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Mickleham Parish agazine

November 2019

Mickleham **Parish** Magazine

A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble published under the auspices of Mickleham PCC with an independent editorial panel.

The magazine is published at the beginning of each month except January and August.

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER 2019 MAGAZINE Sunday 10th November

send to:

Sue Tatham St Anthony Pilgrim's Way Westhumble Dorking RH5 6AW 01306 882547 editor@micklehammag.co.uk

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



Printed by Bishops Printers Portsmouth

Dear friends

In addition to the six million Jews who died during World War 2, it is estimated (figures vary) that up to ten million Slav prisoners, three million Russian prisoners of war, many thousands of homosexuals and up to two hundred and fifty thousand people with mental or physical disabilities are believed to have been annihilated by the Nazis. Like many people, I have visited modern day Israel, and whilst there, I spent a day captured by the images and memories at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial where there is an 'eternal flame', a burning torch to remind people never to forget the inhumanity that people can inflict upon one another in the pursuit of imposing their own beliefs.

Mickleham Rectory

There was a particularly poignant moment when I read these words, 'O Lord, remember not only the men and women of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us, remember the fruits we have borne, thanks to this suffering - our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart which has grown out of all this, and when they come to judgement, let all the fruits which we have borne, be their forgiveness.' These words were found on a scrap of paper on the body of a dead child at Ravensbrück Concentration Camp.

Edmund Burke, an Irish politician and writer, once said, 'All it takes for evil to flourish is for good men to do nothing.' When people do nothing all can be lost yet in this period of Remembrance across the planet we find that all is not lost, for within the human heart God has planted the seeds of hope and of resurrection, of a striving to put right what is wrong and to work together for the good of one another. Despite the evil that is still in the world there is so much good, so much desire to help.

The incredible generosity that we see evidenced across the nations in response to the disasters of today's world of financial giving, of aid, of voluntary work, of philanthropic giving, all reflect the desire within us to work for justice and equality, with a willing heart.

On Remembrance Sunday in particular we give thanks to God for the men and women who sacrificed so much in the defence of what is good and right, to defend freedom, those who fought and those who continue to stand against evil on our behalf. God is a God of peace and in the midst of all suffering and violence He is there, with those whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war, or those whose nights are haunted by memories too painful for the light of day.

In the Bible we read 'And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 4:7).

For each one of us this year, may we pledge ourselves to do our utmost in our daily lives to work for justice and a harvest of peace for all people, the peace of God that sustains, the peace of God that saves us, the peace of God that passes all understanding. May we never despair, never give in to evil and never doubt that God always desires for us a fullness and joyfulness of life.

Every blessing.



The Reverend Canon John Harkin, Mickleham Parish Priest



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Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 15th December St Michael's Church 6.30 pm

As in past years additional singers are invited to sing with the church choir. Rehearsals start in church on Sunday 24th November at 4 pm

and will continue for the following two Sundays with a brief one before the service on the 15th.



Advent Course

This year our Advent Course will use the book 'Cover to Cover – Journey to Christmas' written by a team from 24-7 Prayer, to help us on our journey through the month of December, travelling with our hearts, minds and souls.

Group members will need to book a place on the course and follow individual daily readings from the book. The readings begin on Advent Sunday 1st December, and each day will include a short time of stillness, reading a Bible passage, reflecting on it and surrendering ourselves to God's will in our lives.

We will meet on December Monday evenings from 7.30pm at the Rectory to discuss and pray about:

- 2nd Journeying with Elizabeth and
- 9th Journeying with Mary
- 16th Journeying with Joseph
- 23rd Journeying to Jesus

To ensure your place for our evenings, as we journey towards the celebration of Christ's birth together, please contact Canon John and Sue on 01372 378335 or harkin12@btinternet.com

Canon John and Sue



Shoebox Sunday 3rd November

We are once more collecting shoeboxes filled with appropriate goods to brighten the lives of children living in countries where such presents would otherwise never be received. Your simple act of generosity gives hope to children caught in the midst of wars, natural disasters and extreme poverty and shows them they are not forgotten.

Leaflets are available at the church and St Michael's School. If you are unable to fill a shoebox but would like to support the work of the charity, the leaflet contains an envelope in which donations can be placed.

Filled boxes should be returned to the church or the Rectory or brought to the 10 am service at St Michael's on 3rd November

Mickleham Parish Magazine 'Christmas Card'

As in past years readers who would like to send Christmas greetings to their local friends by way of the magazine and donate the money saved on cards and postage to charity should contact Sue Tatham. 01306 882547 editor@micklehammag.co.uk

The copy deadline for the December magazine is Sunday 10th November.

The charge is £5 per person (£10 per couple) but if you would like to give more, that would be great. Proceeds this year will go to St Michael's C of E Infant School and St Michael's Community Nursery



During your preparations for the coming festive season, spare a thought for those whose Christmas fare may be sadly wanting. Items for the food back may be left at the back of the church

MICKLEHAM CELEBRATES **HARVEST**

aturday in the village hall the evening **J**before Harvest Festival, it has to be the Harvest Supper and Quiz Night. The hall was especially attractive as Kayleigh and Jacob who were married the previous Saturday had kindly left their decorations including Chinese lanterns hanging from the ceiling, well mostly tied to the supports to the overhead heater, so do not tell the Health and Safety police.

The quiz started off with an impossibly difficult picture round of Name the Celebrity, difficult that is for anyone born before 1985. My favourite question was from the Guess the Movie round where all answers were the names of a film. The clue was: Place for wildlife with convenience (not the exact wording, but after a glass or two of wine ...). To find the answer you need to read on.

After the General Knowledge and Pot Luck rounds, we had our main course. Thanks to all our main course chefs, the food was delicious. A couple more rounds then we had pudding. Thanks to our dessert chefs as we had no fewer than NINE to choose from. Feeling totally stuffed after all those

calories, teams began to think about playing their jokers, the quiz answers were beginning to rely a little more on lucky guesses. What country does Red Stripe beer come from? There was a frantic brain search of country flags that were either red or had stripes, preferably both and we guessed Russia. The answer was ... Jamaica! (I do not think there is either red or stripe on the Jamaican flag.) Our team played their joker on the Food and Drink round and after the first question concluded that this was a mistake. The music round was interesting, well done to Justin, our guiz master, as he played the number 1 single on 5th October (the date of this year's Harvest Supper) in each decade from the 1950s onwards. The final question in the Music round was, What is the best-selling single EVER? Any ideas? Give you a clue? Year was 1997. The answer ... Elton John's reworking of 'Candle in the Wind' for Princess Diana. By the way the answer to the earlier film question is Zulu (zoo – loo). Clever. The raffle was called while quiz numbers were totalled to obtain the winner. The result was close with two teams in joint



Beverley Mehta's lovely Harvest Festiva flower arrangement in St Michael's

second place then a slight gap for the winning Shuttlecocks team. We could not help but notice that they had ten members at least including Kayleigh and Jacob (who we all thought were still on honeymoon). The winners were forgiven for cheating as their prize of a large box of chocolates was shared around with everyone.

