

SEPTEMBER 2024

# Tatsfield Parish Magazine



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

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**Advertising Manager** • Sarah Tait **Production** • Ruth Yeeles

### CHURCH CONTACTS

**St Mary's Church Office** (Thurs 9.30-13.30)

**Admin:** Steve Tatler, The Parish Office, High Street, Limpsfield RH8 0DG.

Phone 01883 712512 / email [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com).

**Team Rector:** Revd Helen Cook email: [hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hjwcook@yahoo.co.uk)

**Vicar:** Currently Vacant

**Curate:** Debra Elsdon email: [curate.lttm@gmail.com](mailto:curate.lttm@gmail.com)

**Wardens:** Marjory Broughton (01959 541059) / Chris Hancock (01959 577622)

**St. Mary's Church Hall Bookings** • Sheila Cook (577443)

### COUNCIL CONTACTS

**Parish Council: Clerk** • Aileen McHugo Building, Westmore Green, Tatsfield TN16 2AG  
[clerk@tatsfieldpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tatsfieldpc.org.uk) (07483 337461)

**Chair** • Kim Jennings email: [kimjennings@tatsfieldpc.org.uk](mailto:kimjennings@tatsfieldpc.org.uk), (577328)

**Website** • [www.tatsfieldpc.org.uk](http://www.tatsfieldpc.org.uk)

**Tandridge District Councillor** • Martin Allen, 38 Paynesfield Rd, Tatsfield TN16 2BG (577201)

**Surrey County Councillor** • Becky Rush [Becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Becky.rush@surreycc.gov.uk)

### OTHER CONTACTS

**Village Hall Bookings Secretary** • Helena Garcia-Mcleod ([bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@tatsfieldvillagehall.org.uk); 07983011028)

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

### MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome contributions from village organisations and individual residents but reserve all editorial rights. We welcome letters commenting on items in previous issues or on anything else. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Organisations must include contact details in their submission, which will be published. Copy date for the Magazine is normally 16<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month, except for July/Aug and Jan/Feb double issues. Ideally contributions should be sent as a Word attachment in an email to: [tatsfieldpm@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldpm@gmail.com). Alternatively they may be posted to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine, 20 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield TN16 2AU.

**Enquiries concerning advertising or loose inserts** should be made to Sarah Tait ([tatsfieldmag@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldmag@gmail.com)). All loose inserts need to be booked and approved at least ONE MONTH in advance of insertion.

**Small Ads** These are accepted only from Tatsfield or Titsey residents (No Trade) and are free of charge (Max 10 words plus phone number.) We will include them in the next issue space permitting.

**Calendar Dates** Our calendar usually covers six weeks or more 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?

**Advertisements** We take no responsibility for the goods and services advertised in the magazine.

**Cover image:** Celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight



## EDITORIAL

Hello to our new neighbours!

Since my husband Ashley and I moved to The Rectory in June we have been welcomed wherever we go - whether to the services in our beautiful church St Mary's, through sunshine and rain at the justly famous Sunday Teas in the Millenium Hall, at Sheree's on the green, at the houses of residents as I've visited, during the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at Tatsfield Primary School, and by the folk at St Peter's Limpsfield where I will be training under Team Rector Helen Cook.



A warm welcome is a blessing anyone can bestow on anyone else; a smile and a hello to a stranger can transform an encounter into something rather lovely. It is the first impression that we can be marked by - good and bad - and it's often difficult to keep that in mind as we travel through our busy schedules in a world that can make us wary and careful, when we might be generous.

But as we exchange the peace in Church on Sunday mornings, the handshake and the wave across the aisle may be the first contact some of us have had which has felt genuine, without cost or condition. Working from home, or leaving early to commute, living alone or among challenging circumstances, we all need to feel the kindness that comes from a simple 'hello, how are you?'

As we get to know each other, my hope is that we will be a blessing to each other - whatever our beliefs or traditions - finding ways to support and care for each other; to learn and to thrive through whatever comes our way. I hope I have the opportunity as the days go by to give as warm a welcome as I've received to any of you who would like a chat, or a visit.

Blessings,

**Reverend Debra**

### **TATSFIELD ONLINE**

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

**Village facebook page:** search for 'Tatsfield Village' on facebook

**Tatsfield Talk facebook group:** search for 'Tatsfield Talk' on facebook, and ask to join to be able to view and post. **Twitter:** @tatsfieldtweet

### **PARISH MAGAZINE EVENTS LISTINGS**

If you would like your event included in this diary in future, please send details to [tatsfieldp@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldp@gmail.com). Please also let us know if any information has changed.

## **TATSFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE**

### **REQUEST FOR DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS**

As you know, the magazine is delivered free each month to all households in Tatsfield and to some in Titsey. We are only able to do this because of the income we receive from advertisers and donations from village organisations and individuals, not to mention the voluntary efforts of nearly 100 villagers who help to write, produce and distribute the magazine each month.

If you would like to contribute to the magazine funds, we would be very grateful as we then have the chance to keep improving the magazine and balancing the books. There is no obligation to donate but we are very grateful for anything received.

The easiest way to donate is by a direct bank transfer, and our bank details are as follows: Tatsfield Parish Magazine; Account 84841084; Sort Code 09-01-54.

Alternatively, you can make a cheque out to: Tatsfield Parish Magazine and send it to The Treasurer, Mrs M Langford, 20 Shipfield Close, Tatsfield, Westerham TN16 2AU.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Madie Langford**

## **LETTERS**

It was recently one Saturday afternoon that Jan reminded me that I had a piece to write for the weekly Surrey Mirror newspaper. Val Bagshaw had to resign from doing her monthly Tatty Knitters meetings as she was leaving the village for pastures new.

At the arranged time with two cameras and the pocket digital voice recorder, we arrived. Opening the door revealed a room filled with people all smiling and applauding. It was a joy to see. In the middle of the group stood the chairman of the parish council Kim Jennings, who arranged and organised the whole event.

I greatly appreciate Jon Allbutt who kindly gave some words of thanks to yours truly. Jon was followed by the team of people who worked hard to make it such a successful event. Also, my thanks to Alex Davies, Sue Dowse and Sue Rhule who made delicious refreshments.

Hilary Harber on behalf of Fairtrade, kindly donated lots of food, together with Sue Warren who made the most incredible chocolate cake. Sue Smale, president of the WI kindly donated more food and refreshments and also gifted the cost of the hall hire.

Jason Syrett made a superb, framed montage of the 24 years of my weekly reports for the Surrey Mirror newspaper and the "Reach Internet".

To sum up, a huge thank you to each and every one of you lovely Tatsfielders for the kindness and very nice thoughts that you gave to yours truly,

**Dave Bishop**

## TATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 8 July which I chaired in the absence of Kim Jennings who is taking a few weeks of well-earned rest and to whom we sent our very best wishes. (We also met briefly on 8 August.)



At the start of the meeting a resident expressed thanks to the PC for cleaning several signposts in the village which had become extremely dirty, also the notice board at the bottom of Ship Hill.

