

# MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble



March 2017

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# MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

**MARCH  
2017**

## Mickleham Parish Magazine

A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble, published under the auspices of Mickleham PCC, with an independent editorial panel. The magazine is published at the beginning of each month, except January and August.

**COPY DEADLINE  
FOR THE  
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12<sup>th</sup> March**

send to:

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St Anthony, Pilgrim's Way  
Westhumble  
Dorking RH5 6AW  
01306 882547  
[sue@thetatham.co.uk](mailto:sue@thetatham.co.uk)

Contributions in any form are welcome, as are good quality photographs. There is no charge for advertising local charity and community events. However, the editors reserve the right to shorten, omit or reformat articles submitted for publication, depending on space.



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Mickleham Rectory

Dear friends

March is a very significant month in the Christian calendar and it begins with Ash Wednesday (1st), marking the start of Lent. To celebrate this important event we will be sharing in a service of Holy Communion at 7 p.m. Services which fall during the week tend to be poorly attended but please take this as an invitation to all Christians (whether or not members of St Michael's Church) to join us on this occasion. Lent itself has little significance for most people today (except perhaps the 'giving up' of something like chocolate), but it can be a time when we step back from the busyness of our lives and take time to consider what really matters. To help in this process our Lent Course (on a Thursday morning) will look at the events of the last week of the life of Jesus as recorded in the gospels.

We will also be starting an 8-week 'Bible Course' on a Tuesday evening. The Bible is a 'closed' book to many people and this course gives us an opportunity to discover a little more about what it contains, how we might read it, and how we might apply its teaching to our daily lives. You are more than welcome to join us.

The fourth Sunday in Lent (26th) is Mothering Sunday and we will be holding a special Family Service on that day at the changed time of 11 a.m. Before that – at 9.45 a.m. – we will be running a children's workshop in St Michael's School for all children aged under 11. There is no need to book, just come along. We ask for a donation of £2 per child to cover some of the costs and parents are required to stay with their children. These workshops have been greatly enjoyed in recent years and we are looking forward to a really special morning.

After the baptism of Jesus, and before he had begun to gather his twelve disciples, two of John the Baptist's disciples set out one day to follow Jesus. They walked behind him along the road to discover where he was going and what he was up to. John's Gospel records Jesus turning round and asking them: 'What do you seek?' The word 'seek' speaks of the seriousness and depth of both the question Jesus asked and the response of the two followers. They were not being 'nosey' or 'curious' but were seeking something deeper in their lives and wondered whether this new teacher had any answers.

It is a good question to ask of ourselves at the start of Lent – what are you seeking in life? In the rush of our lives we may feel we have little time or space to even ask such a question, but can I encourage you to make time this Lent to ask this simple but profound question – and, like those two disciples, may you come to discover than in Jesus life's greatest needs are met.

With best wishes

*Malcolm*

Malcolm, our Parish Priest, is more than happy to visit people in the parish (with or without church links) to discuss pastoral and/or spiritual matters. He is also happy to offer home communion to those not able to attend church on a regular basis. Just contact him.



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### JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST

THE RUNNING HORSES

9 – 10 A.M.

Please book by the Tuesday before

### MEN'S BREAKFASTS

3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAYS

18<sup>th</sup> MARCH

Book with: Andy Diamond  
diamo1@hotmail.co.uk

### WOMEN'S BREAKFASTS

4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAYS

25<sup>th</sup> MARCH

Book with: Stephanie Randall  
0773 6933 482 or 01306 879805  
srandall55@gmail.com

## New Mickleham & Westhumble Youth Group

See page 26 for further details



## Mothering Sunday

26<sup>th</sup> March

9.45 a.m.

Mothering Sunday Workshop

In St Michael's School for all accompanied children aged under 11

11 a.m.

Mothering Sunday Family Service

In St Michael's Church



## Twin your toilet in 2017!

I thought you might like to hear about this initiative which our Thursday Bible Study group has supported in 2016.

Toilet Twinning raises funds to support water and sanitation work in some of the poorest countries in the world. 2.4 billion people – that's a third of the world's population – do not have somewhere safe and hygienic to go to the loo, and 1.5 million people a year die from diarrhoeal diseases. **Poor sanitation is one of the world's biggest killers:** it hits women, children, old and sick people hardest.

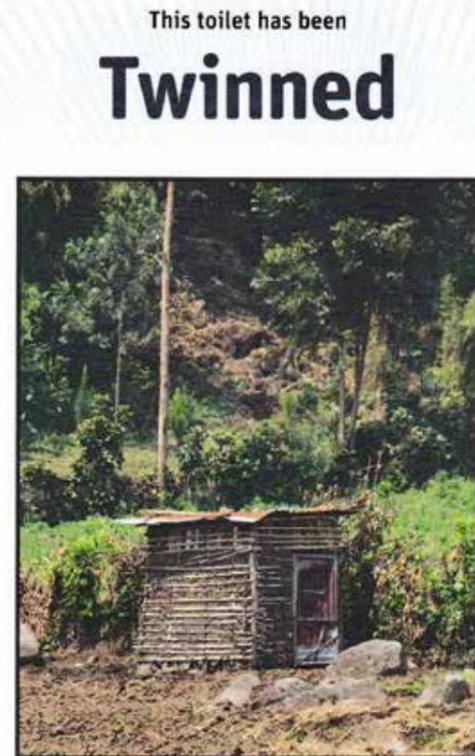
Toilets are not just about better health: they are about privacy, dignity and safety. They are about self-respect and social inclusion. The website [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org) has lots more information, statistics and stories about some of the people who have benefitted from the provision of toilets in their community.

The cost of helping is relatively low: just £60 will twin your toilet with one in a small community in a country of your choice. Our group chose to twin St Michael's Church loo and the loo-to-come at Westhumble Chapel with two loos in Uganda, where Malcolm and Sue's son works for Tear Fund and where we as a church already support a water project.

Investing in sanitation is one of the most cost-effective forms of aid. For every £1 spent on water and sanitation programmes, £8 is returned through saved time, reduced health costs and increased productivity.

If you would like to join us on a Thursday morning for an hour's Bible Study please do get in touch with Malcolm or with me: we like to think we are a fun group and we enjoy one another's company, starting with coffee and chat from 11 a.m., finishing shortly after 12.30 p.m.

Alison Wood  
01372 376443



This toilet has been **Twinned**

with a latrine at

Latitude: -1.34113900 Longitude: 29.60819400  
Kanombe Village, Muramba Parish, Uganda  
Latrine No. 30810



1 in 3 people worldwide don't have a loo. By supporting Toilet Twinning you are helping to flush away poverty. Tearfund is a Registered Charity Number 265464 (England and Wales) and Number SC037624 (Scotland). [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org)

## Tea @ 3

FOURTH MONDAYS

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Host: Sue Tatham

St Anthony, Pilgrims Way  
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## The Bible Course

*Giving the 'big picture' of the Bible story from Genesis to Revelation*



The Bible Course is exactly what it says – an informative and accessible (eight-session) introduction to the big picture of the Bible. Whatever your Bible experience, The Bible Course will help you discover more about the world's bestselling book and think about the part you could play in God's story.

Each of the sessions is a mixture of DVD teaching, small group discussion and daily readings. Whether you are just looking into the Christian faith or a long way in, this course is for YOU!

We shall be running the course on Tuesday evenings from 7<sup>th</sup> March (missing out 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April) and everyone is welcome. Do let Malcolm know directly [rm.raby007@btinternet.com](mailto:rm.raby007@btinternet.com) if you would like to join us so that we can plan accordingly.



## Fairtrade Stall

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March

In St Michael's after  
10 o'clock service

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## St Matthew Passion

Johann Sebastian Bach

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 pm - Dorking Halls

Conductor - Jonathan Willcocks Orchestra - Canzona  
Leith Hill Festival Choir



## National Trust – Leith Hill Place 'Wedgwood at Home'

*An exhibition of important Wedgwood china which is being lent to us this year by Lady Wedgwood*

When Ralph Vaughan Williams' cousin Ralph Wedgwood lived in the house in the 1960s and '70s, two rooms in the house were open to visitors to view the family's antique china. One of these rooms, now known as the 'Wedgwood Room', will be used for this year's exhibition and will be displaying pieces not exhibited for nearly fifty years.