It was a fun. fulfilling evening, so thanks again to all the cooks, the flower arrangers, the bartenders, the kitchen washer-uppers, the setter-uppers and taker-downers, Jonathan for PA and bravely going up the ladder, Justin, our quiz master, Alison, as ever, and Sarah. Very well done to you all.

Stephanie Randall

Children's Workshop and Harvest Festival Service in Church





On the morning of Sunday 6th October children, parents and carers enjoyed making festive handicrafts in St Michael's School Hall and then walked to the church for the Harvest Festival Service where they sang two songs led by Mrs Peers, Head of School. Pupils from Box Hill School were also present.

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Christmas Eve Crib Service

The Crib Service, which takes place on Christmas Eve in the 'Bonfire Field'

in Westhumble, is a very popular family event, attracting about 100 people last year. We start at 4 p.m. at the junction of Adlers Lane and Chapel Lane, before processing to the field led by the star. There are readings and carols along the way, which help to tell the story.

Once again, we would like as many children as possible to take part, either as readers or the 'cast'. We need all the main characters as well as a bevy of angels, flocks of shepherds and an impressive train of wise men with their attendants. Adults are welcome to dress up as well, especially if you are a frustrated shepherd or a 'very wise man'! There will be hot drinks afterwards.

If you haven't been before, it is a truly wonderful event which reminds us, in the midst of the hurly-burly of present wrapping, potato peeling and last minute panics, that what we are celebrating is the birth of a baby, Jesus, in a crude stable, to a young girl and her husband whose hearts must have ached with love and fear in equal measure.

Further details will appear in next month's magazine, but if you would like to take part, or help in any way, please get in touch with me as soon as you can.

It is not a ticketed event, and all are welcome, there is plenty of space in the field, but please wear suitable warm clothing – thermals under the angel costumes is a good idea. Anne Weaver

01306 883932

The Christmas Café returns to (the newly refurbished)

Westhumble Chapel Saturday 14th December 2 to 4 pm

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Friends of St Michael's School Tree Sale High quality trees available in a variety of sizes. Details on page 26 Friendsofstmichaels2017@



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Carol singing in the Chapel ruins, Chapel Lane, Westhumble

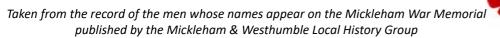
Tuesday 17th December 6.30 p.m.

Carol Singing Pub Crawl Friday 20st December

7.15 pm Stepping Stones The Running Horses 8.45 pm King William IV

More details in December magazine

LEST WE FORGET



SERGEANT DENNIS BARBER

1354869 No. 9 Squadron Bomber Command RAF Volunteer Reserve

Died 1st May 1943, aged 22 over Germany

Dennis Barber was born on 10th July 1920 at Kilverstone, Thetford, Norfolk, His father, Herbert John Barber (1886-1970) was a blacksmith who married three times. Dennis' mother, Dorothy May Grant, was Herbert's second wife. Dennis had six siblings/ half-siblings, several of his children were known by nicknames instead of their actual given names (very confusing for our researchers). In 1922 the entire family moved to Cowslip Cottages in Norbury Park which must have been very cramped as there were only two bedrooms. By the time Herbert opened

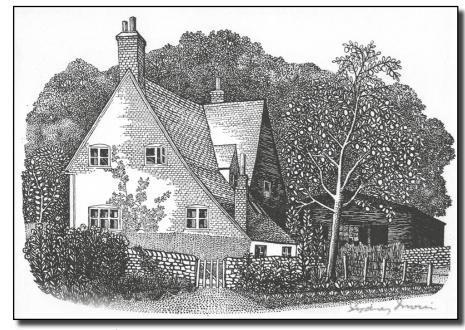
an independent smithy at Norbury Farm in 1927 the family had moved to Lovedon Cottage, Westhumble. Herbert made the cross on the Westhumble Chapel of Ease and is said to have made candlesticks for Canterbury Cathedral. By all accounts he was quite a character and a great storyteller.

Dennis attended Mickleham School from 1925 to 1933 when he was awarded a Junior Technical Scholarship. Dennis' sister was told he joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve after his brother, Bill, became a prisoner of war. By 1943 Dennis was a rear gunner in



No. 9 Squadron Bomber Command. During WW2 the squadron was based initially at Honington, between Bury St Edmunds and Thetford, before moving to Waddington, near Lincoln, in August 1942. In April 1943 the squadron moved again to a nearby RAF base at Bardney. Dennis and six other crew members died when their Lancaster bomber was lost on a bombing raid to Essen on 1st May 1943. His plane was the first to be lost from Bardney and the crew members are all commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.

Dennis' brother Bill (christened Herbert George) an auto mechanic lived in Lovedon Cottage after his father died, and is still remembered in Mickleham and Westhumble today.



Drawing of Lovedon Cottage circa 1970 by local artist Sydney Irwin

Remembrance Sunday 10th November

The Service of Remembrance will start in St Michael's at 10 am culminating with the traditional commemoration at the War Memorial.



The Headmaster and Governors of Box Hill School have kindly invited those attending the Remembrance Service to coffee at Dalewood following the service.





Whether it is the time of the day or the time in someone's life many composers have celebrated this special time.

From Mendelssohn's 'Hear my Prayer' to gorgeous pieces by Brahms, Sullivan, Assersohn, Orwain Park and Myers the music will suit the occasion.

Mickleham Choral Society Anna Leon Soprano Conductor – Juliet Hornby



SUNDAY 10th November 7 PM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MICKLEHAM

Tickets £10 from Anne Weaver 01306 883932 Secretary@micklehamchoral.org.uk

Mickleham Parish Council

The September meeting of the Parish Council was addressed by Alison Vernon, Director of Communications and Development at Box Hill School, who outlined plans to transform the old art centre into a new Creative Hub. The Art and Fashion and Textiles departments are currently housed in two very old blocks which are in need of a complete overhaul. The Creative Hub will be constructed in the same footprint of the existing buildings which will be transformed into flexible and adaptive space with four new large, light-filled classrooms.

Space will be provided for fashion and textile design, film and digital photography, fine art and graphic design, screen printing and much more. These subjects will be supported by a digital library, a darkroom, a

managed storage area, a wet room and kiln area.

The School wants to further its good relationship with the local community by offering opportunities to that community outside school hours. Facilities will be shared, and exhibition space provided.

However. Alison said the project could only go ahead if the school could raise the necessary funds. A total of £2 million was being sought - half for the Creative Hub itself and half for the Sustainability Fund. The latter will provide for a resident artist as well as a Hub Manager.

Anyone wishing to support the venture, by a donation or legacy, should make contact via an email to alison.vernon@ boxhillschool.com

The Parish Council has agreed to ioin a new MVDC initiative aimed at reducing disposable plastic. It calls on local businesses and shops – anywhere where there is a tap - to take part in the Refill scheme whereby walkers or cyclists can fill their water bottles free of charge. Councillors felt that The Running Horses and the Burford Bridge Hotel, for example, could be asked to join the scheme.

Another proposed MVDC scheme, with the colourful title of 'Don't be a Tosser', is aimed at motorists who discard litter from a vehicle with the warning that they could face a fine. If adopted by the District Council, Mickleham Parish Councillors said they would actively support it.

