

# ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR Parish News



**DECEMBER 2023**  
**JANUARY 2024**

## Who's who in your Parish

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

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

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Hilary Swift (01306 730898).

**Parish Office:** parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

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

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

**St. James' website:** www.stjameschurchabinger.org

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

**Christ Church website:** www.coldharbourchurch.org.uk

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

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

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

	<b>Abinger</b>	<b>Coldharbour</b>
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Lucy Harlow (contact via Parish Office)	John Anthony Simpson (712026)
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Sally McCance (737160)	Sally McCance (737160)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tim Prideaux (730730)	Martin Neve (713382)
<b>Gift Aid Secretary:</b>	Tim Prideaux	Helen Potter ( 712214)
<b>Flowers Secretary:</b>	Kim Edwards (730809)	Patsy Simpson (712026)
<b>Hall Bookings:</b>	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

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### ABINGER ORGANISATIONS

**Abinger Consolidated Charities:** Kim Clark (07775 531912)

**Church Choir:** Lucy Harlow: lucyharlow@me.com

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

**Fair Secretary:** Liz Irvine: lizandkeithi@btinternet.com

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

**Sports Club Booking Secretary:** Ed Bigland +447968417852

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

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

### COLDHARBOUR ORGANISATIONS

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

**Church Electoral Roll Officer:** Helen Potter (01306 712214)

**Cricket Club:** John Hopper (07957 611664)

**Golf Society:** Stuart McLachlan (01306 712009)

**Village Band:** Debby Chapman (01306 711704)

## **PARISH COUNCILS**

**Abinger:** [abingerpc@hotmail.com](mailto:abingerpc@hotmail.com) [www.abinger-pc.gov.uk](http://www.abinger-pc.gov.uk)

**Coldharbour (Capel):** Stuart McLachlan (712009) [www.capel-pc.gov.uk](http://www.capel-pc.gov.uk)

## **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Councillor:** Hazel Watson (880120) [h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk)

[hva.watson@btinternet.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto:waspbusinfo@gmail.com)

## **LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Abinger Common Nursery:** Pre-School Leader: Hayley Hatton 07842978823  
[abingercommonnursery@gmail.com](mailto:abingercommonnursery@gmail.com)

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

**Scott-Broadwood School:** Head: Susan Muat 01306 711181

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



## December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Christ Church Leaf Sweep, 9.30am
- 2<sup>nd</sup> St. James' Leaf Sweep 9.30am
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Charity Clothes Sale SJs, 2-5pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ladybirds Christmas Concert 3pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brockham Choral Christmas Concert 7.30pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Glimpses & Visions, meet the artists, Denbies 12-3
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dorkensian Christmas Dorking town centre
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Fair, meet Father Xmas at QRMW. 12.30pm
- 6/13/20<sup>th</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11am
- 6<sup>th</sup> Concert for *Dementia First*, St James' 7.30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Surrey Hills School and D&G concert, Westcott 6.30pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30-11.30
- 9<sup>th</sup> Three Kings Christmas Party 6-8pm at SJ's
- 9<sup>th</sup> Messy Church SJ's 3pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Dorking Choral St Josephs 4.30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> Coldharbour Carols with the CH Band
- 10<sup>th</sup> Grease Shere cinema
- 10<sup>th</sup> Menuhin Hall Winter Festival
- 14<sup>th</sup> Winter concert HStM church
- 14 -18<sup>th</sup> Wintershall Nativity
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Abinger Soiree SJs' 6-9pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Carols on the Green Abinger 4pm

## January

- 3<sup>rd</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James' 9-11am
- 4<sup>th</sup> Shere cinema Indiana Jones
- 5<sup>th</sup> Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30-11.30
- 5<sup>th</sup> WI meeting Wotton VH 2.30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James' 9-11am
- 13<sup>th</sup> Come and sing with the Serenaders. St James'
- 17<sup>th</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James' 9-11am
- 21<sup>st</sup> Shere cinema Oppenheimer
- 24<sup>th</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James' 9-11am
- 26<sup>th</sup> Peaselake Pantomime
- 31<sup>st</sup> SJ's café & repair café, St James' 9-11am





## From the Editors

There are lots of ways to celebrate this month but if singing carols gustily is your thing then wrap up warmly and join the Coldharbour band outside Christ Church on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, or come along to the Abinger Soirée on 22<sup>nd</sup> or bring your torches and gloves on Christmas Eve to sing on the green outside St James'.

It's the end of 2023 and this also marks the end of two series of articles. We would like to thank Di Hitchcock for her wonderful pieces about Coldharbour back in 1892- did the Rev Rooker ever come back from Brighton? And it's not a total goodbye to Joanna the Shepherdess as she has agreed to keep in touch with news of her flock of sheep that we've all grown so fond of. Thank you both for such entertaining pieces.

We thank the children from Surrey Hills School who designed the lovely Christmas cards for our festive front cover.

Happy Christmas and New Year from Liz and Jenny

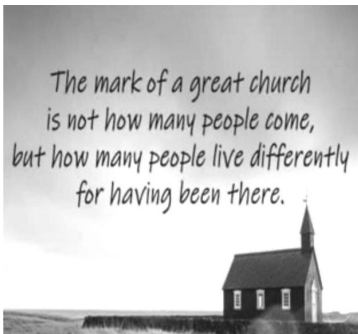
## Reflections from the Rectory



Our magazine spans two months – one of the busiest and then January!

December sees a flurry of activity with preparations for the big day – shopping, decorating, planning, cooking, and then comes January, arguably the greyest month of the year when the festivities are over, the decorations come down and life suddenly seems to lack colour!

Our churches feel this too – packed services, from Christingle, the Crib service, Carols and Christmas day (the Sunday after Christmas isn't called 'low Sunday' for nothing!). Don't get me wrong – who doesn't love to see packed churches! But what happens after the tinsel is down, the presents put away and the diets begin? Traditionally the Christmas period was much longer and



feasting and partying continued for 12 days after 25<sup>th</sup> December – sounds exhausting but fun! Christmas for Christians marks only the beginning – the hope and vulnerability of a newborn baby, Emmanuel, meaning God with us. A God who promises to remain with us throughout the year, throughout the rest of our lives. A God who continues to offer us acceptance, love and a sense of belonging – even after the last of the decorations are put back in the loft for another year.

And perhaps especially in the darkest of January days, a light to comfort and to guide – Christ is not just for Christmas! With love for a joy filled and peaceful Christmas and New Year,  
Rev'd Kia x

## Remembrance Day in Coldharbour and Abinger

Boys from Surrey Hills laid wreaths for us. Daniel Mir at the Memorial in Coldharbour and Ted Hopper in Abinger - both boys are at the Surrey Hills School.