### Planning – 8<sup>th</sup> July meeting

**TA/2024/630/NH and TA/2024/635/NH Ashkirk, Maesmaur Road.** Two long thin rear extensions to this existing single-storey property. **Objection:** Plans and elevations do not align with each other. The proposals represent poor design and are contrary to the NPPF, Tandridge Local Plan and Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan. The PC recommended the applicant withdraws these parallel applications along with a previous additional storey application and resubmit a comprehensive set of proposals in line with national and local planning policies.

**TA/2024/558 1, Park Farm Cottages, Rag Hill Road.** Erection of two-storey rear extension and loft conversion with additional roof lights and box dormer. **Objection:** Taking into account previous planning approvals, this further extension would lead to ‘disproportionate additions’ to the built form of the original house and therefore contrary to TDC’s Local Plan for the Green Belt. Furthermore, closeness to the neighbour’s property would be contrary to the TDC Local Plan on Safeguarding Amenity.

**APP/M3645/W/24/3343472 (TA2023/775) Stables, Manor Livery, Manor Road.** This is the appeal against TDC’s decision to refuse the application to demolish existing livery buildings and erect three single-storey dwellings. **Objection reaffirmed:** The PC previously objected to the proposals to demolish the livery stables and has done so again by reaffirming its views to the Planning Inspectorate. Such a proposal represents inappropriate development in the Green Belt and there are no Very Special Circumstances that support an exception. It is also contrary to the NPPF, TDC policies and Core Strategy and also the recently approved Tatsfield Neighbourhood Plan.

### Planning – 8<sup>th</sup> August meeting

**TA/2024/393 Lochiel, Ricketts Hill Road.** Amended plans for the demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of a new dwelling. **Objection:** Apart from the inclusion now of a design and access statement, the original reasons for the PC’s objection remain.

**TA/2024/725 Hill Cottage, Barnfield Road.** Demolition of existing 2-bedroom dwelling and erection of 4-bedroom dwelling. **Objection:** The proposed new build, although acceptable in design, is 'materially larger' than the existing (240% area increase and 216% volume increase) and therefore inappropriate development in the Green Belt. No Very Special Circumstances have been demonstrated.

**TA/2024/591 The Firs, Maesmaur Road.** Retention of works: Erection of a detached garage. **Objection:** The house has already been significantly extended and modified and, following previous applications and objections, the proposed addition demonstrably causes harm to the Green Belt and contravenes TDC policies.

**APP/M3645/D/24/3345539 TA/2024/95 1, Park Farm Cottages, Rag Hill Road.**

This is the appeal against TDC's decision to refuse the application for the erection of a first-floor side extension. The PC's objections and TDC's refusal were based on the cumulative effect of a number of previous extensions and inappropriate development in the Green Belt. The PC has now referred its objections to the Planning Inspector. They are supported by TDC's case officer.

**Old Bus Shelter** A small sum of expenditure was approved to finish off work to the Old Bus Shelter. It has now been cleaned and repainted, the roof has been repaired and treated. The three games fixed to the rear wall have already attracted lots of positive attention. Thanks go to several PC colleagues for all their hard work.

**Furze Corner** Now that the PC has taken over the lease for Furze Corner, Jason Syrett has been encouraging interest from residents who might be prepared to become part of the Steering Group to take the Furze Corner project forward. By the time you read this, the first meeting of the group will have been held but more members are still required so if there are any other interested parties please be in touch with the PC or Jason direct. The objective is to develop this as a project for the local community and the key task now is to formulate a business plan for the building and running of a new pavilion. There will be a full consultation process with the community in due course.

**Little Acorns** The PC has received a kind letter of thanks from Lisa Turner, the outgoing Chair of Little Acorns. The new Chair, Katie Bath, attended our meeting and gave a brief summary about future plans which included some substantial fundraising. Little Acorns is such a valuable and much appreciated asset to the village.

**David Pinchin Vice-Chair, Tatsfield Parish Council**

## **TATSFIELD'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

You can still view the documents on the Neighbourhood Plan website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldneighbourhoodplan>

## TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

August is a very quiet time generally for any District Council with the main emphasis on the school holidays and getting away, so it is a quiet report this month to go with it.

The period before the beginning of August had committee meetings on Community Services and the Full Council. During late July Tandridge District Council undertook a Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) from other similar officers from the Local Government Association. The purpose of which is to test systems, seek improvements and assurances for both officers and members (that's us Councillors) to work better together. The UK government expects councils to have a CPC every five years.

It will also assist the Council in meeting part of their Best Value duty, by these Officers with their experience and knowledge of local government reflecting on the information as presented to them by the Officers and Councillors alike. The intention is that feedback is issued as critical friends but independent friends by not being assessors, consultants or inspectors. My involvement as a Group Leader along with Cllr Gray (Lib Dems) and Cllr Bloore (Conservatives) was to share with them the situation as seen from our point of view, effectively the opposition. Cllr Sayer on behalf of the administration had her own meeting with the Peers. The final report will be issued by October, so as soon as I have the link to this report I will report it here.

One decision which came from the Community Services committee was to cease the "Cesspool Emptying Service" due to ageing equipment and increasing costs. This came as a bit of a shock to its regular users in Tatsfield, without due notice or even recommendations of where else the service could be obtained from. I raised the matter with the Deputy Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Community Services committee at the full council meeting. And whilst an apology and an acceptance that "there are some lessons to be learned on how this decision should have been better communicated and implemented to current customers." this does not help. I know this does not make it any more helpful to you and I hope you have all been able to seek services elsewhere.

Voting Issues. I am following up the fact that a Tatsfield resident was unable to vote at either my own District Council or the General Election because she did not have one of the usual suspects for Acceptable Identification and did not have the technology to make the online application for one of the alternatives. I have written to our recently re-elected MP to find out the Minister or the Government department that made this decisions to see if we can get other things accredited such as Surrey County Council Identification badges or even their bus pass, If anything comes of it I will let you know.

The Council is currently preparing a consultation response to the new draft NPPF. The consultation started on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August and closes on 24th September.

To confirm, the new housing number for Tandridge District calculated under the

Government's new standard methodology is 773 dpa (compared with 634 dpa previously) and this is now a **mandatory** target.

**Remember** you can sign up for the Tandridge District Council news and events e-newsletter at [www.tandridge.gov.uk/signup](http://www.tandridge.gov.uk/signup)

**Help Tatsfield good causes by buying your Tandridge Together lottery tickets.** And please consider going further than that and think about volunteering to assist the clubs and societies that need committee members to help run them.

**Remember to support all of our local businesses** who will continue to need us to show our support to them to ensure that they continue to operate well into the future.

If there is anything you think I can help you with, please contact me accordingly.

**Cllr Martin Allen**

**Tel: 01959 577201 or 07484 185363**

**Email: [cldr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.martin.allen@tandridge.gov.uk) or [martin\\_allen@talk21.com](mailto:martin_allen@talk21.com)**

## **CLAIRE COUNTINHO MP**

I am both humbled and honoured to have been re-elected to serve you as your MP in East Surrey, particularly considering the national results. Thank you so much to everyone who voted for me to continue to represent our beautiful part of the world.

I must pay tribute to the polling station and counting staff, my campaign team, and to everyone who supported me locally come rain (of which there was quite a lot) or shine.