Trevor Haylett, Clerk

Rare White Mole found in Mickleham

White moles are also called leucistic or golden moles and are rare with an estimate incidence of 1:100,000. They are not albino moles but carry a recessive gene affecting the coat colour. Moles sometimes travel overground at night and a white coat is a considerable disadvantage. This is because they are vulnerable to predators such as owls who can easily spot and devour them. Hence the deleterious gene is removed by

natural selection and the white mole remains rare and the normal black mole is common.

This particular mole was spotted crossing the garden of Mickleham Hall by the light of the moon. Leaving a dish of fresh earthworms outside its molehill we were able to tempt the mole out long enough to take this photograph. Folklore says that if you see a white mole it will foretell your death.

John (maybe doomed) Lowes





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This year the format for the day represented a substantial departure from the past. The Mickleham Heritage Trail embraced St Michael's School (see page 11), St Michael's Church, Box Hill School and The Running Horses.

Box Hill School offered escorted tours of Dalewood house and kindly lent its lawn for other activities including children's face painting, a musical interlude performed by the Mickleham Choral Society, a concert provided by the Swan Handbell Ringers. The weather was blissful; fare in the form

Mickleham's Heritage

of a Hog Roast was served by staff of The Running Horses. An early evening 'Time for Bed' discotheque ended the

At St Michael's Church David Fishwick performed an organ recital (see below), followed by children's church bell ringing. The Churchyard Trail was marked out for visitors to trace significant burials and throughout the day a video history of the church bells was screened.

Special thanks are due (in no particular order) to Anna Darnell whose multitasking and artistic talents are invaluable; to Juliet Hornby and the Choral Society; to Beverley Mehta and the Swan Handbell Ringers; to Ed and

his staff at The Running Horses: to Simon Ward and Lou for the Juniper Hall Stall; to Gill, Lindy and Anna for the face painting; to Carole Brough Fuller for the churchyard trail; to Sarah Blake, Mark Day and Jamie Aarvold for the church activities, and of course to David for the organ recital and finally to Annie and Will Dennis for 'Time for Bed' and all round support and without all of whom this event would not have taken place Finally and with gratitude to the Parish Council for its endorsement of the day and especially to those who made charitable donations, the collection exceeded £400 which will be distributed between the Princess Alice Hospice and the Meeting Place. James Riches

Heritage Weekend Organ Recital

Ct Michael's Church Organist David **J**Fishwick really put the organ at St Michael's through its paces on the afternoon of Saturday 21st September, in an organ recital which formed part of an extensive programme of Heritage Weekend events at Mickleham. The organ was rebuilt by James Richardson-Jones of Farnham in 2013/2014. In the course of a very varied and interesting programme, lasting about an hour, David pulled out all the stops, both figuratively and literally, in skilfully demonstrating what a fine and versatile instrument it now is.

David's recital began with JS Bach's Toccata & Fugue in D Minor - perhaps the best known of Bach's organ works, and a real show-piece for both organ and organist! Always a favourite when played by David after Sunday services, and an exhilarating start to the recital. He followed this with a transcription of 'Nimrod', the much loved ninth variation from Sir Edward Elgar's Enigma Variations. As David's programme notes stated, the organ is especially well-suited to this work, with its versatile assembly of couplers and pistons enabling the

rapid changes of registration necessary to mimic the style of what is essentially symphonic music.

Next was Handel's 'Dead March' from the oratorio Saul – a grand and sombre processional march which, in the oratorio, follows the death of Saul and Jonathan in the battle between the Israelites and the Philistines.

We then had the privilege of listening to a world premiere in the presence of the composer. David Hackbridge Johnson has composed a wide range of works, including symphonies which have been performed by the Liverpool Philharmonic and Scottish National Orchestras, and chamber music frequently played at important London venues. Our David played composer David's 'Postlude' (Opus 325) - an interesting avant-garde work which was well received by the audience (and the composer!).

After the world premiere, back to more familiar territory, with a transcription of the alto aria, 'O Rest in the Lord', from Mendelssohn's Elijah. What a beautiful piece this is, and how beautifully played by David. Not so well known (at least to

your correspondent) is March Héroique, composed by Herbert Brewer, organist at Gloucester Cathedral for thirty years at the start of the last century. Another show-piece for organ and organist, with a brilliant opening, a sombre lyrical section, and a dazzling finale.

The challenge for some of us in the audience was not to sing along to the next piece, a transcription of Mozart's beautiful choral anthem, Ave Verum Corpus, often performed by St Michael's Church Choir. As David suggested, it was a fine antidote to the two grand marches that preceded and followed it. For the final piece in the programme was an organ transcription of Sir William Walton's Crown Imperial, the triumphal march written for the Coronation of King George VI in 1937. What a stirring work this is, and what a fitting end to a splendid recital, which must have required a huge amount of preparation and practice on David's part. Congratulations and many thanks, David, for giving us such a treat on Heritage Weekend! We look forward to further recitals in the future.

Richard Siberry



Researching the History of your House Tuesday 5th November 7 pm at the Stepping Stones

There are only a few places remaining on this in-depth three-hour course. Free for members. £5 for non-members Please contact Judith Long 01372 375206 judith.long2@btinternet.com

Mickleham & Westhumble Local History Group Village Walk 2019

We met our guides Roger Davis and Ben Tatham outside the Burford Bridge Hotel on a Saturday morning in October, ready to explore the area between the hotel and Juniper Hall. Just hidden from view behind Burford Meadow is Burford Lodge, built in 1777 by a Mr Eckersell. Roger explained that an area known as the Weypole, between the River Mole and the Whites of Box Hill, once belonged to the Burford Lodge estate and derives its name from a notched pole in the river used to measure its height. The well-known Stepping Stones across the river were first recorded in 1841.

The first important resident of Burford Lodge was George Barclay, a London merchant and MP for Bridport who was a thoroughly unpleasant character by all accounts. The next owner was John Matthew whose daughter married Sir Trevor Lawrence. After John Matthew's death, his daughter inherited Burford Lodge which remained in possession of the Lawrence family until the 1930s. Sir Trevor and his son Sir William Lawrence were both renowned horticulturists. Sir Trevor (and his wife) having a great love for orchids. After Sir William's death in 1934 most of the estate was purchased by the National Trust after a public appeal for donations and the house was bought by the Electricity Board. Ben told us that one of the main uses for the property was to test electricity

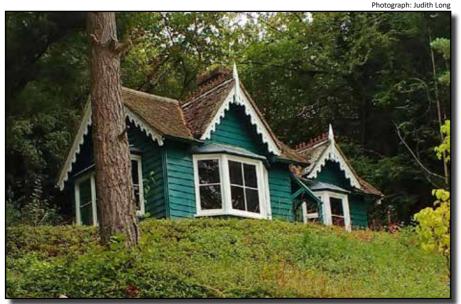
meters! The buildings have since been converted into private houses and flats. The Burford Bridge Hotel has undergone

departing for Portsmouth and Trafalgar, appears to have no truth to it.

