

# Albury Parish News

**May 2023**

**Number 398**



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

**Services in Albury and Farley Green  
for May 2023  
at the Parish Church, Church Lane, Albury.  
The all age 9.30 services are livestreamed**

<b>7</b>	<b>8.00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer</b>
	<b>9.30 a.m. All Age Worship</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>9.30 a.m. Communion Service</b>
	<b>4.00 p.m. Messy Church Intergenerational worship</b>
<b>18 Ascension Day</b>	<b>7.30 p.m. Communion Service</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>8.00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer</b>
	<b>9.30 a.m. All Age Worship</b>
<b>28 Pentecost</b>	<b>9.30 a.m. Communion Service</b>

All are welcome in church. For the livestreaming, if you cannot get there in person, please visit [www.alburychurches.org](http://www.alburychurches.org)

Every Friday in term-time pre-schoolers and those who look after them are welcome to 'Little Fishes' at St Michael's Farley Green - a time of chat and play with simple worship. Details from [pennycrandall@hotmail.com](mailto:pennycrandall@hotmail.com).

**Front cover:** Photo by [Brittney Strange](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## From the Minister

Spring is arriving! Maybe you can take to the outdoors a little more. I wonder how often, out on a walk, you might witness a scenario like this:

Dog owner: Fido! (Or Henry, Matilda, Bonzo, or anything else they've called their dog) - Come!

Dog: "Your call is important to me and will be answered as soon as circumstances permit..."

Owner: "Fido!"

Dog: "You are currently third in the queue after the dead badger and the rabbit droppings. Please hold and you will be answered as soon as I am free..."

Of course, sometimes dogs aren't even that cooperative, if you remember the video of Fenton in Richmond Park a few years back, deaf to his owner's shouts as he merrily chased after a herd of deer. And some dogs, of course, do actually do what they're told.

But dogs are quite like people in this respect. It takes a lot of self-discipline to turn away from something you think is interesting and attend to someone else, even if you realise it's important. In fact, it's perfectly possible to be so focused on your current activity that you don't even hear the other voice calling, a situation familiar to any puppy trainer.

Today, we have built ourselves a marvellous range of distractions. Mere books are old hat. There are computer games, Instagram, Tik Tok, and numerous social media or connection apps. And of course those old favourites, the pursuit of wealth and the cultivation of romantic relationships.

And we have all but tuned out the voice of God. I don't think we're any worse as people than our ancestors, but we have made it a great deal easier to look away. Sometimes we only start to pay attention when we realise that what we've been looking at isn't much of a mainstay in life after all.

It's not a new problem. God conveyed his thoughts to the prophet Isaiah 2,700 years ago, "All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations...." Far be it from me to suggest that any readers of this prestigious magazine are obstinate people walking in ways not good, certainly no more than me, but there's a simple human issue of focusing on unhelpful things, and it's long-standing.

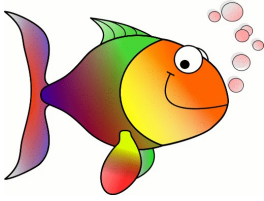
Here's a suggestion, whether you have a faith in God or not at present. Suppose we get into some place we can leave the distractions aside. Suppose we just let ourselves be quiet. Suppose we say, "I'll try and listen, God," and see if we find any difference in our focus over the next few days.

All blessings

Andrew Pearson, Resident Minister

Postscript: I know the King is being crowned this month but I am sure you will read quite enough thoughts about that in other places. No disrespect, Your Majesty.

## Little Fishes



Little Fishes is now meeting in the Barn 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](mailto: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



# Albury History Society

In March we had a fascinating talk moving round the properties on a Monopoly board, learning many things we didn't know.

Our talk in April on the Tunsgate Arch and the Cornmarket explained what it was originally for and why it looks the way it does today.

In May the talk is on Evelyn in Surrey. Born in Surrey, John Evelyn's diary provides insights into the era from this virtuoso, horticulturist and publisher of 'Sylvia'.

As usual, visitors are very welcome at our meetings, with free coffee, tea and cake at the end with an opportunity to chat.

*Margaret Clarke, Secretary*

**Save the date!**  
**Saturday 15 July 2023**



## Albury Produce Show and Evening Event

As we are nearing the Summer, it is time to start thinking about this years' Albury Produce Show! The 2023 show schedule is now available on our website [http://www.alburyproduce.org.uk/entering\\_the\\_show](http://www.alburyproduce.org.uk/entering_the_show), although if you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Julie Baxter [alburyproducesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:alburyproducesecretary@gmail.com) or 07807 999 896.

We have a number of classes to enter, such as- vegetables, fruit, flowers, photography, children's classes, cookery, painting, handicrafts and floral arranging. Something for everyone!

### Volunteers

As always, the success of the show is dependent upon the army of local volunteers to man stands /attractions and the gate. Each stint is only for an hour or so, but we need lots of people and your help is invaluable. If you think you can help please contact Georgina Field: [georginafield@icloud.com](mailto:georginafield@icloud.com) or 07805 261715

### Stalls

Each year we also have a number of stalls selling a wide range of goods, which are very popular with our visitors. If you would like the opportunity to sell, advertise or promote your business, organisation or charity in this way then please contact: Hannah Godfrey: [alburyproduceshow@gmail.com](mailto:alburyproduceshow@gmail.com) or 07780 008740

<http://www.alburyproduce.org.uk/>

## **Coronation Lunch**

*Please note change of venue*

**The Parish Coronation Lunch will now be held on the green  
at**

**FARLEY GREEN**

**On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**12.30 to 4.00pm**

**Bring a picnic or enjoy some pizza and a drink from**

**The Hurtwood Inn mobile Pizza and Bar horsebox**

**Our local band *The Surrey Pumas* will be playing some great music for  
us**

**We will have a Loseley Ice Cream van there as well**

**There will be some activities arranged for young people**

**Come and celebrate and have a fun afternoon**

**Everyone welcome**

**Please note we don't want to charge for this event, but there will be  
the opportunity to contribute to the costs on the day**

## **The pothole crisis deepens**

If you drive, you already know this: the potholes are getting worse. Some experts have warned that one in five of our roads will be undriveable in the next five years, unless we get to grips with the crisis.

In its recent annual survey on the state of the country's roads, the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) has found that about 37,000 miles of road, or 18 per cent, are in very poor condition. Without intervention, these roads have less than five years of 'life' left in them. But intervention costs billions of pounds. This latest 'Alarm' report estimates that now more than £14 billion is needed to fix all of England and Wales' potholes, and generally get the country's roads back up to standard.

Looking further ahead, the AIA predicts that while just over half of all local roads are in good structural condition, the remaining 100,000 miles of roads may need to be rebuilt in the next 15 years, unless adequate maintenance is speedily introduced. It is not as if the government is ignoring the problem. Jeremy Hunt has provided an additional £200 million one-off payment to fix potholes on our roads. That is in addition to the Government's annual £500 million pothole fund. This means that in 2023/4, the Government is going to pour an eye-watering £700 million into holes in our roads.

*From the Parish Pump*

## Life gets wild at Messy Church

The week after Easter, we made ready for life to be blooming marvellous. Everyone got out of the church on a sunny afternoon to look at God's creation, and then planted some wild flowers - which we're hoping very much you can see grow over the next few weeks, after that it was back into church for our own version of an Easter egg hunt.

But on the way, and though we'd sung songs about Jesus' new life, and had fun with the activities, we remembered that the new life came only after life seemed to have ended with Jesus on the cross. We thought about how that happened, and why it had to happen. It's a wonderful story.

The next Messy Church is on 14 May at 4.00 p.m., and we'd love you to join us at Albury Parish Church.



### **COMMUNITY FOOD BANK CAFÉ**

**Enjoy a cup of coffee and cake**

**and bring a donation towards Guildford Food Banks on**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 10-12 at**

**St Michael's Barn Church, Farley Green**

**(please park where indicated on The Green)**

## Hear Here

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

Sessions run from 1.00 till 3.00 p.m. once a month, usually on the first or second Tuesday. 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.

**Date for upcoming sessions** are: 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> July. , 1 till 3pm. Please note the change of day and time.

