

Albury Parish News

August 2022

Number 389



**Serving the local communities of Albury,
Albury Heath, Brook, Farley Green,
Little London and Newlands Corner**

Albury Churches - services and church opening

As you know, some legal restrictions have ended, but venues of all kinds need to adopt safe ways of operating. We are continuing these precautions:

- We will still sanitize hands at the door
- Facemasks are still requested, except those under 11 or medically unable
- We will maintain some social distancing by using every other pew, lessening the risk of breathing over someone in front. Ideally those in the same pew should be of on agreed group, or leave a gap of at least one metre to the next group
- We will sing! Not at top volume please, and through facemasks. Be aware of those around you too, and how they feel about it.

We have just introduced coffee after services. If you chat, please maintain distance from non-household members, or if the weather's nice, use the outside.

We hope that all 9.30 services will be both in the church and livestreamed - see www.alburychurches.org

Best wishes

Andrew Pearson, Resident Minister



Front cover: Albury Music Festival

From the Minister

David was chosen to be King of Israel like this:

“Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed [David] in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. “ (1Samuel 16: 12,13)

And the proletariat said: ‘More rank and privilege! This will get us nowhere’

And the constitutional reformers cried: ‘Who does this unelected nobody think he is, to tell us what to do?’

And the management consultants said: ‘Where were the three days of interviews, personality and aptitude tests, and the fork supper with the Directors and their spouses?’

And the armed forces said: ‘Where was the Selection Board and the years of hard graft and successive promotion?’

And the political party said: ‘Where were the qualifying nominations, the repeated ballots, the vanquished losers, and the final exposure to the entire membership?’

And the Lord sighed and repeated what he had said to Samuel:

“People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

It would be wonderful if we could pick leaders by infallible divine inspiration every time, but sadly we cannot. So there will be a place for the interviews and tests, the nominations and votes, the democratic process, and even the ‘Death by quiche’ suppers - pick your method according to the context - until we are blessed with total reliable insight. The uniquely gifted prophet, who understands that a young shepherd has the gifts and the calling to be a military leader and king, will never be the model for leadership selection.

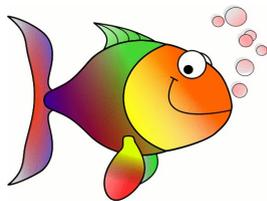
But even so, the story is worth thinking about. By the time you read this the Conservative Party will be preparing to vote on two final runners for the leadership of the party, and, as an added bonus, the office of Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury, at least for a bit. Because whatever the position, it’s difficult for us humans to avoid choosing on the basis of ‘outward appearance’ - the glamorous personality, the good looks, the smooth talker, or even just the person who is much better at interviews than they are at the job. Samuel himself was sold on one of David’s good-looking brothers until he realised God was saying something else.

I’m not saying this to be cynical. The ability to present oneself well does not mean that there are no other qualities. The winner of any contest deserves a fair chance to show what they can do.

This is more a reminder that heart-qualities are important, and whenever we are involved in a choice, we may not have Samuel’s connection with the Almighty, but we can try to look at the evidence of who a person is and what they have done just as much as how they present themselves.

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Little Fishes



Little Fishes is back! We are meeting in the Parish Church every Friday morning in termtime at 9.30 a.m. for a story, prayer, songs, colouring and crafts.

For further details, please email pennycrandall@hotmail.com

Hark & Ride

If you would like a lift to church when services resume, then please phone 01483 202210 or 01483 203208

If you can help in this way occasionally, please contact Theresa Channer on 202210 or Penny Randall on 203208

Albury Café

Closed due to the Corona virus outbreak.



We hope to be back soon.



Tea and Chat



**at 3pm,
@ 26 Weston Fields
All welcome**



Defibrillator Information

The Parish Council have installed defibrillators at the following locations.

Albury Memorial Library

Little London (William 1V)Newlands Corner

Farley Green (Bus Shelter)

Main Door, St Peter and St Pauls, Church Lane

(Continued from page 3)

Whether we're picking an employee or simply voting in an election, it's always worth remembering what matters.

All blessings
Andrew Pearson
Resident Minister



Loving God's world

We had a great time together in the parish church and out in the churchyard on July 10th.

We sang some fantastic songs with lively tunes that we love. We acted out the story of God creating the world and how He thought it was all good when He had finished. He gave us the very special job of caring for the world and all of God's creation. We have not done a very good caring job so far. Any assessment of this would say 'room for improvement'!

Some of the craft focussed on how much God loves the world he has made and all the plants and creatures in it, including us! In the church yard we thought more about the wonder of God's creation in looking at the different patterns you can get from bark rubbings from different types of trees. To help some of God's creatures we had fun filling bird feeders made from used plastic bottles and under Sally Stevens careful supervision we all contributed to putting together our very own bug hotel for the churchyard!

The weather was kind and we were able to have our planned picnic tea in the churchyard and appreciate all of God's creation around us. A great end to a busy afternoon!