The walk to our next stop Flint Cottage,

several name changes since a licensed house was first mentioned on the site in 1790. Originally the Fox and Hounds. it became the Hare and Hounds, the Burford Bridge Inn and was also known as the Honeymoon Inn before acquiring its current name. To add to the confusion, newspaper records show that some of these names were used interchangeably in the same year. The hotel also has many literary associations: Robert Louis Stevenson, Jane Austen and William Wordsworth are believed to have staved there and John Keats completed 'Endymion' at the inn. Unfortunately, the story that Lord Nelson spent his last night in England there with Emma Hamilton, before

located close to the bottom of the Zig-Zag, involved dodging a large number of cyclists taking part in the 'Sigma Sports Box Hill Original Sportive', an event with more than a thousand entrants (fortunately not all attempting the full route through Mickleham). Arriving unscathed, we were greeted by Tracey Evans who, with her husband Jim, kindly allowed us to visit their property. Flint Cottage was home to George Meredith, the novelist and poet, for about forty



The Chalet at Flint Cottage

years until his death in 1909. Tracey took us up the steep path to the tworoom chalet where Meredith wrote much of his work, frequently eating and sleeping there. He was the author of 'The Lark Ascending', the poem which inspired Vaughan Williams' music of the same name. Towards the end of his life, when he was unable to climb the hill, Meredith was pulled in a bath chair by a donkey called 'Picnic'.

Back on Old London Road we took the turn up to Fredley, part of the old Manor of Fredley which once covered a much larger area and has a rather complicated history. Of significance to us is the sale of Fredley to Sir Cecil Bisshopp in 1762. He had originally planned to build a grand new house but instead developed an ale house called the Royal Oak which became Juniper Hall. When the Fredley estate was split up in the in the early 1800s Richard 'Conversation' Sharp bought Fredley Cottage, part of a small farmstead known as Fredley Farm. His family had a successful hatter's business in London which Sharp took over before becoming a merchant and politician. However, it was for his exceptional powers of conversation and good nature that he was renowned. He entertained many of the most influential and well-known people of the day at Fredley Cottage, including Walter Scott, Michael Faraday and William Wordsworth. His adopted daughter Maria, who became Mrs Drummond, built a new house on the Fredley estate, called simply 'Fredley', in future years St Faith's Children's Home. After the death of Maria's daughter, Surrey County Council purchased the whole estate in 1931, needing the land on the lower section near the River Mole for construction of the Mickleham bypass. Fredley house and Fredley Cottage were sold again soon afterwards, being surplus to the Council's requirements. Fredley Cottage was bought by the High Court Judge, Sir George Lloyd-Jacob, who renamed it Fredley Manor.

Our final stop was Juniper Hall where our guide, Kayleigh, greeted us and showed us the old coach house and its cottage, the only remaining



Juniper Hall today. On the right are the old coach house and brewery – original buildings from the Royal Oak ale house.

>>> buildings of the Royal Oak ale house. The cottage was originally the brewery and the wooden louvres in the roof allowed the fumes to escape. Tucked away amongst the trees beyond the main building is the old icehouse. The structure is about 3m deep, constructed mostly below ground level to keep the ice cold. We were surprised to hear that ice would sometimes come from frozen lakes

in the USA. After a quick look at the ha-ha in front of the house, where the flint wall has only recently become visible after the ivy and nettles were removed, we went inside to admire the Templeton Room, designed by Lady Templetown and a rare example of the style of Robert Adam in Surrey. Outside the window a wooden signpost in the garden can be seen, with signs pointing to all the other Field Studies Council

Centres in the UK. One of these signs points to Orielton, a Georgian house in Pembrokeshire. In the early 1900s this was the home of R H Mackworth-Praed, owner of Mickleham Downs House and Lord of the Manor of Mickleham until his death in 1913. This seemed an appropriate place to finish our walk and end an enjoyable morning visiting parts of Mickleham that we might otherwise have missed. Judith Long



St Michael's CE Infant School

The aim of Heritage Open Days is to enable people to visit historic places which are not usually open to the public. This year St Michael's School was one such place and featured an exhibition of maps and photographs charting the history of the school buildings and the surrounding area, from 1907. This had been prepared by Ben Tatham who researched and compiled the history as a project for the local history group.

It is difficult to imagine how, when the school was an all through primary until 1971, up to 120 pupils aged from 5 to 14 plus the staff managed to operate in the small space available.

School governors were on hand to show visitors around the site including the area of woods behind which is used as a forest school. Those familiar with the school in earlier times remarked on the many changes and improvement which had been made in recent years. Everyone agreed that the school now offered an amazing setting for learning. In the hall there was a display of photograph albums dating back to

the 1980s which Jenny Hudlass had lovingly assembled during her time as headteacher. These were greatly appreciated, especially by former pupils who were reminded of their happy days at the school.

We discovered that one of the visitors, a life-long resident of Box Hill, started at the school in 1946. Fortunately he has agreed to contribute to the local history group's current oral history project recording the memories of former pupils and staff. Watch this space!

Sue Tatham





Left: The school in 1907. Note the fence behind the children. This divided the playground with the right half for the boys and the left for the girls nd infants. Above: A drone photograph of the school in 2017.

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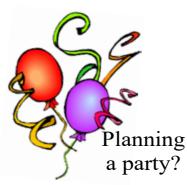
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Community Directory

Box HILL (National Trust)

Head Ranger - Mark Dawson

mark.dawson@nationaltrust.org.uk

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

Box HILL SCHOOL

Headmaster - Cory Lowde

01372 374814 HMPA@boxhillschool.com

DORKING CRICKET CLUB Chairman - David Spackman

07831 859232 david@theimagecompany.co.uk

DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

01737 24491 patriciabooth100@gmail.com

DORKING LAWN TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB Jim Cattermole

Exhibition Secretary - Patricia Booth

01306 883629 jim.cattermole@uwclub.net

DORKING RUGBY CLUB Jim Evans

07789 176417 jim@flintcottage.net

THE GARDEN SHED Pauline Davis

07759 646 353 paulinemdavis@gmail.com

Susie Gowenlock 07768 923 088

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 01306 883932 Secretary - Anne Weaver 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 - Rev'd David Ireland

Parish Clerk - Trevor Haylett

01372 379381 rev.ireland43@btinternet.com trevor.haylett9@gmail.com

MICKLEHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor - Sue Tatham

01306 882547 editor@micklehammag.co.uk 01306 884025

Administrator - Fiona Roberts-Miller

Co-Editor - Charlotte Daruwalla

editor@micklehammag.co.uk 01306 740851 admin@micklehammag.co.uk

MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL Chairman - Ben Tatham

01306 882547

Bookings Manager - Deanna Darnell

chairman@micklehamvh.co.uk 07790 941601

bookings@micklehamvh.co.uk

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

within the United Benefice of Leatherhead and Mickleham

INCUMBENT

The Reverend Graham Osborne 01372 372313

PARISH PRIEST

The Reverend Canon John Harkin 01372 378335

parishpriest@micklehamchurch.org.uk

Duty days primarily Sunday, Monday and Tuesday

Churchwardens

01372 373912 John Banfield churchwardens@micklehamchurch.org.uk

Sarah Blake 07736 235709

churchwardens@micklehamchurch.org.uk

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Alison Wood 01372 376443

admin@micklehamchurch.org.uk

PCC SECRETARY

Elizabeth Moughton 01306 883040

pccsecretary@micklehamchurch.org.uk

TREASURER

Richard Siberry 01372 375303

pcctreasurer@micklehamchurch.org.uk

WEDDINGS CO-ORDINATOR

Elaine Machin 01372 724972 weddings@micklehamchurch.org.uk

BAPTISMS CO-ORDINATOR

Vickie Leney 01306 884054

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'

