

MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble



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April 2022

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MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

April
2022

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
MAY MAGAZINE
Sunday
10th April

send to:

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St Anthony, Pilgrim's Way
Westhumble
Dorking RH5 6AW
01306 882547
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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.



Printed by Holbrooks Printers
Portsmouth

Mickleham Rectory

Dear friends

Easter is now almost upon us – eggs and bunnies are on the way. Easter offers us much more for it is a celebration of new life; Easter Sunday can fill us with new hope as we recall that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. Death and sin have been defeated and we shout with joy the ancient Easter greeting *Halleluia! Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed!*

Last Easter we hoped that Covid would be defeated but the pandemic has continued to threaten our wellbeing and even our lives, restrictions have been lifted but for many the worry, suffering and impact of loss continue. Now we have a new threat to our security and peace as Russia has started a war in Ukraine with terrible suffering and loss. We are rightly concerned about and praying for Ukraine and for what might happen next. It is perhaps easier for us at present to identify with the sombre and sad mood of Good Friday. There we can find consolation in the fact that we have in Jesus a God who loves us, came among us and has experienced the extremes of emotional, spiritual and physical suffering. He understands and empathises with our pain and he is still with us by his Spirit and suffers alongside us and much, much more than us.

Easter Sunday offers us so much too. Jesus was raised to life again and so overcame death, sin and suffering. Because he is alive, we trust that we will have eternal life and just as Good Friday was followed by Easter Sunday so new life and hope can follow dark times. Sadness and despair can be turned into joy as we shift our gaze from the cross to the empty tomb.

I love Easter lilies. They are so beautiful and such a part of the Easter celebration in church and have been described as the white-robed apostles of hope. There are a few ideas about how the lily came to be associated with Easter.

The shape of the flower means it can be seen as a trumpet heralding the resurrection and the triumph of love in Christ. It can also be seen as a tear drop. There is a legend that, after Jesus' death and resurrection, white lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed before his crucifixion. They were believed to have sprung up from the large drops of sweat from his brow which dropped to the ground when his head was bent in anguished prayer.

Lilies also remind us of resurrection story. The bulb is buried in the ground as a representation of Christ's tomb and up to three years later in late March or early April the glorious flowers appear proudly declaring they are alive, there is new life after death. It is also said that the delicate, white blooms represent purity, a reminder that Jesus has cleansed us from sin.

Whichever explanation you choose to link the lily with Easter, I hope that despite the sorrow we all feel at the state of the world, we can celebrate with hope the new life of Easter and be reminded of the ultimate defeat of sin and death along with the infinite love and mercy of God. Happy Easter!



Sandra

The Rev'd Dr Sandra Faccini, Parish Priest



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St Michael's Church Services

10 am Sunday Services
available on Zoom

Joining information for both Zoom and telephone users is available in Pews News Online each week. 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. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for worship.

Please refer to Pews News Online for the latest information. If you missed any of the services, or would like to revisit them, all are available on the church YouTube channel:

<https://youtube.com/channel/UCl4pbewCT91iZhcd0EJBlw>



First Saturday of the month Coffee Morning at Westhumble Chapel

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Easter Services

Tuesday 12th April
7.30 pm A short service of night prayer
(Compline)

Maundy Thursday 14th April
7.30 pm Informal Holy Communion

Good Friday 15th April
2 pm Reflections at the foot of the cross

Easter Sunday 17th April
8 am Holy Communion (St Michael's)
10 am Family Holy Communion



The final Lent Lunch

Host: Liz Absalom



Wednesday 6th April 12.30 pm
Mickleham Village Hall

Delicious soups and bread. No charge but donations
will go to local charities

Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 3rd April after 10 am service

Men's and Women's Saturday Breakfasts at the Stepping Stones

9 – 10 AM

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WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

3RD SATURDAYS
16TH APRIL

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



MEN'S BREAKFAST

4TH SATURDAYS
23RD APRIL

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



*Bible Study Groups will reconvene in
May after the Easter break. Details in
the next magazine*



St Michael's Church Community Group

Churchyard News.... Our Very Own Mickleham Vintage

As many will know, the new churchyard has two areas: the northern is free of archaeological restrictions and burials can take place. The trial trenching in 2017 confirmed however, greater archaeological potential on the southern half, which means that we would have to have an archaeologist present during each individual grave excavation. Clearly impractical and costly. Over the last few years, various options have been considered for this 'non-burial' area: a church Christmas tree plantation, a

wind turbine, memorial tree planting, a solar panel field, etc. Re-wilding was tried for a year but its rank appearance drew complaints both from those with relatives buried there and from our congregation and community. It is fair to say that there have been very different individual views expressed!

After some discussion with Denbies, it has been decided that a new area of vineyard will be planted, subject to planning permission. Managed by Denbies, but producing our own batches of Mickleham wine, the first bottle of Chateau Faccini should be ready in 2024. It should be a cheeky little, fruity red with undertones of shallot, because there should be suchalot of it.

Avrile Foulé



Anyone for skittles?

For many it may well have been the first REAL social gathering for some time. Speaking for myself I felt as if I had recovered from flu and was embarking on that 'test the water syndrome' questioning 'do I feel okay to attempt a night out?' For those who have not constantly been reminded, over the last two years, that they are vulnerable or elderly might find this a bit hard to grasp. I would not have believed it myself pre-pandemic.

It's thanks to Mark (Day) and members of the Church & Community Group who masterminded the evening. It was just what we all needed.

A dozen teams gathered for the warm up. Team names included The Holy Rollers (not Rev'd Sandra in curlers), Five Tenors, Alley Cats and the Flintstones (Mary and Eric?), to name a few. It was clear right from the onset

this was going to be very competitive evening.

Scoring was dubious, but nobody cared! Appropriately timed, Debbie Lidbetter and Sue Carr brought out platefuls of hot dogs, and barman Andy made sure nobody went without fluid refreshment.

Interval over and individuals competed against each other. This was a slow process of elimination, until larger-than-life village personalities competed for the final cash prize. Some interesting modes of play: Jim Evans fighting for the lead, adopted an interesting 'bouncing bomb' strike, Katie Cox did not stand a chance! All in good fun and thank you Jim for donating your winnings to charity.