The result reflects that the Conservative Party lost many of our voters. We must now do everything we can to rebuild that trust. It has been an unprecedented few years for the country.

In this new Parliament, I will shadow my previous role of Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. An effective opposition plays a core role in our parliamentary democracy. We will not oppose for the sake of it, but I believe that when we disagree, it is our responsibility to say so – especially when it comes to securing enough cheap energy to keep the lights on in this country.

In the King's Speech, the government announced a new Planning Bill which is widely reported to remove the right of local communities to reject housing developments when they don't think they are right for their neighbourhood. I know many of you will be worried about what this means for our area.

We absolutely need affordable homes for local families and key workers including teachers and nurses but forcing through new developments without a proper role for residents to question local infrastructure, traffic or access to green spaces or public

services is not the answer. I'm going to be meeting Tandridge District Council to discuss what these plans mean for our area, and how we can provide constructive opposition to ensure that we get the affordable homes we need, while managing infrastructure pressures and protecting our green spaces.

If you feel strongly about this issue, I've launched a survey for you to tell me how more building on the green belt will affect you. You can find it on my website: [www.clairecouthinho.com/campaigns](http://www.clairecouthinho.com/campaigns)

It is an honour to be able to continue to serve the residents of East Surrey. I am very grateful to be given the chance to continue my work locally and in Parliament, and to represent this wonderful seat for another term.

## SURREY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

**Digital switchover is coming! What's coming? Digital switchover, that's what.**



Across the country, Openreach and other telecoms companies are re-wiring the telephone network to do away with the “copper wire”, known as Analogue, and replace it with “fibre”, which is Digital. The old analogue networks have been in operation for decades and have reached the end of their serviceable life. The telecoms industry is finding it difficult to source the parts required to maintain or repair connections as suppliers are no longer manufacturing them.

New digital phone lines will allow phone companies to offer consumers and businesses clearer and better-quality phone calls, as well as new features such as anonymous caller rejection or three-way calling (for instance where you could speak to your Son in Newcastle and your Daughter in Kent all on the same phone call).

This is great news for most as it will be a more reliable connection and faster broadband. But, as with all new technology, there will be losers as well as winners. The losers are likely to be the older and more vulnerable people. As a result, UK Neighbourhood Watch is making sure the NhW co-ordinators and members across the country are aware of what is coming down the line (terrible pun, sorry).

The old analogue landline carries a low voltage power connection directly from the telephone exchange, which is sufficient to power some basic corded handsets without needing a mains electrical supply. This means that in the event of a local power cut, these corded handsets will continue to function as long as the telephone exchange still has power.

Digital landlines cannot carry a power connection, which means handsets and routers must be powered from your home power supply, and they will not function in a power cut unless you have a backup power system such as a battery or generator.

This means elderly and infirm people with care-lines may not be able contact their care provider via their special adaptor during a power cut. We would expect that your local borough/district “care-line” service would already be checking their clients, but many people use private care-line companies. The solution in most cases is a modern SIM-based “box” which uses mobile phone technology. Also be aware that your burglar alarm company may still use this old land-line technology and so that link will also fail during a power cut. We would suggest you contact your burglar alarm company to check.

If you have managed to keep up with the above it will be clear that our elderly/infirm family and neighbours are the ones likely to have issues. BT are being very good about providing solutions, but I cannot see any other telephone service provider doing anything. If you or a neighbour/family member use care-line services please contact the service provider if there is a concern. If you or they are not sure who provides it, and the current service uses the land line, trigger the alarm and see who answers!

BT are running events across Surrey in September and Neighbourhood Watch is supporting this initiative. Watch out for notifications of these events from NhW and BT.

The digital switchover is happening now and will be completed by end of 2025. Please don't blame the government – this is not their doing, for once.

**Martin Stilwell, Surrey NhW**

## **Safer Neighbourhood Bulletin**

We regularly provide information on how to contact us when we issue Witness Appeals but there are Accessible Ways as well. We want to make sure our service is as accessible as possible for everyone. If you are deaf or hard of hearing there are a number of tools available to help, including our textphone service and the Pegasus scheme for people who may find it hard to communicate with us. The best way for everyone to contact us about a non-emergency matter is through our website or our social channels so private message us or start a live chat on our website at any time!

Here are some other tools you can use:

- Textphone - for those who are deaf or speech-impaired, communication is easy with our Textphone 18000 or the Relay UK app for 999 emergency texts. [999 emergency text service](#). Please note, you must register your mobile phone first.
- Pegasus Scheme – if you have speech or communication challenges the Pegasus card scheme streamlines the help you receive in urgent situations.
- SignVideo BSL Interpreter - if you're a British Sign Language User, our SignVideo partnership means you're just a click away from a remote BSL interpreter.
- Police Link Officers for Deaf people (PLOD) – if you are deaf, you can SMS text us on 07967 986130.



- Herbert Protocol – if you care for someone with dementia or Alzheimer's, the Herbert Protocol ensures we have the essential info to act fast and keep them safe, if they go missing.

You can find out more about these by visiting  
<https://www.surrey.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/us/contact-us/sur/accessible-contact/>

We are proud to be a Disability Confident Leader, committed to inclusivity within our force and the community.

Please share this information with anyone you think may benefit from knowing about these accessible ways to contact us.

**Inspector Lyndsey Whatley**  
**Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Inspector**

## **THE ANNUAL CANVASS**

### **Are your details correct?**

Every year, we check the details on the Electoral Register are correct, so everyone who is eligible to vote in elections can have their say. This is known as the Annual Canvass.

You will receive your form either by post or e-mail. Please check the details on your form when it arrives.

The form or e-mail will tell you what to do if you need to respond, as not all households will have to. If you need to make a change, it is quick and easy to do online or by phone. All the details you need, including the security codes, are on page one of the form.

Any 16- or 17-year-olds living in your home can be included on the form, even though they can't vote until they are 18.

From September, if we haven't heard from residents who need to provide a response, we will contact them by phone or visit them at home to get this vital information. We will not ask you for any financial information and our representatives will have identification and they won't ask to come into your home. If in doubt, please call Customer Services on 01883 722000.

For more information, visit the [annual canvass webpage](#).

Don't forget, completing your annual canvass does not register you on the electoral register. Anyone you add to the form must also register to vote at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

**Tatsfield Horticultural Society  
Autumn Show 2024**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 3:00 - 4:45 PM  
Tatsfield Village Hall



Free to exhibit + you can enter multiple categories  
Non-residents welcome to exhibit. Just £1 and 50p entry  
Please visit our website for Rules, Guidance and Entry forms  
<http://tatsfieldhorticulturalsociety.weebly.com>

Entry forms are available in the new THS 2024-25 Yearbook

**\*\*\* Entry deadline Thursday 5 September 6pm \*\*\***

## LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL



**NEW SCHOOL YEAR** Welcome to a new school year at Little Acorns preschool. We are excited to welcome the children back and meet some new children and families joining the preschool.

**OUR CLUBS** Clubs are included in many of our sessions; on Monday afternoons children can enjoy science experiments and nature exploration, Wednesday afternoons are dance and exercise themed with Boom Arts Academy, Thursday morning is our gardening club and Fridays see either messy play or cooking activities. Each club activity is carefully chosen to reflect the children's interests as well as provide lots of fun and learning.



