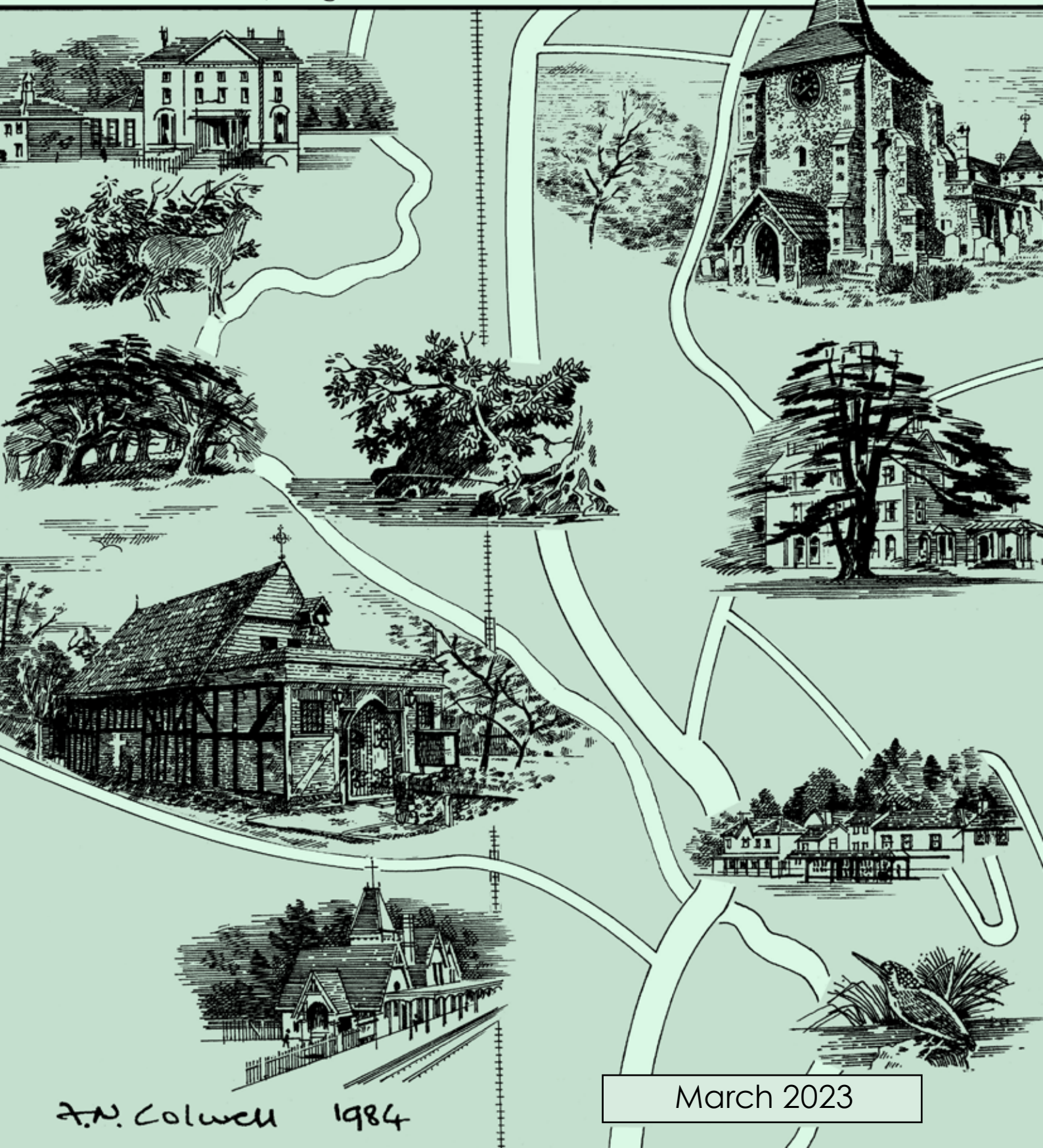


MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

A community magazine for Mickleham and Westhumble



A.N. Colwell 1984

March 2023



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MICKLEHAM PARISH Magazine

March 2023

Mickleham Rectory

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
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local charity and community
events. However the editors
reserve the right to shorten
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submitted for publication
depending on space.



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Hi everyone

Lent is fast approaching as I write this. Lent is of course a time of fasting; of going without something and being tempted to give in. Temptation is more than being unable to resist eating chocolate or indulging in 'guilty pleasure'. We tend to trivialise it and it is helpful to think about the temptations that Jesus faced when he was in the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights before he began his public ministry. It is described as a time of testing when he was tempted to turn stones into bread, to jump off the pinnacle of the temple to be caught by an angel or to conquer the world through the power of the devil/evil.

I do not think Jesus was being tempted to indulge himself or satisfy greed. He was being tempted to take the easy way out. He could avoid pain and suffering if he used his miraculous powers to meet his needs, he could declare himself to be God's Son in a spectacular way, he could take on kingship without the cross. We do not have to look far to find leaders who feather their own nests or use the spectacular or evil to gain power. The time of testing for Jesus led him to walk the way of crucifixion which is what we will celebrate at Easter.

I think it is important to recognise when we are tempted to take short cuts and take the easy way which may suit us better. How much do we really want to help with cutting carbon emissions or reducing plastic waste. Enough to be uncomfortable sometimes? Are we enthusiastic enough about supporting wildlife to leave areas of our gardens and churchyard so that wildflowers and insects can flourish even when it does not look so tidy? Our communities and church are short of volunteers, but it is easier to ignore the needs. It can be easier to tell the odd little white lie than tell the truth. When relationships are difficult is it easier not to bother? There are endless examples of where we are tempted to take the easy way but by considering the consequences we are helped to resist.

Saying 'No' to the temptations of chocolate or cake can be helpful in reminding us to face up to the bigger and more significant temptations of behaving selfishly. In church during Lent we will be thinking more about temptation, unselfish choices and the life of Jesus as an example to us of how to live a truly good life.

Lent is a time of looking forward to Easter, when we celebrate all that Jesus did for us in choosing the tough route which enabled our forgiveness and the assurance of eternal life. Having said that chocolate is a temptation, I am sure Easter eggs do not count! Come with your children or grandchildren and join in the Easter egg hunt after church on Easter Sunday. See you there!

God Bless

Sandra

The Rev'd Dr Sandra Faccini, Parish Priest

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Tributes to the Editor

Coronation Celebration Plans

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St Michael's Church Services

10 am Sunday Services available on Zoom

Joining information for both Zoom and telephone users is available in Pews News Online each week. If you would like to join us by Zoom then contact Alison Wood for the codes or to ask her to include you on the emailing list for Pews News: admin@micklehamchurch.org.uk / phone 01372 376443. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for worship.

Please refer to Pews News Online for the latest information. If you missed any of the services or would like to revisit them all are available on the church YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/channel/UCI4pbewCT91iZhcd0EjJBlw>



First Saturday of the month
Coffee Morning at Westhumble

Chapel
Saturday
4th March

Come along between
10 am and noon
for coffee and cake £1.
Free drinks for children
Everyone welcome
For further information call
Jonathan Blake
07787 126966



Tea @ 3

No tea in March
Next date Monday 17th April
at The Old House,
Old London Road
Please get in touch with Julia if you
are willing to help
siberrman@btinternet.com

Women's and Men's
Breakfasts
see page 26



Memorial Easter Lilies

Mentioned many times in the Bible, the white lily symbolises purity, rebirth, new beginnings and hope and is most often associated with the resurrection of Jesus.

This Easter the church will once again be decorated with lilies given in memory of loved ones. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of a lily and have the name of someone special read out during the service then please contact Catherine on mickleham@diffey.me.uk by 31st March.

Mothering Sunday Workshop

9.30 am on
Sunday 19th March
at St Michael's School

for all accompanied children
aged under 11.

Please contact Rebecca for more
information: rjmcnullin@hotmail.com

11 am Mothering Sunday
Service in St Michael's
Church



Bible Study

Monday Evening Group
8 - 9 pm

3 Cleveland Court, Westhumble
Contact Amanda Wadsworth
aewadsworth@hotmail.com

Thursday Morning Group
10.30 am - 12 noon during Lent

Abbotts Cottage, Mickleham
Contact Alison Wood
01372 376443
alison.wood29@btinternet.com

ALL WELCOME TO EITHER GROUP



Mickleham Village Hall
3.30 to 5 pm



All children must
be accompanied
by an adult

Come along and join us for family fun,
games, songs, food and crafts.
For children aged 3 - 10

ALL ARE WELCOME
To reserve your place or find out more details, email Sarah Blake
SarahJbl@outlook.com

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

Memorial Trees

You may already be aware that, with the guidance of our new Eco Group, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) aims to manage the land around the church in a way that enhances its environmental value. This plan includes the planting of a small number of native tree species in the new graveyard area, including seven recently planted fruit trees plus a handful of 'standard trees' to be included in the hedgerows.

In response to previous requests, the PCC has agreed that these trees as well as the existing central cherry and damson trees in the new graveyard area could be offered for loved ones buried or interred in St. Michael's. Of course, apart from the central cherry trees, the trees will just be saplings at this stage, but we hope that they will live for 50 years or longer and, being native species, enhance the ecological

value, as well as the peace and beauty of this area.

