

ABINGER AND COLDHARBOUR

Parish News



JULY/AUGUST

2026

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)

rev.virginia.j.smith@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers: Hilary Swift and Amber Wood amber@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Parish Office: parishoffice@abingerandcoldharbour.org

Secretary: Sally McCance (01306 737160) Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 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

Abinger

Churchwardens:

Lucy Harlow
(contact via Parish Office)

PCC Secretary:

Sally McCance (737160)

Treasurer:

Tim Prideaux (730730)

Gift Aid Secretary:

Tim Prideaux

Flowers Secretary:

Kim Edwards (730809)

Hall Bookings:

Evelyn Hall (Kim Edwards)
theevelynhall@gmail.com
01306 730809
Ab. Hammer Hall (730703)

Coldharbour

John Anthony Simpson
(contact via Parish Office)

Sally McCance (737160)

Martin Neve (07974 777448)

Helen Potter (712214)

Patsy Simpson (via parish office)

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

Booking Secretary: Ed Bigland (07968 417852)

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

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

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

Coldharbour Organisations

Surrey Hills Aikido Club 07931 714812

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: clerk@abinger-pc.gov.uk www.abinger-pc.gov.uk

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

Surrey County Council

Councillor: Hazel Watson (880120) h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk/ hva.watson@btinternet.com

Shere Surgery 01483 202066; Dispensary 01483 209913*

Monday: 8.30am – 6.30pm (Closed 1.00-2.00pm)

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

Wed, Thurs & Fri: 8.30am - 6.30pm (Closed 1.00-2.00pm)

*For dispensary ring after 11.00am. Saturday morning - prescription collection only

Westcott Surgery & Dispensary 01306 875577

Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri: 8.30am - 6.15pm (Closed 12.30 - 2.30pm)

Wed: 8.30am - 12.30pm

Capel Surgery 01306 711105 / Fax 01036 712751

Mon – Fri: 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

Mon to Fri: 8.00am - 1.00pm.

Medwyn Surgery 01306 883816 (Pharmacy 01306 740865)

Mon, Thu, Fri: 8.00am – 6.30pm Tue, Wed: 8.00am – 8.30pm

Pharmacy, Mon – Sat: 8.00am – 11.00pm, Sun: 10.00am – 8.00pm

NHS Direct 111

Police

Non-emergency: 101 or Emergency: 999

Electricity Power Cuts 0800 783 8866

Buses

Coldharbour and Abinger Common Bus Services: www.buses4U.org.uk

Connect Bus: 0300 123 7751

www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/buses-and-other-transport/community-transport/mole-valley-connect

Wasp Bus: 07802 460069 or e-mail: waspbusinfo@gmail.com

Local Schools

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

abingercommonnursery@gmail.com

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School. Head: Kelly Frost 01306 881136

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

EVENTS



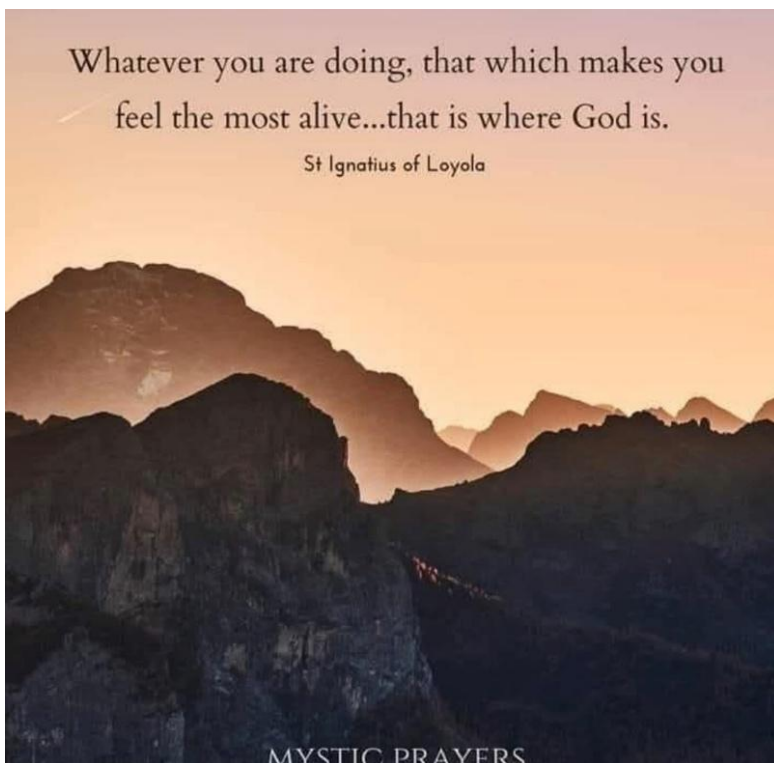
July

- 1st SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 2nd WI, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
- 2nd Shere Cinema, *The Choral*, 7.30
- 3rd Coldharbour coffee morning, JV Hall, 10.30-11.30
- 4th American Tapestry concert, St James', 7.30
- 8th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 8th Comedy of Errors, Coldharbour Cricket Ground, 7.30
- 10th Softball on the Green, 5.30
- 11th Surrey Serenaders, St James', 10-12
- 12th Abinger Hammer Celebrations
- 15th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 18th Albury Produce Show & Fair, Albury Heath, 2pm
- 22nd SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 29th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11