REGISTERS

MEMORIAL SERVICE

26th September John George Colin Gee (Colin)

29th September Cressida Primrose Howe, daughter

of Phoebe Bunty Rowbotham and Thomas Edward Clarence Howe. Granddaughter of Sherree and

Mark Rowbotham

WEDDING

27th September Amber King and James Baker 28th September Kayleigh Brake and Jacob Hunter

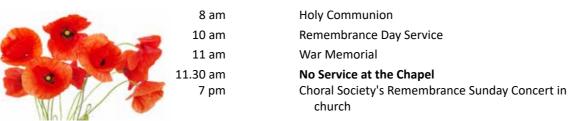
Calendar of Events

November

2	Saturday	5.45 pm	Westhumble Bonfire & Fireworks procession starts from Burney Road end of Adlers Lane
3	SUNDAY 4 th before Advent SHOEBOX SUNDAY		
		8 am	Holy Communion
		10 am	Family Service
4	Monday	9.15 am	St Michael's School Assembly in church
5	Tuesday	7 pm	Researching the History of your House course.
			Stepping Stones

10 SUNDAY 3rd before Advent REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

7.30 pm



Prayer Meeting in church

Copy deadline for December parish magazine

		copy acadime for Be	cember parisir magazine		
12	Tuesday	7.30 pm	Garden Shed talk 'Landscapes for Life - Surrey Hills' Stepping Stones		
16	Saturday	9 am	Men's Breakfast. Running Horses		
17	SUNDAY 2 nd before Advent				
		8 am	Holy Communion		
		10 am	Holy Communion		
19	Tuesday	9.30 – 11 am	Open Day at St Michael's School		
		8 pm	Public Meeting to discuss speeding and noise on local roads. Village hall		
20	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Friends of Box Hill talk 'Archaeology in the Surrey Hills. Warren Farm Barns		
21	Thursday	9.30 – 11 am	Open Day at St Michael's School		
23	Saturday	9 am	Women's Breakfast. Running Horses		
		11 am – 2 pm	Nursery's Christmas Fair. Village Hall		
24	SUNDAY before Advent - Christ the King				
		8 am	Holy Communion at the Chapel		
		10 am	Holy Communion		
25	Monday	3 pm	Tea@3 at the Irelands, St Michael's Lodge		
Doopphor					

December

1 ADVENT SUNDAY CHRISTINGLE

Holy Communion 8 am

9.15 - 10.45 am Christingle Workshop at St. Michael's School

> 11 am Christingle Family Service

MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

James Aarvold John Banfield Sarah Blake Mark Day Andrew Diamond Jenny Hudlass Elizabeth Moughton Frances Presley James Riches Richard Siberry Amanda Wadsworth Simon Ward Amy Ward Paul Wates

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- sewing or knitting related tools thread zips scissors
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Examples of services we offer:

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- Dog walking / care of pets
- Visiting / befriending
- · Home-cooked meals for local families going through difficult times

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

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

Community Directory

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 davidkennington144@gmail.com www.surreycommunity.info/mwhs

MICKLEHAM AND WESTHUMBLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Chairman – Ben Tatham 01306 882547

ben@thetathams.co.uk www.hugofox.com/community/mickleham-westhumble-local-

history-group-13483/ MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL 01306 885001

> 01306 885695 elsierosam29@gmail.com

THE ARTS SOCIETIES (FORMERLY NADFAS)

Councillor Elsie Rosam

Betchworth - Mary Venning 01306 883301 01306 882547 Dorking – Sue Tatham

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

Co-chairs Danielle Morrison and Debbie Turner

friendsofstmichaels2017@gmail.com

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stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com

01372 361021

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

David Allbeury 07860 227451

we sthumble.neighbourhood.watch@gmail.com

Westhumble Neighbourhood Watch

07860 227451 Lead Co-ordinator - David Allbeury

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 To contact a member of the PCSO 8761 Dave Sadler PCSO 15904 Sophia Manelfi team call 101 and your call will be put through. PC 2799 Sue Gargini General enquiries molevalley@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Babysitting by local teenagers

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07443 634179

07720 657327 Maisy Presley 01306 884724 Freya Pearce Issy Nash* 01306 742762 01306 640043 Skye Moran 01306 640043 Patrick Moran Amber Miller 01306 883659 01306 881953 Katie Light **07973 360 950 Rory Lee 07773 395 575 Ellie Kim Tatiana Fleming-Smith **07799 061 288

Chelsea Edwards 01306 884133 Philomena Ala 07789 727682 01306 885767 Delphine Ala

* Holidays only

** Parent's mobile number

If you would like to add your name to this list please get in touch with Fiona Roberts-Miller admin@micklehammag.co.uk

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PUBLIC MEFTING

Are you affected by speeding motorbikes and noise pollution on the Old London Road or the A24?

Well the time has come to act!

Mickleham Parish Council is organising a PUBLIC MEETING in the Village Hall on **Tuesday November 19**th at **8 pm** to plan a campaign to address these concerns, by mobilising public support.

The agencies concerned inform us that they have not received enough complaints to prompt action from them. The time has come to convince them otherwise.

Please give us your support by attending. Just an hour together that night could make life safer and guieter in the future.

Mickleham and Westhumble **Badminton Club**

Set up in the Summer of 2018, our local club has flourished into a friendly social group with members of all playing standards. We play every Wednesday evening at the Sports Hall within the lovely grounds of Box Hill School and there is always a wellearned drink after at the Running Horses to end with.

Run by volunteers we also schedule coaching sessions for our members by a host coach to up skill us on various

Through Your Fingers.

playing techniques, not to mention our Summer BBQ and Christmas get

This summer we were fortunate to set up a guard of honour with badminton rackets to celebrate two of our members joining in marriage, at St Michael's Church (see below).

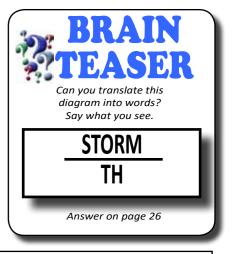
For further details of membership please contact our Social Secretary: Sarah Blake email: tinkerbell0044@ hotmail.com

Community News

ongratulations and best wishes to: Kayleigh Brake and Jacob Hunter who were married in St Michael's on 28th September. Jacob and Kayleigh met at Juniper Hall where she is a senior

• Kay and Jonathan Rawson-Cain of Burney Road on the safe arrival of their first child, Robyn, on Sunday 29th September. Robyn's proud grandmother is Cathy Rawson-Cain of Pilgrims Way.

ongratulations to Pauline Allbeury of Camillla Drive whose still-life 'Good Morning' won the top Denbies Award in Dorking Group of Artists recent Autumn Exhibition.