Albury Produce Show Cup Winners

Cups/Medals	Description	2022
THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S BANKSIAN MEDAL	Largest total prize money in Horticultural Classes	Antoinette Williams
R.G. MACINDOE CHALLENGE CUP	The highest number of points in the Show	Antoinette Williams
PARKLANDS CHALLENGE CUP	Vegetables - Highest points	Paul Yeoman
FARLEY GREEN PLATE open to exhibitors who have never won the Parklands Cup	Vegetables - 2nd Highest Points	Jane Kumar
SURREY HORTICULTURAL FEDERATION PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP	Vegetables - Judges' Choice	Paul Yeoman
SPENELLY CUP	Potatoes - Judges' Choice	Andrew Peake
MARY INSTONE-GALLOP CUP	Fruit - Highest Points	Jeff Jones
THE GLENDALE FRUIT CUP	Fruit - Judges' Choice	Gillian Taylor
THE JOHN FOULSHAM CUP	Raspberries, highest points	Jeff Jones
TOM DADSWELL TROPHY	Vegetables & Fruit - Highest Points	Jeff Jones
AUDREY AND ERIC WHARF CUP Open to exhibitors who have not won a cup in the vegetable section at the show before	Winner of Novice Class	Lesley Ward
FLORAL CUP (HUNTER FLOWER SHOW)	Flowers - Highest Points	Antoinette Williams
SURREY HORTICULTURAL FEDERATION FLORAL CUP	Flowers - Judges' Choice (not inc Fuchsia in a pot)	Carolyn Woods

FELL GARTH CUP Open to exhibitors who have not won the Floral Cup at this year's show	Roses - Highest Points	Angela Galbraith
ANN WILLIAMS CHALLENGE CUP	Winner of Mixed Garden Flowers Class	Laura Howell
COLIN SQUANCE MEMORIAL CUP	Dahlias - Judges' Choice	Jeff Jones
BEN & BETTY SKELTON CUP	Mixed Flowers/ Foliage - Highest points	Antoinette Williams
JOHN PRENTIS CUP	Winner of Hanging Display Class	Pam Chandler
JILLIAN ETHERINGTON MEMORIAL SALVER	Winner of Fuchsia in a Pot Class	Pam Chandler
WILLIAM IV CUP	Drinks - Judges' Choice	John Alexander
MAURICE BURTON BOWL	Preserves - Highest Points	Penny Randall
LADY PENTLAND CUP	Cookery - Highest Points (not inc men's or Under 16)	Caroline Porter
FRANCES DADSWELL MEMORIAL SALVER	Cookery - Judges' Choice	Chloe Williams
LADY PENTLAND VASE II	Handicrafts - Highest Points	Virginia Franks
ALBURY WI - CALVER HANDICRAFT CUP	Handicrafts - Judges' Choice	Maddie Lee
CAROLYN & MICHAEL WOODS CUP	Photography - Highest Points	Mary Edwards
ALBURY WI - NANCY BUTLER MEMORIAL TROPHY	Photography - Judges' Choice	Pete Gardner
WIN & JENNY CUP	Pre-school Children Highest Points	Harriet Tunnell
CHILDRENS CUP I	Children 6 years and under - Highest Points	Alfred Hill
CHILDRENS CUP II	Children 8 years and under - Highest Points	Thomas Staunskjaer
CHILDRENS CUP III	Children 11 years and under - Highest Points	Joe Macaulay

CHILDRENS CUP IV	Children 16 years and under - Highest Points	Maddie Lee
BRYAN ROBINSON CUP	Children's classes - Judges' Choice	Maddie Lee
WIN BROWN & JENNY FAIRHURST PLATE	Floral Arrangement - floral classes, highest points	Jane Ratcliffe
LEO INSTONE-GALLOP CUP	Floral Arrangement - floral classes, 2nd highest points	Julie Baxter
NOVICES CUP	16 & Under - Floral Arrangement	n/a
MERRITT TANKARD	Men's floral arrangement	n/a
JOY RICHARDSON CUP	Floral Arrangements Judges' Choice	Jane Ratcliffe

What's on in August

Date	Time	Event	Location	Page
4	8.00 p.m.	Shere Village Cinema Belfast	Shere Village Hall	31
14	8.00 p.m.	Shere Village Cinema The Duke	Shere Village Hall	31
22-25	10.00 a.m.	Holiday Club	Shere Village Hall	36
29	1.00 p.m.	Peaslake Summer Fair	Peaslake	28

So far so good

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm going to need Your help.

Amen

Your garden in August

The 1st August is Lammass Day, thanksgiving for the start of harvest. The 8th August is 'Give your neighbour a courgette' day. It is a month of plenty and you may have a super-abundance of vegetables which need to be harvested and stored for the winter. Or in the case of courgettes, given away by the basketful. The Anglo-Saxons called August 'Weod monath' which means weed month. Nothing has changed for the gardener in centuries. July proved hot and dry with record temperatures. Even the potting shed proved too hot and the sensible gardener hid indoors in the shade with a cold drink, only venturing out when necessary and then only to visit the delights of air-conditioned venues.

Lawns have needed little mowing and remain a brown backdrop to the garden. The gardener may also have turned brown in the sunshine, or possibly red.