*Penny Randall*

## Silent Pool Distillers is Honoured with Royal Visit

*Following the success of winning the Queen's Award for Enterprise HRH Duke of Gloucester visits Silent Pool Distillery to unveil a plaque to commemorate the distillery's achievement.*

**28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**



Today, HRH Duke of Gloucester visited the Silent Pool Distillery in the Surrey Hills where he met the distillery team and founder, Ian McCulloch to award the English distillery the Queen's Award for Enterprise in the International Trade Category. As well as learning about the 24 botanicals used in Silent Pool Distiller's flagship gin, the Duke of Gloucester even ran his own bottle of Silent Pool Coronation Expression Gin through the

bottling line on site.

Founder of Silent Pool Distillers, Ian McCulloch said,

*"We are honoured to have been awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise in the International Trade category, recognising our growth internationally. Our team work tirelessly to create the outstanding spirits Silent Pool Distillers is famed for and it's a privilege to be able to share them with customers all over the world. We look forward to growing our international footprint even further and bringing luxury English spirits to more people across the globe."*

The Lord-Lieutenant read the Queen's Award citation scroll which was then presented to Ian McCulloch by HRH Duke of Gloucester.

For information please visit: [www.silentpooldistillers.com](http://www.silentpooldistillers.com)

### ABOUT SILENT POOL DISTILLERS

Silent Pool Gin was launched in 2015 on the Albury Estate in the heart of the Surrey Hills, by Ian McCulloch and James Shelbourne. With a vision of creating sustainably produced, hand-crafted, premium spirits that capture the essence of England's beautiful rural landscape in spirit it led the founders to the Surrey Hills and to settle on the banks of the spring-fed Silent Pool. The crystal-clear water, which springs from a deep natural aquifer, is pumped from the pool and filtered onsite before use. Our original still is powered by a wood-fired boiler using logs from the Duke of Northumberland's Albury Estate. Those interested can visit the distillery and take part in the 90-minute tour offered by Silent Pool Distillers.

The Silent Pool Distillers portfolio now consists of a variety of spirits, including Silent Pool Gin, a complex layered gin which represents a contemporary take on an English classic. Available to buy at [Waitrose](#), [Majestic](#), and independent stockists, as well as online at [www.silentpooldistillers.com](http://www.silentpooldistillers.com), RRP c.£39.50 per 70cl bottle. Currently exported to more than 45 countries, Silent Pool Gin has most recently launched in Australia and Japan.



## Can you help, please?

The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church is a small charity whose aims are to preserve this lovely 19<sup>th</sup> century building for future generations and to keep our community spirit alive. It's currently run by a small band of four Trustees. As our range of activities develops, we need additional trustees with fresh ideas, skills and experience - event management and fund-raising specially relevant. (Not a big commitment; trustees meet around 6 times a year as needed to raise funds, help maintain the building and arrange or promote local events.)

As residents of Farley Green and surrounds, we are privileged to have the Barn Church, not only for worship but as a centre for bringing our rural community together, but it takes time as well as money to keep it all going.

Some of you may remember past activities and celebrations on Farley Green, and in the Barn Church, when friends and neighbours came together:- gatherings to commemorate a number of 'royal' occasions with tree plantings and tea parties, the installation of the Millennium circular seat around the copper beach tree, the Centenary commemoration of WW 1 with a horse cavalcade from FG, hog roasts and barbecues, the fun run, hot air balloon ride taking off from the Green, youngsters' impromptu cricket matches, the Pimms evening at the end of lockdown, Bubbles in the Barn, charity coffee mornings, art shows, workshops, the regular food bank café, and who could forget the magnificent Bonfire nights when volunteers built the bonfire, made a Guy, and the Bonfire Boys staged an impressive fireworks display.

It would be lovely to think that the next generation will continue this community spirit. If you can help, please contact Sue Darling on 07579 811122 or Liz Cooper on 01483 203129 to discuss what might be involved. Many thanks.

*Liz Cooper*

## Holiday Club 2023

Save the dates! Shere, Albury and Chilworth's Holiday Club for children 5-11 will be operating again in Shere Village Hall 10.00-13.00 on 21-24 August 2023.

There will be games, activities, songs and craft and a lively and fun time - all brought to you by the churches of Shere, Albury, and Chilworth. There will also be plenty of scope to help, both for adults and for teenagers.

More details will become available but now's the time to put the dates in your diaries if you would like to send children or to help.

*Andrew Pearson*



## The Persistent Widow



14<sup>th</sup> May  
4.00 p.m.

We will be finding out more about prayer.

This is an informal and relaxed service ideal for all ages.

There will be songs with musical instruments and craft activities.

We will finish with tea for the children and a cuppa and cake for adults.

Please let Sheena know by May 7th if you are coming.

**Everyone welcome**

St Peter and St Paul's Parish Church  
Church Lane  
Albury



## **Your garden in May**

May is sometimes called the unlucky month, perhaps because the plants you bought at the garden centre last month and planted out get destroyed by an unexpected frost. The Anglo-Saxons named it Wonnemonat, the month of joy. The first Saturday in May is traditionally naked gardening day. Should the weather be pleasant and you feel inclined, I would suggest some gentle gardening tasks. Perhaps some potting on of seedlings or clipping the edges of your lawn. Don't be tempted to use any mechanical gardening equipment without protecting your nether regions from flying gravel and other similar projectiles. Perhaps you would be better off in the privacy of your potting shed

Many of the jobs that the gardener normally undertakes in May could have been delayed by the cold, wet spring. Earth up potatoes or cover with a thick layer of straw, this protects from a late frost and keeps the weeds down. Continue the battle with weeds that have germinated well compared to the lovingly sown seeds that may have disappeared into the cultivated fine tilth you have spent backbreaking hours producing. Could that be a solitary carrot in amongst the chickweed?

Your lawn will be growing lustily as a result of the rain, it will also be too wet to mow. Many gardeners may opt for no-mow May. However, if this follows no-mow April, you may have to consider employing a scythe to deal with the hayfield that was your lawn. The thought that wild flower meadows are diminishing in number may lead you to believe that no-mow will be the answer and your lawn will magically produce a plethora of wild flowers. Sadly, this is unlikely to happen, you will see buttercups and daisies, plantains and docks, nettles and couch grass and all those weeds that you have tried to eliminate. They will immediately seed or creep straight into your flowerbeds.

Spring flowering shrubs such as forsythia and flowering quince should be pruned once they have finished flowering. Sow hardy annuals to provide colour later in the year, they can replace the forget-me-nots after you have pulled them up. Do this before they set seed if you can, they will naturalise in your borders or even take over if you are not careful.

If you garden in a frost hollow, you can sow tender flowers and vegetables in the greenhouse or on the windowsill at the beginning of the month. This will give them six weeks to grow into sturdy plants to go out into the garden in the middle of June. Many will need heat to germinate so if you only need to grow two or three, it may be more convenient to buy plug plants at your local garden centre. The varieties available may be limited though.

Happy gardening.

# Food Banks Need Your Help More Than Ever In 2023! 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.**



## **A Victory for Albury Village and its Residents!**

On 29 March, ACE Tillingbourne, Albury's local climate and environment group, received some wonderful news:

Surrey County Council's planning committee voted unanimously 11-0 to refuse an application by IGas (the largest onshore oil and gas company in the UK) to increase their methane (gas) drilling in Albury Park, and to install an industrial hydrogen plant there to turn the methane into hydrogen, and transport it in huge lorries out of Albury and through Surrey.

Along with Save Surrey Countryside, we have been working on this for nearly 2 years to research the steam reformation process used, the ecology in Albury Park, the adverse effects on that, and the impact wider afield. The Weald Action Group were also working on the climate effects.

For each 1 tonne of hydrogen proposed to be produced each day, about 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide would be released from the current site, adding to climate change. This would have been grey hydrogen, the worst kind. Not low-carbon blue hydrogen also produced from methane but with carbon capture, a better kind. And not green hydrogen produced from renewable energy, the best kind.

A report on steam methane reformation by the US Department of Energy says it not only gives off greenhouse gases, but it also gives off air pollutants including nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide.

We also found out Albury Park is by far the most important area in Surrey for lichens. Lichens take their nutrients from the air, and nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide harm lichens. We were sent a report produced by an expert with a survey of the lichens in Albury Park and which confirms these air pollutants are potentially very harmful.

