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A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble



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December 2020

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MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

December
2020

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.

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are welcome as are good
quality photographs. There
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reserve the right to shorten
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submitted for publication
depending on space.



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Dear All,

As we prepare for Christmas we can look back at a year like no other. Who would have thought that we would be spending most of the year away from friends and family and in lockdown, due to a disease that has spread across the entire world? It has transformed everyone's lives in some way or other.

Having coped with one lockdown in March, it was with hope that people started to return to school, shops, travelling, restaurants etc. I cannot say that people have returned to normal because normal no longer seems to exist as we are still required to wear a face mask, keep two metres apart and limit numbers at social gatherings.

In all the uncertainty and loss of this year, we have come together as a community to help each other. With WhatsApp groups and people contacting and shopping for those that need help, we have demonstrated that life goes on and people really do make a difference.


As we come out of a month of lockdown, one of the challenges that many may face is being isolated from other people, so we need to look for opportunities to stay in touch. Nothing can replace face-to-face contact and human touch, but we can text, chat, email, talk on the phone and make video/Zoom calls. Please make an effort to contact those on their own or in difficult circumstances to see how they are doing and offer encouragement.

The church may be closed, but we still provide Zoom and dial-in worship services, Bible study groups and prayer evenings. We have learnt to make full use of the technology and AV equipment that is available. People may have their reservations about technology, but it has been a true benefit for families, friends and churches to stay connected during a time of social distancing. It is quite amazing how connected people are, even when they are unable to see one another in person. God is at work drawing people together during a time of crisis. Despite difficulties over the last six months, our community has been brought together in many ways and is continuing to be, with increased participation in numerous community initiatives, to the benefit of us all.

While Covid-19 might not stop you from putting up your tree, tucking into your turkey dinner, watching those festive movies or listening to Christmas songs on the radio, there are other aspects of the festive season which will almost certainly feel the impact. Maybe this is the time, not just to give presents, but to give to one another a call, a word of encouragement and the opportunity to talk in these difficult times. Covid-19 will have changed some of our normal Christmas activities, but we are still planning a carol service, a crib service and singing around the pubs, even if it is only by Zoom!

A quieter Christmas may also be the time for remembering the original Christmas story. Christmas did not begin in Debenhams or Marks and Spencer but in Bethlehem where Mary gave birth to a son, just she and Joseph alone in a stable. They had travelled from their home in Nazareth and were in a strange place, isolated and cut off from friends not unlike today's lockdown. So as we struggle under Covid-19 restrictions and come to terms with a different type of Christmas, maybe we can remember a young couple in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago in a stable, on their own with the newborn baby Jesus who in time would come to be recognized as Christ the Messiah.

Wishing you all a safe and prayerful Christmas and a Happy new Year.



Sarah Blake
Churchwarden

Crib Service 2020

We are zooming to Bethlehem!



Everyone is invited to Zoom to Bethlehem with us on December 24th (Christmas Eve) at 4 pm. Our Crib Service cannot take place in the fields this year for obvious reasons so instead we are planning to bring the Nativity story into your homes by the power of Zoom. There will be readings,

carols and some easy, step-by-step craft activities to do during the service so that everyone will be a part of the story.

For the craft activities you will need:

- 3 flat paper plates, at least 23cm diameter, not bowls and no polystyrene
- Pritt stick, Sellotape, scissors and felt pens
- sheet of white paper and some brown paper (a paper bag will do)
- 1 piece of thin ribbon or thread, approximately 50 cm long
- small amount of yellow card (a post-it note stuck onto a cereal packet will do)

- a selection of sparkly paper/ sweet wrappers for decoration

Adults and children are invited to have a warming drink of your choice to hand so that at the end we can all toast each other with cheers of Happy Christmas! Joining instructions will be sent out nearer the time along with a template for one of the activities. Anyone who would like to share their completed craft activity can send us a photo afterwards, we would love to see them. Do tell your friends and encourage them to join us, Christmas may be different this year but it will be very special.

Anne Weaver

Mickleham and Westhumble Helping Hands*



As we enter the second lockdown and approach winter and what promises to be a very singular Christmas, we are 'rebooting' St Michael's Helping Hands (HH), which has been going for some 12 years under the care of Mary Banfield. Helping Hands shares common ground with Mickleham/ Westhumble WhatsApp group in both purpose and function. In recent years it has been a particular focus for our more 'senior' parishioners, and especially for those less familiar with on-line communication. HH has provided practical assistance, emergency help and sources of advice on other matters: in particular, providing drivers for medical appointments, to do shopping and the like. Or indeed, just a voice on the end of a line.

The two groups will continue to work alongside one another but with tighter communication and interaction, with

more resources and a wider range of services, to the greater benefit of the whole Community. We encourage people to seek help on any subject, for example on doctor's appointments, collecting prescriptions, shopping, dog walking. If you need assistance or advice, just want a chat, or if you would like to become a Helping Hands driver or join the WhatsApp Group, please call any of the numbers listed below or just put a note on the WhatsApp group itself.

CONTACTS:

Helping Hands:

Francis Presley 07719 058648
Mary Banfield 01372 373912
07733 322477

WhatsApp Group:

Will Dennis 07903 842674
David Allbeury 07860 227451
David Ireland 07850 002185

Mark Day

St Michael's Church Community Group.

A new St Michael's PCC initiative

** Including a relaunch of Food for Friends*



Many thanks to:

Sarah Blake, Kelvin Pritchard and all contributors to the truly remarkable zoomed Remembrance Sunday Service – very moving and timed perfectly.



Want to Zoom into Sunday Services at St Michael's?

All our church services can be watched via Zoom. The weekly Zoom codes will be available in Pews News Online which is sent to all church members. If you would like to join us by Zoom then contact Alison Wood for the codes or to ask her to include you on the emailing list for Pews News: admin@micklehamchurch.org.uk / phone 01372 376443. The services are also available to watch on the church website: <https://www.micklehamchurch.org.uk/sundays.htm>