Trim hedges and think about pruning the wisteria. Those whippy shoots should be shortened to 6 leaves. Then remember that most wisterias are grown against house walls and are very high up. Are your ladders tall enough, do you have the appropriate mountaineering gear to climb safely to the dizzy heights of the roof. If you don't cut it back now, will you be able to see out of your windows or even open them tomorrow? If your bedroom windows have been open as the weather has been hot, can you even get back into your bedroom? Consider reading *The Day of the Triffids* to remind yourself about the dangers of growing plants with territorial ambitions.

Dead head roses to prolong flowering. Pick as many sweet peas as you can and enjoy them indoors, if they run to seed, there will be no more flowers. Collect seed from plants you wish to grow again next year. Home saved seed may grow better for you than those purchased from suppliers as they have grown in your own soil and microclimate. Wait for the seed to be fully ripened and store in paper envelopes. Remember to label clearly. Rummaging through a box of identical unlabelled small brown envelopes may lead to some surprises next year. Take the seed heads off those plants that you do not wish to take over your garden. Not only weeds, but prolific self-seeders like ladies mantle, hardy geraniums and aquilegias.

Water pots and newly planted shrubs, hedges and trees frequently. A good soak is much better than frequent small amounts of water. Add a liquid fertiliser to the pots as they will need feeding as the nutrients in the potting compost are used up. Make sure that the gardener is also fed and watered on a regular basis especially in hot weather.

Keep ponds topped up as they will provide water for many animals and insects. Keep birdbaths clean and full. Leave uncultivated areas in your garden for insects, if you have a wildflower area in your garden, it may be time to cut it back. Leave the residue in situ for a while to allow all the seeds to fall out for next year.

Your vegetable garden will be in full production now. As you dig up one crop, think what can be sown in its place. Don't leave the soil bare as it will grow a wonderful crop of weeds. Compost is best added in autumn, but put a couple of inches onto bare soil rather than leave it uncovered. The same could be said for the gardener, leaving areas uncovered at this time of year can lead to all sorts of unwanted problems.

Happy gardening.

Food Banks Need Your Help More Than Ever In 2022!



Not Just Food.

Hunger in the UK isn't about food. It's lack of income and the main drivers of foodbank use are:-

- Problems with the benefits system (delays, inadequacy and deductions)
- Challenging life experiences or ill health
- Lack of informal or formal support
- Now in 2022 - soaring energy, food and general cost of living prices.

How You Can Help?

What items you can donate?

Think about food stuffs that do not require heating e.g.

Cereal

UHT Milk

Tinned Fish

Tinned Fruit

Biscuits

Tinned Beans

Long Life Fruit Juices

Other Items / Ways you can Help?

Household Cleaning Products

Sanitary Items

Nappies/Baby Wipes

Cooking Oils

Tinned Soups/Meat /Stews

Condiments / Spices

Pasta

Rice

Pasta Sauce

You can give money in an Envelope to help Guildford Food Banks to put money on users' Fuel Cards - **Just mark your envelope and give to Harry in Pratts Stores.**

DONATION POINTS IN ALBURY.

Pratts Stores in Albury Village:- contact Harry on 01483 202123 to donate £5/£10 by card, and Harry will select items for you to place in the Food Bank Collection Box.

OR purchase items from Harry to donate to the Food Bank.

OR in St Peter & St Paul's Church in Albury in the Lobby- on Saturdays 10am - 4pm or Sunday mornings, 9am - 11am.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

DIANN ARNFIELD 01483 203464.

Emotive Tombstone Dedications

By the time the Parish Church was built, emotive tombstone dedications were passing out of fashion. Such dedications can be found in many older Churches or Churchyards. Two from the Parish Church of St. Justinian in Freystrop, West Wales might bring a tear to your eye.

Rebecca Cousins died aged 16 on 19th July 1859. The inscription on her tombstone reads:-

I was a flower, fresh and green,
Soon cut and no more seen,
In love I lived, in peace I died,
I asked for life but God denied.

Caesar Mathias was six years ten months when he was killed mounting his pony on 6th July 1762. The inscription on his memorial plaque inside the Church reads:-

Behold sad Accident—a tender flower
Cropt in an instant in a fatal hour.
This Moment well he promised fuller bloom,
Next moment dead and ready for the Tomb.
All that can fill a Parents heart with joy,
Appeared just budding in the hopeful boy,
Of nature gentle and of Sprightly Parts.
He pleased all Eyes, while he engaged all hearts
Let not thy mournful Parents then repine,
Great is thy Gain for perfect Bliss is thine.
Thou art nor too young though at the Age of Seven
To enjoy thy God and reign an Heir of Heaven.

Peter Drinkwater

Hear Here

The Hearing Champions clinic in Shere Surgery is now up and running again.

Sessions run from **10.30 till 12.30** once a month, usually on the first or second Thursday. This is a volunteer-led service intended for those with NHS hearing aids needing minor repairs or new batteries. Remember to bring your NHS booklet!

Please note that due to covid we are no longer able to run a drop in service, so if you would like to come please call the surgery on 01483 202066 to book an appointment.