The exhibition will show the various developments made by Wedgwood

in the style and design of the wares, and uncover how the collection was assembled by various family members from auctions and inheritances. It is a rare chance to see an exquisite selection of ceramics.

The exhibition begins on 28<sup>th</sup> April and will continue until the season finishes. No booking required. Free entry but normal admission charges apply to non members.

Space does not permit details of all

events at LH Place but they can be viewed on the National Trust website [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/leith-hill-place](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/leith-hill-place)

Would you like to get involved at Leith Hill Place? Visitors love the personal touch our volunteers bring to their visit and we appreciate the support and loyalty our volunteers give to the house. We have a range of opportunities available, and welcome enquiries from people of all ages and backgrounds. Become part of a great team.

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## Westhumble Talks Women At War – Wonderful Women in Their Flying Machines

The first Westhumble Talk of 2017 was given at Burney Cottage by kind permission of Val and Mick Hallett. The speaker was Squadron Leader Jim Barnes RAF Ret'd who flew Vulcan and Victor aircraft during his service.

Jim's subject was the part played by women in war, with particular details of those who piloted aircraft being delivered from the manufacturers to operational squadrons. He claimed that these ladies were superior pilots to the men of the RAF and gave examples of their skills and achievements. Women had featured in the early days of flying when Helene Dutrieu in 1908 was the first woman to hold a pilot's licence in Belgium, first to loop-the-loop and first to fly across the Channel. The scandal was that she flew without wearing a corset! At the start of World War II there was a shortage of pilots so the Air Transport Auxiliary was set up on the basis of an airline, rather than under Military Discipline. The ATA had 164 women pilots who trained and flew

147 types of aircraft. Jim showed us a book of Ferry Pilots' Notes, which listed every type of aircraft with details of the engines, controls and practical hints on flying. The RAF wished they had been given such advice for active service.

Joan Hughes flew every type of plane and was appointed an Instructor on each of them. Jim knew fellow airmen whom she had trained. The ladies had lower accident and casualty rates than the men, due to being more delicate with their hands on the controls. Two examples were given where a female pilot was able, by flying a plane, to identify a problem with the controls and offer a solution. On the Grunman Avenger the supercharger switch was wired in reverse, and on the Aircobra fighter the flaps and power settings were shown to be wrong. The Americans also had female pilots named WASP's but prejudice against them was far stronger than in the UK and the training too regimented. It was only in 1973 that the WASPs were given

veteran status and the benefits that carries. Jim illustrated his fascinating talk with slides and film clips, some dating from WWI showing Women At War.  
 Frank Warren

*By coincidence there was an article in the Sunday Times on 5<sup>th</sup> February about one of the women who had been an Air Transport Auxiliary pilot in the war. It reported that Mary Ellis, recently 100, had been for a spin in a Spitfire last September as an early 100<sup>th</sup> birthday present. She had taken the controls and declared the experience 'marvellous' and said that the Spitfire was a very special aeroplane. The report said that she had delivered about 1,000 planes to the RAF. 'When she arrived at one airfield at the controls of a Wellington bomber, astonished RAF officers asked the 5ft 2in blonde where the pilot was. Only after they had searched the aeroplane did they accept that Ellis had flown the large twin-engined bomber herself'.*  
 Ed.



The alert among you will have noticed that following Mary Banfield's very generous £1,000 sponsorship, I have been raising funds to benefit four local charities so that Mary and others can watch me and my son Dave abseil off the Emirates Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

We have already raised more than £450 thanks to the generosity of Mickleham residents, my work colleagues and others. We would like to match Mary's £1000. The charities on any basis are good causes. They are: Kids for Kids, Princess Alice Hospice, Leatherhead Start and Pitstop. All the costs of the abseil are being paid by me, so virtually

all monies raised go to the charities.

We are holding a fundraiser 60s to 80s disco on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March in Mickleham Village Hall. Doors open at 8 pm, dancing from 9 till 11, cash bar. Tickets £5 in advance from Annie Dennis [annie@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk](mailto:annie@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk) or Mary Banfield [mgbbmw@aol.com](mailto:mgbbmw@aol.com) – £6 on the door.

This is a special additional gig to the otherwise sold-out 45th anniversary tour of the world-famous Time for Bed discotheque, which rocked Cambridge and the Home Counties in the early 70s. DJ DiscoWilly will get you in the groove and help you forget the miserable weather, Brexit and Trump for

an evening. David Bowie, Prince, Peter Sarstedt, Greg Lake, Leonard Cohen, George Michael will all be with us in spirit and in sound.

Greetings pop-pickers, chuck away your Zimmer frames, put on your dancing shoes and prepare for a rip-roaring evening of sex, drugs and rock'n'roll<sup>1</sup>. A hit or a miss? Oi'll give it foive.

Or if you would prefer a quiet evening in with a cup of cocoa and the telly that's fine, just donate online at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Will.Dennis>

<sup>1</sup>Disclaimer: No illegal drugs will be permitted in the Village Hall, we are mainly alluding here to arthritis NSAIDs, angina pills and Viagra.



## How I Became a Conductor (of a Choir – not a Bus!)

In the summer of 2004 I was peacefully watching a cricket match in the grounds of Box Hill School. During 'tea' I was introduced to a charming young man called Charles Humphries. He, like me, was a professional musician. He was an excellent and well known counter-tenor while I was a much less well known soprano and singing teacher at St John's School, Leatherhead. Charles lived in Mickleham and conducted Mickleham Choral Society (when he was not travelling the world singing). I suspect the thought that flashed through his mind when he met me was 'Brilliant! Here is a convenient local who might be able to deputise for me when I'm away.' And sure enough, he did ask if I might stand in for him at Choral Society every now and then. I was delighted. I told him that I had never conducted before but was happy to teach the notes and keep things ticking over in his absence. In due course Charles did indeed get in touch and I took occasional rehearsals for him. I loved it from the very start! At the time, the choir did just two performances a year. The Leith Hill Festival and the Mickleham Carol Party.

I only did rehearsals – Charles always conducted the performances. This arrangement continued until Spring 2005 when at the end of a rehearsal, Adrienne Lloyd Williams – the chairman – took me into the village hall kitchen, told me Charles had resigned and asked if I wanted the job. I was stunned. I reminded her that I was not really a conductor she assured me that 'I would learn!' I could not believe my luck.

So, my learning journey began. I started with a choir of 26 in the Autumn of 2005 preparing Haydn's Creation for the Leith Hill Festival. The choir was at quite a low ebb having come bottom in the last few Festivals but they set to work and lifted themselves up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 2006. I also introduced a new date into the schedule: The Summer Concert. This was the time when the choir could let their hair down and have some fun. The choir also sent me on a week's residential Choral Conducting Course at the Canford Summer Music School. This was incredibly hard work, classes starting at 9 a.m and often still conducting at 10 p.m. but I learnt more than I thought possible from an inspiring team.

Choral Society were perhaps a little fearful when I returned after the summer wondering what new-fangled ideas I might have picked up at Canford! However, the only change I instigated was starting the tradition of giving a concert on Remembrance Sunday. This has been one of our most popular dates

for both choir and audience. Music can often say things even more eloquently than words at times of remembrance.

Ten years have now passed since those early days. The choir has more than 70 members with about 55 taking part in any one concert, last year they won seven out of eight classes and were overall winners at the Leith Hill Festival, the Summer Concert – a Celebration of the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday had more than 400 people joining us for tea, singing and celebrations at the village hall and the Carol Party sold out in record time!

This year we will be celebrating a different anniversary – 10 years since I took up the baton. We will be giving a celebratory concert on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m in St Martin's Church, Dorking when Choral Society accompanied by full orchestra will perform Fauré's Requiem and then a selection of both the choir's and my favourite pieces. PLEASE COME! It should be fun.

It has been quite a journey to reach this point and I have loved every stage of it. The music I have learnt, the concerts performed, the slips along the way (tossing my baton into the audience during the Mozart Requiem!), the smiles and applause of happy audiences but most of all the wonderful love and friendship I have been given by all of my choir. My grateful thanks go to them for having me for the last 10 years and watching as I 'learned how to conduct'!

Juliet Hornby

## Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society The Virtues of Hellebores

Although hellebores are expensive to buy, especially those with newly introduced colours or flower shapes, they will repay you for many years. Arguably among the most sumptuous flowers of winter and early spring, they are totally hardy, stay in bloom for a long time, have evergreen foliage and an interesting variety of flower colour, both plain and spotted, and petal shapes, including doubles. As well as this, they are easy to grow in ordinary, well-drained soil, and they do not mind living in the shade of deciduous trees or shrubs and will also thrive in sunny places. What's not to like?