And the winning team? It had to be The Holy Rollers; do you reckon they had some additional help from on high?

Jenny Hudlass

Photographs on page 21.

Sausages and Skittles

The Skittles and Sausages evening was billed a cheap and cheerful, non-profit-making village event. It was fully booked with 70 people attending. And, even with the complementary sausages, a profit was made, with a donation to St Michael's, and £150 to 'Combat Stress', which runs a residential treatment unit in Leatherhead for military personnel suffering from psychological trauma. Everyone from the Community Group played a part in this event in some way, and Annie Dennis provided valuable scoring assistance. Thanks to ALL involved.

See Jenny Hudlass's account of the evening below.

Church IT and sound

St Michael's church are looking for some more volunteers to join the team and help out with IT/visual aids/sound, on a rota basis. This includes recording of YouTube video's for family services, creation of the services using PowerPoint, editing recordings for YouTube and the church website, all which can be done from home. It will also include running Zoom at church services and operating the sound in church, which will be on a Sunday. You will be using some or all of the following: PowerPoint, OBS, Zoom, YouTube Studio, Video Editor and the church's lighting and sound systems. If you have the skills already or would like to learn, then please contact Sarah Blake on sarahjbl@outlook.com. You will be making a major contribution to the church and community, thank you.

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see page 26**

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SAVE THE DATES!
For the
Mickleham & Westhumble Celebrations

1952 PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

WESTHUMBLE TEA PARTY
Fri 3rd June 3-5 pm

WESTHUMBLE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
Sat 4th June Noon onwards

ST. MICHAEL'S JUBILEE SERVICE
Sun 5th June 10 am

TREE PLANTING
Sun 5th June 11.30am

MICKLEHAM JUBILEE LUNCH
Sun 5th June Noon onwards

Timings may be subject to change. For more information please contact:
clerkatmpc@gmail.com

 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

Friday and Saturday Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at the
Stepping Stones
Westhumble

Friday 3rd June 3 - 5 pm
Afternoon Tea Party with Beacon Tart
Hat Competition - 4 pm
Acoustic Live music by Mood Swing

Saturday 4th June from 2 pm
Live Music Large Screen Broadcast
Children's fancy dress Outdoor BBQ

Mickleham & Westhumble Jubilee Celebrations

St Michael's Church has combined forces with Mickleham Parish Council and Westhumble Residents Association to organise events for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There are several events taking place from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th June 2022 and these are open to all residents in both Mickleham and Westhumble. As you can appreciate these events take a lot of organising and we are looking for your help: for volunteers to help over the weekend from road marshalling to clearing up afterwards and for any sponsorship towards costs. If you are willing to help in any way, please contact: clerkatmpc@gmail.com

Jubilee Sunday

Events will be advertised as more activities and timings are confirmed. Our biggest event is the Sunday Lunch on 5th June. This will follow a 10 am parish service in St Michael's Church where all are welcome to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of dedicated service to our country.

Some details are yet to be confirmed. These will be included in the May parish magazine.

PLEASE LET US KNOW
IF YOU HOPE TO ATTEND

To assist with our planning it would be extremely helpful to know how many people will be coming to lunch. Please email clerkatmpc@gmail.com giving names and the number of people in your party. Jubilee Steering Group



Grand Golden Jubilee Street Party

Norbury Park Farm Sunday 2nd June 2002

Photographs: Ben Tatham



Community Diamond Jubilee Tea Party

Box Hill School Tuesday 5th June 2012

Photographs: Andrew Tatham



Someone had made the wise decision to start the festivities in the McComish Hall so the pouring rain did not dampen the spirits of the large crowd celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Here are just a few photographs which capture the mood of this very jolly party. Clockwise from top left: Brian and Judy Wilcox in the red, white and blue parade; some of the entries in the best crown competition – Paul Brown, Liz Harper, Bernie Bailey, Brian Wilcox and Richard Thomas; Mike Weller poses with our special guest; Paul and Jo Brown lead the red, white and blue parade; David Ireland supervises a marathon pass the parcel game; Jo Brown leads the parade of children wearing their crowns; winner of the children's best crown competition, Zoë Burton.

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Mickleham & Westhumble Local History Group

Mickleham School

The War Years 1939-1946 from the School Log

It just happened that when I reached the year 1939 in my reading of the School Logs that the Russian invasion of Ukraine began. The job of the head, William Curtis Johnson, is merely to record events in the life of the school so he does not look at the wider scene nor seek to engage our sympathies. Nevertheless we are more than capable of filling in these for ourselves.

The Second World War was declared on 3rd September and on the 11th the autumn term began. William Johnson writes that they opened 'under emergency conditions'. The surprise was that children from three London schools plus evacuees were also expected to be accommodated, 220 in all. Arrangements were hastily made to organise Mickleham school sessions from 9 am-12 pm, while Dulwich Central School had the 1-4 pm session. London County Council would provide one extra teacher. Grove Vale School and Dog Kennel Hill School were to use the village hall on a double shift. It was decided that the afternoons were to be given over to walks and games in three groups, activities that were highly weather dependent, so often abandoned, as the winter of 1940 was severe with deep snow and hard frosts. Charabancs often could not cope with the journey from Box Hill and overall attendance might be halved. In addition, scarlet fever and measles were taking their toll.

In May 1940 the decision was made to amalgamate and classes were reorganised to incorporate 24 children from the three London schools that had been evacuated. I assume the rest had returned home, but preparations for invasion continued. An air raid drill was held on 31st May when the school closed and all the children were out and under cover of the woods in four and a half minutes. Gas mask drills followed. Air raid warnings are reported for the first time in July and are taking place in earnest in August and September, some short-lived but often more than twice in one day. Some were much longer and children were held in school past normal school hours. Night air raids, not unsurprisingly, were common, using the

geography of the Mole Gap as a direct route to London. Attendance fell as parents kept their offspring at home to catch up on their sleep. Autumn that year was particularly bad with constant raids lasting up to seven hours and continuous raids all day; 'very close to here today', and on the 9th November gunfire was heard. The bombardment was so constant on some days that children were held in school until 4.30 pm and taken home in parties. In spite of this, an end of term Christmas party was held with sweets, an orange and a present for each, the infants enjoying wearing fancy dress.