Dates for upcoming sessions are 4th August and 1st September

Penny Randall



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Parish People - Bob Hughes - Part One



In May 2021 Robert Gurth Hughes was elected as a County Councillor in Surrey County Council to represent Shere Division, which embraces Albury, Chilworth, Shere, Gomshall, Abinger, Clandon and Send. He succeeded Keith Taylor (Albury Parish News October 2015), who was our elected representative for fourteen years. Bob has had a lifelong interest in politics, having served on the Greater London Council (1980-1986) and as Member of Parliament for Harrow West (1987-1997). He told me about his family background.

My Welsh great grandfather moved from Swansea to Kent. He and my grandfather were teachers, as was my paternal grandmother. My father, Gurth Martin Hughes, was a Chartered Accountant and my mother, Rosemary Dorothy (nee Brown) was also an accountant. My father worked for the Colonial Development Corporation, now the Commonwealth Development Corporation. I remember as a small boy going into the office with him one Saturday morning, in days when many offices opened on Saturday mornings, although it was not the most industrious part of the working week. He then moved to Marks & Spencer, where he was an internal auditor. I had a brother, Martin, who died some years ago at the age of 55. He used to work as a product manager for M&S.

Q. Where were you educated?

A. At Ashton House, a preparatory school in Isleworth, then to Spring Grove Grammar School, also in Isleworth. At age 16, I left to become an apprentice film maker, and attended Harrow College of Technology one day each week.

Q. What was your ambition?

A. At age eleven, I wanted to be a Vicar. I had been baptised as a Methodist, that being my mother's church. I was confirmed in the Church of England, but 25 years ago I became a Roman Catholic. My career ambition changed when I became interested in films, so I took an apprenticeship with British Aircraft Corporation in their film unit. It was quite exciting at times. One of my first assignments took me on safari to Kenya, where we were filming for what was then British United Airways. Our film was shown in cinemas as a B feature. Older readers will recall that an evening at the cinema included: the news, perhaps a cartoon and a minor (B) film before the main feature. I also worked on a film about the first flight of Concorde. I was there when it first flew. I was also at Fairford when the first British made Concorde landed from Bristol.

Q. Where was your main base?

A. On the Concorde project, there were assembly plants in Bristol and Toulouse under Anglo French cooperation. I visited both several times, particularly Bristol. But our company's main base was at Heston, the old Fairy Aircraft premises, at what had been the Fairy Aviation film unit. A few years after I joined, we moved to Brooklands in Surrey, in the building that was the grandstand when it was a racecourse and is now the clubhouse. My ultimate boss was a man called Charles Gardner, who had been a correspondent during

WW2 doing stuff for the BBC. A few years later, I was at an event at Brooklands in another building and as I walked back to my car in a very dark corner I bumped into somebody who turned out to be the director of the old establishment and I pointed out to him the window of the place where I'd worked. He said: 'You must have been with the Jack de Connick's Film Unit. You moved in a week after Barnes Wallace moved out'. Barnes Wallace, famed for the bouncing bomb, had been chairman of the Parish Council in Effingham, so there is another Surrey connection. In the grandstand were the tanks in which Barnes Wallace tested miniature versions of his bomb. All of that film was nitrate based, which is, of course, explosive and will blow up if exposed to a high temperature. I was the custodian of all that film, which was in an air conditioned safe. Sometimes people would want it and I would send it gingerly to be copied. I am happy to report that it did not explode while I was its custodian.

Q. What followed your apprenticeship?

A. I joined the BBC in 1973 as a TV news picture editor. By this time, I had experience in filmmaking, and had developed my interest in politics, stimulating my interest in news, so this was a job that suited me. Initially I was editing film, but we quickly moved into video tapes.

Q. Was overseas travel involved?

A. I travelled a lot. Not always to nice places. I had two passports, one of which looked as if it belonged to a drug dealer, being full of Lebanese visas! That country, at the time, was the home of the drug dealing business. Not the purpose of my visits! Although it was under siege, one could fly in and out. Israel bombed some bits of Beirut, but to the north in Tripoli there was another war going on between two Palestinian factions (Tripoli, Lebanon, not to be confused with Tripoli, Libya). I made several visits to Tripoli with a cameraman and a reporter, leaving early in the morning. Each time the green line between the forces had changed as there was always action going on. On the way back, we had time for a very nice lunch in Byblos before we returned to Beirut to start editing. On one occasion we were in this restaurant by the sea, when we heard an explosion and instinctively fell to the ground under the table. We need not have worried. Local fishermen would throw a grenade into the sea and up would come lots of dead fish to be scooped up!

Q. What were your impressions of Beirut?

A. It is a very beautiful place. Older cameramen had been there after the Six Day War of 1967 and again during the 1973 war, for rest and recuperation. It was full of nightclubs, lovely restaurants, and beautiful shops. Even in my time, it still had a flavour of that. We used to walk from the Commodore Hotel, which was quite famous at the time, where all the press stayed at night, to a restaurant near the Presidential Palace. We must have been quite mad. It was a lovely restaurant.