## FOOTBALL SESSIONS

Once a month from September we will be visited by Ricky who is a qualified FA coach and



will be playing sports with the children and teaching them some new football skills. Our first visit was in July and the children loved it!

**NEON FAMILY DISCO** Our next event will be a family disco which is being held at the village hall on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October – it will be Neon themed with lots of fun dancing and games all local families are welcome. Tickets will be on sale in September and are charged at £20 for a family of four.

**NEW STARTERS** Little Acorns has spaces in some our sessions for children from the age of two years. If you would like some more information, please visit our website [www.littleacornstatsfield.co.uk](http://www.littleacornstatsfield.co.uk) or get in touch [office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk](mailto:office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk). We would love to meet you!

**The Little Acorns Team** Email: [office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk](mailto:office@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk)

## TATSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### THS 2024/25 Yearbook

The committee members and the volunteers have been out knocking on the doors or leaving notes and I have been emailing many of you where we have not had the volunteers to cover all of the village.

If you have missed the knock on your door or mislaid the slip please do support your society. Membership remains at £5 or a donation from seniors and continues with all the usual benefits as last year. To pay the subscription or donation by bank transfer, the details are as follows, and I will arrange for a Yearbook to be delivered:



Cooperative bank: Sort Code 08 92 99 Account No. 655 166 10

Please use your name/address as the reference on the payment so that I can identify your payment. Alternatively, please email me to confirm that you have made the payment. If you have paid and not received a Yearbook then please let me know also. If you use the compost site, then please bring your £5 or your donation there and we will enroll you there.

**The September Autumn Show** will be held in the Tatsfield Village Hall at 3pm on **Saturday 7th September 2024**. All details regarding entries and can be found in the Yearbook on Page 19 onwards. Please do support the Society by entering the show and/or coming up from 3pm to view the exhibits, take part in the raffle and of course have tea and cake and a natter with friends. Entry is still only £1 and 50p for Juniors.

For those that do enter we have raised the prize monies, yes maybe only in a small way, but so that the prizes will assist in covering the costs of the entries. Prize Money details on Page 13 of the yearbook. You should use the entry forms within the Yearbook or you can use the entry form online at <http://tatsfieldhorticulturalsociety.weebly.com>. The more entries the better!

**For further information and/or a show schedule visit the website above or contact Carol Gaskell on 07815 775859.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

## RHS Wisley

This year the THS Committee have arranged an additional visit to Wisley so that you can see a different perspective. We are arranging a visit on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October**. If you have not been there before it is worthwhile a visit, as the recently opened new **RHS Hilltop – The Home of Gardening Science** has lot to offer to all visitors. The party should all meet at Wisley at 10.00 on 19<sup>th</sup> October outside at the entrance by the Café. It is a free event for you, and family and friends are welcome. If you would like to join us for this visit, please contact **Sue Warren** : 01959 542892 and she will put you on the list and she can even make arrangements for you to collect the tickets later in the morning if that suits you better. An early advice would be welcome if you are intending to go.

## Tatsfield

## Post Office

postal  
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Greetings cards, gift  
wrap, toys  
Euros, travel money  
cards & currency  
lottery, scratch cards  
Banking & cash  
withdrawals  
Amazon pick up &  
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Utility & Mobile top ups

find us  
behind  
Tatsfield  
Village  
Club



POST  
OFFICE

opening hours

Monday 9:30am-5:00pm

Tuesday 9:30am-5:00pm

Wednesday

9:30am-5:00pm

Thursday

9:30am-1:00pm

Friday 9:30am-5:00pm

Saturday

9:00am-12:30pm

Sunday - closed

join our Facebook group  
Tatsfield Post Office



## TATSFIELD IN BLOOM



I hope you agree that the planting around the village is looking stunning! The red trailing begonias have come on really well and they are amazing as they do not need deadheading – the old flowers just drop off! We also tried two new varieties for our planting and these have also been very successful. The blue, pink and white Scaevolas in the Cascade planter outside the AMB have produced a lovely show. Gazanias are our other new plants, and they too have produced a spectacular show, especially when the sun shines!



Thank you to all those who are watering on the rota – the plants are very grateful for your care!

We have been discussing a new project for Tatsfield in Bloom for a couple of years and I am pleased to say that it is now going to happen. We

have purchased a 10' by 15' polytunnel so that we can over-winter our plants and also buy plug plants and bring them on during the Spring. This is all part of our ongoing strategy to make us more sustainable and get away from throwing plants away at the end of their planting.

Tatsfield Allotments have very kindly agreed that we can erect this on a site near the entrance which has been donated to us by Janida and Mike Williams. We are going to have this erected by an expert builder and we hope to have this in operation by the time we are taking out the summer planting. We hope that we will have some of these plants available for the Plant Sale in the Spring.



Please come and join us on a Saturday morning at 10.00am when we can guarantee meeting up with a lively group of volunteers and a cup of coffee afterwards and a more interesting agenda when we get our new polytunnel!

Thank you to all those who put donations into our yellow pots in Sheree's, The Old Ship and The Village Club. We have reduced our costs by introducing more sustainable plants, but there will always be requirements for compost, equipment and some new plants. We are extremely grateful for any contributions, so that we can continue to keep Tatsfield looking attractive. **Jill Hancock (577622) ([jillhancock12@gmail.com](mailto:jillhancock12@gmail.com))**

## TATSFIELD ALLOTMENTS

It's been quite a while since I've written an allotment report, but there has still been lots going on! The committee work tirelessly keeping the site neat and tidy; Len & Juliet have been regularly strimming perimeter paths & bushes. Mike Sarll is constantly spraying to keep the weeds at bay, Alan has repaired & replaced several leaky taps and also installed a new superior security lock on the entrance gate. Many plot holders make use of the woodchip supplied by Arcadia tree surgeons to maintain their pathways - a mutually beneficial arrangement for all. We have recently cleared the area by Ladies "dunny" & made a corral out of pallets so that the wood chip & manure can be stored tidily. We are grateful for all supplied delivered.



We have also had quite a few social events, our May plant-swap & BBQ was very successful and well attended. Despite an initial forecast of bad weather, the sun shone on our August BBQ, so about 30 "regulars" had a great afternoon. "Bring your own food, we provide the fire" works well and our ever-popular Jim Mullen entertained us with his wide repertoire of music, singing & playing his guitar, this time ably assisted by Ian McAffery's 3-year-old grandson, Luke (see photo!) who was enchanted/obsessed with the harmonica! Chris Living took over for the second session, playing favourite songs on his guitar.

Even further back, the committee had a wonderful Christmas meal at The Bakery - at the time believed to be a final farewell, but we look forward to another celebration with the new owners this coming December.



Although we have a full membership, plots do become available from time to time, as peoples' needs & lifestyles change. So, if you are interested in taking over a plot, please contact Alan Armitage on 07899

725 944 who will advise you of availability or put you on the waiting list.