We also consulted the Ancient Tree Inventory and we found and listed an amazing 311 trees in Albury Park on the Inventory, many very old with huge girths, the largest nearly 9 metres. These were native oaks, sweet chestnuts and yews, as well as exotic species.

The Woodland Trust confirmed the potential harm of nitrogen and sulphur deposition on ancient trees. Ecologically significant changes can occur with nitrogen deposition of 2.4 kg of nitrogen per hectare per year. The Air Pollution Information Service confirmed the level at the site was already very high at 29 kg per hectare per year.

IGas omitted to mention the site had important lichens or ancient trees in its planning statement. There are of course many rare species there, with the ancient tree ecosystems.

This would have been a 24/7 industrial operation emitting harmful greenhouse gases and air pollutants, noise, light pollution, with a risk of fire or explosion, and surrounded by other nature sites.

All our evidence was sent to Surrey County Council planning. There were 161 objections and only 1 letter of support. The Officer's report recommended refusal on the grounds it would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt without

special circumstances, it would risk protected species namely lichens, and it does not meet the exceptional circumstances for development in the AONB. We are pleased the Councillors agreed.

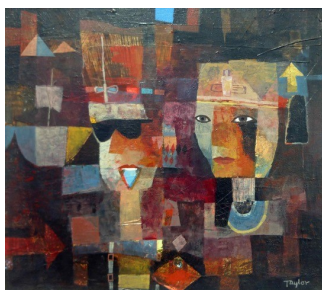
After nearly 2 years of campaigning, this is an opportunity to thank all the organisations for their unwavering support and the residents in the parish of Albury and neighbouring villages who united and sent in their letters of objection that helped achieve this incredible result for the community.

The local action group launched 2 years ago, ACE Tillingbourne, is coordinated by Diana Jones, Guildford Borough Councillor for the Tillingbourne, with support from Sally Blake of Save Surrey Countryside, Mervyn Badiali at Albury Park, David Hatcher, and Bob Hughes, Surrey County Councillor for Shere.

*Mervyn Badiali*

## **The Fircroft Summer Art Exhibition is back this June, from Saturday 10th until Sunday 25th, open daily 11am - 5pm.**

More than 50 artists and makers (regular exhibitors, returners, Fircroft first timers and of course Frank Taylor) will be showing their new work in the house and gardens.



Frank Taylor Nefertiti Takes a Trip



Jane Silk Gossipy



Paul Harvey Owl

## Parish People - Jenny (née Howick) & Phil Bushell



**Q. Where do we start?**

Jenny: Both my parents and grandparents are buried in Albury Church graveyard. My grandfather was in charge of electricity generation for Albury Estate and lived in Weston Yard. My grandmother requested permission from the Duchess of Northumberland to buy half an acre of land in Little London. Later, when building was

allowed after post-war shortages, my father as a joiner and uncle as an engineer built two cottages there. My parents, Reg and Joyce Howick, lived there until he was 33, when we moved to Reading for my father's work. My brother first went to infant school on Albury Heath. On retirement, my parents returned to Albury for the last 33 years of their lives and were heavily involved in the Parish Church, Shere primary school, the Women's Institute, and the History Society. Eventually, with age, my father in particular needed assistance and they moved to a retirement flat in Shalford. My father died age 94 in 2016 and my mother, age 92 in 2019. My Uncle Alf (*Albury Parish News June and August 2011*), the engineer, lived in Albury for all but the last two years of his life and died age 100.

**Phil:** I was born and grew up in Bedford. ,At age 11, I was fortunate enough get a place at one of the Harpur Trust grammar schools, and benefitted from an excellent education plus enjoying scouts and Covenanters. My friendship group was into motorcycles and I bought my first one age 16 and piled it three weeks later, resulting in ten days in hospital and a life with a denture plate. On coming out of hospital, I self-repaired the motorcycle and sold it off quickly! I eventually graduated to a 500cc Triumph but one day decided it needed a re-bore, took it to pieces, then lost interest in re-assembling it and sold it off in parts!

At school, I found maths easy, and I sailed through my A levels and, because the teacher pushed me that way, applied to Cambridge and got a place at Churchill College on A level results alone. That was fortunate indeed since after that I had to take a Cambridge entrance exam and I am sure I did not do well. Once I hit university level, maths was far from easy and somehow I got to the end with second division. Cambridge, for unknown historical reasons, does not distinguish between a 2.1 and a 2.2 in maths. I know which one mine was!

**Jenny:** I started on the maths and physics at Nottingham University but struggled so at the end of my first year made a late decision to switch to a BEd at Homerton College, Cambridge. My application there was over the time-

limit but, because physics graduates were much in demand, they squeezed me in. That was a life changing move for me.

**Q. Has Christianity always been important to you?**

Phil: No, I came from a non-religious family but found that all the kids in the park, that we had moved near to, went to a church based games evening on Thursdays. I of course joined that and, though I tried hard to avoid it, was also drawn into their Sunday class and then from that into the youth group, which had the special attraction of having quite a few girls attending! I argued a lot with everyone but eventually, not only the logic but also the joy in their lives, got the better of me and, age 17, I realised I had to make a personal decision to wholeheartedly follow Jesus. At university I threw myself into the Christian Union. Maybe, with my mathematical logic bent, two things were clear. First, if the teachings of Jesus were true for me, they must be true for everyone everywhere. Secondly, whatever little good I could do in this country, could be much more effective in a country with few Christians and a struggling church.

Jenny: Where my parents were living in Reading was not far from Greyfriars Church in Friar Street and they sent me there for Sunday School. I was greatly influenced by many lovely and joyful older folks there, along with the CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society)/Falcon camps, but at that stage did not understand the implications of putting Jesus Christ first in my life. It wasn't until I went off to university and independence there that I understood just how important this Christian faith was to me. So, like Phil, I got involved with the Christian Unions both in Nottingham and in Homerton with a new enthusiasm and commitment. I too began to feel that, after university, my place of service should be in another country. However, to fully qualify as a teacher, one had to do a year of actual teaching, so I returned to teach physics in Bulmershe School, Reading for two years

**Q. How did you go about fulfilling the desire to serve abroad?**

P&J: While we were at university, we both came into contact with a group called 'Operation Mobilisation' (OM), a Christian mission which provides training and world-wide opportunities to work alongside national Christians to share their Christian faith. In fact, it was through OM that we first met each other. Both of us began to focus on India, so for Phil in 1973 and Jenny in 1976, we travelled overland to India.

**Q. Tell me about the journey to India?**

Phil: It seems amazing in the present world situation to think that, 50 years ago, it was possible to drive all the way through Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan to India, with the main danger being the roads and other drivers. At one point in freezing weather, the rear wheels of our three-ton truck fell through a collapsing conduit under the road. It took a lot of heaving, levering and revving to get us out again. The journey took about five weeks. Probably there were more dangers than we realised, but God certainly took care of us. Jenny was in a transit van along with four other girls and they travelled in convoy with a truck driven

by several young men. For them, breakfasting in sight of Mt Ararat was also a memorable experience.

**Q. What happened at your destination?**

**Phil:** I was sent to join the OM teams in West Bengal for a year, via a detour to Pokhara and Kathmandu, in Nepal, to take some supplies there. The precipices on the sides of roads were horrifying! My main task was to be the driver for a team of five or six Indian young men and to go each day to markets and bazaars and sell Christian and educational books to anyone interested. Unlike the UK, people were always interested to get new things to read. Across the border in Bangladesh, the teams there needed co-workers, and I was asked to go over for a month in 1974, then to co-lead the teams in the following year. From an early stage, I felt a sense of 'belonging' there. We worked particularly with young people, selling bibles and Christian books on the streets and helping with English and other general education needs. I returned to the UK in March 1976 and then returned to Bangladesh, overland of course, in November for a long-term future there.

**Jenny:** While Phil was returning to Bangladesh in 1976, in a separate group of vehicles, I headed to India. Driving through the Khyber Pass down into Pakistan then on to India, the Indian Sub-continent, gave me a strong sense of arrival; the place the Lord had for me. I too became the driver for a team, but this time all girls. We were all young. We lived and slept side by side in simple conditions. It was very brave for these girls to take their bags of books and go door-to-door, where the women were always in their homes. However, it wasn't long before the Indian leaders decided that my educational background meant that I would be more useful to take up a job in the finance office in Bombay. While there, I used to write articles for the girls on the OM teams on female health issues, of which most were woefully ignorant.