See centre pages for information about Christmas Services and events



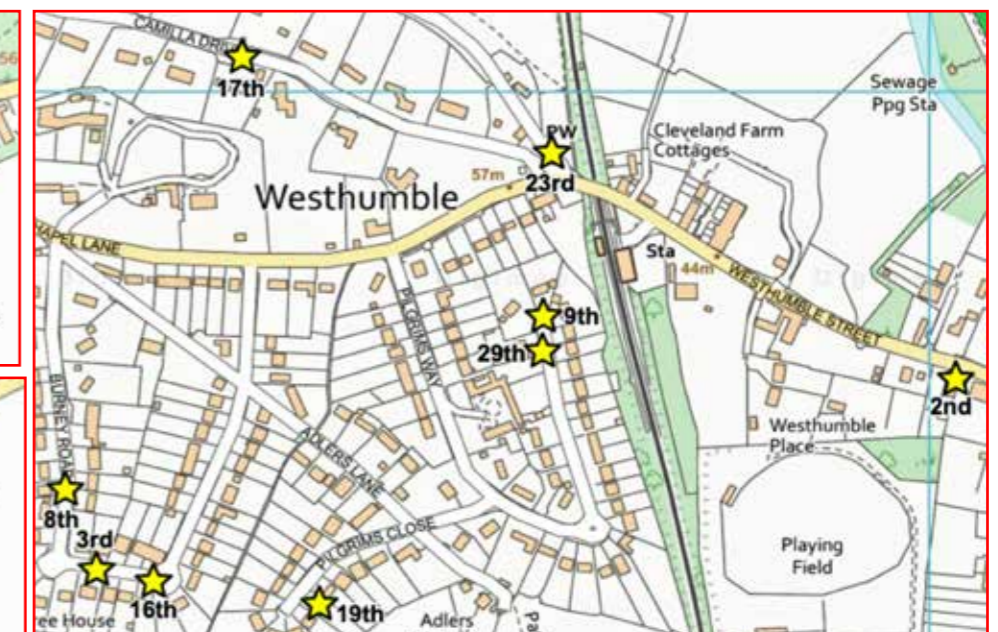
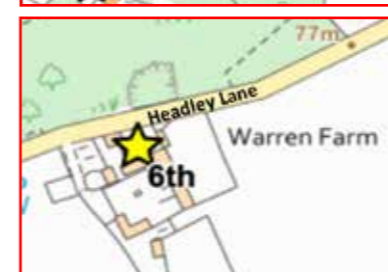
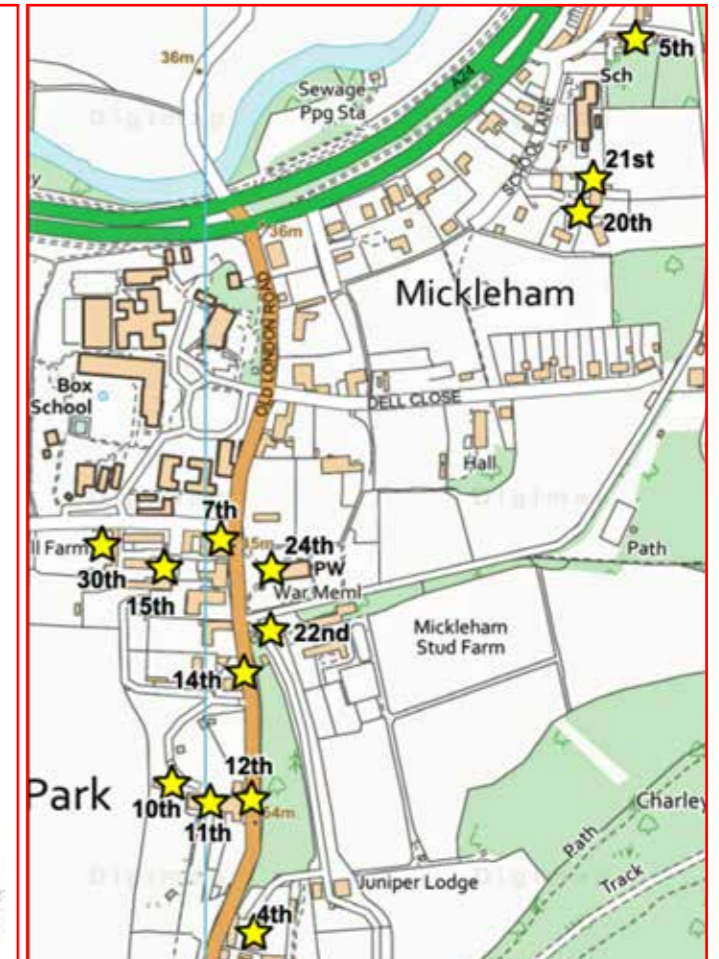
St Michael's Church Community Group Living Advent Calendar



Advent begins this year on Sunday 29th November. On this day, and every day for the remainder of Advent, a Christmas window will be unveiled in the home of one of our neighbours in the Mickleham and Westhumble Community. St Michael's Community Group invites you to take a tour of our Advent Calendar and hopes that this will bring a little Christmas joy into your lives as we prepare for Christmas Day 2020. Do also wander round both villages and in to Norbury Park and the Almshouses to enjoy further Christmas lights. If anyone else would like to join in, the more the merrier; we are encouraging others in our community to LIGHT UP in this ghastly year. If you would like to be included in the photographic record please email jasempres@gmail.com

Many thanks to all our calendar volunteers!

Sunday 29 th	NOVEMBER	Danesmore, Pilgrims Way
Monday 30 th		Hall Farm, Swanworth Lane
Tuesday 1 st	DECEMBER	Juniper Hall
Wednesday 2 nd		Stepping Stones Pub
Thursday 3 rd		Halfway, Burney Road
Friday 4 th		Old Stables (back entrance to Juniper Hill)
Saturday 5 th		King William IV Pub
Sunday 6 th		Warren Farm, Headley Lane
Monday 7 th		The Running Horses Pub
Tuesday 8 th		Holly Cottage, Burney Road
Wednesday 9 th		Dilkusha, Pilgrims Way
Thursday 10 th		Mickleham Hall
Friday 11 th		Mickleham Hall
Saturday 12 th		Mickleham Hall
Sunday 13 th		Gate House Cottage, Juniper Hall
Monday 14 th		St Michaels Lodge, Old London Road
Tuesday 15 th		Hall Stables, Swanworth Lane
Wednesday 16 th		Woodlands, Burney Road
Thursday 17 th		Oakdene, Camilla Drive
Friday 18 th		Fredley Lodge, Fredley Park
Saturday 19 th		Friston, Pilgrims Close
Sunday 20 th		Inverness, School Lane
Monday 21 st		The Garden House, School Lane
Tuesday 22 nd		Church Lodge, Old London Road
Wednesday 23 rd		Westhumble Chapel
Thursday 24 th		St Michael's Church



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Christmas Carousel

Mickleham – Friday 18th December
Westhumble – Saturday 19th December

Mickleham Choral Society will be bringing some much needed festive cheer to Mickleham on Friday 18th December. Despite being locked down, prevented from singing indoors except with draconian rules and having to rehearse on Zoom – we will sing glorious carols all around the village from 5.30 to 6.30 pm. Christmas celebrations are in short supply this

year so come and join us – we promise to bring a smile to your face and fill the air with wonderful music. The map below shows our route and where we will stop to sing. Everyone is welcome. Is your diary empty at the moment? Well, here is an invitation to the best party in town.

The choir has not forgotten Westhumble! On Saturday 19th December at 5.30 pm we will sing up and down Pilgrim's Way

and Burney Road bringing live, joyful music to your village.

We will be shaking a bucket for donations for Mickleham Choral Society, to help us keep going in these strange times and to make sure we keep music in all our lives. **The choir will be following all social distancing rules – we would be grateful if all of you would do the same.**



Would anyone like a special visit from our singers? We would be happy to sing outside your own house bringing the Christmas Spirit to your doorstep. Also if you know of anyone who is unable to leave their home, or is too frail or elderly to go out on a winter's night, let us know and we could bring the carolling specially to them.

Who do you think you are?

2 Robert Dyson

I first met Diana in 1983 at a dental surgery in Dorking; I was living in Sutton at the time. We married a year later in Cheam and went house hunting. Our first visit to Westhumble found Burney Road deep in snow but in mid-1985 we purchased 'Faircross', the house with an owl carved into the trunk of a Blue Arizona cypress.

I was completely unaware of any family connection with the Mickleham area, but two years ago I started researching my family history and discovered that my great uncle, Sir Frank Dyson, the 9th Astronomer Royal (1910-1933) had been a frequent visitor to Cleveland Lodge to see his friend, fellow mathematician and astronomer Sir James Jeans. In 1925 James Jeans presented Sir Frank with the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society. Both men have craters on the moon named after them. Sir Frank is remembered for organising two expeditions (to Africa and South America) in 1919 to view the solar eclipse. Measurements taken during the eclipse confirmed Einstein's theory of the effect of gravity on light, following which Einstein's theory of relativity finally found acceptance in the scientific community.

One of Sir Frank Dyson's eight children, a daughter, Evelyn, was a VAD nurse at St Dunstan's in WW1. In 1922 she married one of her patients, Hugh Stayt, who in 1917 at the age of 17 had been blinded by a flamethrower in France. The marriage lasted 10 years and produced three children, one of whom played rugby for England and went on a British Lions tour to South Africa after WW2. Hugh Stayt remarried and two pictures of his second wife, Renée, can be found on page 37 of *A Group Photograph*, our crossword setter Andrew Tatham's awe inspiring *magnum opus*.