The fee for each tree would include the cost of the sapling, robust tree guards, maintenance, a brass tree plaque, and the cost of replacement in the event that the tree dies. Also included is a contribution towards church funds, including the maintenance of the churchyard. The proposed sum of £550 would be valid for a period of 25 years, with a possible option to renew the memorial for a further 25 years at a reduced amount.

If you might be interested in remembering a special person in this way, please contact one of the churchwardens for further information by talking to us directly or emailing churchwardens@micklehamchurch.org.uk

Catherine Diffey and Tim Mathieson



Top: the existing cherry and damson trees;
below: an example of a brass plaque.

Lent Course 2023

A six-week course in a relaxed environment, with refreshments, looking at The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book.

We will have two groups running, details of which are below:

Thursday daytime starting on 23rd February until 30th March inclusive
from 10.30 am (11. am start) until 12.30 pm at Alison Wood's home, Abbots Cottage, London Road, Mickleham contact Alison Wood on 01372 376443

Tuesday night starting on the 28th February until 4th April inclusive
from 7.30 pm until 9 pm at The Chapel of Ease, Westhumble.

For the evening course only there will

be a 30 minutes period of meditation, led by Susan McGrath, before looking at the study, please see below for details: *Centering Prayer Meditation Practice*

Centering Prayer is a receptive method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer. Rather, it adds depth of meaning to all prayer and facilitates the movement from more active kinds of

prayer into a receptive prayer of resting in God. Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God.

This Lent I will be introducing this form of Christian Meditation at the start of our sessions, for the first 30 minutes, over the six weeks including some time in silence. I have been practising this form of meditation for 20 years. I hope you will join us and find it rewarding.

Susan

Please contact Amanda Wadsworth email: aewadsworth@hotmail.com or 01306 743164 for more details.



St Michael's Church Community Group

Lent Lunches for the Community in Mickleham Village Hall

Organised on behalf of St Michael's Church

All are welcome. A chance to greet old friends and make new ones.

Delicious soups, bread and cheese – no charge
but any donations will go to local charities.

If you want to volunteer to make a soup or just want to come along (so we have some idea of numbers) contact Andy Diamond on 07789 775354 or email diamo1@hotmail.co.uk. Please let me know if you need transport or would like soup delivered to your home and we will do our best to accommodate.



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St Michael's Church Community Group Posting Letters to the Moon

Such was the enthusiasm for this event on 4th February that we received two reviews. For reasons of space alone we have not duplicated the well-deserved thanks to all those who made it happen:

Charles Wheeler writes

The village hall was humming with excitement as a full house gathered to see and hear a couple of stars from stage, screen and radio treading the boards (well at least the temporary staging, thanks to Mike Benson, Rod Beer, Phil Randles and Rod for the carpet). The event was a reading of a series of letters exchanged during the Second World War between the famous actress, Celia Johnson (star of *Brief Encounter*), and her husband, Peter Fleming (author and brother of Ian Fleming, who wrote the James Bond books). He was working for military intelligence and stationed far away from home for most of the war.

Ruby Lyons writes

Mickleham Village Hall was the setting for a simply lovely evening of nostalgic entertainment. There was a full house and a buzz of conversation and laughter in the hall in the time leading to 'curtain up' as many friends and neighbours mingled, chatted and enjoyed beverages.

'More than kisses, letters mingle souls. For, thus friends absent speak.' Simon Williams offered John Donne's words as a preface to a narration by himself and his wife Lucy Fleming of some of the wartime correspondence between the iconic actress Celia Johnson and her husband, author Peter Fleming, as they were separated by war during the early years of their marriage.

This was very much a family affair as Lucy is the daughter of the wartime journalist Peter Fleming (brother of James Bond creator Ian Fleming), and Celia Johnson, actress and star of many films including *Brief Encounter*. *Posting Letters to the Moon*, which takes its title from a phrase in one of Celia's letters, is not a play with a script, it is more of a facilitated documentary-style glimpse into the relationship between two newly-wed people separated by war and maintaining their loving connection

The letters with descriptions of the trials and tribulations of life during the war and the pain of separation from loved ones in such uncertain and dangerous times were delightful. The performers expertly brought to life the words and emotions heightened by their personal connections to the letter writers. Lucy Fleming (who played Celia Johnson) is her daughter and Simon Williams (who played Peter Fleming) is the real-life husband of Lucy. The chemistry between the two was evident and made for an endearing and poignant performance, lightened with some unexpectedly amusing passages!

The pair received rapturous applause from the appreciative audience which was followed by more delight as the raffle was held and some excellent prizes (a hamper, wines, day at a winery) were snapped up by lucky winners (thanks to Denise Darling and Mary Banfield for organising and their



generous donations)

Many thanks are due to the Front of House (Frances Presley, Mark Day), the production team of Matt Lee Newby, Kelvin Pritchard, Tony Butler and Sacha Herring and the barmen Andy Diamond and Kelvin Pritchard. And, of course, none of this would have happened without the vision and hard work by the producers/event organisers, Will and Annie Dennis. Huge thanks are due to them for bringing such a unique occasion to us.

through their letters. Creating theatrical entertainment through curated letters, some contextual narration, and a little occasional musical background might sound daunting. However, the professional skill and charm of the performers, and their real and poignant connection to the writers conjured a vivid picture of the realities and privations of life for families during WW2, as well as a very personal glimpse into the love affair between these two people. It was impossible not to be transported back in time and be engaged in hoping that it would all work out well for them.

Old family photographs were projected onto a screen behind Lucy and Simon during the performance which added to the atmosphere. The letters themselves were charming and full of endearments, and references to their baby son's amusing sayings and doings. Celia's especially were beautifully evocative of life on the home front and peppered with the spice of some show biz gossip, which was highly entertaining. Her letters were funny and self-deprecating as she wrote about her lack of cooking skills, and her various wartime jobs, her fear that she would not be 'good enough' in *Brief Encounter*, and whether

to take the job at all as it would mean leaving her child for a period of time. Peter's letters, while also funny, were more resonant of the loneliness of separation from home and family. Celia observes in one letter that Peter has been away more than home in all the time they have known each other. It was difficult not to be a little star struck as it is not every Saturday that we have *bona fide* stars of stage and screen performing in the village hall. Thank you Lucy and Simon for bringing some stardust to Mickleham alongside their good humour and friendly interaction with the audience before and after the performance.

Mark Day added

This was a Will Dennis production, insofar that his family connection with Lucy, his cousin, meant that Lucy and Simon reduced their normal fee. They also waived their agreed share of the profit, for the benefit of one of our charities. Many thanks to them for this tremendous generosity.

Initial estimates are of a profit of £1,500. Thanks to all Group members and others involved, especially, perhaps to Mary Banfield for her very generous raffle prizes.



Sue at Guildford Cathedral in 1992 when MPM won the diocesan prize for parish magazines

In the October 2022 edition of Mickleham Parish Magazine (MPM) Sue Tatham's wrote about its origins and its development into its present form. If you have thrown away your copy (perish the thought) you can see it online on either the church or parish council website.

For more than 38 years since it was launched, Sue has been the mastermind and has embraced new technology. In some respects that has made life easier for those involved in its production but it has also made her more ambitious about what can be achieved. Keeping up is not always easy!

As Sue said in her article, the magazine provides a record of life in the parish: 'Early magazines featured occasional articles about old Mickleham by Mo Chisman who had a collection of bound copies of old parish magazines – some dating from the late 1800s. These proved most interesting and helped us to appreciate the important role parish magazines play in recording social history. This realisation became a factor when it came to choosing content for our monthly issues. It also spurred us on during low points when we wondered if it was worth all the time it consumed. Today when local papers are in decline and most communication is digital and transient, much of today's social history will be lost unless publications such as ours continue.'

Now Sue is retiring. 'Now' for Sue is a moveable concept; over recent weeks and months she has been working even harder than ever to spread her load across as many people as possible and

The Editor Retires...

it has been wonderful how residents have responded. It seems they want to keep the show on the road.

Sue will continue to support the team with advice and guidance; and will be the official Archivist. Copies of all the magazines from October 1984 rest with the Surrey History Archive in Woking and in the village archive here. Imagine the whoops of delight when future historians find this goldmine of information when researching life here in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Sue has been supported throughout by Ben, Andrew and Jenny and her family. Ben has been the official photographer (sent out in all weathers to record events or provide a picture to fill a space) and final reader before the copy is sent to the printer. He may have been exasperated about the time spent with the magazine but he must be very proud of Sue's unmatched achievement.

Sue Tatham BEM, all those who are involved in producing the magazine and all its many readers join to say thank you very much and to wish you a well-deserved and happy retirement.

The appeal last month for memories and retirement tributes brought forth the following heartfelt contributions:

Rose Spence, a former Mickleham resident who moved to Dorset writes: Stan and I were involved at the start of the new parish magazine and we had many an enjoyable evening with friends rushing round our table collating the pages and stapling them. We did get into trouble with Sue if the stapling was not up to scratch, probably due to the liquid refreshment! Sue's vision of producing such an excellent magazine with information relating to the whole of the parish was so well done and the one produced where I live now does not compare. Enjoy your retirement, Sue. It is very hard to give up.

