

Westcott Village Magazine

May 2019



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Westcott has a population of over 2,000 and this is the only magazine written specifically for the Westcott area by the people of Westcott. It is hand delivered, free of charge, to every household and further copies are available at the church, local shops, pub and doctor's surgery.



If you have any articles, photos, letters, etc that you think we may like to feature in the next issue, please email the Editor on:

editor@westcottmag.com

But please note, publication will always be subject to space and at the discretion of the Editor.

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FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to May! As I write this it's gloriously sunny and feels like spring has sprung, so long may it last. We've even had the sunglasses out in our house already, as it's been so bright.

This month you can amuse yourself in many ways, from walks with Dorking Museum and the Mole Valley Ramblers, the village coffee morning is early on this month, on 1st May, and the Dorking Group of Artists has their exhibition from 4-6th. The Teddy Bear's Picnic is also on 6th May, which is always a good family day out with

lots of stalls, food, competitions and raises money for school too.

Don't forget to get your kids down to the cricket club on a Friday night for junior training, its a great end to the week and there's a barbecue too so no cooking (always a bonus for a Friday, I find). Music, sculpting and architecture talks are all on offer at Leith Hill Place this month, so there is definitely something for everyone.

I'm trying to revive the village noticeboard, with items for sale or swop within the village, see page 61 for details.

Cath

editor@westcottmag.com

Westcott Baby News

Congratulations to Kerry and Charlie of Springfield Road Westcott, who welcomed little Alfie into the world (slightly earlier than expected!) on 7th March. They would like to thank all the lovely Baby Meals cooks who have catered for them over the last two weeks, as they've adjusted to their new arrival.



The Westcott "Baby Meals" service, started 15 years ago by Holy Trinity Church, provides a hot meal for the family of new babies across the village. We have over 30 volunteer cooks within the village community and we're all delighted to help during what can be a time of massive upheaval and adjustment. It's a gift that is welcomed by recipient families.

If you live in Westcott and you're expecting a baby or know someone who is, OR if you'd like to join our cooks' rota we'd be delighted to hear from you - please get in touch!

Anna Kemkers 07710 425487 annakemkers@hotmail.co.uk

...FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT



GODFREY PARRY JONES 1957 – 2019

"For me to live is Christ, to die is gain"

In the sorrow of a prayer meeting after Godfrey, our friend and church minister, had died, Winnie, one of our church members and a friend of Godfrey from his first days in Westcott, gave us this most apt verse from Philippians

"For me to live is Christ, to die is gain" (1:21). Godfrey was one of the kindest, most gracious, gentle people I have known.

He was a great friend to me and many in this Church, so appreciated in his leading and preaching. He had a great gift in pastoral work, taking Communion to the house-bound, loving, caring for people. He had a great appreciation of good food and drink and I was amazed at how he could cater for 100 + people at Church events. Godfrey served not just here but also on Deanery Synod and with the Readers' Board - all, of course voluntarily.

We were robbed of much of Godfrey over his last seven years of disabling illness – way too soon, when he could have had so much more life to live and share. But so much of his person remained – the loyal, conscientious

servant and friend, with a lovely sense of humour, always thankful, always thinking of others, so loved by the staff and other residents at Westcott House where he lived his last years.

St Paul wrote these words "For me to live is Christ, to die is gain" in the incapacity of being in prison. Godfrey demonstrated in his own incapacity of disability, that the presence of Christ makes all the difference. Godfrey's lovely person suffused by the presence of Christ

I AM INSPIRED, AND
HOPE YOU WILL BE TOO,
BY HOW GODFREY LIVED,
LIVING IN CHRIST....

brought a richness to these last seven years that is remarkable. Extraordinarily Godfrey was always at his most lucid when he was praying; he

lived out "For me to live is Christ". And now "to die is gain" - the glory beyond death. In the few days after Godfrey died, Jenny and I were on a short break in Swanage. I reflected on that holiday many times as we enjoyed coastal walks, and just looking out to sea, how ironic this is,



...FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

as these were things that Godfrey loved. I wondered what is true reality: is it the beauty of coastal walks and sitting by the sea? Or is it illness, disability and death? There was a deep sense that it is the beauty and the glory that is the true reality; this is where we are meant to be, where we belong. And, one day, in our Resurrection in Christ it will be fully, permanently - the glories of the new heaven and the new earth where

God will live with man and woman, He will wipe every tear from our eyes, and there will be no more death or mourning, or brain tumours or illness, or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. (Revelation 21)

I am inspired, and hope you will be too, by how Godfrey lived, living in Christ. And how he died - dying in Christ to gain.

GODFREY PARRY JONES 1957 - 2019

From the tribute given by Godfrey's brothers at his funeral:-

It's a great consolation to see so many family and friends here today. Godfrey would have been delighted. He was clear, before he had his surgery, that if today should come, it was to be in part a day of celebration. Because though life threw a few things at Godfrey, he felt he had a lot to be thankful for. Apart from his religious faith, he rejoiced above all in people and in places.

One place was Wales. Although Godfrey probably did not project a very Welsh persona, Wales was very important to him. He was born in Glamorgan and, though our parents moved to Cornwall, was a frequent visitor. He became friendly with one of our father's cousins, a first language Welsh speaker, who still farms the acres in Carmarthenshire



that our great grandfather acquired in the 1880s. Indeed, family was important to Godfrey: even at his most confused after his long and complex operation, his first questions would be about how members of the extended family were, brothers, sisters in-law, cousins nieces and nephews.

Godfrey also loved Cornwall, where he grew up and went to school. Some of our relatives thought of

..FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

Godfrey as the quiet member of the family, In fact, there was a more assertive side, such as Godfrey's extreme competitiveness. He was ferocious player of Monopoly or Scrabble, determined to win at all costs, and a fan of all in wrestling, in which it was not unusual for a lady from the audience to handbag one of the fighters.

After school, he moved on to college, taking a hotel management and catering course, and was barely eighteen when he moved to London.

It was a real pleasure for him to go back often, in particular to stay with John and Pat Weyman in Kittiwake, their beautiful house overlooking the sea at Mullion, where he often dog sat for their much loved Labradors. Godfrey and his red Hyundai racked up a huge mileage, visiting friends and seeing sites: few National Trust and English Heritage cards can have been more fully used than Godfrey's. He also developed an encyclopaedic knowledge of where to eat out in Cornwall, and its best pubs.

But there was, of course, no place like Westcott. Godfrey came here after a troubled period: having spent some years in catering, he moved to manage a wine shop in London, and there suffered a number of break-ins, several particularly threatening. This took its toll on his health, and he moved to the Queen Elizabeth Foundation at

Guildford. Here it was discovered he had an aptitude for computing, and which led to a major career change, and his coming to live here.

The Surrey Hills, the charm of the village, and the welcome he received all gave Westcott a unique place in his affections. He loved living for a while in the top flat at the Vicarage, and Pat and John treated him as one of the family.

In Westcott, he rediscovered his faith. John encouraged him to become lay reader, and he and Patrick Cripps-Villiers were a wonderful support to him in his training, as of course Alan has been for over 20 years. We often felt that we knew what was going on at Holy Trinity better than in our own churches, and we know he especially valued the partnership he had with Iris in their work with young people.

We are deeply grateful to members of the congregation, who visited him, prayed for him, and especially those who ferried him from his first nursing home in Purley to and from services. I should add that,



..FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

with his sweet tooth, Godfrey was always deeply appreciative of the tea that Brenda produced before Evensong, and which also set me up for the journey back to Wales.

It is symptomatic of his affection for the place that, when he was barely out of recovery, he escaped from Epsom Hospital and somehow got himself back to the village, calling in at the Field House to see Jill Cripps-Villiers, who must have been very alarmed, but was able to get an ambulance to take him back to hospital.

Godfrey particularly loved the Friday evening Chinese meals at Pilgrims, with David and Hilary Jones and the company of Bob and others. It is pleasing that, in the last couple of years of his life, Godfrey was able to move back here. He knew exactly where he

was, and that the church was close by. When the weather was good, we were occasionally able to take him out to Shere or other spots that he loved. And we must pay tribute to the staff of Westcott House who gave him such wonderful care and attention, and who were always so welcoming to us.

Again, thank you all for the kindness and affection you showed Godfrey. As a family, we aren't given to showering each other with extravagant compliments, but it has been a source of joy to know that he was appreciated, and for us to get to know a number of you, and attend services here.

It's fitting, then, that he should be laid to rest here.

-Stephen , Nick, Peter Parry-Jones

FROM "HARBOTTLE & JONAS" FOLLOWING THEIR VERY SUCCESSFUL GIG IN WESTCOTT

Thank You! 'We wanted to write to say a big thank you to those who joined us for our gig at Holy Trinity on 3rd March.

We were overwhelmed with the support we received from each one of you and how you bought CDs and gave to 'the hat' so generously. It was a really special evening for us and one that will live long in the memory. Thank you again, your support and generosity are so hugely appreciated!