My *Family Story* is still a work in progress. It contains the stories of my parents (both doctors) and many other relatives, including:

- Simon Fraser, the Old Fox, who was beheaded after the battle of Culloden in 1746.
- My mother's cousin, Sir Ian Fraser, who was blinded by a sniper's bullet at the Somme in 1916 at the age of 18. Sir Ian was Chairman of St Dunstan's for 53 years and for many years an MP and Life Peer. A champion of the ex serviceman, his reputation today only suffers because of his outspoken support for apartheid.
- John Dougal, who made his fortune as an East India merchant from 1830-1850, importing indigo from Calcutta.
- My grandfather, Sir Henry Howard, who in 1896 and 1897 won the Varsity mile and who was a colonial administrator and bursar of St John's College, Cambridge.
- Ebenezer Howard, a poulterer in Leadenhall Market, who in 1842 supplied the turkey to Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, and who subsequently made a fortune developing Ladbroke Grove in Notting Hill.
- Sarah Howard, who built and opened the first department store in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1865.
- Peter Howard, who was born with the back of his left foot attached to his knee, wore an iron support brace until he was 13, captained England at Rugby Union in 1930, took on and defeated four teams entered by Goering's Luftwaffe at the World Bobsleigh championships in 1939, and a journalist and playwright who was for five years world leader of the Moral Rearmament movement.
- Peter Howard's son, Philip, was a journalist on *The Times*.

• Lilla Fraser who declined marriage proposals for seven years due to her suitor's *perverse beliefs in the theories of Charles Darwin*.

- My mother's second cousin, Sir Oswald Mosley, the fascist leader.
- My fourth cousin, Jonathan Aitken, Defence Minister, whose sword of truth became his dagger of deceit and who rented his house at Sandwich to Tiger Woods during the 2003 Open.

Among my numerous relatives who perished in the two World Wars are Lieut Arthur Howard, Royal Fusiliers, who died of his injuries in 1923 and Captain John Howard, 10th Parachute Battalion, who died in 1944 during Operation Market Garden (*A Bridge Too Far*). Both were described as fair and blue-eyed which may finally solve the puzzle of how my daughter Rachael (educated St Michael's, Mickleham) and my grandson Joshua (born in Bristol in January 2020) got their piercing blue eyes.

Robert Dyson



Rachael and Joshua (9 months)

Thinking globally, acting locally

As some readers know because of our local WhatsApp group, Kirsten posted an image of David Attenborough with info about happenings on Instagram, following his recent broadcast on BBC 1. A few people commented about how he is 'a wonderful man', we 'need more like him' and 'such an inspiring man'. I thought yes, he is, BUT what he is inspiring us to do? There have been a few helpful comments in response.

So I am wondering how we can take this further as a community? The Parish Magazine is the obvious forum as it goes to every household in Mickleham and Westhumble. Could we start a discussion, a series of articles etc on how we here can help to do our little bit to help with the crisis the world is in? The climate emergency, dramatic loss of biodiversity and Covid-19 are all linked. Basically, the effect of the first two is to cause instability in ecosystems with the consequent opportunity for disease-causing organisms to spread.

I know some people think that the loss of biodiversity is 'only happening out there, in the rest of the world, in the Amazon rainforest for example. This is wrong. To take a simple example, the

number of moths coming in through open windows into our bedrooms at night – in my case this has fallen dramatically in the 5-odd decades I have lived here. This has occurred even though we are surrounded in part by the protected landscapes of Norbury Park, Mickleham Downs and Box Hill. To attempt to reverse this particular decline, we need to think how we can manage our gardens as well as trying to help in other local areas.

The above is just one example but there are many others. Could we encourage youngsters to get more involved in our community in ways that may help with the current crisis? It is their future. How can we encourage everyone to reduce their carbon footprint? Tips for reducing energy loss from our houses?

I also know that the religious communities have a 10-year programme of encouraging activities to help save our precious planet.

I have been reading in today's Guardian Weekend section a piece about Monty Don. To quote him "[the effect of lockdown extends beyond gardening. I like to think that it has engaged some people for the first time in their own world: growing seeds, watching the](#)

robins, noticing the clouds, even. But also, in terms of valuing homegrown food, becoming more aware of climate change, the use of plastic and peat – these bigger issues are connected to local, back-garden things. It's easy to say 'let's save the rainforest', because you are not having to do it. If you're really interested in looking after the world, it's all on our doorstep – in the garden you can actually do it."

So what do you all think? I am sure we can do a lot more locally. Hopefully I have seeded a few ideas for you to take this forward. There are many more. It is here though that I should state that what I can do in terms of communication is limited by my time and energy. My expertise lies in botany and I am currently doing as much as I can to record and promote conservation of plant species in the wider area of the whole of Surrey.

Please do share this with others in the parish who might be able to get involved. This is not a matter of telling people what they should or should not do but is one of INSPIRING and ENCOURAGING us all to participate and do the right things.

Ann Sankey

Editor's note: Please get in touch if there is a particular area you would like to research for a magazine article. Ann has also prepared a list of suggestions, if you would like some inspiration. To get us started here is an article by Ellie Jay.

Light Pollution

The other day I took an early morning walk, and by early I *mean* early. It was not my choice, my nine-month-old had ideas about simultaneously sprouting teeth and not sleeping. So, I took a brisk stroll around the streets of Westhumble in the hope of acquiring some sleep.

As I walked around in the gloom and the rain, I was very surprised to see that many houses had their outside lights on, burning brightly. Did you know that the main reason that we cannot see the stars these days is from light pollution? Only a few years ago we would have been able to see the Milky Way from this area, but now we are lucky to see the stars and planets at all. 80% of the world's population lives under skyglow. In the United States and Europe 99% of the public

cannot experience a natural night!* Not only do electric lights affect our appreciation of the night sky, it increases energy consumption and disrupts the natural ecosystem and wildlife.

I would urge everyone to really consider their use of lights, particularly those that are left on all night long. If safety is a concern then motion sensor lights are an excellent solution, which of course will remain off for the majority of the evening. Your neighbours will thank you too; it's amazing how far light from an outside source can travel and find its way into bedroom windows, even if they are not directly opposite the light itself.

If you are interested in the celestial occurrences, then do look out for the Geminid meteor shower between 13th

Photograph: Douglas McIlwraith-Jay



Milky Way Rising

and 14th December 2020 (mid-evening until dawn) and the Ursids (before dawn) on 22nd December 2020.

Happy hunting!

* <https://www.darksky.org/light-pollution/>



St Michael's
Soups

Need a stocking filler?

We still have some copies of our Lent Lunches Soup cookbook – all the 27 recipes are tried and tested and delicious, and favourites of the contributors. The booklet costs a mere £5 and all of the proceeds of sale will go to All Saints Cafe. Please contact Alison Wood (email alison.wood29@btinternet.com or call 01372 376443) to arrange delivery and payment.



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and a happy & healthy
New Year to
all our local friends

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Frances Presley, Stephanie Randall
Fiona Roberts-Miller, Rose & Stan Spence
Amy, Simon, Martha & Verity Ward,
Frank Warren, Sue & Ben Tatham
Elizabeth Watson, Judy & Brian Wilcox

This year we are sending our Christmas greetings through the parish magazine and giving the money saved on cards and postage to charity.
The money raised by this MPM Christmas card will be given to
St Michael's CofE Infant School and St Michael's Community Nursery

Flood Warning

Photograph: Ben Tatham



This photograph of the River Mole near the Stepping Stones was taken at mid-day on 16th November. According to the River Mole level monitoring station at Castle Mill, the peak level was several hours earlier. Residents will recall the flooding we experienced last December/January. To keep up to date with the latest information about the river's level see <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/7260>

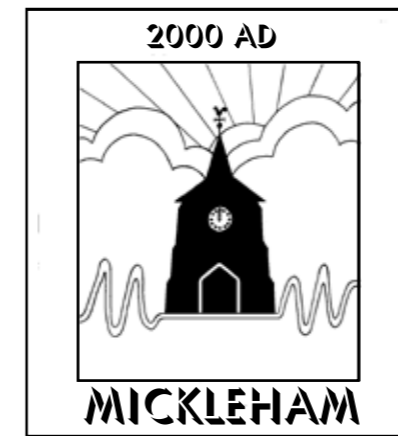


Outdoor Christmas Activities for Families at Juniper Hall during December

Please see the Juniper Hall website <https://www.field-studies-council.org/locations/juniperhall/>

The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness

Photographs: Richard Gowenlock (top three), Ben Tatham



At its November meeting, Mickleham Parish Council considered applications from two strong candidates to replace retiring Councillor Judy Kinloch and voted to appoint Kayleigh Hunter, a resident in the village for the last 11 years.