Q. Did you feel yourselves in danger at that time?

A. Sometimes yes. Between our hotel and the offices we shared with the American NBC Network, there was a fire going on one day, so I decided I

wouldn't go to work quite yet. You could always tell when the firing had stopped because then the traffic wardens came out and started putting tickets on cars. It seems bizarre, but that's how it was. I never used the TV station, which had snipers all round it. Instead, we would pay a fortune to put the video tapes in a taxi. They would go through the Beqaa Valley to Damascus, where a BBC employee would send them up on the satellite. On one occasion, I did the opposite job and spent a month working in Damascus feeding stuff up to the satellite. It was fascinating.

Q. Where else did the BBC send you?

A. During the Falklands War I was in Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, for nearly eight weeks, including a trip up to Rio de Janeiro, because a V Bomber had missed its refuelling rendezvous. The Brazilians, who dislike the Argentinians but are scared of them, managed to scramble some fighters so they could claim to have forced it down. The big story was that the V Bomber was carrying nuclear weapons, but it wasn't. Montevideo was one of the BBC's centres during the war. It has been described as like East Acton without the nightlife! Very old. When the North Sea Ferry arrived with Argentinian prisoners on board, the River Plate Agreement between Argentina and Uruguay meant that the agreement of both powers was needed before the boat could come in. The Argentinians would not allow the boat to dock until after dark, because they did not want to reveal that a number of their soldiers were children. Fourteen year olds had been conscripted into the army. I went round the other side of the bay with a spare camera, that I had borrowed from the TV station, although there would have been trouble if the unions had found out. There I could see what could not be seen in Montevideo: the North Sea Ferry circling. I was told a few days earlier that there was a chap coming out from the Foreign Office, who was 'just a desk officer', to see that everything runs smoothly. The ship was not allowed to take on water or fuel and nobody was allowed off, except the Argentinian prisoners, but he disembarked with all the video tapes of the war in the Falklands. I relabelled it 'Montevideo - Old Car Story'. Appropriately because there are a lot of old cars in Montevideo. I employed someone to fly it to Amsterdam, where the BBC collected it and brought it to London. All the Falklands War stories you've seen on your screens would have been included in that bag.

Q. Why send it all via Amsterdam?

A. Many years later, in my Westminster life, I was a foreign office whip. There was a security bill going through and I was the whip for that bill. I was at a meeting to discuss this, well down below the salt, below the ministers and the officials. A gentleman came and sat next to me. He turned out to be Richard Dearlove, who later as Sir Richard became 'C', the head of MI6. I enquired about the chap who came to Montevideo during the Falklands War and asked if he was from MI6. The assumption was correct. Not just a desk officer! The BBC was not allowed to transmit from Buenos Aires. Sometimes film would be sent to Dutch television, who would forward it to the BBC, although mostly it was flown to Montevideo. One day I was told that somebody coming over

would have a friend with him, and I should greet him like a long lost brother. In fact, it was an Argentinian spy. Right at the beginning of this assignment I had been flying en route for Buenos Aires, when I learnt that British passport holders would not be permitted to alight there, so I stayed in Montevideo.

Q. Did you go to the Falkland Islands yourself?

A. I was supposed to go there immediately the war ended and I was keeping a Golfstream Jet on lease, at considerable expense to the licence payers, with a view to flying back to the Falklands. I was to come back with the camera crew, and John Simpson was to stay in the Falklands. I would edit in the aircraft on the flight home. In the end, the Foreign Office would not allow it, because, although the white flags had gone up in the Falklands, there were still soldiers around who might ignore the surrender. Sadly, I missed that outing but did get to the Falklands much later as an MP.

Q. Did your job end when you became a MP?

A. The BBC were very helpful. Until 1987, I had been able to fit in both politics and the day job, being an unsuccessful parliamentary candidate for Stepney and Poplar (1979) and Bermondsey (1983) as well as serving on the Greater London Council representing Croydon Central (1979-1986). I was selected as a candidate for Harrow West to fight the 1987 election. Here the prospects were rather better than in Bermondsey, so the BBC helpfully changed my duties. I joined the teams for two pilots: hourly news bulletins during the day, and World TV News. I also worked on obituaries which, of course, are updated constantly, ready to be broadcast when the subject dies. So, I saw much of my work appear in news bulletins years after I'd left the BBC. I had worked on the Queen Mother's obituary, which was voiced by Martin Lewis, who had a very soft voice. The opening line, which I didn't write, said 'She was as old as the century'. The Queen Mother rather spoilt that line by living beyond the end of the twentieth century, so the line had to be changed. The obituary was then voiced by John Humphrys, who was very professional. The BBC were very good employers, but I left on the day that the general election was called and never went back. I was duly elected to parliament and successfully defended my seat in 1992 but lost out with Labour's triumph in 1997.

Q. How did you plan your political career?

A. Some political friends had a 'game plan' at an early age as to how they were going to progress to the next stage of their political career, perhaps all the way to No 10, but it never works out that way. I never had a game plan, but just did the next thing that seemed right at the time. I was selected as a parliamentary candidate for Stepney and Poplar, three years before the 1979 election, because at that stage Jim Callaghan was Prime Minister but did not have a majority, so nobody knew when the election might take place. As a middle class boy from West London to campaign in that area was an eye opener, which taught me a great deal. I learnt something about poverty and the way that high density council housing doesn't work. We had meetings in the flat of a local activist, and nearby was a block of council flats in the course of construction, which had already been designated as 'hard to let'! These

deck access flats are so dangerous, yet had elderly people there. There seemed to be some misuse of power, which is perhaps inevitable if someone controls nearly all the housing and everything else. I am glad that I had the chance to fight that seat even though I had no prospect of winning.