Love Freya & Dave

Follow "Harbottle & Jonas" online



WHAT'S ON AT THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

MAY 12TH, PAPUA PARTNERS SUNDAY

Peter Trenier will give an update on the disastrous floods and landslides that, in March, afflicted West Papua where the Sosa family live and work. Peter will also speak about the future plans for Papua Partners.

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH

DR JIM GLOVER, OBE, HIGH SHERIFF OF SURREY. 2018/19

Dr Jim Glover will give reflections on his year as High Sheriff of Surrey, particularly his focus on "Inclusion in Schools" – the vital issues of keeping children in school who might otherwise fall out of mainstream education with all of the personal and societal damage caused.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

An open meeting to focus on how the churches and our local representatives - MVDC & Surrey Councillors, MP - are responding.

WEDNESDAY 5TH JUNE 2019 7.30 FOR 7.45 PM
ST PAUL'S DORKING



There will be input from churches that have obtained Eco "Silver Award". All local representatives are being invited and asked to complete a short questionnaire. No need to reply - just come.

This meeting is organised by Dorking Deanery Synod.

Contact (Rev'd) Alan Jonas Area Dean for more information
alchasjonas@aol.com 01306 644868

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Death:

14th February Godfrey Robert Vaughan Parry-Jones



FLOODLIGHTING

The floodlighting for May has been sponsored by Karen, Bernd, Ellie and Pippa Ratzke in loving memory of Karen's father, Malcolm Bates, who died ten years ago this month, aged 74.

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting, please contact Sarah Massey at sarah@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk or on 01306 887413. (Suggested donation of £75 to Westcott Church Funds.)

We are very thankful to all the sponsors of the lights - your gift is gratefully received as a contribution to both the electricity bill and our general fund.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY



We run a regular programme of worship services and other activities for young and old. All services at Holy Trinity unless otherwise stated. Everyone is welcome as we build friendships and share life together!

8.30 am: A traditional Communion service with hymns and organ, unless stated.

10.15 am: A 'parish' service, reflecting the people of the Church in Westcott, with organ and music group. Regular creche and children's activities.

4.00 pm: A quiet traditional service, usually 'Evensong'. Communion with prayer for healing monthly.

DATE	THEME	8:30AM	10:15AM	4:00PM
5th May	The Lord's Prayer – Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Parish Communion	Evensong
12th May	Papua Partners	Book of Common Prayer Communion No Music	Parish Communion	Evensong
19th May	Reflections from a year of being High Sheriff	Book of Common Prayer Communion	All age Communion	Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing
26th May	Simply Jesus – His Life, His Kingdom	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Parish Communion	Evensong
30th May	7pm Ascension Day Communion			



Evening Service is back to 6 pm, April - October

A lovely, reflective way to end the week-end.

Let's keep an evening service going in Westcott!

Alan J Vicar

MID WEEK SERVICES

Wednesdays	10am	Term Time Communion at St John's
Thursdays	8:30am	Morning Prayer at St John's

ECO CHURCH

UNNATURAL DISASTERS

In March, the Church in Westcott got a close insight into the shocking devastation that severe weather events can cause.

For many years the church congregation, and people from this village, have been supporting a locally-based charity, Papua Partners UK, which supports two development workers, Naomi and Javier Sosa, in West Papua, Indonesia. Naomi and Javier were married in Westcott and have been in Papua since 2006.



On March 17th the area around Sentani, where they live, was struck by extreme rainfall, triggering flash floods and landslides, leaving over 100 people dead, many missing and 11,700 people displaced. Indonesia's disaster management agency has attributed the floods in part to deforestation in the surrounding mountains. (Read more in the Papua Partners article in the following pages) March also saw devastation in Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi

and Zimbabwe, caused by Cyclone Idai, affecting nearly 3 million people in another of the poorest regions of the world. Although it is



difficult to attribute specific weather events to climate change, scientists say that global warming is driving more extreme weather events. One reason being that a warmer

atmosphere holds more water vapour, making rainfall more intense. These events in West Papua and Africa lay bare the deep injustice of climate change – those who are most affected are those who have done the least to create the problem. Flooding destroys homes and crops - threatening livelihoods and creating more poverty and hunger. If we are to truly 'love our neighbour' we need to make conscious choices that prioritise creating a sustainable lifestyle, benefit our planet and support greater equality, health and wellbeing for all. We can also call upon our leaders to address climate justice issues.

Jakki Phillips

ecochurch@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

ECO CHURCH

ECO TIPS

The World Meteorological Organisation says that the physical impacts of climate change are accelerating. Its recently published report on global warming says that extreme weather impacted 62 million people globally in 2018 and forced 2 million people to relocate.



This highlights the need for urgent action to drastically reduce emissions from burning fossil fuels. Despite commitments from countries to reduce carbon emissions, they rose by 1.7% in 2018.



Is your bank financing fossil fuel projects?

The UK's big five high street banks provide a significant amount of finance for fossil fuel projects and, by doing so, are hindering efforts to tackle climate change.

There are many alternatives. Some of Ethical Consumer's best rated current accounts are provided by: Triodos, Nationwide Building Society, Monzo and Metro Bank.

To find out more about climate justice:

There are many organisations working on the issue of climate justice including the Environmental Justice Foundation and Global Citizen.

Books to read: Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience, and the Fight for a Sustainable Future by Mary Robinson.



PapuaPartners

with the people for the people

TO GIVE TO THE SENTANI FLOOD EMERGENCY FUND

Please visit

www.papuapartners.org or

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org>

Or send a cheque payable to Papua Partners UK to:

Papua Partners Limited, PO Box 1525,
GUILDFORD, GU1 9WW



PAPUA PARTNERS

Papua Partners UK is a locally-based charity, which supports two development workers, Naomi and Javier Sosa, in West Papua, Indonesia. Naomi and Javier were married in Westcott and have been in Papua since 2006. They are currently located in Sentani.

SENTANI FLOODS

On the night of Saturday, 16th May the town of Sentani on the coast of West Papua was hit by torrential rain, triggering flash floods and landslides. The rains and floods lasted four days causing devastating damage.

Thousands of people had their homes washed away, over 100 lost their lives and, at the time of writing, 94 were still missing. It is estimated that over 11,500 people have been displaced. Many are traumatised after having lost loved ones or barely escaping with their own lives.



Papua Partners have been working alongside our local partners in Sentani – the GIDI Church Denomination and their NGO YAPELIN – to help respond to this crisis. This has been challenging, as many of the church leaders were directly affected and lost family. Several of their congregations completely disappeared with the mudslides. Together with our partners, we prepared a temporary place for

refugees in STAKIN Bible School. Alongside YAPELIN, we have now been hosting displaced people for almost two weeks. Initially we were caring for over 1000 people, at this location and the GIDI Senior Theological College.

Papua Partners set up a fund solely to directly help those affected by the Sentani floods. **Thank you to everyone who has given so far! This has meant that we have been able to set up toilets, wash rooms, and provide people with food three times a day.** It makes a huge difference when we have funds to quickly respond to needs. Working in partnership with others, it has been amazing how all have come together to share the load.



Everything has gone incredibly well considering our complete lack of preparation for something like this and the amount of people involved. There is, definitely, a feeling of hope growing here and we have

tried hard to create a healing and positive space for everybody. We have been running fun activities for the children and having craft & knitting sessions with the ladies which has been wonderful. The displaced people and our amazing team have had groups in charge of data, food, rubbish, health, logistics etc....and we are very proud of the unity and spirit that has been created.

Together with our partners we are



now at the stage of working out the 'what next ?' for all these people. Over the last few days people whose houses were flooded are moving home to clean them out and try and start again.

However, there are still about 400 families from the worst hit villages that we will need to continue to support. These are ones who have lost their houses and their village no longer exist.

The next stage of the response continues to be vital, as this is when life for everybody else starts to get back to normal and the sense of emergency wears off...However, for those that have lost everything this can be really risky as they still have no stability, no income and health and family life can start to deteriorate.

We are currently helping three different church congregations to

set up more semi-permanent camps where these families can spend the next months until land can be purchased by the government to relocate them. In these three locations people will start to become more independent, cook for themselves and we will help with income generation activities so they can start to stand on their own and prepare for the next stages. Currently 18 women's groups have been set up. They are starting with making bags, blankets and hats to sell and, over the next few weeks, want to branch out into bread and cake making and selling vegetables. We will also be supporting families with basic materials such as water filters, cooking and kitchen kits, and water supplies.

The response to our Appeal has been an incredible boost and we can say without doubt that it has saved lives and injected hope into a difficult situation.

To give to the Sentani Flood Emergency Fund please visit

www.papuapartners.org or

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org>

Or send a cheque payable to Papua Partners UK to:

Papua Partners Limited, PO Box 1525, GUILDFORD, GU1 9WW

AND LET THE PEACE
THAT COMES FROM

Christ

RULE IN YOUR HEARTS.