Kayleigh is a key member of Juniper Hall staff, where, as a senior tutor, she has experience in budgeting, risk

Mickleham Parish Council

assessments and community outreach projects. Readers might remember her wedding photo in the September 2019 magazine when she married Jacob. The local badminton club formed a guard of honour with badminton rackets while she also counts running among her other interests. She took part in the London marathon in April last year.

Kayleigh, 34, says she is extremely excited to take on the role and is looking forward to working alongside the other councillors to make sure that every member of the community is able to say they live somewhere where they feel safe, supported and listened to.

She identifies the issue of affordable housing as well as traffic speed and noise to be the most pressing issues for Mickleham Parish Council going forward. 'I believe that good communication and

community engagement is key to being an effective councillor and these are two qualities I will be bringing to this role," she said.

John Lowes, a long-standing Mickleham resident and a GP partner in the Ashted Medical Practice for 25 years, missed out on this occasion and councillors regretted that they were not able to appoint both candidates. However, John's experience and knowledge should not go unused and it is hoped that he can make a significant contribution to the parish council with the many issues it faces.

Chairman David Ireland thanked both candidates for their interest and is looking forward to working with them for the betterment of the community.

Feena Graham

New Mickleham Parish Council Clerk

Mickleham Community Speed Watch

You may have seen us out on the Old London Road recently, wearing high visibility jackets, adorned with our speed check radar equipment. The Mickleham Speed Watch group is up and running. This residents' group fully supported by the Parish Council, Surrey County Council Highways and working in partnership with Surrey Police are monitoring vehicle speeds in an effort to reduce the number of drivers who choose to exceed the speed limits. Our first session was on 10th September. In September we conducted 6 sessions and of the 70 plus Speed Watch groups in Surrey only one carried out more sessions than us. At the time of writing we have undertaken 8 sessions and logged a good many vehicles exceeding the speed limit, with some second offences.

In September Surrey police sent out 1413 letters, but the numbers have been running lower than last year due to Covid and some groups still shielding. This activity is also helpful to support the efforts of the Parish Council in their campaign to reduce traffic noise and speed through our very special village.

We are looking for more volunteers to join the team. It is not a huge commitment, just one or two, 1-hour sessions a month. Training is given by Surrey Police, in one evening session, at which it is also very interesting to learn some of the background to the policing of our roads.

If you would like to join us please contact:

Richard Gowenlock. 07796 347538
richardgowenlock@gmail.com



Speedwatchers Frances Presley and Angela Ireland, looking very fierce


Harry Beer (aged 9) writes...

Once, 518 years ago, a group of women were tortured and killed for being misfits. People believed they were witches. That started a world wide spark. A spark that spread and grew into a flame. A dark flame that burned and drowned, stoned and beheaded. More than 10,000 women were burnt for being witches. I think we should make a brass plaque saying

'For The Lost. Not Lost, But Gone. In our Modern World We Have Equality. Back Then We Didn't. For The Innocent Witches of Surrey. 2020.'

I can save up by doing community jobs, and maybe you could donate something.

P.S: I was inspired by *A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicoll



BRAIN TEASER

Can you translate these diagrams into words?
Say what you see.

RI POORCH

Answer on page 26

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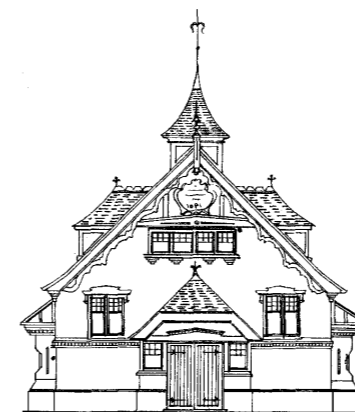
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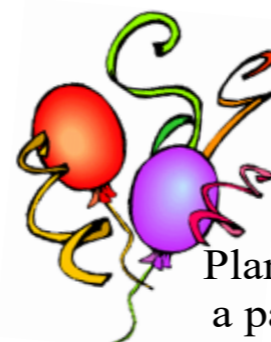


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mark.dawson@nationaltrust.org.uk
01737 842889
Friends of Box Hill – Chair Lyn Richards
lyn@mra.uk.net

Box Hill School
Headmaster – Cory Lowde 01372 374814
HMPA@boxhillschool.com

Dorking Cricket Club
Chairman – Andrew Homewood homewooda@hotmail.co.uk

Dorking Group of Artists
Exhibition Secretary – Patricia Booth 01737 24491
patricia booth100@gmail.com

Dorking Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
Jim Cattermole 01306 883629
jim.cattermole@uwclub.net

Dorking Rugby Club
Jim Evans 07789 176417
jim@flintcottage.net

The Garden Shed
Pauline Davis 07759 646353
paulinemdavis@gmail.com
07768 923088
Susie Gowenlock susiegowenlock@gmail.com

Juniper Hall Field Centre 01306 734501
enquiries.jh@field-studies-council.org
Head of Centre – Simon Ward Simon.lr@field-studies-council.org
Friends of Juniper Hall – Suzy Hughes 01483 281935
suzy@suzyhughes.co.uk

Mickleham Children's Playground Association
Secretary – Sarah Parfitt 07767 891772
sarah@sarahparfitt.com

Mickleham Choral Society
THURSDAYS 8 - 10 pm – Mickleham Village Hall
Conductor – Juliet Hornby 01372 373106
Secretary – Anne Weaver 01306 883932
www.micklehamchoral.org.uk secretary@micklehamchoral.org.uk

Mickleham Old Box Hillians Football Club
Secretary – John Atewell 01372 374745

Mickleham Parish Council
SEE WEBSITE FOR MEETING DATES www.micklehampc.org.uk
Chairman – Revd David Ireland 01372 379381
rev.ireland43@btinternet.com
Parish Clerk – Feena Graham clerkatmpc@gmail.com

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Ian Wright 01372 375695
churchwardens@micklehamchurch.org.uk

Sarah Blake 07736 235709
SarahJB1@outlook.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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admin@micklehamchurch.org.uk

PCC SECRETARY

Elizabeth Moughton 01306 883040
pccsecretary@micklehamchurch.org.uk

TREASURER

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organist@micklehamchurch.org.uk

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Elaine Machin 01372 724972
weddings@micklehamchurch.org.uk

BAPTISMS CO-ORDINATOR

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baptisms@micklehamchurch.org.uk

FUNERALS ORGANISER

Brian Wilcox 01372 374730
funerals@micklehamchurch.org.uk

WEBSITE MANAGER

Sarah Ward 01372 383350
website@micklehamchurch.org.uk

www.micklehamchurch.org.uk

*For information about services for other
denominations see website pages.
Search on 'Churches Together Mole Valley'*

PARISH PRAYER MEETINGS

8th December & 5th January

We are continuing to hold our monthly prayer meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm via Zoom. See Pewsnews Online for joining details. Everyone welcome.

SPARE COPIES OF THE PARISH MAGAZINE

available from Sue Tatham

01306 882547 editor@micklehammag.co.uk



CHURCH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

10 AM SERVICES AT ST MICHAEL'S

At the time of going to press the church has had to close due to the increased Covid restrictions. There will be a Sunday service via Zoom each week until we are able to open the church for services again.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES Sunday 13th December 10 am – Carol Service



Thursday 24th December 4 pm – Christmas Eve Crib Service

Friday 25th December 10 am – Christmas Service

The weekly Zoom codes will be available in Pews News Online which is sent to all church members. If you would like to join us by Zoom then contact Alison Wood for the codes or to ask her to include you on the emailing list for Pews News.