**Q. When did you two get married?**

**Jenny:** As mentioned, we had met at university, and kept in contact by writing letters. Things warmed up in the summer of 1976 in the UK. Phil came over to Bombay in 1978 and we got engaged in the Hanging Gardens there. Circumstances conspired in such a way that marriage in Dhaka, Bangladesh, was the best option for us. Because of the very conservative social codes in that part of the world, I flew into Bangladesh on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 1979 and we married in a church there just three weeks later on Jan 24<sup>th</sup>. We had 200 people at the reception then went for a two-week honeymoon in Shillong in India and the whole thing cost £200!

**Q. After marriage?**

**P&J:** We settled down to team life, living in one room at the team base in the capital, Dhaka. It was the centre of operations for our three or four teams of single men, several of whom also shared the house with us. The country was poor then, only seven years from independence, after a very destructive civil war. The US Foreign Secretary, Henry Kissinger, described Bangladesh as 'The basket case of the world' and, at that stage, that is

what it was. The country, after 200 years under the British and 25 years under Pakistan rule, followed by war, started life with less than nothing. Yet history tells us that Bengal, when independent, has always been prosperous. In 1972, the population was 70 million, the most densely populated country in the world. Now the population has risen above 170 million. Yet, amazingly, today it feeds itself, and has a huge garments industry. Instead of being the world's 'basket case', it is now the world's clothing supplier. Look at the labels on what you are wearing right now - that's not just Primark but also Next, John Lewis, and M&S. According to United Nations statistics, the country is now entering the middle-income range.

**Q. Are the people hardworking?**

**P&J:** Without doubt. Where there is work to do, they work hard. If they are poor, this is generally not laziness but lack of available work. They are an independent people, preferring self employment, with the option to work a 24 hour day or have a day off. The men aren't natural employees but the women, as per garments industry, fit in well. Even so, maintaining a population so large in so small a country means that many Bangladeshis have migrated to other countries, where they work hard and send back what they can to their families. After the garments industry, remittances are the next largest source of foreign exchange in Bangladesh

**Q. Other than economics, and climate, which we will come to later, what other changes have taken place during your many years in Bangladesh?**

**J & P:** Well, as mentioned, a green revolution has taken place so that almost every corner of the country is now cultivated and, being very fertile, three or even four crops a year are harvested. Infrastructure development has taken place with road and bridge construction. Journeys that once took twelve hours are now down to six or even four. Natural disasters, particularly cyclones, that used to kill hundreds of thousands now usually take the lower thousands of lives or fewer. There has been an occasional lurch into military rule but on the whole democracy has prevailed, albeit a Bangladeshi variety. Internet and social media are everywhere and the country, once quite isolated, is now integrated into the world community.

During these years, the churches in Bangladesh have grown considerably and are well on the road to becoming self-funding, self-governing and self-propagating.

Change on the personal level came with the arrival of our two sons, both now married and with, gradually, six grandchildren between them!

**Q. Apart from teaching English and selling bibles and books, what else did you do?**

**P&J** Full-time English teaching didn't come until much later on, although we qualified to do that years earlier and have always done a small amount part-time. For a number of years, we were responsible for a programme that provided libraries, class-room furniture, tube-wells and toilets for

schools. We were able to assist hundreds of schools in one district in this way. Fund-raising for that activity was a skill learnt on-the-job.

It was after a move into Dhaka in 2016 that we began full-time English teaching. The problem with English in Bangladesh is that it is all taught via Bengali script and so comes out with a pronunciation very difficult to understand outside the country. We have met master's level English students who cannot understand a simple sentence we speak to them. On the other hand, international English doesn't help anyone there to pass their school exams for the same reason. So, our focus was on higher level students, those planning to study abroad, and business people who needed to communicate internationally.

**Q. Where was your UK home?**

J & P: Our UK base was and is Bedford, though with Jenny's parents in Albury we were frequently there. Albury Church did a lot to help Jenny's parents through their more frail years for which we are very grateful and that deepened our own relationship with them. We actually spent most of the 90s in the UK in order to see our sons through secondary school, university and into employment and to support Phil's nearly blind and widowed mother. Unfortunately, also during that period, Jenny developed ME/CFS and spent a large part of that time either in bed or with very limited energy. During those years we concentrated on helping the Bangladeshi immigrant community, mainly with English for their children.

**Q. Do you speak Bengali?**

P&J: Oh yes. With few people there able to cope with an English conversation, fluency in Bengali is essential for ordinary life.

**Q. After your period in UK during the 1990s?**

Phil: I was given some international responsibility with OM and so, although based in Bangladesh, was travelling around the Indian Sub-continent countries. There was involvement with the post-tsunami relief work in Sri Lanka. Maybe we should have mentioned earlier that we frequently had a hand in crisis relief in Bangladesh, for instance during the bad floods of 1988 and a cyclone in 1991 that killed 200,000 people.

Jenny: Alongside the English teaching, we also supervised a tailoring training project that equipped mainly ladies to run a home-based business or else get a job in one of the garment factories. Then there were several years when we were organising adult literacy classes. Each lasted ten months and there were ten running at a time with 20 women in each. Another sideline was to sponsor several single class informal primary schools in a slum area in Dhaka. There have always been medical needs we have got caught up in such as a lady with post-polio syndrome, one with rheumatoid arthritis, a young man with leukaemia and the education of an autistic boy.

**Q. What happens now?**

Phil: We have both reached the age of 70. We decided earlier that, by that stage, we would have laid down all leadership responsibilities and we have

been able to do that. Bangladesh of course still remains deep in our hearts, and we have gained skills that few other foreigners have. We have also a wide range of friends and relationships there, some of our own age and younger ones too, so our plan at present, health-permitting, is to be there for several months each year. We hope to be able to give advice on life skills, to teach Bible truth and Christian living, to help with English classes and to be friends through the good times and bad times in a country where life is not easy.

**Q. What are the major health risks in that country?**

**P&J:** The biggest risk each day is crossing the roads. Look left, look right, left again, right and left again, close your eyes, put one hand in the air and run to the middle of the road, and then do the same again. Reasonably good medical treatment is available in Bangladesh, but ambulance services and trauma treatment are almost non-existent.

Pollution is bad. In the cooler weather, December to February, Dhaka is frequently the most polluted city in the world. Apart from traffic, a lot of this is due to brick-kiln firing on the outskirts of Dhaka. Industrialisation has also resulted in the unrestricted release of waste products into fields and rivers.

**Q. Has Bangladesh been affected by climate change?**

**P&J:** The whole world is affected by climate change. In Bangladesh, the hot season is getting hotter and more difficult to endure. The monsoons seem to have shifted westward, giving Bangladesh less rain and Pakistan more. However, the annual flood season in Bangladesh brings with it siltation that results in a land increase, not loss, in the Bay of Bengal. That is why the Bangladesh Government has been able to re-house 125,000 Rohingya on a new island that has emerged from the sea.

**Q. Does Bangladesh welcome tourists?**

**P&J:** There used to be a poster ‘See Bangladesh before the tourists come!’. It is indeed a beautiful, deeply green riverine country with the 75 mile long beach in Cox Bazar. The problem for tourists is that the people are so friendly and so keen to talk with visitors, that it can feel overpowering. It is difficult to walk around unobtrusively, and people want to talk to this visiting curiosity. Perhaps if more foreigners visit the country, it will become easier. That’s mainly about the Western tourists. Those from South-East Asia, including China, don’t stand out in the same way. Local tourism is also picking up as there are enough people with sufficient money to take holidays and visit other parts of their country but, as yet, the flood of Western foreign tourists has still to come.

**Q. Do visitors have to take care about their mode of dress, particularly ladies, so as not to offend Islamic practice?**

**J & P:** Bangladesh is a majority Muslim country and becoming increasingly conservative. Ladies are always fully covered though not so many wear the full burkha, and covering of the face is not common. If you want to become an ‘insider’ there, then of course you have to avoid causing



offence. A visitor will be forgiven any faux-pas but not a longtermer.

**Q. What special sights attract tourists?**

Phil: The Tea Gardens of Sylhet. The beach at Cox's Bazar. There are some historical sites from the Buddhist, Hindu and Moghul eras but the general climate has not been conducive to building preservation and only recently has the government allocated resources to this.