Q. Were you a Young Conservative?

- A. I joined the Young Conservatives for all the usual reasons. The parties, and dances, and social life. However, my interest was also in politics. In the early 70s, Ted Heath was taking us into the European Community, as it was then. I was all for that and got very involved. Indeed, some years later, I became Heath's PPS. I joined the local ward committee in Spring Grove in Isleworth aged 17. They kindly changed their rules to make the minimum age 17, instead of 18. I was chairman of Osterley Young Conservatives and stood for election to be National Vice Chairman. I held that office for two years, and then became National Chairman, succeeding Christopher Gent, who became Chief Executive of Vodafone and later Chairman of Glaxo. I was succeeded by Eric Pickles, who is one of my oldest friends. Recently, Toni and I were having dinner in parliament with Angela Richardson (MP for Guildford) when David Davis (another old friend) came along and reminisced about the time when we were in the Whip's office together. I haven't always agreed with David politically, but we remain good friends.



Q. What went wrong with the Young Conservatives, which had once been so successful?

- A. It became an embarrassment to the party, because of the people running it. Even worse was the Federation of Conservative Students, led by John Bercow. The Bercow led group became so radical as to put the party in a quandary. In the end Norman Tebbit, who was then party Chairman, abolished them. I don't think it's a question of right and left, as life isn't as simple as that. For example, I regard myself as socially a Liberal but fiscally a Conservative, because it's no good just throwing money at social problems because money on its own doesn't work.

Q. What will attract young people to the Tory party?

- A. Young people can see what is wrong with the government but are not so quick to spot what is right, and we are not always good at making our case. When Labour governments inevitably raise taxes, cut services, and let unemployment rise, we can be at our best in attracting young people. So, the party was most popular at the time of the Wilson and Callaghan administrations and again in the Blair/Brown years. Young Conservatives had its origins in the 1945 general election, which Churchill lost. He then put his mind to attracting young people and invented the Young Conservatives, which was formally established in 1948, when it was given a lot of power, including representation nationally and on local constituency organisations. Local

associations would have six representatives, of whom two had to be Young Conservatives, as part of the constituency executive. Churchill was very far sighted, as the party needed its young people. The Young Conservatives were re-formed about five years ago, not on the former scale and with more control by the party, but they're doing quite well. Surrey has several branches. Surprisingly, there are some very good university branches.

Q. Tell me about the GLC?

A. I was elected in 1980, representing Croydon Central. This was just before the party lost control of the GLC to Ken Livingstone, which meant I only had one year as part of the governing party. We had not expected to win Croydon Central, but we worked extremely hard, and we did it.

Q And Bermondsey?

A That was the 1983 by election, much reported at the time, with Peter Tatchell one of the candidates. An exciting contest from the start, triggered by the resignation of Bob Mellish, who had held the seat for Labour since 1946, but then become disenchanted with the left wing drift of his party. The seat was won by Simon Hughes (no relation), who gained the seat for the Liberals at the expense of both Labour and Conservatives. Perhaps I did well to come fourth out of the sixteen candidates, including Screaming Lord Such, appearing under the official Monster Raving Looney Party label. In the run up to that election, Margaret Thatcher at Prime Minister's Question time, managed to trap Michael Foot into denouncing Peter Tatchell, the very candidate he had promoted! I believe we fought the campaign with gusto, with helpers from all over the country, but we were never going to win. I learnt a lot, acquiring quite an affection for Bermondsey.

Q Did this help you to get selected to fight a safer seat?

A Local Conservatives in Harrow were impressed with my campaign in Bermondsey and liked the idea that I had been educated at Harrow Technical College and not Harrow School, like my predecessor. I was asked whether I favoured bringing back hanging. It still seemed to be a question, which always got asked in those days. The late Lord Bethell, who was a member of the European Parliament, strongly advised me not to be diplomatic and put both sides of the argument, but just state my views. When the question came up, I said emphatically that I would never vote in favour of the return of capital punishment. I learnt later that the lady who asked the question was in favour of restoration, but nevertheless voted for me as I was the only applicant who gave a straight answer. There are times for seeing both sides of an argument, but there are times for a firm decision.

Q So on 11 June 1987 you were elected as Member of Parliament for Harrow West with a substantial majority. Tell me all about Westminster?

A That must wait until next month.

Richard Floyd



SURREY CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

Ride or Stride and raise money for St Michael's Barn Church Roof appeal. Please help us with this urgent need!

Please come and join me, I will be walking!

Ride and Stride explained

Who: Ride and Stride is a national event. In Surrey it is a fundraiser for the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust (SCPT) supporting churches who need help with repairs and or developing new facilities.