Alison Wood's contact details
admin@micklehamchurch.org.uk / 01372 376443

Recordings of the services are also available to watch on the church website:
<https://www.micklehamchurch.org.uk/sundays.htm>

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

At the time of going to press, it is no longer possible to open the church for private prayer. For the latest information as to whether or when the situation has changed, please refer to Pews News Online.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Both groups welcome new members and will be meeting by Zoom for the time being. During Advent both groups will be following the same short course 'Unexpected Jesus' which includes a book with daily reflections. If you are interested please contact the organiser for more information.

The Monday Evening Chapel Group 8 - 9 pm
Contact Amanda Wadsworth aewadsworth@hotmail.com

The Thursday Morning Study Group: 11 am - 12.30 pm
Contact Alison Wood 01372 376443 alison.wood29@btinternet.com

MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Sarah Blake Mark Day Andrew Diamond
Caroline Jones Vicky Leney Elaine Machin
Elizabeth Moughton Frances Presley
Richard Siberry Amanda Wadsworth
Amy Ward Paul Wates Ian Wright

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- machine and electrical tools

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 Hilda Burden on 01737 842516.



Please join us on Zoom for a
Virtual

CAROL SINGING PUB CRAWL

Tuesday 22nd December at 7-8 pm

Have your own drinks / mulled wine and mince pies at the ready to be in a festive mood. Perhaps have a festive background as well.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87219452407?pwd=TkZZRXNzdE8zSTJSWkk5OE5tVzNndz09>

Meeting ID: 872 1945 2407

Passcode: 401349

Community Directory

Continued from page 13

- MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE BOOK CLUB
Bernice Bailey 01306 741310
bpbailey_uk@yahoo.co.uk
- MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE BADMINTON CLUB
Membership Secretary Sarah Blake tinkerbell0044@hotmail.com
- MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE CRICKET CLUB
Membership contact Will Dennis 07903 842674
will@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk
- MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Chairman – David Kennington 01372 362309
www.surreycommunity.info/mwhs davidkennington144@gmail.com
- MICKLEHAM AND WESTHUMBLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
Chairman – Ben Tatham 01306 882547
ben@thetatham.co.uk
www.hugofox.com/community/mickleham-westhumble-local-history-group-13483/
- MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
Councillor Elsie Rosam 01306 885001
01306 885695
elsierosam29@gmail.com
- THE ARTS SOCIETIES (FORMERLY NADFAS)
Betchworth – Mary Venning 01306 883301
Dorking – Sue Tatham 01306 882547
Leatherhead – Sarah Sheridan 01306 883699
- ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (A) INFANT SCHOOL 01372 373717
info@stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk
Friends of St Michael's School friendsofstmichaels2017@gmail.com
Co-chairs Nicole Harcombe, Tracey Harwood, Amy Rieley
- ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY NURSERY
WEEKDAY MORNINGS – MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL
Supervisor – Hilary Budd 01372 361021
stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com
- SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL 03456 009 009
Councillor – Hazel Watson 01306 880120
hva.watson@btinternet.com
- SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST 01483 795440
info@surreywt.org.uk
- WESTHUMBLE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
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westhumble.neighbourhood.watch@gmail.com
- WESTHUMBLE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
Lead Co-ordinator – David Allbeury 07860 227451
westhumble.neighbourhood.watch@gmail.com
- ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION
- CITIZENS ADVICE
Dorking – Lyons Court 0844 4111 444
Leatherhead – Swan Mews High Street 0844 4111 444
- CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111
- POLICE Non-emergencies 101
(often quicker to make online report) <https://report.police.uk/>
Neighbourhood Specialist Team – Dorking Rural East
General enquiries molevalley@surrey.pnn.police.uk
- NHS Urgent and emergency care 111

Babysitting by local teenagers

Those listed below are at least
14 years old.

- Alasdair Wise 01306 884694
Annabelle Prosser* 07443 634179
- Maisy Presley* 07720 657327
Freya Pearce 07787 427143
Martha Pearce 07514 080005
Skye Moran 01306 640043
Patrick Moran 01306 640043
Amber Miller 01306 883659
Rory Lee **07973 360 950
Ellie Kim 07773 395 575
Tatiana Fleming-Smith
** 07495 014427
- Chelsea Edwards 07834 695816
Philomena Ala 07789 727682
Delphine Ala 01306 885767

* Holidays only
** Parent's mobile number

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Pauline Nanette Clark 1930 – 2020

On a breezy but sunny September day, Pauline's family and a few friends gathered at the graveside to celebrate her life in a service made more special by Covid-19 restrictions. Grandchildren read poems and music was provided by a trio (flute, violin and clarinet) that included one of her granddaughters. They played music she loved including John Rutter's 'The Lord Bless You and Keep You', a theme from Bach's St Matthew Passion and 'Lord of all Hopefulness'.

Pauline's abiding passion throughout her life were her family and classical music. As a girl she used to see Ralph Vaughan Williams walking in Dorking High Street. She joined the Mickleham Choral Society in the early 1970s and sang with them for nearly 40 years. The highlight of her year was singing Bach's St Matthew Passion or St John Passion every Easter at the Dorking Halls and she was buried with the vocal score of the St Matthew Passion.

Pauline was a Dorking girl through and through – born and brought up in the town, she attended Dorking Grammar School and was a keen member of St Paul's Church choir. She then worked as a legal secretary, commuting to London. Her father Gordon Bray was sales director at EJ Bakers when her future husband John answered an advertisement for junior staff. Pauline

met John at Dorking Dramatic and Operatic Society and then Gordon invited him back for tea and to play snooker as he had a half-size table in the garage. John was far more interested in Pauline than the snooker.

John and Pauline married on 4th April 1953 in Dorking and they went on to celebrate their diamond wedding in 2013 shortly before John's death. At first, they lived in Dorking but then needing more space they bought a plot of land in Mickleham, which they called Spring Acre because it was an acre of land and they bought it in the spring. It is hard to imagine the challenge of bringing up six children: Sally, Simon, David, Graham, Andrew and Ben. But John always said she did a fantastic job. One thing is for sure – she did it her way.

Pauline could be very relaxed. John came home one Summer evening to find 24 boys riding bikes and throwing apples in the garden. But she was also quite a formidable character and did not put up with any nonsense. John sometimes found himself on the receiving end of her displeasure. On many evenings he would arrive home late for dinner having stopped at the Running Horses after work. 'I've just been talking to the Rector' he would say. This excuse soon wore a bit thin.

As the children began to grow up Pauline had time to study for her



grades in singing and piano. Another of Pauline's passions was sport. By all accounts she was a talented tennis player in her younger days, and she was also a strong swimmer and made sure all the children learnt to swim at the Burford Bridge swimming pool.

She had a lovely sense of humour which endured, and her cheeky smile endeared her to all. She could however be extremely stubborn. Quiet and not one to push her opinion forward she nevertheless had an opinion on most things which would be delivered as a one-liner, examples being: 'What nonsense!', 'Don't be so ridiculous!' and 'Is that the best you can do?'

Pauline was absolutely in her element when the grandchildren started to arrive. She adored babies and she was a wonderful nanny to her 11 grandchildren and her great grandson.

Pauline was fortunate to be looked after by some very special carers in her final years. She was always initially sceptical of anybody new but once her trust had been gained these carers developed a special rapport with her which preserved a quality of life to the end.

Pauline and John were both only children. She could not have imagined when she stood at that altar in 1953 that her legacy would be such a large and wonderful family. We will all miss her dearly.

Sally Clark

We send our deepest sympathy and love to all the Clark family. Pauline will be much missed by her many friends.



In the early days of the parish magazine Pauline organised one of the collation teams.
From left: Pauline Clark, Rosemary Robinson, Joan Lawrence, Rosemary Finlay and Mo Chisman.



Community News

Farewell to Jamie and Cherry Fuller who have moved from Fredley to Holmwood.

Congratulations to:

• Siân and Steve Loveless of Pilgrims Way on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Frederick (Freddie) Alexander Brett Loveless on 3rd November. A son for Rob and Charlotte.