One can split the species into two main types. *Helleborus corsicus*, *lividus* and *foetidus* produce a leafy stem one year and flowers the next. Fresh shoots will emerge to flower the following year. *H. foetidus* produce pale green, maroon lipped flowers, while *H. corsicus* (sometimes labelled *H. argutifolius* or *H. lividus*) has more serrated leaves and the green is marbled with grey markings. These are not true herbaceous perennials, unlike *H. niger* (the Christmas rose) or the Lenten rose, *H. x hybridus*. *H. niger* does not have a black flower as the name suggests, but a black root; the flowers are white and often bloom before Christmas. NB This is not an exhaustive list!

### Annual Subscriptions are due....

The gardens of Mickleham and Westhumble have established a good reputation from Open Days held over a number of years. Why not join us in maintaining this attractive feature of our environment? You do not need to be green-fingered to support us!

**Annual Subscriptions are due for the year beginning 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.**

Membership costs only £3 (unless you would kindly like to donate more). The subscription entitles you to free entry to the Society's shows, both as a competitor and as a spectator. All those who have joined or renewed membership will be eligible for the draw for two tickets for the Hampton Court Flower Show in July. Committee members will be knocking on doors

Hellebores belong to the buttercup family and in their most simple form one can see the likeness. However, such a lot of breeding work has gone on that they can look very different. Quite apart from the very, very double forms or those with pointed petals, they come literally in all colours except blue and that time cannot be far off! Further variation is provided by flowers that may be striped, spotted or picotee-edged, even those which have contrasting centres.

Once you have had a hellebore or two for a year or so you will more than likely find some seedlings growing in the vicinity unless you have cut off the flower heads before the seeds have ripened. You can leave them in situ but they will in time become very crowded; better perhaps to collect the seed to sow or pot them up and leave to grow on for a year or two, before planting out in your borders. They may not come true (you would have to go in for tissue culture!) but they can be both different and attractive.

Hellebores do not require a lot of attention. In late autumn the leaves can become somewhat tired and suffer from a viral infection that disfigures them. It is best to cut them to the ground to reveal the emerging flower buds. Removing the leaves also clears



the ground between plants and allows you to interplant with early flowering bulbs, such as snowdrops or *Cyclamen coum* or the attractive marbled foliage of *Arum italicum 'Pictum'* could be an alternative.

Broadview Gardens at Hadlow College, nr. Tonbridge, are open to the public, having been a garden attached to the college for some years. They hold a National Collection of Hellebores and give guided tours in February and March. Booking is required and you can contact them at broadviewgardens.co.uk. They also have an excellent selection for sale. You can always view more than 4 pages in the RHS Plantfinder if you do not find what you want there. Judy Kinloch

to encourage you to renew your subscription or to join, but if we have missed you, please telephone me, Frank Warren, on 01306 881270 or post the slip below with your details and I will send you a membership card.

There will also be a chance to join or renew your subscription at the AGM and Plant Sale to be held on Saturday 22nd April to be held at Ashleigh Grange, Westhumble (see page 11).

### Ironing Service in Mickleham

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### Mickleham War Memorial Booklet

We have a few spare copies of the recently published booklet recording the historic profiles of all the men listed on the Mickleham War Memorial. If you would like a copy (£5), please contact Sue Tatham 01036 882547 sue@thetatham.co.uk

### Mickleham & Westhumble Horticultural Society Membership Renewal Form 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I/We enclose £3 (min) per household (cheque payable to 'Mickleham & Westhumble Horticultural Society') and would like to join the Society /renew my/our subscription(s). I do not object to my details being stored on computer for the Society's records only.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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Mickleham Parish Council  
**Our 465 bus service is under threat!**

Mickleham Parish Council are continuing to press Transport for London and Surrey County Council to keep the 465 bus running through the village. The route is under review with suggestions that the service be terminated at Leatherhead where buses would turn round and return to Kingston, leaving no service through Mickleham and onto Dorking. The Parish Council wrote to both TfL and SCC, expressing their strong opposition to any move to curtail the 465 service, pointing out that it would leave the village cut off and give the elderly and young no means to travel further afield. Leon Daniels, Managing Director Surface Transport, replied on behalf of TfL

saying that Route 465 has operated beyond the Greater London boundary to Leatherhead and Dorking with the financial support of SCC on an equitable basis. 'SCC has withdrawn that support and I am afraid it is not possible for the taxpayers of Greater London alone to support the significant costs of operating route 465 in Surrey,' he wrote. Both Mr Daniels and Mike Goodman, SCC Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, added that discussions were continuing between the parties. Mr Goodman also explained: 'As we are still in the process of reviewing this route, no specific course of action has been decided. Please be assured that TfL will run a public consultation about any proposals before a final decision is made.' Many residents have added their weight to the campaign. Fiona Taylor wrote

that the 465 has always been greatly valued and used by local people 'for essential aspects of day-to-day life, accessing education at both primary and secondary levels, employment, local health care provision - GPs, dentists, opticians, pharmacies - as well as libraries, food shopping and leisure activities - both Leatherhead and Dorking provide excellent leisure centres which are critical to individual's health and well-being.' Adam Parfitt also expressed the importance of the service for schoolchildren and highlighted local pubs/restaurants and the almshouses, all of which 'rely on public transport both for their staff to get to work and for their customers. All these businesses and institutions would be severely compromised by the withdrawal of our bus service.'

Under the umbrella of the Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society we present:  
**THE GARDEN SHED**  
We are two amateur enthusiastic gardeners who are interested in starting up an informal gardening club. No membership fee. The only charge will be to cover costs of venues, speakers, courses, visits etc.  
Our aims will be:  
• To meet people monthly to share common interests  
• Visit our local gardens in Mickleham and Westhumble  
• Walks with a guide to explore a topic  
• Share plants, cuttings, seed, advice and ideas  
• Plan outings to gardens further afield  
• Arrange to join courses together  
**First meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
7.30 p.m. at the Chapel of Ease, Westhumble**  
No charge \* All welcome to our opening night  
A social evening \* Light refreshments  
Guest Speaker John Clachan  
Please RSVP to: Pauline Davis 07759 646 353 paulinedavis@gmail.com  
Or Susie Gowenlock 07768 923 088 susiegowenlock@gmail.com  
  
Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society

**REMEMBER!**  
Will Dennis is abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower in aid of local charities on 2<sup>nd</sup> April.  
Donations to: www.virginmoneygiving.com/Will Dennis  
Help make this a whole Parish outreach.

## Digging Up The Past at Denbies



first vines were planted 30 years ago, was used as a training base for Canadian Troops bound for Normandy for D-Day and for the Home Guard Training Unit. At least two of these tanks were used for target practice by the troops and after the threat of

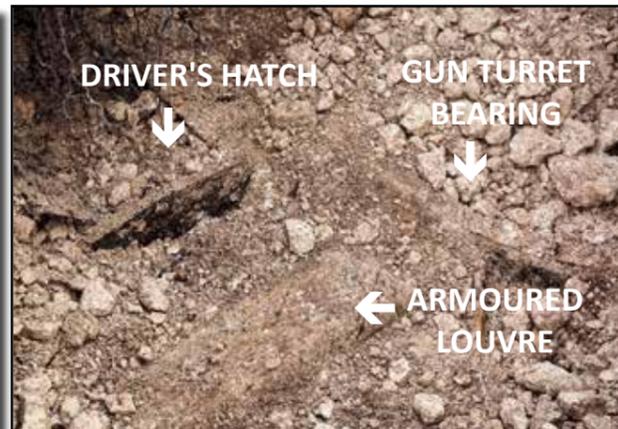
Recently, builder Rick Wedlock, from Manchester, brought down his magnetometry survey equipment and a small digger to see if he could locate the missing tank. The magnetometer had no problem finding the iron hulk, and, five feet down in the chalk rubble, metal hit metal. The bucket of the digger made its first strike on the gun turret bearing before uncovering the front armoured louvres and the driver's observation hatch.

It is now planned to fully excavate the site, not just to recover this Covenantor, but maybe find other relics from the war, then, hopefully to restore the tank and display it at Denbies later in the year.

