

**ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR**

# **Parish News**



**MAY 2025**

## Who's who in your Parish

**Rector:** The Rev'd Kia Pakenham (01306 737160) rector@abingerandcoldharbour.org  
**Honorary Assistant Priest:** The Rev'd Virginia Smith (01306 885349)  
**Licensed Lay Ministers:** Hilary Swift and Amber Wood  
**Parish Office:** parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org  
**Secretary:** Sally McCance (01306 737160) M, T, W, Th 9 -3 pm  
**Organist and Choirmaster:** David Hansell: 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>Churchwardens:</b>	<b>Abinger</b> Lucy Harlow (contact via Parish Office)	<b>Coldharbour</b> John Anthony Simpson (contact via Parish Office)
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Sally McCance (737160)	Sally McCance (737160)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tim Prideaux (730730)	Martin Neve (07974 777448)
<b>Gift Aid Secretary:</b>	Tim Prideaux	Helen Potter (712214)
<b>Flowers Secretary:</b>	Kim Edwards (730809)	Patsy Simpson (via parish office)
<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  
**Distribution:** Kim Edwards (730809)  
**Advertising:** Sally McCance (737160), PNadvertising@aol.co.uk

### ABINGER ORGANISATIONS

**Abinger Consolidated Charities:** Kim Clark (07775 531912)  
**Church Choir:** Lucy Harlow: lucyharlow@me.com  
**D&G Choir:** Jess Brown (07936542411) danielthreec@aol.com  
**Fair Secretary:** Liz Irvine: lizandkeithi@btinternet.com  
**Sports Club:** Rob Dunn (01306 730320) robert.a.dunn@btinternet.com  
**Sports Club Booking Secretary:** Ed Bigland (07968 417852)  
**Abinger Common & Wotton WI:** President: Lesley Childs (01483 205461)  
**Wotton & Abinger Flower Show:** Pat Rudling (01306 885696) rudlingpat@gmail.com  
**SALV Rep for Abinger:** Alyson Webber: alysonjwebber@aol.com  
**Good Neighbours (lifts):** Jo Kelly (01483 205446 or 07900 302794)

### COLDHARBOUR ORGANISATIONS

**Sports and Social Club/Village Society:** www.coldharbour.net  
**Church Electoral Roll Officer:** Helen Potter (01306 712214)  
**Cricket Club:** John Hopper (07957 611664)  
**Golf Society:** Stuart McLachlan (01306 712009)  
**Village Band:** Debby Chapman (01306 711704)

## **PARISH COUNCILS**

**Abinger:** [abingerpc@hotmail.com](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\***

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

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WASP BUS: 07802 460069 or e-mail: [waspbusinfo@gmail.com](mailto:waspbusinfo@gmail.com)

## **LOCAL SCHOOLS**

Abinger Common Nursery: Pre-School Leader: Hayley Hatton 07842 978823

[abingercommonnursery@gmail.com](mailto:abingercommonnursery@gmail.com)

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

Shere School Head: Victoria Beattie [head@shere.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:head@shere.surrey.sch.uk)



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# EVENTS



## MAY

1st	Wl, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
2nd	Coldharbour coffee morning, JV Hall, 10.30-11.30
3rd	Albury Plant Sale, Vale End, Albury, 10.30
2nd-5th	DGA Exhibition, Betchworth Village Hall
4th	Christ Church APCM, JV Hall, 3pm
7th	SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
8th	Shere Cinema, <i>Perfect Days</i> , 7.30
10th	Kingfisher Farm Shop Surrey Day, 10-12
10th	Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12
10th	Handel Concert, St James', 12 and 4
13th	St James' APCM, St James', 7.30
14th	SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
16th	Teddy Bears Picnic, Abinger Hammer, 4-8
17th	Coldharbour Village Fete, 2-5
17th	Feldemore Corner Garden open to locals, 2-5
18th	Pet Service, St James', 10.30
18th	Feldemore Corner Garden open, 11-5
18th	Shere Cinema, <i>Widow Cliquot</i> , 7.30
21st	SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
24th	Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12
28th	SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
31st	Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12

## JUNE

4th	SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
5th	Wl, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
5th	Shere Cinema, <i>All We Imagine as Light</i> , 7.30
6th	Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30-11.30

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# From the Editors

## The May Cover Picture

Rosemary Wakeford (retired bursar at Abinger School) sent us the beautiful photograph of maypole ribbons and flowers on the cover. Rosemary says: “I took this on Fair day morning, probably the year I retired from Abinger Common School (2012) as a memento. It is so colourful I thought you might like it for a parish mag cover. When I first agreed to train the maypole dancers at Abinger the maypole “head” had a few plastic flowers wrapped around it, which did it no justice! So, my Abinger Fair day started with wiring as many fresh flowers as I could around the top. During the dancing there were always a few bits that flew off in any direction, as the head of the maypole revolved with the ribbon movement but it’s one of the many memories I treasure from my time at school.”

## Abinger’s Progressive Supper

Emma, Amanda and Michelle send the following message:

“We sincerely appreciate everyone who participated in this year’s Progressive Supper. Thanks to your support, we raised £650, which will be donated to St James’ Church.

Next year’s Progressive Supper will take place on **Saturday, 28th February 2026**, so please save the date.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Bin and want to express our heartfelt gratitude for all the effort and dedication she put into making the event a success.”

## ONGOING EVENTS

**The Coldharbour Coffee Morning** is held the first Friday of every month in the John Venus Hall. The next one is on May 2nd.