• Lucy and Neil Mason of Chapel Lane on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Holly Mason on 19th September. A daughter for Jamie and Louise.

Pamela Berry

With sadness we report the death of Pam Berry on 8th November aged 91. Pam lived at Long Cottage, Old London Road for many years before moving to Dorking, following the death of her husband Len. Many condolences to her family.

Ann Cordell

We were very sorry to hear the sad news than Ann Cordell former long-time resident of Pilgrims Way had died in Dorking on 12th October, aged 87. We our deepest sympathy to her family.



Box Hill School organised a very successful charity bike ride in aid of Maggie's cancer support charity on 11th October. Thirty-two riders between them raised in excess of £25,000. One of Maggie's projects has been to build a centre at the Royal Marsden Hospital to help cancer sufferers and their families. That was the half way mark in a 47-mile ride, starting and finishing at Box Hill School, which the team completed in five hours. Anyone wanting to donate please go to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/DennisDestroyers>

Hoping to do it again next year!

Will Dennis

To Covid -19 survivors (so far)

I, along with other 'vulnerables', was locked in for a couple of months earlier to be 'shielded' and protected from Covid-19, officially not letting me out in the fresh air. How things change. Years ago, I was locked out in the fresh air to 'shield' others from me with a highly infectious disease.

How so? I will tell you youngsters, and those of you with a poor memory, how lucky you have been this time. Back in the '40s and '50s, a different highly infectious and contagious disease was endemic, and regularly had been a cause of deaths for centuries. Earlier it was called 'consumption' and killed tens of thousands worldwide. Then, post WW2, it became an epidemic in the UK, under its current name, tuberculosis.

The treatment then was to isolate all sufferers in remote countryside sanatoriums, with fresh air as the only known restorative, thus 'shielding' the population from it. No drugs or vaccines were available for some years, and PPE had not been heard of. All nursing staff wore starched white aprons and coats, and masks were only used in the operating theatres, where

they exercised the only known cure – cutting it out.

I was finally carved up nearly six years after I was locked in and didn't get out for another two. Now *that's* 'shielding'.

Count your blessing and bless the NHS, which had only just begun back then.

Your medical historian

NB: In 1950, 20,000 died in the UK from TB, and, as we had only 50 million people then, it was not greatly different from our situation this year. But nothing got 'shutdown', as we were rebuilding from the war, and the nation moved on regardless to the boom time of the '60s.

Drugs and vaccines were developed for TB, but to really cheer you up, they are no longer as effective on the *current* strains of TB, which still kill 2 million worldwide every year, ie twice as many as the probable death toll of Covid 19

A key difference twixt then and now has been that tourism and air travel didn't really exist back then, while **18 million** visitors landed in the UK between January and March this year, most of them from hot spots, with no checks. I rest my case. Roy Turner 82

An End of it – Answer

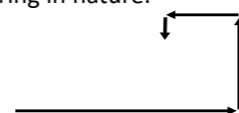
Last month I posed the challenge of finding a continuous line with no joins, finite length and only one end. There are lots of valid answers, but here's one I like:

Trace out a straight line one yard long. At the end turn left through a right angle to the left and travel half a yard. Then turn left again and go a quarter of a yard. And so on and on, halving the length each time.

You never get to the end, so the only end is the one you started from. And the total distance you travel is always less than 2 yards, though you can get as close to that figure as you like.

For a smooth curve that has the same properties, if you look at a section through a Nautilus shell, you will see a spiral curve. Of course, that has

two ends, but if you replace the spiral by the mathematical ideal (the Nautilus gets pretty close by the way!) and follow the spiral inwards, you have another curve that never reaches an end – the 'equiangular or logarithmic spiral.' It's nice to see such things appearing in nature.



... and so on!

And if you would like a follow-up problem, try making an infinitely long closed 'curve' (inverted commas because again you can have as many sharp corners as you like) that encloses a finite area. (Finite but non-zero.)

David Fishwick

Please try to buy Christmas cards without metallic foil or glitter so that they can be recycled.



Christmas Quiz Stage and Screen Musicals

Use the letters given to spell the titles of musicals. The number given indicates how many words are in the title

Example bdeeeefglmnnoprst (3) - Gentleman Prefer Blondes (3 words)

Answers in next magazine

- 1 aadfilmrxy (3) _____
- 2 ahilmnot (1) _____
- 3 aimnopprsy (2) _____
- 4 befhkmmnoooooort (3) _____
- 5 beejorssy (2) _____
- 6 aabcert (1) _____
- 7 aabbccchhiigggttttnnyy (4) _____
- 8 aaadllln (3) _____
- 9 aabdehimnproosy (2) _____
- 10 aeghiiiiinnrnst (4) _____
- 11 deeorsssttwy (3) _____
- 12 accghio (1) _____
- 13 aeeghilprsssttx (2) _____
- 14 aaeefhnhmnoooprrttt (5) _____
- 15 aeeikkmsst (3) _____
- 16 aaaehlloortvwwy (5) _____
- 17 eghiiInnot (3) _____
- 18 aaaimmmm (2) _____
- 19 cdefhimnoosstuu (4) _____
- 20 adeghiiKnnt (4) _____
- 21 ddeeffhilnooorrt (4) _____
- 22 beiillloty (2) _____
- 23 acelmot (1) _____
- 24 aahklmoo (1) _____
- 25 adehikmot (2) _____
- 26 abeeeillmrss (2) _____
- 27 aadilmt (1) _____
- 28 aaceeeefhinnopprsttz (4) _____
- 29 aaaacccddeefhhiillnooorrttty (5) _____
- 30 aaaacccddeeghhiiijlmmnnoooooprrssttuz (6) _____



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KING WILLIAM IV

Hello friends and neighbours

In another lockdown at present, more uncertainty for us in the hospitality industry – it really has been the worse year even on many levels.

However, we all wish you a

Happy Christmas and a happier New year!

Eamonn, Anne, Kat, Tony, Federica, Abi A, Jack, Josie, Joe, Abi F, Charlotte, Chloe, Anna and Tatty

Let us hope that 2021 does indeed bring hope Eamonn x

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Cryptic Delicacies

Last month's Remembrance time puzzle was themed on THE GENERAL by SIEGFRIED SASSOON

'Good-morning, good-morning!' the General said

When we met him last week on our way to the line.

Now the soldiers he smiled at are most of 'em dead,

And we're cursing his staff for INCOMPETENT SWINE.

'He's a cheery old card, grunted Harry to Jack

As they slogged up to Arras with rifle and pack.

But he did for them both by his PLAN OF ATTACK.

It is currently the fashion in First World War history circles to say that the war poets like Sassoon were not representative of the general feeling at the time and that the higher command did the best they could given that their Army included many citizen volunteers rather than purely being made up of professionals. Obviously there is some truth in that but it really should not be ignored that there were many regular officers whose qualifications for the job were their class, money, obedience and fearlessness rather than any particular imagination or intelligence. Ten years before the First World War, the Russo-Japanese War had seen machine guns and quick firing artillery causing horrendous casualties against massed full frontal attacks, and yet observers from all the major European military powers seem not to have thought that this modern weaponry required any change in tactics. It appears that a combination of optimism, the will to win and the belief in inherent British superiority were more commonly valued than lateral thinking or the detailed analysis of the options and possible outcomes. Luckily lessons have been learned and those flaws are no longer exhibited by the current leaders of this country.

Here are some of the other clues, with definitions underlined:

9 Cockney communicating extreme lack of beer to maiden (5) FIRST

'extreme lack of beer' = thirst, which a Cockney would say as FIRST in an

example of *Th-fronting* (this only became fairly common in London in the late 1800s and wasn't thought of as being a fully-fledged part of Cockney English until the early 20th century). 'Maiden' is here being used as in 'he gave his maiden speech in Parliament to support the pay rise for MPs'.

