

**NOVEMBER**

**2012**

**PARISH MAGAZINE**

*Tatsfield*



**THIS ISSUE**

- MARTIN WESTERMAN PROFILED
- NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA CONCERT
- SURREY POLICE COMMISSIONER ELECTION
- SPARE XMAS TREE? • HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE POND
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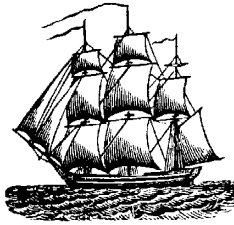


  
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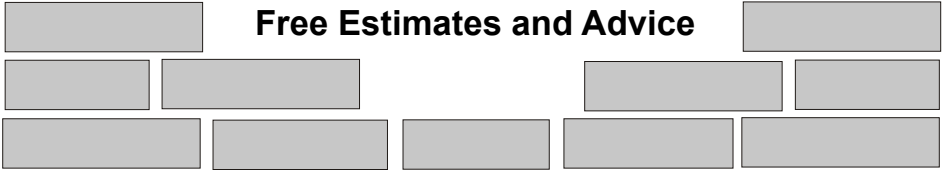
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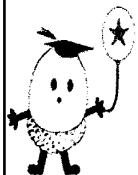
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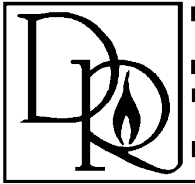
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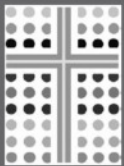
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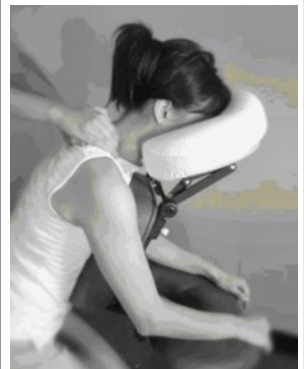
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# TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE



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# TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE

*Produced for the Village by the Parish Magazine Committee under the authority of the Tatsfield Churches*

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**Editor** • Bob David (577357)

**Treasurer** • Madie Langford (577114) **Distribution Manager** • Pam Jay (577402)

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## **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. Copy date for the Magazine is 16th of the preceding month. Contributions should be sent directly to the Editor at The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2AN (Fax: 01959 577357 Email: [bob@bobdavid.co.uk](mailto:bob@bobdavid.co.uk)) or drop it into Linda's Stores.

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**Calendar Dates** Our rolling Calendar usually covers 6 weeks from publication so please give us your dates in good time. If you don't want your event to clash with others why not check with us early.

**Ideas/Opinions/Articles** We are always looking for items of interest - have a word with the Editor.

**Correspondence** We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Please state if not for publication.

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Dear All,

My newspaper tells me that the current Sunday night period drama Downton Abbey is attracting eleven million viewers - and I am one of them! At the time this drama is set, choices are opening up for people, particularly for women in relation to their possible occupations and right to vote. This has prompted me to think about the choices we have today, whether we take them for granted, whether we value them and how we use them.

It is not uncommon now to hear the complaint that we have too much choice, we don't know where to start and that even if we do our choice won't make a difference. Some of the issues can seem so complex that we are tempted to give up and leave it all to others.

What can we do, and can it make a difference to our lives and that of others? We might start by thinking about the small choices we can make on our own patch and in our own day-to-day lives, and these will be different for all of us. We can choose whether or not to take a bit of extra time to cooperate with the new recycling scheme and so reduce the amount of landfill waste. We can choose to do at least some of our shopping at our two local shops at the heart of our village which serve us so well. We can continue the 'ready smile' widely commented on during the Olympics period this summer which people noticed did seem to lift our spirit.

It is good to see the current Parish Council interest in producing a Neighbourhood Plan. We will be consulted. We will be asked to make choices, to give our views.

Two other 'choices' are flagged up in this month's magazine. Hilary Harber, writing for the Fairtrade Village Group, provides some information to help us when we shop. District Cllr Bob David is giving us the opportunity to meet and question the candidates in the imminent Surrey Police Commissioner election. I am at the moment at a complete loss about this last one! It is a new 'choice'. It sounds as though it is important and that we should know more about it and vote. Here is our chance.

**Jennie South**

## COVER

The picture on the cover is one taken of the pond last month. The pond occupies many pages of this month's magazine. There are 6 letters in Forum from readers who have responded to Dawn Forrester-Groom's letter last month questioning whether the pond we have is the one which the village as a whole wants. You will find a brief history of the pond by Doris Mitchell in Village News - and this includes some pictures of the pond in the past. And finally, there is on page 29 a very brief questionnaire which Dawn hopes as many people as possible will complete and return so that we can all know what villagers actually think about the pond.



*Editor: Dawn Forrester-Groom's letter last month giving her views on our village pond and asking villagers for their views has resulted in six letters from readers which are printed below. Dawn has now followed this up by organising a survey in which she hopes that many villagers will take part so that the Parish Council, in considering its action, will know what villagers really think. You will find the survey form, which Dawn has drawn up with Martine Donoghue of Pond Cottages, at page 29 and you will see that it will take just a couple of minutes to complete. Readers will also be interested to read the brief history of the pond written by Doris Mitchell on pages 26-28*

Dear Editor,

## **The Pond - and the Roberts Family**

Referring to last month's letter on the village pond, over the years there has been much debate and many changes. At times it's been very pretty and sometimes an eyesore. Building a brick wall in the 1950s made the pond very deep. Years ago we had reeds, bulrushes, water lilies, moorhens and ducks. Mrs Geary wrote a book about Tatsfield and looked after the ducks. I say bring it back to what it was like in my youth when we had the pleasure of a village pond, on which children slid on the ice with no fear – well maybe you got wet feet but you were not a true Tatsfielder until then! The pond could be a lovely centrepiece – especially when the Village in Bloom takes place.

I was also very interested to see the plea for news of the Roberts family. Both Josie Weeks, who now lives at Crossways Court, and I originate from that family. I have made contact with the person seeking news.

## **Edith Beasley (formerly Bubbles Roberts), Hayes, Middlesex**

Dear Editor,

### **The Pond**

I do agree with Dawn Forrester-Groom about the village pond. When I came to live here 40 odd years ago the pond was 'the village pond' and was well kept and larger!

Next came the disastrous 1970/80s move to cement the base to stop it leaking, but when they finished it looked the same - pond plants and a duck house in the middle. The latest renovation a few years ago not only decreased the size but changed the general appearance. It really isn't our village pond any more. It just looks overgrown and just not appealing. A recent visitor asked me where the pond had gone; she thought it had been filled in.



Can anyone find some old photos of what the pond looked like originally? That would be a good place to start. Let's put the village pond back on the Tatsfield map.

## **Pat Walsh, Paynesfield Road**

Dear Editor,

### **The Pond**

I have just read Dawn Forrester-Groom's letter regarding the pond. Tatsfield this year has looked absolutely stunning. The flower beds are fantastic. I am very lucky living in a village with a group of people producing such beautiful displays. However, I must admit after passing the pond every day I would prefer a village pond. At the moment there is hardly any water to be seen.

## **Tina Boys, Goatsfield Road**

Dear Editor,

### **The Pond**

I was surprised to read the letter last month questioning the appearance of our village pond and suggesting that it did not look in keeping with the surrounding well-tended village green. I, and some others I have spoken to, think its present long grasses and plants bordering the pond are most appropriate for a rural vista. Certainly a too tidy pond would I think undermine the "natural" appearance which it now has and which contrasts nicely with a well-tended green.

I have in fact congratulated Jon Allbutt on several occasions on how well established the pond has become with its rural appearance and I hope that, apart from the occasional thinning out of overgrown weeds etc, the village watering hole stays as near to nature as possible.

## **Roy Fiddimore, Westmore Green**

Dear Editor,

### **The Pond**

I agree wholeheartedly with the comments made by Dawn Forrester-Groom in the October issue of the magazine.

I feel our pond has not been the special feature of the village it was in years gone by. Looking back at old pictures and postcards of the pond it is sad to see the state of what was once an attractive feature, now just a mass of water surrounded by overgrown grasses and sedge. In fact it is difficult to see that there is a pond at all.

A few years ago the pond had beautiful koi and delicate ornamental plants. It had a maintenance programme by the Parish Council which ensured the pond re-

mained in a healthy condition. This maintenance, carried out twice a year, included the removal of rubbish and debris, removal of dying-back foliage, cutting back plants which had become too large for the position, and ensuring the pond was kept in a manageable condition. Many of these plants, although not indigenous (native) to this country, were like many plants used in our floral displays, developed for their beauty and also to encourage wildlife to the plants. By the very nature of those plants, their growth was less invasive than the grasses and sedge which at present are taking over our village pond.

I often drive past Blindley Heath pond and wish our pond could be half as well looked after as that one. Perhaps we could find out how they do it, for it would be a wonderful thing to have our pond restored as an attractive feature.

## **Wendy Maddison, Westmore Road**

Dear Editor,

### **The Pond - and the New Rubbish and Recycling Arrangements**

I just wanted to give my opinion about the village pond, as requested by Dawn Forrester-Groom in last month's magazine.

I agree with Dawn that the pond looks overgrown and unloved and I think that the pond would look a lot better if it was similar to the pond in Godstone. I know the pond in Godstone is larger and is in a completely different setting, but I think that our village pond should be a 'village pond' and not a 'rural pond'. The current pond looks a mess, is overgrown and in my view should be changed (again!). It would be nice to be able to see the water in the pond!

I should like to comment on the new rubbish collection arrangements. Who voted for it? They should leave office immediately. Fortnightly collections have proved extremely unpopular across vast parts of the UK and some councils have even had the sense to go back to weekly collections. As a result we now have wheelie bins all over the village, which is an eyesore and there will be an increase in vermin, despite what some people try to say!

## **Tony Hall, Johns Road**

Dear Editor,

### **Broadband Appeal**

I write to appeal for you to **Register Your Interest** on the BT Website for **fibre optic broadband (BT Infinity)**.

BT have now put the date of installation back twice, and the current estimated installation date is 31st December 2012. Back in April, the estimated installation

# FORUM

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date was June 30th 2012, then 4 days before the deadline it was rolled back to 30th September 2012, and then 4 days before that deadline it was rolled back again to 31st December!

I fear if there is not more of a push from villagers to register their interest in the scheme then the date will once again be rolled back. I cannot emphasise enough how much of a positive impact this technology would have on the village, both on our day-to-day digital household needs as well as the needs of local businesses and the village school.

I'd strongly encourage any readers (if they haven't already done so) to register their interest in BT Infinity by doing the following :

1. visit : [www.bt.com/infinity](http://www.bt.com/infinity)
2. click the **Check how fast you can go** button
3. enter your landline number, and click **Check now**
4. once the **Your Broadband checker** results box appears, if you are eligible for BT Infinity, click the **Register interest** button.

If anyone has any questions regarding the scheme, please feel free to email me: [dan.radford@gassproductions.co.uk](mailto:dan.radford@gassproductions.co.uk).

**Dan Radford, Paynesfield Road**

Dear Editor,

## **Children's Safety**

On Thursday October 18, I went at 9.50am to pick up 3 radio microphones from the Village Hall for repair and maintenance at an electronics engineering company in London. The door was locked and there was quite a lot of children's voices that told me "Little Acorns" were "in action".

I rang the bell and waited for an answer. As there was no answer I rang the bell again. My London appointment time was getting too close for comfort, so I got out my own set of keys that I use for the Tea Dances for the Hall and opened the door. The door only opened an inch because there was a metal hook limiting the distance it could move.

It was then that Jackie Apps, the supervisor at Little Acorns, came to the door and letting me in said that she had to know why I wanted access. I told her that I wanted to go into the Projection Room for the microphones, to which she agreed.

The point of this letter is that it pleased me no end to think that all of those children are so well looked after and completely safe in the care of that lady and her team of helpers.

**Dave Bishop, The Square**

# COUNCIL REPORTS

## TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

We were pleased to learn that a group of residents has agreed to undertake the first stages of organising a **Village Appraisal** in 2013. They will have to decide the scope of the questions in order to make the maximum use of the outcomes. If anyone feels they may be able to help at any stage of this survey, formulating the questions, designing and distributing the questionnaire, and then analysing the answers and writing the report and recommendations, please email Roger Pearce at [rwpearce@btinternet.com](mailto:rwpearce@btinternet.com). On past experience it is a lengthy business but has enabled Tatsfield to evolve in the way that villagers wish and informs the action plans of the Parish Council on your behalf.

Plans for the opening of the **new Westmore Green Play Area** were outlined and by the time you read this we hope to have had a successful celebration. Hopefully this new community facility will be in constant use. Everyone worked so hard on this project and we are delighted with the outcome but it will be dependent on everyone, young and old, keeping an eye on it and reporting any misuse.

**Sue Smale (Tel: 577660 Email: [susan.smale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:susan.smale@yahoo.co.uk))**

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held at the Aileen McHugo Building at 8pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November. It will be preceded at 7.30pm by the Police Forum to which everyone is welcome.**



## TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**New Recycling and Waste Collections:** Tandridge's new system of alternate weekly collections of recycling and waste and weekly collections of food waste started at the beginning of last month and overall has gone very well, with an increase of 20% in recycling in the first week and an even larger increase in the second week. There have been teething problems of course, including much of Tatsfield having its recycling collection delayed by a day in the third week. Apart from that problem in the third week, I have had very few complaints. With the new system we have to remember which week refuse is collected and which week it is the turn of waste. I have been told by many that it does help to keep handy the calendar supplied to every household by Tandridge which shows clearly the right dates for us. Don't hesitate if you are uncertain about anything or have any problems – phone Tandridge on 01883 722000 or email [customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk).

**Election of Surrey's First Police and Crime Commissioner:** The election will be taking place on Thursday 15 November, when you will be able to cast your vote at the Village Hall between 7am and 10pm. The new Commissioner will replace the existing Surrey Police Authority and will be responsible for policing and crime prevention in Surrey. You only have to read those words to realise that it is an important position and that the actions of the person who is elected will affect the lives of all of us who live here. So we should try to find out something about the

## COUNCIL REPORTS

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candidates for the job and what their plans are before we decide whom to vote for. The trouble is that there is not much information readily available, although it is true that there is a lot we can discover via the internet. I have also arranged a public meeting in Tatsfield when all six of the candidates will be attending – 8pm on Wednesday 7 November at the WI Hall. You will find the details on page 23. I hope you will take the trouble to come to the meeting, listen to what the candidates have to say and question them if you wish – and then vote on 15 November for the candidate of your choice.

**Meet your MP:** There is another public meeting I have arranged this month – with our MP, Sam Gyimah. This again will be at the WI Hall and will take place on Friday 30 November starting at 8 pm (the details are on page 23). You will be able to hear Sam speak about current national and local issues and there will be plenty of time to ask questions and to chat informally with him. I hope again that many will take advantage of this opportunity.