**Abinger Coffee Morning (SJs) and the Repair Café** at St James’ are every Wednesday, 9 till 11. Join us for tea, coffee, croissants and chat... and bring along your material items to be mended.

**Elwyn’s Meditation Classes – Now Wednesday afternoons in St James’ Vestry**

Meditation classes will be starting again on Wednesday 7th May 2-3pm and will continue till the end of June, with a break on 11th June. All are welcome.





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**For information contact: Charlie Ingram (chairman)**

**E: [charlieye2020@gmail.com](mailto:charlieye2020@gmail.com) M: 07774 773993**

**Linzee Proudfoot (LTA accredited + coach): E: [linzee@madasafish.com](mailto:linzee@madasafish.com)**

**M: 07973 256392**

## Reflections from the Rectory



This wonderful picture was taken by a friend of mine on a walk up to St. Martha's in Chilworth – in colour it is a beautiful sunrise!

We are so blessed to live in our little corner of the world, with many wonderful walks on our doorstep. Lucy Harlow and friends have designed a Benefice Walk which takes in all four of our churches across the Surrey Hills, details of which can be found on our websites. We endeavour to do one of these each Saturday before a Benefice service (5th Sunday) and all are very welcome!

Our churches have had a full and busy calendar in the last 12 months – do come along to our APCM's to see what we have been up to; Christ Church on 4th May 3pm in the John

Venus Hall and St. James' 13th May at 7:40pm in church.

We also have the incredible Coldharbour Fete on 17th May 2-5pm where we will be marking 80 years since victory in Europe day, with all the usual fabulous stalls and fun.

And it's time to polish your tortoisies, brush your dogs and put a bow tie on your rabbits as we celebrate our animals and all God's creatures at our Pet service at St. James on 18th May!

Life is always full in our villages!

Rev'd Kia ☺



**Please help at a St James' Churchyard Tidy  
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**Saturday 17th May 2025  
2pm-5pm**

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## **Coldharbour Village Fete**

**Saturday May 17th**

Preparations for this year's VE Day 80th anniversary fete are in full swing and the stalls list is finalised. As usual the Village Band will kick off the afternoon, with the Superstrings Trio playing around the other attractions of the Fun Dog Show, Punch and Judy, and the Magic Show. In addition to the children's staples, there's plenty to keep the adults entertained too with all the usual favourites, Gifts, Books, Produce, Bottle Tombola, Coconut Shy, Teas and cake, Fun Dog Show, Beer & Pimms, BBQ, ending in the highly competitive tug of war!

The Raffle promises to be a highlight again with the top prize of a £250 John Lewis/Waitrose voucher and other wonderful prizes including £150 cash, £100 Hairdressing voucher from Teresa Weller, a meal for two at the Plough, tonne bag of firewood from Treeline and a Cuisinart iced dessert maker.

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As always we need your help please. The more set up and clear helpers we have the quicker it is all done and the more enjoyment had. It is also a great way to get to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances, and we need the strength of the younger generation please! Setting up starts on Friday 17th at the John Venus Hall at 10 a.m. for about an hour, and again at 2pm at the Memorial Ground. And after everyone has worked so hard, help taking down on Saturday at the end of the Fete is just as important please. Also during the afternoon consider offering stallholders an extra pair of hands when queues are long please.

Donations are also needed please. Gifts for the gift stall, cakes for the teas and produce stall, bottles for the bottle tombola, books for the book stall, prizes for children, old crockery for those who love to smash it, and produce and plants for the produce stall. Please keep carrier bags, cardboard boxes and ice cream containers to pass on to the plant/produce stall and 'tea tent'. We will let you know where to deliver them nearer the time.

The fete has been generously supported by sponsors again – thank you to Gate-a-Mation, Meaby & Co, Capel Parish Council and The Plough; if you know a local business that would like to sponsor, please let us know!

A quick reminder, many stalls will be cash only and as most of us don't have cash at home, it's a quick dash to the ATM please! We look forward to seeing you on 17th.

On behalf of the Fete Committee, Kerry Day  
(kemday@btinternet.com)



## **The Teddy Bears Picnic Friday 16th May**

From 4 to 8pm at the Abinger Hammer Stream. Get ready for a magical fairy-tale themed evening full of fun for all the family.

Bring your teddy bears and join us for an exciting line-up of activities.

The picnic is supported by Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School and Peaslake Free School Nursery.



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Within your community, Abinger Consolidated Charities operates across the ancient parish of Abinger (including Abinger Common, Abinger Hammer, Forest Green and Okewood Hill).

## If you need help...

... or you know of someone else in need of assistance, please contact the Chair of Trustees of Abinger Consolidated Charities, Kim Clark on [kimclark50@gmail.com](mailto:kimclark50@gmail.com). All applications and referrals are treated sensitively and in absolute confidence.

**Abinger Consolidated Charities**

(Registered Charity Number 200124)



**Abinger  
Medieval Fair**  
**Saturday June  
14th 2pm**

Not long to go now until another fun-filled Abinger Medieval Fair! This year there is a new act for the main arena, Come Bye, who will be explaining all about the origins of using dogs to herd animals. This will involve a demonstration by trained dogs using an obstacle course to show off their talents as they herd a team of running ducks. It should be great entertainment whether it goes to plan or whether it proves the old saying that you should never work with children or animals! There will also, of course, be delicious food and drink available including the return of a vegetarian food stall to compliment the many other delicious offerings. As usual, there will be a chance to win great prizes on the tombola or raffle and you can visit a variety of stalls selling everything from jewellery to plants, cakes and books. There will be Punch and Judy for the kids, Splat the Rat and much, much more. It is always a memorable day out, we look forward to seeing you there!