**Q. Does the country have any special destination for religious pilgrims?**

Phil: Actually, the majority of British visitors to Bangladesh are the ethnic Bangladeshis from the Sylhet district, and they will all visit the shrine of Shah Jalal, a 14<sup>th</sup> century Islamic saint. Then the country hosts an annual Islamic gathering called the Bishwa Ijtema, on the banks of the River Turag on the outskirts of Dhaka. With a million people there, it is second in numbers only to the pilgrimage to Mecca. It is a peaceful event; very much a revivalist movement. As a foreigner, I can go and walk around there and people will be very friendly.

**Q. I can see that you have both done lots of good work over many years, but how did you earn your crust?**

P&J: We are very thankful to have come from two very active churches, who have always considered us to be their representatives in Bangladesh. They have supported us faithfully and financially since 1973, along with our own circle of friends from university days. We didn't set out to be rich and haven't got there either, but we have never lacked and have seen some remarkable answers to prayer over financial needs, particularly with regard to our children's education.

**Q. How will you spend your retirement years?**

P&J: Well, we wouldn't really consider ourselves to be retired; maybe we would admit to semi-retirement! Our six grandchildren have moved up on our priority list, though we cannot do much with the four who currently live in east Africa. We also have a long list of travels, sightseeing, historical sites, cultural events etc of which it would be nice to get through a few before we are too old to do that!

**Q. If you found yourselves Prime Ministers of Bangladesh, what might be your key policies?**

P&J: The government works hard on behalf of Bangladesh's 170 million people. There are though two areas that raise our hackles, and we would like to be able to do something to reform. The first is medical treatment and the second is general education.

Medical treatment beyond the basic in Bangladesh is all private. That incentivises doctors to over test, overprescribe and overtreat, because they get a cut (oops!) out of all three costs. We remember being with a healthy lady and then two weeks later being told she needed an urgent operation for stomach cancer. We said, 'Get a second opinion'! We were then told that it wasn't stomach cancer but an ulcer, but still needing an operation. We said, 'Get a third opinion'! We were then told that an

operation was not needed but some expensive medicine was required. We looked up the medicine and saw that it contained two drugs combined which, if bought separately, would be only a quarter of the cost. Her main need was to give up chewing betel nut which is a stomach irritant.

Then education. Though most children get registered for school, in reality the schools teach very little in the large classes of 70+ children and the real teaching has to come from private tuition. By the time students reach GCSE level, they need two or three tutorials per day for different subjects, in addition to attending school classes. Result: penniless parents, exhausted students and exhausted teachers, who have lots of money.

Of course, if we were to be Prime Ministers, we would want to ensure freedom of religion and conscience for Muslims, Hindus and Christians. To be fair, the government tries to do that, but making that work at ground level isn't easy.

It has been a privilege to have joined Bangladesh on much of its travels to its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

*Richard Floyd*

## **All in the month of MAY**

It was:

250 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1773 that Britain passed the Tea Act, which favoured the British East India Company over the American colonies, which led to the Boston Tea Party in December, which escalated into the American Revolution and the establishment of the USA.

150 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1873 that David Livingstone, Scottish missionary and explorer, died. Best known for his search for the sources of the Nile, and for going missing (and being found) in Africa.

100 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May 1923 that the first Le Mans 24 hours endurance motor race was held.

90 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1933 that the first modern sighting of Scotland's Loch Ness monster was reported in the Inverness Chronicle.

80 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May 1943 that the RAF launched Operation Chastise, which became famous as the 'Dambusters' Raid'. Bouncing bombs were used to bypass anti-torpedo nets and breach dams, which caused catastrophic flooding in Germany's Ruhr Valley.

75 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May 1948 that Israel was declared an independent state as the British mandate in Palestine came to an end. Next day the Arab-Israeli War began with the invasion of Israel by Egypt, Transjordan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.

70 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> May 1953 that New Zealand mountaineer Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

60 years ago, on 27<sup>th</sup> May 1963 that the folk/blues album 'The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan' was released. It included the hit song 'Blowin' in the Wind'.

## News from Shere Surgery

I thought I would try this month to explain some of the reasons why we are having problems within Dispensary, and why pharmacies are closing at an alarming rate nationally.

A few years ago (before the pandemic) we started having problems accessing some medications. We are a small purchaser with less buying power than some of the big chains, but nevertheless there seemed to be an increase in restricted lines. We believed these pressures were down to Brexit and uncertainty within the market. Before this settled down the pandemic happened. China shut down ports and other countries that export base products for medications were obviously restricted. Some companies switched to producing more medication for pandemic specific purposes, and obviously production was affected by ill health in factory workers and base product availability. This led to severe shortages of some medications within the UK. At one point we were importing Paracetamol from India as it was cheaper/more accessible than buying in the UK.

Tensions rose at this point as some really important medications were not available/only available in small supply/only available in some brands, and our patients started getting worried about whether their medication would be available or not. The long-term availability issue with HRT was a particularly troubling time for us as we use HRT a lot, and a lack of availability really had a significant impact on our patients. We completely understood the worry (we shared it) but it was hard trying to explain the problem. We have had to reassure patients who find their normal drug has a sticker label over the original box, as it has been imported from a different country, and the original label may be in Greek! Aside from the combination of Brexit, and pandemic stock supplies, we have since seen a significant increase in sicker people in the community. This is due to the backlog for operations and outpatient clinics at the hospital caused by Covid delays (where the hospital was consumed by treating Covid). We are managing far more complex patients at home, and needing to prescribe more and more medications (from 8,000 to 11,000 items per month roughly), and find ways to source these.

Fast forward to summer last year and a new problem started hitting us... (this is the part where you need to bear with me as I try to explain this to the best of my ability ☹). The **Voluntary Scheme for Branded Medicines Pricing and Access (VPAS)** is an agreement with the Dept of Health and Social Care to try to provide best value on drugs to get the most effective medicines into use more quickly. It makes sense to try to keep medicines cost effective so that more people can benefit from them. This is a voluntary scheme that manufacturers sign up to but my understanding is that, if they don't sign up, their drug is less likely to make it onto national drug formularies. I would describe it like a tax on profit, and last summer the statutory scheme payment percentage started rising. From 5% this had shifted to approaching 20% by the end of 2022.

Suddenly previously profitable lines were no longer cost effective, and manufacturers started buying and selling manufacturing rights for products/product

lines or stopping production altogether. In December 2022 there were 170 drugs on the concessions list (usually about 60 in December) which is a reflector of drug availability issues. This has led to problems with finding alternatives where a drug is no longer made, substantial swings in the price of drugs, different manufacturers signing sole provider deals with different wholesalers, and huge volatility in the market. It has even affected the services we provide. I was really upset to have to cancel minor surgery appointments in January 2023 as the local anaesthetic was not available.

It has not been a surprise to see the large chain pharmacies closing significant proportions of their outlets, but this has huge implications for communities nationally.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 (sadly it wasn't an April Fool) the statutory scheme payment percentage has increased to 27.5%. We are holding our breath to see which products are affected next.

A couple of patients told me that my attempt at summarising a complicated few years for the pharmaceutical industry had been useful. I decided to share it more widely because understanding the roots of a problem helps us work together. Please remember this is my interpretation of what I have watched happen. I (& the whole team) have spoken to scores of patients to try to explain why their medication needs to be changed. At the start of the pandemic patients were less receptive, but I would really like to thank you all for working with us to try to find solutions, and accepting that we are no longer able to provide preferred brands as we have to accept what we are able to get hold of.

I'll try for some lighter subject matter next month!

*Emma Watts*

## **Do you need your prescription collecting from Shere Surgery?**

### **Do you need a lift to and from Shere Surgery?**

If the answer is “yes”, please get in touch with Good Neighbours and we will do our best to help you with our band of merry volunteer drivers - we cover the villages of Shere, Albury, Gomshall and Peaslake. This service has been running for over 40 years and it is a really valuable resource for many members of the community so please give us a call if we can help you.

We are also keen to recruit some more volunteer drivers - it really isn't a big commitment, we may only call on you once every six weeks. Please get in touch with Jo or Helen if you feel you could help us.