**Liz Armitage**

# TATSFIELD VILLAGE HALL

## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st



**OLIVIA COLMAN ~ JESSIE BUCKLEY**

**THE BRITISH COMEDY OF THE YEAR**

**Doors Open 7.00 ~ 7.30 start**

**ALL SEATS £8.00**

**[www.curzoncountrycinema.com](http://www.curzoncountrycinema.com)**

**PAY AT THE DOOR or RESERVE & PAY ON LINE**

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## TATSFIELD MARTIAL ARTS

### MEDAL SUCCESS FOR TMA AT THE KENT INTERNATIONAL 2024

The Kent International is one of the longest running judo competitions in the country. It is always well attended, with teams from across Europe making the journey to compete in this prestigious judo tournament. As a result, it is always a high-level event, with top level judoka and national squad members competing across all the weight groups. Run over 2 days and with 5 mat areas, it is not unusual to have over 600 competitors taking part.



On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Harvey Davy fought in the U66kg boys (U16's). This was Harvey first time at the Kent International and a real step up in class. After some hard contests against some tough opponents Harvey placed 4<sup>th</sup>, winning a bronze medal.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, Kayden Plinston fought in the U66kg Junior men (U19's). Last year Kayden competed in the U16's and got to the bronze medal fight, which he unfortunately lost – so he was determined to go one better this year. However, this was going to be tough as not only had he moved into the older age band, but he was also in a massive weight group which had around 20 people in it including a number of GB and England squad members. Considering Kayden's preparation for the competition had been pretty much nonexistence because of his GCSE's, he was on great form! He won all his early fights with ippon to reach the semi-final. Unfortunately, he lost the semi-final (to the eventual gold medallist), so found himself in the bronze medal fight for the second year in a row. This time, however, he was on it – winning it in style with a lovely dropping shoulder throw for ippon.

Both boys should be extremely proud of themselves. These medals are by far the best ones, in terms of competition level, they have won.



**Adam Plinston**

## **ST MARY'S MATTERS**

### **Sunday Services at St Mary's**

Whilst our Curate Debra Elsdon undertakes her training the main 10am Sunday service with music continues, led by visiting clergy / lay people and Debra when available. All are welcome. Further information is in our Notice Sheet which can be accessed via the home page of our website: [www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys](http://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys)

### **St Mary's Sunday Teas – 3pm to 5pm in the Millennium Hall.**

Join us for cake and a 'cuppa' and enjoy the stunning views across the Downs. Visitors old and new are all very welcome.

### **12noon Sat 5<sup>th</sup> October – St Mary's Organ Recital and Harvest Lunch**

Enjoy a programme of music relating to 'Our Region' performed by the accomplished Graham Dixon and Graham Powell. With pieces by Frederick Delius and Michael Tippett it concludes with the unique Duet for Organ by Samuel Wesley, who has been called the 'English Mozart'. The Organists are generously performing free of charge, and we will invite donations to St Mary's in appreciation of the Recital. Following this from 1pm in the Millennium Hall will be a Harvest Lunch of main & dessert with vegetarian option. Lunch tickets £12 from Sheree's Store Tatsfield or [stephenjackaman@btinternet.com](mailto:stephenjackaman@btinternet.com). (Please mention if you want the vegetarian option when buying your ticket).

### **Harvest Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

We celebrate Harvest Sunday at our 10am service on 6<sup>th</sup> October. All are welcome. If you cannot join us for the service, the church will remain open during the day for viewing the harvest displays of produce, including from the children of Tatsfield Primary School.

### **Supporting Westerham Foodbank**

We continue to support our local community at Westerham Foodbank which faces an increase in those needing help because of the cost of the ongoing living crisis. They currently support 75 adults, and 62 children referred from a variety of agencies. We delivered on 22<sup>nd</sup> August and will again on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Please help by donating if you can. Items currently needed include cereal, soup, baked beans, jam, pasta sauces, rice, tinned fish, meat, long-life or powdered milk, custard and rice pudding. Non-perishable food donations can be left in the Narthex at St Mary's from 9am- 4.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Monetary donations made will be used to purchase food. Thank you for your support. **Hilary Vale (01959) 57786**

### **St Mary's Tatsfield 100 Club Results**

#### July Draw

8 M. & R. Smith £23; 45 V. Geary £14; 85 C. Hancock £9; St Mary's £44

#### August Draw

3 D. Vale £23; 99 M. & L. Lambert £14; 37 L. Budgen £9; St Mary's £44

## Churchyard Team

Our monthly Saturday morning maintenance sessions took place in July and August as planned.



On 24<sup>th</sup> July we were delighted, for the third year running, to welcome a team of 12 volunteers from Pfizer with which we have a link through their late colleague and parishioner of St. Mary's, Paul Laugharne. Including our own volunteers, we had 20 people working hard on various tasks in the churchyard for most of the day.

Some of the Pfizer team helped in previous years and their enthusiasm and hard work enables us to tackle the larger projects not possible during our usual monthly sessions. This included significant reduction of hedges, enabling morning sunlight to get through to the cremation area, where a dedicated team meticulously raised and cleaned the tablets, many of which had gradually sunk over the years. A paved path, which had been overgrown by grass and totally hidden for many years was also uncovered and the edging of paths and around the various seats was also undertaken.

Curate Debra Elsdon formally thanked the Pfizer team over lunch. Their contribution is so welcomed by us and we very much hope that their enthusiastic, proactive and very pleasant team will be able to help us again next year. Our next maintenance session will be Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September. **David Gulley**

## Church Opening Times

St Mary's is open for viewing, prayer or personal reflection from 9am - 4.30pm approx. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

## Records 2024

1 <sup>st</sup> June	Interment of Ashes	Roger Carter
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Baptism	Florrie Blossom Green
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Interment of Ashes	John Hollamby Skinner
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Interment of Ashes	Deacon Stuart Geary

## Church Office

The Church Office is currently based at the Parish Office, St Peter's Church, High Street Limpsfield RH8 ODG (01883 712512). Our Parish Administrator will be available 9.30am to 1.30pm each Thursday in Limpsfield, by phone as above and by email at [stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com](mailto:stmoffice.lttm@btinternet.com). Emails are checked regularly during the week for any urgent matters. **St Mary's Website:** [www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys](http://www.lttm.org.uk/stmarys)