The stall holders would love your help with donations so please get in touch with them if you have anything you can help with. Details on next page:

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**Cakes:** We would be so grateful for contributions of cakes, cupcakes, biscuits and loaves, however small. Deliveries by Friday 13th June to either Rachel at Fir Cottage, RH5 6JL, or Kim at 32 Evelyn Cottages or Rachel can collect. You can contact Rachel as follows: rachel\_podolier@hotmail.com 01306 731506 or 07934 707779

**White Elephant:** We'd love to have your unwanted treasures! No electrical items please. Please leave donations in the garage at Oak Hollow RH5 6JL from June 1st. Oak Hollow is the first house in Abinger Common Road, just before the Cake Stall drop off point. Thank you. Emma Desmier: emmadesmier@hotmail.com

**Rag Tag & Bobtail:** We would like any Jewellery, Handbags, Gloves, Scarfs, Hats, Accessories, Soft Toys or Gift Sets in good condition. Items can be dropped off to Jacqui or left at White Elephant collection (info above). Jacqui Clemson tel. 730279 jc@barkerhart.co.uk

**Plants:** Please call Hilly Bradley on 730292 if you have any plants or garden related items.

**Tombola:** Sonia & Maidens will be on their collection rounds from the last week of May to 14th June. Donations of alcohol in any shape or form will be gratefully received. Alternatively, donations may be left on number 3 Evelyn Cottage's doorstep. Many thanks, Sonia and her Maidens.

**Books:** Victoria Edwards is running the book stall and would like books to be donated to the porch of St James' Church the week before the fair. No magazines, brochures or damaged books please. Contact Victoria on 730809.

**Raffle:** Please contact Liz Irvine, liz.irvine@gmail.com, if you have anything you are able to donate.

**Sweets:** Any donations of sweets or fudge would be greatly appreciated. Please get in contact with Catherine Russell 07776230346.

**Preserves:** Lucy Harlow would love any donations of jams, chutneys or cordials for the stall. Please contact Lucy Harlow on 07941 032744.

**Pilgrims' Pottage** would like donations of:

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## ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

At our April meeting we welcomed Annabel Alford-Warren who talked to us about the National Gardens Scheme – its history, beneficiaries and gardens open this year in Surrey (including that of our very own treasurer Sally). The very start of the idea was in 1856 when a Liverpool merchant called William Rathbone employed a nurse to care for his sick wife at their home. After she sadly died he retained the nurse for local people who could not afford to pay for home nursing. He could see the good that nursing in the home could do and worked together with Florence Nightingale to organise the provision of ‘district nursing’.

The Queen’s Nursing Institute carried on from 1887, coordinating national standards and establishing training and supervising centres. In 1927 Elsie Wagg proposed raising funds through the opening of gardens to the public, initially at ‘a shilling a head’, and 609 gardens opened (including Sandringham) raising over £8,000.

From those early days the National Gardens Scheme has grown and in 2024 raised over £3.5 million for nursing and health charities. Beneficiaries include Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, Parkinson’s UK and The Queen’s Nursing Institute.

This year 3,300 gardens will be holding open days. The website [ngs.org.uk](https://ngs.org.uk) gives up to date information and enables ‘pop-up’ days. Some smaller gardens require pre-booking to control the number of visitors and some are open only to groups by arrangement.

Locally we have Feldemore Corner open on 18<sup>th</sup> May, and there are also garden openings in Peaslake, Westcott and Chilworth all in easy reach. Tea and cakes are almost always on offer to complete a wonderful day out.

And talking of tea - thank you to our WI tea hostesses Sally Frost, Sue Hancock and Margaret Yule.

Talks at the upcoming meetings, all at 2.30pm at Wotton Village Hall:

**1st May – Jay Woogara - The India Diaspora**

**5th June – Gerald Bennett – Emergency Services**

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

*Claire Hill*

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# GARDENS



## Robin's Gardening Tips for May

The very dry spell and higher temperatures in April has resulted in many plants flowering early. The temptation to plant out courgettes etc. should be treated with caution. We can still get late frosts especially around the time of a new moon, and this can affect the early flowers and certainly some vegetables. Do harden off plants brought on in heat, and if needs be cover them, even with newspaper, if a frost is threatened.

Why not pot up a few strawberry plants and if you have one, keep them in a greenhouse for a few earlier fruit, bonus is you can harvest them and not feed the birds! The birds however do not go for the white strawberries - Pine berry.

Where daffodils have died off, do remove the seed head so goodness will go into the bulb and not into producing seeds. Let the leaves die back naturally. It is also better to put pot grown bulbs into the ground once flowered, rather than dry them off, (and like me) forget about them.

Early potatoes will need earthing up once the stems reach about 6 inches tall, this protects them from frost and excludes light which turns potatoes green and inedible.

If buying new trees or shrubs for your garden, whilst you may want instant impact, buy smaller plants rather than very large. Not only will you need to dig a smaller planting hole but the small plants will establish more quickly, as well as not requiring as much water.

If you want something different for your garden why not check out the plant stall at the Coldharbour Fete on 17th May, a little bird has told me that it will be bigger than ever and have some interesting bargains!

Happy gardening.