*Jo Kelly 01483 205446 or 07900 302794*

*Helen Espen 01483 209522 or 07771537150*

# Peaslake School

We were super busy last half term, it felt like a nonstop roller coaster of activities that the children embraced with great excitement and gusto! It took off with a trip to Brooklands Motor museum, where the supervisors commented how well behaved our children were and how carefully they listened and followed instructions when making their “peg racers” - racing cars made out of wooden pegs, buttons and straws which may seem extraordinary but it was a great way to learn about the mechanisms of wheels and axles, and the cars actually raced down a ramp!

Book week followed, with a variety of ideas to further engage and inspire a love of reading. We held a masked reader event each day where the teachers disguised themselves and talked about their favourite book. The children had to guess which teacher it was, from the feedback received I think the parents enjoyed this too. We had fireside stories and character dressing up day and included our Mother's Day celebrations as well.

Our Science Stem week gave the children the opportunity to experience a range of scientific roles in today's society. We have visitors from the Civil Aviation Authority, a radio engineer, an ex-RAF pilot and a CA flight standards officer. The children learnt about their different roles. We also discovered the four forces to make planes fly and how radio waves were transmitted and stopped. The best bit came when making our own paper planes and completing several test flights launching them on a motorised lego plan launcher.

We had a visit from a Doctor who showed us his bag of tools and let the children experience using his stethoscope, he talked about the importance of healthy eating and explored the digestive system. He demonstrated how food moves through our system - using a pair of tights and some liquid and balls - resulting in poo, by cutting off the bottom of the tights. Causing much hilarity in the classrooms.

Our reception class were visited by a local weaver, who help the children investigate different textiles including angora, bamboo, silk and alpaca wool. The children loved feeling and comparing them. She brought in her loom and showed how to use it allowing them to have a go.

## Forest school .....

The finale to the term was our traditional egg rolling race down the school drive. How funny we must look to on lookers watching us all engrossed in seeing how far our carefully boiled eggs will roll! There were some beautifully decorated eggs for the competition and it was very hard to judge.



A lovely way to end a fun filled action packed term, thank you to everyone for their hard work and support.



Peaslake  
Players

present... Kenneth Grahame's



# The Wind in the Willows

Adapted by Alan Bennett



**Peaslake Memorial Hall**

**10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> May 7:30pm**

**Matinee 13<sup>th</sup> May 2:30pm**

**Tickets: [www.peaslakeplayers.co.uk](http://www.peaslakeplayers.co.uk)**

**More info: [jill.golding@me.com](mailto:jill.golding@me.com)**

**If you see Toad out on the road, keep a wide berth and report him to the police!**

## Peaslake Players

Keep your eyes peeled in and around the villages of Albury, Peaslake, and Shere as some characters from *Wind in the Willows* have been spotted 'out and about' in the Surrey Hills recently!

The Peaslake Players present Alan Bennett's witty, magical, and amusing adaptation of this classic children's novel featuring Badger, Rat, Mole, and Toad of Toad Hall and a host of other colourful characters.

Running from 10th-13th May, tickets are available from **Peaslake Players - Surrey Hills Amateur Dramatics**



## Peaslake Open Gardens 2023



### Peaslake Open Gardens 2023

The gardens are awake! And we are busy preparing for the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

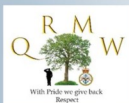
If you have any spare plants that you would be able to donate to our plant stall, please contact us on

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

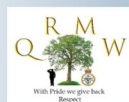
All proceeds to Peaslake Schools Trust

*Liz Chapple*





**YOU ARE INVITED TO**



**THE QUICK RESPONSE MEMORIAL WOODLAND'S**

(Registered Charity No: 1174651)

**ANNUAL REUNION AND COMMEMORATION SERVICE**

**Which will take place at**

**THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT MEMORIAL WOODLAND**

**Pasturewood Road, Holmbury St Mary RH5 6LG**

**on**

**SATURDAY 10TH JUNE 2023**

**Commencing at 12.30**

**COMMEMORATION SERVICE IN HONOUR OF  
EX-QUEENSMEN**

**Richard Neil Leathers—Ex-3rd Bn**

**Michael Pritchard—Ex-1st Bn**

**And Others TBA**

**REDHILL CORP OF  
DRUMS AND BAND**



**VETERAN CROONER  
RODNEY DELL**



**BAR AND BBQ  
RAFFLE, MERCHANDISE  
TOMBOLA  
CAKES, CRAFTS AND  
MERCHANDISE**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MEMORIAL FUND**

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Tel: 07444094700

Facebook: QRMW Registered Charity 1174651

Web : [www.qrmw.org](http://www.qrmw.org)



## Update on QRMW



On 2nd April we had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt at the woodland which was enjoyed by many local children and families. It was great fun and the rain stopped, we even had a few rays of sunshine to add to what was a very enjoyable day and we raised some much appreciated funds which has gone into the Memorial Fund to assist Veterans who are in difficulty. All monies raised by QRMW at our events are used

for the upkeep of the Memorial Woodland and to assist those Veterans who are going through a difficult time, all of us who work for the Charity are volunteers.

The woodland is looking beautiful now that Spring is fully with us and the longer days are encouraging the plants, shrubs and trees to come alive and the birds are incredibly busy making their nest some are already feeding young. Spring is such a lovely time of the year and full of promise.

I must tell you about our next important event at the Memorial Woodland which will take place on June 10th; it will be our 9th Anniversary since the woodland was officially opened and a Commemoration Service will take place at the woodland. Four families whose family members who are no longer with us were Veterans and they will be honouring their loved ones and planting saplings. This is a very special event, a day of remembrance plus celebration, at which we will have the Redhill Band and Corp of Drums, Veteran singer Rodney Dell, BBQ, Bar and a number of stalls including some lovely crafts, merchandise, bottle tombola and grand raffle. EVERYONE is welcome so do put it in your diaries to come and join us at 12.30 on Saturday 10th June. Belmont School are allowing visitors to park in their car parks and we will be running a shuttle service for everyone too and from the woodland which means our car park is free for the vintage military vehicles which will be on display. We are thrilled to have been informed by the CEO that his young Cadets from Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corp will be joining us as usual, these young people are the only cadets who are allowed to wear the Queen's Regiment Cap Badge in the UK.

Visitors to the woodland are always welcome, bring a picnic and sit at one of our picnic benches and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of our lovely

woodland in the heart of the Surrey Hills. We are open 24/7, if we are not present on the day that you come you can park at the front of the main car park and walk in the side gate. If we are there then the Visitors Centre will be open and you can enjoy the collection of military memorabilia that the families of those Veterans who are honoured at the woodland have donated to us for all to enjoy.

In the meantime we really look forward to seeing you on 10th June.

*Paul Cooling*

*Chairman*

*The Quick Response Memorial Woodland*

*Registered Charity No 117465*

## That's Show Business!

The Ladybirds Choir presents a selection of songs from the world of entertainment

**Saturday 10 June at 4pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Dorking**

Raising funds for The Meeting Room, a charity which supports homeless, socially isolated and vulnerable people in Leatherhead, Ashted and Epsom

*Helena Twentyman*

*01306 882457*

## Sudoku

Each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

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

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

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# Guildford Quilters' Exhibition

Wednesday 10th May -  
Monday 15th May 2023

10am - 5pm

Place Farm Barn,  
West Horsley Place,  
Surrey, KT24 6AN

An exciting opportunity to browse exquisite  
handmade quilts, cushions and gifts, all in  
the stunning setting of West Horsley Place.

Free entry.  
Ample parking.  
Demonstrations.  
Raffle & Tombola.  
Traders' Tables.  
Refreshments in courtyard.