Frances Presley writes: I have known Sue for the last eight years, and I was so pleased to be asked to join the panel for the magazine. I have come to respect, among other things, her patience, her wisdom, her knowledge particularly of the church, and her wry sense of humour. We shall all miss her, but I suspect that many of us will still be going to her for advice. Thank you Sue

for guiding the magazine over all these years, but I do blame you for making my bookshelves overloaded with all the books you have suggested I read!

David Kennington writes: When we arrived in Mickleham in 1988, Sue was already three years into her 38-year stint as editor of the MPM. Always a font of local knowledge the magazine has been the steady pulse of the community, recording events of joy and sadness, set against the backdrop of what is happening in the wider world. One of my favourites is the monthly crossword, compiled for so many years by Richard Roberts Miller, the answers often reflecting his views on the seasons or his particular local bug bears and now more eclectically but no less entertainingly carried on by Sue's son Andrew. Sue seems to have been interested in every facet of community life and her editorship has been a constant reflection of her dedication to this aim; her perseverance, ability to innovate and legendary powers of organisation will be missed, but long may her legacy remain!

Liz Weller writes: Sue's dedication to instigating and developing our community magazine to what it is today is truly legendary. I had never anticipated writing anything worthy of being published, so when Sue first approached me to contribute an article soon after the 'new mag' was launched, I was incredulous, but how could I refuse, when Sue was making such an enormous effort herself? So I buckled down and put my mind to it, doubtful that it would see the light of day. My utter surprise was indescribable when I saw my name in print for the first time! Sue instilled confidence which is a great tribute to her skills and inspired me to become a regular contributor. I am sure this has happened to many other people who could not believe at first that they could ever write anything publishable. Sue has been a great inspiration to many of us over the years and we have much to thank her for.

Will Dennis writes: I have always enjoyed working with Sue. She is an unusual example of an American who has a complete understanding of the

continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

English, including our bizarre sense of humour. Perhaps that comes of having Ben as a husband and Andrew as a son!

More seriously, we have got used to having one of the best-produced parish magazines in the land. As well as being beautifully laid out and printed on high quality paper with colour pictures – none of your black and white, quarter-folded A4 sheets here – it is refreshingly long on village news and features, and short on evangelism. And it's delivered on time each month to every household in the village. Not even Covid got in the way of the Mickleham Parish Magazine, at a time when churches, restaurants and theatres were closed across the country.

This brilliant product is entirely of Sue's making, and long may it continue as her legacy. Additionally, it is no surprise to me that, in an era where advancing technology often means that one person can do a job that three people used to do, it has taken at least three people to replace Sue's role on our parish magazine.

Respect! And may I dare to ask that, well-earned retirement notwithstanding, we will still be permitted the occasional punchy article with the Sue Tatham byline. I do hope so.

Mark Day writes: I have lived in Mickleham 30 years, well before WhatsApp communication, and the magazine was always a vital source of information about events, new arrivals, church and shop activities: indeed all it does now but in monochrome and on basic paper. The subject matter

was less varied then and it is a credit to Sue's openness to new ideas, that it has become the force it is today.

The magazine remains a vital community centerpiece, with the balance of advertisements never overcoming content, which seems always to be an issue in other, lesser magazines the information gets lost in the ads. It is this balance and the sheer quality of the writing which has kept the mag as a critical part of the life of our community. Sue has been open to new ideas, such that when I submitted my first 'Grumpy Old Mickleman' article, the first solely humorous irregular series which ran for a few years... Sue may have been dubious, but she gave it a chance.

I was, coincidentally, present when Sue received her British Empire Medal. It was so thoroughly deserved! Thanks for all you have done to tie this community together. It remains a central need despite WhatsApp etc.

Stephanie Randall writes: So, who was the President of the US and the British Prime Minister when Sue first started the magazine? One day long ago, Sue looked woefully at a folded sheet that was the parish news and thought to herself, 'We can do better than this.' And so it began, in her spare room, which was not actually spare; there were times when we were facing a deadline that Andrew would wander in and plead to be allowed to go to bed. Each page of the magazine, the hard copy, was typed on a single sheet, which was used as a stencil for printing: Tippex correction fluid was



Sue at Loseley House when she received her BEM for services to the community at the same time as David Ireland

a boon, (who remembers Tippex?). Sue and I would spend hours wading through special copyright-free books looking for suitable illustrations. Headings were rubbed down in Letraset® and I remember Ben, who read the proofs for us, pointing out that I had left the 'r' out of Christmas. In these days of desktop publishing, digital photography and emails I find it hard to believe that we ever produced a magazine in the time available. Yet, through all that, Sue was so determined to continue her odyssey, despite all the calamities. She was awarded the BEM for her services to the community, which seems scant reward for so many decades of unassailable dedication of which we are honoured to be the recipients. Sue has created for us four decades of social history, which otherwise would have been lost. How can we ever thank her enough?

** Answer on page 26*

BRAIN TEASER
Can you translate this diagram into words? Say what you see.
C#AIRS
Answer on page 26

Women Inspiring Self Help **WISH**

An opportunity for women on their own, due to bereavement, to meet weekly in a café in Dorking on Wednesdays from 2.30 to 4 pm. If you are a woman on your own, why not join us.

If you would like to know more about the group, contact
Melanie 07850 137793
melaniechild@hotmail.com

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Another Long Serving Volunteer Retires

We were glad to receive from a reader a link to a website 'In Your Area' reporting a ceremony at which the Citizens Advice Bureau rewarded long-serving volunteers for their dedication. Such is the modesty of one of the recipients, Westhumble resident Elizabeth Moughton, that we had not otherwise been made aware of it. The website reported that the ceremony took place at Denbies in the presence of the High Sheriff of Surrey His Honour Christopher Critchlow DL

and Councillor Paul Potter, chairman of Mole Valley. It continued 'Elizabeth Moughton has completed an amazing 36 years of volunteering for Citizens Advice and was honoured with a long service certificate by the organisation. Elizabeth retires in March. She said: 'It has always been a privilege as well as a pleasure to work for Citizens Advice.' Both the High Sheriff and the Chairman warmly thanked her for her wonderful service.' Many congratulations, Elizabeth.



Elizabeth with the High Sheriff of Surrey
and the Chairman of MVDC

Mickleham & Westhumble Horticultural Society

Spring Show Plant Sale AGM

22nd April 2023 10.30 am-12 noon Mickleham Village Hall

Show Schedule

A. Cut Flowers

- 1 Narcissus, including daffodils – single head, 3 stems
- 2 Narcissus, including daffodils – multi-head, 3 stems
- 3 Miniature narcissus – 3 stems, same variety or mixed
- 4 Tulips – 3 stems, same variety
- 5 Tulips – 5 stems, mixed varieties
- 6 Any other bulb – 3 stems, same variety
- 7 A small vase of primulas
- 8 Wallflowers – 3 stems
- 9 Pansies – 5 blooms floating on water
- 10 A camellia bloom shown in a glass
- 11 Flowering shrub – 3 stems, same variety
- 12 A vase of decorative foliage
- 13 A vase of mixed garden flowers

B. Pot plants

- 14 Foliage plant in a pot
- 15 Succulent in a pot
- 16 Flowering plant in a pot
- 17 Seedlings for planting out – 3 seedlings, same variety or mixed, named
- 18 A tomato seedling – named variety
- 19 Rhubarb – 3 sticks
- 20 A spring vegetable – please display on a dinner plate or similar
- 21 Any vegetable – 3 of a kind

D. Cookery

- 22 A Dundee cake
- 23 A jar of marmalade



E. Flower Arranging

- 24 'Spring Sunshine' – a small jug of spring flowers
- 25 'Winter's Over' – not more than 15" width, accessories may be used

F. Photography

- 26 'A Wild Scene'
- 27 'Wild Spring'

G. Children's Classes – please state age (under 16)

- 28 Photography: 'Wild Spring'
- 29 Flower arranging: 'Spring Sunshine' – a small jug of spring flowers
- 30 Cooking: 3 decorated cupcakes

Please bring entries to Mickleham Village Hall between 9 am and 9.45 am

10.30 am: Show opens; Plant Sale; Coffee, Teas, Cake 11:15am-12 noon: AGM

Please submit entry forms to the Show Secretary, Mrs Angela Gilchrist, by 8 pm on Thursday 20th April

Address: Ashleigh Grange, off Chapel Lane, Westhumble – either leave in the mailbox at the end of the lane opposite Chapel Farm or email: ar.gilchrist@btinternet.com

Entry form

Contact details		Section	Class numbers
Name		A	
Address		B	
		C	
		D	
		E	
		F	
Phone		G (+age)	

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On 7th May, the Sunday of the coronation weekend, Box Hill School is kindly hosting a charity cycle ride in aid of Maggie's at the Royal Marsden, Sutton. Maggie's provides free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their family and friends. Built in the grounds

Coronation Cancer Charity Cycle Challenge

of NHS cancer hospitals such as the Royal Marsden, Maggie's centres are places with professional staff on hand to offer the support people need. This is the third such event that Box Hill School has hosted.