COLOSSIANS 3:15

Scouts History Project



Scouts
Shere & Peaslake

Can you help?

Were you a Cub or Scout with us at any point in our history of being a group? Do you know someone who was?

Over the next 3 months we would like to put together a photographic montage of Cubs, Scouts and stories of our Group. AND we need you!

Do you know if we really are one of the earliest Scout Groups in the World? We need documentary proof.

Please contact mbromley@peoplespace.co.uk with any photos, stories or memorabilia – Title your email “HISTORY PROJECT” We would like to put together a display in Shere village during the Summer and then move it to the Scout Hut for a long-term display.



If a number of Westcott's otherwise stalwart female residents were seen somewhat more spritely than usual returning home on Wednesday evening, it's not surprising, considering we were well entertained by Andrew Gordon, a rather late alteration to the planned agenda. At very short notice he came to speak to us about growing vines, and the processes involved in the production of the various wines.

Accompanied by a few bottles for us to sample and compare, it is hardly surprising to say that it was a much enjoyed evening! However much we thought we knew about wines, we came away somewhat more

educated and appreciative of the humble grape, and very grateful to Andrew for stepping in at almost the last minute.

Next month on May 1st, we will be going to the Clandon Wood Nature Reserve and natural burial ground. This is a very peaceful area off the A246; once abandoned farm land, it is now a habitat for various wild animals and departed loved ones. We will be leaving Westcott at 7pm, and if anyone would like to join us, please let me know, transport can be provided.

On Saturday June 8th, we will once again be invading Angela Deloford's beautiful garden for a buffet lunch and an afternoon of croquet and other garden games. Tickets are a mere £10 for a very relaxing and sociable event, and can be ordered as below.

Another visit on July 3rd takes us to the Lavender Fields, the cost of £12 includes a cream tea. Transport can again be provided, and further details will be in next month's village mag, or from me.

All enquiries to Jacki Moss, 01306 881481 or email johnjacki.moss@btinternet.com



Jacki Moss



The Dorking Butchery is an award-winning speciality Butchers based in the heart of Dorking.

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Slow Cooked Pomegranate Ox Cheeks

2 ox cheeks, cut in half	2 bay leaves
100g plain flour	1 knob of butter
Freshly ground salt and pepper	1 large glass of red wine
1 onion	1.5 cups pomegranate juice
1 carrot	1 tbsp pomegranate molasses
1 stick of celery	Large glug of extra virgin olive oil

Method (Serves 2)

1. Pat the ox cheeks dry with kitchen paper, then season with freshly ground salt and black pepper.
2. Toss the cheeks in plain flour, then lightly sear in a pan with a glug of oil, on both sides until nicely browned, then remove from the pan.
3. Finely dice the onion, carrot and celery and sauté in a knob of butter on a medium heat for 6-7 minutes.
4. Place the onion, carrot and celery mixture and with the bay leaves into a slow cooker on a medium heat setting, followed by the ox cheeks, pomegranate juice, molasses and red wine.
5. Cook for six hours. (If cooking in an oven, cook at 150 degrees C for 4-5 hours).
6. When ready, remove the ox cheeks from the slow cooker/oven, and loosely cover with foil to keep warm.
7. Discard the bay leaves and transfer the liquid into a saucepan, bring to the boil and allow to reduce until it is syrupy. Stir regularly.
8. Serve the ox cheeks with butternut squash mash and the reduced sauce drizzled on top, finished with some fresh pomegranate seeds.

Personalities in Westcott History

Daniel Malthus, Richard Fuller & Arthur Brooke of 'The Rookery'

The Rookery Estate has a long history starting in the 17th century when it belonged to the Comber family. They sold it to Abraham Tucker of Betchworth Castle, who in 1759 sold it to Daniel Malthus who named it 'The Rookery' and developed it from its former use as a fishing and game lodge.

The Pipp Brook flows through the estate and provides the water for the mill pond. It is said that the trout ova were specially imported from Geneva and it also has roach, tench

and perch popular with the angling fraternity. The original Estate was known as Chertgate and comprised some 650 acres including all the land westward of Logmore Lane and Westcott Street up to the edge of the Parish.

The Malthus family sold 'The Rookery' in 1768 to Richard Fuller (1713 -1782), the banker, whose family and heirs continued to live there for 126 years until 1894. Richard's grandson, Arthur Clarges Fuller, put the 650 acre estate including all the existing buildings up for sale in a prospectus dated 1894, a copy of which is in the History Group archives. The mansion itself was then bought by Arthur Brooke of



FAMILY FUN DAY



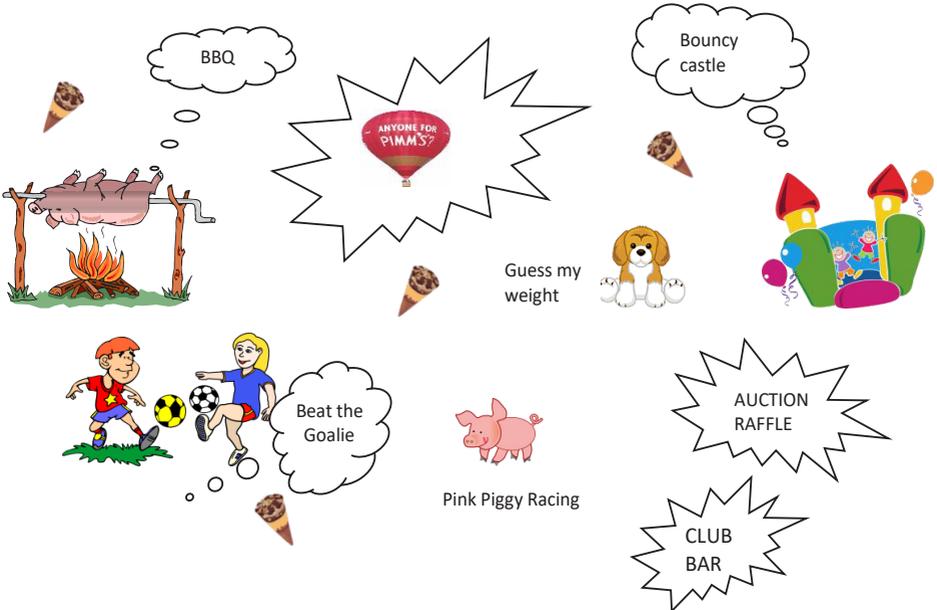
WESTCOTT CRICKET CLUB



Invites you to join in celebrating 150 years

On Sunday June 23rd

12-4PM At the Westcott Sports Ground



FREE ENTRANCE - Gates open 12.00 FAMILY BARBEQUE STARTS AT 12.30

No car parking in Sports Ground, please use alternative car parks

Thanks to Westcott Sports Club Sponsors





the Brooke Bond Tea Company. The Rookery Mansion was demolished in 1971 and the present row of town houses was built in its place.

Richard Fuller (1713 – 1782) was the son of Thomas & Hester Fuller in Berkshire. He was a founding partner with his brother William (1705 – 1800) of a private bank in Lombard Street in 1737 trading as Atkins, Honeywood & Fuller which went through a number of changes in partnership until it became a family affair – Fullers & Co in 1827.

In 1891 the partnership was taken over by Parr's Bank which subsequently became the London County & Westminster Bank and today the NatWest owned by the Bank of Scotland. Brother William at his death in 1800 was reputed to be one of the richest people in England. He was a rigid Calvinist and founded 12 almshouses, among other acts of philanthropy.

Richard Fuller was also involved in politics and became MP for Steyning in 1764-68 and for Stockbridge in 1768-74, both 'rotten boroughs' which were abolished with the Reform Act a few years later. He was appointed High Sheriff for Berkshire in 1754. He married Susannah Barnard (1735-1789) in 1755

and they had 5 children, many of whom joined the Bank.

Of their children: Richard entered the bank, married Frances Boulton and had 5 children, Thomas Fuller also entered the bank, married Susannah Cromwell in 1794 and lived in Cornhill, and Lt. Gen. Sir Joseph Fuller (1771-1841), married Miranda Floyd and made a career in the Coldstream Guards in which he commanded the 1st Battalion at the Battle of Talavera in July 1809 under the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular War.

Their family was very popular in Westcott and they were benefactors in many parts of village life. Several members of the family have headstones in the Holy Trinity Church graveyard, of particular note William Walter (1812 – 1859) aged 41 is near the west end of the church with iron railings.

The next Talk will be at the usual time on Tuesday 14th May by Sue James about 'A Hidden Treasure. Tales from a Surrey Girls School. 1884-1954' in the Reading Room.