Thank you to Kia and Hilary who took the services where we remembered those who gave their lives for us in the two World Wars and prayed for the innocent victims in the current crisis.



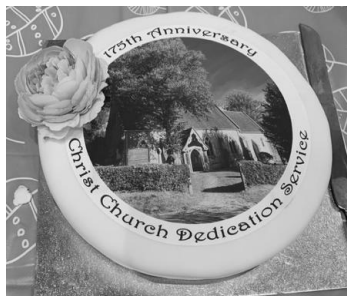
These lovely poppies round the altar at St James' were knitted by Maureen, Anne, Avril and Carol. The Knit and Natter group



meet every Tuesday morning at Maureen's house – if you'd like to join do get in touch.

# THE 175th ANNIVERSARY OF CHRIST CHURCH

In the 1840s a programme of building churches was initiated to service the growing needs of villages around Dorking. Christ Church was part of this programme with land donated by the 13<sup>th</sup> Duke of Norfolk and construction funded by local merchant banker, John Labouchere. The Anniversary of the event was celebrated over the weekend of 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023.



## The Anniversary recital

Imagine it is 19<sup>th</sup> October 1848 in Coldharbour and it's the day of the dedication of the newly finished Christ Church. A new house stands in the evening shadow of the Church and those that live in that house are impressed, having watched the Church rise up as the masons placed stone upon stone in neat rows.



October 21<sup>st</sup> and 175 years later; my wife and I (Peter and Gaye), who now live in that same house, were in the Church to listen to the wonderful organ and song recital by Philip Drew, David Hansell and Jenny Hansell to celebrate the dedication. Philip and David made our pretty Rothwell Organ sound like the one at Westminster Abbey. Their fingers (and toes) flew up and down the ivories.

Jenny sang. Perfectly. Her soprano voice rang through the Sanctuary, soared through the Nave and out into the storm, where the rain stopped to listen. If you weren't there you missed a treat!

## The Church Service

The next day members from across the Benefice gathered to celebrate. The service was led by Rev'd Kia Pakenham and supported by Rev'd Virginia Smith.



A highlight was a new hymn, a collaboration between Rev'd Virginia Smith and David Hansell, which included the line "Oh wonder, oh glory! We gaze out from Leith Hill" reminding us of the tranquil beauty surrounding our church.

Music featured highly and the congregation were welcomed with music on arrival. The Coldharbour Band, conducted by Debby Chapman, and the Leith Hill Choir, whose voices soared throughout the church, under the leadership of choirmaster and organist David Hansell, gave a wonderful performance. Debby rose to the conducting challenge, somehow keeping the band, the choir and David together – no mean feat from the balcony at the back of the church!

Readings were provided by Tim Brill and Penny Hopper and the intercessions were led by Francis Cave. Rev'd Virginia Smith took us back 175 years pondering on what the original worshippers would have thought about today's services held at Christ Church - with possibly the most shocking aspect being the ordination of women.

The morning's celebrations culminated with refreshments outside in the sunshine followed by a bring and share buffet. *With thanks to Peter and Gaye Tindall*

## A WALK FOR THE BENEFICE



Our Benefice was formalised in 2014 and to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary we would like to create a Benefice footpath loop – the idea is to create a walk which will link the parishes of Coldharbour, Abinger, Holmbury and Wotton, with 4 smaller circuits around each church.

We need people with experience to put routes together and enthusiasts to test the routes out! Please get in touch with Lucy Harlow by emailing [lucyharlow@me.com](mailto:lucyharlow@me.com) if this is a project you'd like to be part of.



**The Autumn Leaves have fallen and  
.....we need help to clear them  
up! Can you spare some time to  
tidy the Churchyards?**



**Meet at Christ Church at 9.30 on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
and**



**at St James' at 9.30 on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Do please bring your own equipment if you have it  
Everyone's welcome - even if you can only spare half an hour.**

# CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

To Neville and Rosemary Trussler



Neville and Rosemary celebrated their sapphire wedding anniversary with tea, cakes and a card from the King and Queen, at

St James café.

They were married at St James' in Abinger on 25th October 65 years ago.

Congratulations!



## Cup of Tea or Coffee?

**St James' café and repair café meet every Wednesday in term time. December 20<sup>th</sup> is the last before the holidays and the next will be January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**The Coldharbour Coffee morning** which was held on 3rd Nov was another triumph for Coldharbour bakers Martin and Sue Neve who provided a feast of cakes including scones, Victoria sandwich, a very moist lemon cake and, of course, Norman's famous date and walnut loaf with cheese on the side. Much noise in the Hall, fewer participants than usual as some of our regulars are worldwide at the moment! We look forward to seeing them all at next month's Christmas coffee morning in the JV Hall



**Next meetings December 8<sup>th</sup> and January 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Hils Jupe*

## WELCOME TO THE ABINGERS

We are putting together a pack of information to welcome any newcomers to the village. The success of the enterprise relies on us knowing who the newcomers are! So, if you have new neighbours including those that have arrived over the summer please be a Good Neighbour and let us know by emailing Sally at:



[parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org](mailto:parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org) with information and we can send them a welcome pack.

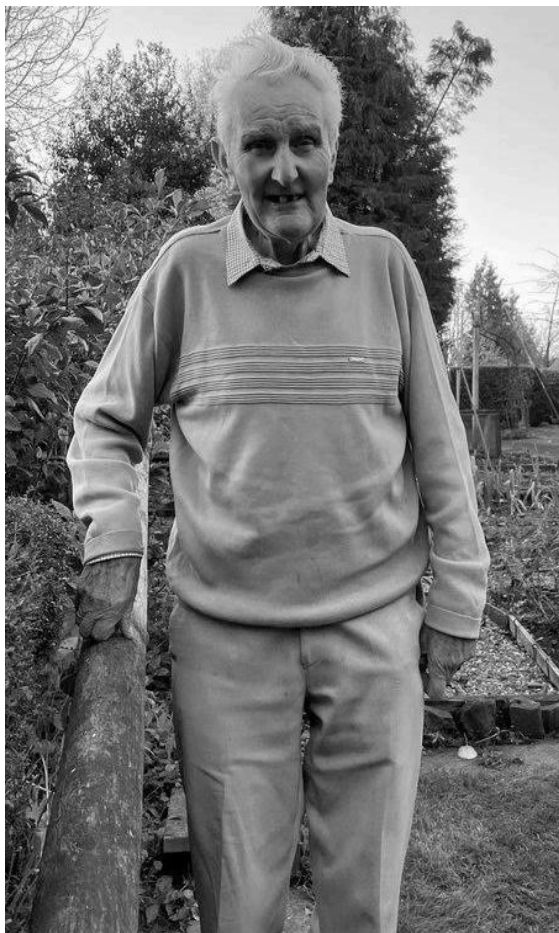
The pack will have vouchers from the Kingfisher shop and the Abinger Hatch, information about local amenities and activities, such as the Church, the Abinger Fair, the Nursery, Choirs, Charities, and a welcome letter directing them to the Abinger Facebook page.