**Cllr Bob David (Tel: 577357 Email: bob@bobdavid.co.uk)**



**SURREY**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

### SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

**Winter Maintenance:** I am pleased to report that SCC is ready for the winter - we have 16,000 tons of salt ready in stock across Surrey. We have our contractors ready with 16 new vehicles, and we have 51 farmers across Surrey ready to act (the highest ratio of farmers supporting SCC are in this area of Surrey). Last year we added over 100 miles of Priority roads across Surrey and that investment is continuing again this year. All grit bins have been filled. A special thanks to Parish Councillor Doug Massey, who has done so much good work behind the scenes in helping with all Highway matters. Surrey County Council's cabinet was delighted with the offer of support from the Tatsfield community to undertake a trial on behalf of the County Council to close roads etc when snow arrives. This is real localism in action and, depending upon the results of this trial, as Leader of SCC I hope to extend this outwards in Surrey. Tatsfield is leading the way again.

**Allotments:** I am pleased to report that I succeeded in obtaining a grant of £1,700 to support the allotments in ensuring that electricity can now be installed there. Does that mean a cup of tea when I visit?

**Tatsfield in Bloom:** My wife, Anne, and I were delighted to join so many local residents for your Celebration Evening on 12 October. Once again the outstanding quality of the dedicated and hard work has paid off.

**Parrot:** I am looking forward to the official opening on 27th October of the new Playground on Westmore Green. This is another great example of the work and commitment of Tatsfield residents to do something and not spend time talking about thinking of doing something.

**Cllr David Hodge (Tel: 020 8541 8003 Email: david.hodge@surreycc.gov.uk)**

# VILLAGE NEWS

## SUPPORTING A SPORTING LEGACY by Katherine Vale

This November, as many of us reflect on how proud we are to be living as members of a village which has recently achieved a Silver Gilt award in the Britain in Bloom competition, some among us are enviably also reflecting upon their time spent being a part of another great achievement- the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.

Between Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, Abi Collins of Pond Cottages found herself a key member of a voluntary team ensuring the smooth running of the largest Paralympic games ever held, an experience which she describes as being 'the best thing I have ever done!'. Each day Abi made the journey into the games via a drive into Ebbsfleet followed by catching the Javelin High-speed train into the centre of London.

As an Event Services Team Leader, Abi's roles included leading a team of 10 volunteers per day both in and around the stadium, completing tasks such as checking tickets, helping spectators find where they needed to go, and even rescuing lost children among many others!



Despite the late returns into Tatsfield, frequently reaching 11:30-12:00 at night, all of her hard work was worth it. Abi says she felt wholly appreciated and received several badges, a letter of recognition from David Cameron and a baton from Seb Coe - undoubtedly things to treasure in the years to come.

Interestingly, during my questioning I uncovered that Abi had a unique motivation to be a part of the Olympic experience. In 1964 Abi was being trained as a hurdler by a private coach to compete in the 1968 Olympics held in Mexico. Despite her talents, other interests led to her leaving these Olympic dreams behind. But when the opportunity to be a part of another Olympic games appeared, it was her chance to finally make it into the stadium. The highlight of Abi's time was her work within the stadium itself. The exciting atmosphere created by the 84,000 spectators clapping, cheering and at times crying was breath-taking. On one such day she was lucky enough to witness Jonnie Peacock win Gold in the 100 metres event as well as David Weir win the wheelchair 1500 metres!

When asked what the Paralympic and Olympic 2012 games have done for Britain, Abi responded that they have simply 'brought everyone together',



as well as restoring faith in the future of Great Britain. Whilst many people originally displayed doubt as to the likelihood of the success and smooth running of such a huge event, they have been proved wrong.

Now that the games are over, thoughts turn to how they will be presented in Rio in 2016 – many of us are looking forward to seeing how they compare with the wonderful experience of London 2012!

**PUBLIC MEETING IN TATSFIELD OF THE CANDIDATES  
FOR THE NEW SURREY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
8 pm on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November – Tatsfield WI Hall**

People in Surrey will be voting on 15<sup>th</sup> November for the new Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner, who will be replacing the existing Surrey Police Authority. There are six candidates:



Robert Evans (Labour)

Julie Iles (Conservative)

Robert Shatwell (UKIP)

Kevin Hurley (Independent)

Nick O'Shea (Lib Dem)

Peter Williams (Independent)

All the candidates will be attending the public meeting, which has been arranged and will be chaired by Bob David, Tandridge District Councillor for Tatsfield and Titsey

- What do you know about the candidates and their plans? This is your chance to listen to them and to question them before you decide how to vote.



**MEET YOUR MP, SAM GYIMAH**

**Public Meeting at 8 pm on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Tatsfield WI Hall**

- Your chance to hear your MP speak and question him and also to meet and chat to him informally.
- Are there any concerns you have about local or national issues? What would you like your MP to do? Don't miss this chance to have your say!
- Meeting arranged by Bob David, Tandridge District Councillor for Tatsfield and Titsey.





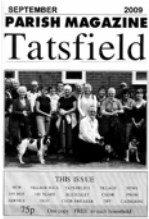
## DRINKING AND EATING AT THE OLD SHIP

The Old Ship has been in new hands since June and many changes have been made to its decor and to the way it is run. Have you been in to have a drink or to try the food? If you haven't, why not do so and meet the new team running the pub – owner Amy Judge, her partner, Danny Mors, and Danny's mother, Lisa Blake, who is the manager.

The Old Ship is being run as a family pub with

- it being children friendly
- a children's menu every day
- food served seven days a week, daytime and evening
- homemade specials every day
- tea and coffee served from 11 am

Pop in and find out for yourself!



## MAGAZINE MATTERS

**Inserts:** Coming with this magazine are 3 leaflets – North Downs Sinfonia's Autumn Concert, Kate the Mobile Hairdresser and Dance First dancing lessons.

**Next issue:** Contributions for the December magazine should be with the editor by 16<sup>th</sup> November. These can be posted (Bob David, The Briars, Ninehams Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2AN), emailed (bob@bobdavid.co.uk) or left at Linda's Stores. Deliveries of the magazine will be from Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November onwards.

**Advertisements:** Nearly 100 local businesses advertise in the magazine every month and their adverts can be found in the front and back pages. It is clear from the responses so far to the magazine survey that pretty well everyone finds them useful. Do have a look at them for you will find a supplier for most of the things you need. So, you will find suppliers not only of goods and services like restaurants, garages, taxis, plumbers, electricians and tree surgeons but also suppliers of cup cakes, art classes, swimming lessons, a jazz band, a lady decorator and a lady cleaner. And all of them are local businesses.

**Magazine Crossword:** Do you like doing crosswords? Are you good at doing them? Well, you don't have to be expert to be able to attempt the magazine crossword on page 71. It has been deliberately set at a level which should enable most people to have a go. And this month's crossword is even more approachable because many of the clues are related to the village. So, try it and see how you get on!

## ? MAGAZINE QUESTIONNAIRE (especially if you are under 60)

Thank you to all those who have returned their responses in the questionnaire which came to you with last month's magazine - they are proving very useful. There has been a disproportionately high response from those in the upper age category and this could distort the results of this survey. We especially would like further returns, however positive or negative, from those below the age of 60, otherwise future magazine planning may not properly take account of their views.

**The deadline for returning the questionnaire is being extended to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November** and, if you cannot find your copy, further copies of the questionnaire are available at Linda's or on the village website: <http://www.surreycommunity.info/tatsfieldvillage/>. A report on the outcome of this survey will appear in the next magazine.

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS, WHATEVER YOUR AGE – IT TAKES ABOUT 5 MINUTES TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE!



**SURREY**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

### SHARE YOUR HOME, SHARE YOUR LIFE

The Surrey Shared Lives Service are looking for individuals or couples to become Shared Lives carers. This service offers adults with learning or physical disabilities, mental health needs or support needs due to their age, an opportunity to live in a home environment instead of residential care. It provides them with a level of independence and support where they'll get a chance to participate in family and community life. Carers are paid between £45 and £80 per day for the service they provide in their own home. For more information or to speak to someone about the Surrey Shared Lives Service call 01372 833191, email: [sharedlives@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:sharedlives@surreycc.gov.uk) or visit: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/sharedlives](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/sharedlives).

### ANSWERS TO THE OCTOBER MAGAZINE PHOTO PUZZLE

1, 2, 3 and 4 were as below. The winner is John Stevens – congratulations to him.



## THE POND ON WESTMORE GREEN - A BRIEF HISTORY

Tatsfield's pond was originally a dew pond, most probably constructed, as was customary, by a professional maker of such ponds. Dew ponds are circular, lined with puddled clay, often by a road, which provided runoff water. The traditional dew pond design ensured an adequate water supply from rainfall by maximising the pond's catchment area in relation to its evaporation area. A normal dew pond is at least 18m across its water surface with a further collection margin.

Ponds were the usual source of water for fire fighting, for swelling the wood of cartwheels, for animals, etc. Once constructed they needed maintenance on a regular basis, but it was imperative not to disturb the puddled clay bed.

Parish Council records show a long list of various efforts over about 100 years to maintain the pond. There were controversies over whether it was overflowing or leaking, whether there should be railings and whether it was such a 'disgrace' that it should be filled in! Unfortunately the pond base was disturbed on several occasions, irreparably so in 1971 when a group of residents dug out the original clay pond bed, concreted the base, and added a wall. The pond then lost water due to severe cracking of the concrete and seepage through the wall.

More recent events are:

**1977.** The Village Pond Association was formed at the instigation of Doris Geary, longstanding resident of Pond Cottages, with the great support of her brother, Frank Watson. The pond was leaking again, the concrete had cracked.

**1978.** The concrete was dug out, the pond base reshaped to the original saucer shape of a dew pond, lined with Bentonite clay after consultation with Tandridge District Council and advice from Steetley Minerals Limited.

**1980.** Doris Geary obtained commoner's rights to have ducks on the pond.

**1984.** The pond was leaking again. A representative of Steetley Minerals Limited put it down to a number of things: excessive salt from the road being washed in over the five year period, cracking, fissuring or settling of the subsoil, tree roots, plants being pulled out, etc.

**1985.** The pond was emptied completely, all Bentonite removed and with the help of many villagers gault clay donated by Redlands Sand Pits was puddled into the pond.

**1986.** By April this work had been carried out, the water level was high and the ducks and their duck house were on the pond again.

## VILLAGE NEWS

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**1987.** By spring the water of the pond had disappeared rapidly again. In April I took over from Doris Geary as secretary of the Tatsfield Village Pond Association. By August, with the advice of Surrey County Council's chief ecologist and the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, it was decided to enlist professional help and employ contractors experienced in pond restoration, recommended by Surrey. Funds were raised, with residents, village organisations, TDC, Safeways, Charlingtons and Surrey Voluntary Service Council giving generously.

**1988.** In March the contractor left the site. Under the supervision of Surrey ecologist, John Edwards, the pond bed was reshaped as an 18m diameter dew pond, received a custom-made butyl liner with a projected life span of 50 years, protective layers of clay and silty soil, and an overflow on the northern side. The pipe draining surface water from the road into the pond was blocked off to stop pollution. Thames Water filled the pond. The Surrey ecologist advised on plants for the pond and members of the Pond Association planted accordingly. The duck house and ducks went back on the pond.

**1989.** Tandridge District Council diverted the drainage of the Approach Road, which we had blocked already, away from the pond, under Westmore Green and into Westmore Road.

Villagers were asked not to put any plants into the pond without consulting the Pond Association. Alas, various plants "turned up" in the pond, worst of all yellow irises, which spread rampantly. Even fish "turned up" despite their being detrimental to newt larvae. The aim was to have as much as possible a natural haven for water wildlife and, in spite of the ducks, newts and frogs thrived.

To keep the pond reasonably full of water, it needed topping up occasionally. The water table had changed drastically since the pond was first constructed, long before a number of houses and the Wedgwoods development had been built. Traditionally, trees were not planted near dew ponds, but in the 1920s those on Westmore Green were planted, taking up water. The Thames Water Laboratory advised that topping up with mains water, up to half the volume of the pond, would be acceptable, but more than 50 % could be harmful to invertebrates. Topping up occasionally would be preferable to land and road drainage leaving deposits from agrochemicals, petrol, salt, etc.

The Pond Association was disbanded in 1990 because no new secretary could be found and I could not continue. Responsibility was handed over to the Parish Council, who employed a contractor to "clean out" the pond periodically at great expense. They usually left the pond full of plant debris when they departed and never managed to halt the invasive plants. The pond was no longer being topped up but it held water and was not leaking. Water was lost through natural evaporation and therefore grass gradually grew into the pond from the edge due to the low water level and unfortunately reeds and irises started taking over.

# VILLAGE NEWS

It was decided to restore the pond yet again and since 2010 it has its present look, somewhat smaller than the previous version. To have a real wildlife pond in the village centre with no natural water supply other than rain is probably not possible. At the moment it looks again as though grasses are taking over too much of the pond surface. From an ecological point of view this is fine but it hardly makes for the centre of attraction of the village. It can probably never be a tranquil haven for water wildlife given all the traffic around it.

Over the years it has received the odd discarded bicycle, many a football and, to the distress of neighbours, even their vandalised flower pots. Maybe a compromise would be the right thing to do, with a greater area of water visible, occasional top ups if needed and clearing out of excessive plants in autumn when frogs and newts have left the pond.

## How it used to be



*About 100 years ago*



*Summer 1987*



*Just after the 1988 restoration*



*Initial planting of native species*

**Doris Mitchell**

# VILLAGE NEWS

**PLEASE COMPLETE, TEAR OUT AND RETURN AS INDICATED**

(If you do not want to tear out the page, there are spare copies of the form in Linda's Stores)

## TATSFIELD POND – WHAT DO YOU THINK? A SURVEY

### WHY A SURVEY

The pond on Westmore Green is a key feature of our village environment. A lot of effort has gone into restoring / maintaining the pond. Yet village views differ about how good the pond does look. This survey wants to find out what you think. **Does the pond look fine OR would you like it to look different ?**

### HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

- Complete the questions below.
- Return the form to: Linda's Stores or to Dawn Forrester-Groom, Goddards, Manor Road, Tatsfield, TN16 2ND **by 15 November.**

It will take less than 5 minutes to answer these questions – take this opportunity to **have a say about your village pond.** The survey results will be reported in December's Parish Magazine.

### QUESTIONS

1. DO YOU LIKE THE LOOK OF THE VILLAGE POND AS IT IS?

YES

NO

(indicate your answer by ticking the appropriate box)

2. IF NO – HOW WOULD YOU LIKE IT TO LOOK? Some options are (tick **one** box only):

(a) Open water with no /minimal planting at edges

(b) Keep the same type of plants but have less of them

(c) Change the planting around the edge e.g. add colour

(d) Other (insert your suggestion)

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE SIGN**



## LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL

We've had a lovely half term at Little Acorns; our children have all now settled in very well and are enjoying their time with us. We have also just gained a new member of staff and I'd like to take this opportunity of welcoming Katie Lucas to us!