Martin Cox

Back in 1983 a World War Two Covenantor Tank was dug up in Denbies Wine Estate. Now they have found a second one and maybe more. The area known as The Dell, where the

German invasion had passed and the camp was dismantled, these 17 ton wrecks were buried, as it was more economical than transporting them elsewhere.



Our current exhibition portrays 'Medieval Betchworth' (Museum open Thursdays, Fridays, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

## A Bridge over the River Mole

Photograph: Charlotte Daruwalla



On one of our regular walks from Westhumble station into Norbury Park we cross the Mole to the north of the station by the footbridge which runs beside the bridge carrying the railway over the river. I have always been fascinated by, and marvelled at, the vaulted brickwork of the bridge but never gave a thought to why it was so.

One evening recently, in need of something to read, I picked a book from the pile waiting to be read by my husband. I had given him *The Railways* by Simon Bradley following a good review in the Sunday Times. Not quite my normal choice of reading, but it turns out to be a fascinating study of the effect of the railways on British social history. It covers the whole range, from time, timetables, carriages, relations with other passengers in the Victorian era, technological achievement and architecture. It is above all a very good read.

I have just reached the chapter on the impact of the railways on the landscape. Avoiding steep inclines requires the digging of cuttings and raising of embankments, along with bridges and viaducts to cross roads, rivers and deep valleys. A couple of years ago we took a train from Settle to walk the area round the Ribbleshead Viaduct and were most impressed by the 24 arches 104 feet above the valley. We were there at the right moment to watch a steam excursion train crossing over it. Simon Bradley's narrative set the viaduct in context for me.

What he wrote next was interesting in a more local context. Most bridges and viaducts are straight and cross roads, rivers or valleys at about 90 degrees. Roads could (in the days when the railways were constructed) be subject to slight diversion so that they could run under a straight bridge (explaining why there is often a kink in a road where it goes under a bridge). However, in the case of a river it is not so easy. Where the railway crosses a river at an oblique angle, a skew bridge may be the answer. This involves the brick or stone coursing of the bridge following the line of the skew. The earliest skew bridges on the railways were of stone and each course had to be cut to unique dimensions, an expensive business. Later, says Bradley, 'an engineer named Charles Fox developed a cheaper system by which the arch and courses could be

formed by standard sized bricks. When viewed from below, this conveys an eloquent sense of movement, as though of great forces held in check.'

A fuzzy photograph in the book shows an example of a brick-built skew bridge. I glanced at it and thought 'Oh, it has a footbridge just like the Norbury Park one'. I then read the caption and realised that it was the Norbury Park one. According to the caption it was opened in 1867, so its 150th anniversary is in 2017. If you have not seen it, or have not noticed the brickwork do take a look. It is an amazing feat of engineering as well as attractive to look at. As Simon Bradley writes 'If these spaces belonged to the National Trust, the guidebooks would instruct visitors to pause and marvel: being public, numerous and grubby, they generally pass unregarded.' Spot on.

Charlotte Daruwalla

Mickleham and Westhumble  
Horticultural Society  
**Plant Sale and AGM**  
**Coffee Morning**  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Ashleigh Grange, off Chapel Lane, Westhumble

All donations of plants or cuttings gratefully received



Plant sale starts at 10.30 a.m.  
AGM starts at 11.15 a.m.



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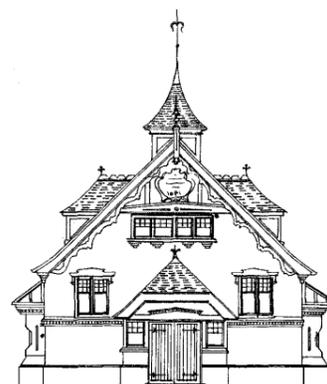
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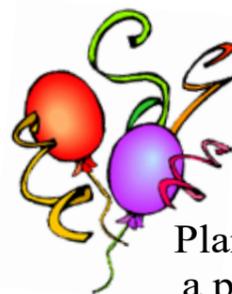
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**Community Directory**

- Box Hill (National Trust)  
Head Ranger – Mark Dawson 01306 885502  
[mark.dawson@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:mark.dawson@nationaltrust.org.uk)
- Friends of Box Hill – Chair Mrs Lyn Richards 01737 842889  
[lyn@mra.uk.net](mailto:lyn@mra.uk.net)
- BOX HILL SCHOOL  
Headmaster – Cory Lowde 01372 374814  
[hmsec@boxhillschool.com](mailto:hmsec@boxhillschool.com)
- DORKING CRICKET CLUB  
Chairman – David Spackman 07831 859232  
[david@theimagecompany.co.uk](mailto:david@theimagecompany.co.uk)
- DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY  
Ian Codd 01306 882544
- DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS  
Exhibition Secretary – Patricia Booth 01737 24491  
[patriciabooth100@gmail.com](mailto:patriciabooth100@gmail.com)
- DORKING LAWN TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB  
Jim Cattermole 01306 883629  
[jim.cattermole@uwclub.net](mailto:jim.cattermole@uwclub.net)
- JUNIPER HALL FIELD CENTRE 01306 734501  
[enquiries.jh@field-studies-council.org](mailto:enquiries.jh@field-studies-council.org)
- Head of Centre – Simon Ward [Simon.lr@field-studies-council.org](mailto:Simon.lr@field-studies-council.org)  
Friends of Juniper Hall – Mrs Suzy Hughes 01372 275393  
[suzyhughes@businessetiquetteint.com](mailto:suzyhughes@businessetiquetteint.com)
- MICKLEHAM CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION  
Secretary – Mrs Sarah Parfitt 07767 891772  
[sarah@sarahparfitt.com](mailto:sarah@sarahparfitt.com)
- MICKLEHAM CHORAL SOCIETY  
THURSDAYS 8 - 10 P.M. – MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL  
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Secretary – Mrs Anne Weaver 01306 883932  
[www.micklehamchoral.org.uk](http://www.micklehamchoral.org.uk) [weaver\\_anne@hotmail.com](mailto:weaver_anne@hotmail.com)
- MICKLEHAM OLD BOX HILLIANS FOOTBALL CLUB  
Secretary – John Atewell 01372 374745
- MICKLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
SEE WEBSITE FOR MEETING DATES [www.micklehampc.org.uk](http://www.micklehampc.org.uk)  
Chairman – Rev'd David Ireland 01372 379381  
[rev.ireland43@btinternet.com](mailto:rev.ireland43@btinternet.com)
- Parish Clerk - Trevor Haylett [trevor.haylett9@gmail.com](mailto:trevor.haylett9@gmail.com)
- MICKLEHAM PARISH MAGAZINE  
Editor – Mrs Sue Tatham 01306 882547  
[sue@thetathams.co.uk](mailto:sue@thetathams.co.uk)
- MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL  
Chairman – Ben Tatham 01306 882547  
[ben@thetathams.co.uk](mailto:ben@thetathams.co.uk)
- Bookings Manager – Mrs Deanna Darnell 01372 388474  
07790 941601  
[d\\_darnell\\_MVH@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:d_darnell_MVH@hotmail.co.uk)
- MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE BOOK CLUB  
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Continued on page 16.