*Kim Clark 07775 53191*

## We say goodbye to PAT ROBERTS

Pat Roberts passed away peacefully on 5th October 2023, aged 90. Pat had lived in Abinger Hammer all his life. He married Kate in 1957 and started work for the great grandfather of Barrie (of Kingfishers). Pat had a wealth of stories about village life. He remembered that when he started working, his days were spent pricking out bedding plants, 54 to a wooden tray, taking care of the main crops, cucumbers, and tomatoes in the summer and in the winter, glass house maintenance. He was a keen gardener, tending his vegetable patch at home for the rest of his life.

Pat will be much missed by all.



### **A Warm Welcome at Dorking Library**

The Warm Welcome scheme, with local venues at Dorking Library and the Leatherhead Community Hub, provides a local place for residents to visit and obtain support and respite through free hot drinks, activities, and in some cases food and fuel vouchers.

*Hazel Watson*





## Thank you, Katie, for your work for the Fair

This year's Abinger Fair was Katie Brodie's last as a member of the Fair Committee. She is stepping down to take a well-earned break.

Katie has been a driving force for the Abinger Medieval Fair for an extraordinary 19 years, 12 years as a committee member and 7 years as the Chair.

The growth of the Fair and the way it looks today has been hugely influenced by Katie's guidance. Her ability to bring all the village and volunteers together is one of the key factors that enables us to produce the magical event we all get to experience each year. She truly has gone above and beyond in everything she has done for the Fair and her contribution cannot be understated. We will greatly miss her wisdom, energy and positivity as we move forward to planning the 2024 Abinger Fair.

I know everyone will join the Committee in thanking Katie for her dedication as she steps down from formal involvement in the Fair.

*Liz Irvine*

### **Latest news on the Volunteer Pub**

The application to transform the site into houses and holiday let pods was rejected at the Mole Valley planning meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov by 8 votes to 6. The grounds for refusal were: The proposal did not satisfy the requirements of the community as what was being taken away was not adequately replaced in the proposal; In an AONB the size of the proposed development +41% is unacceptable, the pods are out of keeping; The viability of the pub before closure was not determined so the statements about viability in the proposal are suspect. Paul Cleaver, who has led the fight to keep the 16<sup>th</sup> century building as a traditional pub, thanked everyone who attended the meeting and said 'the fight goes on!'

## Clive and Emilie Williams completed the SAHARA challenge on behalf of Alzheimer's Society UK:



From 1 to 5 November 2023 my eldest daughter, Emilie, who lives in Dorking and I (Clive Williams of Abinger Common) completed a diverse and demanding trek across the Sahara Desert. We experienced 34-degree heat and trekked 50k (31 miles) over 3-days walking in the desert. We camped overnight in

small tents and ate local food to keep us going, plus 2-3 litres of water each day. On the way home we were lucky enough to stop in Marrakesh for lunch and to visit the souks. Apart from being an enjoyable adventure it has been very worthwhile, as we have currently raised £4,270 for Alzheimer's Society (UK). We thank many of you who have already contributed. This amazing cause is transforming the landscape of dementia forever and until a cure is found their aim is to create a society where those affected by dementia are supported and cared for in the best possible way. If you would like to donate please go to [www.mjustgiving.com/fundraising/cliveandemilie](http://www.mjustgiving.com/fundraising/cliveandemilie).





## WHAT'S ON

### Meet the Artists at their 'Glimpses and Visions' exhibition at Denbies on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 12-3pm

Local artists Karen Pearson, Reiko Evans and Diana Croft are showing their paintings, sculpture, ceramics and prints.

The exhibition runs from 27<sup>th</sup> Nov – 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 10 – 5 each day.



### FOUNTAIN OF PEACE CLOTHES SALE



**Saturday 2nd Dec, 2pm - 5pm, St James' Church**

Looking for a festive present? Visit St James' second-hand clothes sale for the ultimate low impact bargains.

The sale is in aid of Fountain of Peace Children's Foundation. Giving hope and transforming lives for Uganda's children.

### A Very Dorkensian Christmas

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 12 - 6pm. Dorking Town centre**

Music and entertainment, carol singers, market stalls – a magical, joyful celebration for all. Remember that the roads in the town centre will be closed and parking restricted from the day before.

# The Nativity

**AT WINTERSHALL 14th – 18th December**

This is a lovely occasion to bring your family and friends together to experience the real story of Christmas. Come and see the actors in beautiful, authentic costumes, the donkey, horses and sheep, the carol singers and a real Baby Jesus!

Public performances start on the 14<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm. You can book on the Wintershall website.

Tel: 01483 892 167.  
[www.wintershall-org.uk](http://www.wintershall-org.uk)



## PANTO IN JANUARY IN PEASLAKE



**Get your tickets  
now for the  
Peaslake  
Players'  
Sleeping  
Beauty and the  
40 Winks, 26<sup>th</sup>  
Jan to Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Bringing a hamper  
full of gags, songs,  
dances and all-

round family entertainment. Tickets are now on sale via the Peaslake Players website [www.peaselakeplayers.co.uk](http://www.peaselakeplayers.co.uk).

The Players are also auditioning for the children's production of the Wizard of Oz. Go to the Young Persons' section later in the mag for further details.