*Robin*

## Albury Produce Association's 'Spring Plant Sale' – May 3rd

The annual bring-and-buy plant sale is on Saturday May 3rd from 10.30-12.30 at Vale End, Chilworth Road, Albury GU5 9BE. You can enjoy a delightful garden with friends while stocking up on a few good plants and treats. Spring hamper raffle, cake stall and delicious cream teas available as usual.

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## Visit Sally and Richard's Garden at Feldemore Corner

As many of readers of this magazine will know, we are opening our four acre woodland garden to the public under the National

Garden Scheme on **Sunday, May 18th, from 11am to 5pm**. Details can be found in the NGS booklet for Surrey which is available now. The NGS raises money for a large number of nursing charities, including hospices. Last year they raised over four million pounds.

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

If you have any plants, seedlings or cuttings you no longer want and would like to donate to the plant stall; we would love to have them. Please drop them off the week before just inside our pedestrian gate.

We are looking forward to seeing you all!

*Sally Frost*

## Tours of Goddards

We have this wonderful house and garden, Goddards, right on our doorstep – you may not know, but you can book to do a tour of Goddards, Abinger Common, an Arts and Crafts house designed by Edwin Lutyens with garden planting originally by Gertrude Jekyll.



Tours are Wednesday afternoons starting in May and are booked by calling The Landmark Trust on 01628 825925 or emailing [bookings@landmarktrust.org.uk](mailto:bookings@landmarktrust.org.uk).

*Claire Hill*

## SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH, ABINGER

**4<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30am

**The Third Sunday of Easter**

Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children

Refreshments after the service

**11<sup>th</sup> May**

6.00pm

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Choral Evensong

**18<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30am

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Pet Service

Refreshments after the service

**25<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30am

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Sideways Church

New angles on faith with breakfast, laughter and conversation

6.00pm

Julian meeting at Christ Church Coldharbour

Half an hour of stillness with God



**All creatures great and small!**

### **Pet Service**

Please bring your furry friends to St James' on Sunday May 18th

at 10.30am

This will be a short service in the churchyard to celebrate all of the wonderful animals we have in the world and to bless them for the special ways that they touch our lives.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH, COLDHARBOUR

<b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.00am	<b>The Third Sunday of Easter</b> Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
<b>11<sup>th</sup> May</b> 10.00am	<b>The Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments after the service
<b>18<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.00am 6.00pm	<b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May</b> 10.00am 6.00pm	<b>The Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> Parish Communion (Common Worship) Julian meeting Half an hour of stillness with God

### **Parish Office at Coldharbour will take place on:**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 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!

### **Annual Parochial Church Meetings**

All are welcome to attend the following APCM meetings:

**Christ Church Coldharbour:**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 3.00pm in the JV Hall, Coldharbour**

**St James' Abinger:**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in St James' Church**

Rev'd Kia Pakenham will be chairing the meetings which will include the election of churchwardens, election of PCC members, review of the 2024 accounts and review and discussion of plans for the future.

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# THE ARTS

## Art

### **DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS SPRING EXHIBITION 2025**



Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road,  
Betchworth RH3

DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

**Open Friday May 2nd to Sunday May 4th 10-5pm. Monday May 5<sup>th</sup> 10 – 4pm**

Many members are professional artists and all art is for sale at affordable prices. Entrance is free and the Village Hall is opposite Knights Plant Centre. For more information, exhibition and how to join see [www.dga.org](http://www.dga.org).

*Angela Hall, Email contact@[dga.org](mailto:dga.org).uk*

### **Leith Hill Place Exhibition: from now until Sun 6th July 2025**

**LAST NIGHT FOR EVER** - touring sculpture by Andrea Gregson, an artist, curator and Senior Lecturer in Fine Art from the University for the Creative Arts at Farnham.

‘Last Night For Ever’ is touring National Trust venues including Leith Hill Place, Nymans and Winkworth Arboretum from April 5 2025 - 31 March 2026. Originally exhibited at The Garden Museum in 2009, it referenced the lost Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens and nature's fragile ecology. Whilst the outside of the sculpture remains the same, bespoke new interiors have been made for each venue, highlighting the garden and buildings histories, geology and surrounding landscape.

**REFUGE** In addition to Andrea's artwork the house continues the theme of *Refuge* whether it be in nature, art or music. With stunning photos on display from Dorking Camera Club and poems from Mole Valley poets, you are invited to step away from the busy-ness of the world and seek peace and beauty in this welcoming home nestled in the landscape.

\* From May, there will also be an exhibition in the study, celebrating the role Ralph Vaughan Williams played in establishing the Dorking and District Refugee committee during the Second World War.

\* See also ‘Dorking Museum’

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# Music

## Dedication Festival weekend at St James': May 10th and 11th

Following the necessary post-war repairs, St James was re-dedicated and came back into use on May 12th 1951. This year's celebrations are as follows:

May 10th Dedication Festival Concerts 12 noon and 4.00 pm with refreshments served before each concert.

MUSIC THAT BECAME MESSIAH – cantatas and a violin sonata by Handel. Miranda Johnson & Jenny Hansell sopranos, Laura Steele violin & David Hansell harpsichord & organ. Admission free

For the background to the music in this concert, see David's article in last month's magazine.

May 11th Choral Evensong for the Dedication Festival: 6.00 pm, led by Rev'd Kia. Choral music by Bruckner & Stanford, three fine hymns & organ music by François Couperin and J S Bach.