STOP PRESS – Just as we were going to press we heard the sad news that David Bates of Westhumble Street died on Monday 14th October. We send our deepest sympathy to Gill and family.





Kayleigh and Jacob Hunter emerge from St Michael's Church, and walk under an arch of badminton rackets held by a guard of honour made up of fellow members of the Mickleham & Westhumble Badminton Club.



Westhumble's Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display Saturday 2nd November

Approximate timetable 5.45 Torchlight Procession leaves, Junction Burney Road, Chapel Lane & Adlers Lane.

6.30 Lighting of The Bonfire 7.15 Start of Fireworks.

Dlease come to the annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display in Westhumble Field, as usual starting with a procession on Saturday 2nd November. See timetable above.All from Mickleham and Westhumble and St Michael's School are most welcome, along with all your relatives and friends.

We are keeping to £5 per head (or more if you feel generous) and we would ask groups please to base their donations on this to ensure the continuation of this event. Bring as many spectators as possible - we need lots of people

to blow at the bonfire to make sure it burns well this year!

Have your hats and woollies, scarves and wellies by the door and come whatever the weather. Please remember that, as last year, our lower insurance premium means that hand-held fireworks are not covered, SO PLEASE DO NOT BRING SPARKLERS - we have an alternative.

Soup and sausages will be available from the barbecue in the field for a small donation. Hope to see you there.

Neil Mason, Entertainments Secretary



LANDSCAPE FOR LIFE **SURREY HILLS** Area Outstanding Natural Beauty

> A talk by Kenneth Bare

Tuesday 12th November

Stepping Stones Pub Westhumble 7.30 pm

Tickets £6 on the door No need to book

The Henry Smith Charity

Mickleham is one of 159 parishes in England who are fortunate enough to receive a modest sum of money each year from the Henry Smith Charity to 'assist

the poor, the sick or disabled, and the elderly' within our parish.

If you know if anyone who might benefit from this charity or you would like more information please contact our parish priest The Reverend Canon John Harkin email harkin12@btinternet.com or telephone 01372 378335. All enquiries will be treated in strictest confidence.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Henry Smith Charity which dates back nearly 400 years and is one of the largest grant making charities in the UK, the website has lots of information: https://www. henrysmithcharity.org.uk/about-us/history/

Thursday 21st November 2019 - 9:30 - 11am St Michael's is just off the A24 between Dorking and

Leatherhead. Park near Frascati Restauran Head of School: Mrs Sandra Peers Executive Head: Mrs Paula Bliss www.stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk

01372 373717

Please come and join us on:

Tuesday 19th November 2019 - 9.30 - 11am

(Presentations at 10:30am)

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Appeal for Paintings

Dorking Museum's curator of paintings, Sandra Wedgwood, is currently planning an exhibition of recent pictures of Dorking and its surroundings. The exhibition, to open in January, is called 'Dorking: the Town and its Landscapes from 1900 to the Present Day'. If you have any pictures that you would be willing to loan to the exhibition, please contact Sandra Wedgwood at sandra. wedgwood@ntlworld.com or on 01306 889941.

The Garden Shed

The Garden Shed has had a busy time recently – first a walk and visit to the Patchwork Garden Project and then a talk on garden design.

In late September we met on a rather rainy Sunday for a walk on Box Hill's Riverside Walk along the Mole. After a picnic (in the dry) we headed to the Patchwork Garden in Pixham Lane. Surrey County Council donated this walled garden to the community, and with Aviva's support, volunteers have turned an area of overgrown land into a patchwork of gardens within its walls. The project offers gardening and crafting especially for those with physical or mental health problems, learning disabilities, dementia or experiencing isolation or bereavement.

Two volunteers. Sue and Graham Crawford showed us around and explained the areas of garden. We were very impressed with what has been achieved. We then enjoyed a sitdown tea, with china cups and cakes in their very smart large hut. We were all charmed by this magical place. Learn more on: patchworkinggardenproject.

On 1st October Janette Dolomore returned to talk about 'Planting Design in your Garden'. The room was full of people keen to hear her advice and tips. We were not disappointed, the talk was very informative and interesting, with questions and answers to complete the evening.

Here are some of Janette's suggestions:

- Consider the key principals of garden design SUN, SOIL, SHADE, FORMAL, INFORMAL. SHELTERED or EXPOSED.
- Draw up a list of plants you would like to see in your garden.
- Choose your special key plants eg.
- Structural, skeleton plants, that give shape and form
- Evergreen shrubs
- Decorative plants, that create seasonal impact
- Herbaceous plants (remember they only provide seasonal interest)
- Ground cover plants

We look forward to practising Janette's





Talk on Archaeology in the Surrey Hills Wednesday 20th November

6.30 pm Warren Farm Barns

The archaeology within the National Trust's ownership in the Surrey Hills is I remarkably varied and complex. Tom Dommett, Regional Archaeologist for the National Trust, will outline the major historic significances in this stunning landscape and how we plan to unearth more of its secrets - with special reference to Box Hill. Non-members please contact Lyn Richards on 01737 842889 or lyn@mra.uk.net





WILLOW WEAVING **CHRISTMAS DECORATION WORKSHOP**

Nicki Rowling

Saturday 7th December 10 am - 1pm

Mickleham Village Hall

You will be able to make two from a choice of three Christmas Decorations Total cost - £40 - Booking

essential – Limited places See our website for details www.gardenshed.club

If you are interested contact: Pauline Davis 07759 646353 paulinemdavis@amail.com

Susie Gowenlock 07768 923088 susiegowenlock@gmail.com



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KING WILLIAM IV



Konnichiwa from Kyoto,

We are having a great time – fun atmosphere, fascinating history and sites, and the Japanese are simply lovely. Although by the time you read this we should have wended our way back to leafy Surrey. We hope you have been enjoying the rugby in our temporary 'bar.' And if so we

will be joining you there for the final on 2nd, possibly between England and Ireland, but not looking so hopeful at this stage. So plenty of opportunity to catch up to catch up with everyone then.

Here is what else is happening this month. • Sun 3rd November – Fireworks 6.30 pm • Mon 11th November – Dinner & Quiz 7pm (with Greg & Leigh) • Mon 25th November – Scrabble Evening (with Mel) • New Autumn menu All the best. Eamonn and Anne

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Cryptic Delicacies

ast month's puzzle was themed around GOLDFINGER, with ODD JOB, PUSSY GALORE and ASTON MARTIN featuring among the answers and a couple of other clues used it as a reference as below:

13 Enemy of 19 + 8 back with cocktail instead of diamonds for boss (4)

'boss' = KNOB (i.e. a rounded ornamental protuberance)

'Enemy of GOLDFINGER' = Bond, put it back to give DNOB, then put the tail of cocK instead of Diamonds=D (abbreviation for the suit in cards) to give KNOB.

17 These appear on 22 + 20 and the tools of the trade of its most famous driver (9)

SILENCERS appear both on Aston Martin and James Bond's guns.