August

- 2nd Coldharbour Village Band at the Dorking Bandstand, 2pm
- 5th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 6th WI, Wotton Village Hall, 2.30
- 7th Coldharbour coffee morning JV Hall 10.30-11.30
- 9th Singing for Wellbeing, Ev. Hall, 11am
- 12th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 16th Shere Cinema, *Wicked for Good*, 7.30
- 19th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 26th SJ's café & repair café, St James', 9 – 11
- 31st Wotton Fete

Reflections from the Rectory



I write this as I am busy packing for our family holiday to France. We are blessed that our three children, now in their 20's, still want to come with us (nothing to do with the fact that it is all expenses paid!). Our family holidays have grown – they now include all three of their partners, my stepfather, my half-brother and his fiancée! So 11 of us are winging or driving down to Gers for a couple of sun kissed weeks. July and August will, no doubt, see a

few of us jetting off to more reliable climates with family and friends for that much needed rest and reboot.

The importance of rest and connection is often overlooked in our restless and frenetic culture. Our world seems to demand so much of us and our time, we can sometimes feel like we are running downhill with our legs out of control and the only way to stop is to fall over! To stop is counter cultural. To do nothing can be perceived as lazy. It is not. It is necessary for the body and the soul.

As Jesus says in Mathew 28-30, "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

So however you choose to rest this summer, I pray it will feed your body, mind, heart and soul.

With love, Rev'd Kia ☺

This month's cover picture is of children from Abinger Nursery marvelling at the view from the top of Leith Hill. See page 37.

Coldharbour Fete Update



The best thing about the fete is the way the village really comes together to create a wonderful traditional afternoon, but it doesn't stop everyone asking how much was raised, so a quick update as a follow up to the great account of the Coldharbour fete by Gaye Tindall in the June edition. Despite competition from the FA Cup final, and less than ideal weather, we had record gate attendance, and several stalls broke their previous records. The fabulous Auction of Promises raised an amazing £4,773. This takes the total net funds to £15,200 – another record.

Half of the auction funds will go to the British Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal, the funds raised for Christ Church will help maintain our village church, village hall and churchyard and to pay those regular bills that come with the responsibility for looking after them, and other charitable donations are being made to the National Trust to support our local area, Young Farmers, and Dorking Friends of Cancer Research UK.

We took the opportunity to say thank you over a glass of wine (or three) on Thursday 4th June in the John Venus Hall, to celebrate and share stories of the day.

Kerry Day

70 Years of the Old Fair of Abinger



Another year, another great day at the fair. However, this was not just any year, it was the 70th anniversary of the revival of the Abinger Fair! We celebrated in style with the Invicta Men at Arms who not only put on a great show for us in the arena, but also spent the whole fair chatting to children and adults alike. Everyone was fascinated by their armour, their weapons and the rules of combat. We are very grateful for their time and enthusiasm. We were also treated to the medieval tunes of Rabscuttle, a band of wandering musicians, who really helped to set the scene.

Our first big thanks go to all of you who attended on the day and spent your hard-earned pennies on the stalls. There would be no fair without you all, your contributions ensured that, once again, a huge amount of money was raised on the day. We would also like to thank all the new recruits for the year including Sarah de Schynkel on the raffle who is new to the village and to the fair. Then there is the tin can archery gang, a new game for this year; Mandy Freeman, Victoria Sena, Stephan, Carolyn Hopewell, Janet Kingsley and her granddaughter Amalie. It is always lovely welcoming new recruits into the fold who bring with them new enthusiasm and new ideas. We are also always grateful to those of you who have helped out over a number of years and continue to work hard to make the fair a success. It is worth particularly recognising the excellent work of Tarek, the arena manager, who is stepping down after 15 years. We are very fortunate to have Wayne Blackwell taking over from him.

This year Kim Edwards was recruited to help with the cooked breakfast for the set-up volunteers. She and the team provided us all with a delicious feast - thank you Kim. We also thank all of you who were involved in any way, on stalls, behind the scenes, donating items, buying raffle tickets, the maypole, music in the church, staffing car parks - the list goes on!

All that is left to say now is... see you next year!

If your charity or organisation would like to benefit from the proceeds, please put your request in writing to Liz Irvine, Abinger Fair Secretary, abingerfairsec@gmail.com

Liz Irvine, Abinger Fair Secretary

Some memories of this year's fair



And Sonia and her maidens did such a wonderful job again!

660 bottles!