1941 saw wintry weather with heavy snow in February. Often the charabanc from Box Hill failed to arrive and might be replaced by a lorry, which was not popular. On several occasions children chose to walk. The W.I. organised the showing of a Ministry of Information film at the village hall. In July there were 130 children on roll, 52 from Box Hill, and measles was prevalent. No raids are mentioned but gas mask drill was taking place. The winter of 1942 was even more severe with heavy snow and freezing temperatures in January and well into February. Classes were too disrupted by absence to be held according to the timetable, only 29 being present on the 23rd January and no attendance from St Faith's or Box Hill. On 9th February, with 91 children attending, there was no fuel, nor on the next day, but a 'lorry did finally arrive at 6.30 and damaged the playground in the process'. Summer saw the School and District sports take place as normal and in the holidays the school was kept open for milk and for those whose parents wished for them to attend although few took up the offer of school, and only a dozen for milk.

The start of the new term in September saw four girls moving on to Leatherhead Central School and three boys leaving to take up scholarships. The school attended St. Michael's for a National Service of Prayer and the canteen opened in the village hall for the first time, serving 59 dinners. Until then, only children who went home would have had a hot meal. Towards the end

of the year there was a resumption of air raid alerts, gunfire was heard and a very low-flying aircraft flew overhead. 1943 saw fewer air raid warnings but a talk by the ARP on bombs where the children were shown specimens and warned not to approach. £7 was saved for 'Wings for Victory' by the children and school attendance was much improved. The 1944 log records the collection of 1500 books and magazines for salvage and donations to the Red Cross Fund. On June 15th an air raid warning sounded at 11.40 pm and the alert was not cleared until 11.15 am the next day. On 18th June, a pilotless plane fell in Norbury Park but there was no damage to the school except for 'very little glass left'. Luckily, it was a Sunday. The following two weeks were very active, with repeated warnings during the day and very noisy nights, culminating in a flying bomb going directly over the school and landing in Leatherhead. July saw further alerts with flying bombs frequently passing over night and day; one burst over Foxbury but only broke two windows. The school did not open until mid-August (earlier than we do today but to coincide with harvest). There was damage to the school during the holidays and there was some further movement of evacuees, returning both inwards and outwards.

1945 was another severe winter with drifts on Box Hill but by this time the action had moved to Europe, and on 8th May VE Day was declared VE Day and on November 22nd the school was closed for VJ Day.

Just to mop up odds and ends, in January 1946 the Kinsmen Club of Canada gave chocolate flavoured milk powder, 1lb to be distributed to each child and some to the canteen for puddings! Not until 1947 did the school have a telephone installed and it was 1948 before PC Saunders gave his talk on finding dangerous explosives.

That is the last entry in the log but this is just one tiny part of both a local and global story. We did not see these scenes on television but I think perhaps we understand more now of the suffering then. Judy Kinloch



Dog Walkers Can Help Farmers

As residents we are aware of how lucky we are to live in such wonderful countryside – an area of outstanding natural beauty (ANOB) – which has been fashioned largely because of farming. Countryside access has been a welcome reprieve for many over the past two years. However, the huge increase in visitors has had a significant knock-on effect for local farmers.

What many people do not realise is that a field in the countryside is not just an area of grass – parkland – but a crop. It is easier to see a field as a 'working' area when sheep or cattle are grazing, less so when the field is empty. While in urban and public access areas such as parks, most dog owners are aware of their social responsibility to protect children and other members of the public by collecting their dog's poo – there is also a fine for not doing so. However, many do not see the need in open countryside – after all, nobody clears up after cattle, sheep or horses, do they?

Neospora caninum affects cattle, sheep and horses and is one of the biggest causes of abortions and stillbirths in cattle. There is currently no vaccine or any licensed drug for bovine neosporosis: prevention is key. Dogs are the definitive host for *Neospora caninum* and the parasite is transmitted

into the environment through their poo. Even if a dog is healthy and up-to-date with vaccinations, it can still carry *Neospora caninum* without its owners knowing. Alarming *Neospora Caninum* can survive outdoors in the soil and water for many months, long after the dog poo has decomposed. If a cow comes into contact with the contaminated grass either through grazing or when the grass is harvested for silage or hay, it will infect that cow for life. Furthermore, there is an extremely high risk that when the infected cow becomes pregnant, she will abort the calf or it will be born with neurological problems. A farmer raising cattle for either the meat or dairy industry relies on a breeding herd, but once *Neospora caninum* is in the herd it is very difficult to eliminate. Animals are a farmer's livelihood, but *Neospora caninum* causes an exponential downward spiral in the farmer's asset by drastically reducing not only the number of calves born, but the need to cull the infected cow.

There has been a huge upsurge in dog ownership since the first lockdown in 2020 and the government and local councils are also encouraging greater accessibility to the countryside. The government has recently launched a new and refreshed Countryside Code (CC) to help people enjoy the countryside in a safe and respectful way. Clearer rules have been introduced to underline the importance of clearing

away dog poo as well as staying on footpaths. Local farmers who have public access across their fields are particularly struggling with dog walkers and walkers. Local farmer, Mark Frost, at Norbury Park Farm speaks about the devastating effects in the following YouTube video: Devastating impact on our countryside available at [tinyurl.com/22mdc458](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tinyurl.com/22mdc458)

The CC states that walkers, including their dogs, should stay on marked footpaths, even if they are muddy, to protect crops and wildlife and dog walkers must take their dog poo home and use their own bin if there are no public waste bins. There are some effective dog poo-bag pouches available that can be clipped to a belt or rucksack (The Dicky Bag @ Hills & Hound). We, as local dog walkers, have a unique opportunity to demonstrate to visiting dog walkers their responsibility whilst crossing farmland.

Farmers work so hard throughout the year to produce local food and care for this wonderful landscape, and it would be so sad not to see livestock in our surrounding fields or be denied access through them. Let's show our appreciation by keeping to footpaths, keeping dogs on leads around livestock and picking up our dog's poo which can be especially devastating to cattle. Bag it, take it, bin it.

The updated Countryside Code 2021: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>
Mandy Jillings



Storm Eunice on 18th February caused powercuts and cancelled meetings. Numerous trees lost branches or were blown down. One of the victims was the village hall car park fence shown here before and after it was skilfully repaired by David Kennington and Tony Butler.

