6^{th}$  | Music at St James' for Queens Anniversary          |  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>   | SJs café, St James', 8.45 – 10.30am                |  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>  | SJs café, St James', 8.45 – 10.30am                |  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | SJs café, St James', 8.45 – 10.30am                |  |
| <b>March</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> | Ewhurst players production of The Best of the West |  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup><br>20 <sup>th</sup>         | Shere cinema opens with In the Heights             |  |

# NEXT ISSUE: March 2022 Closes 1pm Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February

abingerpn@gmail.com

Please continue to send us your contributions. They make the magazine!