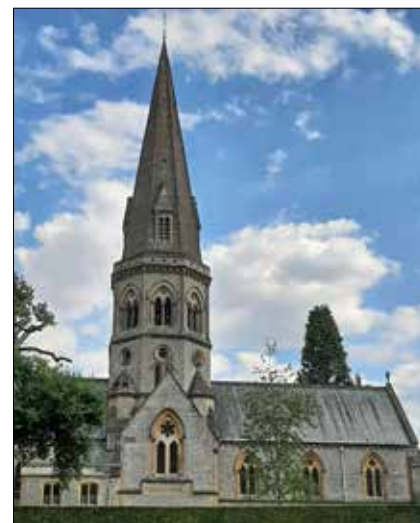
The cyclists will depart Box Hill School in the early morning and return in the afternoon, following three different courses of 25, 50 and 100 miles, respectively.

We are putting together a team from Mickleham and Westhumble to enter this event. Some of us will aim for the 25 miles and some for the 50. There

may be a brave soul or two who will attempt the 100!

Anyone who wants to join our team please contact Will Dennis on will@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk. Anyone who would like to sponsor us please go to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Mickleham-Westhumble-Boxhill>

Please support us by taking part or by contributing financially. We would like to mark the coronation in a way of which we are sure the new King would approve!
Will Dennis



To play a part in this once-in-a-lifetime occasion, contact Phil at ranmorebells@gmail.com

Once in a lifetime!

On 6th May, Coronation Day the church bells of all the bell towers of the United Kingdom will ring out to celebrate the accession to the throne of His Majesty King Charles III. Among all these bells will be the bells of St Barnabas Church on Ranmore Common, idyllically located high on the North Downs, looking across the Mole Valley to Box Hill. It was constructed in 1859 as the church for the Denbies' Estate.

For a number of years the 8 bells of the St Barnabas' peal have only been rung by visiting ringers. St Barnabas itself had no ringing band of its own but that all changed last September with the appointment of Phil Madden as Tower

Captain. An energetic recruitment and training programme has generated the wonderful result that St Barnabas now has its own band of enthusiastic, mainly novice ringers.

'But this is no time to rest' says Phil. 'Realistically 8 bells need a band of about 12 ringers and we are not there yet. We are a young and developing band and we would love to welcome new members to ensure that we can sound our bells in May and afterwards. All are welcome: 10 to 80; novice and experienced. Bell ringing is a skilled activity; it takes practice to learn, but would-be ringers who join the band now can learn in time to join in the coronation celebrations.'

Eco Group Report for the Church

You may have become aware of the Church Eco Group in the last few months via the parish magazine or pews news. The group came into being in 2022 and we have a few simple aims as directed by the priest and PCC, to whom we report:

- To raise awareness of environmental issues and promote creation care, Climate Sunday, and other relevant initiatives within the church.
- To work with the priest to explore joint projects and sharing of expertise with other local groups.
- To register as an Eco Church and use the extensive online survey to evaluate the main areas of church life, to include the churchyard, building and social activities and recognise those which

are helping the environment and those where development or improvement is needed and devise a plan of action to achieve change.

- To report progress back to PCC regularly and to liaise with other sub groups of PCC where necessary to effect change.
 - The group is open to anyone on PCC, the Electoral Roll or from the wider local community with interest or expertise in environmental issues. There should be at least one PCC member on the Group. The PCC will appoint the chair and vice chair.
- Currently our group is comprised of Mark Day, Eric Flint, Tom Garwood, Susan McGrath, Lydia Staines and David Kennington (Chair).

We have registered as an Eco Church with the A Rocha Award Scheme. Our initial aim is to work towards gaining the Eco Bronze Award and we will answer questions on all areas of church life: worship and teaching, management of church buildings, management of church land, community / global engagement and lifestyle.

Our initial focus has been on management of church land focussing on gains for wildlife and ecological benefit. The planting of 80 metres of hedgerow, the re-use of the churchyard compost heap and the planting of a fruit orchard are the first tangible benefits of our efforts.

David Kennington

Friends of the Menuhin Hall

We have belonged to the Friends of the Menuhin Hall since David retired and go regularly to the concerts but the number of tickets sold has not returned to pre-pandemic levels so there is some concern regarding its future. We thought that it might

be worth bringing it to the attention of a wider audience in order to help to ensure its financial viability. We sometimes get the impression when talking to people that there is a misconception that the concerts are not available to the general public.



They are always fabulous and we are home by 10 pm!
Angela Ireland

Village Defibrillators

This is to remind all villagers that there is an automatic external defibrillator (AED) at the village hall in Mickleham. It is situated on the wall to the right of the main entrance. There is also an AED at Box Hill and Westhumble Station, located beside the ticket machine in the car park. In the event of a sudden collapse it can be lifesaving.

NO TRAINING IS REQUIRED

Please always call 999 before you do anything else. When you call 999 they will tell you where the nearest AED is and if you should use it. Do not leave the patient alone: always send someone else.

Unfortunately, survival rates for heart attacks outside of hospital remain poor at about 10%. AEDs have been shown

to make a difference and helped save lives. In the 1980s I worked at the old Westminster Hospital. 70+ million travelled through Victoria Station each year and about 30 people collapsed on the station precinct and came to the hospital but died. The installation of numerous AEDs at the station reduced this by about 50%.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is a useful lifesaving skill so consider getting yourself trained. You can do free online training with British Heart Foundation using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/29f36yvn>

For more information about using a defibrillator use this link which includes a YouTube clip:



<https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/defibrillators/how-to-use-a-defibrillator>

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KING WILLIAM IV

Dear friends and neighbours

We want to thank Sue for her support with our magazine entry over the last 10 years, particularly to acknowledge her proof-reading and patience when we submitted a little late (which was most months!)

We are currently showing the Six Nations for the many rugby fans and have just hosted MCC for their annual cricket supper so both disciplines catered for. We are very proud to have once again been awarded 5 stars for our level of food hygiene, big shout out to the kitchen brigade. We have also been awarded the trip advisor travellers choice award which is given to the top 5% of hospitality venues in a particular area. We are proud to say that this is the 11th consecutive year we have received this award which shows our ongoing dedication. Again well done team!

We look forward to seeing everyone in our stunning gardens as the weather improves.

With best wishes, Eammon & Anne

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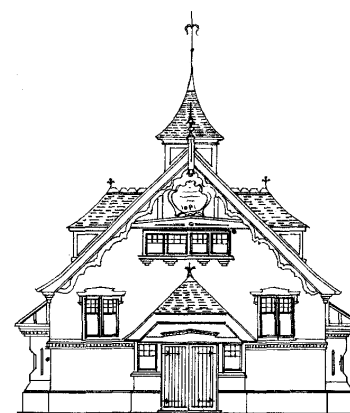
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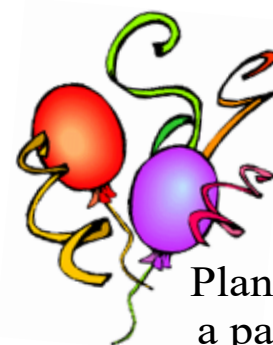
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bookings@micklehamvh.co.uk

www.micklehamvillagehall.org.uk



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admin@micklehamvh.co.uk

Community Directory

BOX HILL AND HEADLEY HEATH (National Trust) 01306 888793

Lead Ranger – Meredith Westall (Merry) meredith.westall@nationaltrust.org.uk

07811 088097

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 – Andrew Homewood

homewooda@hotmail.co.uk

DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

Exhibition Secretary – Patricia Booth

patriciabooth100@gmail.com

DORKING LAWN TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB

Maddy Halliwell

madeline_halliwell@hotmail.co.uk

DORKING RUGBY CLUB

Jim Evans

07789 176417

jim@flintcottage.net

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Pauline Davis

07759 646353

paulinedavis33@icloud.com

JUNIPER HALL FIELD CENTRE

01306 734501

enquiries.jh@field-studies-council.org

Head of Centre – Maddy Jones

m.jones@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

www.micklehamchoral.org.uk

THURSDAYS 8 - 10 pm – MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL

Conductor – Juliet Hornby

01372 373106

Secretary – Mike Benson

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

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01372 379381

rev.ireland43@btinternet.com

Parish Clerk – Feena Graham

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chairman@micklehamvh.co.uk

Bookings Manager – Deanna Darnell

07790 941601

bookings@micklehamvh.co.uk

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

*within the United Benefice
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INCUMBENT — The Rev'd Will Perry 01372 372313

PARISH PRIEST

The Rev'd Dr Sandra Faccini * 01372 417664
07763 488961

parishpriest@micklehamchurch.org.uk

* Main working days: Monday, Tuesday and Sunday

CHURCHWARDENS

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TimothyMathieson@aol.com

Catherine Diffey 07790 473167

Mickleham@diffey.me.uk

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baptisms@micklehamchurch.org.uk

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website@micklehamchurch.org.uk