Roger Christian



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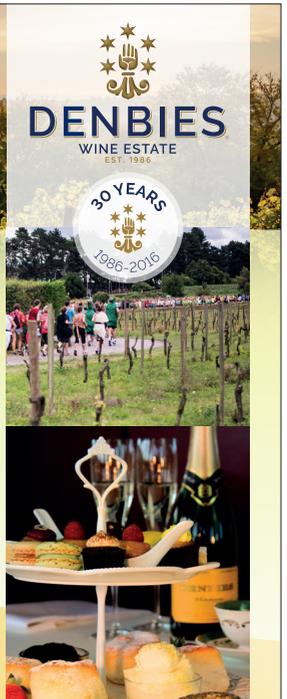


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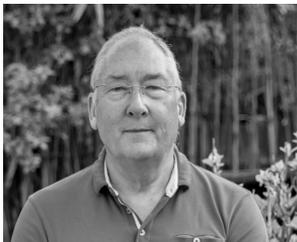
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WVA Open Meeting

Time seems to have flown by and the next Open Meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th May in Holy Trinity Church starting at 7.30pm**. There are no specific items on the agenda but we will hope to have an update on the new constitution and The Hut development, so please put this date in the diary and make every effort to attend and have your say on any matters which affect the village.

Please let me know what those items are by email by 2nd May.

WVA Draft New Constitution

At a meeting on 28th March the draft constitution with amendments proposed during the consultation period was discussed and agreed by Trustees. The new constitution is now lodged with the Charity Commission and we await their response in giving it their approval. Current demand on their time and resources means that we may

have to wait 3 to 6 months for final confirmation.

Your Village Association

I am pleased to say that a number of people have responded to the call to join the Village Association Committee, as well as people offering to support our activities.

Becoming a **Street Steward** is also an important role which we rely on to provide a link and sounding board to the WVA. We are greatly indebted to all those who currently help us throughout the year and will be holding a "Thank you" event on 11th May for all our Street Stewards. There are still a few vacancies - Rokefield being one - so if you would like to help out please let us know.

We have also made it easier for you to pay your **annual (household) subscription of £10** by creating a payment page on our website - so please, for less than 20p per week make sure that you renew your



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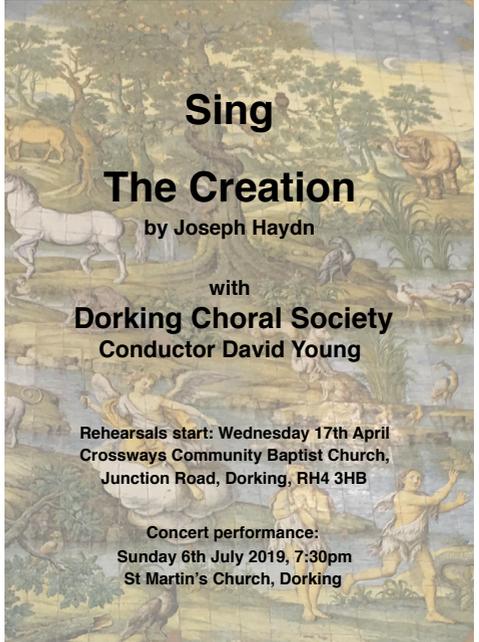


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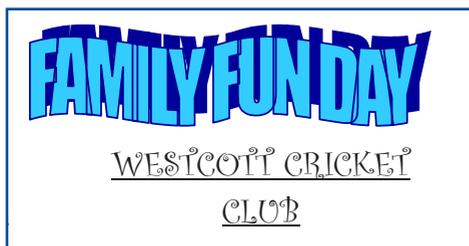
Tel: 01306 740003

Email: info@bramleyhouse.net

subscription for 2019 or, if you are not already a member, please join now. Remember to make sure we have email addresses for every member of the household covered by your subscription.

A Village Community

Some important dates for the diary:
Sports Club -150th Anniversary Cricket Match on Sunday 23rd June
(See page 18 for details)



WestFest - Sunday 7th July 2019
(See page 27 for details)



Tom Guilder - Retirement

Tom invited around 30 people to his farewell lunch which the WVA hosted.

His patients had been very generous with their donations and we were able to give him and Elaine some gifts which we hope they both will enjoy. The Retirement Wishes Book was very moving with so many grateful thanks



Dr Tom Guilder
by Edward Bennet

and warm memories of Tom's time as our "family GP" for all of his almost 31 years in the village. He will be sadly missed. (Pictures will be published on the website and in next month's magazine).

Please continue to comment on or make suggestions to improve the WVA website so that we ensure it is THE place to go for village news, information, and events.

As always, you are invited to write to me on issues which concern you, and the WVA will do their best to address them.

Tim Way
Chairman, Westcott Village Association
timway.westcott@gmail.com

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NEWS FROM THE READING ROOM



The Reading Room now offers free Wi-Fi for all our users and the option of a 6-person self-contained Meeting Room with separate entrance for just £5 an hour.

As the summer season starts with more weekend parties in the offing, we have a new fridge/freezer in the kitchen ready for keeping food and drinks fresh and ice cream really cold.

There is hall availability in the early mornings (7-10am) for potential users like keep-fit, breakfast clubs, music/revision training etc. These times can be offered at very competitive rates to prospective enquirers on application. We also have good availability in May and June for Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons/evenings for party and fund-raising events.

Our new Martial Arts classes take place on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and are looking at possible Tuesday evenings between 8-10pm if Westcott village folk would like to support this wonderful activity. More information from our website or directly from organiser Alan Richings on 07771 954466

More information from the Reading Room website www.westcottreadingroom.org.uk or by phone on 07967 286636.

Alan Reif, Chairman



Will Writing Service



If you are over 50 and live in the Mole Valley area, you can use Age Concern Mole Valley's Will Writing Service.

Once a month local solicitors, Meaby & Co (formerly Hart Scales & Hodges) are taking appointments for Will Writing at the Age Concern Mole Valley offices in Dorking. (A donation of £50-£75 can be given to Age Concern Mole Valley for the service. A solicitor would normally charge over £200-£300).

To book an appointment for the Will Writing Clinic, please call 01306 899104/07442 017169 or by email: info@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk

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WESTfest

in
Wonderland



**Join us at the Westcott Village Summer Fair
Sunday 7th July 2018 from 12-4pm
Cradhurst Recreation Ground, Westcott**

Now in its fifth year, WESTfest is a vibrant village gathering. This year we will be in Wonderland and have many special events planned for your enjoyment!



- Amazing Bubble Show
- Helter Skelter
- Tea Cup Ride
- Live Music
- Mad Hats Competition
- Crazy Cakes Competition
- Side shows and stalls
- Wide variety of food and drinks



An easy 2 mile walk from Dorking,
please walk or cycle to WESTfest as there is
NO CAR PARKING AVAILABLE.



If you would like a stall, or want to get involved,
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westfestsurrey@gmail.com

<https://westcottvillage.com/westfest/>
<https://www.facebook.com/WESTfestSurrey/>

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES...



New Advice Line for Families

Children and Family Health Surrey has launched a new 0-19 Advice Line. Families with children from birth to 19 years old can speak to a health visitor and get support on all aspects of child health, development and parenting by calling 01883 340 922.



The advice line is open from Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm (excluding bank holidays) - this provides longer opening hours for families than most of the former advice lines. Professionals including GPs, social workers and those working in schools can also contact our duty service by calling the advice line. Westcott families can use the service to get rapid advice and consistent support when they need it.

The new advice line replaces former local advice lines and will be staffed by health visitors and community nursery nurses.

Recycling clothes and home textiles

Everyone in Westcott can recycle clothes and home textiles.



As summer approaches, if you're clearing out your old clothes and home textiles, there's no need to put them in the bin when it's easy to bag them up and recycle them. A huge range of items can be recycled as long as they are clean and dry.

- Clothes like shirts, coats, tights and underwear
- Home textiles like towels and sheets
- Accessories like pairs of shoes, belts and bags

Textiles should be put in bags and tied up so that they keep dry. Please don't use black bin bags or put clothes and home textiles in your recycling bin. Clothes and home textiles are either



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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

sorted to be worn and used again in the UK or abroad, or recycled into useful products like felt, insulation or stuffing.



Recycling isn't always the best solution though - the *Reuse: repair and rewear* campaign is reminding us that there are many ways to extend the life of clothes and home textiles you no longer need. You could donate them to charity shops, or search "Surrey Repair and Rewear" on recycleforsurrey.org.uk for other ideas including clothes swapping parties, repair cafes and sewing courses

Swishing (clothes swapping events)

Swishing parties are events where you can swap your clothes with other people. You could do it informally with a group of friends or, if someone wanted to volunteer for us in Westcott we could organise a community event for the whole of Westcott. Do let me know if you are interested.

Dorking Repair Cafe

Did you know that on the first Saturday

of every month Dorking hosts it's own Repair Café? Simply take along your damaged clothes and experts will help you repair them.

As well as clothes that, with a little mending can see a new lease of life, the café offers to rejuvenate bikes, laptops and all sorts of other great stuff.