## SHERE VILLAGE CINEMA

We will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special event! –

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December: *Grease*– we will be



showing the singalong version of *Grease* (2006 version) to celebrate ‘our’ 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Come and join us and sing along to all the favourites - *Summer Nights*, *Greased Lightnin’*, *You’re the One that I Want* and many more, as well as the

original *Grease* by Frankie Vallie and the Four Seasons. Fancy Dress is encouraged, but optional - Dress up as a pink Lady or T-bird, a beauty school dropout or even *Grease Lightening!* Tickets cost £8 per adult (£6.50 per child) to include popcorn and ‘hot dogs’ (tasty sausage in a roll). Seating will be in rows, but with space in the aisles on either side, and at the front, for dancing! Doors will open at 7pm, when food will be available. **The film will start at 7.30pm.**

In January we will be showing the following films:

**Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> - Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny** - is the 5<sup>th</sup> film in the Indiana Jones series, starring Harrison Ford. The story starts in the late 1960s, where ‘Indy’ is now a grumpy old man, but it soon goes back to 1944 where ‘Indy’ and the oddball Prof Basil Shaw (Toby Jones) do battle with a Nazi contingent led by Jurgen Voller (Mads Mikkelsen) for possession of a legendary (2-part) dial. Meanwhile, back in the 60s, Basil’s daughter Helena (Phoebe Waller-Bridge) has her own monetary designs on the dial. Classification: 12A (Running time is 2 hours 22 minutes) Start time: **7.30pm**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January – Oppenheimer** – is Christopher Nolan’s formidable film about the so-called ‘father of the atomic bomb’. The film jumps through several timelines, following ‘Oppie’ (Cillian Murphy) from the 1920s and into old age, as it builds into a brilliant drama about ‘genius, hubris and error!’ Overall an essential viewing experience about historic events that still remain very relevant to this day. Classification: 15 (Running time is 3 hours). Please note that as this is a long film, the start time is: 7pm (earlier than usual)

To sign up to our newsletter and/or to book tickets for future films please go to the website: [www.sherevillagecinema.com](http://www.sherevillagecinema.com)). You can also buy tickets from the shops: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child.

## Chilworth Manor Christmas Trees

**Open from 10am to 4pm during weekends of 2/3 and 9/10  
December**

You can view and buy from the selection of trees whilst enjoying some delicious Christmas treats, buy wine and wine gifts from their Vineyard and feed the alpacas.

Tickets on half hourly slots Please visit the web site for a slot.  
[www.chilworthmanortrees.com](http://www.chilworthmanortrees.com)



## ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

The November meeting commenced with the AGM, with the treasurer's report given by Sally Frost, and the chairman's report - a review of the past year's activities - by Lesley Childs. It was agreed that the current committee all continue for the next year. It was also agreed that all future meetings would take place at the Wotton Village Hall rather than half the year at the Evelyn Hall; this was decided as the disabled facilities and parking are better for us at Wotton.

Thanks were given to the committee members, tea hosts, and indeed all members, who together enable this friendly WI to thrive.

We then enjoyed a talk by one of our favourite speakers, Daphne Jefferis, speaking on John Constable - the quiet revolutionary.

Constable, the romantic English landscape painter, was born at Flatford, Suffolk, the son of a mill owner. Although expected to take on the family business, he was intent on becoming an artist and at the age

of 22 attended the Royal Academy School in London. He loved his Suffolk countryside and this was what he chose to paint. He would work outside as

he saw the sky as giving the light and colour which he wished to portray. In this he was a 'revolutionary' as most artists at the time produced their paintings in studios.

Thank you to our tea hostesses, Ann Salter, Diana Raisman and Marilyn Marsh. Delicious sandwiches and cakes and even some mince pies.

**WI December Events:** The next meeting is on December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2.30pm at Wotton Village Hall, with a party atmosphere and tips on how to make floral Christmas crackers. Please come along if you are interested in becoming a new member.

Another party – lunch at The Parrot – is also scheduled for members and their partners on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**January Events:** meeting at 2.30 on 5<sup>th</sup> January at Wotton Village Hall with a talk by local physiotherapist Helen Esplen "Good posture and exercises to keep you going" – perhaps especially relevant after the festive season!

Wishing all readers a Merry Christmas from your local WI.

Claire Hill

*Dear Friends,*

Graham Mytton continues to sell stamps at a discount, especially for your Christmas mail. As you probably know, Royal Mail has made some old stamps invalid for postage. But Graham does not sell those. All his stamps are special issues otherwise known as commemoratives. And they remain valid for all postage and always will be.



Second class mail up to 100g now costs 75p. Graham can supply stamps to make that value but at a discount of between 12 and 25 percent. Overseas mail costs £2.20 up to 100g. The same discounts apply here also. By the way, there is no need to pay for 1st class. All your mail automatically goes 1st class when you use stamps from Graham for reasons that he can explain if you really want to know. Send him your orders. He will also deliver. All profits from sales this year go to the Boys and Girls Brigades in Zambia to help them buy musical instruments for their training bands. This is a project launched by the Coldharbour Village Band a year ago. Text him on 07854324571. If you have any of the old obsolete stamps - he can also help there. Send them to him and he will exchange them for valid ones.



## ***CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY***

### **ST JAMES', ABINGER**



<b>3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> 10.30am	<b>Advent Sunday</b> Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children. Refreshments after the service
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b> 6.00pm	<b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b> Choral Evensong
<b>17<sup>th</sup> December</b> 10.30 am	<b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b> Crib Service* An interactive Nativity! Come dressed as your favourite Nativity character. Refreshments after the service
<b>19<sup>th</sup> December</b> 7.00pm	<b>Tuesday</b> Lessons and Carols Mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b> 11.00pm	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Holy Communion
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b> 11.30am	<b>Christmas Day</b> Christmas Celebration with communion
<b>31<sup>st</sup> December</b> 10.30am	<b>The First Sunday of Christmas</b> Benefice Service Refreshments after the service
<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b> 6.00pm	<b>The Baptism of Christ</b> Parish Communion (Common Worship) with Sunday Club for children Refreshments after the service
<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b> 6.00pm	<b>The Second Sunday of Epiphany</b> Choral Evensong
<b>21<sup>st</sup> January</b> 10.30am	<b>The Third Sunday of Epiphany</b> Family Parish Praise Refreshments after the service
<b>28<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10.30am	<b>The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b> Benefice Service <u>at St. Mary's Holmbury</u> A service to say farewell to David and Judith Grundy
6.00pm	Julian meeting Half an hour of stillness with God

\*See further information on the Crib Service on page 45, young readers section.