Abinger Community Lunch

What better thing to do on a chilly June Sunday than gather in the Evelyn Hall for another of the wonderful community lunches. Thanks so much to Lucy and Katie and all their helpers for producing a delicious lunch. It was all so tasty, and the summer pudding with ice cream was quite amazing!



And we also celebrated Anne Hurst's birthday, seen here with her friend and neighbour Maureen Killick.

Do put the date of the next Community Lunch in your diaries: Sunday 13th September

LOCAL EVENTS OVER THE SUMMER

Holmbury Choral - An American Tapestry

Saturday 4 July, 7:30 pm

St James' Church, Abinger Common

An American Tapestry explores the breadth of American choral music, from spirituals and modern classics to bold experimental voices. Moving between stillness and energy, intimacy and scale, Holmbury Choral weaves together works by Bernstein, Whitacre, Shaw, Reich, Hagenberg, Simon and Garfunkel and others in a vivid Summer concert, tracing themes of nature, silence, and belonging. This will be the last concert conducted by our wonderful conductor Cole Bendall. Tickets £20 – to include our usual delicious refreshments after the concert in the summer evening sunshine. Under 19's are free. Tickets from <https://holmburychoral.org/> or ask a member of the choir.

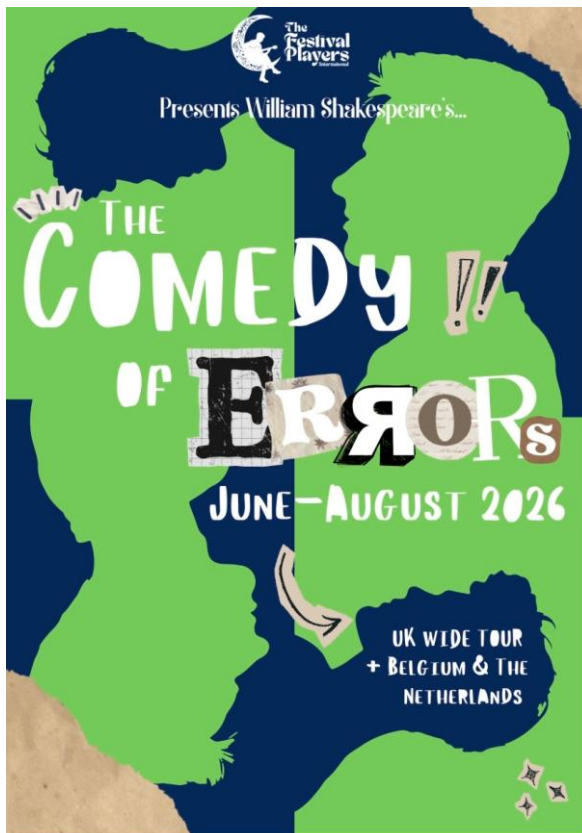


Holmbury Choral Newsflash

We are pleased to announce that our new conductor for September is Adam Hilton. If you think you might like to sing with us do come along to a rehearsal and see what you think – Abinger Hammer Village Hall, 8pm Thursday evenings. We start back on 14th September.



Wednesday 8th July Shakespeare in Coldharbour



The fabulous Festival Players will be returning to Coldharbour Cricket Ground on **Wednesday 8th July at 7.30 pm**. Having entertained audiences over previous years with many Shakespeare favourites, this year the merry band will be performing '**A Comedy of Errors**'.

One of Shakespeare's earliest and most farcical plays, it's woven around the mistaken identities of two sets of identical twins and the confusion that follows!

The Cricket Ground opens at 6pm for picnics. Tickets, pies and parking can be ordered here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-air-shakespeare-tickets-1986241375422?aff=oddtcreator>

Thank you! suesmith63@hotmail.com

Softball on the Green, Abinger Common - 10th July



SOFTBALL

★ **Friday, 10th July at 5.30** ★

Join us on the green
for fun, games and hotdogs.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

Dorking Bandstand Concerts

The Coldharbour Village Band will be playing on Sunday 2nd August, 2pm



The new Dorking Bandstand is running a series of concerts in Meadowbank Park across the summer on Sundays afternoons at 2pm. If you haven't been to Meadowbank recently it's worth a trip aside from visiting the bandstand. There's a cafe, toilets and a pond with cygnets and ducklings. What's not to love?! And on Sundays it's free parking!!!!

Debby Chapman

For details of all concerts see:
<https://www.hellodorking.com/event/dorking-bandstand-concerts/>



Abinger Hammer Village Celebrations: 12th July

There will be bunting and balloons galore in Abinger Hammer on Sunday 12 July as we celebrate two very special occasions.

Kingfisher Farm Shop 55 Year Anniversary – Party by the Pond

At noon we are holding our party round the pond to celebrate Kingfisher Farmshop's 55th Birthday. We'll be serving watercress picnics alongside complementary tea and cake, and the watercress museum will be open for a trip down memory lane. If you have any photographs or memories of Kingfisher Farm Shop that you would like to share with us, please get in touch as we'd love to see them.