## REGULAR TATSFIELD EVENTS AND INFORMATION

<b>Sun</b>	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, VH
	10.00 am	Church service – StM
<b>Mon</b>	9.30 am	Tots on Top – CH
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary - WIH
	1.30 pm	Bridge Club – WIH
	6.30 pm	Cubs - SH
	7.00 pm	Art Group – VH [Term time]
	8.15 pm	Bingo – TVC
<b>Tue</b>	10.00 am	Chair Yoga with Mel - WIH
	1.00 pm	Not So Young Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH
	2.30 pm	WI Meeting (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month) WIH
	4.00pm	Paracise VH
	7.00 pm	Scouts and Explorers – SH
	6.15 pm	Barré with Fi - VH
<b>Wed</b>	10.00 am	WI Pop In – WIH
	2-4 pm	Composting Site open
	6.30 pm	Shape and Tone with Gary – WIH
	6.00pm	Over 8s Jujitsu, SH
	7.30pm	Adults Jujitsu, SH
	7.30 pm	Yoga – VH
<b>Thu</b>	9.30 am	Yoga with Lexy, StM
	9.30 am	Shape and Tone with Gary, WIH
	2.00 pm	Scrabble at AMB (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)
	1.30 pm	Hear Here Sessions – AMB (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month)
	6.00 pm	Over 8s Judo – SH
	6.15pm	Barré with Fi, VH
	7.30 pm	Adults (14+) Judo - SH
	7.30 pm	Tatsfield Singers - TPS
	8.00 pm	Table Tennis – VH
<b>Fri</b>	9.30 am	Combat Fitness - SH
	1.30 pm	Short Mat Bowls –VH
	4.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Tots Street Dance – VH
	4.45pm	Boom Arts Academy Lower Junior Street Dance – VH
	5.30pm	Boom Arts Academy Theatre and Singing – VH
	6.15pm	Boom Arts Academy Junior Street Dance – VH
	8.00 pm	Badminton Club – VH
<b>Sat</b>	9.00 am	Under 8s Judo – SH
	10.00 am	Composting Site open
	10.15 am	Over 8s Judo - SH

**Venues:** AMB - Aileen McHugo Building • CGA - Community Games Area • MH - Millennium Hall • SH - Scout Hut • StM - St. Mary's Church • TACG – Tatsfield Allotments and Community Garden • TVC - Tatsfield Village Club • TPS - Tatsfield Primary School • VH - Village Hall • WIH - Women's Institute

## UPCOMING EVENTS – VILLAGE AND BEYOND

### SEPTEMBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	10.30am	St Mary's Annual Golf Day, North Downs Golf Club, Woldingham
6 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	Matt Daniel-Baker is The Mind Reader, Barn Theatre
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	3.00pm	THS Autumn Show, VH
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.45pm	Oxted Comedy Night, Barn Theatre
8 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM
13 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	Logicaltramp – The Spirit of Supertramp, Barn Theatre, Oxted
15 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM
19 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Radio Days Events, Christian Plowman Undercover, Barn Theatre
20 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.45pm	GH Management - Classic Rock Revival, Barn Theatre, Oxted
21 <sup>st</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Wicked Little Letters, Curzon Cinema, VH
21 <sup>st</sup> Sat	7.45pm	Eric & The Claptones, Barn Theatre, Oxted
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM
25 <sup>th</sup> Wed	2.15pm	Blondes Have More Fun, Art Lecture, Limpsfield Church Hall
29 <sup>th</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM

### OCTOBER

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	3.00pm	St Mary's Church Teas, StM
12 <sup>th</sup> Sat	6.00pm	Little Acorns Neon Family Disco, VH
15 <sup>th</sup> Tue	7.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
16 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
17 <sup>th</sup> Thu	7.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
18 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	2.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	Clue: On Stage, The Oxted Players, Barn Theatre, Oxted
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	tbc	Curzon Cinema, film tbc, VH
26 <sup>th</sup> Sat	2.30pm	The Really Happy Company, A Night of 100 Years, Barn Theatre
26 <sup>th</sup> Sat	7.30pm	The Really Happy Company, A Night of 100 Years, Barn Theatre

## FAIRTRADE CELEBRATIONS IN TATSFIELD



### Free Fairtrade Breakfast

September 28<sup>th</sup> 930am to 11am in Tatsfield Village Hall

### Do come along and join us to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fairtrade Mark in the UK.

We are planning to celebrate in Tatsfield by running one of our popular **Free Fairtrade Breakfasts** so that we can come together as a community to enjoy some of the delicious Fairtrade products available from all around the world.

The Fairtrade breakfast will include:

- ✓ Croissants & Toast
- ✓ Fairtrade Muesli
- ✓ Fairtrade Juice
- ✓ Fairtrade Jams
- ✓ Fairtrade Peanut Butter
- ✓ Fairtrade Tea
- ✓ Fairtrade Coffee
- ✓ Fairtrade Bananas
- ✓ Fairtrade Hot Chocolate

In addition, Moyna Bridge will bring along an extensive range of her Fairtrade products for you to peruse and purchase. From Divine chocolate to Swazi chilli sauces, delicious dates to snazzy socks and beautiful handcrafted bags and houseware.



### The Power of You!

Fairtrade is all about giving and hand up, not a handout to hardworking producers around the world.

Your shopping choices send a signal around the world | so why not show that you prefer products that care for the planet and the people who grew or made them by looking for the Fairtrade Mark when you shop?



You can also look out for us at the St Mary's Church Teas on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Please let us know that you would like to join us at the breakfast event by emailing

[tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com](mailto:tatsfieldfairtradegroup@gmail.com)



## TATSFIELD ART GROUP



The summer break is over and our new term begins! Carol Gaskell and Michael Moore have been busy planning the 24/25 calendar, we have a very full and exciting year ahead. This will include demonstration by experienced artists covering all mediums and techniques, workshops led by inspiring tutors, all highly regarded artists, who will be on hand to help, encourage, and advise on materials.

Project 1 begins on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September with professional artist Ian Henderson. Ian will join us again on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We begin at 7pm until 9.30pm in Tatsfield Village Hall with a short refreshment break, non-members are welcome to visit for two meetings to see if we suit!

Over the years Tatsfield Art Group has established a reputation for high quality affordable artwork at its annual exhibition. A date for your diary: the 2025 exhibition will be held over the Early May Bank Holiday. In the village you will see members work on display, and available to buy, at Sheree's Tea Rooms and Ye Old Ship. But don't forget many of our talented members accept commissions. There is something extraordinary about commissioning an artwork because it offers you a chance to have a personalised work of art that you can keep for life. By blending your thoughts and the imaginative craft of the artist, the outcome will be one-of-a-kind.



Our work will be on display at Lingfield's Art Exhibition from the 28<sup>th</sup> October until the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024. Members of TAG also enter the art classes promoted by Tatsfield Horticultural Society this year- the autumn show is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September .

If you enjoy art and are thinking of joining a group please pop in and see us, we will be in the village hall Monday evenings from 7pm until 9.30pm during term times. Our Annual membership fee is still only £150 which includes our weekly sessions, the cost of all demos and workshops and also guarantees entry to our annual exhibition, plus access to our store cupboard of equipment and refreshments.



Interested? Check us out at on Facebook Tatsfield Art Group or Instagram in the coming weeks and months for the latest updates.

**For further questions or intrigue? contact Carol Gaskell 07815775859 or Sandra Shury 07867502235.**



**We can't wait to see you.**



## **THE ARTS SOCIETY LIMPSFIELD**

**Blondes have more fun** by Frank Woodgate.

**Date: Wednesday 25 September. Lecture starts at 2.15pm** at Limpsfield Church Hall, refreshments before the lecture. Note: there will not be an evening lecture.

David Hockney has become a 'national treasure'. Although a fine draughtsman, he first came to fame in the early 1960s for his graffiti-like paintings. The late 1960s and early '70s saw him painting in a number of different styles, from the precise naturalism of Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy to extremely unnaturalistic works paying homage to his great hero, Pablo Picasso. With all his media and style changes, Hockney continues to delight and enchant people from all walks of life.