# CHRIST CHURCH COLDHARBOUR

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> 9.00am	<b>Advent Sunday</b> Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b> 10.00am 5.00pm	<b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b> Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments afterwards Community led Carols by moonlight
<b>17<sup>th</sup> December</b> 7.00pm	<b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b> Carol Service. With readings, poems, carols and choi. Refreshments afterwards
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b> 4.00pm	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Christingle
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b> 10.00am	<b>Christmas Day</b> Christmas Celebration with communion
<b>31<sup>st</sup> December</b> 10.30am	<b>The First Sunday of Christmas</b> Benefice service <u>at St. James' Abinger</u> Refreshments after the service
<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10.00am	<b>The Baptism of Christ</b> Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10.00am	<b>The Second Sunday of Epiphany</b> Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments afterwards
<b>21<sup>st</sup> January</b> 10.00am 6.00pm	<b>The Third Sunday of Epiphany</b> Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
<b>28<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10.30am 6.00pm	<b>The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b> Benefice service <u>at St. Mary's Holmbury</u> A service to say farewell to David and Judith Grundy Julian meeting <u>at St. James' Abinger</u> Half an hour of stillness with God

## From the Registers

### Abinger

26 <sup>th</sup> October	Funeral	Patrick Roberts
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Ashes	Diana Moore
<b>Coldharbour</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Baptism	Arthur and Millie Holme

**Parish Office at Coldharbour will take place on:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
and Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 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!

# SCHOOLS

## Abinger Nursery



November is such a treat, a time to layer up warm and make the most of the crispy crunchy leaves underfoot and the gloriously ginormous puddles to splish, splash, splosh about in.

Halloween gave us the opportunity to dress as little monsters and paint our teachers' faces! The witch of Wotton even put in a very green-faced appearance and she helped us to make delicious edible fireworks with marshmallows, breadsticks, apples and sprinkles.



Our pumpkins were scooped and carved to perfection with a rather wonderful robin shaped hole and we kept the seeds to dye and create beautiful Diwali decorations. But we didn't stop there! We squirted the pumpkins with a rainbow of colours to create one off masterpieces only seen in Abinger Common!

Out in the garden we are working on our team skills and were given a challenge of how to get a ball into a faraway hoop without moving and without the ball touching the ground. After some scratching of heads and thinking very hard we collectively worked out that we could pass the ball to each other to achieve our goal. What a superb effort!



We are busily preparing for the festive period with plans afoot for another super nativity at the church - followed by a visit from a very special jolly character. We hope you all have a very happy Christmas and lovely new year. If you have a child looking to start Nursery please don't hesitate to get in touch. Tel 07842 978823 or email [abingercommonnursery@gmail.com](mailto:abingercommonnursery@gmail.com)

We can't wait to show you around!

Kate Fairbrass



## Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School

This autumn term there has been a wealth of learning and events happening at Surrey Hills All Saints, including celebrating and exploring the meaning of harvest at Westcott

Church. We gave our thanks for all who work so hard throughout the world to provide us with the food we all eat to nourish our bodies. We are indeed blessed to have Tim hosting us and to share the sense of belonging and togetherness which warms the soul. Please see what all of our children have been learning in class this term. *Mrs Jacky Fyson*

**Bees class** have been exploring the idea of microhabitats at Forest School. They found that different minibeasts liked different conditions. 'The worms like it dark and cold but the woodlice like it dry and crumbly'. **Butterflies** enjoyed mapping out our school and playground in geography. They spent a lovely sunny afternoon drawing maps with chalk on the playground. They used a compass to find out where north was and added this to the map.

**Hedgehogs** have been building castles in DT, thinking about the different parts and their importance. Each child made their own 3D castle. **Rabbits** thoroughly enjoyed the Rainforest topic. They created music, thinking about the sounds and noises they could hear from the animals and weather in the rainforest, and they made batik artwork based on the colours and patterns of the rainforest. **Owls Class** have been learning about different types of renewable energy. They explored the school grounds to work out where would be good to site renewable energy sources. They focused on Solar Panels, Wind turbines and Geothermal energy.

**On Friday 5th October our Year 5 pupils** enjoyed an art workshop run by Passion for the Planet. They created animal masks out of paper plates which were used to encourage audience participation in a theatre production in Dorking.



## SALV gets to the heart of the matter ...

Despite a filthy autumnal night as Storm Babet began to move across Britain, around 100 friends and supporters of the **Shere And Local Villages (SALV) Health Trust** packed into Shere Village Hall on October 18<sup>th</sup> to hear a fascinating talk by consultant cardiologist Dr Mike Hickman entitled *Look After Your Heart*.



Chairman Adrian O'Loughlin reported on the year up to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Plans for the much-needed extension, the Graham Tyrrell Wing, had made some progress but were currently bogged down in NHS bureaucracy. Two new SALV Trustees – Jo Kelly and Sarah Ingram were welcomed and our new

Treasurer, Sue Edwards, gave her first report since taking over the role from her late father Terry.

Felix Shetty, the 18 year old son of Dr Emma Watts, presented his research on why there had been reluctance among some local patients to use Brenda the Vendor, the Dispensary's prescription vending machine. Felix told us that the oldest user was aged 99 and, very much on the positive side, "Brenda is now a proper part of the community!"

Dr Hickman, a fluent and informative speaker, told us of the many exciting developments in cardiac treatment over the ten years since he had last addressed SALV. Heart disease was still well at the top of the list of global mortality but the host of new drugs in the cardiac field, and in weight loss drugs, was "absolutely amazing". – However, the drugs are hugely expensive causing a moral dilemma for society and the NHS – "we have to work out who can have them" considering their high cost.

Over time, these new advances will make a major improvement in cardiovascular treatment – and Dr Hickman predicted that still more important developments will come in the next ten years.

A lively Q&A session followed the talk before the meeting ended in SALV's time-honoured tradition of audience, speakers and the medical team from our wonderful Surgery mingling over a glass of wine or fruit juice. A hearty way to end another very successful community evening!

Tim Austin



## MUSIC

THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER at 6.30pm Holy Trinity Church

### SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS SCHOOL CHOIR

&

### D & G CHOIR in concert

Captain  
Noah  
and his  
Floating  
Zoo



Britten's  
St  
Nicholas

Conducted by Martin Hall.

Tickets £5 (children  
under 16 free but  
please book)

email: [tickets@dandgchoir.net](mailto:tickets@dandgchoir.net) Wine available for purchase.

All proceeds to Friends of Surrey Hills School



### Brockham Choral Society's Christmas concert on 2nd Dec at 7.30pm, St Martin's Dorking

The concert will include a new work, *A Time to Dance*, specially composed by Alec Roth, together with JS Bach's *Magnificat*. The choir will be joined by soloists and the British Sinfonietta orchestra. Tickets £20. Children and students £10. [brockhamcstickets@gmail.com](mailto:brockhamcstickets@gmail.com), [www.brockhamchoral.org](http://www.brockhamchoral.org)



## The Ladybirds' Choir Christmas Concert



**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 3pm United Reformed Church Hall, Dorking**

A big thank you to everyone who came to the Ladybirds' summer concert – together we raised £400 for The Meeting Room, a charity which supports homeless, socially isolated and vulnerable people in the Mole Valley and Epsom areas. We are delighted to be supporting their work again at our Christmas concert.