Abinger Hammer Village Hall Centenary Concert - 3pm



Abinger Hammer Village Hall is holding a special Centenary Celebration Concert to mark 100 years of serving the local community as a vibrant venue for gatherings, performances and events. The concert will honour the hall's musical heritage with a piece by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Mister Isaac's Maggot, played using some of the instruments used at the hall's opening a century ago. The programme will feature a variety of performances from talented local musicians and the award-winning Holmbury Choral. Concert tickets are free and can be booked through the Kingfisher website: www.kingfisherfarmshop.com/abinger-celebration

Services at St James' Church, Abinger

5th July 10.30am	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Common Worship) with provision for children Refreshments after the service
12th July 6.00pm	The Sixth Sunday after Trinity Choral Evensong
19th July 10.30am	The Seventh Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion for the St. James' Patronal Festival Refreshments after the service
26th July 10.30am 6.00pm	The Eighth Sunday after Trinity Sideways Church: New angles on faith with breakfast, laughter and conversation Julian Meeting: Half of an hour of stillness with God
2nd August 10.30am	The Ninth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St John's Wotton</u>
9th August 10.30am	The Tenth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service Refreshments after the service
16th August 10.30am	The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St Mary's Holmbury</u>
23rd August 10.30am	The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St John's Wotton</u>
30th August 10.30am	The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at Christ Church Coldharbour</u>

SJ's and Repair Café Abinger

Every Wednesday morning from 9.00am to 11.00am. The café will run right through July and August. Join us at St James' for tea, coffee, croissants and chat - and bring along your material items to be repaired.

Services at Christ Church, Coldharbour

5th July 9.00am	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
12th July 10.00am	The Sixth Sunday after Trinity Second Sunday Service (Iona with communion) Refreshments after the service
19th July 9.00am 6.00pm	The Seventh Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Congregational Evensong
26th July 10.00am 6.00pm	The Eighth Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Common Worship) Refreshments after the service Julian Meeting <u>at St James' Abinger</u> Half of an hour of stillness with God
2nd August 10.30am	The Ninth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St John's Wotton</u>
9th August 10.30am	The Tenth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St James' Abinger</u> Refreshments after the service
16th August 10.30am	The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St Mary's Holmbury</u>
23rd August 10.30am	The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service <u>at St John's Wotton</u>
30th August 10.30am	The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Benefice Service Refreshments after the service

Parish Office at Coldharbour will take place on:

Monday 6th & 20th July and 3rd & 17th August 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!

Singing for Wellbeing Workshop

Sunday 9th August, Evelyn Hall, 11 -1

Lift your mood, free your voice, and feel the buzz of singing together. Join singer and vocal coach Xan Tyler for a joyful workshop where music, movement, and connection come alive. This isn't about being "perfect" — it's about feeling good, letting go, and discovering what your voice can do. Through playful singing exercises, a brand-new original song, and plenty of feel-good group activities, you'll explore the powerful link between mind and body. Expect laughter, creativity, and a relaxed, supportive space where you can build confidence and connect with others. Come as you are — leave feeling lighter, brighter, and more in tune. 11am - 1pm including 20 min break. Suitable for all abilities.

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/singing-for-wellbeing-workshop-with-xan-tyler-tickets-1991978110150?aff=oddttdtcreator>

PRICE: £10



**SURREY BERNEDOODLE
NEXT LITTER DUE IN AUGUST 2026**

Email
surreybernedoodle@gmail.com to
be added to our waiting list



**SHERE
VILLAGE
CINEMA**

A reminder - To sign up to our newsletter and/or to book tickets for future films please go to the website: www.sherevillagecinema.com. For those unable to access the internet, there may be some tickets for sale on the door. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £6/adult and £4/child. Start time: 7.30.

Thursday 2nd July - The Choral - is a 'new' film by Alan Bennett, and directed by Nicholas Hytner. It is about men in a fictional Yorkshire town during the First World War who are variously too old or too young to fight, and the women who have to deal with the menfolk's repressed emotions and their own. The place is upended by the arrival of Dr Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes) who is to be the choirmaster, directing the music society's annual production; he scandalises some with the fact that he once lived in Germany and has a scholar's love of that country's literature and music – as well as the fact that he is a bachelor who had a close friendship with another young man now serving overseas. German composers such as Bach, Beethoven and Handel being unacceptable, Dr Guthrie proposes to his ragtag crew of amateurs a radical new production of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, its theme of death being the more heart-wrenching in the circumstances. He gets permission from Elgar himself for this performance, though not his daringly interpretive new variations! This is an unsentimental but deeply felt drama, where music itself mysteriously exalts and redeems the community. Classification 12A (Running time is 1 hour 53 minutes).