After half term, our topic will be "Celebrations" as it's that lovely time of year where there are lots of forthcoming celebrations to learn about. We will be looking at Halloween, Bonfire Night and, of course, Christmas! By the time you read this we will have had our Spooky Dress-Up Day and Cake Sale, so I hope that all your children had a good time and found some very spooky dressing up clothes! Also in November is Children in Need Day and we will have some more information for parents about how we are going to help raise money for this very worthy cause a bit closer to the time.

We also have two forthcoming fundraising events which we really need your support for. The first of these is our Quiz Night, which will be held on 23 November at the Millennium Hall. Liz Kelleher will be selling tickets for this very soon so be sure to catch her at Little Acorns and get yours quickly!

Secondly will be an event that has proved popular in the past – our Crazy Crafty Christmas. Tickets for this will be on sale soon, priced at £7 per child, so call Roz Hilditch on 07790 365137 if your child enjoys doing craft and would like to come along.

Finally, as you know Little Acorns is a charity, and is therefore run by a committee of current and previous parents. The Chair, Arnie Arnold, has now stepped down and we are urgently looking for parents and carers with children at Little Acorns to step forward and join our committee. Please speak to Jackie Apps if you feel you would like to get involved in how your pre-school is run. I would also like to thank Arnie for the tireless hard work and effort he has put into running the Little Acorns committee for the last 3 ½ years. He has done an absolutely fantastic job and he will be very sorely missed.

If you would like to register your children with Little Acorns for either our morning sessions (3-4 year olds) or our afternoon sessions (2-3 year olds) please contact Julie Barlow on 541103.

**Helen Hartley, Vice-Chair, on behalf of Little Acorns Pre-School (Tel: 576871)**

### IMAGINATIVE CHILDREN?

On page 68 see how the minds of Tatsfield schoolchildren work.



# VILLAGE NEWS

## **DO YOU THINK THE PARISH COUNCIL IS DOING A GOOD JOB?...OR NOT! THERE'S A VACANCY!**

The Parish Council is the elected authority that acts on your behalf to manage local affairs.

On some matters such as education and highways it represents your interests, makes representations and works with the responsible authority – Surrey County Council.

Similarly, councillors work with Tandridge District Council on matters such as planning and refuse collection.

There are big areas for which the Parish Council has responsibility and authority: most open spaces, greens and woodland, the Village Hall and the games area. On many occasions the Parish Council can represent your concerns to other organisations such as Transport for London, Biggin Hill Airport, the police, and providers of health and social care.

Your Parish Councillors put themselves up for election to these unpaid roles for a variety of reasons: a genuine desire to make a difference, a chance to give something back to the community, a willingness to share a skill or expertise.

However, whilst there are seven councillor places, there are only six of us and we can only do so much. Two of us work full time; two part time and the other two are the busiest retired people I know. If only someone would come forward to join us it would enable us to do more and do it better and quicker. We will shortly advertise the vacancy on the council so please think long and hard about whether you could join us for the next two years.

If you would like to ask any questions, please speak to a current councillor: Peter Kerry, Doug Massey, Ian Mitchell, Sue Smale, Nichola Stokoe, Martin Westerman or contact the Parish Clerk on 01959 701820, tatsfieldpc@talk21.com and you can always drop into the Bakery on a Saturday morning between 11 and 12 for an informal chat with parish councillors over a coffee.

**Sue Smale, Chairman**

## **COOKING MEAT WITH HERBS**

Mint? Horseradish? Hyssop? Parsley? Majoram? Winter Savory? Discover more in Lin Saines' article on pages 66-67.

# VILLAGE NEWS

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## MARJORIE HORWOOD

5 September 1930 – 14 September 2012

Marjorie, Sister, Miss Port, Mrs J, Mum, Auntie, Mrs Horwood, Nan and latterly 'The Great Nanma'.

We all think we know this lady but I would like to share a few thoughts and highlight some more unusual aspects of her life as we all remember a remarkable person of contrasts and surprises.

Her love of travelling with friends and family started in the early 1950s when, as a young bride of 20, she undertook a huge adventure journeying to a Ghanian gold mine, where she learned to dislike tinned fruit. Already able to speak French and German Mum learned to speak Farsi during her next big adventure in Persia whilst I learned to speak.



Later she travelled to Canada, Europe, India and China, often with her life-long friend Betty. Despite her experiences she always worried about the little details - especially being on time or finding a hotel

Her first love remained books and libraries and it was to these she returned after being left to bring up two small boys by herself, studying part time to become a chartered Librarian. A remarkable achievement in an era when being a single parent was not easy let alone managing a professional career.

Working in Bromley Marjorie met Bill, a charming gentleman of the old school whom she married in 1970 and took on the care and responsibility of two additional teenage boys (William and John).

She moved on to become a neighbourhood librarian for Lambeth in charge of 3 libraries and even though she could quell unruly youths was really rather shy and retiring. At times she was so conscientious that if she could not remember having locked a library would return to check even if it was 11 pm.

I was often sent back to college with enough rich fruit cake to feed the 5000 and I remember the time she had taken me and a friend (now my brother-in-law) back to university and over coffee scanning his shelves only to observe that he did have the latest version of an obscure chemistry text book,

Never one to rest she was always trying different recipes, even taking a Cordon Bleu course in France, but she never really relished Indian or Chinese food.

## VILLAGE NEWS

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Having taken early retirement she became more active in the church, becoming a lay-reader and church secretary at St Mary's in Tatsfield. Her sense of fair play allied to her social conscience, diplomacy, sensitivity and organisational skills enabled her to run the local CAB for the benefit of many.

Moving to Edenbridge was her choice and emphasised her independent spirit. Here she found a new church and the time to help in the local school listening to children practice their reading – something very dear to her. Wherever she went she left friends who are pleased to have known her.

Her interest in crosswords, word games etc which along with her wide general knowledge and a keen interest in music, literature, history and theatre made her a fearsome quiz competitor and a person you always wanted on your side. I have heard she was encouraged to be the question mistress for the Roman Court and WI quiz nights rather than always winning.

As if this wasn't enough in the same year as she gained her first grandson she gained an Open University arts degree. She was a member of MENSA and would rant at the television or radio at the incorrect use of English – 'different to' was a particular hate. However, for all her intellectual achievements, swimming and riding a bicycle were skills that eluded her.

When her mind was busy so were her hands, and her skills at sewing and knitting were much in demand by friends and family and I am sure many of you have seen the results of her handiwork.

Family were hugely important to her and she passed many happy hours keeping in touch with all branches of her extended family. She particularly enjoyed taking her grand-children on trips to the city, theatre, museums, farms and dungeons.

Embracing new technology, she became a dab hand at on-line shopping, surfing the net, skyping her grandsons and dashing off an email, but she still wrote letters and lists in beautiful, neat long hand using her gold fountain pen. Marjorie was always organised – despite the initial appearance of her flat – keeping detailed double-entry accounting records and filing her recipes and knitting patterns.

Mum was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone but rarely made any demands for herself despite all that life threw at her.

If you believe that a person lives on as long as there are people to remember them, then Marjorie, Sister, Miss Port, Mrs J, Mum, Auntie, Mrs Horwood, Nan, 'The Great Nanma' will live on in our fond memories of her.

**Anthony Jordan**

# VILLAGE NEWS

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**STEVE BOWEN**

**1 March 1952 – 11 October 2012**

Born as one of identical twins and brought up in Chislehurst, Steve went to Shooters Hill Grammar School after passing his 11 plus. When he left school as a teenager he started working in an advertising agency and it was at that time that he met Carol, his future wife.

Steve worked as an electrician with his father-in-law to be and then as a telecommunications engineer for the GPO which then became British Telecom. Whilst at BT he continued to study engineering at college and in 1981 he was recognised as BT Student of the Year for the UK.



He dearly loved children and all animals. He had many dogs through his lifetime - a lot of the Cocker Spaniels in Tatsfield have come from the litters bred by Steve and Carol. He also kept Koi Carp and would spend hours just watching them - one cold winter's night he accidentally joined them in the pond, but that wasn't deliberate.

He had many hobbies from allotmenting, to motorsport, to pub quizzes, but he was obsessed by fishing. He loved to fish - lake, river, sea, beach, cliff you name it - morning, noon and night. It's the only time he actually sat still. We always had more trout in the freezer than you could ever wish for. Friends would normally leave with one or two after a visit to the house. He has even been featured on page 3 twice - page 3 of the Angling Times that is!

Steve also enjoyed shooting clay pigeons with his friends. He shot with a left-handed gun even though he was right handed because his right eye was damaged at work some years ago. This is a good demonstration of his determination; he would never let things stop him achieving.

He loved to share his evenings with friends and family in the local pubs and bars near his homes. The Crown in Lee was a regular haunt as was the Tatsfield Club and The Bakery. He would like nothing more than to discuss the day's events and the very latest jokes. He was partial to a pub quiz and he had a good knowledge of history, the world wars being a big favourite of his. However, you would sometimes find him walking around the pub, helping out some of the more struggling teams and even giving away the answers!

# VILLAGE NEWS

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He had a natural friendly way with people and a wicked sense of humour. He made others feel very comfortable and special. He would always have time to help others - to fix a broken phone, to mend a leaky tap, to pick you up from the airport, to chat to at the bar or even to provide a shoulder to cry on.

Steve died after a long battle with lung cancer; his sheer determination kept him alive for longer than anyone ever expected. He was a tremendously brave and determined man who will be sadly missed by many and especially by his close family - Carol, his three children and three grandchildren, about to become five grandchildren.

Donations have come thick and fast to Cancer Research UK, after the family set up a website page in his memory. To date they have raised nearly £800. The web address is [www.justgiving.com/stevebowen](http://www.justgiving.com/stevebowen).

The funeral was held on Friday, 26th October, at St Mary's Church.

## Chris Bowen



### CHRISTMAS TREE APPEAL

We have in the past enjoyed the lovely Christmas trees so generously donated by Tatsfielders and erected on the island in the village centre. Volunteers decorate it with the lights provided by the Parish Council ready for the evening of carols with music funded by the Parish Council and organised by that great chap David Bishop. We do not have a donated tree – yet. Do you have a traditional Christmas tree around 5 metres (15 feet plus) growing in your garden, perhaps getting too big? If you would like to donate it, or would like Jon Allbutt to come and have a look at it, please give him a call on 577100.

### LOCAL POLICE NEWS



Despite the Tatsfield area having a low crime rate, isolated reports of vehicle crime occurring in the village continue. Please read the following advice in preventing vehicle crime:

- Don't leave anything inside your car. Clothes, cigarettes and loose change can all encourage a break-in.
- Remove the stereo or stereo fascia if possible.
- Remove satellite navigation devices if possible, including the support cradle.
- Wipe away any suction pad marks left on the dashboard or windscreen.
- Leave your glove box open to show it is empty.
- Close windows and sunroofs and lock the doors and boot.
- Keep your car parked in a garage if possible and lock both vehicle and garage.
- When away from home, or if you don't have a garage, always try to park in a well-lit, open location.
- Look after your car keys and keep them out of sight, even at home.

**PCSO Matthew Nottidge**

# VILLAGE NEWS

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## ALLOTMENTS NEWS

As autumn approaches most plotters have cleared their plots ready for the winter – good preparation now will ensure good crops next year. We have a good and plentiful supply of horse manure, and sometimes chicken manure. Yields have been variable – we have reports of totally ruined potato crops due to flooding, and bumper crops due to good rainfall – you never know what you are going to get at Tatsfield!

The compost site has now closed for the winter, although work will continue, erecting more bins, tidying the site, encouraging the screen hedge. We will notify you in good time when we open again next year. Plans are being made to install a French drain to take the surface water away from the area near the White House. This involves hiring a digger to make a trench which will then be filled with flints recycled from the site. We hope this will solve some of the drainage problems some have encountered.

Tatsfield in Bloom and the Horticultural Society have been given a container to store their materials and equipment; the intention is to locate it at the far end of the allotment site as the Borough Road site is to be vacated soon. The current path will be extended by a few metres to allow this to be as near the edge of the site as possible – every bit of space is valuable for growing purposes.

We have been verbally given the green light for a grant from Surrey County Council to install electricity onto the site. This will make a huge difference, enabling electrical machinery to be used, lighting in the winter months and dark evenings, ambient security lighting – and most important of all – tea making facilities!

Finally, on Sunday 7 October we held our annual BBQ. Not so well attended as last year when enthusiasm was running high - but a few die-hards attended and a good time was had by all. We managed to get fabulous weather again – despite cold and rain in the days before, and after – the gods are certainly shining down on Tatsfield allotments!

Further social functions are planned for the spring. Please keep looking and checking – we rely on support from all plot holders to make these occasions viable and enjoyable for all.

**Liz Armitage**

### **GOOD AT BEES?**

Can you tell the difference between a Bumble-bee and a Honey bee? Read Nigel Shaw's Nature Notes on pages 64-65 to find out.



### WELCOME TO DANCE FIRST!

In January I am opening an exciting new dance school in Tatsfield Village. The School will cater for children and teenagers from 3 years upwards. Initially I will be teaching ISTD Ballet, Tap and Modern dance but I'm also very keen to run classes in Jazz, Street dance and Zumbatomic if there is a demand.

I have been dancing since the age of 3, attending local dance classes throughout my school years. After leaving Oxted School I went on to study at The Centre for Performing Arts in London. Since graduating as a fully-qualified ISTD dance teacher I have gained considerable experience of teaching children of all ages, coaching them through exams, choreographing many routines for shows and organising holiday workshops. My personal ambition has always been to run my own dance school. With my experience and passion for dance I hope to inspire young students to reach their full potential in a caring, sociable and fun environment. Trips to the theatre and opportunities for performing to family and friends, by way of shows and workshops, are just some of the additional group activities I intend to include.

I want to give as many children as possible a chance to sample my classes so I am running a series of FREE TASTER SESSIONS during early December at Tatsfield Village Hall. Whether your child is new to dance or already has some experience do bring them along. Give me a call/email to get full details of the Taster Sessions and to book a place for your child. I am keen to get feedback from everyone so I am very happy to discuss any questions or suggestions you may have. See also the leaflet coming with this magazine



**Emily Hunt DDE (Tel: 07734 543464 Email: [emily@dancefirst.co.uk](mailto:emily@dancefirst.co.uk))**



### MOSAIC WORKSHOP

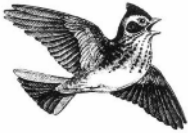
A group of 15 people have started to create mosaic items for their homes or gardens with house name/number plates proving the most popular. We aim to complete our pieces by mid December. If you want to join us please ring or email me.