Just Bring Yourself

On 15th February Mickleham welcomed a group of primary school children to participate on a walk in the nocturnal woods. Funding by a generous local donor was provided to Just Bring Yourself CIC to conduct the event. Undeterred by very wet conditions the children took off in the dark into Mickleham Woods with guides and teaching staff. While they were busy learning about woodland clues and enjoying the stunning architectural tree formations, the village hall was being transformed into the 'Moon Café.' It continued the night time theme and included a soundscape of the English woodland. Returning from their walk, the children hurriedly informed us that they had not been afraid because they had 'special torches.'



The teaching staff who drove them home wrote to tell us the children were 'buzzing' all the way home and the Headteacher wrote to thank us 'for the wonderful opportunity our children had to participate in this exciting walk. They thoroughly enjoyed it and I am so pleased that they got so much out of it.'

Allowing children to experience the countryside is something most of us take for granted. Being outdoors running, investigating and being connected with nature is so important for good physical and mental well-being. Sadly, not all children will have this opportunity. If you would like to donate or help with our events, please get in touch – email us at hello@justbringyourself.co.uk

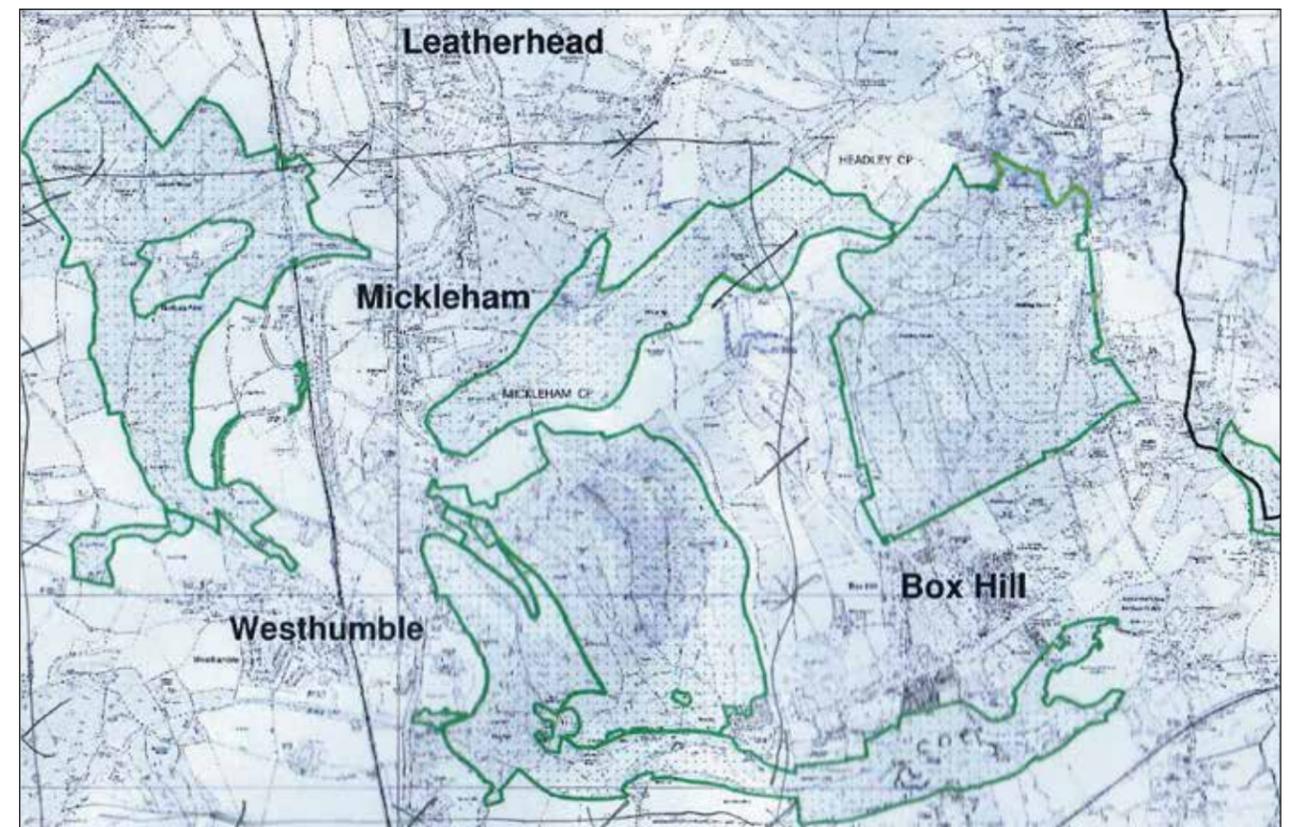
Next up – we look forward to meeting 90 children from another primary school at the end of March in Norbury



Park. An exciting day that will provide the children with nuggets of fun information about cow pats, rivers, woodland plants and farm animals (with more poo!) led by three wonderful guides from Just Bring Yourself and features local farmer Nick Bullen. If you see us out, do say hello.

Kirsten and Francesca

Our local areas of Special Site of Scientific Interest' (SSSI)



Large parts of Norbury Park, Mickleham Downs and Box Hill are part of the 'Mole Gap to Reigate Escarpment Special Site of Scientific Interest' (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). This important site covers much of Norbury Park, Mickleham Downs and Box Hill as shown on the map. It is important that in this area people keep to authorised footpaths and bridleways and do not make new tracks. If people wish to know more about the SSSI, you can look it up online using the official title in the first sentence above.

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Dear neighbours & friends

I am very sad to report the end of an era. Tony Smith has decided it is time to retire; his last shift being Mothers Day. I recruited Tony some nine years ago just a few months after we bought the King Willy. Tony has been by my side through thick and thin for all that time and we have shared the same highs and lows. He has been instrumental in the success here at the King William and is a very popular staff member. Customers and staff alike will miss his good humour and banter. We are having some drinks after his last shift to see him on his way. Tony is going to take a part-time job in his local community club, but has offered to help us out on the occasional Sunday if need-be, so if you were unable to say cheerio, there will be future occasions to do so. Thanks Tony you will be missed. All the best Eamonn & Anne

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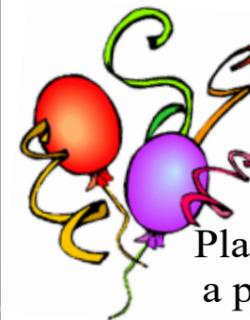
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Continued from page 13

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Maisy Presley* 07720 657327
Martha Pearce 07514 080005
Rory Lee ** 07973 360 950
Ellie Kim 07773 395 575
Chelsea Edwards 07834 695816
Edward Moran 07740 088124

- * Holidays only
** Parent's mobile number

If you would like to add your
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All good things must come to an end ...