Sunday 16th August – Wicked for Good - is the 2nd half to the epic musical prequel-myth inspired by and based on the hit stage show *Wicked*. We showed the first part of the film *Wicked*, in August 2024 to a delighted audience. This follow-up is darker than the first, but it keeps the rainbow-coloured dreaminess and the Broadway show tune 'zinginess' from part one, and continues the story to dove-tail with that of the original *Wizard of Oz* film. Now, the focus narrows to the main players and their explosive romantic crises, essentially through two interlocking love triangles: Glinda the Good (Ariana Grande), Elphaba the Wicked (Cynthia Erivo) and the Wizard; and Glinda, Elphaba and Prince Fiyero, the handsome young military officer. Jeff Goldblum is excellent as the Wizard, who pretty much becomes the 'Darth Vader of Oz': a slippery carnival huckster who is realising that his seedy charm is corroding his soul. However, the superstar among equals is Cynthia Erivo, bringing her black-belt screen presence to the role of Elphaba, and revealing a new vulnerability and maturity. Classification PG (Running time is 2 hours 17 minutes).

MUSIC IN DORKING – July 2026 by Ian Codd

4th at 12.00, lunchtime concert at St Martin's Church, free

4th at 4.00, Dorking Choral Society at St Paul's Church, £18

4th at 7.30, Holmbury Choral Society at St James' Church, Abinger, £20

5th at 4.00, Bookham Choral Society at St Nicolas Church, Bookham, £17

11th at 10am-4.30, Dorking Choral Society workshop, Crossways Baptist Church, £25

12th at 4.00, Leatherhead Choral Society at The Lighthouse, Leatherhead, £20

With this year marking the 250th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence, two of our local choral societies are celebrating the occasion. Dorking Choral Society's concert, under its dynamic conductor Daniel Mahoney, will include a wide range of American music, from beautiful settings of American poets by Morten Lauridsen and Randall Thompson, via Copland's *Old American Songs*, to the lighter side of American music including Gershwin's *Summer Time*. Holmbury St Mary's concert, conducted by Cole Bendall, also includes a wide range of American music from Eric Whitacre, through Steve Reich to Simon & Garfunkel. The lunchtime concert at St Martin's will also have an American jazz theme.

Bookham Choral Society is also holding its summer concert. Entitled 'Music from Latin America', the programme will include Martin Palmeri's *Misa a Buenos Aires – Misatango*. This exciting piece is a setting of the Latin mass in a musical style influenced by the rhythms of Argentinian tango music. Leatherhead Choral Society's concert – *Feelin' Groovy* – offers a programme of songs from the 60s and 70s.

Dorking Choral Society is also holding a special workshop day, presented by its distinguished President Justin Doyle. Justin is the conductor of the RIAS Chamber Choir in Berlin, which is recognised as one of the world's finest chamber choirs, and earlier in his career he conducted Dorking for several years with great success. The day will focus on JS Bach's *Magnificat*, which Justin has performed and recorded with his choir. The workshop is sure to be enlightening for all choral singers, and tickets can be booked on the choir website. There will be an informal performance at the end of the day.

Albury Produce Show and Fair - Sat July 18th

A fantastic family afternoon awaits at our traditional Albury Produce Show & Fair on Saturday July 18th from 2-5pm on Albury Heath, GU5 9DB (known locally as the Albury cricket/sportsground). There's something to suit everyone: a marquee jam-packed with impressive produce; wonderful gift stalls; showground entertainments and games; teas, treats and BBQ; bottle tombola, bric-a-brac, books, plants, local produce and craft stalls and much more. New this year is a dog agility demonstration (Hoopers display). We have kept entry prices low: just £5 per adult, U16 £2; U5 free.

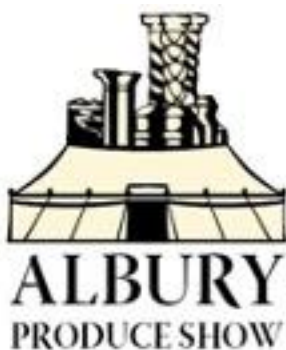


Enter the Show: Whether your love is gardening, baking, crafting, flower-arranging, photography, home-brewing, children's crafts... plan your show entries by checking our 2026 Schedule at www.alburyproduce.org.uk. The Right Honourable Sir Jeremy Hunt MP is awarding our cups, plates and prizes this year. We particularly welcome advance entries via the website to save time on the big day.

Be part of it: We warmly welcome any volunteers - in advance or on the day, even just volunteering for an hour or two helps us to deliver a wonderful event every year. Please contact Georgina Field: georginafield@icloud.com or 07805 261715.

Gift your spares/creations: Donations of bottles for the tombola, books, cakes, bric-a-brac, produce and/or preserves are gratefully received early on the day of the show.

Book a stall or promote your business, organisation or charity: please contact Jayne Allingham at jayne@jayneallingham.co.uk or 07769 309 138. Pitch fees are just £15 for charity stalls and £25 for small businesses. Any sponsorship approaches welcome – feel free to be creative.



Hire our marquee for your evening event: Our wonderful 'big tent' is still available for a family, group or local business to make use of in the evening after 6pm – do let us know if you are interested in evening tent hire at a very reasonable rate by contacting Julie Baxter at alburyproducesecretary@gmail.com. Thank you.