If you can't reduce what you need to use, then before you recycle it, think about whether the Repair Café might help you to bring it back into use.

Courses

There are a variety of courses to help you learn how to repair and upcycle your clothes.

Adult learning from Surrey County Council includes basic sewing courses, dress making, soft furnishings, patchwork, quilting, embroidery and needlecraft. Visit the adult learning website to find out more.

Garden waste collection services

Mole Valley District Council offers a fortnightly garden waste collection service, for an annual fee of £56.50.

Just like your other kerbside waste collections, your brown lid garden waste wheeled bin will need to be





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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

placed at the edge of your property by 6am on the day of your collection.

The scheme will take away:

- branches (no thicker than three inches)
- hedge trimmings, leaves or small twigs
- garden prunings and cuttings
- dead plants and cut flowers
- weeds
- other organic plant material (e.g. fallen fruit)



Many Westcott residents already subscribe to the service, but it might be that you feel you won't have enough garden waste to warrant a fortnightly

collection. If that's the case and you don't create a lot of garden

waste, why not talk to a neighbour, or a few neighbours, about sharing a subscription?

This can be a great way to spread the cost and to make your waste go further as anything collected is emptied into a dedicated vehicle and then sent to a local facility to be shredded and recycled into compost to be used as a soil improver.

The facility is run by KPS Composting and the finished compost can be purchased.

An even better solution for you might be home composting which is seen to be the most environmentally-friendly way as it rots down to produce nutritious compost which you can then use on your garden.

Composting is easy to do, and there are lots of things you can add to your compost bin or heap. It takes just a few quick steps to get started.



To find out how, visit the Recycle for Surrey website. Recycle for Surrey also offer discounted compost bins from only £13. Visit the website to order one or call 0844 571 4444.

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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

Westcott winner at Youth Awards

The outstanding achievements of young people who either live or go to school in the district have been celebrated at the 15th Mole Valley Youth Awards held on Friday 22 March at Dorking Halls.

The annual red carpet awards ceremony is organised by Mole Valley's youth council, Youth Voice. On the big night, nominees, parents, guardians and performers filled the Dorking Halls Grand Hall to make it a glamorous and celebratory evening.

Attendees enjoyed not only the award presentations themselves but were captivated by a variety of talented performances from local schools and groups throughout.

The responsibility of selecting winners in each of the eight categories from the nominations received fell to the Youth Councillors. Awards were made for drama, services to young people, sporting achievements, teamwork, dance, music and volunteering.

The young chef category was carried off by Westcott's very own Dylan Lamb – well done Dylan who was nominated for his contribution to local cub and scout camps in

particular. Dylan's prize included a day's work shadowing the head chef at Sorrell in Dorking.

Be Prepared in our Community

It's not something that we want to think about but Surrey Police are urging us to be ready if a terrorist attack were to happen in Surrey.

Our area is assessed to be a low risk area for the threat of a terrorist attack but the threat from terrorism is real and serious. We've seen that terrorists can strike at any time and any place without warning.



 **Stay alert on extremism and terrorism**
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The police serve a key role in protecting the country, but communities defeat terrorism and they need help and support from us and our community. To find out how to spot possible terrorist activity and

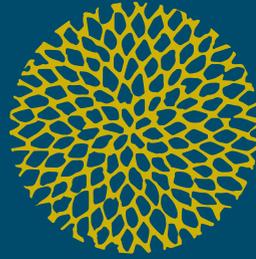
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THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR WRITES... (cont.)

how to report anything suspicious that you've seen or heard then take a look at www.surrey.police.uk – please remember never to put yourself in danger.

Cervical Screening

Our local NHS team are keen to highlight the campaign to raise awareness among women of cervical screening - one of the best ways to protect yourself from cervical cancer.

Cervical screening (a smear test) checks the health of your cervix. All women aged 25 to 64 should be invited by letter to book in with their GP practice every three years (or

every five years for people aged 50-64 years).

During the screening appointment, a small sample of cells will be taken and tested for any changes to the cells of your cervix or any traces of human papillomavirus (HPV), the name for a very common group of viruses. Nearly all cervical cancers are caused by infection with certain types of HPV.

Finding abnormalities early means they can be monitored or treated so they do not get a chance to turn into cervical cancer. Results are returned by letter, usually in about two weeks.



Mystery Trees

Well done to everyone that spotted last month's tree was the fallen one across the Pippbrook at the bottom of St John's Road.

St John's Hall

The St John's Hall team invites all to an 'open summer' to help us continue to celebrate Surrey Hills' 60 yrs as an AONB. We would love to hear of any community groups, initiated or individuals who would value using the space on a complimentary basis during the summer holiday period. Booking still required. Please contact Tony Astor or Judith Packer for more info or share your ideas

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SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS C of E PRIMARY

This is a very busy term with lots to look forward to. The choir will be performing at the Mole Valley Primary Music Festival and Years 3 and 4 will step back in time and experience life on the Titanic, through a workshop from Godalming Museum. All the school are looking forward to the annual Teddy Bears' Picnic, Abinger Medieval Fair and WESTfest, which are always a lot of fun.



Spotlight on Badgers Class



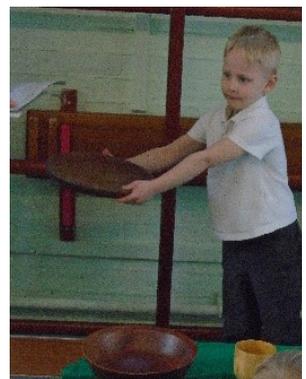
Earlier in March as part of Shakespeare week, we used King Arthur's legends to inspire our own legend writing. In Science we have been learning



about life cycles and metamorphosis. This week, we looked closely at eggs and identified the parts of an egg. We continue to cross stitch a symbol to represent a King Arthur legend in art and have been busy developing our tag rugby skills.

During Shakespeare week we enjoyed listening to a variety of modern day short animations which retold popular Shakespeare plays. We had a go at writing our own raps to tell the story of Macbeth. There were also some fantastic costumes.

As part of Lent, we have continued to focus on an act of kindness every day. So far, these have included holding doors open, giving a compliment



The Dorking Group of Artists – Spring Exhibition May 2019

Betchworth Village Hall

Saturday 4th May – Monday 6th May 10.00am – 6.00pm

(The exhibition closes at 4pm on Monday 6th May)

The Dorking Group of Artists, probably the largest art group in Surrey, will be holding their annual Spring Exhibition at Betchworth Village Hall. Exhibiting members, many professionals among them, will be displaying over 250 pieces of new and original art, all for sale at affordable prices. There will be large selection of unframed paintings for sale too. Entrance to the exhibition is free. The Dorking Group of Artists meets on Tuesday afternoons at Beare Green Village Hall from September through to Easter. Membership is open to all artistic abilities, from beginner to professional and costs just £25 for non exhibiting and £30 for exhibiting members per calendar year.

For more information contact Jane Anderson Wood (Chairman)

Tel: 01372 375123 Email j.andersonwood@gmail.com

*** Village Car Service - Help Needed ***



Owing to a shortage of members on the list of available drivers operating the Westcott Car Service we urgently need more assistance to ensure this very important help to the local community can continue.

If you can consider putting your name forward as a Driver, please contact David Johnson on 01306 885300 who will be pleased to provide more details.

to someone and remembering to say thank you.

Easter Pause Day

The whole school celebrated Easter Pause Day on Tuesday 26th March. The theme this year was Easter journeys with a focus on walking in Jesus' footsteps, and the value of serving. The children explored this through drama, art and treasure hunting activities along with periods of reflection in the prayer space.

We look forward to seeing the children's creations, for the Easter bonnet parades next Friday. Many thanks to Mrs Lister and her amazing team, who helped to make the day such a success.



"I enjoyed the day because it was the first time I read a prayer in church"
Bella

"I liked putting my foot in the paint and making a foot print"
Finlay



Surrey Hills Chess Club - Spring Term

During the spring term, our chess club took part in the biggest chess challenge, involving over 45,000 children playing in schools and clubs, up and down the country.

To qualify to go through to the next round, the Mega final, players had to score 17 points, or the highest score in their age group. The following players did just that. Elizabeth, top under 11, Harry, top under 9, Tom and Lawson, top under 8, Ezra, top under 11 (won all his matches).