**Carol Gaskell (Tel: 07815 775859 Email: [carol.gaskell1@btinternet.com](mailto:carol.gaskell1@btinternet.com))**



# VILLAGE NEWS

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## NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

A final reminder that Tatsfield's very own symphony orchestra The North Downs Sinfonia will be performing on **Saturday 10 November at 7.30 pm** in the Village Hall. NDS concerts have been great village events for 7 years now and this November's outing promises to be a particularly good one under the expert baton of Brynly Clarke.

This concert has 4 delightful pieces that will be popular with players and listeners alike. **Beethoven's** famous **Egmont Overture** gets the evening off to a rousing start. Then we play **Bizet's** suite of short pieces known as *Jeux d'Enfants* or children's games – a joyful collection of music portraying children at play. The **Weber** Bassoon Concerto wraps up the first half: it is exceptionally tuneful and is almost guaranteed to have you humming along with enchanting melodies and delightful interplay between the orchestra and the soloist (Hannah Balcombe).

After the interval (free bar – donations welcome) we will perform **Symphony No.3, The Scottish by Felix Mendelssohn**. The familiar music captures the essence of Scotland, portraying the landscape and celebrating Scottish folk music too. It is dedicated to Queen Victoria following the composer's inspiring trip to Scotland in 1829.

Tickets for the concert cost £9 for adults and £7 for concessions and are available from Linda's Stores, from Jan Maynard on 577659 or by email from [mail@northdownssinfonia.com](mailto:mail@northdownssinfonia.com). . We very much look forward to seeing you at the concert.

## Hilary Harber



### BARN THEATRE AT OXTED



#### CHESS

A romantic triangle in a world chess championship  
*Presented by the Oxted Operatic Society*  
7.45 pm on Tuesday 20 to Saturday 24 November  
Tickets from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 07530 528094

#### MURDERED TO DEATH

An hilarious spoof in the best Agatha Christie tradition  
*Presented by the Glow Theatre Group*  
7.30 pm on Friday 30 and Saturday 1 December  
Tickets from [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk) or 01883 720167



### DO YOU REMEMBER VI JUPP?

New to Tatsfield's archives this month is a fascinating short history of Roland Cottage in Borough Road. It has come from a cousin of Vi Jupp, who lived all her life there until her death in 1988 when the site was being re-developed and the new Roland Cottage was being built. The cousin came across Tatsfield's websites, saw Roland Cottage mentioned and offered a series of photographs of the inside of the original house from the 1980s as well as images of the garden and of Vi Jupp herself. What has now arrived is a presentation pack recording the history of the Jupps of Roland Cottage for which we are most grateful.

October also brought good news from Cornwall – the result of an enquiry in last month's magazine. Phillippa Roberts was trying to trace her father's side of her family. She knew they lived somewhere in Tatsfield between 1932 and 1938. She was looking for her grandfather, Philip Leonard Roberts, whose step-brother was Edward Stanley Page. His son, Victor, had been in the Navy but died young.

As so often happens with such enquiries, we can provide only half an answer at first. There is no Victor Page in our records, but there is Victor Roberts of Westmore Cottages who died at Christmas 1946 at the age of 19.

When I asked Phillippa whether Victor Page could be the Victor Roberts in her family tree, she sent a 1936 photo of her four year old father in Tatsfield - but with no hint of precise location. Her luck was in. The photo showed a house in Lusted Hall Lane (formerly Westmore Cottages) – almost certainly the one where Victor lived. This is the latest example of the use of the internet helping people build their family trees and helping local history groups trace the history of their area by accessing ever-growing sources of information.

The Tatsfield History Project began when I started weeding and scanning the Parish Council records a decade or two ago. We now have dozens of box files of records and more than 2,500 items have been scanned and stored in our digital archive. We drew on these records for 'Tatsfield the First Two Thousand Years' and for the school history in 2010.

**There are only four of us in the Project and we need others to join us to carry on the work as we ourselves move closer to becoming history. All you need is real curiosity about people and events in Tatsfield's past and a healthy scepticism about assumed 'facts'. All are welcome; a quick message with a hint of your interests is all that's needed. What about coming on board?**

**Ian Mitchell (Tel: 577376 Email – for history project only – tatsfield.history@talk21.com)**



## WHAT'S IN A LABEL?

Have you noticed that many well-known brands are using prominent logos and are trying to reassure you that their product is ethical? As a keen supporter of Fairtrade products I have noticed that many leading brands carry the Rainforest Alliance green frog logo on their packaging. I have also found that many people think they are buying Fairtrade coffee, tea or chocolate when they choose PG Tips, Tetleys, Kenco or Galaxy because of the Rainforest label. I thought I would investigate what the two labels mean.



The Rainforest Alliance is an independent organisation whose mark guarantees that at least 30% of the contents of the pack are ethically produced. That means that up to 70% of the tea, coffee or chocolate could be picked by workers paid a very low wage or working in poor conditions. Products that bear the Rainforest Alliance Certified logo meet strict standards in respect of a number of factors such as:

- preserving the local ecosystem, water and soil conservation including local wildlife,
- fair wages and medical care for workers,
- medical and educational provisions for families.

For more information visit: [www.raianforest-alliance.org](http://www.raianforest-alliance.org).

*So what is the difference between Fairtrade and the Rainforest Alliance?*

Fairtrade products are independently assessed and monitored to ensure high standards that guarantee a minimum price to the producers in developing countries plus a premium for social projects such as clean water projects and building schools or health centres. If a product bears the logo then 100% of the cocoa, sugar, coffee or tea must meet the ethical requirements. The Rainforest Alliance require only 30% of their product to be independently assessed and monitored. Rainforest Alliance also costs less for the big manufacturers as they do not have to pay for use of the logo and there is not a minimum price to pay to growers.



Fairtrade **always** means no child labour, a minimum price for farmers, good environmental standards and fair working conditions for workers. Local communities democratically decide how to spend their local premiums to improve their farming communities.

# VILLAGE NEWS

Both labels aim to offer a fairer return to producers who otherwise get a rough deal. Both aim to improve stewardship of the environment. The Fairtrade mark is harder to achieve and involves a cost to the brand.

So, as always, the choice is yours. The Tatsfield Fairtrade Group would urge you to take a step towards Fairtrade whenever possible and look for the familiar green and blue logo. It does not always mean that you pay more for the product, but if you do pay a little more then you know that you are supporting some of the poorest people who are working hard to provide us with produce we often take for granted. For more information visit [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk).

## Hilary Harber



### **ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

Margaret Parsons arranged another successful Coffee Morning in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Charity at the Village Hall on Saturday 29 September. Margaret thanks those who helped in the kitchen and with making cakes: daughters Anita and Moira, granddaughters Karen and Claire, great grandson Lewis Miller and Carole Bowen and her daughter Claire. Margaret is also grateful to Mary and Barry Bull for organising the stalls and to all the stall holders: Sue Saunders, Barbara Bailey, Mary Bull, Hazel Cartwright, Doreen Heywood, Margaret Watson, Enid Garrard, Carol Ferguson and Jennie South and Ann Hayes with their Fairtrade stall. As a result of this effort by so many, Margaret was able to hand the charity the magnificent sum of £400.



### **TATSFIELD HELPLINE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

8 pm on Wednesday 14 November at  
45 Paynesfield Road

*All welcome*

Enquiries to Hazel Cartwright (Tel: 577749)

### **FANCY HAVING THE OLYMPICS TORCH AND ATHLETES IN YOUR GARDEN?**

We mean the ones which have been standing in the Bakery green all summer!  
See page 54 to find out how they can become yours!

# VILLAGE NEWS



## **'SING AND SLURP' – THE TATSFIELD SINGERS' XMAS EVENT**

**Saturday 8 December at the Village Hall**

The Singers are busy rehearsing some well known and some unusual songs for Christmas. We aim to entertain both adults and children and therefore the singing will begin at 6.00 pm and end around 7.00 pm. We hope you will 'singalong' with the more recognisable numbers.

There will be a short 'after the show party' to socialise with friends and enjoy a glass of mulled wine or soft drink and mince pie or cake, which will be included in the price £3 for your ticket. A dozen lucky people from the audience will receive a small gift from the singers - after all it will be Christmas!

We are not raising money for charity this time, which is why the cost is minimal. We just wish to invite villagers to join us to celebrate Christmas. Tickets will be available from Linda's Stores nearer the time of the show, or if you would like to reserve a seat please contact me.

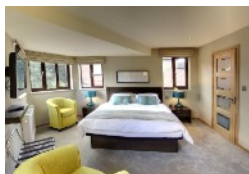
**Pat Coombe (Tel: 577863 Email: peajaycee@aol.com)**



**CALLING ALL REALLY NOVICE  
FLOWER ARRANGERS!  
Monday 3 December  
1.30 pm – 4.30 pm  
St. Mary's Millennium Hall**



Flower arranging ideas with a Christmas theme to try yourself  
Full details on page 61 of the magazine  
For more information or to book a place phone:  
Jan Maynard on 577659 or Jennie South on 577598  
£5.00 to cover costs payable on the day



## **THE BAKERY OPEN DAY**

For those of you who are interested in seeing the culmination of the building work at The Bakery, we will be holding an Open Day on Saturday 10 November from 10.30 am until 2.30 pm.

Everyone is welcome to come and see the stunning conversion of our first floor area into five en-suite letting rooms and the extension and re-fit of our kitchen. We look forward to seeing you !

**Andrew and the Staff at The Bakery**

# VILLAGE NEWS

## CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING



Saturday 1st December WI Hall  
10 am to 12 noon



- ★ Enjoy your morning cuppa with friends
- ★ Have a good natter and browse the stalls, including books, cakes, hand-made cards and craft
- ★ Join in the fun while supporting Valence School

*Arranged by some of the WI ladies*



## NOVEMBER SHOPPING IN TATSFIELD

### **Tony and Di's Greengrocers (Tel: 577603)**

★ Fresh fruit and vegetables ★ Lots of apples – try a different one for a change ★ When did you last have a Kiwi fruit? They're good for you! ★ Fresh eggs ★ Pet and wild bird food – many birds really like sunflower hearts ★ Pot plants ★ Cut flowers ★ Frozen and tinned food ★ *Free delivery to your home – just ask* ★ Keep recycling your unwanted mobile phones, used printer cartridges (all makes except Epson), CDs, DVDs and digital cameras here. Proceeds to charity.

### **Linda's Stores (Tel: 577152)**

#### ★ You can now buy your National Lottery tickets here

- ★ All your Post Office needs, including foreign currency
- ★ Fresh bread and cakes daily
- ★ Look out in the shop for leaflets of the special bargains – these change midway through the month

## ENID'S ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR



Sunday 18 November  
11 am to 4 pm



**Village Hall**

- ★ Lots of stalls by local craftsmen
- ★ Free parking
- ★ Free entry
- ★ Refreshments, including home made light lunches by the Food and Wine Society

## VILLAGE NEWS



### GOOD NEWS FOR PATIENTS AT THE PRU'S CHARTWELL CANCER AND LEUKAEMIA UNIT

The Chartwell Cancer Trust (CCT), a local charity that raises money to fund much needed additional medical staff at the Chartwell Cancer and Leukaemia Unit is pleased to announce that it has moved to a new office in Tatsfield, located opposite Tatsfield Primary School in the old doctors' surgery. The Chartwell Unit at the PRU serves one of the largest metropolitan borough areas covering now around one million residents. And with the ever increasing number of people walking through their doors, maintaining the best treatment and patient care is more important than ever. The CCT relies heavily upon the help of the local community and businesses and is building a small team of volunteers to help them in their quest to raise awareness and increase local support.

With so many charities and good causes to choose from, choosing a local charity is worth considering as it directly benefits us all. More and more you hear about someone who has been affected by this dreadful disease, whether a friend, colleague or close family member, and this is one way we can really help. If you would like more information or you have a couple of hours to spare and would like to volunteer, please contact 01959 570322 or pop in to see them. You can also visit their new website [www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](http://www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk) for more details forthcoming events, news, donations, legacies, and becoming a patron.

*The Chartwell Cancer Trust, Aileen McHugo Building, Westmore Green, Tatsfield, TN16 2AG. Tel: 01959 570322. Email: [info@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](mailto:info@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk). Website: [www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](http://www.chartwellcancertrust.co.uk)*

# Charity Lunch

Supporting The Chartwell Cancer Trust

Venue:

The Bakery, Tatsfield

Thursday, 8th November 2012

### Lunch

3 Courses

£25.00 per head

12.30pm

### Guest Speaker:

Junior James – former DJ, drug user, drug dealer, drug importer and guest of Her Majesty's Prison Service!! – now author and lecturer/mentor working in Young Offenders Units around the UK







# **AUTUMN FAIR**

*at the*

## **THE WOODHOUSE CENTRE**

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(OPPOSITE TANDRIDGE LEISURE POOL)

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**Thursday 15 November  
10.00 am. to 12.00 noon**

**\*CAKES \* COLLECTABLES \* JEWELLERY  
\* GIFTS \* RAFFLE \* BOOKS \* FANCY GOODS  
\* CLOTHES  
\*TEA AND COFFEE**

**ALSO PLANTS FOR SALE**

We are well known by many customers for skilled work in the caning of chairs, upholstery and seagrassing. We also carry out a variety of repairs as well as being very handy with a needle and thread.

The Centre is open Monday to Thursday inclusive from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. with breaks for Easter, Summer and Christmas. We are delighted to have visitors and we are always looking for new members, young and old alike. Why not come and see what we have to offer – if transport is a problem call our Manager on the number below and we will try to help.

We have been supported by the Dancer Fund administered by The Community Foundation for Surrey



**For further information phone Mrs. Dee Graham on 01883 715189**

# VILLAGE NEWS



## COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

The grandly named 'Tatsfield Communications Committee' held its first meeting on September 17, when we had ten people representing many of the different interests in the village. The first issue that we have started to address is the vast choice of communications that we have from pinning notices on a notice board upwards so to speak. In order to help groups, it was agreed to develop a list of the various ways we have to communicate and how to best use them. Once we have produced this, it will be circulated to village groups for them to use.

I am typing this fast as I have now found the magazine print deadline! Do you know what it is - items such as this will be included in the communications list. One of the other things that the TCAC does is to manage the village website. Trevor is our website manager and has written an article on this on page 47.

If you would like to assist us in our goal of communicating to the community, let me know.

**Peter Kerry (Email: [pjkerry@gmail.com](mailto:pjkerry@gmail.com))**

### **RING A FRIEND FIRST!**

All sorts of confidence tricksters can call without notice and try to sell you something or to trick you into parting with your money. Always say "no" but in any case always phone a friend or family before committing yourself to anything.