Wotton Fete



Bank Holiday Monday, August 31st

Do come along to the annual Wotton Fete, raising funds for much needed maintenance of St John's Church. All donations – bottles, books, white elephants etc. gladly received. Contact Christine Padgham in Friday Street for where to leave things: 01306 730568.

July and August in your Garden

It's a good thing that we British are used to unseasonal and unpredictable weather, June being a typical example! That said, should we get a very hot spell, don't worry about grass going brown, it doesn't need watering, copes well and soon greens up. On the more positive side it won't need cutting till it does!



Where possible use rainwater for pots and hanging baskets, watering late evening or early morning. Giving them a weekly feed also helps.

Long very wispy bits of wisterias should be cut back to 4-5 leaves from main stem. This will encourage flowering spurs for next year.

Regular dead heading of annuals and perennials will encourage continued flowering. This is especially true for sweet peas. The more you cut and enjoy in the house, the more they will flower.

Should you have cherry or plum trees (or in fact any other stone fruit!) now is the time to prune out any crossing, dead or diseased material. The best way to get rid of it is where possible to burn immediately.



There is still time to plant vegetables like carrots and French beans, also salad crops. Regular picking of ripe soft fruit may mean you

get some before the birds.

Unfortunately this year I have noticed an increase in that nasty, lily beetle. As I have said before, do look out for the red horror, and a firm squashing is the recommended treatment!



Robin

One Hundred Years of The Hurtwood



The Hurtwood is a unique and beautiful world of heath and forest in the heart of the Surrey Hills.

On Sunday 14th June, on Holmbury Hill, the Directors, landowners and a band of enthusiastic supporters of Friends of the Hurtwood met to celebrate 100 years since the original dedication of the land in 1926.

Chairman Assheton Don and Lord of the Manor of Shere, Handa Bray, led the speeches and celebrations. The Hurtwood covers some 2000 acres - covering Winterfold, Holmbury Hill, Pitch Hill and parts of Farley Heath and it was dedicated all those years ago for use by the public as an area for recreation and pleasure. The initiative came from the Bray family and it was joined by The Duke of Northumberland.

Friends of the Hurtwood now manages and maintains access to the whole area. A big thank you to the landowners who allow their land to be open for so many visitors. And a big thank you to all the members who support it.



If you want to be part of the community and donate to help FOTH protect the area, please visit foth.co.uk

Drew Nicholson

CHILDREN



Leith Hill is a brilliant place for a toddle to the top! So much so that we hold our sponsored walk there each year to raise much needed funds that support our learning journey and nursery resources. It's also a chance

for us to spend time with our families and friends on a mini adventure to reach the 'castle' in the woods. Could you get anymore magical? Add in homemade cake and jelly worms at the summit and a roll down the hill (our parents absolutely love this part!!) and you've got a pretty perfect morning. Thanks so much to all who came or donated – it was a great morning. (See the picture on the front cover of the magazine!)

Talking of resources we were recently given a grant to buy some brand new building blocks that we can thoroughly lose ourselves with our imaginations as we create everything and anything! Our teachers gave us some interesting pictures of buildings and bridges from around the world for inspiration. Of course we ended up with a more local structure – that's right Leith Hill again!

If you happen to live in the countryside there is a good chance you will get to see many bunnies playing in the fields – maybe even one very famous bunny – Peter! Our Drama Llama teacher made use of our lovely garden and we donned big floppy ears and terribly twitchy noses, wiggly whiskers and big thumpery feet and finally a fluffy cotton tail before hop, hop, hopping around to look for Peter. We needed to warn him not to venture into Mr McGregor's garden despite the big juicy lettuces and gigantic carrots! Do you think he listened to us or lead us astray?!



We have been nurturing a collection of caterpillars – feeding them little bits of veg and waiting patiently as they gradually

wrapped themselves up in their sleeping bag like cocoons. We watched in wide eyed wonder as they emerged as beautiful butterflies with soft colourful wings flapping away!

Then the big day came when we had to set them free. They flew happily on to their new lives in the wild as we waved them off.

To celebrate our caterpillars flying the nest we decided to make delicious doughy butterfly pizzas! We mixed and kneaded and moulded a butterfly shape as a base then later chose from a variety of yummy toppings to create symmetrical patterns on their wings. A tasty dinner for our tummies!

If you would like to join our nursery family please don't hesitate to get in touch – we still have spaces for September. For more information or to book a show around call 07842 978823 or email abingercommonnursery@gmail.com. We can't wait to meet you!

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School



The children at Surrey Hills have had an exciting few weeks! The school council ran a talent showcase for the children; over half the children took part in various roles from performing, to backstage support to compering the event! We were treated to an afternoon of gymnastics,

dancing,

singing, comedy and Ukrainian! The staff were incredibly proud of the children for the confidence showed when performing and the values exuded by the children in the audience to support their peers. It was a wonderful afternoon!