PCC ECO GROUP

David Kennington 01372 36230

davidkennington144@gmail.com

www.micklehamchurch.org.uk

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

Search on 'Churches Together Mole Valley'

REGISTERS

FUNERAL

7th February Geoffrey Alfred Butcher

CALENDAR FOR MARCH

2	Thursday	12.45 for 1 pm	Lent Lunch at the village hall
4	Saturday	10 am	Coffee Morning at Westhumble Chapel
5	SUNDAY	Second Sunday of Lent 10 am	Family Service
7	Tuesday	7 pm	Prayer Group Compline in Westhumble Chapel
9	Thursday	12.45 for 1 pm	Lent Lunch at the village hall
12	SUNDAY	Third Sunday of Lent 10 am 11.30 am	Holy Communion in church Matins at Westhumble Chapel
<i>Copy deadline for March parish magazine</i>			
15	Wednesday	8 pm	WRA AGM at the Stepping Stones
16	Thursday	12.45 for 1 pm 3.30 pm	Lent Lunch at the village hall Messy church village hall
18	Saturday	9 am 7.30 pm	Women's breakfast at Stepping Stones Barnardo's Quiz night in village hall
19	SUNDAY	Mothering Sunday 8 am 9.30 am 11 am	CW Holy Communion Workshop at School Mothering Sunday worship for all in church <i>Note later time</i>
20	Monday	7.30 pm	Garden Shed talk at Stepping Stones
21	Tuesday	7 pm	Compline at Westhumble Chapel
23	Thursday	12.45 for 1 pm	Lent Lunch at the village hall
25	Saturday	9 am	Men's breakfast at Stepping Stones
26	SUNDAY	Fifth Sunday of Lent 8 am 10 am	BCP Holy Communion at Chapel Holy Communion
30	Thursday	12.45 for 1 pm	Lent Lunch at the village hall

APRIL Holy Week Services

2	SUNDAY	Palm Sunday	10 am	Palm Sunday worship for all
6	Thursday		7.30 pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
7	Friday		2 pm	Good Friday Service of Reflection
9	SUNDAY	Easter Sunday	10 am	Service of Holy Communion suitable for all followed by an Easter egg hunt

Dates for your diary

Saturday 22nd April
Saturday 6th May
Sunday 7th May

Spring Flower Show
Coronation Day
Local Coronation Celebrations

MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Sarah Blake	Elaine Machin
Mark Day	Tim Mathieson
Andy Diamond	Beverley Mehta
Catherine Diffey	Elizabeth Moughton
Caroline Jones	Kelvin Pritchard
Vickie Leney	Richard Siberry

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH COMMUNITY GROUP COMMITTEE

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mickleham@hotmail.com

Denise Darling denisedarling4@btinternet.com

Andy Diamond 07789 775354
diamo1@hotmail.co.uk

Kelvin Pritchard 07770 280410
Kelvin@wan2lan.com

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH COMMUNITY GROUP

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- Dog walking
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- Home-cooked meals for local families going through difficult times

Requests to:

Will Dennis 07903 842674 **wdwdennis@icloud.com**
(who can put requests onto WhatsApp)

Mary Banfield 01372 373912 **mgbbmw@aol.com**

Frances Presley 01306 882473 **jasempres@gmail.com**

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

Community Directory

Continued from page 13

MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE BADMINTON CLUB
Membership Secretary Sarah Blake tinkerbell0044@hotmail.com

MICKLEHAM CRICKET CLUB
Membership contact Will Dennis 07903 842674
will@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk

MICKLEHAM & WESTHUMBLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Chairman – David Kennington 01372 362309
www.surreycommunity.info/mwhs davidkennington144@gmail.com

MICKLEHAM AND WESTHUMBLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
Chairman – Ben Tatham 01306 882547
ben@thetatham.co.uk
www.micklehamwesthumblehistory.co.uk

MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL 01306 885001
Councillor Elsie Rosam 01306 885695
elsierosam29@gmail.com

THE ARTS SOCIETIES (FORMERLY NADFAS)
Betchworth – Mary Venning 01306 883301
Dorking – Sue Tatham 01306 882547
Leatherhead – Sarah Sheridan 01306 883699

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (A) INFANT SCHOOL 01372 373717
info@stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk
Friends of St Michael's School – friendsofstmichaels2017@gmail.com

ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY NURSERY
WEEKDAY MORNINGS – MICKLEHAM VILLAGE HALL
Supervisor – Hilary Budd 01372 361021
stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL 03456 009 009
Councillor – Hazel Watson 01306 880120
hva.watson@btinternet.com

SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST 01483 795440
info@surreywt.org.uk

TREE WARDEN
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davidkennington144@gmail.com

WESTHUMBLE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
Lead Co-ordinator – David Allbeury 07860 227451
westhumble.neighbourhood.watch@gmail.com

WhatsApp Group
Will Dennis will@micklehamhallfarm.co.uk

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

CITIZENS ADVICE
Dorking – Lyons Court 01306 732302
Leatherhead – Swan Mews High Street 01306 732301
CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111
POLICE Non-emergencies 101
(often quicker to make online report) <https://report.police.uk/>

Neighbourhood Specialist Team – Dorking Rural East
General enquiries molevalley@surrey.pnn.police.uk
NHS Urgent and emergency care 111

Babysitting by local youngsters

Those listed below are at least
14 years old.

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Annabelle Prosser* 07443 634179
Maisy Presley* 07720 657327
Martha Pearce 07514 080005
Rory Lee ** 07973 360950
Ellie Kim 07773 395575
Chelsea Edwards 07834 695816
Edward Moran 07740 088124
Daisy Armitage **07580 473812
Olivia Newby 07703 110363
Eva Lanceley **07903 630567

* Holidays only
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Andreas Florides 1975 – 2022

On 17th January the Thanksgiving Service for the life of Andreas was held in St Michael's, followed by the burial of his ashes in the Garden of Remembrance. We first got to know Andreas in 2006 after his mother, Serena, took over Rose's Stores and Post Office. The family moved to Devon in 2017 and it was around this time that Andreas became ill. It is touching that he chose to have his ashes buried here. At the service David Ireland delivered the following tribute to Andreas:

'Today is an opportunity to give thanks for the life of Andreas, loving son, partner, nephew, friend and, most of all, loving father to Gabriella.

'Andreas's mischievous and generous spirit touched many of us here today. His splendid smile was contagious and his unique sense of humour infectious. Andreas had the capacity to light up any room with his quick wit and easy-going nature.

'His gift for making people laugh started apparently at a very young age and one of his favourite tricks as a young boy was to creep under the table and tie the shoelaces together of the people sitting around it. His practical joke created havoc and laughter as his chosen victims tried to get up and leave. Andreas used humour to include all people and to make them feel at ease. His gift was not only to make people laugh but also to bring everyone into his world of jokes and laughter, creating a warm and happy atmosphere wherever he went. Andreas was a natural class clown throughout his school years and as a result, formed a number of life-long friendships.

'I recall this humour when one day calling in at the shop on my way to visit Angela, now my wife, at her house, two doors up from the shop in the opposite direction from the Rectory. As I left, Andreas simply said, 'Wrong way, David', with a smile on his face.

'Andreas left school to work in the family business. He possessed a keen intelligence which was expressed in quick thinking, wit and humour. He was known for his immense generosity and kindness and he was at his happiest when giving – not just material gifts

but gifts of his time for others. It was not unusual to see Andreas appear if one of the family members was going through a hard time. He would always bring a lighter perspective to a difficult situation.

'We cannot speak of Andreas without mentioning his fortitude and resilience. I saw this first when he was challenged by his step-father Gary's tragic death and the way Andreas stepped up to support Serena in very difficult circumstances. When he in turn was faced with the diagnosis of cancer he met the challenge with an endurance and bravery that was truly inspirational. He faced his daily challenges with courage and strength, never complaining, never showing the unbearable physical and mental pain that accompanies such a cruel and debilitating illness. He made sure that family life would go on as normal, tending to his daughter's needs and ensuring that the family enjoyed every moment of the time they had left together. As an example of his determination and will, in the extreme heat of last summer, at a time when Andreas was really struggling with the awful impact of his disease and could hardly walk, he willed himself on to attend Gabriella's sports day, determined through love, that his little girl would have her father cheering her on. That was typical of Andreas; he gave all that he could give, even when disease was relentlessly claiming his body.

At the heart of Andreas was his family and the joy of being with them. There was nothing he enjoyed more than his family all gathered together. He had a great love for his Nan who held a special place in his heart. The love he held for his extended family was indestructible. The love he held for his mother Serena was unequalled and based on love, respect, understanding and mutual trust. His love for his partner Nicola was enduring, supportive and kind and they were blessed with their beautiful daughter Gabriella. The love that he had for Gabriella was truly remarkable. She was his life, his reason for enduring the relentless pain; his reason for waking up and facing the day with a smile. The sound of her laughter when



he joked with her and the hugs and kisses took away what was so cruelly being stolen from him in the prime of his life.

'To conclude – Andreas's last joke to his mother was, 'Can you go to the shop and buy me a small bottle of whisky, as it's last orders, Mum'. Andreas never did get to have that last drink but later today we will raise a glass to you, Andreas. We shall miss you. We shall miss your smile, your witty and quick jokes, your good company, your all-encompassing love and kindness. You will never be forgotten as you live on in your daughter and in the hearts of those who love you.