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01372 372313

### PARISH PRIEST

The Rev'd Malcolm Raby 01372 378335  
07810 088594  
rm.raby007@btinternet.com

### CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Anne Weaver 01306 883932  
weaver\_anne@hotmail.com

Simon Ward 01372 383350  
simonward@btinternet.com

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs Sarah Ward 01372 383350  
sarwar\_63@hotmail.com

### PCC SECRETARY

Mrs Elizabeth Moughton 01306 883040  
eliz.moughton@btinternet.com

### TREASURER

Richard Siberry 01372 375303  
Siberrman@aol.com

### ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER

Christopher Connett 01306 743061  
c.connett@btinternet.com

### BAPTISMS CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Vickie Leney 01306 884054  
vleney100@gmail.com

### WEDDINGS CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Jane Denny 01306 883107  
carsondenny@aol.com

### FUNERALS ORGANISER

Brian Wilcox 01372 374730  
dbrianwilcox@sky.com

[www.micklehamchurch.org.uk](http://www.micklehamchurch.org.uk)

*For information about services for other  
denominations see website pages.*

*Search on 'Churches Together Mole Valley'*

## REGISTERS

### SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

30<sup>th</sup> January Reginald Percival Carter  
15<sup>th</sup> February Margaret Jennifer Burn

## FOOD BANK

Donations for the food bank may be left  
at the back of the church

## Calendar of Events March

1	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	7 p.m.	Holy Communion to mark the start of Lent
2	Thursday		11 a.m.	Start of Lent Course
5	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	8 a.m. 10 a.m.	Holy Communion (Order 2) Worship Together
7	Tuesday		7.45 p.m.	Start of The Bible Course
9	Thursday		11 a.m.	Lent Course
11	Saturday			Marriage Preparation Day
12	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	8 a.m. 10 a.m. 11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (Order 2) Holy Communion Morning Prayer (CHAPEL)
14	Tuesday		7.45 p.m. 8 p.m.	The Bible Course WRA AGM at The Stepping Stones PH
15	Wednesday		7.30 p.m.	Barnardo's talk 'Shrubs for Seasonality' at Mickleham Village Hall
16	Thursday		11 a.m.	Lent Course
19	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	8 a.m. 10 a.m.	Holy Communion (Order 2) Holy Communion
21	Tuesday		7.45 p.m.	The Bible Course
22	Wednesday		7.30 for 8 p.m.	Westhumble Talk 'Clandon – Fire and Future.' at Juniper Hall
23	Thursday		11 a.m.	Lent Course
26	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	8 a.m. 9.45 a.m. <b>11 a.m.</b>	Holy Communion (Order 2) (CHAPEL) Mothering Sunday workshop in St Michael's School Mothering Sunday Family Service (Note time)
27	Monday		8 p.m.	PCC meets
28	Tuesday		7.45 p.m.	The Bible Course
30	Thursday		11 a.m.	Lent Course
31	Friday		1.30 p.m.	St Michael's School end of term service in church

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 2nd April – Will Dennis' abseil for charity  
Saturday 22nd April - M&WHS Plant Sale and AGM  
16th and 18th June - Ashleigh Grange gardens open  
Saturday 15th July - M&WHS Flower Show

## MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

James Aarvold Carole Brough Fuller  
Mark Day Jenny Hudlass Elizabeth Moughton  
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Amanda Wadsworth Simon Ward  
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If you have any of the above which could be used to help someone to have a better quality of life and hope for the future, please contact Carole Brough Fuller: 1737 842918  
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- Visiting / befriending
- Home-cooked meals for local families going through difficult times

Requests to Mary Banfield 01372 373912  
or leave a message on answerphone.  
Callers will be contacted within 24 hours

*More helpers needed – please contact  
Mary if you can spare some time.*

# Community Directory

Continued from page 13

<b>MICKLEHAM &amp; WESTHUMBLE CRICKET CLUB</b>	
Team Secretary – Will Dennis	01372 372684 will@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk
<b>MICKLEHAM &amp; WESTHUMBLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY</b>	
Chairman – Mrs Judy Kinloch	01372 375358 www.surreycommunity.info/mwhs mail@jkinloch.plus.com
<b>MICKLEHAM AND WESTHUMBLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP</b>	
Chairman – Ben Tatham	01306 882547 ben@thetatham.co.uk
<b>MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>	
Councillor – Duncan Irvine	01306 885001 07738 384287 duncan.irvine@molevalley.gov.uk
<b>NADFAS SOCIETIES</b>	
Betchworth – Miss Mary Venning	01306 883301
Dorking – Mrs Sue Tatham	01306 882547
<b>NORBURY PARK (SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST)</b>	
Ranger – Graham Manning	07968 832508
<b>ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (A) INFANT SCHOOL</b>	
Headteacher – Jeremy Smith	01372 373717 info@stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk
Friends of St Michael's School – Mrs Meredith Shiers meredithshiers@gmail.com	
<b>ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY NURSERY</b>	
WEEKDAY MORNINGS – MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL	
Supervisor – Mrs Hilary Budd	01372 361021
<b>SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
Councillor – Mrs Hazel Watson	03456 009 009 01306 880120 hva.watson@btinternet.com
<b>WESTHUMBLE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION</b>	
Chairman – Mike Giles	01306 884598 mike.giles@mac.com
<b>WESTHUMBLE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b>	
Lead Co-ordinator – David Allbeury	07860 227451 westhumble.neighbourhood.watch@gmail.com
<b>WESTHUMBLE TALKS</b>	
Secretary – Stephen Lloyd	01306 883482 shlloyd@btinternet.com
<b>ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CITIZENS ADVICE</b>	
Dorking – Lyons Court	0844 4111 444
Leatherhead – Swan Mews, High Street	0844 4111 444
<b>POWER CUT HELPLINE</b>	0800 783 8866
<b>CRIMESTOPPERS</b>	0800 555 111
<b>POLICE</b>	
Non-emergency number	101
Dorking Police (non-urgent)	01483 630370
Neighbourhood Specialist Team – Dorking Rural North	
PC 40541 Lee Munday	leemunday@surrey.pnn.police.uk
PCSO David Sadler	Sadler8761@surrey.pnn.police.uk

## Babysitting by local teenagers

Chris Rowland	01372 376712
Freya Pearce	01306 884724
Olivia Parkin	07887 367850
Maisy Presley	07720 657327
Isabella Pererira	07515 489067
Issy Nash	01306 742762
Ailsa McNaughton*	01306 887408
Patrick Moran	01306 640043
Ellie Kim	07773 395575
Ailsa Graham	01306 889855
Anna Forti	07557 964530
Alexa Dewar	01306 884744
Emily Brewer	01306 883793
Philomena Ala	01306 885767
Delphine Ala	01306 885767

\* In holiday time only

*If you would like to add your name to this list, please get in touch with the Editor. No charge.*

## Advertising in the Parish Magazine

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Small ads: a nominal fee is charged for ads where items or services are bought or sold.

We have been advised to print the following reminder:  
*We cannot guarantee the quality of the goods and services offered by our advertisers.*



# Anthony John Gosling 1929 – 2016

Tony lived in Burney Road with his wife Janet and younger son, Tim. Tim and Tony's older son, Stuart, both paid tribute to him at his funeral at Dorking Cemetery on 19th January.

Stuart talked about his father's background. The eldest son in a large family, Tony was born in the year of the Wall Street crash and went to school in Bath. When he was ten, war broke out. Tony had a tendency to rebellion, and rather than go to the air raid shelter, he stayed in his room to watch the German bombers. Fortunately he did not suffer any adverse consequences. He liked to skate on the frozen Avon canal despite the protestations of his family. Even then Tony was a quiet person, not an extrovert, he liked to do his own thing. If others wanted to join him that was OK. If not, that was OK too.

The war ended when he was 16 and he soon passed his driving test. He developed a love for sporty cars, starting with Sunbeams and later Alpha Romeos. Even in his eighties he had a Kia Turbo and enjoyed roaring along the A24 from Dorking to Westhumble, to the consternation of his passengers.

After National Service in the Royal Engineers he worked as a local government auditor. He met Janet, who he used to give lifts in his Sunbeam,

and they married in 1959. They lived in London where Tony became involved in Civil Defence at the height of the Cold War. Subsequently he qualified as a Chartered Secretary and when he retired he was a Senior Executive Officer working on audits in the Department of Transport.

Tony was a keen golfer and played regularly until recently. It was said, Stuart told us, that the safest place to stand when he teed off was near the flag. When he retired he surprised friends and family by taking up horse-riding. He had long wanted to try it. He took up drawing and this led to sculpture. Tony was a talented sculptor and had made many items for his sons. He liked modern art and photography and enjoyed taking modern style photos. He entered his photos and sculptures regularly in the Horticultural Society shows - many will remember them.

Tony had a sense of humour and collected cartoons and newspaper articles which amused him. Even in his last period in hospital his family discovered that he had a collection of cuttings about Boris Johnson.

Stuart spoke of his father's caring nature, demonstrated particularly in Janet's recent stay in hospital after serious surgery.



Tim spoke briefly to add that Tony enjoyed writing to the newspapers - local and national - about a range of subjects including current affairs, and some of them were published. Readers may remember his letters in the Dorking Advertiser. Tim particularly recalled a letter about the future of the old fire station in Dorking. Talking to Tim about this obituary he recalled his father's support for Bath Rugby Club, dating from his youth. He had been a rugby player when at school. Tim and Tony played golf together at Sandown Golf Club.

We send our deepest sympathy and warmest wishes to Janet and her family at this sad time.