The Teddy Bears' picnic was a great success. A huge thank you to the amazing team of parent volunteers who facilitated this brilliant event, raising vital funds to support the school whilst creating a wonderful experience for the families too.



The enriching experiences at school have continued in the last month with a visit from the police service to the children in Bees and Otters as part of their outreach service to support our PSHE curriculum. We celebrated David Attenborough's birthday and thought about how he embodies our school values, children in Otters & Hedgehogs benefitted from golf tuition from a PGA professional and infants have enjoyed their forest school sessions where they have planted sunflowers and potatoes. Please do follow our social media profile on either Instagram or Facebook to find out more about what happens at the school.

The children in Y6 took part in their statutory assessments and we were proud of the way in which they applied themselves. They are now eagerly anticipating a range of events to celebrate the end of their primary experience, ahead of their transition to secondary school in September.

We are looking forward to hosting afternoon tea for our team of volunteers in the locality who support the school in a range of ways. We are incredibly grateful for your time, energy and expertise!

Kelly Frost, Headteacher

Family Activities at Dorking Library

Pretend archaeological dig - Saturday 18th July, 10-noon

Come and dig in the sand for old artefacts. What can you find? What does it tell you about the past?



'There's a monster in the Caves!' - Saturday 25th July, 10am-2pm.

If there was a friendly monster living in Dorking Caves, what might it look like and where would it eat, sleep, hide and have fun with friends?

Summer Reading Challenge - Saturday 22nd August 10am-noon

Make a percussion instrument out of junk and use it to help you read to the beat of a poem.

At Dorking Library, St. Martin's Walk, free, materials provided and children must be accompanied. We will also be represented at the Meadowbank Family Day, 19th July, so keep an eye out for us!

ABINGER COMMON & WOTTON W.I.

Getting to our June meeting involved a dash through torrential rain to the Wotton Hall. Our President moved swiftly through the business to the introduction of the speaker, Janet Shell. Her talk was entitled “The Sunlight Girl” which was mystifying. It turned out that she was The Girl



and she had grown up in Port Sunlight, a village on the Mersey which was built around the Leverhulme factory. She said that she had always been a keen photographer and record keeper and she made use of her records to tell the story of her family and of Port Sunlight.

William Lever, soapmaker, was the man who founded the business in 1888, built the factory, and commissioned a number of architects to build houses for the thousand workers. These were in the Arts and Crafts style and are now listed buildings, and the village is a tourist attraction. Like Bournville, the employer also provided school, church (multi denominational) hospital, theatre, gym and allotments – and a pub, though initially this was not allowed to sell alcohol as Lever was a temperance man! Janet’s family have lived there for four generations. Her great grandfather was a barge captain, taking the products down the Mersey to Liverpool docks and the world. In 1912 there was a new musical, “The Sunshine Girl”, in which the Argentinian tango was introduced, which ran in London and New York. Lever wanted the workers to have access to the arts and built an art gallery there, and there was an orchestra and a brass band. Janet herself was into amateur dramatics and was a singer. She got a place at The Guildhall School of Music, but could not afford to go there. She wrote to Lord Leverhulme and he funded her for the two years - a philanthropic man. Janet went on to become a professional singer.

The presentation was rich in photographs of Port Sunlight and of the major people and events in her family, with commentary on the fashions of each period and it was amusing to see the stiff expressions on faces even at a celebratory occasion: northern phlegm! It was an interesting talk on many levels, followed by tea provided by Sandra Barfoot, Wendy Ponsford and Alison Gravett.

Next meeting: Thursday, 2nd July 2.30 p.m. at the Wotton Hall with a talk about Scams and Cold Calling. Visitors always welcome as are new members, of which we have had quite a few lately.

Pat O’Brien

DORKING MUSEUM IN JULY-AUGUST

‘Dorking: Cycling capital of England’: Dorking Museum’s summer exhibition traces the contribution that Dorking has made, and continues to make, to the development of cycling nationally. Dorking has been at the forefront of leisure and competitive cycling from its earliest days.

In the early 1890s, the town was home to two-week festivals of cycling as summer camps attracted thousands to cycle on Box Hill and Ranmore. The appearance of early cars began a battle for the use of roads, and in 1893, the Dorking Cycling Club sought support from Lord Ashcombe for a Universal Lights Bill requiring vehicles to carry lights after dark. Cycling still remains an important part of Dorking life today.



Outside The Queens Head then ...

The exhibition traces the story from the earlier history of cycling in Dorking to the 2012 Olympics, the Tour of Britain and the worldwide reputation of the Zig Zag. The Museum’s ‘penny-farthing’ bicycle is now joined by an original ‘boneshaker’, the first type of true bicycle with pedals, which was called velocipede by its manufacturers.