## Thursday 8th May

Come and hear the fantastic pianist **ALIM BEISEMBAYEV** at the Menuhin Hall. He will be performing a programme of virtuosic piano music including all the Chopin Preludes, Liszt, Ravel and a sonata by Scarlatti. <https://shimf.co.uk/>

## Music in Dorking in May by Ian Codd

### May 10th at 5.30, Dorking Chamber Orchestra at St Martin's Church.

The Dorking Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Morley, plays the overture to *Lucio Silla* by JC Bach, and a divertimento and a horn concerto by Mozart. They then play the Symphony no.3 by Louise Farrenc, a nineteenth-century French composer and pianist.

### May 24th at 7.30, Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra at Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, £16, 01372 275907

The Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra, playing in Ashted, begins with Beethoven's dramatic overture to *Egmont* and follows this with Max Bruch's well-known violin concerto no.1, with soloist Joshua Hugo von Bohlen. Then comes Gounod's second symphony, displaying typically French elegance but also some dramatic moments.



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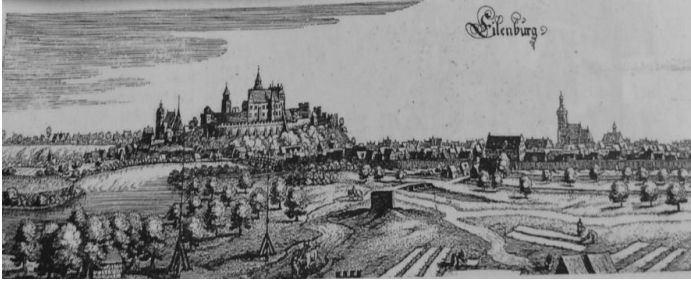
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## A Hymn of Thanks by Isolde Trenter

*Many of us know Isolde who lives in Westcott – at almost 90 she has the honour of being the oldest person in the exercise classes at Wotton House where she is a role model for us all. And she manages that having lived through the turbulent times in Soviet occupied East Germany at the end of the Second World War.*



The German hymn ‘Nun danket alle Gott’ (Now Thank we all our God) is loved all over the world. The words have

been translated into many languages, and a number of composers have used the tune in their own works, among them J.S. Bach (5 works), Mendelssohn, Brahms, Reger and others, right up to modern times. Both words and tune were written by Martin Rinckart, a Lutheran pastor at the church of St. Nikolai in Eilenburg, Saxony, the town where I was born and the church where my father was the organist as a young man.

Martin Rinckart lived from 1586-1649, a time when the Thirty Years’ War raged through Europe, Protestants against Catholics.

In 1639, the Protestant Swedish army advancing through Saxony came to Eilenburg and demanded food and a large amount of money. The people had nothing more to give and although they were also Protestants, the Swedish general threatened to burn the town down if the required sum was not paid.

The townsfolk were desperate. Pastor Martin Rinckart pleaded with the leadership, but in vain. So, he called the parishioners to a special church service to pray for deliverance. Two Swedish officers attended the service and were moved by the plight of the people. They reported to their superiors that they believed the inhabitants had nothing more to give and the army moved on. Eilenburg was saved from destruction.

A service of thanksgiving was held and they sang the hymn ‘Nun danket alle Gott’ which their pastor had written for them some years previously, around 1630.



### PARISH NEWS DONATIONS

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

A BACS payment can be made to either church:

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With many thanks.



The advertisement features a black and white photograph of Toby Stevenson, a smiling man with short hair, wearing a dark jacket with his arms crossed. To his right is the 'pe' logo for Phase Electrical, consisting of a stylized lowercase 'p' and 'e' with a horizontal bar. Below the logo, the text 'PHASE ELECTRICAL' is written in a small, sans-serif font. Further down, the text 'YOUR LOCAL' is in a small font, followed by 'ELECTRICIAN' in a large, bold, italicized sans-serif font. At the bottom right, the name 'TOBY STEVENSON' is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

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Years later a local artist painted the scene of the special service.

The painting hung in the local high school but was taken down during the communist rule in East Germany. Luckily the caretaker hid it in the loft, and it now has pride of place

again in my old school, which is now called Martin-Rinckart-Gymnasium.

Unfortunately, Eilenburg was not as lucky during the 2nd World War. At the end of April 1945, a few days before the end of the war, the American Army had reached the outskirts of the town. Everybody knew that the war was lost but the fanatical German commandant refused to hand over the town. The elders of the town council begged him to surrender, but he threatened to execute them for defeatism. I was 9 years old at the time. We sought shelter in the cellar of our house, the Kantorhaus, opposite the church of St. Marien, the oldest church in Eilenburg, built on the Castle Hill overlooking the town.

The artillery fire continued for 2 days and nights. When the firing stopped, we saw below us the town in flames. 90% of the town centre was destroyed. St. Nikolai, Martin Rinckart's church, lay in ruins, and many lives were lost. It was the last German town to be destroyed, 80 years ago on 22 April 1945.

Our church of St. Marien and the Kantorhaus had survived, it was a miracle. They were of course badly damaged. A rocket grenade went through the wall in my parents' bedroom and out through the window opposite without exploding, leaving just big holes.

My father discovered an unexploded shell in his beloved church organ, and carried it gently down from the organ loft, through the rubble in the church nave to a newly dug grave in the churchyard where it was later defused.

Hard years followed with the Soviet occupation after the division of post-war Germany, but Eilenburg and St. Nikolai have been rebuilt and St. Marien renovated, and Martin Rinckart's hymn lives on. It has accompanied me through my life, at my Christening, Confirmation, Wedding and other important occasions. For me it is both a hymn of thanks and a happy reminder of my home town in Germany.