10 Former six-legged taxi driver is very chirpy? (9) EXUBERANT

'Former' = EX, 'six-legged taxi driver' = UBER ANT (I hear they are not very popular with the drivers of black cabs in London).

12 That's how it was written about to not be moved by slings and arrows (5) STOIC

'That's how it was written' = SIC (used to emphasise that what appears to be an error in a quote is in fact intentional, as in 'Everyone really enjoys Andrew's puzzles [sic]') which goes about TO.

20 Fantastical beast is fake, with its tail stuck on its head, led by naked ogre (7) GRYPHON

'fake' = phony, 'with its tail stuck on its head' means you move its last letter to the front to get YPHON, and that is led by 'naked oGRE' where 'naked' means that the central letters do not have the clothing provided by the outer letters. I hope you didn't get thrown by the fact that GRYPHON can also be spelt 'griffin' or 'griffon' (though neither of those fit with the rest of the clue).

2 It could be a yen for acceptance (8) CURRENCY

'yen' can be money = CURRENCY which can also mean 'acceptance' as in 'the word 'coronagaddon' only came into common currency during the pandemic'.



5 Exotic duo care for the origin of their Panama hats (7) ECUADOR

'Exotic' anagram of DUO CARE leads to the strange fact that Panama hats are actually made in Ecuador (they are woven from the leaves of a palm-like plant that grows there). The Panama name comes because Ecuador was rather off the beaten track so the hats were taken up to sell in Panama which was a much busier trading centre. Even before the canal opened in 1914, Panama was used as a crossing point by travellers wanting to reach the Pacific without having to round Cape Horn, and a particular boom in hat sales resulted from the California Gold Rush (1848-1855) with prospectors passing through and needing something to keep off the sun. On being asked where they had got their stylish hats, they said 'Panama' and the name stuck. The highest quality Panama hats are so tightly woven that they are said to hold water and, when rolled up, pass through a wedding ring.

17 In wading bird, sound control centre is hard-wired (8) INHERENT

IN + 'wading bird' = heron, the sound of which gives HEREN when pronounced in the answer, the centre of conTrol = T.

Always good to get ideas of things to discuss in my article, so any responses or queries will be happily received at andrewt@andrewtatham.co.uk

Andrew

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In support of World Mental Health Day, we held a yellow-themed mufti day, which we integrated with the 'hello yellow' campaign run by Young Minds. All funds raised were donated to a local mental health charity. In addition, we asked our students to contribute long-life food items to a local food bank where one of our students volunteers in his spare time. As you can see, we managed to collect boxes full of food for this extremely worthy cause.

We are excited to announce that we have starting rehearsals for our

upcoming drama production, 'Chicago Heights'. As we are unable to welcome a physical audience to this year's winter show, we have decided to record our production and send it out as a film. All students have been working very hard, with some joining rehearsals virtually! One of our talented students will be editing the final piece together and we cannot wait to see it, keep an eye on our website for release dates.

Christmas is just around the corner and we have lots to look forward to with our music department producing a virtual Christmas concert, the release of 'Chicago Heights' and the Christmas decorations adorning the front of our beautiful Dalewood House.

Lily McKeown



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him and wife Helen as they surmount repeated obstacles, powering on to further adventures. We also travel the world with them, water-skiing, scuba diving, parachute jumping in a hugely enjoyable life.

Aged 87 and disinclined to retire, Fred, now an author, has written a sister book to this one. 'Want to be an Entrepreneur?' offers guidance on business start-ups to aspiring entrepreneurs together with practical tips from his four successful ventures.

In the new year he will publish biographies of John D Rockefeller and

Calouste Gulbenkian, 'Two Giants who shaped our oil world'

Fred's new career surely warrants the adage. 'Old entrepreneurs never die, they only fade away'.

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Editor's note: many readers will remember Fred and Helen who lived in Camilla Drive for many years before returning to their native Ireland.

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APPROVED



As we enter December, and hopefully come out of lockdown, it is time to ramp up our festive celebrations. Christmas is so exciting when you are in the company of little children. Sadly, this year as we were unable to host our Christmas fair so I missed out on seeing the nervous excitement of our children as they visited Father Christmas in the

Gingerbread house grotto. We will however be making those treasured decorations that will adorn family Christmas trees for the years to come and our forest schoolers will also have the opportunity to make wooden cookie snowflake decorations, so good we should be selling them!

Without our Christmas fair, we have sought out some other fundraising opportunities. Have you heard of Eco Balloon racing? The traditional balloon race is not popular with farmers, animals eating fallen balloons can cause significant vets bills, plus balloons take many years to biodegrade so are not good for our environment. Eco Balloon racing uses virtual balloons with real weather data. You buy a virtual balloon for £3 or can create a token for balloons as gifts, decorate your balloon and then after the release date, can track your balloon as it flies across the globe (or maybe just Kent

if it 'pops'!). This virtual balloon race is so much more engaging than a traditional balloon race, personalising your balloon, learning about different countries, learning about the weather, checking it every day to see how far your balloon has travelled! The prizes are rather good too: first prize is £500, second an Apple i-pad, and there are £10 book tokens for the next ten.

The nursery has registered as a fundraising cause for two races over Christmas, The Christmas Shopping race which launches from Harrods at midnight on 1st December and The Christmas Day race that launches from Santa's Village in Lapland on 25th December.

If you would like to support the nursery and buy a balloon, please go to <https://ecoracing.co/index.php> enter St. Michael's Community Nursery in the search box and follow the instructions to buy, decorate and then follow your balloon. Good luck! Hilary Budd



Future races

<p>Christmas Shopping Race from Harrods London</p> <p>Christmas Shopping Race - Harrods, London</p> <p>Starts 1st December 2020 Duration 7 Days 0 Balloons Purchased</p> <p>View Race</p>	<p>Christmas Day Race - Santa's Village, Lapland</p> <p>Christmas Day Race - Santa's Village, Lapland</p> <p>Starts 25th December 2020 Duration 7 Days 0 Balloons Purchased</p> <p>View Race</p>
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Toasting marshmallows in Forest School

Cycling Survey More help needed

In September we published a request for local non-cyclists to complete a survey by Thomas Harrington, an A-Level geography student in Dorking. Unfortunately, Tom has had a poor response and needs further participants as soon as possible to make any valid arguments from the data. He has created a QR code to make his survey easier to access.

<https://forms.gle/6Xmg3JvkbbSqTu8y6>

I would be most grateful for your help.

Thomas Harrington





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Solution to the November crossword

Across: 1 Incompetent 7 Pea 9 First 10 Exuberant 11/19 Siegfried Sassoon 12 Stoic 13 Etching 15 Ruff 18 Opus 20 Gryphon 23 Enrol 24 Sandstone 26 Petit four 27 Swine 28/20D The General 29 Candlelight.

Down: 1 Infested 2 Currency 3 Motif 4 Evening 5 Ecuador 6 Tsetse fly 7/8 Plan of attack 14 Impolitic 16 Shooting 17 Inherent 21 Despot 22 Writhe 25 Sisal

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Thanks for the Plant Pots



In last month's magazine, I appealed for plant pots to use for potting up plants to sell in aid of The Brigitte Trust. I now have plenty to keep me going but I imagine that I will be asking again in the future.

Pauline Davis

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Friends of St Michael's School Christmas Tree Sale



If you enjoy a 'real' tree at Christmas, please consider ordering yours from the Friends of St Michael's and help raise some much-needed money for the school! With COVID restrictions, we have limited fundraising opportunities, but this is one we can continue.

We will again be offering very high quality non-drop Nordman fir trees for collection from the school on Sunday 6th December. Trees are available from 3ft up to 8ft with prices starting from just £28.

To register your interest or for more information, please contact us at friendsofstmichaels2017@gmail.com

News and Plans

REMEMBRANCE STONES

In November the children spent a week learning about the significance and importance of remembrance. We wrote poems and took part in discussion based activities about the symbols of remembrance. The children were very familiar with the fact that the poppy is a symbol to represent the soldiers who lost their lives in the war. We felt proud that some of our pupils could talk so articulately and sensitively about this subject. They showed great respect when taking part in the two-minute silence. To mark the week, they painted 'poppy stones'. We took pictures of the stones in their open hands. These can be seen in our classroom windows as a continued reminder that peace is in our hands and that war is fought in the name of peace.