'May you rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.'
We send our deepest sympathy to Serena, Nicola and Gabriella.

Community News

We have been deeply saddened to hear of a number of deaths this month.

Margaret Maynard of Burney Road. Her burial has taken place at St Barnabas Church, Ranmore.

Jean Douglas, former long-time Burney Road resident who has been in a care home for several years, passed away in February.

Very sadly, Caroline Pearce, also a Burney Road resident, has passed away. Deepest condolences go to all family and friends of these local residents.

Warmest sympathy goes to Jonathan and Sarah Blake on the death of their father John, who lived near Banbury; and to Mark Day whose mother has passed away at the age of 96.



Slugs and Snails and Puppy Dogs' Tails

Gardeners apparently complain more about gastropods, slugs and snails to you and me, than any other creatures that cohabit our gardens. Last year, the Royal Horticultural Society announced that they will no longer be classed as pests despite their reputation with most gardeners. And this, after years of slugging them off!

This is how we should be thinking now: slugs are our garden's recyclers, they have a role to play in clearing dead matter in the garden and they also provide a food supply for birds and hedgehogs. There is, of course, no denying that they do cause damage that we would rather do without so it is up to us to find alternative, more

'ethical' solutions such as using a mulch to protect your more precious blooms. The much-maligned wasp eats flies, aphids and caterpillars so can be welcomed while caterpillars in their turn provide vital food for birds such as blue tits. Who could harm a ladybird having seen that little beetle Hoover up the blackfly on your broad beans?

This thinking is a bit of an about turn by the RHS which has released an annual list of 'top garden pests' for years. It will now concentrate more on climate change and plant diseases that thrive in the warmer, wetter conditions that we are moving towards as well as the spread of invasive species. Biodiversity is the keyword.

I do wonder how successful this PR campaign will be. I think we are mostly converted to organic gardening now but we do love our plants too. Can we gracefully accept or even encourage plant-eating wildlife in our gardens? A balanced garden ecosystem is needed to provide that balance between welcome and unwelcome wildlife. For now, we can use cloches to protect young plants and seedlings (or even plastic bottles). A slug hunt which ends up depositing them on a compost heap will help to break down decaying matter. Puppy dogs' tails are of course another story!

Judy Kinloch

Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society New Membership or Renewal

are also able to purchase compost and manure at a significant discount.

If you have not yet paid, please pay now by online bank transfer to the following account:

Account name: Mickleham and Westhumble Horticultural Society

Sort code: 20-23-97

Account number: 60257931

Please use your name/house as the

reference and email the membership secretary, Judith Long when you have paid: judith.long2@btinternet.com

We also encourage you to set up a standing order for 2024 and onwards, payable on 1st January each year.

For those unable to pay online, committee members will be going house-to-house to collect cash payments during March and April.

Chance to win
£50 Garden
Voucher!

Thank you to everyone who has already paid the annual subscription of £5 per household. Membership fees enable us to hold our shows in the Village Hall each year and all members are entered into a prize draw at the AGM for garden vouchers of £50. Members

Volunteer with us! FSC Juniper Hall



Are you interested in volunteering locally?

Juniper Hall is looking for volunteers to help with the grounds and gardening on a weekly basis. Enjoy working with others outside whilst gaining experience; refreshments are always provided!

Get in contact to volunteer with us:

✉ j.breeveld@field-studies-council.org

📷 [@fscjuniperhall](https://www.instagram.com/fscjuniperhall)

🐦 [@FSCJuniperHall](https://twitter.com/FSCJuniperHall)



Plant sale



Saturday 20th May

2-4 pm at Mickleham Village Hall

in aid of St Michael's Church Eco-group projects
More information next month but donations of plants welcome, so keep us in mind when you are dividing or sowing seeds this spring.

Contact Alison Wood on

alison.wood29@btinternet.com or 01372 376443

Poisoning Alert and Request

Animals, birds and wildlife can be seriously poisoned with rodenticide chemicals and can suffer critical life-changing permanent injuries or death. These products, if they must be used, should be contained within a bait station, to prevent access to the poison by non-target animals. Additionally, poisoning after eating rodents killed by a rodenticide is called secondary or relay poisoning.

If you have put the poison down, it would be considerate if you could immediately remove it to prevent the possibility of unnecessary suffering to animals and wildlife.

PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE AND KIND, USE A PROTECTIVE BAIT STATION

Please report anyone who you suspect is trying harm animals and if you think your pets have ingested an anticoagulant rodenticide, it is important to contact your veterinarian or Pet Poison Helpline.

The Henry Smith Charity

Mickleham is one of 159 parishes in England who are fortunate to receive a modest sum of money each year from the Henry Smith Charity to help those within our parish, young or older, who are struggling with long term illness, disability or the cost of living, including heating, at the present time.

If you, or anyone you know, could use a little help, or you would like

more information please contact Mary Banfield (email: mgbbmw@aol.com or telephone 01372 373912). All enquiries will be treated in strictest confidence.

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

Westhumble
Residents
Association
AGM
Wednesday 15th March
7.30 pm
at The Stepping Stones
Westhumble

Surrey Hills
International Music
Festival
2nd to 13th May
Classical music and jazz played
by world-class and gifted young
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To see details and book tickets, visit
website www.shimf.co.uk



Barney Millard
with his talk

The Productive Greenhouse

Learn to use your greenhouse to make your space more productive. This illustrated talk will include advice on managing the glasshouse environment.

You will learn about growing salads, fruits and vegetables, a close look at feeding and watering and how to control pests and diseases.

Monday 20th March at 7.30 pm

The Stepping Stones Pub Westhumble

Tickets £6 on the door All Welcome No need to book

Any Questions

Pauline Davis 07759646353 or paulinedavis33@icloud.com

See our website for details www.gardenshed.club

Sunday 23rd April Willow Weaving Workshop.



Dorking Barnardo's
Helper Group

Quiz night

Get a table of eight together and come and have fun

Hot supper

Please state if anyone on your table is vegetarian
or has other dietary restrictions

Saturday 18th March

7.30 pm

Mickleham Village Hall

£20 per person

Bring your own drinks, glasses provided

Angela Gilchrist 01306 884613

ar.gilchrist@btinternet.com

or, Sally Hayes 01372 454637

sallyehayes@outlook.com

CRYPTIC DELICACIES

Last month's golden squares could be formed into SAUSAGES, the catchphrase of that dog on *That's Life* in 1979. I am sorry to be bombarding you with cutting edge pop culture references, but for those of you less happening than me there were also plenty of allusions to the theme from the selected key words: TERM OF ENDEARMENT, CUMBERLAND, COCKTAIL, CHIPOLATA, PEPPERONI, and DACHSHUND (aka sausage dog).

As ever, definitions are underlined:

21 According to auditors, takes home pots for the permanently retired (4)

URNS

'takes home' = 'earns' sounds like ('according to auditors') URNS (which contain people who appear to have lastingly lost the ability to work whatever the DWP might say).

22 Very cool vegetable is displayed when missing copper comes to light somewhere in the North West (10)

CUMBERLAND

'Very cool vegetable' = cuCUMBER, take off the first Cu for 'copper', 'light' = LAND (as in 'the blue tit lighted on a branch').

14 Impersonate? I'm going to whirr in circles and make synthetic speech (9)

ESPERANTO

'I'm going' = remove the letters IM from 'Impersonate', and then anagram what remains ('to whirr in circles'). ESPERANTO was developed by L.L. Zamenhof, a Polish ophthalmologist, with the idea of facilitating intercultural dialogue, and here we are only 136

years after its release and universal harmony has been achieved. Actually I am being faça, speaking Esperanto could get you into terminal trouble with the likes of Hitler, Franco and Stalin. Who knew that nationalists did not value co-operation between all peoples to solve the problems that face us all?

7 Liberally oil a patch in frostbitten area for Prince Harry (pejoratively) (9)

CHIPOLATA

'oil a patch' anagrammed ('liberally') leads to an answer that really made me chuckle. Whether it makes you chuckle will depend on whether (a) you keep up with vital current affairs topics such as what very personal injury afflicted Prince Harry as a result of his foray into polar exploration, and (b) you are a fan of the sort of puerile humour that is a mainstay of 'I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue' (and given that it goes out at 6.30 pm on Radio 4 is as innocent as your own level of innocence).

18 Battle royal when being made to get half cut on cheap booze (7)

DECIDER

'maDE to get half cut' leaves only DE, 'cheap booze' = CIDER. I wonder how prominently the current battles Royal will feature in the history of this period in 50 years' time.

20 Gentlemen adopted by cuter characters go for a short hair style (4,3)

CREW CUT

'Gentlemen' (as in the toilet) = WC which is hidden in the characters of



'cuter' (i.e. the letters, anagrammed).