### **TATSFIELD PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION 100 CLUB**

The winners for September were:

1st prize: Chris Maynard £40.50    2nd prize: Stuart Hendry £27.00  
3rd prize: Les Eames £13.50

### **FREE TO COLLECT**

4 Glass Demijohns – 3 small and 1 medium size. Phone Martin on 577201 or Barry on 577649

### **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

Dave Bishop's 7th annual Christmas Carol Singalong, sponsored by the Parish Council, will take place outside the Old Ship on Friday 14 December from 7 pm. Dave will be needing the usual team to set it up etc. The Lewisham Concert Band will be there - and Father Christmas too !

# VILLAGE NEWS

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## TATSFIELD VILLAGE WEBSITE - DO YOU USE IT?

[www.tatsfield.org.uk](http://www.tatsfield.org.uk)

Over the past 12 months, the Tatsfield Village website has grown in content significantly and new things are being added all the time. Complementing the Parish Magazine and the Tatsfield Village Facebook page (which you'll find at <http://tinyurl.com/Tatsfield>), its aims are to provide a regularly updated source of information about Tatsfield for Tatsfield and to showcase the village to the outside world. Originally developed on an independent basis, the website is now run under the general auspices of the Parish Council.

**What's on the website?** For those of you that have access to the internet, if you haven't already done so, take a look at the site and you'll see there are webpages, or links to other websites, for around 75% of the village clubs and organisations.

**Navigating the website.** If you're not too sure how to find your way around, on the left hand side of the Home page is the 'Navigation Bar', which links you to other parts of the website. You'll find further links if you click 'Sports Clubs' and also 'Other Organisations'. You'll also find a copy of the Magazine on there as well, with pictures in glorious colour,

**Village events.** The Events Calendar is fairly new. It lists events which are of interest to the village as a whole, not just the regular meetings of clubs or other organisations - these can be seen elsewhere on the website. However, village events can only be added if we know about them, so please email them to [info@tatsfield.org.uk](mailto:info@tatsfield.org.uk). If you are planning an event in the future and don't want it to clash with another, the Events Calendar will help to tell you what's on and when. **In order to make the system work, please let us know the details of your planned event.**

## Meet the Team

Trevor



Sue



Tom



Hazel



For some years, Tom Chorley has been managing the website on his own, but he's now decided to take a back seat, so although Tom continues to provide some help, Trevor Sykes and Sue White, along with Hazel Cartwright, are now maintaining the site. So, if your club or organisation isn't mentioned and you would like it to be, we can add a link or set up a webpage for you. Also, if you have any suggestions on how we can improve the website, please email us on [info@tatsfield.org.uk](mailto:info@tatsfield.org.uk).

## Trevor Sykes

Tatsfield Vern D'Anjou Association present a



# Quiz Night

**By popular demand our exciting quiz is back...  
book early to avoid disappointment!**

**Saturday 17th November 2012  
From 7.30 at Tatsfield Village Hall**

**TABLES available from Rosie and Pete Fuller on 573 554**

**It would be great to have the village clubs competing or  
why not arrange a table with a group of friends!**

**£10 per person**

As tradition dictates, the arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau is celebrated on the third Thursday of November. We will be hot footing it back to Tatsfield so that you can be the first to sample the new wine along with other French fare.

**Complimentary food and wine with your ticket.**

**BEAUJOLAIS  
NOUVEAU**





TATSFIELD  
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



**“THE ROYAL PARKS”**

*A talk by Jim Buttress,  
former Superintendent of the Royal Parks*

**Tuesday 6 November 8pm at the Village Hall**

Tickets £3.50, including wine and nibbles  
from

Teresa Watts on 577232  
or any other committee member

- Jim was Superintendent of the Royal Parks for 25 years and
- Chairman of the Britain in Bloom judges and is
- a long-time enthusiastic and passionate advocate for gardening  
and
- will be remembered for his previous entertaining talks in  
Tatsfield

The talk will be preceded by the Society’s Annual General  
Meeting starting at 7.30pm

All Welcome!

# EVENTS CALENDAR

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## NOVEMBER

TATSFIELD SCHOOL HALF TERM UNTIL 2 NOVEMBER

- 1 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 2 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 3 Sat 11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery
- 4 Sun **10am Open the Book All Age Service - StM**  
10.30am Ramblers Walk - Recreation Ground, Biggin Hill  
**11.15am Holy Communion(Book of Common Prayer) - StM**  
**3.30pm All Souls Service - StM**
- 5 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH  
5.15pm Irish Dancing for Children - VH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Art Group • 7.30pm Yoga - TPS • 8pm Chocolat - The Rectory  
8.15pm Bingo -TVC
- 6 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 7pm Scouts - SH • 7.30pm WI Meeting - WIH  
7.30pm HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AGM and JIM BUTTRESS TALK - VH
- 7 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH • 2.15pm Tea Dance Social - VH  
2.30-3.30pm PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR • 6pm Cubs - SH  
8pm VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM - AMB  
8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH  
8pm PUBLIC MEETING OF CANDIDATES FOR NEW SURREY POLICE AND  
CRIME COMMISSIONER - WIH
- 8 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
2pm Scrabble Group - Scrumdoone, Greenway  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS • 8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 9 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
7pm TATSFIELD SCHOOL FIREWORKS - TPS  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 10 Sat 11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery  
7.30pm NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA CONCERT - VH
- 11 Sun **10am Sung Eucharist - StM**  
**10.45am Remembrance Service - StM**
- 12 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH  
5.15pm Irish Dancing for Children - VH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Yoga - TPS • 7.30pm Art Group - VH  
7.30pm Police Forum - AMB • 8pm Parish Council Meeting - AMB  
8pm Chocolat - The Rectory • 8.15pm Bingo -TVC
- 13 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 2pm Not So Young Club -WIH • 7pm Scouts - SH  
7.30pm Tatty Knitters - Old Ship
- 14 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
2.30-3.30pm PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR • 6pm Cubs - SH  
8pm TATSFIELD HELPLINE AGM - 45 Paynesfield Road  
8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH

# EVENTS CALENDAR

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- 15 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30 pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS • 8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 16 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 17 Sat 11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery • 7.30pm VERN QUIZ NIGHT - VH
- 18 Sun **8am Holy Communion(BCP) - StM**  
**10am Sung Eucharist - StM** • 11am Ramblers Walk - Chartwell  
11am - 4pm ENID'S ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR - VH
- 19 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH  
5.15pm Irish Dancing for Children - VH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Yoga - TPS • 7.30pm Art Group • 8pm Chocolat - The Rectory  
8.15pm Bingo -TVC
- 20 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 7pm Scouts - SH
- 21 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
2.30 - 3.30pm PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR • 6pm Cubs - SH  
8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH
- 22 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS • 8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 23 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
7.30pm Little Acorns Quiz Night - CH • 8pm Badminton Club - VH
- 24 Sat 11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery
- 25 Sun **10am Sung Eucharist - StM**
- 26 Mon 9.30am Tots on Top - CH • 1.30pm Bridge Club - WIH  
5.15pm Irish Dancing for Children - VH • 6pm Beavers - SH  
7.30pm Yoga - TPS • 7.30pm Art Group - VH  
8pm Chocolat - The Rectory • 8.15pm Bingo -TVC
- 27 Tues 10am Yoga - WIH • 1.30pm Whist - WIH • 7pm Scouts - SH
- 28 Wed 10am-12noon WI Pop In - WIH  
2.30 - 3.30pm PCSO Matthew Nottidge Surgery - PR  
5.30-8.30pm CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING - TPS • 6pm Cubs - SH  
8pm Yoga - VH • 8pm Explorers - SH
- 29 Thur **9.15am Morning Prayer - StM** • 2pm WI Darts - WIH  
5.30pm Brownies - CH • 7.30pm Duplicate Bridge - WIH  
7.45pm Tatsfield Singers - TPS • 8pm Table Tennis - VH
- 30 Fri 2pm Short Mat Bowls - VH • 5pm Badminton Juniors - VH  
8pm Badminton Club - VH  
8pm PUBLIC MEETING WITH SAM GYIMAH MP - WIH

## DECEMBER

- 1 Sat **ADVENT QUIET DAY - StM**  
10am-12noon CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING - WIH  
11am-12noon PC Café - The Bakery

### Venues

AMB - Aileen McHugo Building • CH - Church Hall • FC - Furze Corner • PR - Parish Room • SH - Scout ut  
StM - St. Mary's Church • TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club  
VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute Hall



# VILLAGE NEWS

## SILVER GILT IN BRITAIN IN BLOOM!



Because Britain in Bloom is a national competition, the venue for the annual awards ceremony can be anywhere in the UK. This year it was in Guernsey, and so seven Tatsfield representatives travelled there for the event on 6<sup>th</sup> October – Mary Bull, Kay and Ian Longley, Sandy and Louis Philibert, Mike Teague and Bob David.



*The Tatsfield representatives in Guernsey*

The picture one has of the Channel Islands is of a warm and sunny place but it was anything but that for our visit – one of the days there was non-stop rain, with our view of Guernsey seen from under umbrellas all day. Anyway, the ceremony itself was a very impressive occasion with over 500 representatives of the 72 finalists and other guests present at the Beau Sejour hall in St Peter Port. We began at 5.30 pm and made our way back to our hotels at 11 pm.

The star guest presenting the awards was Matt Baker, who many of you will know from his TV appearances on Countryfile and other programmes. When our turn came, Tatsfield was awarded a Silver Gilt in the Large Village category, with the winning position taken by Market Bosworth (in the East Midlands) with a Gold, followed by Melrose (in Scotland) also with a Gold.

We had a 15 minutes surgery at Guernsey with our judges the next morning who said that our Silver Gilt marking (75-84%) was a high one, just short of Gold. The judges had this to say in their report:

“Tatsfield is to be congratulated on the overall community spirit which the Bloom campaign is encouraging. Several ambitious projects this year include the new allotment site and the eye-catching Olympic feature on the Bakery green. The Bloom group is to be congratulated on its fund raising efforts and for all the work that they do to enhance this lovely village.”

Their report also included these detailed comments: “The green roof at the school was one of the best we had seen .... We noted the pride of the residents at Crossways Court in creating a colourful and attractive amenity area .... The village was exceptionally clean and tidy .... All those connected with the new allotment site are to be congratulated.”

So, standing back at the end of the year, how do we assess it? So far as the competitions are concerned, it has perhaps been our most successful year yet – in South and South East in Bloom, Best Large Village with a Gold award and the Surrey Life trophy for the highest score by any entrant of any size in the county and



## VILLAGE NEWS

in Britain in Bloom, a Silver Gilt award. It is the unanimous view that our displays celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics have been the best we have created. They were the result of the enormous effort by our grand team of volunteers and of the skills of village artists and craftsmen, and they have given much pleasure to villagers and visitors alike. Our aim in carrying out our programme of work each year is not just to do well in In Bloom competitions but also to have an attractive and clean village all the year round, and we hope we are achieving that.

We finished off the year with our Celebration Evening on 12<sup>th</sup> October, when about 80 people were present at the WI Hall to hear final thanks being given to the many organisations and people involved, including especially our hard-working volunteers and our generous sponsors (Whelan Farms, Park Wood Golf Club, Howard Cundey, Knights Garden Centre Woldingham, IQ Wealth Management, Surrey County Council, the Parish Council and the Horticultural Society. South and South East in Bloom awarded twelve "Certificates of Excellence" to those who have made special contributions this year. These were presented by our County Councillor, David Hodge, who was there with his wife Anne, to:

- ♦ Mary and Barry Bull
- ♦ Elaine Edwards
- ♦ Carol Gaskell
- ♦ Babs Heffernon (on behalf of all of the litter clearers)
- ♦ Kay and Ian Longley
- ♦ Sandy and Louis Philibert
- ♦ Jonnie Panther
- ♦ Lin Saines
- ♦ Residents of Crossways Court
- ♦ Angela Sawyers
- ♦ Mike Teague
- ♦ Rob Webber



*All the winners of Certificates of Excellence with David Hodge and Bob David*

With the year almost over, we have begun thinking about next year, and the Organising Committee has had its first meeting this autumn. **What theme should we adopt next year? Any ideas or suggestions? If so, please let anyone in the team know.**

## VILLAGE NEWS

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We have also, very sadly, had to dismantle the display on the Bakery green and to dig up all the flowers there and in the containers in front of and behind the Village Hall, as well as taking down all the hanging baskets and wall mangers. By the time you receive this magazine, we should have planted the winter and spring displays. We have left the Jubilee display in the Tatol bed because it continues to look good.

***What is going to happen to the lovely athletes and torch displayed on the Bakery green? We have decided to take up the suggestion that they should be auctioned and go to the highest bidders. So, anyone wanting any of them should phone or email Bob David with their bid, which could be for one or more of the items, and they will go to the highest bids made by 15<sup>th</sup> November. There are 2 athletes, 2 paralympians, 2 swimmers and one Olympics torch (the two athletes and two paralympians come complete with their metal stakes and concrete bases).***

**Jon Allbutt (Tel: 577100, email: [jon@jonallbutt.co.uk](mailto:jon@jonallbutt.co.uk)) and Bob David (Tel: 577357, email: [bob@bobdavid.co.uk](mailto:bob@bobdavid.co.uk))**

### AWARD FOR BRAVERY

At the end of September, Stuart Farmer received an award from Lynne Owens, Chief Constable of Surrey Police, for “your bravery and initiative in disarming a dangerous man during a knife incident” in the Village Club in January. Stuart is pictured with the award.



### CONCERT SUCCESS FOR SNOWDOWN COLLIERY CHOIR



On 13<sup>th</sup> October, an audience of 80 at the Village Hall welcomed the Snowdown Colliery Male Voice Choir to their third visit to Tatsfield and once again they did not disappoint. There's something special about male choral singing – I don't think that it's just that their singing is loud and strong – and the choir worked their way through a programme which reflected their Welsh links. There was “Myfanwy” (a woman's name) and “Gwa-hoddiaid” (which is the Welsh version of the English hymn “I hear thy welcome voice”) and many other well known and lovely pieces, including several Spirituals, Andrew Lloyd Webber's “Love Changes Everything” and “Unchained Melody” (which sung by Jimmy Young was UK No. 1 in 1955).

There were several solos, including some by Charles McMacken, an American member of the choir, and one by an Irishman, Tom Clarkson, who amused everyone with his rendering of “I am my own grandpa”.

The concert was arranged by the Village Hall Committee. Not only was it a very enjoyable evening but the Village Hall's funds benefited by about £350.