What: Sponsored visiting of churches around Surrey on foot or bike.

When: Saturday September 10th 2022

How: a. Collect a sponsorship form, see below

b. Ask people to sponsor you per church you visit.

c. Gather some friends to come along with you if you want company

d. Plan your route (suggested routes available on Ride and Stride website)

e. Have fun on the day getting to know some local churches and getting fitter at the same time

f. If riding and striding is not possible, please sponsor a rider or strider.

Contributions will be divided equally between SCPT and St Michael's.

Plus participation in Ride and Stride will also allow application for a grant from the SCPT towards costs of retiling the Barn Church roof.

Sponsorship forms available at the Parish Church, St Michael's Barn church or from Sheena Pearson (sheena.pearson@btopenworld.com)

Useful websites: www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org, www.Rideandstrideuk.org





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		5						
6		7			1	8	4	5
7		9	8			1		
3	8	2		5		6	9	4
		1			9	5		7
5	9	6	7			2		1
						4		
	1		9			7		

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				1				2
8		1	5					
	3			8			6	
			2			1		6
	6						7	
5		4			1			
	9			7			2	
					6	7		4
6				9				

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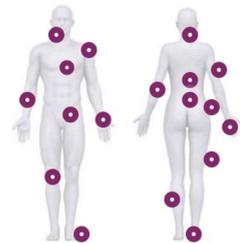
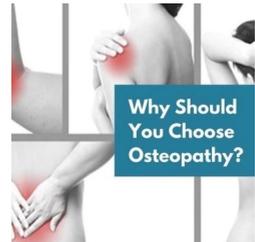
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From Shere Surgery

As I write, we are again suffering with Covid absence in our team. The doctor team is working at 2/3 capacity & each team has absences. In addition our Dispensary wholesalers have had Covid absence meaning deliveries have been delayed. An increase in Covid in the community has meant we are asking patients to wear masks again and avoid coming to the surgery when they are positive. Unfortunately, there are scenarios where Covid positive patients need to come to the building for treatment for other problems. We are trying to manage this as carefully as possible in order to fulfil our duty of care to our patients, whilst trying to protect staff and other patients. We again ask you to bear with us and hope to bring some more positive news soon.

Dr Emma Watts



For the Love of Animals

Holistic Animal Fair

Saturday 27th August
10.30 am - 4.00 pm

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Peaslake Free School

The end of term came upon us very quickly, there is always so much to fit into the Summer term that the weeks speed by. The trip to Littlehampton and our end of year leavers' play meant the children completed the school year with happy memories to take away.

We were also the proud winners of a Gold Award in the Guildford in Bloom competition, all credit goes our parents who worked so hard to create a playground full of flowers, vegetables and interesting places to catch and observe bugs.

The photographs below will hopefully show off a few highlights of all the Summer term's activities.



Peaslake Village Summer Fair

Monday, August 29th, 2022, Peaslake 1-4pm

We are all looking forward to seeing you all at the Peaslake Summer Fair this Summer Bank Holiday Monday 29th August.

Food: The chaps BBQ will be running! The Villages group teas and cakes in the hall. Badminton beer tent. The school Pimm's, & silent pool gin. Mandira will be bringing her fabulous curries and samosas. Harry his beautiful pies. Michaela her brilliant cheese. & the pub will be doing speedy take-out. Come for lunch or afternoon tea or both! Stock up on cheese and curry and pies for the week ahead.

Stalls: We have beauty products, clothes, jewellery, wooden signs, cards, art prints & embroidery. The school will be running the usual family fun field & dog show. There's the raffle with some great prizes and the usual suspects on the human fruit machine. Bric-a-brac and books (donations welcome), tombola, bowl for bacon. Or get your portrait done by local artist John.

Cash or Card: Please bring your cash for a fun afternoon, especially coins are appreciated! All proceeds to local charities. Card machines should also be working - the tech team are on the wifi boosters! (Fingers crossed!!)

Parking: The car parking this year will be on Peaslake Farm fields, just south of the village. Please do walk or cycle if you possibly can, and if you need to drive it will be best to approach the village and parking from the Ewhurst direction to avoid delays and congestion through the village. Usual road closures will be in place.

Platinum Jubilee Theme: There will be the jubilee exhibition in the old school room, showing Peaslake's history through the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. And, of course, the fair's theme this year is the platinum jubilee. Come in your best red, white & blue.

Help us out: Volunteers to help set up and clear on the day, are always welcome, appreciated & necessary.

Sam McCormick: 07788 420477, samjmcc@yahoo.co.uk

Lucy Taber: 07814 417254, lucyharding45@yahoo.co.uk

Alice Williams: 07812 491397, alice.k.williams@gmail.com

River

A minister had been preaching on the dangers of alcohol. He concluded by thundering: "And that is why, if I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it in the river. If I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it in the river. And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take that as well, and pour it in the river." Satisfied that he had made his point, he sat down.

The music leader then stood up, and with a sheepish grin announced: "Our closing hymn is on page 238: 'Shall We Gather at the River'."