YOU'RE INVITED TO



# Little Acorns

**Neon Family Disco**

**SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER**

**FROM 6PM**

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES FREE UNLIMITED SQUASH FOR CHILDREN  
AND GLOW IN THE DARK TATTOOS  
£5 PER PERSON / FAMILY OF 4 £20

**B.Y.O ALCOHOL**

SOFT DRINKS, SWEETS, PLASTIC GLASSES AND GLOW NOVELTIES ON SALE

**ALL WELCOME**

Tatsfield Village Hall

Tickets on sale via

[chair@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk](mailto:chair@littleacornstatsfield.co.uk)

## THE TATSFIELD GARDENER IN JULY AND AUGUST

Looking back over the summer months we certainly seemed to break some records, and yet we did not have any really hot weather for more than a day or two at a time. As the climate change scientists are predicting, when it was hot it was very hot and when it rained boy oh boy did it rain!! My two water butts held sufficient water for watering the greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers plus the various pots and trays outside and, as I write, they are both still half full.

It has also been a record year for growth, for some that was great news for flower, fruit and vegetables; for others it was a case of record growth of weeds, hedges and of course a long grass cutting season! The prospects for this month are broadly the same, changeable, some short hot spells, some rain, maybe some thunderstorms too.

The summer flower displays in my baskets and big pots were very good despite some rain and wind damage. I avoided the sudden slowdown in flowering (August and September) by giving them a liquid feed every three weeks from late July, dead heading every week and making sure the containers did not dry out.

My garden has a lot of tender perennials – plants that have done very well in pots and in the borders (planted out in June) but are not hardy, they will succumb to cold frosty weather. These include Geraniums, border and basket Begonias, Fuchsias, Dahlias, Canna (Indian Shot), my beautiful Brugmansias (Angels Trumpets). Later this month and into October I will be checking that they are correctly labelled, mainly for colour, so I can get the



planting scheme right when I plant them out again next June. I will be taking cuttings of my Geraniums and Fuchsias, putting them in a 50:50 mixture of horticultural sharp sand and vermiculite inside an unheated propagator with a clear plastic lid. After an initial watering I will only give them a daily fine spray over the foliage to help keep them cool; if there is hot weather, I will cover the lid with green mesh shading. All being well they should be rooted in about three weeks. The rooted cuttings will be carefully removed from the sand mix and potted into multipurpose compost in cell trays (24 cells to a tray), the trick now is to grow them on very slowly over the winter months making sure to keep them just moist enough but never wet. The Cannas, Dahlias, Begonias, Geraniums, Brugmansias and Fuchsias will be brought into the greenhouse, allowed to almost dry out and then kept in pots and trays – more on this next month.

I have noticed around the village the number of climbing plants, particularly Roses, Vines and Wisteria that have made a very big amount of growth this year, waving in the breeze waiting to catch an unwary passer-by! These plants need to be trimmed back (summer pruning) and tied in now to make them more manageable and ensure there is a display next year. This year I am using zip ties rather than light wire or gardening twine, much stronger and easier to use – but – make sure to check this next year as the plants grow to avoid the ties strangling the new growth.

## **TATSFIELD COMMUNITY COMPOST NEWS**

We have had a very busy summer of processing and composting our local community green waste to make high quality Black Gold. We are still building batches of compost ready for screening for collection next year, so keep your green waste coming until we close at the end of the month.

Our Black Gold is the ideal conditioner for our clay soil; using it as a supplement when planting shrubs and trees is the natural way to ensuring the establishment of new roots; incorporating it into the top soil makes our clay more workable; putting it on the surface in a thick layer (4-6”) as a mulch preserves moisture, suppresses weeds, feeds the soil and gives your borders that ‘botanic garden’ look.

We have plenty of Black Gold available this month, bring your bags (£1.50 per large bag) or wheelbarrow (£3.00 per full barrow) on Wednesday afternoons (2.00-4.00pm) or Saturday mornings (10.00-12.00).

**Jon Allbutt**

## **TATSFIELD 100 CLUB**

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for June 2024:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	David Parker	£49.50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	M Budgen	£33.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Chris Maynard	£16.50

Congratulations to the winners of the Tatsfield PFA 100 Club for July 2024:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Margaret Burton	£45.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Dave King	£30.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Pete Harrison	£15.00

Thank you for supporting sport in Tatsfield. If you know of anyone who wishes to join the 100 Club (for a modest £6 per month), or if you would like additional numbers, then please contact me at [leames200@gmail.com](mailto:leames200@gmail.com). Les Eames

## NIGEL'S NATURE NOTES



The previous landscape presented here, back on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, was of a field of buttercups on a beautifully warm, early summer's day. How quickly the seasons bring about change. This photograph, taken on the footpath between Goatsfield Road and Lusted Hall Lane, shows the multitude of thistle seed heads taken on what was, at the time, the hottest day of the year.

Following the summer break, we have a wonderfully varied collection of correspondence to work through. Many thanks to those of you who have found time to share your thoughts and experiences with others within our like-minded community. As always, all of your notes will be published in due course. But, right now, let's begin with 'Adventurer Jim's' double contribution, both of which express his recent concerns and successes:

(23.06.24) *'I've delayed contacting you in the vain hope of actually seeing some **Swift** activity up at the old school this year but, so far, have drawn a blank other than a solitary bird over Tatsfield Green on June 1st. I won't know until July whether we have lost the colony and hope that I've just been unlucky in timing my visits.*

*On more positive news I may have had some success in raising some **Brown Hairstreak** larva. I rescued some eggs from a hedge at St Mary's that was due to be cut. Only two made it through winter and survived predation. They are incredibly difficult to spot as they perfectly mimic young **Blackthorn** leaves. Conveniently, they glow under a UV torch and I can confirm that they were still chomping away on the host plant in late June.'*

(14.08.24) *'Ruth has just reminded me for the third time that I have probably missed the copy date for this month but I must, belatedly, respond to your last Nature Notes just in case I'm not too late.*

*On the butterfly front the poor year for numbers continues and I still have only seen a single **Small Tortoiseshell** and have not managed any sightings of a **White-lettered Hairstreak** at Hill Park, despite many hours scanning the treetops. Oh well, here's hoping this year is just a blip, as it was in 2012, and all species will bounce back. I lost contact with the **Brown Hairstreak** larvae I was raising at home so they were either predated or safely pupated out of sight. I'm hoping for the latter but, as I write, am yet to see my first adult BH which should be on the wing any day now.*

*I do have some good news, though. With so few **Swift** sightings this year I was very concerned we had lost our local small colony up at the old school building. I can happily confirm that they again nested in at least two locations (the same as last year) and I saw seven or eight birds 'buzzing' overhead. They continue, however, to shun the boxes I put up a few years ago. I foolishly unblocked the holes a little too early, allowing an opportunistic [**House**] **Sparrow** to squat and raise a family, so I can't complain too much.*

*Finally, yes, I agree with your identification as a **Spear Thistle**. [See July's issue.] A member of a much-maligned family but a valuable plant for many insect pollinators. I say let it bloom and if you don't want it, hoik it out before it sets seed.'*

Ruth was right to be concerned, Jim, but fortunately, your second email arrived just in time. I'm one of those annoying contributors who submits his notes at the last minute!