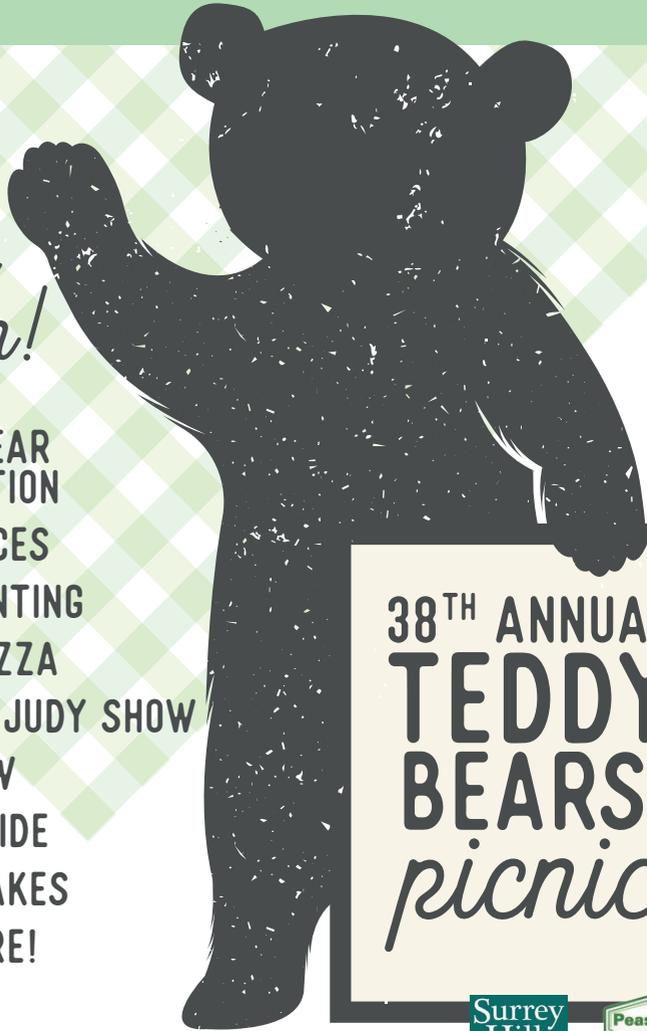
Congratulations to all the children who took part. What an achievement!



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LEITH HILL PLACE

Spring is really hitting its stride, and here at Leith Hill Place we have a host of exciting events coming up in May and June. From sculpting and willow-weaving to talks, concerts and plays, we have something to appeal to everyone. For more information, please visit our website on www.nationaltrust.org.uk/leith-hill-place.

Introduction to Sculpting, Mould-making & Casting

This 5-week course will teach you the basic skills needed to create your own small sculpture in clay. No experience necessary; all materials and tools provided. Please bring a packed lunch, hot drinks and biscuits will be supplied. £120 pp for the course. There are two sets of dates available: Thursdays 2/05, 9/05, 16/05, 23/05, 30/05 or Tuesdays 4/06, 11/06, 18/06, 25/06, 2/07. 10am until 2pm. Booking is essential on 07989 747722

Talk: Architectural History of Leith Hill Place

On 18 May and 16 June from 2.30 – 3.15pm, historian Patrick Newberry gives an engaging insight into the origins of Leith Hill Place and the families who have lived there. Free with entry to the house. No booking required.

Ralph Vaughan Williams talks series: Vaughan Williams' Symphony to the World's Oceans

On Saturday 18 May from 6pm – 7.30pm, writer, broadcaster and historian Andrew Green considers how Ralph Vaughan Williams' A Sea Symphony set Walt Whitman's evocative poetry to music and examines how Vaughan Williams' early life might have inspired his composition. Tickets £15pp. Booking is essential on 0344 249 1895.



Willow weaving: bird feeder & flower Learn how to make beautiful features for your garden from natural willow, including a bird feeder and flower. All materials are supplied, as well as a hot drink and biscuits. Nicky Rowling is running two workshops on Tuesday 4 June: the morning session from 10am – 12.30pm, the afternoon session from 1.30pm – 4pm. Tickets £ 4 0 p p . Booking is essential on 0344 2491895.



Anna Trenter

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A TRAVELLER'S TALES FROM ETHIOPIA

We are in the hot dusty town of Negele close to Moyale on the Kenyan border. The reason for a 7 hr drive on a bumpy dirt road was to see the Liben Lark. This bird was only discovered 20 years ago and it inhabits flat grassland. A large part of this area is just that but it was rapidly being ploughed under for wheat.



Liben Lark

Bird Life International stepped in and bought 50sq km and fenced it in. To their disappointment the lark's population plummeted. It was then found out that these fussy little birds like grazed grassland! So down came the fences, and before long goats and cattle had grazed it down to nothing and the lark population rose. It was definitely worth the drive: the world's population in a tiny area.

On the drive down here we played a game to guess how many people

we would see on one motorcycle. It is a lawless place and in the whole time here we haven't seen a single policeman. No one won the competition as to our disbelief we saw 6 people and a baby camel on one motorbike. Nobody had guessed a camel.

The Nairobi-Mombasa railway is a much needed replacement of the British effort in the early 20th century. Since Eritrea closed access to the sea for Ethiopia, they have been going through Djibouti, previously a French colony. The Chinese have built a wonderful 800km highway and the Turks have built a railway.

The lack of traffic police means everyone drives as fast as they can, including the big trucks. Within a few miles we saw a crushed minibus lying on the roadside, 2 massive trucks which had just had a head-on collision and 2 hyena lying in the middle of the road, hit by a truck. Perhaps they should have stayed with old, slow dirt road. The one thing I did notice was the lack of shenzis (the African feral dog).

The national currency here is Brr and for some reason the highest note is 100 which is worth a massive \$3! Thus it is easy to feel rich as changing \$100 gives you large pile of greasy notes.

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Visit to The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst - 14h March 2019

On a rather wet morning 53 people set off by coach to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.



We were given a lovely welcome by five guides (all of whom had very impressive careers in the army: bomb disposal, the intelligence service, active service in Bosnia/Afghanistan). They took us through to the Wellington Room for coffee, where there was an enormous wall painting depicting the Battle of Waterloo (from Wellington's point of view) and a smaller, not so spectacular, painting of the same battle (from Napoleon's point of view).



After coffee a presentation by the guides regarding the historical and modern operations of the Sandhurst Academy was given:

- In the past little training had been given to the British army when in battle. John Gaspard Le Marchant (one of the finest British cavalry commanders of his generation) was concerned about this lack of knowledge. In 1801 he established the first British military academy and staff college. During the nine years as the first lieutenant-governor of the college, he trained many officers who served with distinction under Wellington. Unfortunately, Le Marchant was killed during combat in 1812.



Sandhurst

- Modern-day training starts on 'Ironing board Sunday' for obvious reasons. It would also be the only time the students are allowed to use the front steps until the 'passing out' parade. The training is 44 weeks divided into three terms. To tie in with these three terms, three Sovereign's Parades to mark the passing-out of cadets are held

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each year. 'Boy' Browning as adjutant at Sandhurst began the tradition of riding a horse up the steps at the end of the parade which still continues to this day.



Indian Army Memorial Room

We visited the Indian Army Memorial Room which was the original chapel and still had the beautiful stained-glass windows with many images and features from the past.

There was a short visit to the Royal Memorial chapel, after which the group walked on to the famous front steps to have the group photograph taken before the bus arrived to take us back. It was a very enjoyable and interesting day. The return journey was warm and sunny!

Report by Caroline Brown

Photos by Bob Brown and Paul Jones

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The woodland is looking wonderful this month. The daffodils, primulas and other spring flowers are in full and glorious bloom. I have spent some time sat listening to the birds and watching them busily going too and fro the nesting boxes with twigs and moss building their homes in which to raise a new family. Every box is inhabited giving great promise of increasing our bird inhabitants in the woodland.

Last month we sadly had to report the burglary at our Memorial woodland when we were devastated to have all of power tools and hand tools (including shears and spades) stolen! As you know the Memorial woodland is there for our ex-servicemen and all to come and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this lovely place so we will not be deterred and have installed more sophisticated security, additional night lights and cameras.



The new piece of land adjacent to our original

woodland which the Charity purchased last year is our project for the summer and we have to thank Openreach again for supplying telegraph poles to line the pathways as they did for the original land 5 years ago. We are very grateful to them for their generosity.



On 1st June we will celebrate our 5th Anniversary since we officially opened which will be quite a celebration with The Queen's walkers arriving at the woodland at 12.30 having walked from Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone. Music by The 1st Cinque Ports Corp of Drums will be followed by a Commemoration Service for the Fallen. A BBQ will be provided by a local publican and there will be many more stalls selling interesting items such locally made crafts, a Tombola and raffle. Then to make this anniversary exceptional we have one of our charity Trustees and an ex-Queensman getting married at the woodland later in the afternoon. ALL are welcome.

Look forward to seeing you for this very special occasion.

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DORKING MUSEUM

Our current exhibition closes May 11th:

There is a last chance to see 'Lord Ashcombe's Minerals – the gentlemen collectors and the advance of science', which showcases the history of and examples from Lord Ashcombe's stunning mineral collection. The collection has not been on regular display, so this is a rare opportunity to view selected examples of the quartz crystals he collected and displayed at Denbies in the 19th century.