House tours available to book at  
[www.westhorsleyplace.org](http://www.westhorsleyplace.org)

[www.guildfordquilters.co.uk](http://www.guildfordquilters.co.uk)

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HARRY EDWARDS

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# healingsanctuary

Wherever You Are, We're Here For You

As well as the Coronation of our King, Healing Awareness Week also happens in the first week of May. We have a packed programme - full details are on our website [www.harryedwardshealingsanctuary.org.uk](http://www.harryedwardshealingsanctuary.org.uk). There will be many interesting events and talks on zoom (meeting ID 355 462 8759) and on our Facebook Page @HarryEdwardsHealingSanctuary including:

- Daily Healing Minutes at 9.55am on Facebook
- Daily In Conversation with Healers Recordings on Facebook
- Dr Tim Ridge, Chair of the Doctor Healer Network on Healing Energy Therapy and the Human Energy Field - What is the Evidence?' on 1st May on Facebook
- Healing Circle on 1st May at 7.30pm on Zoom
- Dan Kahn on Positive Chakras for Mental Fitness and Resilience 7.30pm on 2nd May on Zoom
- Christa Mackinnon on Connecting the Inner and Outer Worlds: Healing Earth | Healing Soul 7.30pm on 3rd May
- Wendy Erlich on Angels 7.30pm on 4th May on Zoom
- An Evening with Suzanne Giesemann 7.30pm on 5th May on Zoom
- Healing for You with Alan 7.30pm on 7th May on Zoom

Then at 11am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May we will be having an Animal Service in the Chapel at the Sanctuary. Bring along your beloved pets! After the service, world renowned Animal Healer, Elizabeth Whiter, will be giving us a talk and live healing demonstration. All animals are welcome. Email [val.chandler@burrowslea.org.uk](mailto:val.chandler@burrowslea.org.uk) to let us know who you will be bringing.





Further events in May include:

Anxiety and Dealing with Difficult Thoughts and Emotions 10.30am Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the Sanctuary

We all feel anxious at times. It's our brain's way of trying to keep us safe. But how can we stop ourselves being swept away by difficult or negative thoughts and emotions? In this session we'll explore practices that can allow us to turn from stress to ease just when we need it most.

Tickets are £12 per person available through Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/594010570607>

In Conversation with Healers: Neil Seligmann 7.30pm Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May on Zoom

Reiki Master, Neil Seligman is the creator of the SAXON sound healing App and a leading International Mindfulness Expert and Speaker. He is the founder of The Conscious Professional and a pioneer of the Mindfulness and Conscious Leadership movement in the UK. Through his classes and flagship online course Zen in Ten, Neil has taught mindfulness to thousands of individuals worldwide. Neil believes firmly in the possibility of finding conscious solutions to the challenges of our world by inspiring individuals and businesses to adopt conscious models and supporting them as they do the inner and outer work of transformation. He is the author of two books: *Conscious Leadership* and *100 Mindfulness Meditations*. Neil has worked with global firms such as Netflix, Accenture, Natwest, Linklaters, and Warner Brothers and he has been featured by the BBC, The Sunday Times, The Mirror, The Sun, Yoga Magazine, Psychologies, OmYoga Magazine, Attitude, Soul & Spirit Magazine, and many more. This event is free to attend but booking is essential through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/601343894777>

The Sanctuary Bereavement Support Café 11am Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May at the Sanctuary.

Have you been affected by bereavement? We run a welcoming and supportive cafe for anyone affected by bereavement. Come for a chat and a cuppa in a relaxed setting with others who have been bereaved. Healing is also available on request. For further information please contact [Alison.McWhinnie@burrowslea.org.uk](mailto:Alison.McWhinnie@burrowslea.org.uk)

Bluebells Cancer Support Group 11am on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May at the Sanctuary

Have you been affected by cancer? The Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary run a friendly, sharing support group for anyone affected by cancer. Please feel free to contact Stephanie Beinart for more information - [stephbeinart@gmail.com](mailto:stephbeinart@gmail.com)

Sanctuary Choir - Every Thursday at 1pm in the Chapel

Come to experience the joy of singing. You don't have to sound like Pavarotti to enjoy this! Whatever your age, whatever your singing ability please do join us and connect with like-minded people to sing some well-known songs and have some fun. All welcome. For more information please contact [jean.hill@burrowslea.org.uk](mailto:jean.hill@burrowslea.org.uk)

Any queries please do not hesitate to drop me an email [Alison.mcwhinnie@burrowslea.org.uk](mailto:Alison.mcwhinnie@burrowslea.org.uk)

Alison McWhinnie  
Director of Development  
The Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary

# Shere Village Cinema -

## Book now for films in May and June 2023

Thank you for continuing to support our cinema. Yet again, we are having problems getting the licences to show some of the films that we want, but we hope that you will enjoy the films that we are able to show. To book tickets please go to the website ([www.sherevillagecinema.com](http://www.sherevillagecinema.com)), or buy from the shops: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets, except where indicated, cost £5/adult and £3.50/child. Hopefully we have now fixed the most annoying problem when booking tickets via the website, i.e. not seeing the number of tickets that you have booked. Please note that you should now receive an automatic acknowledgement email, but depending on your system, it may go into your spam or junk mail. However, if you are still having problems, please send a message to: [info@sherevillagecinema.com](mailto:info@sherevillagecinema.com) or phone Jill: 07833208158, and we will do what we can to help.



In May we will be showing - the following films:

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Tár - Kate Blanchett** plays Lydia Tár, a world-famous conductor, of a major German orchestra, about to record Mahler's Fifth Symphony. We meet her at the height of her powers, as she is being interviewed by Adam Gopnik of the New Yorker (played by Gopnik himself). "Her life looks beautiful, the flat she shares with her wife (Nina Hoss) could be an Art gallery, her jets are private, and her wardrobe is exquisite". However, it soon becomes clear that all is not as it seems, who is Tár, really? As the plot unfolds, the film becomes "as tense as a thriller", and "doesn't drag for a single second", driven by Kate Blanchett's "electrifying" performance. "The genius of *Tár* lies in the way that the film-making echoes the treacherously seductive and mercurial nature of its central character". Kate Blanchett has already won a 2023 BAFTA and a Golden Globe for her performance in *Tár*. Classification: 15 (Running time is 2 hours 38 minutes). Start time: **7.30pm**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Empire of Light** -is Sam Mendes' loving ode to cinema set in a tumultuous 1980s Britain, but it's also about racism, loneliness, mental illness, and our ability to connect. The fictional Empire cinema overlooks an unknown seaside town in the south of England. It's one of those rare places where people experience something magical to light up their lives in the cynical, broken world. However, Hilary (Olivia Colman) the stage manager, doesn't care for such nonsense. To her, with a troubled past and anger issues, it is just a job and routine. Her sleazy boss Donald Ellis (Colin Firth) takes advantage of her, trading sexual favours in his office for boxes of Milk Tray. It is only after Hilary experiences the kindness and affection of the newest staff member Stephen (Micheal Ward) that she begins to feel alive again. Together they find a sense of belonging and experience the healing power of music, cinema, and community. A poignant, intelligent and handsome film, wonderfully shot by Roger Deakins. Classification: R (Running time is 1 hour 59 minutes). Start time: **7.30pm**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June - A Man Called Otto** - tells the story of Otto Anderson (Tom Hanks), a grumpy widower whose only joy comes from criticizing and judging his

exasperated neighbours. When a lively young family moves in next door, he meets his match in quick-witted and very pregnant Marisol, leading to an unexpected friendship that will turn his world upside-down. Tom Hanks gives a fantastic performance as Otto, highlighting his comedic range while also demonstrating the deep emotional depths of a man attempting to find companionship in a world that doesn't conform to his elevated expectations and obsession with rules. This is a delightful comedy drama full of joy and hilarity, but also with moments of heartfelt emotion. The story's frank, unflinching, and unapologetic exploration of suicide is both powerful and touching. Classification: PG - 13 (Running time is 2 hours 6 minutes). Start time: **7.30pm**

Thank you for your support. Do join us for our films in May and June if you can.