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## Films in May and June



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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)). For those unable to access the internet, we will usually reserve a minimum of 10 tickets for sale on the door. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child. Start time: 7.30

**Thursday 8th May - Perfect Days** - is a film about a man who cleans public toilets in Japan. Directed by Wim Wenders and starring Koji Yakusho as the cleaner Hirayama, whose life is held together by habit and routine. He lives a life of blissful contentment, spending his days balancing his job as a caretaker of Tokyo's public toilets with his passion for music, literature, and photography. "An achingly lovely meditation on beauty, fulfilment and simplicity." Classification PG (Running time is 2 hours 5 minutes).

**Sunday 18th May - The Widow Clicquot** - is based on the true story behind the Veuve Clicquot champagne family, and business that began in the late 18th century. After her husband's untimely death, Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot (Haley Bennett) flouts convention by assuming the reins of the fledgling wine business they had nurtured together. Steering the company through dizzying political and financial reversals, she becomes one of the world's first great entrepreneurs. Classification 15 (Running time is 1 hour 30 minutes).

**Thursday 5th June – All We Imagine as Light** - This is a beautiful, sweeping, emotional film that explores the complexities of female friendship and captures the frantic pace, the vibrant colours and the heady atmosphere of modern Mumbai. It is the first Indian film to win the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival, and Sight and Sound crowned it the Best Film of 2024. Classification 15 (Running time is 1h 58m).

**Sunday 22nd June – A Complete Unknown** – a biographical film about Bob Dylan, it follows 19-year-old Minnesota musician Bob Dylan's (Timothée Chalamet) meteoric rise as a folk singer to concert halls and the top of the charts – his songs and mystique becoming a worldwide sensation – culminating in his ground-breaking electric rock and roll performance at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965. Classification 15 (Running time is 2 hours 21 minutes).

*In April, the SVC donated £500 to Challengers, and £500 to Phyllis Tuckwell. The SVC has now donated over £40,000 to local charities – a HUGE thank you to all our cinema attendees over the past 11+ years for making this possible!*



## **MAY HALF TERM & SUMMER RIDING ACTIVITIES**

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## Art

### DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS SPRING EXHIBITION 2025



Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road,  
Betchworth RH3 DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

**Open Friday May 2nd to Sunday May 4th 10-5pm. Monday May 5<sup>th</sup> 10 – 4pm**

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*Angela Hall, Email [contact@dga.org](mailto:contact@dga.org)*

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\* See also ‘Dorking Museum’ in the ‘Local History’ Section of the magazine

# LOOKING FORWARD ...

## NEXT BENEFICE WALK - Saturday, 28th June, at 9.30



Starting at ST MARY'S CHURCH, Holmbury St Mary  
St Mary's Way loops  
to St James' Church in Abinger Common  
and back again.

There will be refreshments at the half-way point  
(11-ish) and we expect to be returning to St. Mary's at  
around 1/1.30. All are welcome, including dogs!

Remaining Benefice Walk dates for 2025:  
30th August from Christ Church, Coldharbour  
29th November from St James' Church, Abinger Common  
27th December from St Mary's, Holmbury St. Mary.

Please contact Lucy at [lucyharlow@me.com](mailto:lucyharlow@me.com) with questions or to be put on  
the Loop Group email list.



**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SATURDAY JUNE 28TH**  
**FROM 2.30 TO 5PM**

\* Bring donations for children at the  
Fountain Of Peace Orphanage in Uganda

\* Come for tea, coffee and cake - bring a friend!  
Everyone is welcome  
at

Shootlands Farm, Abinger Common RH5 6JX

Hot on the heels of Lucy Pakenham and Rosie McCance,

Lucy and Libby Harlow are travelling to the FOP  
orphanage in July. We would be so grateful for donations  
of equipment to take to the children. Please see below  
for the full list of items that we have been asked for and  
contact Lucy on 07941 032744 with any questions.

Clothes & pyjamas for boys/girls aged 5-12 new or nearly new \* New  
underwear for boys/girls aged 5-12 \* Feeding bottles 0-6mths \* Baby  
bibs 0-12mths \* Baby socks 0-24mths \* Teethers \* Toys for 6mths-3yrs  
\* Games, Duplo, Lego, toy cars, reading books for older children



**JULY 12TH - 6.00PM START**  
(PITCH SET UP FROM MIDDAY)

**Walliswoodstock**

**BACK TO OUR ROOTS**  
HIPPIE BABY

**THE STEVE KING and JAZZ QUINTET**  
TO WARM UP

**and AIR2AIR**  
TO GET THE PARTY GOING

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: **CFS** [WWW.CRANLEIGH.CO.UK](http://WWW.CRANLEIGH.CO.UK)

**TICKET PRICES £15 ADULT + £5 CHILDREN**

**TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKET**  
**TEXT OR WHATSAPP US ON 07592 209627**

# CHILDREN

## Abinger Common Nursery



It takes a very special person to stick a job for 25 years and thank goodness we have one such person at the heart of our nursery.

From cooking to campfires, gutting fish to foraging for blackberries, from next level kindness to a crazy green witch face, from marmalade to marshmallows this wonderful lady can do it all.

We wouldn't and couldn't be without her and are eternally grateful she chose us.

### **Henny – This is your life! Your nursery life!!**

Let's hear from some lovely parents.....