From the Parish Pump

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Shere Village Cinema -

Now open for bookings in August and September

Thank you to all those who have visited the cinema in the past few months, we are gradually seeing improved visitor numbers, but we do rely upon your support, so if you want to see a film, please consider buying your tickets early to avoid us having to cancel a film in future. Thank you



We are still using the old website, but as and when we transfer to the new one, you should

automatically be re-directed to the new website (www.sherevillagecinema.com). A reminder that when you book tickets online from the new website, for the first time, you will need to re-register.

You can also buy tickets from the shops as usual: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets cost £5/adult and £3.50/child. Please note that the cost of our interval ice creams has been raised to £2.50/carton, to cover the increased wholesale cost.

In August we will be showing - the following films:

Thursday 4th August -

Belfast is a coming-of-age story set in Belfast during "The Troubles". The plot centres around Buddy (newcomer Jude Hill), who lives on a mixed street of Ulster-Protestants (of which his family belongs) and Irish Catholics. The story starts with the 1969 August riots, when Protestant Loyalists attack the street, smashing windows and looting businesses. For full details, see July magazine. (Running time is 1 hour 38 minutes) Start time: 8pm

Sunday 14th August -

The Duke is the 'true-crime' caper of how a 60-year old taxi driver, Kempton Bunton ('a glorious performance' by Jim Broadbent) stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London in 1961. For full details, see July magazine. (Running time is 1 hour 37 minutes) Start time: 8pm

Please note that due to the extended running time of *Downton Abbey*, *Elvis*, and some of our future films, we have decided to start film performances at the earlier time of 7.30pm from September. This will be for a trial period, so please let us know what you think.

In September we will be showing - the following films:

Thursday 1st September -

Downton Abbey: A New Era - this is the second film set around the well-known *Downton Abbey* television series. The story starts from where the first film (*Downton Abbey*) ended, with widower Tom Branson (Allen Leech) marrying Lucy Smith (Tuppence Middleton). The Crawley family is soon shaken by two events. First, Violet Crawley (Maggie Smith), reveals that she has acquired a French villa;

second, that a film crew will be invading Downton, causing much kerfuffle, but paying handsomely! In the collision between aristocracy and the world of entertainment, writer Julian Fellowes pays loving tribute to himself and his breakthrough film (Gosford Park). This film focuses on the character development, as they enter into a new era of the way the world views high society, and therefore their place within it. 'It pulls at the heart strings as the story takes you on a journey of highs & lows with some unexpected turns, so have a tissue on hand' - just in case! (Running time is 2 hours 2 minutes) Start time: 7.30pm

Sunday 18th September -

Elvis is Baz Luhrmann's version of the Elvis Presley story. The film explores the life and music of *Elvis*, seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker, played by a prosthetically enhanced Tom Hanks. He is the anti-hero of the story, taking 50% of the profits and 100% of the control from Elvis. Elvis is played by Austin Butler who gives a physical, emotional and *electrical* energy that throbs through his performance. An early scene of his Presley performance, is pure cinematic dynamite, with the 'orgasmic' reactions of girls in the crowd as elegantly choreographed as Elvis's gyrations are (part religious ecstasy, part blushing burlesque). This is a blistering, turbocharged chronicle of the 'King'. (Running time is 2 hours 39 minutes) Start time: 7.30pm

We hope you will be able to join us for our films in August and September.

Shere Village Cinema Team



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Your Parish News

Contributions for the next issue of the Parish News to
parishmag@alburychurches.org

or post to

Shire Cottage, Farley Heath, Albury, Surrey, GU5 9ER

by the 14th of the month please

Front cover photographs, articles, events
and reports of local organisations are all welcome

Advertise in the Albury Parish News

If you are a local company or supplier, you could place an ad in the Albury Parish News. We distribute over 600 magazines in the parish – everyone receives a copy.

Quarter page (9 x 6 cm portrait)

Annual insertion fee £110, Monthly insertion fee £12

Half page (9 x 12cm Landscape)

Annual insertion fee £220, Monthly insertion fee £25

Full Page (18 x 12 cm portrait),

Annual insertion fee £450, Monthly insertion fee £50

For any further information, please contact me.

Denise Chamberlain
ads@alburychurches.org

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	Diann Arnfield	203464
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	Theodora Viney	wardens@alburychurches.org
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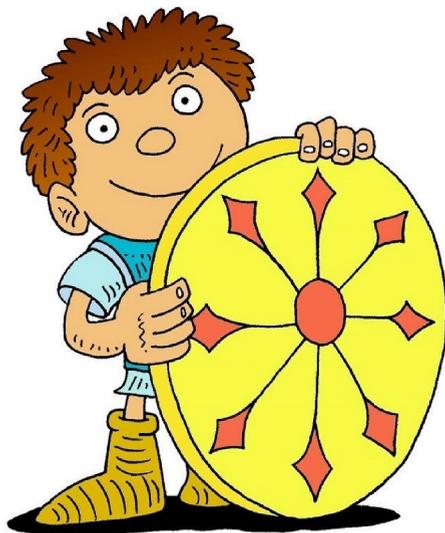
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Albury History Society: Secretary: Mrs. Margaret Clarke	202294 malcmargclarke@tiscali.co.uk
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