## Community News

Welcome to Daryl Taylor who has moved into Cleveland Court from Ranmore via Sevenoaks.

Congratulations to:  
• Mark Eagers and Dinah Lowde on their engagement announced recently. They are moving to Cheltenham

• Congratulations to Meredith and William Shiers on the safe arrival of their second daughter, Regan, a sister for Riley. Meredith is a very active St Michael's School mum and has organised recent children's workshops at the school.

### JENNY BURN

We are sad to report the death of Jenny Burn, aged 75, on 16th January and hope to include her obituary in next month's magazine

## Westhumble Residents' Association

Annual General Meeting 2017  
Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March  
8 p.m. at *The Stepping Stones*



Mike Giles will be standing down as chairman, but most of the committee are happy to continue. We would like some new residents to join the committee – membership is open to all Westhumble residents. If you are interested, please contact Mike Giles [mike.giles@mac.com](mailto:mike.giles@mac.com) or make yourself known on the night.

Also contact Mike if you wish to add a topic to the agenda or for a copy of the agenda, 2016 AGM minutes, annual report and accounts before the meeting.

### The WRA Email List

The WRA regularly sends security bulletins and local information to residents on its email list. To add your name to the list email: [wra.list@icloud.com](mailto:wra.list@icloud.com) – your personal details will not be shared with others.



## Sheree Valentine Daines Paints Live

Sheree enjoys a position at the forefront of British art, and has done for many years. She has been variously described as 'the Face of Modern British Impressionism', 'Artist to the Stars', (The Times) and 'the finest figurative artist we have here in the UK' (Art of England).

As a resident of Mickleham, Sheree has made a huge contribution to local fund raising projects and on 1st April Sheree will be painting a picture of Colditz Castle, live and then auctioning off the painting to raise funds for restoration work at Juniper Hall and for the 'Not Forgotten Association'.

Martin Roberts, host of BBC 1 'Homes Under The Hammer' and (rather appropriately to Colditz, recent star from ITV's 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here!') has kindly donated his

services for the evening as compère and auctioneer.

The theme of 'Colditz' is inspired by the work of the 'Not Forgotten Association', a tri-service charity for wounded servicemen, and Col. Piers Storie-Pugh (son of Peter Storie-Pugh, who supported numerous escapes from Colditz Castle 1940-1945) will deliver a supporting lecture 'Escaping From Colditz' which will be a fascinating insight into the escape attempts of Allied POWs.

The evening will start with a reception of Denbies Sparkling Wine and a Finger Buffet in the Box Hill School Refectory and the main event will start in The McComish Hall at 8.p.m. There will also be a fully licensed bar, raffle and live music. There are some great raffle prizes (including a three-course

meal for two with wine and overnight accommodation kindly donated by the Running Horses) and the auction of the painting will take place at 10 p.m. It looks like it will be a fantastic evening! Tickets priced at £35 each are available from The Running Horses (please ask at the bar) and from Juniper Hall, or by email at enquiries.jh@field-studies-council.org or by telephone at Juniper Hall on 01306 734500. (Credit and Debit cards are accepted for your booking and tickets can be pre-paid and picked up on the door).

So please come and support this 'Great Escape'! And one more before I go... one of the escapees from Colditz was a not very tall fortune teller, described as a small medium at large! None of my corny jokes on the night I promise!  
Martin Cox



## Westhumble calling Mickleham...

Westhumble has been running an e-mail circulation list for nearly four years now, initially to revive our Neighbourhood Watch, but soon pressed into publicising local events such as meetings or concerts and matters of interest and concern, like the current discussion over the future of the 465 bus.

Something over half of Westhumble households have joined. Neighbourhood Watch bulletins continue, of course, including warnings of online and telephone scams and, just recently, word of suspicious night-time activity, thought perhaps to be a precursor to burglaries. Many items in both categories are of common interest to both our villages and some Mickleham residents have already asked to join the list, so, in much the same way that we

share a parish magazine, we thought it would be good to invite all of our neighbours across the great divide of the A24 to follow suit. To have your e-mail address added to wra.list, simply e-mail [mike.giles@mac.com](mailto:mike.giles@mac.com)

We avoid items of a party political or commercial nature and your details will not be disclosed to others. You can opt out at any time (we shall not be offended!).  
Mike Giles

## Restructuring of Surrey Wildlife Trust's Countryside Team

Mickleham Parish Council is represented on the Norbury Park Liaison Committee, an advisory committee made up of local interest groups such as cyclists, horse riders, rambles and dog walkers as well as countryside and residents' associations – all those who have an interest in the management of the Park.

The committee meets twice a year and presents an opportunity for Surrey Wildlife Trust executives and countryside rangers to report on the activities that have taken place during the previous six months. As part of this reporting, the committee are given a detailed presentation by Graham Manning (East Area Manager) or Andrea Neal, our Norbury Park rangers, on the seasonal planning and works that have been carried out, by

them and by volunteers under their management.

The committee were informed in January that SWT were restructuring the land management team, and reducing its size from 16 to 10. There will cease to be dedicated rangers responsible for a particular site; their place will be taken by a centrally located team with specialist roles, for example surveyors, liaison officers and volunteer leaders. We understand that interviews for these positions will take place during March and decisions made by 20th March. Redundancy notices will be served on those who are not appointed to one of the new roles or, of course, if they do not apply.

The Parish Council has written to SWT expressing their concern at the centralisation of the countryside team

and in particular at the loss of the extensive and intimate knowledge that rangers have built up of their site, in our case in Norbury Park, but also across the county. The reduction to three volunteer leaders to cover the whole of Surrey's sites will not only stretch them to the limit but raises questions as to how well informed they will be about them.

There are three farms on Norbury where livestock is raised and grazed as well as a number of properties. The park is used for a huge number and variety of purposes (authorised and unauthorised) and needs close management. Good relations and local knowledge is vital as is having an immediate point of contact when there are problems. If you share our concern, there is a petition on [petitions.surreycc.gov.uk/SWTFunding](http://petitions.surreycc.gov.uk/SWTFunding) Judy Kinloch

## Friends of Box Hill AGM at Juniper Hall

Juniper Hall's Templeton Room was filled to capacity when members of the Friends of Box Hill met for their AGM on 4th February. In her chairman's annual report Lyn Richards outlined the group's activities in 2016. The most significant event for Box Hill was NT's acquisition of the lease of Box Hill Farm, to which the Friends contributed £30,000. Its 81 acres of land are now part of the overall Box Hill Estate. It is likely that most of the area will continue to be farmed, but in a more wildlife-friendly way.

This purchase has enabled the provision of an attractive walk for the public along the River Mole. Mark Dawson (NT Lead Ranger for Box Hill and Headley Heath) outlined the work that has been done to reinstate the riverside walk as well as other measures aimed at improving the habitat to increase the number and variety of animals and plants on the newly acquired land.

Large amounts of earth have been excavated to create a 'scrape' to provide more wetland-type habitat on the flat along the river near the WW2 tank traps. A lagoon of different depths has been dug out to encourage a range of



Photograph: Ben Tatham

wildlife. Both the farmland and the scrape have been fenced off to separate them from visitors and dogs using the path. The new path along the river forms part of a circular walk starting and finishing Box Hill Centre on the top of the hill. The Riverside Walk will be officially opened on 24th February and leaflets showing the route are available at the Box Hill Centre. The path can also be accessed via the stepping stones. For those wanting an easier route there is a footpath accessible from the back of the Watermill and the garden centre car parks off the A25.

The meeting was followed by a fascinating presentation by Simon Ward, Head of Field Studies Council London Region as well as Head of the Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Space does not allow us to do justice to his talk here – we hope to include a separate report in next month's magazine. In the meantime, on the opposite page is information about Juniper Hall's fantastic Colditz-themed fund-raising event on 1st April. Tickets are now on sale. Don't miss out, order yours now.  
Sue Tatham

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## KING WILLIAM IV



After our lovely break, we are now back enjoying the countryside of Mickleham. For the first time in four years we are finding time for local walks with a view to getting a bit fitter. Some of you have seen us out & about! This is in spite of a lot of maintenance work, and is thanks to Kat who is starting to take some of the admin and management pressure off us.

We would also like to say thank you to Tom and Alice from the village who have worked with us for a long time and are now concentrating on their A-levels and other interests. And a welcome to Emily, Finn, Kate, Mel, Patrick and Seb who are joining us now the weather is warming up.