The choir will present a variety of songs including *Deck the halls*, *When a child is born* and, with a slightly jauntier flavour, *The happiest Christmas tree*. There will also be a few tributes to Tony Bennett (*I left my heart in San Francisco*), Harry Belafonte (*Mary's boy child*), Vince Hill (*Edelweiss*) and Roger Whittaker.

Tea and mince pies will be served after the performance. Tickets are priced at £7.50 and are priced at £7.50 and are available on the door (cash or cheque) or in advance from Sue Scarrott on 01306 877256.

Helena Twentyman



## The Meadvale Singers' Christmas Concert for Dementia First

**St James' Church, Abinger, Wednesday December 6th at 7.30pm**



On the Feast Day of Saint Nicholas, The Meadvale Singers, who performed in the church on the day of the Fair, will be returning with a programme of light Christmas music to start the festive season.

Come and enjoy a bit of nostalgia with *Blue Christmas*, *White Christmas*, *Jingle Bells*... and many other popular, atmospheric songs. Free entry. Donations to the local charity "Dementia First".

# Dorking Choral Society & St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Choir, Christmas Concert

Sat 9th December at 4.30pm



The society Invite you to their Christmas Concert in the **United Reformed Church** West St Dorking Tickets are £5 and children free. Join them for seasonal refreshments after the performance.



Tickets from [www.dorkingchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.dorkingchoralsociety.org.uk)

## Carols in Coldharbour on 10<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm

Two years ago, when indoor events were inadvisable, the Village Band first held Carols by Moonlight in the churchyard at Coldharbour. Lit by candles and the moon the event was very popular and they will be holding the event again this year.



A relaxed festive and family friendly evening to sing carols and a few other festive favourites and get into the Christmas spirit. Hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies will be available in the church before, during and after the concert. If it is very cold we will try to recreate the atmosphere inside the church. Proceeds will go to the church who provide the band with a beautiful rehearsal space. The carols will last approximately 1 hour, come and go as you wish.

*Deborah Chapman.*

## THE YEHUDI MENUHIN HALL IN COBHAM - Discount tickets

The hall is offering a discount on any tickets bought for their Winter 23/24 concerts with a discount code of 'PARISH20'

Go to [themenhuinhall.co.uk](http://themenhuinhall.co.uk), or contact the box office on 01932 559400

[boxoffice@menuhinschool.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@menuhinschool.co.uk)

Their ever-popular Winter Festival runs from 10-13 December

## 'WINTER'-Holmbury Choral Society's Christmas Concert

December 14th at 8pm St Mary's Church  
Holmbury St Mary

Lots of traditional carols for choir and audience plus other festive music, including a new piece by local composer Clive Osgood. Join the choir for a glass of wine afterwards. Tickets from [www.holmburychoral.org](http://www.holmburychoral.org)



## Music at Dorking Halls in January and February

For tickets and information. Contact [www.dorkinghalls.co.uk](http://www.dorkinghalls.co.uk) Tel 01306 881717

**1<sup>st</sup> Dec at 7.30**, Swan Lake £28. The Crown Ballet will perform Tchaikovsky's magical ballet *Swan Lake*, with its gorgeous music

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Dec at 1.30**, André Rieu's White Christmas, cinema special, £19. André Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra present a feast of Christmas music, including Christmas carols, waltzes and songs.

**5<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.30**, Christmas Swing Orchestra £19. The Len Phillips Swing Orchestra will present a Christmas celebration including many favourite Christmas pieces – Jingle Bells, Santa Claus is coming to town, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, and many more.

**12<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.15, and 17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**. The Nutcracker live screening, £19. Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, always a favourite for Christmas, will be screened live on the 12<sup>th</sup> with an encore screening a few days later on the 17<sup>th</sup>

**From 16<sup>th</sup> Dec Panto** -Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

**13<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7.30**, violin and piano recital, £21. Dorking concertgoers present a concert of violin and piano music by Oscar Perks and Ayaka Shigeno

**14<sup>th</sup> Jan** Leith Hill Music Festival. Sing: Bach's St Matthew Passion £70 - an opportunity to sing St Matthew Passion. Six rehearsals culminating in a concert on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Ian Codd





## **The Christmas Soirée**



**Abinger Evelyn Hall on Friday 22nd  
December 6 – 8 pm**

**A wonderful evening of light entertainment**

**£5 on the door, children free (all money to charity)**

**Carols, mince pies and mulled wine. If you would like to perform (all ages welcome) please contact Jayne on 0779509826**



## **Carols on the Green**

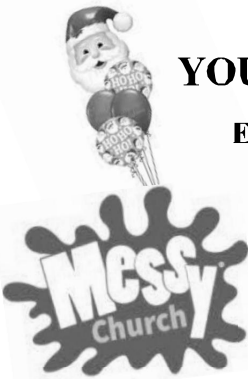
### **Christmas Eve**

**at 4pm outside St James' Church, Abinger Common**

**Mulled wine and mince pies**

**Bring lanterns and torches -no sparklers or fireworks please**



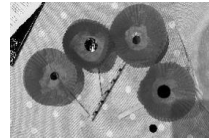


## YOUNG READERS SECTION

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month  
at St. James' Church, Abinger  
3pm-5pm. Children 0-11 years



At the November Messy Church, we had children of various ages who enjoyed making poppies with paper cases and lolly sticks, bits of fabric which were cut with a die cast machine, and then stuck onto pieces of fabric poppy badges. The older girls enjoyed making a hat each on our new circular knitting machine. The children then enjoyed dips and pasta whilst listening to a story. *Jenny Harlow*



**December 9<sup>th</sup> -Join us for our Christmas Messy Church and in the evening at 6pm join the party for 8 – 16 years olds.**



## **CHRISTMAS AT THE QRM WOODLAND on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December- Meet Father Christmas**



Children's Treasure Hunt at 12.30 followed by a visit to Santa in his grotto and present. Tombola, Raffle, Lucky Dip, Christmas Stalls Hot dogs and drinks.

Please register the children – it's only £8 for each child to join in and receive a goodie bag from the treasure hunt and a gift from Father Christmas. Numbers are limited so please register early to avoid disappointment.