VALUES

Now more than ever, we use our school values as the framework to ensure a sense of belonging and community. Our values in the autumn term were 'friendship' and 'thankfulness'. We considered how important friendship is in making us feel happy and safe and

how important it is to be kind when friendships face challenges. When considering thankfulness the children thought of all the people and things that they are thankful for and also how to show gratitude to others.

CHARITY WORK

In the autumn term, the children have learned about how important charity is to those less fortunate than ourselves. St Michael's families have helped to raise money for several charities. The children wore a yellow accessory and made a donation to support the HelloYellow campaign for YoungMinds. They learned about World Mental Health Day and they also took part in some activities to help them develop their understanding of talking about their emotions and developing resilience. We held a mufti day (a day when the children can come to school in their own clothes and bring a donation) to support Children in Need – Year 2 took part in the BBC's 'Five to Thrive' with Joe Wicks. We sponsor Ilakiya, a Hindu Dalit girl that in South India which enables her to attend school at Joans Grace Home. The school provides,



St Michael's School

stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk/

education for children whose families would otherwise not be able to afford to send them to school.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

Our Christmas preparations are well and truly underway. By the time this is published, we will have filmed our own, unique Christmas production. Once again, we have had to think a little differently and find creative ways to make sure that our families and children feel part of this special event and time of year. We are getting used to filming key school events in new ways and the children are enjoying trying new things.

We wish you all a holy, happy and healthy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Nicola Cleather



Painting our Remembrance stones

Christmas Holiday break 18th December 2020 to 4th January 2021

Cryptic Crossword

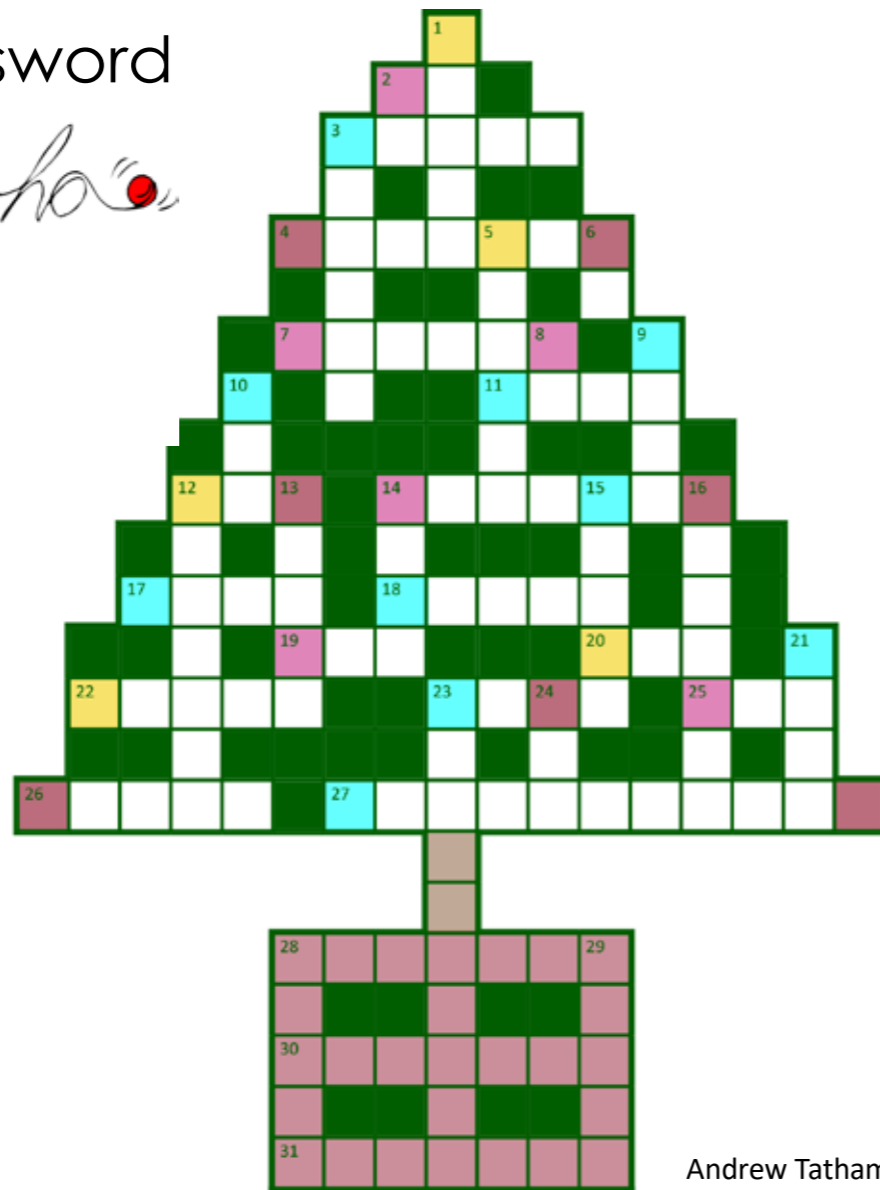


Across

- 2 Once understood the information heard in a letter (2)
- 3 The majority eat the iced topping that is drizzly (5)
- 4 No-go area where aliens start to leave mixed-up shredded leaves (7)
- 7 Rue Perrin is alongside King & French (6)
- 11 Heartless labourer found in the shade (4)
- 12 Knock drink back in the era of pink gins in the heat? (3)
- 14 Single teacher heard second hand was treated like the hour hand, perhaps? (7)
- 17 Soft rock is a product of pop metal covers band (4)
- 18 Floor in the fashion of a fan of eucalyptus? (5)
- 19 Three become this in Trinity (3)
- 20 Canoeed without dictionary in sack (3)
- 22 Rise up through the sound of surroundings (5)
- 23 An example of a sentence: 'Love is for everyone the beginning of them all' (4)
- 25 Young beaver trappings (3)
- 26 Estimate that is (2,5,2,6,3,4,6,3,3,4's,11,7 from various answers) from 13 3 (5)
- 27 Try potion up in ruins when the chance presents itself (11)
- 28 Tired of being treated like a mole? (7)
- 30 Sounds like no points for a dance is winning!? (7)
- 31 Old German enters studies backwards so is sent to Coventry (7)

Down

- 1 Snooker involves this sound of audience's activity before a busy session (5)
- 2 Refusal to get on backwards (2)
- 3 See 13



Andrew Tatham

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5 Workers in commercial activities make changes for the better (6) | 14 Lay down with cook (4) |
| 6 Composed from old fogey's overtures (2) | 15 Big key to room (5) |
| 8 Thanks to the old reserves! (2) | 16 Livingstone follows diamond boss in getting squiffy (7) |
| 9 Conservative Party rebel if keen on his food and drink might have a spare one of these? (4) | 21 Deviation perhaps comes from the last bit of meaningless rubbish (4) |
| 10 Supporter of brazen loss of cool (3) | 23 Clean her up after spilling Sprite (10) |
| 12 Someone eschewing romance is alert to change in apparent order (7) | 24 In support of quartet's performance (3) |
| 13/3 Cajole ram by steering towards well-known spirit (5,6) | 28 Short old Polish president goes to home of Aled & Ffion (5) |
| | 29 Father devours half rare quail from nightmare (5) |

The solution to last month's crossword is on page 26.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

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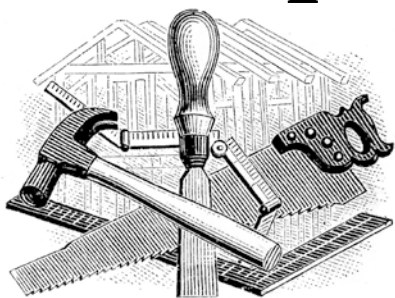
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