*Shere Village Cinema Team*

## What's on in May

Date	Time	Event	Location	Page
7	12.30 p.m.	Coronation Lunch	Farley Green	6
10–15	10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.	Guildford Quilter's Exhibition	Place Farm Barn West Horsley Place	31
10-13	7.30 p.m. 3.30	Peaslake Players Wind in the Willows	Peaslake Memorial Hall	26
20	10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon	Community Cafe	The Barn Church Farley Green	7
20	3.00 p.m.	Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church Wind in the Willows	The Old Saxon Church	44
21	7.30 p.m.	Shere Village Cinemar Tár	Shere Village Hall	34

## GW Osteopathy & Sports Therapy, Surrey

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To make an appointment please call 01483 400207

To book online or visit our website : [www.gwosteopathy.co.uk](http://www.gwosteopathy.co.uk)

We treat conditions such as:

Neck pain and shoulder pain

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Lower and upper back pain

Hip and knee pain, elbow and wrist pain

Arthritis

Babies and children

Sports injuries

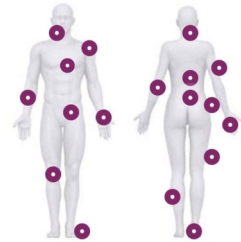
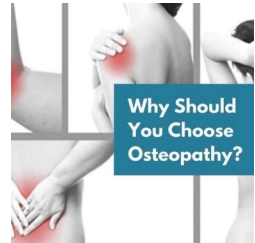
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### Advertise in the Albury Parish News

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

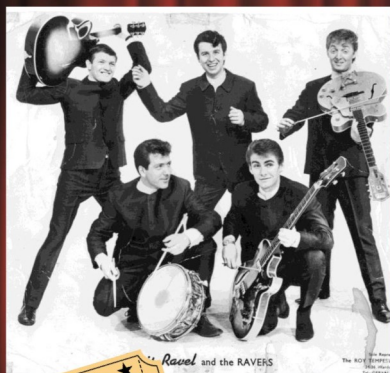
For any further information, please contact me.

*Denise Chamberlain  
ads@alburychurches.org*

# TRAVEL BACK TO GUILDFORD & THE ROCK 'N' ROLL YEARS 1950'S/60'S/70'S

LED BY DAVID ROSE WITH MICK DOUGLAS AND JOHN KELLY

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Shere Village Hall  
Doors Open 7.15pm, Talk/Photos 7.30pm



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**HOPE FOR JUSTICE**

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Book online : [www.sherevillagecinema.com/film/rocknroll](http://www.sherevillagecinema.com/film/rocknroll)

Or at : 'Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company' Shere +  
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*Hope for Justice is a Global Charity whose mission is 'To bring an end to modern day slavery by rescuing victims, restoring lives & reforming society'*

## Smile lines

Getting older is just one body part after another saying, 'Ha ha, you think that's bad? Watch this!'

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Novus Care is regulated by the Care Quality Commission and can provide a qualified carer to support your loved one in their own home from just **30 mins per week to full-time live in care.**



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Fax—01483 202761

Dispensary: 01483 209913

**Out of Hours Contact Numbers:** NHS 111

**Surgery and Dispensary Opening Hours:**

Monday to Friday: 8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Closed Tuesday 1.00–3.00 p.m. for training

**Shere Surgery Website:** <https://www.sheresurgery.nhs.uk/>

## Your Parish News

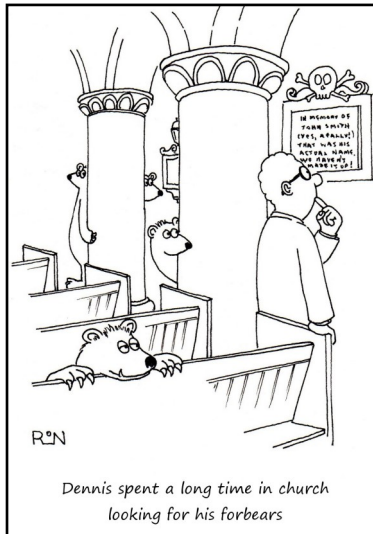
Contributions for the next issue of the Parish News to  
[parishmag@alburychurches.org](mailto:parishmag@alburychurches.org)

or post to

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

**by the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month please**

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





# PARISH OF ALBURY AND FARLEY GREEN

Visit us at [www.alburychurches.org](http://www.alburychurches.org)

## Part of the United Benefice of Shere, Albury & Chilworth

**Rector of United Benefice** Tim Heaney (Shere) 202394  
**Resident Minister** The Rev. Andrew Pearson 07887 360061  
[minister@alburychurches.org](mailto:minister@alburychurches.org)

**Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) Emeritus:**

Mr. John Gould,

**Pastoral Assistants:** Penny Randall 203208  
Diann Arnfield 203464

**Churchwardens:** Sasja McCann [andisasja@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andisasja@yahoo.co.uk)  
Theodora Viney [wardens@alburychurches.org](mailto:wardens@alburychurches.org)

**Treasurer:** Timothy Viney [treasurer@alburychurches.org](mailto:treasurer@alburychurches.org)

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Ali Catling-Kerslake, [rosecottagefarm@outlook.com](mailto:rosecottagefarm@outlook.com)

**PCC Secretary:** Theresa Channer 202210

**Organist:** David Hughes 01306 881684

### Parish priest for Chilworth

Revd. David Oakden

### Good Neighbours:

Jo Kelly 01483 205446 / 07900 302794

Helen Esplen 01483 209522 / 07771 537150

**Albury Cricket Club:** Carl Nunn 202104

**Albury Football Club:** Paul Mace [chairman@alburyfc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@alburyfc.co.uk)

**Albury Hall Bookings:** Ms Chloe Bishop, Parish Clerk 07856 010600

[bookings@alburyparish.org](mailto:bookings@alburyparish.org)

**Albury History Society:** Secretary: Mrs. Margaret Clarke 202294

[malcmargclarke@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:malcmargclarke@tiscali.co.uk)

**Albury Parish Council:** Clerk: Ms Chloe Bishop 07856 010600

[cj.bishop@alburyparish.org](mailto:cj.bishop@alburyparish.org)

**Albury Post Office, Pratts Stores** 202123

**Albury Village Store** 351919

**Albury Produce Assoc:** Julie Baxter 07807 999 896

[Juliec.bax@gmail.com](mailto:Juliec.bax@gmail.com)

**Albury Bowls Club** Mr Ken Walters 01372454536

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

**West Surrey Highways Services (Pothole line)** 03456 009009

**Shere Surgery** 202066

**Shere Dispensary** 209913

**The Modern Slavery Helpline** 08000 121 700

If anyone is suspicious of an activity or concerned about some one.



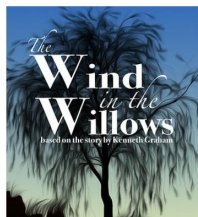
# Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church



Present the 2023

# Summer Season

With the amazing talents of **'This Is My Theatre'**

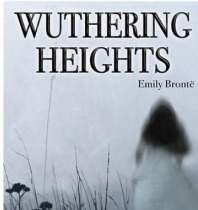


**Saturday 20 May, 3:00 - 4:30pm**

This is an open-air performance so please bring chairs/blankets and picnics to enjoy whilst watching!

*Mole will experience adventure like never before! Join him as he learns the joys and dangers of living outside of his hole and forges friendships with the logical Rat, formidable Badger and who can forget the outrageous Toad of Toad Hall.*

Closely adapted from the original and best-selling children's book by Kenneth Grahame and combined with traditional folk music, this will delight children and adults alike this summer!

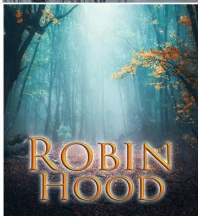


**Thursday 8 June, 7:00 - 8:30pm**

*"He's more myself than I am. Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same."*

*When Mr Earnshaw returns to Wuthering Heights with an orphan boy, worlds collide. Amid these wild moors, a bond is formed between this once unloved child Heathcliff and Earnshaw's own daughter Catherine, sparking revenge, passion and obsession.*

A beautiful and haunting adaptation that will make audiences fall in love with Emily Brontë's novel all over again.

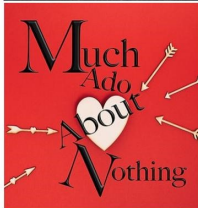


**Tuesday 8 August, 7:00 - 8:30pm**

This is an open-air performance so please bring chairs/blankets and picnics to enjoy whilst watching!

*Based on the traditional tales of the outlaw of Sherwood Forest, with sword fights galore. Join the legendary Robin Hood as he takes on the Sheriff of Nottingham, steals from the rich to give to the poor and finds love on the way.*

All ages will love this contemporary telling of this much loved hero with live music, song...did we mention the sword fights?



**Thursday 7 September, 7:00 - 8:30pm**

*Who doesn't love love? Well you might be surprised!*

*In Shakespeare's raucous comedy, deception is rife as wedding bells sound in the air, testing not only the young lovers Hero and Claudio, but also the steadfastly single Beatrice and Benedick!*

With plots, pranks and live music throughout, you will fall in love all over again with Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* this Summer!

Tickets available from: [www.thisismytheatre.com](http://www.thisismytheatre.com)