... and now

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

Directory of Local Businesses

Animal Care	The Mutt Hut – dog grooming. The House Vet	07760 162661 01483 272999 info@rowlyhousevet.net
Art	Austin Art	07760 222921 clive@austin.art
Beauty	Peaslake Beauty Room.	01306 731182 pamperyourself@thepeaslakebeautyroom.co.uk
Builders etc.	B A Gunther Dorking Glass LHP Groundwork and Drainage Lyne & Co Capel Building and Renovation	01306 628291 01306 882971 01306 628412 info@lhpl.co.uk 01293 871008 info@lyneandco.co.uk
Carpenters	Tony Winch – Carpenter, Joiner, Cabinet Maker Matt Flynn – Carpentry, Handyman Ohwo Lund Carpentry Neil Martin General, Conservation & Historic Carpentry	01306 742373 07969 016924 www.tonywinch.com 07805 456027 matt@thecarpentryhandyman.co.uk 07462 810126 owohlundcarpentry@gmail.com 07411 337600 housemartinoak@gmail.com
Cars	Service, repairs, MOTs, Car Sales, Part Exchange	Dave Mir 07736 912751 Dave@Mir-Tech.co.uk Neil Howey 07956 391804 neilhowey@gmail.com
Charities	Abinger Consolidated Charities	kimclark50@gmail.com
Chimneys	Joe Lund (sweep)	07930 507115 and 01243 583430
Computers	WMF-IT consultants	01306 731253 sales@wmf-it.co.uk
Decorators	Dorking Decorators	01306 640418 www.dorkingdecorators.co.uk
Electricians	Phase Electrical	Toby Stevenson 07903 773996 phase.surrey@gmail.com
Fencing	RB Fencing	01306 640143 01483 414745 info@rbfencingltd.co.uk
Finance	Porter & Co Bullimores	01306 644695 admin@porterifa.co.uk www.porterifa.co.uk 01306 880880 partners@bullimores.co.uk
Funeral Services	Sherlock & Sons	01306 882266
Gardens & Trees		

David Ford Tree Care	01306 611661 07940 197911 info@davefordtreecare.co.uk
Capel Tree Surgeons	01306 711124 07775 727121 www.capeltreesurgeons.co.uk
FCS Trees & Vegetation Management	0800 146 122 support@fcscleaning.co.uk
Osborne Landscapes & construction.	Mark Osborne 07818 001840 01306 730090
Phil's Mowing	07905 160765 phil@philsmowingdorking.co.uk
SJH Garden Services	07792 628785 sam@sjhgardeservices.co.uk
Steve Heath Gardening	07761 5123791
Heating, Plumbing	
Senergy Heating	01306 302085 www.senergyheating.co.uk
UK Solar Power Panels	01306 733965 admin@solarpanels.co.uk
Jobs in Care	
Home Instead Epsom & Mole Valley	01372 741544 Maggie.adenmosun@homeinstead.co.uk
Pest Control	
Emwood	01483 203823 www.emwoodpestcontrol.com
Piano Tuning	
Nick Harris	07476 729389 info@leithhillpianos.co.uk
Printing	
Barkers, Dorking	01306 888858 rob@barkerprint.co.uk
Removals	
Ede Bros	01306 711293 edebros.co.uk
Shops	
Coldharbour Village Shop	01306 711793
Kingfisher Farm Shop	01306 730703
Abinger Hammer Village Shop	01306 730701
Sport & Fitness	
Abinger Sports Club	07774 773993 charlieye2020@gmail.com
The Albury Gym	01483 347059 info@thealburygym.co.uk
Dance a Ramix	01306 731182. 07899 842 727 dancearamix@btinternet.com
Dorking Lawn Tennis and Squash Club	01306 889009 www.dltsc.co.uk
Swimming Pools	
Burgess Pools	01306 730952 burgesspools@yahoo.co.uk
Wellbeing	
Nicola MacDonald Adult Courses, workshops, events	Nicola.mcdonald.ppc@gmail.com
Lesley C - Reflexology Health coach	mrs.zocher@gmail.com 07414 862 361 07811 384402
Jodechi Morton: Psychotherapy, CBT, TA, Life Coaching	07825 138508 info@jodechicoachingandcibt.com
Qigong, meditation, natural health and healing	internitylife@pm.me 07919 102332 http://internity.life
Skybound Pole & Aerial Studio	info@skyboundarialstudios.co.uk

Good Neighbours



Don't forget – if you live in or around Abinger there are keen local volunteers who will give you a lift to and from medical appointments. At present they are very much underused and keen to help, so don't hesitate to ask. Call or message Jo Kelly on 01483 205446 or 07900 302794

Making a donation

If you enjoy reading our Parish News, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating towards the cost of producing it.

You can make a BACS payment to either

PCC Abinger (Parish News), sort code: 60 07 02, Ac no: 39447332

or

Christ Church Coldharbour PCC, sort code: 202397, Ac no: 40192422

or contact Sally at the Parish Office for details 01306 737160.

Thank you!



NEXT ISSUE:

September 2026

Closes 1pm

Tuesday August 18th

abingerpn@gmail.com