The Days of King Dor, opens May 16th:

Fancy yourself as a bit of a local history buff? Perhaps you haven't heard of the West Holmwood Winged Basket or the ancient Dorking Chalk Egg? To see these and other frankly surprising artefacts from the distant and more recent past in this corner of Surrey, check out our new temporary exhibition and be prepared for a different

version of history.

The Days of King Dor is a touring exhibition from the imaginary Leasingstede Museum, an idiosyncratic folk museum in the



West country, the creation of artist Jane Williams. It is a display of the contents of an old wooden chest the Leasingstede curators found, full of things that shed light on the history of Dorking and the surrounding area. There is a fragment of a football – or is it a bit of fossilized pancake? There is a metallic lozenge found on the Zig Zag road, and evidence of an extinct creature that used to roam the Pixham roundabout, long before it was round, or even had tarmac. Be sure not to miss the coins from King Dor's reign and hear lots of tales as tall as Leith Hill tower.

Children's Activity, May 30th and 31st:

To complement our new exhibition, and led by its creator, artist Jane Williams, the half-term activity is "What's in My Museum?", a drop-in event for 6-9 year olds between



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DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

11am and 3.30pm.

If you had your own museum, what would you choose to put on display? Costumes, armour, favourite toys, fossils or flowers? Or maybe it would be full of creatures from outer space, or imaginary fish? Dinosaurs or cakes? Come along and have fun creating your museum in a shoe box, from a variety of craft materials.

Surrey Day, May 4th: 'Lest We Forget:

First World War Digital Memories Project' is part of a nationwide initiative, led by the University of Oxford and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, which aims to recognise and record stories, objects, and memories from the First World War that survive in the hearts and homes of those affected. Bring along your diaries, letters, photographs, memoirs, objects or stories about your family's experience in the war to the Museum between 12pm-4pm (free admission)



to be recorded and added to the freely-available online archive to be shared and preserved for future generations.

Subject experts from the Western Front Association will be on hand to help identify objects and shed light on family stories. If you have a large collection, please mail us at admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk and we can arrange to see you on a day of your choice.

The Museum's latest Family Walk

This also takes place on May 4th at 3pm from the Museum.



Be history detectives. How can you tell parts of Dorking are old? Find out about Dorking's past as the children look for clues by finding features that match the photos on the quiz sheet. Tour 60-90 minutes, but feel free to leave when your children are tired. Children must be accompanied. Booking via website.

Other Museum guided walks for individuals in May:

Deepdene Trail walk on May 5th, 2pm from the Trail entrance, taking in the grotto, woodland walks, parterre

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DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

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Town Pubs walk on May 12th, 11am from the Halifax opposite the Surrey Yeoman: a stroll through Dorking's past as told around its many hostleries, pubs and inns, both past and present.



Details and booking via website – or group bookings by appointment.

The Surrey Day tours of the famous South Street Caves have sold out, but there will be the normal monthly **Open Day on May 25th**. Tours start 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm, but book early as these sell out quickly. See website for details and booking.

The Museum is at 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. Open Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am-4pm. Visit www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk. Enquiries to admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk or phone 01306 876591.

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MUSIC IN DORKING



4th at 12.00, Music at Midday at St Martin's church, free, 01306 884229
5th at 2.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £18.50, 01306 881717
7th 14th 21st 28th at 8.30, Watermill Jazz at Betchworth Park golf club, 07415 815784
11th at 7.30, clarinet and piano recital at Dorking Halls, £19, 01306 740619
11th at 7.30, Dorking Chamber Orchestra at St Martin's church, £15
13th at 7.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £18.50, 01306 881717
16th at 7.15, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £18.50, 01306 881717
20th at 2.00, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £18.50, 01306 881717
21st at 7.00, ballet screening at Dorking Halls, £18, 01306 881717

The Dorking Concertgoers present the last of this season's concerts with a lively programme of music for clarinet and piano played by James Meldrum and Maciej Kassak. Their programme includes music by Gershwin (including his delightful song *Summertime*), Debussy, Poulenc and others. This programme should have a wide appeal, so it would be good to finish the season with a full house!

The Dorking Chamber Orchestra is currently celebrating its 30th season and it finishes with a gala anniversary concert. The orchestra, conducted by Andrew Morley, will play Mozart's overture *The Impresario*, Butterworth's beautiful idyll *The banks of green willow*, and Beethoven's third symphony, the powerful *Eroica*. It will also be joined by soloists Janina Byrne and Rosanna Rolton to play Mozart's delightful concerto for flute and harp.

This month's lunchtime concert at St Martin's church is given by Classical Folk, making a welcome return visit after their very successful recital last year.

Watermill Jazz meets every Tuesday evening. May's line-up of performers is: Kadri Voorand (7th), Kate Williams' Four Plus Three (14th), John Etheridge's Sweet Chorus (21st) and the Antonio Forcione Quartet (28th).

There are several screenings at the Dorking Halls this month. Opera lovers can see Gounod's *Faust* from the Royal Opera House (5th) and Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmelites* from the New York Met (13th). Ballet lovers can see *Flight Pattern* from the Royal Ballet (16th and 20th) and *Carmen Suite* and *Petrushka* from the Bolshoi in Moscow (21st).

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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

Those of you who recall the old style parish magazine will remember there used to be a section for things people wanted to sell or giveaway in the village. Well I think it's time we resurrected this but expanded the scope too. So anybody with things to sell or giveaway / looking for local expertise or home helps etc can post free to the village noticeboard. The only condition is that you must be Westcott based, and there is a 25 word limit. I will not accept anything that looks like a business advert, and the editor's decision on inclusion is final.

Please send any items for the noticeboard to editor@westcottmag.com by the 8th of the month before you want it to be included.

Pot and Paint - Surrey Artists Open Studios

Terry O'Brien and Jacky Cowdrey will be participating in Surrey Artists Open Studios in June. On show will be a range of of thrown and hand-built pots with light effects and organic themes, including his signature 'tree pots' by Terry O'Brien; Jacky Cowdrey will be exhibiting paintings and drawings on a wide range of subjects, including dancers and landscapes in a variety of media (www.jackycowdreyart.co.uk). All items will be for sale.



The Open Studios, at Corner Cottage, Abinger Lane, Abinger Common, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6JH will be open: Each Saturday & Sunday day from June 1st to June 16th 11.00am-5.00pm, plus Thursday June 6th & 13th 11.00am-5.00pm and evening 6.00pm-8.30pm.

Teas, coffees and cakes will be served, proceeds in aid of The Royal Marsden Hospital.

For further details see Pot and Paint in the Surrey Artists Open Studios brochure or look up at <https://surreyopenstudios.org.uk/>



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Christian Aid week is on the 12th – 18th May. The campaign is called "All Mums Should Live" and aims to help women who become mothers in Sierra Leone. This is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum.

In the picture Tenneh Bawoh gazes adoringly at baby Ansumana. Tenneh's first pregnancy ended in tragedy but thanks to nurse Judith and the medical training she received, Tenneh's second labour resulted in the safe delivery of her baby boy. Christian Aid in partnership with RADA (Rehabilitation and Development Agency) has been working locally to help vulnerable women access healthcare, improve hygiene, train nurses and help to build a bigger, better healthcare centre. With your help many more women can have healthy pregnancies and safe delivery of their babies.

This Christian Aid week, together we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can give the world's poorest mums a chance to live.

Please look out for the red envelope that will be delivered to your home and later collected by a volunteer collector. If by any chance you miss the collector when they return, the envelope can be taken to Dorking Oxfam, High Street.

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Photo credit: Christian Aid/
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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Faith's Gardens

I've known Faith for several years, and have seen some of her lovely gardens, so I will do my best to make sure this is an objective interview with her, and I'm not just a rambling old friend.

Faith has lived in Westcott with her family for fifteen years, and has made lots of good friends in the village. Some, of course, are her clients, but her business spreads much more widely than that from Leatherhead, to Guildford and Reigate, and places in between.



'What's the thing you like best about the business?' was the obvious question to start with, and her answer didn't surprise me, as it's very much about Faith herself. 'It's the creative side and sharing of knowledge and always learning something new!' she said. 'You go to a garden, and the client has just moved, or wants a redesign or wants to make things more manageable' she said, 'and I just love trying to work out what would work for them and their garden and coming up with a vision for what it might look like when the work is finished. And they can't always see it, so I do visuals and sketches and planting plans, and really help them understand what the possibilities are.'

'So it's really the design side?' I said. 'Yes' said Faith, 'but you can't be a designer until you've been a gardener. Nobody can really design a garden properly until they have an understanding of how a plant will work in a particular place, or how to mix plants so they work together, and





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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH (cont.)

a million other things that only come when you've spent years digging, and weeding, and planting, and thinning, and pruning and all the other things you really have to know about if you call yourself a gardener. I love the hands on in the garden.'

'And actually, that's what people pay for. Not just fancy ideas, but ideas based on knowledge, both practical, from working in gardens, and theoretical, from the courses and exams you really need to do if you are seriously going to make a difference to people's gardens, and take money for it.'