15 Surprisingly Dad's hunch pointed to a four-legged favourite of the Kaiser (9)

DACHSHUND

An anagram ('surprisingly') of 'Dad's hunch'. Kaiser Wilhelm II kept a number of dachshunds which were completely indulged despite their atrociously snappy behaviour. He thought it hilarious how his little favourites made people jump by attacking petticoats and ankles. If only people who were unsuitable to rule countries made it clearer by their behaviour. My own memory associated with a dachshund is of Fred, the little black and tan companion of my Great Aunt Phyllis. In the middle of one night during my extreme youth, I awoke to the call of nature and as I gingerly felt my way along the dark passage to the bathroom I was beyond delighted when my bare foot squigged into a mine secretly laid by Fred. By our deeds are we remembered. (By way of contrast, Fred's owner once gave my father a rain gauge as a present and her memory is invoked by every subsequent incarnation of rain gauge being known as an Aunt Phyllis in my family).

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

Andrew



Mickleham & Westhumble Local History Group Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Extracts from the Chairman's Report 2023

It is timely to look back over our group's activities during its first ten years. There have been many interesting and informative talks, visits and tours. In addition to our programmed events the list of projects and achievements by a small group of very active members is quite impressive.

The village archives have been organised and a digital cataloguing system established. Where possible items are being stored according to optimal archiving principals. Items of important historic value have been copied and the originals handed on to the Surrey History Centre. With new items being acquired all the time, the archives are a work in progress. If you have any items suitable for the archives, please do get in touch. Many thanks to Judy Kinloch, Judith Long and Angela Ireland for their continuing diligence. Unfortunately, with the loss of archive space firstly at Juniper Hall, and later at Warren Farm Barns, we have nowhere to keep all the archive items in one place. The search for a new home for the archives continues.

Researching the War Memorial was one of our first projects. Upon completion we published a booklet which included information about each man whose name was listed. Copies were sent to families of those listed. A copy is also available in the church.

I have produced a History of St Michael's School Buildings and Judy Kinloch has written a report on Mickleham Schools. One of her current projects is bringing together information about past schoolmasters.

Mickleham Village Hall has also been the subject of our research. I have written a History of the Village Hall building and Angela Ireland has made a summary of the various activities held in the hall over the years. Mick Hallett has completed a History of the Westhumble Residents Association.

The archives have been a rich resource for Sue Tatham who has conducted a series of guided tours of St Michael's Church for local residents and several outside groups.

Our Oral Histories team, Roger Davis and Anne Weaver, has been very busy. The theme of their first project was 'Feeding the Family' which included many local residents as well as those associated with Rose's Stores. They have also recorded memories of past St Michael's School teachers, staff and pupils. Their present subjects are long-time residents of the area.

The largest project we have undertaken is to record the burials in the churchyard. This has been extremely challenging and has taken up much time over the years. However, thanks

to Judith Long and her team much progress has been made and they are finally reaching a stage when the digital database is nearly complete and work on an updated plan can begin. The aim is to have these available for online searches.

Roger Davis has developed our website which has become increasingly busy with requests for information about people who once lived in our area. It seems that during lockdown people used the time to investigate their family history. Our archive and churchyard research have proved a valuable resource, and in many cases the queries and subsequent online searches by Judith Long have yielded additional interesting information for our archives. Several descendants of local families have become members of the group.

Throughout our ten years members of the group have provided many interesting articles for the parish magazine. We hope these have helped readers appreciate how our area has developed and the backgrounds to the many amenities we enjoy today.

Ben Tatham

PS We would welcome new members to help us with our various events and projects. Visit our website: <http://www.micklehamwesthumblehistory.co.uk/>

CURCHODS

INCORPORATING
John Wadsworth

John Wadsworth joins the Curchods family

After 27 years in Bookham, John and Amanda Wadsworth have stepped into well-deserved retirement and John Wadsworth estate agents has joined the Curchods family.

If you are thinking about selling or letting your property, contact Curchods Bookham
T: 01372 450500 E: bookham@curchods.com www.curchods.com



Mickleham & Westhumble Local History Group
Brookwood Cemetery: Talk and Private Tour

The Life of Brookwood Cemetery

A talk by Kim Lowe

Wednesday 12th April 7.30 pm Mickleham Village Hall

Private Tour of Brookwood Cemetery

Saturday 13th May 2 pm

Please join us for one or both events. To reserve a place or for further information contact Judith Long: judith.long2@btinternet.com or 07904 160961

AGE Mole Valley
Concern

We are looking for volunteers to join our Befriender scheme in Dorking. For more details, please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator Andrea Kelley on: 07821 649683 / 01306 899104 or email andrea@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk

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GARDENS HOMES

ANDREW CLARK 07800 796 737

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Mickleham & Westhumble Local History Group Mickleham Cricket Club in the 1930s



Location of the cricket ground near the level crossing in Swanworth Lane in 1934

Recently Nick Bravery sent a message via the LHG website asking for information about his grandparents who were buried in Mickleham churchyard. The Bravery name appears several times in our archives and we were able to send Nick a photograph of the 1937 Mickleham cricket team which includes his grandfather, Charles.

The archive folder for the Mickleham Cricket Team also contained a fixture card for 1933. I was amused to see that Mr W Dennis was the groundsman. (Hasn't he aged well!) Of course this was not our Will Dennis, but Mary Dennis' late husband Ian's grandfather, Walter.

The folder also included a cutting from the Dorking & Leatherhead Advertiser dated 1937.

The Mickleham Cricket Club's ground – one of the many beautiful cricket grounds in Surrey – is passing into the devastating hands of by-pass road constructors. The new Mickleham bypass road is planned through the club's ground and the Surrey County Council has promised to secure and prepare another ground for the club. Their promise has not yet materialised but negotiations are in progress. The club, through the kindness of Mr H H Gordon Clark, has used its present ground off Swanworth Lane since just after the war

[WW1] When the ground was first used as a cricket field a good deal of work had to be done in the way of preparing and levelling it, and in the cost of this work the club was generously helped by local residents. Prior to the war the club, for many years used another ground in the same neighbourhood and during the war it was ploughed and used for potato growing. The club has been in existence for well over 50 years Mr George Moore has been its captain for a good many years.

Surrey County Council's proposed provision of a new ground never materialised.

Sue Tatham



Surrey Hills Hike Sunday 12th March.

In aid of the Children's Trust, Tadworth. Lace up your walking shoes and join us for a family-friendly hike through a section of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Beauty. Choose from a five- or ten mile option.

For full details visit thechildrenstrust.org.uk/surreyhillshike

Suitable items for the foodbank collection

Tinned veg / tomatoes / soup / sauces / baked beans
Powdered milk / UHT milk (green and blue only)
Rice pudding / long life sponge puddings
Coffee / tea bags / long life fruit juice
Pasta / rice / pulses / instant mash
Jam / honey / marmalade / spreads
Sugar (500g bags only)

Washing-up and cleaning products
Tissues / paper towels / tampons
Men's / women's toiletries
Laundry products
Nappies
Pet food

**Please do not include
out-of-date items or those
that require refrigeration**



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It has been lovely to see early signs of spring both in the nursery and our local environment, we have spotted carpets of crocus and clumps of snowdrops on our walks through the churchyard. I suspect that by the time this magazine is published, the daffodils will be in bloom, and we shall all be feeling full of the joys of spring.

Some early spring learning has been happening in the nursery too. We have several hazel trees in our forest school area, the children have enjoyed playing with rather realistic 'caterpillars'. We hope that they retain the information that these 'catkins' are the flowers of the hazel tree, and that if we tap them, we can see the cloud of pollen they produce. We learn that hazel trees are pollinated by the wind as there are not many insects around at this time of year when it is often still rather cold.

Should you wish to do some of your own tree ID have a look at the spring trees catkin guide below.

<https://woodlandclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Spring-Tree-Catkins-Cheat-Sheet-free-download.pdf>

We closed the nursery for two days before the February half-term as staff

Do not forget Lent Lunches

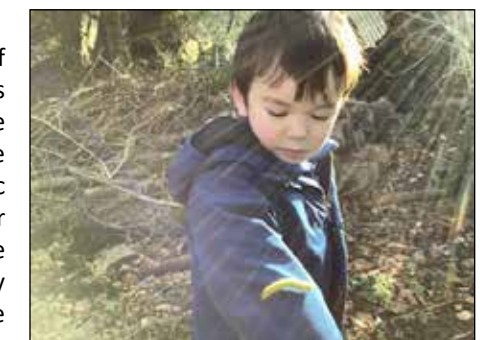
Every Thursday in March
12.45 for 1 pm sit down
All welcome
See page 3

updated their paediatric and outdoor first aid qualifications. The outdoor element covers our Forest School practice and is an essential element of the Forest School Practitioner qualification. However, there is obviously benefit for all staff having this element of first aid too, learning how to use the recovery position on a slope and acting out accident scenarios for each other will benefit us in life as well as in work.

This half term we are using the Story of Mrs. Honey's Hat to learn about days of the week. Learning the days of the week helps children understand the passage of time. It also provides a basic understanding of the structure of our week and the events that take place on each day. In the story Mrs. Honey visits various places throughout the week, each day wearing her favourite and somewhat embellished hat, but each day she unknowingly loses an item which is replaced by something else. At the end of the week Mrs. Honey has a completely 'new' hat. We will be creating our own hats with children selecting 'embellishments' from a selection of fancy feathers, plastic fruits, lace, ribbons and some alternatives such as plastic bugs, mini dinosaurs, and whatever else children choose from our gluing and sticking resources.