Email [Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk) Tel 07778873806 All proceeds to Veterans in Need



### **AUDITIONS FOR THE WIZARD OF OZ**

**with the Young Peaslake Players aged 7-12  
14th Dec at Peaslake Memorial Hall 6-7.45pm**

Please contact Lesley at

[Lesley.happyfamilies@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lesley.happyfamilies@hotmail.co.uk) to book an audition – only 16 places available. Show date -Sunday 24th March 2pm and 5pm

## **THE NATIVITY - the Crib Service at St James'**



**Dress up as your favourite character in  
the Nativity and visit the crib at St  
James' in Abinger on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>  
December 10.30**

case you forget!

There will be costumes available on the day in

# THE GREAT OUTDOORS

## *The Diary of a Shepherdess (learning on the job)*

As we approach the end of 2023, I am writing my final article for the Parish News, the end of living in the Parish of Coldharbour and the end of shepherdessing here. The Spouse and I are preparing to move to a small farm that we have bought on the Forest Green / Walliswood border! And, of course, we will be taking the sheep with us!

Only a foolish shepherdess ill-prepares for their expectant flock! So, in May we started preparing their new grazing on our little farm. We toiled away all summer clearing fields which haven't been touched in over 20 years - while some people may refer to this as 'rewilding' I just noticed abandonment! We thrashed away through huge tangles of thick brambles and thistles, the tractor pulled out many metres of old wire fencing that had grown back into



the earth and could risk hurting the sheep or other wildlife. We felled several Ash trees with Die-Back (which we send to our mill to be planked into floorboards for the house) and then split the remainder for firewood. The Spouse ordered and patiently waited for 300 chestnut fencing posts coppiced from nearby woodland. The land has been harrowed and rolled and we have started to plant fruit trees such as apple and plum, that

the sheep love to pick through!

Pasture land is like property, it requires constant maintenance - not fertilizing like for an arable crop, but working with the land - cutting back the tree branches that block the sunlight, aerating the earth and spreading the muck for the dung beetles to then turn around and enrich our soil, sowing a diversity of grass seeds, encouraging pollinators and using good local hardwood chestnut fencing which will outlive us (as opposed to pine posts which probably won't make the next general election).



The barns are now up and running and took our first hay crop. We now also have somewhere for the sheep to come into - a huge barn for shelter, winter mud really takes its toll on their feet so this is somewhere for them to come in and dry out and rest their feet.

It's not all wildflowers and bucolic England pastures - we are already seeing the land soaked with rain, the ditches needing clearing to prevent fields flooding and the mud is building up. And, as we know, the work never stops with sheep, but the winter makes

it tougher.

Some people dream of a boat, or early retirement, or travels around the world - but for us it's always been owning our own land and the joy of improving it (fencing other people's fields is a laborious task that we have done for ten years ... but now!). We have the sheer delight of opening our curtains to see our thriving flock, in their well-tended fields, and that to us is what it's all about. Thank you for reading about my beautiful flock this year! Farewell for now!

*Joanna Chaytor*

## **The Abinger Pond**

If you have passed by St James' or the Abinger Hatch recently, you may have noticed the sorry state of the so-called pond by the road-side. It's been a while since it was last cleaned out, so Abinger Parish Council (APC) set about a clean-up. Three members of the north ward of the parish (Eliza, Paul, Phil) started to pull out surplus rushes from the pond (leaving such next to the pond to rot down and to allow any wildlife to climb back into the water) and to cut down brambles and stray saplings by the railings so we



can now see the pond clearly. In the process we liberated a bottle, a can and three dogs' balls (the rubber variety). The APC will continue beautification of the pond over the winter and ensure a more regular maintenance regime.  
*Philip Rawlings*

## Robin's Gardening Tips



Well, December is here! Forecasters say we could have a white Christmas, we wait to see - but cold weather is already here. A time for all gardeners to take



stock and plan the planting for next year while sitting in the warm.

If not already done, apple and pear trees need pruning when there are no heavy frosts. Never plum or stone fruit trees though - pruning of those should be done in the summer.

Broad bean seeds sown now, in a mouse proof area, will bring on plants that will be ready to plant out in early spring. If the ground is

workable and not either frozen or a mud bath, some varieties can still be sown in the ground if given cloche protection.

If you have packets of seeds which are out of their suggested date, it is a good idea to test viability by putting a few seeds on some damp lint and checking for germination. No germination, no point in sowing.

As Christmas approaches, we deck the halls with holly, ivy and mistletoe, but did you know that mistletoe should be cut with a silver knife!? Also, that mistletoe was once hung in every hall all the year round as a sign that guests greeted under it were safe in that house. A recognition from Druidic times of its powers to ensure peace and friendship.

*Robin*

# LOCAL HERITAGE AND HISTORY

## December 1892 Coldharbour Parish Magazine

The Reverend John Rooker is still residing in Brighton, his lengthy absence has been covered by four visiting ministers. His and his family's health must have been improved by the sea air however, especially in Bournemouth, in February.

*"The villagers will be glad to learn that on Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>, a daughter was born to Mrs Rooker, the Vicar's wife."*

In this final magazine of 1892, Henry Malden continues his extensive history of the Wealden Ironworks, which, in the 1700s, had contracts with the government to supply small iron guns to the fleet. But *"....the vice of smuggling was so deeply rooted in the southern counties, the French paid good prices for the guns, and during our wars with France, the enemies of the country were secretly supplied with Sussex iron guns. The government found it out and transferred their contract to the Carron iron-works in Scotland....and our industry flickered a few years, and expired in 1828, when the last furnace went out."*

Henry does not mention any Christmas celebrations but covers the first Temperance Meeting of the season on Friday November 18th.

*"The audience was not as large as could have been wished. Mr. Soley, the Marylebone stonemason, strongly advocated the cause of total abstinence....It is hoped that results will shew his visit was not in vain."*

The Victorian gentry had had a great impact locally as well as nationally. Much of the land and properties in Coldharbour, had been obtained from the Duke of Norfolk, whose forebears go back to the Conquest and owned huge tracts of England.

Charles Darwin's studies of earthworms at Leith Hill Place was instrumental in his work on natural selection, which makes his marriage to his first cousin, Emma Wedgewood, rather surprising. It is also surprising that a man, who suffered from seasickness, endured a five-year-return sea voyage to the Galapagos Islands in pursuit of his studies.

Darwin's best friend, John Hooker, the most important botanist of the century was a renowned traveller and plant collector, and the Director of Kew Gardens. Plants which include hookeri and hookeriana in their names are named in his honour. Most of the rhododendrons in English gardens were grown from seeds he collected in Tibet.