1D JB perhaps on the same side as 19 + 8? (3,3)

James Bond wasn't on the same side as GOLDFINGER but **ODD JOB** with his lethal bowler hat was, and JB are the odd letters of 'JoB'

29 Blow Santa's top! That's a crossdressing role (7)

'a cross-dressing role' = **TOOTSIE** 'blow' = TOOT, Santa's top = S, 'that's' = IE (as in 'that is' = i.e. = id est)

9 Stop talking to give GP affirmative answer (3,2)

'Stop talking' = DRY UP GP = DR (for doctor) & affirmative

10 Goat's ears are from Italian island? (9) 'Goat' = CAPRICORN

The apostrophe after Goat may look as if the ears belong to the goat, but it can also be read as 'Goat is' and then ears = CORN (as in ears of wheat) and if the ears are from an Italian island, they are 25 Butch is standing still

relative to the speed of sound? (5)

'Butch' = MACHO

Mach 1 = the speed of sound, Mach 2 = twice the speed of sound, so Mach 0 = not moving at all.

7 Instruments played without decoration in acoustic performance? (5) 'Instruments played' = OBOES

'decoration' = BOWS which when acoustically performed sounds like BOES and if you're without them, you have zero=O BOES (and the question mark at the end of the clue is used by setters to imply that 'I know it's a bit of a stretch but once you get the answer you should see that it fits!').

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

Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society Cultivating our wildflowers



While the many native wild flowers that used to enliven our countryside have declined quite significantly in the last fifty years, often

as the result of changing farming methods, there are ways that short of digging them up in the wild (illegal without permission) gardeners can help their continued survival. There are many mixes of wildflowers to be bought following the fashion for creating wildflower meadows in a garden setting, but it is worth observing those which are already thriving locally before you decide which you might consider growing as a garden plant.

Plants to consider:

• Cowslips (Primula Vera, not to be confused with Primula vulgaris, our much-loved native primrose). In Mickleham we have Cowslip Lane, cottages and a house named from the flower so it's a good chance that in our area it must once have been widespread. If you know where,

they can still be found in reasonable numbers. I have some plants given me years ago by Alan Edwards and they grow and spread happily through a grassy, seldom mowed area of the garden. Some have become oxslips, a natural hybrid between cowslips and primroses. I grow one red cowslip which I must have bought years ago which the internet tells me is called 'Sunset Shades'. It is very attractive but has not spread, however worth growing for the novelty at least.

• Iris foetidissima. If you walk in Norbury Park in the spring, you may notice a plant with interesting brownish-purple flowers and typical iris leaves growing in the woodland edge. There is also a cultivated form with pale yellow flowers (citrina) that might be considered more attractive. More striking than the flowers, however, are the large pods that develop over the summer to split open to reveal myriads of shining scarlet berries. If you can't find holly berries for Christmas, they make an excellent alternative, but they do seed about very easily so you may have to do some stringent removal of seedlings.

• Lychnis coronaria is a common garden plant, whether with white or crimson/ magenta flowers, but a very pretty alternative is Lychnis flos-cuculi, or Ragged Robin, which used to be seen widely in road verges. Usually pink, its common name reveals its habit of star-shaped flowers with petals cut in narrow segments - hence ragged of course. A very attractive double form called 'Jenny' was found growing in the wild in France and is available to buy, as is 'White Robin' more often grown as a garden plant. Lychnis viscaria or 'Sticky fly-catcher' is also worth researching.

Last one, but I must mention it, is Campanula glomerata or the 'clustered bellflower' which I have grown as a tallish, blue-flowered bell perennial. I was then amazed to see it growing on the slopes of Box Hill but hardly inches high. It is a chalk lover so 'Superba' or 'Freya' should be worth planting if you have our typical chalk soil.

There are so many others I could have included - and might do in future but it has to be a good idea for many reasons to look to our native flowers for inspiration. Judy Kinloch

Penelope Allen

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INSPIR TIONAL **Box Hill School**

On 27th September Box Hill School hosted a cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. We had an amazing selection of cakes bought in by students and staff. After selling cakes throughout the morning, we counted up our total and raised a fantastic £390!

As a school, we often partake in fundraising activities and have recently raised money for charities including our South African Service Project and Ronald McDonald Houses during the 60th Anniversary Ball.

Back in March we also ran our 'Big 600 mile challenge' to coincide with our 60th anniversary year and to support Comic Relief. The challenge took place during PE lessons for students in the lower school. They had the opportunity to run, cycle, jog, row or walk and by the end of the week we aimed to beat our target of travelling 600 miles, the equivalent of running from Box Hill School to Gordonstoun School - in



northern Scotland, another founding member of Round Square. Box Hill School smashed it. We 'reached' Gordonstoun School on the Friday. A total of 633.78 miles travelled, over 560 minutes, 146 students and several adults. It really was an amazing effort and achievement from all pupils, displaying excellent determination and stamina all week. We raised more than £1.000.

Every year we also celebrate our 'Make A Difference Day' where the whole school is involved in various activities to raise money for charity. This year the students chose to support Happy Child International, Cancer Research and Children in Need. We held an auction of promises. Promises such as 'skip the lunch queue for a term' were made by staff and pupils and we made over £1,400 in 45 minutes.

Box Hill School has a huge community focus and the many fundraising activities we run throughout the academic year are always great fun for all involved.

Lily McKeown

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Now that we are fully into the autumn, at nursery we have been appreciating the season for its colours, its shapes, and the opportunities to learn about what happens in nature during autumn.

Using story sessions, we have been learning about which creatures in the UK hibernate. Our main focus has been on hedgehogs, but we have also learned that squirrels do not hibernate but like to collect lots of food to eat over the winter. We have pretended to be squirrels and have hidden acorns in our forest school area. I wonder if the real squirrels will find them, or if in 20 years we will have a new oak tree! We still visit the oak tree the nursery helped

to plant in Swanworth field, although I have to admit it's the nursery adults that marvel at its growth, and then we recall that some of us have been around for quite a few years.

We have going on local leaf hunts. Parents and children have been adding to our collections, by contributing leaves found on their own woodland and vineyard walks. Using our finds we have made a giant autumn collage and individual leaf crowns.

At nursery we like to give the children lots of opportunities to explore resources they may not have at home. This term we have particularly enjoyed manipulative play – beyond playdough – from water trays full of lentils for scooping, pouring and immersing hands into them, to bread dough and lumps of clay.

Clay is great for developing strength in hands and fingers. Its open-ended nature means it can be anything the child wants it to be. Squashing, twisting, poking, smoothing provides endless opportunities, we have had lots of hedgehogs, along with dinosaurs, lollipops, blobsters and other undefined creations. With the air-hardening clay

we use, children also get to explore the three dimensional form as it hardens to a solid object, although for us working with early years children, the process always has more value than the product.

Luckily, we have also had enough deliveries of conkers for all the children to drill holes into, using a palm drill, and thread them onto string. The staff have enjoyed conker fights, (not banned in our nursery) but none of us has been competitive enough take our conkers home to boil in vinegar and bake.

We would also like to introduced you to two new chickens, Rita (dark brown) and Bob (light brown)! They have settled in very well with Elsa (white) who escaped the fox attack early summer and Mumble (grey), one of the bantams that we hatched in our incubator. The bigger chickens are laying nicely, so our star of the day is able to take eggs home for supper.