Our final quiz of the season is on Monday 6th March - the last one was packed so make sure you've booked your table if you'd like to come along.

Hope to see you soon, Eamonn & Anne

Byttom Hill, Mickleham 01372 372590 [www.thekingwilliamiv.com](http://www.thekingwilliamiv.com)



I have been waiting agog for Greg Ayton to produce his promised write up of this match last July. When I ran into him in the King Willy on Christmas Carols night (thank you Eamon and Anne for the splendid food) he told me I could do it myself if I was so keen.

So here is my totally subjective write up. It is not burdened by having access to facts like the score book, and it is heavily influenced by the diminution of memory function that happens with age. In the theatre there is a genre for this called the Memory Play. See, eg, Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*.

But I digress. As you do. Or as I do, anyway. Getting back to the match. The history of this fixture is that in 2014 the Runners won by a distance and in 2015 by a few lengths. Each time the Runners selected the best Mickleham players early on. And each time I played for the losing King Willy team.

The King Willy evidently decided in 2016 to get its team sorted early, such that in January Greg called me and asked me to keep wicket for them. I duly accepted, bought a new pair of knee braces and gauntlets and wrote the

## Winter Dreams of a Cricketing Triumph

date in my Apple calendar, just under Consult Physio.

Come June the batting training is going well. On three separate occasions I have gone in low down the order and hit the winning run for the MCC, and am now known across Surrey as the Fearless Finisher. Keeping is less practised, as Box Hill School has a new teacher who (a) is 30 years younger than me and (b) can catch the ball; so on these discriminatory grounds tends to get selected. Anyway Greg rings up to reconfirm and I say yes, I'm in.

The day of the match dawns. Sun shining, birds singing, God in His (or possibly Her) heaven. Take day off work (sorry I mean work from home). Email from Greg shatters the peace. 'We've got too many players. Do you want to umpire?' No I damn well don't. Umpiring is for the old and blind. Call the Runners, who happily are one short, and sign up for them.

Cannot remember much about the game itself, except the King Willy batted first and made quite a lot, having evidently imported some young ringers, none of drinking age and hence unqualified for a pub team. Tea was scrumptious. We lost early wickets, including our genuine Aussie bartender, but recovered well. With an over to go we needed 8 to win and had 2 wickets in hand.

First ball clean bowled. 8 needed from 5 balls. Your correspondent goes in to bat. Works the ball to leg - 7 needed

from 4. Wide - 5 needed from 3 (wides count 2 runs but no extra ball). Matt (the other bartender) at the other end takes a 2 and then a single.

Pause while everyone does the maths and works out that I need to get 1 to tie and 2 to win off the last ball. The field is in. The tension is mounting. It's possibly the greatest sporting moment since Sir Mo cruised up the back straight to win the 10,000m in London 2012.

Bowler (who is young and fit and under the drinking age) bowls a yorker on off stump. Dig it out but it goes straight to cover point (another fit 16-year old) who does not have to move to pick it up. I run, he throws. Just make my ground at the bowler's end before the throw comes in, breaks the wicket and ricochets into the middle distance. Yell at Matt to run. He does. We complete the second run and win the game.

Turn round to watch a furious row break out between the King Willy fielders and umpire Chris Presley (who just happens to be the Runners captain). Turns out Chris and I were the only people on the pitch who knew that the ball was still live after the wicket had been broken.

Much harrumphing in the King Willy after the game, and sotto voce mutterings about 'sportsmanship' and 'the spirit of the game'. Sorry guys, but sometimes the old and wily beat the young and fit, particularly if they know the laws.

Don't you just love social cricket?

Will Dennis

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## Leatherhead Community Association

The Leatherhead Community Association (LCA) which is based at The Institute at the top of the High Street, has been serving local residents for the past 40 years, providing educational, social and recreational facilities. It is run predominantly by enthusiastic volunteers guided by a board of trustees, protected by a trust set up with a limited financial guarantee.

In order to keep up the good work we require additional trustees with an interest in involvement in the community but especially, in the near future, a joint treasurer to replace the current trustee, who has filled this post diligently for a number of years.

He or she would work with our existing joint treasurer/company secretary, who has a wide knowledge of charity finance and would give lots of support. A financial background and

being able to work on the excellent Excel worksheets that record our accounts would be an advantage.

The work of a trustee carries responsibility but is not too onerous and is highly rewarding. For further information please contact our chairman Mrs June Robinson by email [LCAchairman@btconnect.com](mailto:LCAchairman@btconnect.com)

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March there is a special talk at the Institute at 7.30 p.m. given by Martin Hunka on 'A re-telling of the Odyssey'. Martin is a member of the Surrey Storytellers' Guild and he used to run Mole Books in the 1980's when he used to tell stories in the shop. He has developed this fascinating version of Homer's *Odyssey* which was heard in Ewell last year. We are viewing this as a pilot to see if there is sufficient interest to have storytelling become a regular event at the LCA. Full details on the LCA website: [lca2@btconnect.com](mailto:lca2@btconnect.com)

Dorking Barnardo's Helper  
Group invites you to

## SHRUBS FOR SEASONALITY

a talk by JIM GARDINER  
Former Curator of RHS Garden, Wisley and  
Executive Vice-President of the RHS

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March  
7.30 p.m.

Mickleham Village Hall

Tickets £12.50  
to include refreshments

Angela Gilchrist  
01306 884613

[ar.gilchrist@btinternet.com](mailto:ar.gilchrist@btinternet.com)



## Final Westhumble Talk Clandon – Fire and Future by Paul Cook -- Programme Director

of the National Trust

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

8 p.m. Juniper Hall - guests welcome

Please book your place with  
Secretary Stephen Lloyd

01306 883482 / [shlloyd@btinternet.com](mailto:shlloyd@btinternet.com)



## Lang4uage

Answer on page 26.

In aid of the Leith Hill Musical Festival

## BRIDGE TEA

at Holmbury St Mary Village Hall on Thursday 16th March

1.45 p.m. for 2 p.m. start

Tea, sandwiches and home-made cakes

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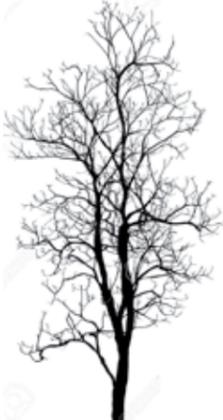
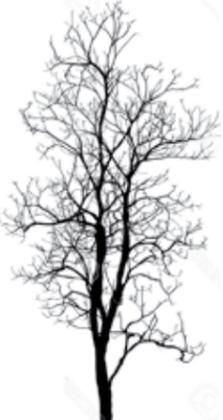
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## We're going on a bear hunt!

You may think bears would be a rare sight in Mickleham but we have been seeing plenty at St Michael's this month. Many of you will know Michael Rosen's book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' which, since it was released in 1989, has never been out of print and has sold in the millions. Based on an American folk song, the story follows five children and their dog who go on an adventure in search of a bear. They travel through grass, a river, mud, a forest and a snowstorm before coming face to face with a bear in its cave. At Christmas the story was also adapted into an animation by Channel 4,

which caused some controversy when the ending was altered slightly and ended with a lonely bear staring at the moon with an expression of desperate longing. No such controversy here at St Michael's, however, as we used the original story as a theme to our activities. We have sorted and counted bears, played with jelly squelchy 'mud', made different bears in playdough, and enjoyed story sequencing, acting out descriptive words and mark making to bear hunt music. We have practiced our fine motor skills by threading a bear face, and our display board is looking particularly ursine too, adorned as it is by bear faces decorated by the children. Away from bears, we have been making the most of our new forest area. Groups of children have spent their morning session outside enjoying a variety of activities, while hot apple juice and a campfire keep the cold at bay.

Chinese New Year was at the end of January and the children loved trying their hand at dragon dancing. We are now in the year of the Rooster and apparently people born in a year of the Rooster are honest, energetic, intelligent, flamboyant, flexible, diverse and confident. It sounds like the team at St Michael's to me! The end of January was not all good news unfortunately. Sadly, the nursery was broken into on the night of the 25th January, with damage sustained to the fire exit door and the office window. The police forensics team were able to take footprint and fingerprints, and we are hopeful their investigations will yield some results quickly. Luckily, we did not lose anything of value, so aside from lots of upset children who were unable to attend nursery the following day, we escaped relatively unscathed.