**Bob David**

# Tatsfield School Fireworks

Friday 9 November 2012

**7pm PROMPT**

(gates open 6pm)

**ADVANCE TICKETS**

(Free entry for pre-school children)

**£5 EACH**

**£20 FAMILY TICKET**

(admits up to 5 people)

**GATE TICKETS £6 EACH / £25 FAMILY**

TICKETS  
AVAILABLE  
FROM SCHOOL  
OFFICE OR BY  
CALLING  
07811 374848

\*\*\* BBQ \* SOUP \* BAR \* TUCK SHOP \* GLOW NOVELTIES \*\*\*

DUE TO HEALTH & SAFETY REGULATIONS NO SMOKING IS PERMITTED ON SITE  
& PERSONAL FIREWORKS ARE FORBIDDEN

# TATSFIELD SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

5.30pm - 8.30pm, School Hall

FREE ENTRY: SHOP, EAT, DRINK AND RELAX  
ALL UNDER ONE ROOF.

Gorgeous Gifts \* Delicious Food & Drink \* Arts & Crafts

Hand-made Jewellery \* Unique Sweetie Trees

Cards, Tags & Wrap \* Kid's Secret Shopping Store

Beauty Treatments \* Plants \* Children's Activities \* Books

Refreshments \* Fashion \* Sweets & Chocolates

Homewares \* Plum Puddings \* Jamie Oliver At Home

Real Christmas Tree Orders \* Health & Beauty \* Candles

and much, much more!

Plus, enter our free prize draw to win a Christmas Hamper!

# VILLAGE NEWS



## THIS YEAR'S POPPY APPEAL

The Poppy Appeal is the British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign to support the welfare of our Armed Forces. Last year £40 million was raised nationally. This year's appeal runs from 28 October to 10 November and this year Tatsfield has a new Poppy Appeal organiser – Jane Abram of Rag Hill Road.

SHOW YOU REMEMBER  
ON THE 11<sup>th</sup> OF NOVEMBER

There have been Poppy Appeal collections in Tatsfield since the 1940s and Jane follows a grand line of organisers – Isobel King (who lived in “High Mead”, Ricketts Hill Road), Ada Lugdon (who ran Lugton Stores in Ship Hill), Pam Draper (Ada's daughter), Liza Player, Christine Gascoyne and Lorna Tory (Pam's daughter).

You will find collection boxes at Linda's Stores, the Old Ship, the Village Club, the Bakery, Tatsfield Garage, St Mary's Church, Beaver Water World, the Summerhouse, Helmet City, Paws for Lunch (the café at Beaver Water World), Park Wood Golf Club, Tatsfield School, Tatsfield Aquatics, 1<sup>st</sup> Tatsfield Scouts and the Village Hall. In addition, a collection is being made at Clacket Lane Motorway Service Area.



## TEA DANCE SOCIAL

Village Hall

Wednesday 7 November & Wednesday 5 December

2.15 to 4.55 pm

- There will be the usual Cream Tea, Free Raffle and Quiz.
- Have a good laugh and exercise and make new friends.
- On the 5 December is the special Christmas Dance Party

*Instruction now given on how to do new dances.*

£6 per person

Enquiries to Dave Bishop on 577550



## IF YOU NEED A FRIENDLY DRIVER – WE ARE THERE TO HELP YOU

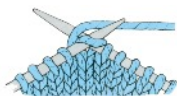
If there is anyone in the village who requires assistance with transport to attend medical appointments, collect prescriptions, etc., they need only ring the Helpline's Co-ordinator Sylvia Waters on 577524. Sylvia will find a volunteer driver to match the request. The cost is only the driver's petrol expenses plus a nominal amount for administrative expenses.

**RING SYLVIA ON 577524**



# VILLAGE NEWS

## TATTY KNITTERS



Brrr, now's the time to start to knit those chunky scarves, gloves and socks to see you through the winter. Tackle new projects?

We had a great time at the Knitting and Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace last month. So much to see and buy.

Next get together will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November from 7.30 – 9.30 pm in The Ship. If we're not sitting in the window seats, you'll find us snuggled round the log fire in the restaurant. Cake supplied, buy your own drink. See you there.

**Val Quick (Tel: 576264)**

### FAREWELL TO PEGGY JOHNSON

After nearly 75 years in Tatsfield, Peggy Johnson will be leaving the village soon. Her home, "Libra" in Ricketts Hill Road, was built by her father, Charles, in 1937 as a holiday home but the family decided to live there in 1939, when Peggy was 7 years old. Peggy has played an active part in village life but feels that now is the time to move on from her large house and large and lovely garden. Peggy has our best wishes as she settles in her new home in Uckfield.

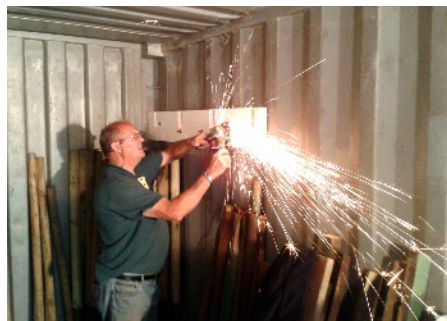


### WESTERHAM LATE NIGHT SHOPPING AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON – THURSDAY 29 NOVEMBER 6 – 9 PM

Westerham's late night shopping event will be held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Journalist and TV Broadcaster Dr. Hilary Jones is to 'switch on' and will arrive in Westerham with Father Christmas on a Dray pulled by local Shire Horses. Charming and quirky shops will welcome shoppers with mince pies and mulled wine, and there will also be stalls around the town, with hot chestnuts, candy-floss and other goodies, while Rock Choir will provide entertainment. There will be a Merry-go-round for children and members of Westerham Amateur Dramatic Society will wander around town in their 'Jack and the Beanstalk' costumes.

### HAVE FIREWORKS COME EARLY?

The composting team have been busy fitting out their container at the allotments in Approach Road so that their equipment can be neatly and safely stored. The picture shows Mike Teague creating a spectacular scene as he uses an angle grinder to remove some protruding bolt ends.



# Ladies Luncheon

with award winning florist Chris Jones

**Friday 16 November 2012, at 11am**

Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, London Road  
Westerham, Kent TN16 1BG

Coffee upon arrival  
followed by  
entertaining  
floral  
demonstrations  
and two course  
lunch with wine

Tickets are £25 and available  
from EntreNous, Lingerie,  
Westerham

For enquiries please contact  
Kim Jennings: 01959 577328  
kim21jennings@hotmail.com

 raising funds for  
**action medical research**  
for children, for life

Charity reg. nos 208701 and SC039284



## Harvest Festival

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the marvellous display of flowers, fruit and other goods last month. The flower arrangers produced some stunning arrangements, greatly helped by material provided from the Titsey Estate: we thank them for their generosity. At the 10am Sunday service the church was packed with people, with over thirty children including Scouts. The items of food, many donated by parents of Tatsfield Primary School, have now gone to Brixton where the people of Christchurch are distributing them to those in special need and more than fifty gift boxes and baskets of flowers we delivered locally.



## Thank you Coffee and Cake morning

We were pleased to be able to say 'thank you' over a cup of coffee and delicious cake on a Saturday morning in early October to a good crowd of wonderful people who help throughout the year in the churchyard, arranging church flowers and those who form the great band of church teas helpers. We do appreciate all the time and skill that so many people offer so generously in these ways.

## Awayday

On a Saturday in October around 20 adults and 9 children from St Mary's spent the day at the Oxted Community Centre talking about their experiences of church and sharing together some of our hopes and dreams for the future life of St Mary's. It was a really good day and produced some very encouraging ideas for the future. So it isn't only in the world of work that this kind of 'stock taking' happens! At St Mary's we know that if we are going to continue to serve the parish in future decades, as we have for the past 900 years, then we must plan for the steps along the way, recognising changing needs and challenges.



## All Souls' Service, 4<sup>th</sup> November 3.30pm

This quiet service is an opportunity to remember those we have loved and see no more. There is the opportunity to remember them by name and also to light a candle in their memory. Over the years many people have found this a particularly valuable time as we gather together to share our sadness and also to give thanks for the lives that have meant so much to us. If you feel this service would be meaningful and helpful for you please do come. There will be tea and cake in the hall afterwards.



## Revised pattern of services at St Mary's

For a trial period of six months a said communion service has been held twice a month, at 8.00am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and 11.15am on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday. Following the trial and consultation with those affected, the Parochial Church Council discussed the options at some length and has decided to replace the 8.00am Sunday service with a said communion service on the third Thursday of the month at 9.15am: this will be followed by coffee for those who can stay. The 11.15 service on the first Sunday of the month will move to 11.30am. This service will finish by 12 noon (or very soon after!). This new pattern will start in December and you can always check the dates and time in the village diary.



## Remembrance Sunday, November 11th

Our annual act of remembrance for those who have fallen in war will follow after the 10 am service on 11<sup>th</sup> November. We especially remember by name those from Tatsfield. As for all services at St Mary's, all will be welcome, either to come at 10 am or to join us at 10.45 am for the act of remembrance, which lasts about 30 minutes.



## Advent Quiet Day,

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Advent Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 10.15am and ending at 1.30pm after a simple lunch, there will be prayer stations set up around the church designed as an opportunity for quiet reflective time leading up to the Christmas celebration. The prayer stations will also help us think and pray about our own lives, and about people who are suffering in the world today. The church will be open all day and you can pop in any time. There will be explanatory leaflets available at the back of church. Alongside this there will be a 'Quiet day' in the hall with some advent-themed input and opportunity to walk through the prayer stations in church.

.....and on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

We will continue this reflective approach to Christmas and there will be an Advent Carol Service at 6.30 pm at St Peter's Limpsfield on this day (Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>).



## Church Flowers

Once again, our very grateful thanks go to Mr. David Inness and his Head Gardener, Mr. Steve Tett and his team, for providing us with such a wonderful array of flowers and produce with which we decorated the Church for Harvest Festival. A big 'thank you' also to all those who helped to do the decorating: Tina Boys, Pam Draper, Lorna Tory, Sylvia Hyett, Wendy Maddison, Shirley Murgatroyd, Brenda Fairclough, Christine Rosenbaum, Pauline Conlon, Sue Saunders, Ann Vatcher, Kay Roberts and Sue Warren.

## Rota for November

4<sup>th</sup> Sue Saunders

11<sup>th</sup> Kay Longley

18<sup>th</sup> Jan Maynard

25<sup>th</sup> Jan Maynard

For enquiries about flowers at St Mary's please contact Jan Maynard on 577659.



# ST MARY'S MATTERS

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## **Calling all REALLY novice flower arrangers! Monday December 3rd 1.30pm til 4.30pm at St Mary's Millennium Hall**

There was such a lot of interest from REALLY novice flower arrangers in what Jan Maynard and Sue Warren had to offer at this year's 'Holiday at Home' that they have kindly offered to come again and this time share some lovely ideas with a Christmas theme that you have a go at yourself. All you need will be provided as will tea and cake! There will be charge of £5.00 to cover materials which is payable on the day but they will have some resources you can buy if you want to try things out at home, so bring some extra cash if you think you might want to purchase materials. If you have a favourite container at home that you like to use at Christmas, you can bring it with you to get some ideas as to how you might use it.

For further information and to book a place please phone Jan Maynard on 577659 or Jennie South on 577598.



## **Posada**

The figures of Mary and Joseph will make their way around the village during Advent. They stay at different houses for a short period of up to a day and then end their journey on Christmas Eve by arriving at the Christingle service. If you would like your home to be included in their journey please phone Gerald on 577598 by 13<sup>th</sup> November.



## **Churchyard**

Many thanks to all those who have helped to maintain the churchyard this year. There remain some winter jobs to be done – fortunately there are several villagers who help but anyone else who might feel able to volunteer should phone Gerald on 577598.

## **An update from Catherine Wood**

Hello Everyone,

It's always good to hear what's happening for you, and things are moving for me yet again. In the midst of being a Franciscan novice, I've felt drawn to a much more contemplative life. With the Franciscan Community's blessing, I'm going back to the Convent in Ham where I was before, and will be working part-time as a prison chaplain at Wormwood Scrubs. There will be more time for quiet (not at the prison!) and I'll be much closer for chances to keep in touch, which will be great. With love and prayers: Catherine

## **Records**

13<sup>th</sup> October      Wedding of Paul Jones and Deborah McLaren Gibbs

# TATSFIELD PEOPLE

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## PROFILE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR MARTIN WESTERMAN by Sue White

Martin Westerman is the last of our Parish Councillors to come under my scrutiny. He joined the Parish Council in March of this year and as a building surveyor the Council are able to call upon his expertise in this area. Having grown up in Orpington, Martin hasn't travelled too far to his current home in Biggin Hill, although it is his and wife Georgina's third home in the town. The couple met in a Beckenham pub where Martin recalls bravely rescuing Georgina from two drunken Scotsmen and in 1995 they tied the knot in Bromley Registry Office. They moved to Biggin Hill in 1998.



Until very recently, along with son Harvey aged 11, the family rented a house in Borough Road in Tatsfield, with the intention of selling their Biggin Hill home and building a new house in Downe, on land which was owned by Georgina's parents. However, during the summer they moved back to their unsold property in Biggin Hill only to sell it two weeks later! Many of their belongings are still in boxes, which is fortunate as they are once again on the move to another locally rented property, where hopefully they can remain until the house in Downe is complete – the plan is to then sell that house and finally move to Tatsfield!

Once complete, this exciting new build will have far-reaching views across West Kent Golf Course from the rear. Martin is hoping to follow a New England style design, with an open plan living area inside and possibly a vaulted ceiling in the sitting room. Certainly a property worth waiting for!

Martin professes to numerous jobs before finally settling as a building surveyor, following a five year university course. He has been employed by Bromley Council for twenty years, mainly refurbishing owner-occupied properties, occasionally adapting properties for disabled people and sometimes helping trading standards with rogue traders and doorstep crime.

When time allows, playing the guitar is a favourite pastime of Martin's. He learnt to play at the age of 6 and by 11 years of age was playing alongside his older brother, entertaining at weddings and sports clubs with pop and rhythm and blues covers. Martin enjoys tennis and skiing, which is a particularly favourite sport that has seen the family venture to Vermont, Colorado and California in the USA and Banff in Canada. The family also enjoy summer holidaying in Portugal.

## TATSFIELD PEOPLE

Five years ago Georgina set up her own gardening business which continues to 'grow' locally and which she very much enjoys. Son, Harvey, has recently moved from Tatsfield Primary School to Oxted and keeps Martin busy almost every day with his enthusiasm for football, playing for Shelton Athletic in Warlingham and travelling to watch Chelsea play.

For Martin joining the Parish Council is a way of putting something back into Tatsfield village, which the family are clearly fond of, although currently the many distractions in his life mean he is unable to commit himself fully. However, with another temporary home within reach of Tatsfield looming, he is looking forward to a more settled time when he can get stuck in!

### VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



#### AGM

The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 8.00pm in the Parish Room.

All residents of Tatsfield are welcome to attend.

The Committee comprises 9 trustees who are appointed by local organisations and up to 4 members of the community who are elected as trustees by the residents of Tatsfield. Up to 4 trustees may be co-opted to the Committee should need arise.