We still have a few spaces available for a September 2023 and January 2024 start and have recently increased our opening hours. If you would like to apply have a look at our website <https://stmichaelscommunitynursery.co.uk/> or to book a tour, please either telephone the nursery tel: 01372 361021 or email: stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com

Hilary Budd



Top and above: Catkin 'caterpillars'



Updating qualifications



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Solution to the February crossword

Across: 1/11 Term of endearment 5 Hard copy 9 Sculptor 10 Gippy 12 Obey 13 Lewdness 16 Amazon 17 Spiced 19 Moccasin 21 Urns 22 Cumberland 25 Ensued 26 Cocktail 27 Corduroy 28 Teeter

Down: 2 Ex-con 3 Milne 4 Fat-free 5 Hornets 6 Regatta 7 Chipolata 8 Pepperoni 14 Esperanto 15 Dachshund 18 Decider 19 Mimicry 20 Crew cut 23 Lathe 24 Naive

BRAIN TEASER answer: Musical chairs

See page 7: President and PM in 1984 Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher

Leith Hill Musical Festival

Sunday 12th March

The Leith Hill Festival Choir

Requiem Verdi

April 2023 Festival Concerts

Friday April 14th

(Mickleham Choral Society's day)

Zadok the Priest Handel

The Lark Ascending Vaughan Williams

Laudate Cecilia McDowall

Nelson Mass Haydn

Saturday 15th April

Toward the unknown Region Vaughan Williams

Sea Pictures Elgar

The Musicmakers Elgar

God be with you till we meet again Vaughan Williams

All concerts at Dorking Halls – 7.30 pm

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srandall55@gmail.com

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4TH SATURDAY

NEXT BREAKFAST

25TH MARCH

Book with: Andy Diamond

diamo1@hotmail.co.uk

**Robust plastic carrier bags wanted for delivering parish magazines and food bank items.
Please leave at food bank collection points – see page 23**

Green fingers

What a great half term we have had.

As a school, we have gone back to making regular visits to St Michael's Church. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this and it has been lovely to have parents attend too. We recently went to church for a Lent worship. Our Year 2's read *The Story of Temptation* and Year 1 read a prayer. All the children sang a fun pancake song too!

This led into a Pancake Café morning, back at school. The children learnt about the ingredients for pancakes and how to cook them safely. They said the best part was eating them though. I do not blame them!

Our topic is Green Fingers this half term and the children have been exploring lots of activities to do with planting and growing. They have investigated seeds, learnt about the parts of a plant and what they do and have even started to grow their own cress!

The weather is now improving and the children are enjoying spending more time outdoors. This fits beautifully with our topic as the children can watch growth and change as each day passes.

The FRIENDS have been busy this term organising a Jumble to raise funds for both the school and the pre-school. It was a popular event and over £400 was



raised. A huge thank you to the FRIENDS for all their hard work. They have more events coming up that children and families can get involved in. One of these is the Mother's Day Workshop in March. This is always followed by the children joining in with some singing at church.

Nicola Cleather



Above left and right: let cress growing begin.



Left: The lime trees at St Michael's School were pollarded during half term.



Mothering Sunday Workshop

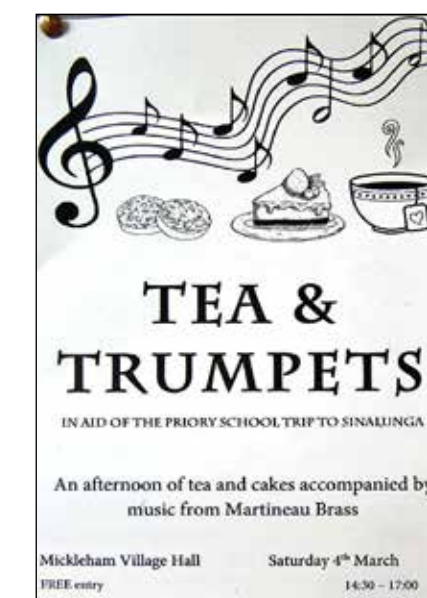
9.30 am on Sunday 19th March

at St Michael's School

for all accompanied children aged under 11.

Please contact Rebecca for more information at rjmcnullin@hotmail.com

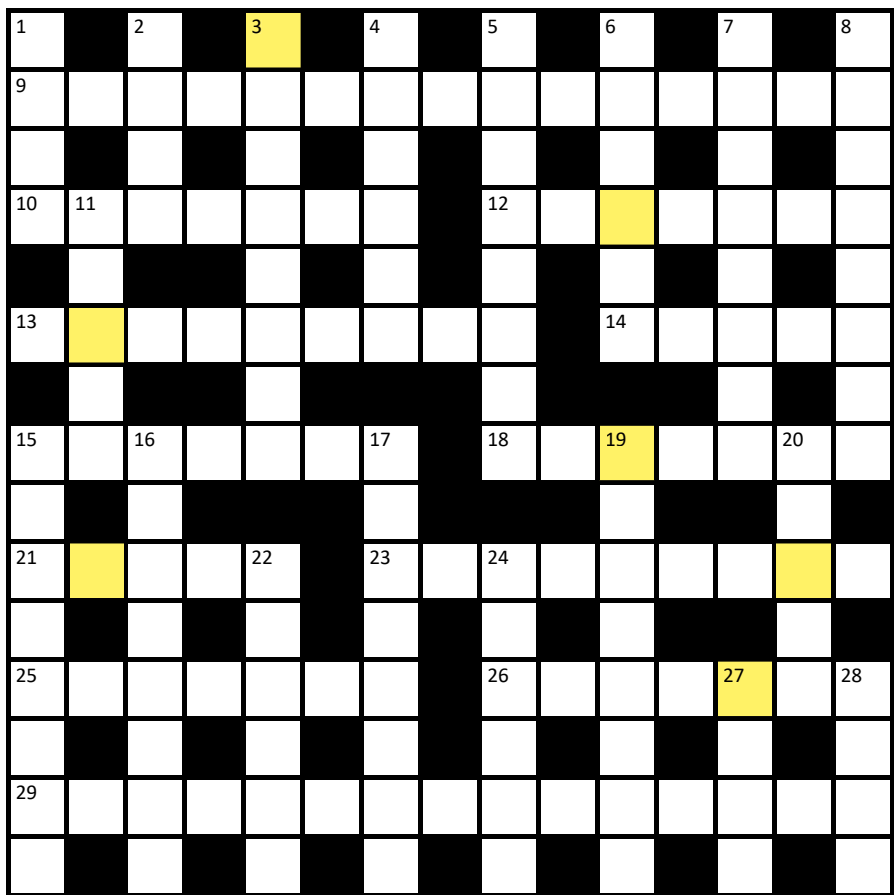
**11 am Mothering Sunday Service
in St Michael's Church**



Cryptic Crossword



Solution to the February crossword is on page 26



The golden squares can be made into any of 1, 4, 12, 15A, 22, and 28 (7)

Across

- 9 Phoning men cured dementia in the dark (15)
10 No 10 stumbles after taking E instead of heroin to end in the book (7)
12 In the middle of a scrum, bleeding is surrender (7)
13 Jokes that can make Neil snore (3-6)
14 Calls for measures to be served by presidents or prisoners (5)
15 He uses last multiple of this to produce baloney (7)
18 Write back to introduce cuts for William & Harry with regard to Andrew (7)

- 21 How to say goodbye in a way that might rile bald bigots regularly? (5)
23 Yoda never was involved in this sort of deal (4-5)
25 Bend over with Johnson sprinting off and you'll end up with an example of this or a step into disaster... (7)
26 After breakdown, might R&R lead to the one and only (2,5)
29 Head off with soap to find someone who is not wet behind the ears (3-3,9)

Down

- 1 Not even Doug has very loud pants (4)
2 Bleach your clothes poorly (4)

- 3 Receiver beheaded after little devil finds mint designation (8)
4 Tory leader needs firearm to achieve the littlest thing (6)
5 Reports chickens on the loose (6,2)
6 Maybe you smell of poo during odd bits of loud set in a frenzy (6)
7 Red berets throw up near biro (8)
8 Collection of fantastic harridans leaves with Oscar for England (8)
11 Oiling up without a single expression of street vernacular (5)
15 Throwing out wash cloth without lathering at the entrance is something Graham Norton is renowned for (4,4)

- 16 Outlaws prison and Santa! (8)
17 Forming up of troops is what you can see in satellite photo of Sebastopol (8)
19 Trap trio in a tangle as a work of art... (8)
20 ...alongside hiding key in one of three dimensions (5)
22 What's used to clean up the sign of corruption in the Home Counties (6)
24 Michele Mone is entitled to wear this before taking millions home (6)
27 Being unkind at heart is rubbish (4)
28 Naming Tate Yorkshire this would be sharp (4)

Andrew Tatham



Tony Butler, David Kennington and Ben Tatham filling potholes in Dell Close. Most welcome.





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