Debbie Turner

## Nursery Children look at Footprints



Following the burglary, the nursery staff developed a footprints theme when the children returned to the Nursery. Clockwise from top left: Forensic officer photographs foot print on door panel; the children are told about the footprint; finding paper footprints in the garden; making footprints.





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on alternate Friday evenings during term time

10th & 24th March

7.15 - 8.30 pm Mickleham Village Hall

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## Tuesday Toddles

A new friendly group in Mickleham for kids aged 0-5 years to play along side their Childminder or Registered Nanny

Mickleham Village Hall

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For more information please contact:

Natalie 07790 318 653 or ask to join our closed

Facebook group for Tuesday Toddles for regular updates.

## Box Hill Bugs

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**BRAIN TEASER answer: FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

## Zombies at St Michael's School

We are very proud of our children's writing and would like to share some of their work with you. This is a short adventure story written by the author, Finn Guegan.

*Ben is a miner (a very good miner) who has something that other miners don't think of making. He has a list that has all the minerals in this world. Right at the very bottom is a diamond, one of his dream minerals.*

*It was a fine day and Ben was just waking up.*

*'Ahhhhh,' he yawned calmly.*

*He got out of bed and dressed into his mining clothes. After that he put on his shoes, opened the door and walked all the way to the nearest mine. He grasped the pickaxe from outside the mine entrance and walked inside. It was a little bit dark but he didn't mind.*

*He started to hit the stone and flint with the pickaxe until he came across a little bit of coal and he mined it. Just then he heard a voice saying, 'brains... brains...'. He mined a bit more and saw a cave with a zombie in it!*

*Just then the zombie spotted him! Unluckily, there was a ladder on the wall. The zombie climbed all the way up the ladder and started slowly walking towards Ben with its arm outstretched. Ben started to hit the zombie with the pickaxe but then he decided to run. Along the way he found a little bit of gold and he mined it fast, too fast. Ben was too quick for the zombie. He kept mining until he came across an underground cliff.*

*The zombie was right behind him. Then he saw a line in the dark. He grabbed it and pulled it towards his face. It was a rope. Ben swung to the other side of the cliff. The zombie tried to get across. Ben watched the zombie fall. That was the end of the zombie. Ben continued on until he found two emeralds.*

*Just then he saw something blue shining in the rock. It was the diamond! He looked amazed, mined it and went home.*

Written by Finn Guegan (age 6)



### St Michael's School

[www.stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk)

Upcoming events:

You may be interested in the following Friends of St Michael's events being held in this year:

**Race Night Social** (adults only) Friday 17th March (7.30pm - 11.00pm) with a St Patrick's Day theme.

Looking ahead to after the Easter Holiday we also have our annual school **Spring Fete** on Saturday 20th May (11am - 2pm). A fun filled family event with lots of stalls, games, BBQ, raffle and much more.

School Summer Production on 11th and 12th July 2017 at 1.45pm

Please call Mrs Piggott in the school office for more information.

Jeremy Smith

St Michael's School

# Spring Fête

Saturday 20th May  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Come and join the fun at School Lane, Mickleham

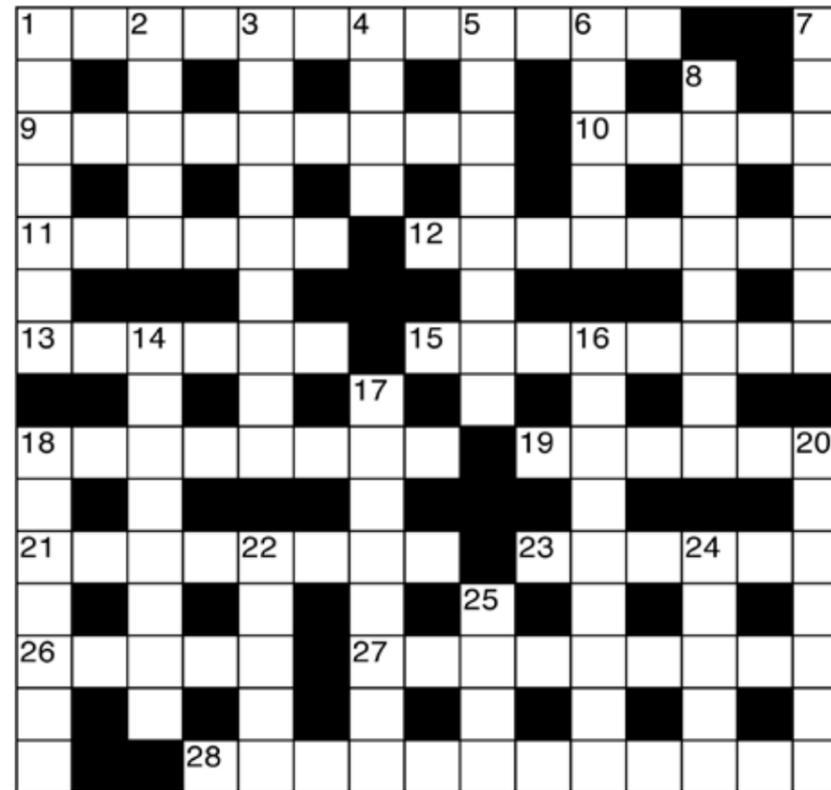
More details to follow

# Cryptic Crossword



## Across

- 1 How dog is said to reveal anxiety (12)
- 9 What grew aloft strangely following sunset (9)
- 10 Briefly copies fools (5)
- 11 Inflict retribution with something a bit like a play on words (6)
- 12 Frowned as gravity was reduced (8)
- 13 A minor feature of what the farmer's wife did? (6)
- 15 Badinage about pear tree (8)
- 18 People who verify something like draughts? (8)
- 19 Finally the maps have arrived on time (2,4)
- 21 Minimal glance at trial (8)
- 23 Harm done in St Paul's cathedral? (6)
- 26 Love huge Greek letter (5)



- 27 Strange case, Bond with old Money Penny - they ran away! (9)
  - 28 Every spell is broken for the king! (5,7)
- Down**
- 1 Audience reacted positively, unless followed by out (7)
  - 2 Allow to board and reveal (3,2)
  - 3 Sad, sad, tricky standard (9)
  - 4 The capital of Czechoslovakia? (4)

- 5 Please get more angry and confuse us (8)
- 6 Give part of what friend owed (5)
- 7 What's left if EU rides off? (7)
- 8 Musical production set in a treetop (8)
- 14 You are between 12 and 20 (8)
- 16 Take choir out for vegetable soup? (9)
- 17 Italian monk's pet I saw on the bends? (8)
- 18 Protective care sounds like what goes on rhubarb (7)
- 20 Grace fills which child? (7)
- 22 Odd tartan the Italian way? (5)
- 24 Lad I took up to see the estuary (5)
- 25 Immediately identifiable as a gullible person (1.1.1.1.)

## Westhumble Donkeys

*We live at Chapel Farm and we were happy to welcome carol singers after the singing at the chapel ruins at Christmas. We enjoyed the attention we received..*



Photograph: Liz Absalom

## SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY CROSSWORD

### Across

1 Parapet 5 Monitor 9 Incinerator 10 Now 11 Enchanter 12 Husky  
13 Depict 15 Signals 18 Hot 19 Lounger 21 Sunups 24 Peels  
26 Semaphore 28 Ace 29 Icebreakers 30 Kissers 31 Taken In

### Down

1 Paired 2 Recycle 3 Pancaking 4 Tarot 5 Motorists 6 North  
7 Tunisia 8 Rowdyish 14 Thrusters 16 Gangplank 17 Flapjack  
20 Useless 22 Protein 23 Season 25 Snipe 27 Merit RR-M

*If you have any photos suitable for this slot, please send them to the editor. The more colourful the better. Ed.*

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Monday - Thursday: noon - 3 pm & 6 - 9 pm

Friday & Saturday: noon - 3 pm & 6 - 10 pm

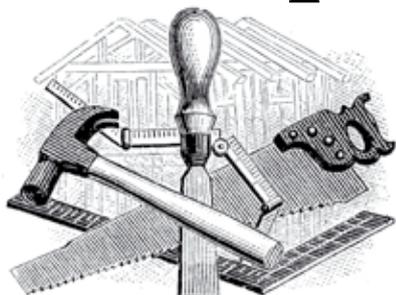
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