Please consider whether you would be willing to give some time to serving this very important village amenity. Meetings are held at 8pm on the first Wednesday of each month except August and usually take about 2 hours. The duties of the Trustees include supervising the maintenance of the Hall and introducing improvements to its facilities. Members of the Management Committee are normally willing to contribute to fundraising efforts as well.

If you think you would like to serve the village in this way, please get in touch with Carol Jordan: phone 577584 or email [carol\\_jordan@hotmail.com](mailto:carol_jordan@hotmail.com).

### FUN LOCAL PIANO LESSONS



My name is Jay White – I teach fun and relaxed piano lessons for children and adults, from complete beginners to pianists looking to play with a fellow pianist. Half price taster session. Ring for more information.

Jay White, Hillcottage, Johns Road Tel: 570097 Mob: 07806 793306

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

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### Correspondence:

This past month has been very quiet on the correspondence front, but at least that gives us the chance to catch up on some outstanding items.

Back in June, Belinda Ayling contacted me with a bee query (25.06.12):

*'We live in Rose Cottage along Ricketts Hill and think that we might have honey bees living in the walls of our annex, which is quite old with wood panels. We were wondering if you know of anyone in the village that would be able to confirm our thoughts? We are happy for them to stay (the bees that is!) as we believe they were also there last year, but would like to confirm that they are not carpenter bees as they cause damage to the wood. We would not like them to chew through as they would then get into the house. I have looked on the internet and seen pictures, but would like confirmation for peace of mind.'*

I got on to Bob David (who I knew was bound to know local bee experts!) and the necessary contacts and arrangements were made. This was the outcome (06.07.12):

*'() I kindly had Paul (Jackson) round on Tuesday to have a look. Unfortunately, the weather was damp and raining but from what he saw he believes them to be **Bumble-bees**, and the little ones I have seen that are black could be the babies, but unfortunately they were not active and stayed inside. Paul did advise that although he did not see the little bees, they do not share their nests so they are probably all bumbles. He had a listen through the wall from the inside where we hear them. He believes that we could have maybe one to two hundred living in the annex wall. We are happy for them to stay as they cause no harm and we need to protect the few bees we have left. Paul said that on a sunny, dry day we would see more of them flying about and if we were concerned he would come back. Unfortunately, the weather has turned for the worst and we have not seen them much, but we are happy just listening to them!'*

This was amazing news, Belinda. I thought Bumble-bees were solitary nesters and yet you have hundreds! With a little research I found that bumbles do indeed live in colonies, usually up to 150 in number. You could have the largest, and perhaps the only, Bumble-bee colony in the parish. Well done you for having such a wonderful attitude towards their care and conservation. And well done Paul for identifying this local natural treasure. May the bumble's buzzing be long and thunderous!



*Bumble - bee*

Ten days later I received an email from Kay and Ian Longley (16.07.12):

*'Whilst in the garden earlier this year we noticed a **Robin** flying in and out of our garage side door. She had decided to nest inside. Ian was concerned that when we locked up each day the Robin wouldn't be able to reach the nest, so he cut a round hole in the door (how kind is that?) and the Robin continued to fly in and out. The new Robin family survived and our garden is now*

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES

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*definitely their territory. Then, yesterday - surprise surprise - a new fledgling Robin was hopping around the garage floor. Is this normal – two families so quickly? Perhaps it's to do with the comfort of the accommodation, or maybe the ever topical weather!*

Well, Kay, I'm sure the accommodation is an incentive to stay, particularly when provision has been made for a private entrance (!), but in fact it's perfectly normal to have two broods one after the other, usually between April and August. The old myth of springtime-only breeding simply isn't true, which is why (as Jon reminds us in his garden notes) hedge-trimming has to be done so carefully during the summer months as well as earlier. Of course, not all fledglings survive, but one or two generally do. Let's hope that's true of yours.

These acts of kindness remind me of the workers at a south coast power station who have taken it upon themselves to become the guardians of a few non-migratory Swallows. Between them they ensure that the birds maintain access to the industrial 'barn' where they have chosen to overwinter. Mind you, with a harsh winter being forecast I feel their efforts may be in vain.

Moving on to August, we had an interesting sighting by Liz Armitage and, as it turned out, myself (27.08.12):

*'Just been watching a bird walking round and round the raised paving of our fishpond, seemed to be looking for water. Alan thought it was a baby thrush (in August?) but on checking our bird book it looks most like a Pipit – is that possible? Unfortunately, camera not charged (is it ever when I need it!) so missed photo opportunity – but if it comes back I will be ready!'*

Well, Liz, in posing this problem you've inadvertently helped solve mine. I was walking back towards the village from Beddlestead last Friday when I saw what at first I thought was a Skylark run across the 'path' in front of me, then disappear into the wheat stubble at the side. Later, of course, I remembered that Skylarks don't behave like that, they simply take flight. And, upon recollection, this bird was of a more slender form. In fact, I now realise it was a **Meadow Pipit**. So, was your bird the same one? I reckon you would know a young thrush if you saw one and August is actually a little late for thrushes to be breeding. So, a Meadow Pipit in your garden? It seems unlikely, but not impossible, particularly as I saw one not too far away the same day. Don't forget to mark it on your 'Bird Survey' form!

### And finally:

We've had a couple of visiting **Jays** for the past few weeks along Greenway. There is currently an influx from Scandinavia, where there's a shortage of acorns and other seasonal foodstuffs. Those of you with **Oak** trees – what's your acorn crop like this autumn? Have you been visited by many Jays?



Any news, views or observational reports? Contact: [nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com](mailto:nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com) or drop in a note at Linda's.

## COOKING WITH HERBS – MEAT

Continuing our theme of flavour- enhancing kitchen herbs, we've arrived at the meat course. And naturally, everyone will say “**mint** or **rosemary** with lamb and **horseradish** with beef” and that's it. But that definitely is NOT “**it**” as there are so many interesting herbs to add to meat dishes, all easily grown in Tatsfield, using simple recipes that are so welcome to come home to during the darker months of the year.

Of course **mint** and rosemary are good winter herbs, but to retain mint *leaves* throughout the winter months up here you will probably need to pot a favourite variety and grow it in a frost-free environment; a windowsill, heated greenhouse or kitchen worktop is an ideal place. My favourite varieties to use with meat, potatoes or to sprinkle on to Indian or middle-Eastern cuisine are Moroccan Mint (white flowering with a bright green, attractive leaf) or Tashkent Mint (taller, red stemmed and a strongly growing perennial). Both successfully overwinter in Tatsfield but die down when left outside, with new strong growth showing early in the year. So, best pot up a few roots for the cold months, then plant these out to recover in spring and use another area of root to pot up for the next year, and so on.

**Horseradish**, that huge-leaved almost weed of a herb goes exceptionally well with beef, of course. But digressing from the meat course, try this literally eye-watering white root grated with double cream, Dijon mustard and a little sugar with freshly grilled mackerel, or spoon this mixture into smoked salmon pate with lots of lemon juice squeezed into the mix – delicious, with a gentle but unexpected “bite” that goes down well at a dinner party! Horseradish is a *must* for the keen cook to grow at the back of the herb garden, the unattractive leaves belie the amazing flavour extracted from the roots, and even a small piece of root will eventually grow into an impressive plant, so do give it a try. Beg, borrow or (perhaps not!) steal a root from a neighbour in early spring, and enjoy your own home-grown harvest in a year or so. To grow long straight roots, easier to peel and grate obviously, grow in good compost rather than stony garden soil, and dig a deep hole when planting to accommodate both new compost and the chopped up root portions. Watch out though - this plant will take a plot over if not kept in check!!

Strongly flavoured herbs, not surprisingly, are at their best when combined with strongly-flavoured meats. **Winter Savory**, a hot peppery-tasting herb, is very under-utilised at present, but was grown throughout the UK for centuries as a pot herb. Similarly **Hyssop**, a rather bitter herb but so useful in slowly cooked casseroles, is due for a revival. With electric-blue flowers throughout summer and hardy, ever-

HYSSOP



green leaves looking something like young rosemary leaves, a sprig of hyssop can add an interesting twist to any beef, venison or lamb stew. Although venison is in the “game” and not “red meat” category, while we’re on the subject of slowly-cooked casseroles using herbs such as hyssop, here is a favourite recipe of mine that can easily be adapted to suit your own tastes. To your own quantity of lightly-browned onions, red pepper slices and leeks, add cubed venison (or beef) that has been previously lightly coated in seasoned flour and browned in hot oil. Add a glass of red wine to deglaze the pan, some roughly chopped carrots and celery to taste and place in a casserole dish. Top up with



water or stock to cover the ingredients, add some lightly-crushed **juniper berries**, a **bayleaf**, sea-salt, chopped **parsley** and a handful of **hyssop**, **marjoram** or **winter savory**. Cover and cook for two hours in a medium oven or on the hob. Serve with lots of creamy mashed potato, perhaps with a little horseradish grated in for extra flavour and some freshly-chopped parsley over all.

This is the ideal time to think about **parsley** as a cooking ingredient and *not* just a garnish. This is such an under-rated herb, usually with a sprig used purely for decoration, and just as usually discarded at the end of the meal on the side of the plate! Parsley leaves **and** stalks should be *cooked* – the flavour comes out in long, slow cooking, unlike many herbs usually of Mediterranean origin that need to be added just at the point of serving to retain all their flavour. Think of parsley as an *ingredient*, not an addition, and it will reward you with so much more flavour. Also the vitamin content in a fresh sprig of parsley is far greater than in the dried form, which can also be rather tasteless if kept for too long. Look for broad-leaved parsley as well as the more popular curly-leaved variety, and when using chop all those stalks into your casseroles, stews and fish sauces as well as the leaves.

Finally, **Bay** leaves are an essential of stews, stocks and “bouquet garni” but can also provide a real touch of professionalism when threading lamb or beef **kebabs** onto skewers. Try alternating meat, tomato, onion and red pepper with whole bay leaves here and there to give a really attractive finish, but one thing to bear in mind is that bay leaves have a slightly narcotic effect, so don’t eat all of them!

To complete this short series on kitchen herbs, “Cooking with Herbs at Christmas” seems a most appropriate title for December.

**Lin Saines**

# TATSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



## YEAR 2 IMAGINES THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

*In Year 2, we have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. After we had read extracts from Samuel Pepys' diary, we had a think about what it might have felt like to have actually been there while the fire was raging.*

*Here are some of our own diary extracts:*

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666**

When I was asleep my maid came to wake me. She told me to come and see something terrible. So I went to her window and saw a fire but I thought it was so far away so I went back to sleep. *Keira Dukes*

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1666**

When I woke up again the fire was even closer and now I was terrified. Now night had fallen once again and the flames had grown much more whilst people were screaming and dogs were howling and cats were meowing. The sky turned red and the night fell quickly. *Amelie Wiseman*

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1666**

Today St. Paul's Cathedral caught fire. I cried and cried until I had no tears left. I stared out of my window and saw the flames licking buildings and heard shouts as people's houses were wrecked. *Bridie Budgen*

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1666**

The flames finally started to die down. As they died, the night died too. It eventually became morning. I'm very happy that the Tower of London didn't get destroyed but I'm a little sad that the whole of London was ruined  
*Mia Stratford*

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 1666**

The King went around the streets saying hello and goodbye to the people living in tents. I felt worried about all those people and their children. Where would they live now? *Daisy-May Kittlety*

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1666**

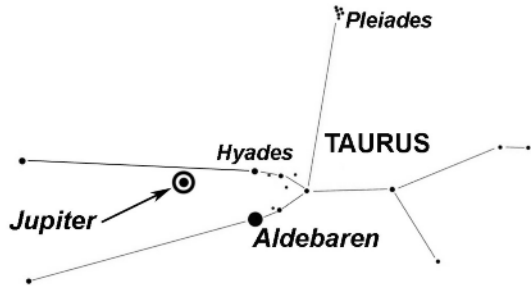
Soon after, Christopher Wren made his designs for a whole new city and I felt excited to be part of it. *Cormac Mountain*



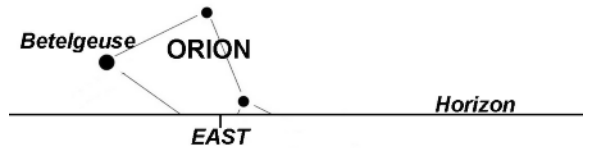
# THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD

NOVEMBER 2012

In the east, once darkness has fallen, the winter constellations of Taurus (The Bull) and Auriga (The Charioteer) are beginning to make their presence felt. The evening rising of Taurus and its two open star clusters, the Pleiades and Hyades, is always seen as a sign that long cold nights are imminent.



The Pleiades are also known as "The Seven Sisters" because it was said that if you had good eyesight it was possible to see seven members of the group, although fourteen of them could theoretically be seen from a really dark site. They are a related cluster of stars thought to number at least 1,000 and are moving as a group through space. The Hyades may be less well known but are easy to find because they form a "V" shape, with Aldebaran at the end of one side of the "V".



The Hyades may be less well known but are easy to find because they form a "V" shape, with Aldebaran at the end of one side of the "V".

The nights this year however have a bonus for astronomers, which is the planet Jupiter that lies within the borders of Taurus, close to the Hyades, and now rises just after 6pm (18.00 hrs) at the beginning of November. Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system and is a "gas giant" with a retinue of 67 moons at the last count. The map shows its position at 8pm (20.00 hrs) around the middle of the month, and because the planet moves very slowly against the starry background the map will be valid for some time. In any case it is easily the brightest object in that part of the sky.

If you are an early riser you may have seen the brilliant planet Venus just before sunrise. By 6.30 am in the middle of November it will be twenty degrees high in the south east. Its brilliance is due to thick clouds of sulphur dioxide in its atmosphere that are highly reflective. Venus will be with us until after Christmas and will be joined by its fainter neighbour Mercury during the first two weeks of December. After that Venus will disappear behind the Sun to emerge later on the other side (the east) when it will become an evening object.

**Brian Mills, FRAS**

## Mister Two Percent



I ran a family show for 20 years in Sussex and during that time I was always looking for ways to encourage more people to come each year and make for bigger crowds. A bigger crowd means more profit especially if you give good value for money to those customers. Advertising was the only way and I put by a budget of what magazines and newspapers to buy “space inches” that would reap the best result. In show business, there are such advertising editors who are looking for your money. You would be surprised as to how far away that such people can “guarantee” that if you took out six column inches with them, your show would benefit by thousands more of attendees. One year, it was just two days after I had returned from my show in Sussex, when an enquirer telephoned from as far away as Leeds offering me incredible terms if I took out £500 advertising with them for the next year’s show.