After much soul searching, I have decided to retire from the magazine at the end of the year. It has been a big part of my life for the last 38 years and it will be a big wrench. But time moves on and I thought it only fair to give sufficient notice so that there can be a smooth hand over. However, none of the existing editorial team is willing to take on the sole editorship. Perhaps it is time to think about a

different format. Whatever happens my great hope is that it will continue as a community magazine. Throughout the years one of my aims has been to make a record of the social history of our parish. With much of today's communication disappearing into the ether and the dearth of local news in our newspapers such records will be vital sources for future historians.

Sue Tatham

Village Signs



As part of the preparations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, it has been suggested that the Millennium signs at the boundaries of Mickleham and Westhumble should be given a spring make over. An initial survey has identified that some of the wood frames are rotten and on the Mickleham signs, the letters are coming loose. In addition, all the metal work needs a rub down and repaint. The outline plan is to lift

the tops off and take them away for renovation. This first part is in hand, but I am now seeking volunteers to help to carry out the refurbishment activities. The current working assumption is that it should be relatively straight forward, but I would welcome input from anyone with relevant expertise.

If you would like to help, please contact me jim@flintcottage.net or 07789176417
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Community News

Congratulations to Tracy and David Kennington of Headley Lane on the birth of a second grandson: Felix Thomas Kennington Billington. Born on 4th March (six weeks early) to daughter Clare and Pete Billington who was on tour in the USA at the time. A brother for Henry. Felix now home safe and sound after a week in a Special Care Baby Unit.

Welcome to:
• Francesca and Leon Douch who with Lili (11), Charlie (8) and Ophelia (18 months) are moving to Old London Road from Bookham

• Leanne and Oliver Dodd and son Isaac (5) who have moved to Dell Close from Dorking

• Phil and Stella Ellams who have moved to School Lane from Walton-on-the-Hill.

Please let us know if you have any community news eg a new baby, if you have just moved to the area, or are about to leave. editor@micklehammag.co.uk is the contact.



God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell



Memorial Easter Lilies

As in past years the main floral arrangement in church on Easter Sunday will be lilies given in memory of someone dear. Their name will be read out during the service. If you would like to dedicate a lily this Easter and arrange a donation, please contact Sarah Blake SarahJB1@outlook.com

What is your carbon footprint?

The theme of this year's Lent course is 'Caring for Creation'. In one of the sessions we looked at global warming and climate change. One of the things which came to light was that carbon footprint calculators are available online. www.footprint.wwf.org.uk has a simple questionnaire to start you off.

Brockham Choral, celebrating their 70th anniversary, present J S BACH'S

ST MATTHEW PASSION

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Can you translate this diagram into words? Say what you see.

LAW on

Answer on page 26

Mickleham & Westhumble Horticultural Society's Summer Show

Saturday 9th July

Schedules will be delivered with next month's MPM

With lots of time to prepare let's make this a bumper year!



LEITH HILL MUSIC FESTIVAL

DORKING HALLS 2022

Friday 8th April at 7.30pm

Mass in C by Beethoven
The Song of Mary by Jonathan Willcocks
Let all the world in every corner sing by Vaughan Williams

Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm

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Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society

AGM and Plant Sale

Saturday 23rd April 10.30 am
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There will be teas/coffees and cakes to go with an interesting selection of plants at very reasonable prices. Advice on the best location for planting and how to encourage your purchases to flourish will be readily available.

The garden at Ashleigh Grange is lovely with superb views out over Chapel Farm and the North Downs, a great venue to hold the AGM and start the horticultural year.



We will be asking for the annual subscriptions shortly which will be set at £5 per household. We hope many of you will join.

Garden Shed's Apple Tree Pruning Workshop

Meeting at Chapel Farm, we joined Alex Valsecchi, consultant in fruit culture, viticulture and general horticulture for a practical step-by-step guide to pruning apple trees.

After a brief presentation where Alex discussed why, when and how to prune these fruit trees, she provided a practical demonstration on a long established tree. Then with kind permission of Liz and John Absalom, attendees were let loose to practise their skills on some of the younger fruit trees with guidance and advice from Alex.

Many of the principals shared by Alex can also be applied to other fruit trees and bushes including pears, gooseberries and blackcurrants. Some of the golden rules include:

- Use clean sharp secateurs and a pruning saw; blunt tools cause tatty cuts and increase the risk of disease
- Prune when the tree is dormant usually between November and early March when the structure of the tree is visible
- Aim to achieve an open goblet shape with a framework of four to five main branches to encourage light and air to circulate
- Start by removing crossing, rubbing, weak, dead, diseased, damaged and dying branches
- Neglected trees should be shaped over two to three years as over-pruning encourages lots of new, non-productive growth

• Cut to the main stem or trunk, making the cut immediately outside the 'collar', visible as a distinct bulge where the branch joins the trunk or main stem

• On younger trees, reduce the length of main branches by about a third, making a downward angled cut to a good, outward-facing bud, to prevent rain pooling on it

• Create a vegetation free area beneath the tree of 60-90 cm radius, prior to mulching and applying fertiliser

The advice from Alex was not to be daunted and do not be afraid to have a go. If you stick with the basic rule to prune out dead, damaged or diseased wood and follow the principles above you can't go far wrong. Cathy Lee



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Any questions: Pauline Davis 07759 646353 paulinemdavis@gmail.com

Susie Gowenlock 07768 923088 susiegowenlock@gmail.com Cathy Lee 07500 767240 cplee1603@gmail.com



February 25th was the night we were all waiting for: our winter training session at the wonderful *King William IV*. We were gloriously looked after by Bella and her team and the food was delicious.