When you read this we will hopefully be beginning our Nativity singing, title not yet decided, and hope to see lots of local residents at our Christmas fair see below.

Hilary Budd









 4



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Natalie 07790 318 653 or ask to join our closed Facebook group for Tuesday Toddles for regular updates.



BRAIN TEASER answer: Thunder storm

Solution to the October crossword

Across: 1 Oracles, 5 Turnoff, 9 Dry up, 10 Capricorn, 11 Obscenely, 12 Haste, 13 Knob, 15 Acid test, 18 Catalyst, 19 Gold, 22 Aston, 24 Pyromania, 26 Tennessee, 27 Credo, 28 Notedly, 29 Tootsie.

Down: 1 Odd job, 2 Abyssinia, 3 Lapse, 4 Secretary, 5 Tipsy, 6 Reichstag, 7 Oboes, 8 Finger, 14 Brain dead, 16 Intercept, 17 Silencers, 20 Martin, 21 Galore, 23 Tenet, 24 Pussy, 25 Macho.



New group at Mickleham Village Hall on Wednesdays

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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 money for the school! We will again be offering very high quality non-drop Nordman fir trees with the convenience of collecting them from the school in early December. Trees are available from 3ft up to 8ft with prices starting from £28. To register your interest or for more information, please contact us at friendsofstmichaels2017@gmail.com

St Michael's infant School and its Governors

There are some very useful qualities needed for being a school governor for a small village school:

- · lots of optimism and resilience;
- good listener for children as well as adults;
- a head for sums (as ever we need to manage tight budgets);
- openness to creative solutions and managing change;
- physically fit for occasional furniture moving and gardening skills to spruce up the grounds.

St Michael's is blessed with a group of governors who between them share all these qualities. It is also blessed with a wonderful, experienced staff team also full of the same and more vital qualities.

I am amazed how quickly time flies as we embark on our third year of working in partnership with Newdigate Infant school. When we started our Executive Headteacher arrangement it was seen as an innovative way of providing leadership and management for smaller schools. Like all state church schools our governing body is made up of community and church representatives, two elected parents and staff representatives. The partnership arrangement was a challenging strategic decision for Governors. For it to be successful for both schools there had to be trust, shared Christian values and strong ethos. Mrs Bliss, as the Executive Headteacher, led the very careful planning and cross schools

developments to ensure all children continued to receive high quality teaching and learning. The sharing of expertise in special needs, innovative practice in teaching, resourcing and assessment, joint staff training and support has enriched both schools. This model of school leadership is now being adopted by many schools with professional development opportunities being devised for new Executive Headteachers.

As I write this article I have on in the background the BBC Moneybox programme talking about parent teacher associations (PTA) and all schools needing to fund raise large sums. The Friends of St Michael's provide vital funding support as well as a source of fun and friendship for all our parents. The collaboration with the church and village events committees has been mutually beneficial and helps build our strong community links.

During the school's recent Heritage Day event it was a joy to meet so many people who had been part of the school's history and hear personal anecdotes as we walked around the building and grounds. 'The playground is so small—I thought it was huge when I started' (the size is same as ever.) 'We used to walk to the village hall for lunch, rain or shine every day' (cooked lunches now delivered to school). 'We had all our school performances in here, parents and all. Where were the



screens pulled to create two rooms' (said whilst standing in all the space for Year One classroom). Ex-staff visitors marvelled at the staffroom and proper office space. Visitors poured over the old school photo albums (some nearly thirty years old) recognising faces and familiar activities. The old pictures evidenced the strong themes of Christian values and absorbing learning about our environment that continues today.

Like every state school in the UK St Michael's has a governing body with key responsibilities for providing strategic and budget management, and acting as a 'critical friend' supporting the work of the headteacher and other staff. However, as governors we do have fun and spend time in school with the children: listening to reading; helping with shows, project and craft workshops; gardening; eating cake and showing prospective parents round the school. All this is underpinned by a supportive local community and parents that contribute towards making it a successful small village school.

> Pat Hand Chair of Governors

> > 27

2019 Open Days Tuesday 19th & Thursday 21st November – see page 18 Web address: https://stmichaels275775692.wordpress.com/



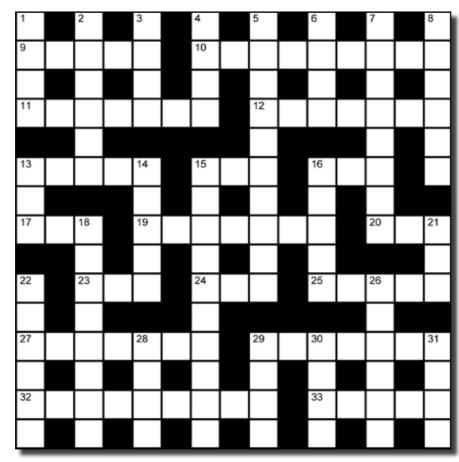


School governors in action

Cryptic Crossword

Across

- 9 Pine about the first cowboy? (5)
- 10 German row upset hawk (9)
- 11 Stone made this as well in step-by-step procedure (7)
- 12/4 Writer of strange new Word file (7,4)
- 13 First to go in empty monastery in a haze (5)
- 15 Is able to be doubled at the Moulin Rouge? (3)
- 16 The road outside the Moulin Rouge leads to regret (3)
- 17 Military symbol for defeat (3)
- 19 Maybe spatula stirring lust in nether place (7)
- 20 The last big guns are going back in time (3)
- 23 Not empty headed at the start so get a type of degree (3)
- 24 Help orchestra leader to get on board ship (3)
- 25 A young soldier has a choice of brocade, trousers or a gun (5)
- 27 Not prepared for fighting foolishly near mud (7)
- 29 'Pull this to go down' is an epitaph to Conservative leader with alternative to democracy at the forefront. (7)



- 32/26/14 Famed myth too honoured to circulate as a poem for November (6,3,6,5)
- 33 Sat around us as a subject to lather (5)

Down

- 1 Floppy little member is after Camilla's heart (4)
- 2 A chesty display exemplified by 17, 22, & 12 (post First World War slang needed to answer this one) (6)
- 3 Bismarck's Italian crew (4)
- 4 See 12 Across

- 5 Look out, look out! Cross newts in a stew! (5,5)
- 6 Something cried when smelly chicken trips someone up (4)
- 7 To do a wrong to Attorney General as well as a previous one (8)
- 8 Thing to hold bit in place for novice being cuddled by new wife (6)
- 13 Bad karma Prime Minister gets from hiding plan (3)
- 14 See 32 Across
- 15 Unhappy smile may be produced by this tip? (7,3)
- 16 Remembrance urged even by extremely deficient Alice (5)
- 18 Dash off loudly in front of soldiers and flags (8)
- 21 Prone in rapture to Jennifer Arcuri (3)
- 22 Quakes terribly at sign of a rodent (6)
- 26 See 32 Across
- 28 Easily imposed on those usually led by the future earth inheritors (4)
- 29 Bloody infrequent (4)
- 30 One is made to hit on half back's thing to go backwards (4)
- 31 Exercise without hesitation is what you're called to do (4)

Andrew Tatham

Answers to the October crossword are on page 26



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