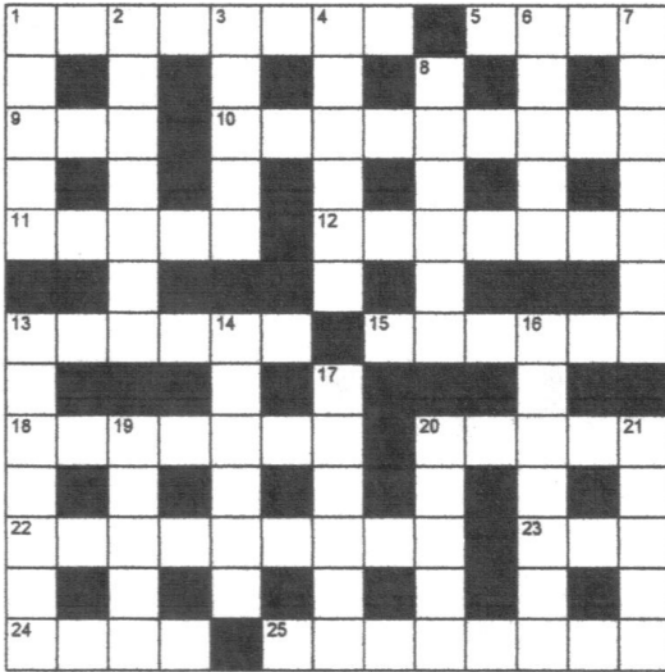
During that period we visited America and wearing a radio microphone I gave an illustrated talk to some 300 flying enthusiasts about the aeroplane show scene in the UK and Europe. If you ever want to get positive feedback from an audience, go there and chat to them, for the reception I received was just marvellous. I was amazed at the result when I finished my 30 minutes spot. I played the usual CD with the piece of jazz music with a bit more “oomph” than normal, put on the 20 years old soft leather shoes and tap danced amongst them all, shaking hands and bidding them goodbye. They all stood up and cheered and whooped for a long time. What an experience it was.

It was later that evening when I was having a cup of tea, one member of the audience was introduced to me as “Mister Two Percent”. Apparently he was a publisher and therefore was “in touch” with many thousands of people. He went on that he could guarantee positive results if I advertised my show with him for a mere 500 dollars. He said that to get a response of extra crowds for show people such as me, he would insert “flyers” in his magazines and two percent of the readers would reply. He had made a whole lot of money doing this for people such as me and had made their fortunes as a result, he said. I shook hands and thanked him for his offer and said I would think about it but I must confess that I never took up his offer. But since then I have always thought about “flyers” and nowadays there are thousands of them about where companies are making huge sums of money by people ordering them to be printed.

So in last month’s Parish Magazine there was (another) flyer that asked what people liked and preferred to see and read each month. It was a well-written questionnaire and without a doubt if everyone did reply and send the finished result to the managing editor Dr South, there would be changes made for future editions. But I wonder, if the normal reply is just two percent for such flyers, what will the Parish Magazine look like in the future? It will be an interesting result I’m sure, and I wonder if this is the last Debater piece I will be asked to write!

**Dave Bishop**

# TATSFIELD CROSSWORD



Compiler: Doug Halters

## Clues

Adverts in this magazine may help with clues having \*

### Across

- 1 Take them to Linda's for posting [8]
- 5 Next to the greengrocer [4]
- 9 Lots of Tatsfield youngsters want to go there (abbr.) [3]
- 10,11 Tatsfield has just done very well in this [7,2,5]
- 12 Skilled manual worker [7]
- 13 At either end of Approach Road [3-3]
- 15 Musician buried in Limpsfield churchyard [6]
- 18 Think well of [7]
- 20 Very bad [5]
- 22 Reading about Tatsfield's history can be this [9]
- 23,24 \_\_\_house\_\_\_ [3, 4]
- 25 \_\_\_\_\_ Green, where the pond is [8]

### Down

- 1 Colin, David, Ian or Simon will do this for you\* [5]
- 2 Its leaves may be eaten or its roots ground [7]
- 3 Collection e.g. songs or photos [5]
- 4 Heathers [6] .....
- 6 ..... or they will build a house for you\* [5]
- 7 Get them from Tony – hopefully fairtrade ones [7]
- 8 Tatsfield did have one, Windsor still does [6]
- 13 Find one of these at TPS – lots in fact [7]
- 14 Farmer or soldier [6]
- 16 Blazing chaos [7]
- 17 The chap from Downe had sailed in her [6]
- 19 Vegetarian dish at The Bakery perhaps [5]
- 20 Ladies were there on June 21<sup>st</sup> this year [5]
- 21 Tatsfield \_\_\_\_\_ - a house in Ricketts Hill [5]

The best solution received by 14<sup>th</sup> November will win a £5 voucher to be spent at Linda's Shop or the Greengrocer's. Solutions may be left at Linda's in an envelope marked "Magazine Crossword" or sent to Clouds, Ricketts Hill, TN16 2NB or emailed to [gp.south@btopenworld.com](mailto:gp.south@btopenworld.com).

# CLUB NEWS

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## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Look out for the advert in Village News for:

8pm, Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November – Talk by Jim Buttress on “The Royal Parks” after the Society’s AGM.



## RAMBLERS

Three interesting walks coming up next – one starting in Biggin Hill and going to Downe another from Chartwell to Limpsfield Chart and the third starting in Godstone. All the details are below. All welcome, including dogs and their owners. Tempted to give it a try? Just turn up or give one of us a ring if you would like to know

more.

**Date** Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> November  
**Meet** 10.30 am, the Recreation Ground, Church Road, Biggin Hill (Map ref: TQ420590)  
**Leader** Dudley and Jean Turner  
**Walk** 5½ miles, 3 hours. To Downe via Christmas Tree Farm, with one short steep hill

**Date:** Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> November  
**Meet** 11 am, Chartwell (Map ref: TQ454518)  
**Leader** Jean Turner and Carol Venning  
**Walk** 4½ miles, 3 hours. To The Carpenters Arms, Limpsfield Chart

**Date:** Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
**Meet** 10.30 am, The Green, Godstone (Map ref: TQ350515)  
**Leader** Carol Venning  
**Walk** 6 miles, 3½ hours. One hill (Tilburstow Hill). Pub stop at The Barley Mow, Tandridge (very dog friendly)

**Angela and Roger Sawyers (Tel: 577434)**

### LEAF CLEARING



Let me come and clear away your leaves. I have my own blower, rake and barrow. My name is Harvey White and I live in Johns Road. You can contact me on 570097 or 07758 839329. My services are £10 per hour.

## NOT SO YOUNG CLUB



The 11th October meeting was uneventful, with just the usual tea. A sing song afternoon was arranged and Jean Stokes led the old time songs, but the members were not in very good voice and the level of enthusiasm was rather low! However, we do our best to please, so maybe the meeting on the 13th November, which is to be arranged, will be a little more popular. You never know, we may even manage 007!

## Babs Heffernon (Tel: 540602)



### W.I.

We had a **Harvest Supper** last month. You can't say we don't have variety! Mind you there is always a lot of food involved with the W.I. I am very glad to say, this being no exception. We started with a delicious carrot and orange soup, followed by a choice of cheeses with hunks of bread and then tucked into apple and blackberry crumble with cream. There was a diabolical quiz about long since defunct television series. (That one really showed up the declining memories!) We had a raffle of a huge basket of fruit – unfortunately I did not win it! Then a funny poem was read out which sent us home laughing.

Since the October meeting we have enjoyed a Dabble Day, when we invited other clubs around the district to join us for a try at a selection of four handicrafts. There was card-making using pictures from paper napkins, quilling, painting and making fabric bell decorations. We had a very enjoyable day chatting and making friends with ladies from other W.I.s in the locality. We are looking forward to a big darts match which is coming up shortly between four teams and a group of us will be descending on the Westerham club shortly for a flower arranging demonstration.

Our next meeting will be on 6<sup>th</sup> November, when we have invited **Bob Ogley to recount tales of his Life as a Newspaper Reporter**. Come along and join us – better than sitting at home on your own! It's a 7.30 start and we would love to welcome you.

By the way, please don't forget the Pop-Ins on Wednesday mornings for tea, coffee, biccies and friendship. The last one is definitely important! Also the whist and bridge clubs are going strong as is the keep fit group and they are all welcoming to new members.

Some of the W.I. ladies (it is not an official W.I. function) are planning a Christmas Coffee Morning on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please put that date in your diaries as we hope to raise a sum for Valence School.

**Toni Holley**



## 1<sup>ST</sup> TATSFIELD SCOUTS

This month both Beavers and Scouts will be making a visit to the Old Dairy in Oxted. Not together – none of us are that brave! They will be painting and decorating plates and mugs, so perhaps some of you will be receiving them as Christmas presents very soon. We have been before and it was a great success and highly recommended too. The group will again be represented at St. Mary's Church for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, when we will parade into the Church at the beginning of the Service to pay our respects. In addition the Beavers will be making a visit to the Church, thanks to Revd Louise Ellis, as part of their Friendship Challenge badge later on in the month.

The Scout section has a busy month with a Patrol Leader camp at Broadstone Warren Scout Centre on the weekend of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will also be competing in the District Swimming Gala at Edenbridge Leisure Centre on the 18<sup>th</sup> along with the Cubs. This will be the second time we have entered Scout teams and hope to do as well this year as we did last year. They are also going across to Beaver Water World to have a reptile handling session, which should prove interesting!

I am very proud that this year we have two Scouts who have achieved their **Chief Scout Gold Award** and they will be attending a presentation evening in Redhill, where they will be formally presented with their certificates and badges. The Gold award is the highest that can be achieved and it means that they have gained 8 out of the possible 9 Challenge Badges available in the section, no easy task as each badge has at least 6 requirements that need fulfilling – so very well done to them both.

The Group once again will be supporting **the Link Romania Family Shoebox Appeal** for Christmas. This organisation distributes parcels across Romania, Moldova, Albania, Bulgaria and the Ukraine; this is a fantastic opportunity for the group to help make a difference to those families less fortunate than themselves at a very special time of year.

As the evenings are now dark and colder, please remember safety first when delivering your child to the Scout HQ. Please use the Beaver Water World car park, where Les Vowles, as always, will be there to see you all safely across the road. I would like to thank Beaver Water World for the continued use of their car park facilities; it has made a great difference to the safety of all, and of course thanks to Les, who is there come rain or shine!

**Helen Clarke, Group Scout Leader (Tel: 01883 380742; Mobile: 07736 230068; Email: tatsfield.gsl@gmail.com)**

### REMEMBER THE 16<sup>th</sup> OF OCTOBER 1987 ?

What happened 25 years ago that had a devastating effect on Tatsfield and elsewhere in the south of England ? Jon Allbutt writes about it on page 76.



### **TATSFIELD ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB RESERVES**

#### **Holland Sports 1 - 1 Tatsfield Rovers Reserves**

The Rovers have continued their strong start to the season with a hard fought draw away to one of the league's stronger teams.

A single goal crafted from a majestic crossfield through ball from wing back Louis Willison saw Luke Allum apply a strong head to secure the point for the Rovers. Another huge effort from keeper Ben Simmons saw the best attacking efforts from Holland Sports foiled, and a hard fought draw was a fair result at the final whistle.

Tatsfield Rovers Reserves climbed to second in the table.

#### **Tatsfield Rovers Reserves 5 - 3 Nutfield Reserves**

The first home game of the season found the Rovers in excellent form. Conditions were good and so was the performance from Tatsfield.

For the opening 30 minutes the Rovers were in complete control. The tempo and variation of passing was too much for Nutfield to cope with and finishing from Saunders, Quickenden and Stovell had Tatsfield firmly in front. However, just before the break the Rovers were caught napping, Nutfield had nicked one back, a lifeline.

A spirited start to the second half from Nutfield saw their endeavour rewarded with another goal. At 3-2 the match was almost evenly poised, but the Rovers endured. A brilliant attacking move down the right saw a pinpoint cross whipped to the back post for Ray Smith to confidently head home. 4-2.

Buoyed by the goal, Tatsfield battled on to score another. Ray Smith broke clear of the Nutfield defence, sliding a perfectly weighted ball into the path of Gary Stovell, who duly slotted into the gaping net. 5-2.

In a late flurry, Nutfield pulled another back to keep up the pressure. But at the final whistle, the points remained at Furze Corner.

Their good start sees the Rovers 4th in the table, undefeated and level on points with 2nd (Holland Sports) and 3rd (RH Athletic), 2 points behind league leaders Oxted & District.

**Dan Radford**

## NOVEMBER NOTES

### The October 1987 Storm

In our very busy world it is easy to forget significant events that changed our lives, and our environment, for ever. Can you remember how Tatsfield looked this time 25 years ago? What happened that changed the shape of our countryside and, for some, our homes as well? On



16 October 1987 during the night we suffered the worst storm in living memory. It roared in from the Channel and swept up and through the North Downs ridge and nearby high ground. Trees that we thought would never fall down (oaks, planes, ash) were ripped from the ground in minutes. It didn't seem to matter whether they were ancient or young, huge or small, some simply fell under the sheer force of the wind but others seemed to have been screwed out of the ground as the force of the wind turned them round and round until the trunk shattered, scattering bits over some distance, leaving shards of wood standing where the trunk had once been.

Tatsfield is full of stories, and no doubt plenty of pictures, of damaged roofs, roads blocked and woodlands just a dangerous tangle of fallen timber. I would be very interested to hear your personal stories.

My personal memories are of being woken up by a strange and frightening roaring noise. I got up and went outside and was nearly injured by my neighbour's fence panel flying past just inches from my head. This was also my first year of a new business venture, a horticultural advisory business. I can remember as if it was yesterday my first job being part of a team of advisers carrying out safety surveys of London parks. I had never seen so many trees on the ground or in such dangerous condition that they had to be taken down.

Looking back now, it seems that we were in a hurry to replace them and many thousands of trees were planted over the next couple of years. It is only now with the benefit of hindsight that we realise the folly of clearing all those areas of wood, destroying all those seedlings and planting imported so-called 'native species'. If you take a walk through our Millennium Wood (the wood between Old Lane and Ricketts Hill Road) you will see naturally regenerated beech trees now some 3 metres tall already, full of vigour, and with careful management future generations of Tatsfielders will once again walk under the canopies of mighty beech trees.

Now is a good time for you to consider planting a tree to commemorate this great event, or your birthday, or the birthday of a child. Remember the golden rule - a small tree for a small garden. Make sure to read my December notes when I will provide advice on what to buy and how to plant.

**Jon Allbutt (Tel:577100 Email: [jon@jonallbutt.co.uk](mailto:jon@jonallbutt.co.uk))**





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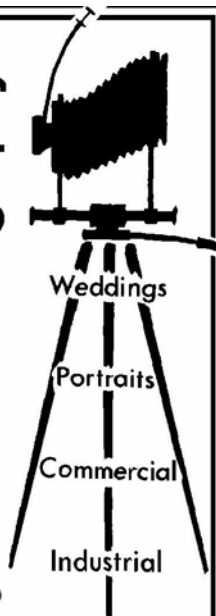
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