Opening the batting was soup, calamari and chicken goujons delicious. The middle order did not disappoint with rump steak, chicken skewers and fish and chips crowding the table of 25. Then the tail wagged with sticky toffee pudding and crumble.

When Pank Patel arrived after searching *The Running Horses* for cricketers,



Mickleham & Westhumble
Local History Group

Visit to Juniper Hill

Wednesday 15th June

We will meet outside the house for a prompt 2.30 pm start. Booking is essential as numbers are limited to 20. Priority will be given to members who missed our first visit to Juniper Hill until **Wednesday 20th April**. Other members and non-members who would like to come can register their interest in the visit now. The event is free for members, £3 for non-members.

To reserve a place or for further information please contact Judith Long: judith.long2@btinternet.com or 07904 160961

Cricket Dinner

Chris opened the innings. Will Dennis provided an update on the coffers explaining that after supporting his skiing trip we have no more money.

Kevin Walker never one for keeping quiet spoke eloquently about the past season. Lavishing Chris and fellow players with extraordinary accolades, desperately trying one last time to get in the prizes. Notable mention was made of our new players, Justin, Aaron, Martin and Ivan. We remembered the charming gentleman Don, our captains wonderful father and support of MCC who passed away last season.

There were some memorable moments reflected on: Justin's fabulous batting; Ali's tremendous four wickets in one innings; and Michel's ferocious six hitting and fast bowling.

There were thanks and flowers for Mrs P, our wonderful scorer, Annie for keeping a watch on our treasurer and Alex for being such a tremendous hostess on the tour to the New Forest.

Mark Day was presented with a lovely book to say thanks for keeping the Jebonator away from umpiring.

It was then time for the prizes. Justin won the batting prize with an amazing average of 118. Giles's fantastic wicket keeping took the fielding prize and Kevin the bowling prize for his 10 wickets. Most improved player was Theo Dudley with Greg playing a key mentoring role in his development and Ali won the champagne moment for his 4 wickets. Overseas player went to Nick P and then the final and most important prize Players Player went to Michel.

This was a great way for the evening to end and we look forward to a wonderful season this year. We will be back at Box Hill School playing fields, usually on a Sunday afternoon, so please come down and support us. New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us please contact Chris Presley chris@thedecorcentre.co.uk

Kevin Walker

A New Look at Drain Covers

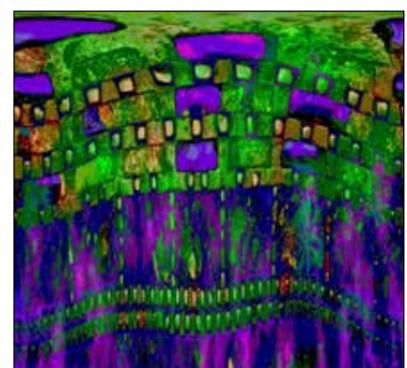
In the December 2021 edition Barbara Jones wrote about her interest in drain covers from the point of view of their place in the history of the building of the Westhumble estate.

I often look at drain covers and other similar street furniture but for quite a different reason. They are seldom plain, they have dots or other shapes to give them some texture. I like the patterns and I wonder who chooses them. I take photos, then play with the image in Photoshop. The intention is to provide inspiration for textile art. The photographs show a drain cover before and after Photoshop treatment. I have yet to decide how to interpret the latter in stitch.

I believe Jeremy Corbyn also takes an interest in drain covers. I suspect his interest is in the industrial history rather than the potential for artistic inspiration. However, you never know. Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trades Union Council in the eighties, was a keen embroiderer.

Charlotte Daruwalla

Photographs: Charlotte Daruwalla



Seeing Art In Nature

Photograph: Andrew Tatham



Reflection (the 11th day)

Since early in the pandemic, I have been out walking with my camera looking for pictures to lift my friends and family. I have been looking for beauty, curiosities, visual jokes and images that provoke contemplation – and always aiming for something new that doesn't exactly repeat what has gone before. Most of these pictures have been taken on the same few routes that I walk from my house in North Norfolk. Many times I start my walks thinking it is unlikely I will see anything new or worth pointing my camera at. I am surrounded by big farmers' fields not blessed with more than gentle undulation and there can be a lot of brownness and greyness in the wintertime. Even so I am commonly surprised by the fantastic things that I am presented with if only I make the effort to look.

Often I walk towards the end of the day to take advantage of the changing light with its colours and many surprises, but on Sunday 6th March I fancied some stronger sun and headed out into a chill mid-afternoon of blue sky and fast-moving clouds. At one point I turned back towards the sun and thought I saw the potential for a beautiful traditional landscape photograph. The only problem was that the big fat orb was shining directly at me and was just too bright. Even with clouds starting to move across it, there was an area of flat ugly whiteness defacing the pictures. And then a huge cloud entirely covered the sun and all went dull. I walked home frustrated. I had seen the seed of a great picture and been thwarted.

Still, there had been a picture from earlier in the walk that I had been happy to share with my friends so never mind. I had supper, watched a film and then at 10 o'clock I thought would have another look through all that day's pictures, and came to realise that there was something worth rescuing. By concentrating on the sun I had been missing the picture that was there, and it was much more interesting

to me than the traditional landscape I had been aiming for. I love its feeling of abstract painteriness and that it has some kind of spirit despite only being made of earth and water and light. I love that it is the living embodiment of 'seek and ye shall find' and that things will be revealed if you but cast off the blinkers from your eyes. And all it took was removal of the sun (I'm happy to report that it returned the next day).

Andrew Tatham



Scenes from the skittles evening

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Cryptic Delicacies



Last month's puzzle was roughly themed around **TOY STORY**, with various references to that film even if they weren't explicitly linked together. These were **WOODY** (the lead cowboy toy voiced by Tom **HANKS**), Buzz **LIGHTYEAR**, **MISTER POTATO HEAD** and **SLINKY**. Even without including Mr Lightyear's first name, it was still a nightmare to set up a grid fitting all those names, and the need to write the resulting 36 clues including a lot of very short words, has made me think about the need for a change in tactics when selecting themes.