*"Well this is a request that is easily fulfilled! I smile whenever Henny's name is mentioned because she is a very special person. She was in charge on our child's first day at nursery and as soon as I arrived to collect him I knew he had been in an incredibly safe pair of hands. I felt slightly in awe of her to be honest! She has always seemed to strike the perfect balance between being very competently in charge but having lots of fun and just being a complete natural with the children. I felt totally confident that I could have approached her about anything and she would have handled any situation in the right way. We are extremely grateful to know Henny and thankful to her for everything she has done for us. She really is one of a kind!"*

*"A very warm, special and talented lady. Both my boys were so lucky to have been taught by you at Abinger Common Nursery. Many congratulations Henny! xxx"*

*"We've such fond memories of our children's time at Abinger nursery, and we're so grateful to you for the kindness and the great sense of fun you brought to their days there. Your big, welcoming smile at the door each morning made such a difference to us all! Thank you so much, Lots of love xx"*

*"Thank you Henny for all the support and fun you gave us at nursery and for teaching us how to make marmite sandwiches! xxx"*

*"Henny is the beating heart of Abinger and any little person lucky enough to be in her care can be guaranteed the best start in life! xx"*

*"How grateful we are that Henny was behind that door (along with Hayley and Coral!) when we knocked at Abinger Common Nursery. I knew she was special when our child's tears dried the moment she felt Henny's kind, safe arms around her. Our second child felt just as happy in Henny's cheerful, often slightly wicked company, and our whole family has felt her love and her support ever since. How fortunate we were to find her - we will never let her go. xxxxx"*



We are really pleased to announce that our after school club will be extended to 5pm Monday to Thursday from the Summer Term. 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](mailto:abingercommonnursery@gmail.com). We can't wait to show you around!

## Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School

After the Easter break, F@SH will be surging ahead with our community events including the upcoming Teddy Bears picnic, WESTfest and Abinger Medieval Fayre.

A huge amount of organisation goes into these events and volunteers to join F@SH and help out with events are very welcome.

### Easter Bonnets

Years R-2 had a fabulous Easter Bonnet Parade. As always it was a joyous parade around the playground in front of parents and the rest of the school.

Here are some of Reception showing off their beautiful hats created for our annual Easter Bonnet Parade.

Abel said 'I liked wearing my hat, but the carrots were a little bit tickly'



### Attune Reflexology Dorking

Hi, I'm Emma and I offer foot reflexology to improve and support women's health and wellbeing. My special area of interest is supporting women experiencing a difficult Perimenopause or Menopause. Reflexology is an ancient holistic therapy which targets and stimulates each of the systems of your body and through a course of treatments, can help bring your body back into balance and improve a myriad of physical and emotional issues. Reflexology is like resetting your body and mind, helping to calm your nervous system and creating space to heal. My clients often tell me that they have never felt so deeply relaxed before. See my ad in the magazine for more details and do get in contact to book your Discovery appointment: 07811526156.

# LOCAL HISTORY

## Some World War 2 Memories of Coldharbour from Rose Winchcombe:

### The Plough pub and Coldharbour VE Day celebrations

“The Barn at the rear of The Plough was so called by Anna and Rick when they had the pub. It used to be the village hall where all sorts of events took place. During the war the ARP’s had it and it was called The Club Room and there were many events in there including Whist Drives. It also had the air raid siren to warn us all if the Doodlebugs were coming over. My mother used to say *Oh here comes Hitler on his motorbike* and we all had to go down into the cellar until the danger was passed. As soon as the engine sound stopped, you ducked and hoped for the best.

There was a street party on VE day with tables outside in the road all laid with all sorts of treats and cakes. The tables ran from just past The Plough up to almost Honeysuckle Cottage. My mother Doris and I made all the bunting, cutting up old bits of fabric and sewing them all on a pedal Singer sewing machine. Of course, there was no traffic allowed through. The Lipscombe family owned the pub and stables at that time. There was some music as well, on an old wind-up gramophone.”



### Dorking Museum commemorates VE Day

VE Day in Cleardene Dorking



**VE Day commemoration:** Join Dorking Museum in celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day: **Saturday 10th May, 10am-3.30pm**. Another chance to see the popular Blackbrook Bomber display and find out what the people of Dorking lived through during WW2. Children are invited to dress up in our wartime costumes and make their own souvenir flags, bunting, poppies and medals to take home. All materials provided free (with generous support from the Arts Society Dorking).

**A Place of Safety:** The Museum's summer exhibition **opens on 15th May** and



Belgian Refugees in Dorking during WW1

ties in with the National Trust's focus on Vaughan Williams and the Dorking Refugee Committee. A Place of Safety tells the stories of the various groups who have found refuge in the town and their experiences – including those fleeing the French Revolution in 1792, the Kaiser's army in 1914, Nazi oppression in the late 1930s, the Blitz in 1940

and, in the present century, persecution in the Middle East.

**Family Activities:** In conjunction with Dorking Library, on **Saturday 24th May**, 10-12, for Local History Month, there will be an opportunity to handle objects from the Museum. Aimed at 4–11-year-olds, children must be accompanied. [www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk). 01306 876591.