Hooker helped Darwin's sister, Caroline Wedgewood, create the magnificent avenue of species trees and rhododendrons that flanked the, then private road leading to her home, Leith Hill Place and the Rhododendron Gardens.

The photo is of Nellie Jelly's mother who collected the tolls at the gate at the start of Mosses Wood. Nellie is the babe-in-arms and they lived in Rowemount Cottage. Some villagers might remember her and her brother Norman tootling through Coldharbour in their 3-wheeler Robin Reliant.



The Great War's harvest of "the brightest and the best" effectively ended the aristocratic era. Ockley Village Hall was gifted by the Lee-Steeres, lords of the manor of Ockley since 1784, in memory of the toll on their family.

Cuthbert Heath, a great recruiter for the war, offered his home, Anstie Grange, as a hospital for officers. It was used again in the Second World War by the military, and the family never returned. Cuthbert donated 200 acres of Leith Hill to the National Trust in 1929.

*Diana Hitchcock*

## Why is Donkey Lane, Abinger, so called?



**Rector Hill**

Terry O'Kelly wrote this in *The Villages of Abinger Common and Wotton: Snippets of History compiled by Terence O'Kelly (1988)*: "The Rector's wife [Thomas Prince Hill, Rector Abinger 1877-1916] had a single-seat cart with bells on it, drawn by a donkey. As children we had to curtsy to Mrs. Hill, but sometimes when we heard the bells coming, we avoided this by hiding behind the hedge! (The donkey lived in the field where the rectory [now 'Moorcroft'] stands, and the path from the school to Chandlers was known as Donkey Lane.

For some reason this name later became transferred to Rectory Lane, but my mother always used the name for the footpath through Ellix Wood)". Terry O'Kelly lived in 'Mullacash', by the bowling green, and was a valued local historian; his grandfather built and lived in Skelmorlie (now Glebe Gate, our house).

*Philip Rawlings*



# Directory of Local Businesses

<b>ANIMAL CARE</b>	
The Mutt Hut dog grooming.	07760 162661
The House Vet	01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net
LC Animal Chiropractor	07780 870777 laracochlanmctimoney@gmail.com
<b>BEAUTY</b>	
Peaslake Beauty Room. Avril Munford	01306 731182 pamperyourself@thepeaslakebeautyroom.co.uk
The Beauty Shed - Garden Beauty Studio	07748 244621 www.thebeautyshedsurrey.co.uk thebeautyshed@gmail.com
<b>BUILDERS etc.</b>	
B A Gunter	01306 628291
Dorking Glass	01306 882971
RB Fencing	01306 640143 01483 414745 info@rbfencingltd.co.uk
LHP Groundwork and Drainage	01306 628412 info@lhpl.co.uk
Lyne & Co Capel Building and Renovation	01293 871008 info@lyneandco.co.uk
AR Surfacing (drives&patios)	07771 808332 alfie.vanloo@sky.com
<b>CARPENTERS</b>	
Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner Cabinet Maker	01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com
<b>CHARITIES</b>	
Abinger Consolidated Charities	kimclark50@gmail.com
<b>CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS</b>	
Bullimores	01306 880880 partners@bullimores.co.uk
<b>CHIMNEYS &amp; CHIMNEY SWEEP</b>	
Joe Lund	07930 507115 and 01243 583430
<b>COMPUTERS</b>	
Surrey Hills PC MAC and PC	01483 608242 07771 665863 david@surreyhillspc.co.uk
WMF-IT consultants	01306 731253 sales@wmf-it.co.uk
<b>DECORATORS</b>	
Dorking Decorators	01306 640418 www.dorkingdecorators.co.uk
Leith Hill Decorating	07989 747722 leithhilldecorating@gmail.com
<b>FUNERALS</b>	
Sherlock & Sons	01306 882266
<b>GARDENS AND TREES</b>	
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 JOBS IN GARDENING	01306 711720 recruitment@groundscapes.uk.com
Neil McCance Down to Earth Garden Services	01306 730259 evenings downtoearthNFM@aol.com
Osborne Landscapes & construction. Mark Osborne	07818 001840 01306 730090
Phil's Mowing	07905 160765 phil@philsmowingdorking.co.uk
Mart's Gardening Maintenance	07480 831178 marts.65.cox@gmail.com
SJH Garden Services	07792 628785 sam@sjhgardeservices.co.uk
<b>PEST CONTROL</b>	
EMWOOD	0800 092 2277; 01306 501426
PROTECTA PEST CONTROL	01403 259972 07833 259972 www.protecta-pestcontrol.co.uk
<b>PRINTING</b>	
Mark Mitchell, M V Press	molevalleypress@gmail.com
<b>PSYCHOTHERAPY, WELLBEING</b>	
Attune Reflexology, Dorking	07811 526156 @attunereflexdorking
Dora Bek Solution Focused Psychotherapy	07904 392493 dora@safespace-hypnotherapy.co.uk
Jodechi (Tiggs) Morton: Psychotherapy, CBT, TA, Life Coaching	07825 138508 info@jodechicoachingandcbt.com
Surrey Hills Hypnotherapy	07929 253834 www.surreyhillshypnotherapy.co.uk
Qigong, meditation, natural health and healing	Email: internitylife@pm.me Mobile: 07919 102332 Website: http://internity.life
<b>PUBS</b>	
The Abinger Hatch	01306 730737
The Plough Inn, Coldharbour	01306 711793
<b>PROPERTY</b>	
Rebecca Batchelor Country Homes & Equestrian Properties	Rebecca.Batchelor@KWUK.com 07464 043 045
<b>REMOVALS</b>	
EDE BROS	01306 711293 edebros.co.uk
<b>SHOPS</b>	
Coldharbour Village Shop	01306 711793
Kingfisher Farm Shop	01306 730703
Abinger Hammer Village Shop	01306 730701
<b>SPORT &amp; FITNESS</b>	
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 <a href="http://www.dltsc.co.uk">www.dltsc.co.uk</a>
<b>SWIMMING POOLS</b>	
Burgess Pools	01306 730952 <a href="mailto:burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk">burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk</a>
<b>TAXI</b>	
Dorking Taxis Ltd	01306 885533 <a href="mailto:enquiries@dorkingtaxis.co.uk">enquiries@dorkingtaxis.co.uk</a>



**"It used to be a Christmas tradition for our whole family to go down the pub, come home after a few hours and deck the halls. To be honest, I'm surprised the Halls carried on living next door for as long as they did."**



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**Closes 1pm**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

**[abingerpn@gmail.com](mailto:abingerpn@gmail.com)**

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