Here are some of the clues worked out, with definitions underlined:

9 Cockney asking if he would sound as dense as a post (5)

WOODY

If you ask 'if he would...', you would say 'Would he...?' or in Cockney, 'Would 'e...?' which sounds like **WOODY**

25 Mummy's boy is involved in Nazi organisation trickery on the eastern border (5)

SISSY

'is involved in Nazi organisation' = **IS** put in **SS** (for Schutzstaffel, which directly translates from the German as 'Protective Echelon') = **S-IS-S**, 'trickerY on the eastern border' = **Y**

2 Walkers make lots of use of this motion to ingest a load of tasteless rubbish (6)

POTATO

'motion' = **POO** takes in 'a load of tasteless rubbish' = **TAT**. Walkers, of course, make very tasty rubbish promoted by an ex-footballer. It's always a good idea to have a think whether the first word of a clue could be a proper noun, as of course it is capitalised as the first word of a sentence so that you can't see whether it would have been capitalised anyway as a name.

1 Chews noisily when turning round pen (4)

SWAN

'Chews' = gnaws, the noise of which sounds like **NAWS**, turned round to give **SWAN** = 'pen', a female swan.

3 In Chitty Chitty Bang Bang was Richard briefly with vehicle in front of this earthwork? (4)

DYKE

'Richard briefly' = **Dick**, 'vehicle' = **van**, and those come before **DYKE** as someone who was in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, playing the eccentric inventor Caractacus Potts. The film was based on a book by Ian Fleming, with one of the screenwriters being Roald Dahl (who in an unintentional coincidence also appears in this puzzle).

20 Loud argument is what is rotten at the heart of London (3)

ROW

Rotten Row runs along the south side of Hyde Park, and was created in 1690 so that King William III could negotiate more safely the route between St James's Palace and his new home of Kensington Palace. The park at that time was a refuge for highwaymen and 300 oil lamps lit the 1,500 yard-long Route du Roi (or King's Road), its supposed original name later being corrupted to Rotten Row. Amazing to think there has ever been any corruption in London but here is direct evidence (as furnished by the Royal Parks website and one can't hope for a greater source of historical truth than that).

28 Vegetarian dish is the renowned creator of whizzpoppers (4)

DAHL

Roald **DAHL** came up with the word 'whizzpoppers' as a children-friendly word for what are produced if you drink Froboscottle, the green-coloured fizzy drink consumed by the Big Friendly Giant in 'The BFG'. Even if

you didn't know that word (or were too shy to google it), I hoped that its onomatopoeic nature might still conjure up the renowned result of eating curried lentils. And the name of the dish can be spelt 'dal', 'daal', 'dhal' or 'dah' which derives from the Sanskrit verb 'dal' meaning 'to split' with the essential ingredient of the recipes being dried split pulses (and I think 'dah' is an Anglicised misspelling).

8 A pair of rodents (one missing its tail) - I bet there were more of them by this point... (6)

ARARAT

'A' + 2x **RAT**, but one **RAT** has its tail missing, so **A + RA + RAT**. A pair of rats must have been among the animals going two by two onto Noah's Ark. Even if the female rat was not pregnant before embarking, the average gestation period of a rat is 21 to 23 days (with 8 to 18 pups in a litter) so after 40 days and 40 nights afloat, it seems highly unlikely that there were still only two when they reached Mount Ararat (unless of course they had been eaten by weasels, cats or very hungry elephants - which reminds me of a very funny sketch on John Finnemore's Souvenir Programme which postulated the need for several arks in order to feed/protect the different levels of the food chain). Whatever, I accept that this may have been a tricksiness too far.

I hope this helps and it would be great to get any feedback via andrewt@andrewtatham.co.uk Andrew

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Did you know that World Book Day is celebrated in more than 100 countries around the globe, and that next year - 2023 will be the 25th anniversary of World Book Day? It has certainly changed over time, I remember my own children having World Book Day, but it only consisted of receiving a voucher to spend on a book fair at school. Anybody in the village

hall car park on this year's World Book Day would have been met with a vast array of fancy dress costumes, Percy the Park Keeper, Spiderman, Wendy from Peter Pan and a few Gruffalo's being ones I recognised. These were mainly children on their way to St Michael's School for what I imagine was a fun-filled day of storytelling. We had a few nursery children in costumes too, but as we have no uniform regulations, it is not too unusual for us to have a few superheroes or Disney princesses on the carpet in the mornings. At nursery we celebrated World Book day by re-opening our book lending library and spending a week focused on a particular favourite book, Michael Rosen's 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. The nursery was set up with elements from the story, we made 'binoculars' for bear spotting, sorted bears in mud, had mud painting, a swishy grass frame, swirling whirling bubble 'snow' storm

and we came together at the end of the morning's activities by acting out the story in our forest school ending up at the cave with one of our soft toy bears. A particular hit was the mud painting. Thick oozy mud! Children were provided with a tub of soil, some flour gloop, water, pots, spoons and brushes. They really enjoyed creating their own mud paints, exploring the different textures and the opacity levels (we like to introduce new vocabulary) using varying amount of 'ingredients'. Expanding the children's significant interest in this 'recipe' creation, the following week we provided an opportunity to paint a vase of 'Rainbow' tulips, with children mixing their own colours using powder paints. We look forward to seeing more signs of spring, daffodils in our own nursery garden and – woo hoo – we have eggs in the incubator, which should hatch in time for next month's magazine.

Hilary Budd





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Answers to the March crossword

Across: 9 Woody 10 Lightyear 11 Nearest 12 Cheddar 13 Trots 15 Can 16 Hue 17 Yum 19 Omicron 20 Row 23 Spy 24 Pic 25 Sissy 27 Stand-in 29 Atheism 32 Earthiest 33 Ankle

Down: 1 Swan 2 Potato 3 Dyke 4 Clot 5 Egocentric 6 Styx 7 Headgear 8 Ararat 13/14 Toy Story 15 Chimpanzee 16 Hanks 18 Massacre 21 Why 22 Mister 26 Slinky 28 Dahl 29 Arty 30 Head 31 Meek

BRAIN TEASER answer: On the right side of the law

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A very busy time

Shrove Tuesday

The children of St Michael's have had a very busy few weeks. We were lucky enough to have The Rev'd Sandra Faccini come into school in early March to discuss Shrove Tuesday. Sandra explained the importance of this event in the Christian calendar and the children considered what it might be like to live without food for 40 days and nights.