## Hilly's Gripes - What is happening to Dorking?!

So many more shops are going - in St Martin's Walk especially; Fothergills/Chimes & the Boutique are the latest victims to huge rent rises - following on from the Oxfam Book Shop. What use is an empty property? Stonegate has gone bust so the old Aviva site is depressingly boarded up. There are a surprising number of visitors to Dorking so they must get quite a shock on arrival at the general air of neglect. But on the plus side - we have Dorking Halls, Denbies, The White Horse, plenty of coffee shops, as well as a pretty good bus network - so fish out your passes & save money that way!! And do check out Circular Dorking's 'Library of Things'. <https://circulardorking.myturn.com/library/>

Hilly Bradley



# SHERE SURGERY NEWS

**Spring COVID Campaign 2025:** The spring campaign is well underway and thank you for the amazing uptake of patients wanting and receiving the vaccine. If you have not had your vaccine and would like one, please get in contact with the surgery to book your appointment. The campaign is running until 1st June 2025.

**NHS Health Checks:** Appointments are available for patients aged between 40 and 74. The NHS Health Check is a free check-up of your overall health. It can tell you whether you are at higher risk of getting certain health problems, such as heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and stroke. During the check-up you will discuss how to reduce your risk of these conditions.

**Birth Month Recall:** At the surgery we are implementing birth month recall. A “birth month recall system” is used by many GP practices in the UK to remind patients with long-term conditions to book their annual reviews during their birthday month. The aim is to make it easier for patients to remember their appointments, improve efficiency, and ensure consistent monitoring of their condition.

Here is how it generally works: -

1. **Invitation:** Patients receive an invitation to book their annual review during their birth month, usually by text, email or phone call.
2. **Booking:** Patients contact the practice to book their appointment, and the Care Navigator team will identify the necessary appointments and tests.
3. **Combined Reviews:** This system often encourages consolidating multiple tests and checks into a single appointment, minimizing the number of visits for patients.
4. **Benefits:** It aims to make the appointment booking process simpler, timelier, and easier to remember for patients

So please, when you receive your reminder for your annual review, do make contact with the practice to arrange your appointment. Be aware that as this is introduced your next review may come sooner than you were expecting.

**Dr Watts's attempt at the Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race:** By the time you read this Dr Watts will have attempted the above 125-mile race with 77 portages (run across a lock carrying your boat and kit) in her K1 (single kayak). 17 days prior to the event she fell off her bike and fractured her wrist. At the time of writing, she still intends to race, with her wrist splinted. She is extremely grateful for all the donations and has so far raised over



£13,000 (plus £3000 Gift Aid) for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. She will be posting updates on her Just Giving page.  
[https://www.justgiving.com/page/dr-emma-watts-3?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=EM&utm\\_campaign=015](https://www.justgiving.com/page/dr-emma-watts-3?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=EM&utm_campaign=015)

We wish her success.

*On behalf of Shere Surgery & Dispensary*

## Directory of Local Businesses

<b>ANIMAL CARE</b>	
The Mutt Hut dog grooming.	07760 162661
The House Vet	01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net
<b>BEAUTY</b>	
Peaslake Beauty Room. Avril Munford	01306 731182 pamperyourself@thepeaslakebeautyroom.co.uk
<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
<b>CARPENTERS</b>	
Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner Cabinet Maker	01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com
<b>CARS</b>	
Service repairs MOTs	Dave Mir 07736912751 Dave@Mir-Tach.co.uk
Car Sales, Buy, Sell, Part exchange	Len Edwards 07946705261 Lenedwards@me.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>ELECTRICIAN</b>	
Phase Electrical	Toby Stevenson 07903 773996 phase.surrey@gmail.com
<b>FINANCIAL ADVISOR</b>	
Porter & Co	01306 644695 admin@porterifa.co.uk www.porterifa.co.uk
<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
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	01483 203823 www.emwoodpestcontrol.com
<b>PIANO TUNING</b>	
Nick Harris	07476 729389 info@leithhillpianos.co.uk
<b>PRINTING</b>	
Mark Mitchell, M V Press	molevalleypress@gmail.com
<b>HEALTH, PSYCHOTHERAPY, WELLBEING</b>	
Attune Reflexology, Dorking	07811 526156 @attunereflexdorking
Jodechi (Tiggs) Morton: Psychotherapy, CBT, TA, Life Coaching	07825 138508 info@jodechicoachingandcbt.com
Qigong, meditation, natural health and healing	Email: internitylife@pm.me Mobile: 07919 102332 Website: http://internity.life
Surrey Hill Rehab (for neurological conditions)	07456 641 356 surreyhillshsrehab@gmail.com

<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>SOLAR PANELS</b>	
UK Solar Power Panels	01306 733965 admin@solarpanels.co.uk
<b>SPORT &amp; FITNESS</b>	
Abinger Sports Club: Tennis	Charliye2020@gmail.com 07774 773 993
Dance a Ramix	01306 731182. 07899 842 727 dancearamix@btinternet.com
Dorking Lawn Tennis and Squash Club	01306 889009 www.dltsc.co.uk
<b>SWIMMING POOLS</b>	
Burgess Pools	01306 730952 burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk

## Advertising in the Parish News

If you would like to advertise, please email Sally: PNadvertising@aol.com

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

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
**June 2025**  
**Closes 1pm**  
**Wednesday May 21st**  
**abingerpn@gmail.com**

*'Kingfisher'*  
SURREY DAY  
*Celebrations*

Sat 10 May 2025

10am - 2pm

Meet the Producer - Tastings  
Watercress Tours - Watercress Museum  
Watercress Pesto Competition

[www.kingfisherfarmshop.com](http://www.kingfisherfarmshop.com)

Growing Watercress since 1854