'What sort of people come to you for ideas?' I asked. 'A really wide variety,'



she said. 'People who really are seriously wanting to make a difference to their outdoor space, whether a small project or large. I get a lot of

recommendations which is nice too. It can save money for a lot of people in

the long term as I can advise on what plants would work rather than years of bad purchases from the Garden Centre!'

'But I can ask you about the different services you offer, can't I?' I said. 'Well, I do everything, from just a consultancy meeting and exchange of ideas, to then offering an in depth design, and then buying all the plants in, preparing the ground and completely planting everything from scratch, and then offering a maintenance plan, where either I do the maintenance on a seasonal basis, or supervise their regular garden maintenance. And you can have all of that, or just the bit you need.'

'You mention buying in the plants - do you have specialist nurseries you work with?' 'Sometimes they are specialists, if I'm buying specialist or unusual plants, but really I like working with local nurseries. I can go and inspect the plants much more easily, and handpick them carefully and the people know me. It's a really important relationship.'

'Lots of plants will be coming in from overseas, I guess. Is the Brexit thing making a difference?' Faith said 'It certainly is. Nurseries just don't know what is going to happen. Did you know plants may have to have passports? Some of the nurseries are very nervous about what to do, should



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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH (cont.)

they be buying in extra stock, will they be able to continue to trade and import after Brexit? It's not really clear at the moment.'

'Is it a lonely job?' I asked. 'Well sometimes,' she admitted 'but I usually have the radio on in the background and work with a fun bunch (or the dog!) so I don't feel by myself! There are also opportunities to get together with other designers at conferences or small events (led by the Society of Garden Designers) and it's a good way of networking. It also keeps you up to date with new ideas, legislation, new plants and different ways of doing things. It's important to keep your knowledge broad to cover all aspects of design. Fashion

changes too, people want wildlife friendly gardens, or a small formal structured space with lots of hard features, or water gardens - the list is endless, and I've got to be on top of all of it!'

'So a real cross-fertilisation of ideas' I said, hoping she would appreciate my horticultural pun. 'Absolutely. We are hoping to start a cluster group of garden designers here in Surrey so we can exchange ideas, visit private gardens or just moan about an awkward client!'

'Finally' I asked 'where did all this inspiration come from?' 'Definitely from my Mum' she said. 'I grew up in Cornwall, where we had a big garden, and Mum was always in the garden or at the nursery. We grew up outside because she was always there, and if I phone her now, she usually has to phone back because she's weeding, or digging or doing something else aged almost 80! And I loved growing up like that, and my business has given me a very flexible career while bringing up my children.'

'You obviously love it.' I said. Her face shines, 'I wake up every day looking forward to going to work – not everyone is so lucky! Plus working with living things that are natural and beautiful. Who wouldn't enjoy it.'



Andrea Gabb



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MOLE VALLEY RAMBLERS



With spring well underway, the Surrey countryside looks glorious in May with the colours fresh and bright – and what better way to appreciate its glories as the temperatures rise than on a walk. This month, we have a wide choice across the area and have also added a couple of evening walks to enjoy the longer hours of daylight. Part of the Ramblers Association, Mole Valley Ramblers organise group walks across the heart of Surrey and further afield, on weekdays and at weekends, with a range of distances from 3.5 to 11 miles and levels from leisurely to strenuous, as detailed below in the list of May walks. Visit www.molevalleyramblers.org.uk for full information.



- Weds 1st: Field and Forest - Albury Heath to Peaslake. 10am, 6.5 miles, moderate.
- Wednesday 1st: A mightier walk to Mickleham. 10am, 10 miles, moderate.
- Saturday 4th: King John, JFK & William the Conqueror. 10am, 12 miles, moderate
- Sunday 5th: Coldharbour & magical displays of bluebells. 9.30am, 7 miles, moderate.
- Wednesday 8th: The other Wey around. 10am, 7 miles, moderate.
- Wednesday 8th: Golf and Golden Gates. 10am, 8 miles, strenuous.
- Sunday 12th: The Ups and Downs of Holmbury. 9.30am, 7 miles, moderate.
- Monday 13th: In the footsteps of Aethelwulf – possibly. 2pm, 3.5 miles, leisurely
- Weds 15th: From Leith Hill Place to Forest Green & beyond. 10am, 6 miles, moderate.
- Wednesday 15th: Over to Outwood. 10am, 6.5 miles, moderate.
- Thursday 16th: Friday Street evening frolic. 6pm, 5 miles, moderate.
- Saturday 18th: The South Downs. 10am, 11 miles, moderate.
- Sunday 19th: Happy Valley meets North Downs. 9.30am, 7 miles, moderate.
- Sunday 19th: Box Hill from the top. 10am, 4 miles, leisurely.
- Wednesday 22nd: Little London to Reynards Hill. 10am, 8.5 miles, strenuous.
- Thursday 23rd: Brockham from above. 5.30pm, 5 miles, moderate.
- Saturday 25th: The natural history of Selborne. 10am, 9.5 miles, moderate.
- Sunday 26th: How many hills? 9.30am, 7 miles, strenuous
- Wednesday 27th: Newdigate to Rusper. 10am, 9.5 miles, moderate.
- Wednesday 27th: Shere Drop. 10am, 10.5 miles, strenuous.

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Would you mind...?

My volunteers are very familiar with the start of this sentence as it usually ends in asking them to carry out an unusual task. As I write, Cathy, one of my volunteers, is currently making giant eggs to go in a giant nest that we have made for Box Hill's Easter events.



I generally don't like to say no to requests for help from my colleagues and this has inevitably made me popular. So, the latest request from the Box Hill team was, 'can you make a giant nest that children can sit in?' My response was, 'well yes of course!' Thankfully I have a team of very talented volunteers that can turn their hand to most things.

The carpentry team made a base for the nest and then we used willow



Amanda in the Easter nest

(left over from the Christmas wreath making) to build a frame. We then wove in birch brash (from heathland management work) to make it look like a nest. The eggs were made with paper mache and I have discovered that Cathy (retired teacher), has a PhD in sticking gluey bits of paper to balloons!

After making a clay pizza oven and building a willow sculpture of an 8ft woman, my volunteers will be wondering what the next random request will be!

Wildlife to see this month

Adonis Blue Butterfly

The iconic butterfly of the hill is the Adonis Blue, which has two broods in the summer; early May and August.

The Adonis Blue has a curious relationship with ants and will spend the winter as a caterpillar deep



inside an ants' nest. Ants are attracted by organs on the caterpillars' body which when 'drummed' by an ant produces sweet droplets of honeydew like substance which they feed on. In return for this the ants provide the caterpillar with protection from predators.



Adonis Blue

Look out for this brilliant metallic blue butterfly in the second week of May, males emerge first so that they are ready to mate females (which are brown) as soon as possible.

Bluebells

Bluebells are not a plant generally associated with Chalk grassland but on Abinger Roughs with its sandy soil it is a good place to see them. They transform our woodland in springtime. The carpet of intense blue under the opening tree canopy is one of our greatest woodland spectacles. It's not surprising that

the bluebell is one of the nation's best-loved wild flowers.

Bees, hoverflies, butterflies and other insects feed on the nectar of the bluebell. Their flowers provide an important early source of nectar. Bees can 'steal' the nectar from bluebells' flowers by biting a hole in the bottom of the bell, and reaching the nectar without pollinating the flower.

Bluebells, in combination with other species, is an ancient woodland indicator in the UK.

Gummy bluebell sap was used to bind pages into the spines of books. Bronze Age people used bluebell sap to set feathers upon arrows, known as fletching. Bluebell bulbs were crushed to provide starch for the ruffs of Elizabethan collars and sleeves. Though little used in modern medicine, the bulb has diuretic and styptic (stops bleeding) properties.

According to folklore, one who hears a bluebell ring will soon die! Legend also says that a field of bluebells is intricately woven with fairy enchantments.

For top places to see bluebells visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/bluebell-woods-near-you

RANGER @ LANDBARN FARM (cont.)



Swifts

One of my favourite birds, the distinctive loud screaming parties of swifts whipping over rooftops is a sure sign summer is on its way. These birds are a joy to see after their return from spending the winter in Africa.

They spend almost all of their lives on the wing, even sleeping, drinking and mating while flying; they only land to nest.

They feast on small flying insects, usually catching them high up in the sky. Insects collect in a special pouch at the back of the swift's throat, where they are bound together by saliva until they form a kind of pellet known as a bolus, which can be regurgitated and

fed to chicks. A single bolus can contain over 300 insects, with some holding over 1,000.

Swifts build their nests of air-borne material caught in flight, bonded with their saliva, in suitable buildings hollows, such as under tiles, in gaps beneath window sills, and most typically under eaves and within gables.

*'March winds, April showers,
bring forth May flowers'.*

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