We then held our 'Pancake Café' where the support staff and teachers demonstrated how to make pancakes (some great Maths learning there) and then helped the children make pancakes and of course put them to the taste test. All had a lovely time; the children wished it was Pancake Day every day.

Great Fire of London Day

Our topic this half term is 'Fire' when the children have been learning about the Great Fire of London. We have been making our own houses in DT and the plan is to set them on fire to help the children understand how quickly fire can spread and why houses are built much more safely today.

To immerse the children in the topic, we organised a theatre workshop on the Great Fire of London. This was brilliant and the children thoroughly enjoyed the day. They were incredibly knowledgeable about the events that took place in the Great Fire of London and were able to enhance their learning by taking part in different drama-based activities with the workshop actor. They pretended to be Samuel Pepys, the baker and other characters from this period in history.

As part of the children's art this term, they have been exploring collage. Some children have independently created Great Fire of London collages.

World Book day

For World Book day this year, our theme was 'traditional tales'. The children came to school dressed as their favourite character from a traditional tale of their choice. They moved around the school listening to and engaging in different traditional tales. In the Year 2 classroom, the story was an alternative version of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' – 'Jim and the Beanstalk'. The children thought this was hilarious.



St Michael's
School

stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk/

The following week, a dance company came into school continuing the theme of traditional tales and the children took part in a range of fun activities based around 'The Gingerbread Man'.

Ducklings and spring adventures

In our Early Years classroom, the children have fully immersed themselves in all things 'spring'. They went on a spring walk, where they looked for all the signs of spring and have really involved themselves in much more outdoor play, now that the weather is improving. Mrs Moore and Miss Fox have re-introduced the water tray outside and the children are now measuring and making potions. To enhance the children's understanding and learning of spring, we brought duck eggs into the classroom. We saw them hatch and enjoyed watching them grow and holding them. What a treat for the Ladybird class. Nicola Cleather



Please let the Jubilee Committee know if you plan to attend the grand Jubilee lunch on Sunday 5th June. See page 5.

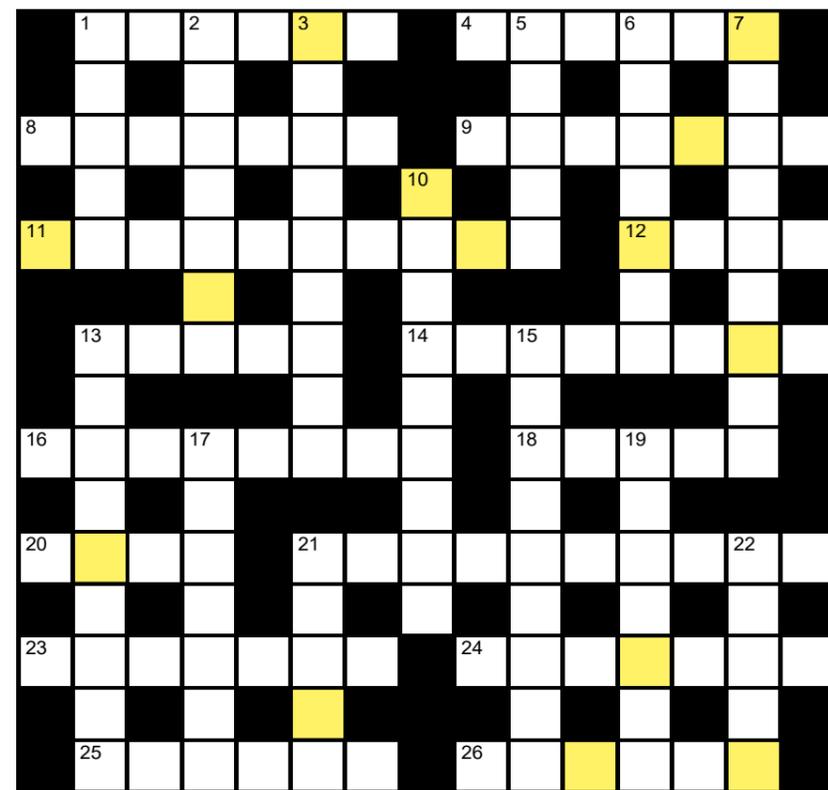


Cryptic Crossword

The golden squares can be made into someone who would become famous for 4 1D, 9, 3, 13D, and 19/=15 (9,5)

ACROSS

- 1 Hung around in suit being exceptionally keen (4,2)
- 4 Pop in to throw scarf at her (6)
- 8 Pay for Covid response at an increased rate (5,2)
- 9 Organisation of care had the appearance of being something it's not (7)
- 11 Could be recent pin-up? (10)
- 12 After cruising round Eddystone starts to make for land (4)
- 13 Deliver broadcast audio authorization (3-2)
- 14 Godfather uses his head to be in the lead before strange blunder (8)
- 16 Sailed to accommodation that is in the middle of nowhere (8)
- 18 Organised disembowelled knights into orders of nobility (5)
- 20 Hot place for Grayson Perry to link up (4)
- 21 Tough manor where characters are beaten up and doleful sounds come from this after a blow in the face (5,5)



- 23 Lickspittles are little morons (not half!) (7)
 - 24 He dared to spin round Queen Elizabeth I as she appeared (7)
 - 25 Firearm shooting backwards to nail hunk (6)
 - 26 Kept sober in audition (6)
- Down
- 1 Canada is associated with this pinch on the buttocks (5)
 - 2 What is occurring once a day but not occurring during the day? (7)
 - 3 Unhappy about shoe floating home (9)
 - 5 This chap hid a black book laden with menace in the garden (5)
 - 6 Sounds like her expressions of sympathy are cheering (7)

- 7 What when put on horse can make it faster but when put on bicycle will make it slower? (9)
- 10 Gordon's bum is beaten with missing skinhead's exotic instrument (5,4)
- 13 Being endlessly sick in soup for the bad gut feeling (9)
- 15 See 19
- 17 Public school has large connection with unrestrained caning (7)
- 19/15 Twenty horns throb balefully on the way from Kyiv to Riga (5,2,9)
- 21 Grinder enables you to make this step like a true queen (5)
- 22 Grant is a legally incompetent person (5)

Andrew Tatham

Photograph: Ben Tatham



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