I'm sure we are all pleased to hear that the Swift colony has successfully maintained its presence up at the old school. Unfortunately, I'm not so sure that that success has been reflected down at the Pilgrims Lane, **House Martin** stronghold. I've passed the cottages regularly over the summer months and each time the numbers seem depleted, with several nests being left incomplete and abandoned. I believe **Swallows** have fared well this year. We even had a family of two adults and four young flying around the top half of Greenway, settling on the multitude of 'telegraph' wires. I have to go back to my childhood to recollect a similar event. I wonder whose outhouse they chose to nest in.

Everyone is talking about the lack of butterflies this year. You've spotted one Small Tortoiseshell, I've spotted none. Single specimens of **Red Admiral**, **Peacock**, **Comma**, and **Holly Blue** have occasionally been seen from my window. However, my own good news is that I've had daily sightings of **Meadow Brown** and **Gatekeeper**. Common butterflies, but not usually seen flitting around the back garden. Perhaps they have been attracted by the increase in wildflowers throughout the borders?

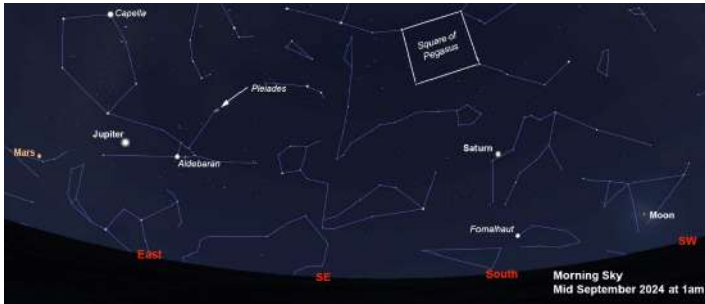
Cameron, my tree surgeon and a keen plantsman, was the first to confirm the identity of my uninvited, yet welcome, **Spear Thistle**. Nevertheless, to have a local naturalist back that up is heartening. I wonder if any family has acted upon my suggestion of a wild plant hunt during the school holidays. I somehow doubt it, but it's not too late. Meanwhile, as Jim suggests, my giant thistle is to be deposited in the compost bin. Such is life.

**Any news or views? Contact: [nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com](mailto:nigelshaw2000@hotmail.com)  
Alternatively, drop a note in to 'Primrose Ridge', Greenway.**

## THE NIGHT SKY IN TATSFIELD – SEPTEMBER 2024

The ringed planet, Saturn, is becoming more obvious in our evening skies with it reaching “opposition” on the 8<sup>th</sup>. This refers to the time that Saturn, or indeed any planet that orbits beyond the Earth, is opposite the Sun. In simple terms it means that on that date the Earth, Sun and Saturn will lie in a line with the Earth in the middle i.e. the Earth and Saturn lie on the same side of the Sun. This means that Saturn will then be at its closest to Earth and therefore it will appear at its largest and brightest making it an ideal time to observe it.

At the beginning of the month Saturn is rising close to the east as the Sun sets (around 8pm). The ringed planet will be 20° high in the southeast by 10:30pm and then almost 30° high in the SSE by midnight. At this time, the other gas giant, Jupiter, and the red planet, Mars, are just appearing over the northeastern horizon. The map shows the position of all three of these planets mid-month at 1am.



By the last day of the month Saturn rises in daylight and culminates (lies due south) at 11:30pm which is when it will

be at maximum altitude.

If you prefer your observing to be of the early evening variety then Venus is visible now immediately after sunset but it is very low down. On the 1<sup>st</sup> it is 7° high between west and WNW, on the 30<sup>th</sup> it is the same altitude but closer to the southwest. Please take care not to look for Venus with any type of optical aid before the Sun has set, otherwise you risk permanent eye damage if sunlight accidentally enters your eye.

Astronomical phenomena sadly often occur at unsociable hours, and such is the case on 18<sup>th</sup> September when there is a partial lunar eclipse. It begins at 3:12am and concludes at 4:15am with the maximum amount of the Moon being eclipsed at 3:45am. However, be aware that only a very small part (3½%) is eclipsed so it will look as if a small chunk is missing from the Moon’s northwestern edge (on a clock face around the 2 o’clock position).

It seems only yesterday that I mentioned the summer solstice but now we are already approaching another autumnal equinox. To say that day and night are approximately equal on 22<sup>nd</sup> September is true but something of an oversimplification because the equinox occurs at a specific moment in time and on this occasion, it is 1:44pm. At that moment the plane of the Earth’s equator, projected out into space would cut the Sun’s disk precisely in half. **Brian Mills FRAS**

## TATSFIELD WI



Following a last minute change of speaker for our August meeting we were revisited by our American friend Joe Mendell who gave us a talk entitled 'The American Presidents – in bits and pieces'. He gave a potted history with highlights and humour of all 46 Presidents from Washington to Biden. An unexpectedly entertaining afternoon followed by refreshments.

Last month we held our summer Garden Party with an Olympics theme. Themed games, a competition and a quiz were rewarded with gold medals and we all had a delicious buffet to round things off.

Next month we will hear all about 'The Crooked Billet'.

If you would like to come along as a guest at any time to see what we get up to please just give me a call, you will be very welcome. As I always remind you, everyone is invited to come along for a cup of coffee or tea and a friendly chat every Wednesday morning between 10 and 12 in the WI Hall in Paynesfield Road. A great way to meet other village residents – all ages welcome.

So, if you are passing, just pop In.

**Susan Smale 01959 577660**

## NORTH DOWNS SINFONIA

### ONE NOT TO MISS!

North Downs Sinfonia will be holding it's Autumn concert on Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall as usual. We are absolutely delighted that Mariatu Kanneh-Mason has agreed to play the Saint Saens Cello concerto for us here in Tatsfield. The Kanneh-Mason family are of course the most musically talented family in the country, with seven siblings all playing piano and at least one other instrument to an exceptionally high standard. They often play together as a group, but all perform individually as well. The most famous is Sheku, who won the BBC Young Musician of the year in 2016, played at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, and was awarded an MBE in 2021. The siblings have also been presenters on Classic FM. Mariatu is the youngest of the siblings, still at school, but already plays cello as a soloist.

The orchestra, under the baton of Jonathan Maynard, will also be playing Beethoven Symphony 7 in A Major (the 'Dance' Symphony) and the Hummel 'Premier' Overture. The symphony was premiered in 1813, when the second movement was so popular that the audience demanded an encore! By contrast, the Hummel Overture is little known or played, despite being extremely tuneful.

As usual, tickets will be £10, or £8 for concessions, and can be booked by emailing [northdownssinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:northdownssinfonia@gmail.com), and picked up and paid for on the door. Alternatively, you can phone 01959 577659, or (nearer the date) purchase tickets at Sheree's Store. We expect that there will be a very high demand for tickets – we have a maximum capacity of only 120 - so to avoid being disappointed, book early!

## **NSY CLUB**

In June one of our members celebrated a very special birthday! Babs wanted to celebrate so off we all went to The Crown in Leaves Green for a birthday lunch. Claire made a 'Babulous' cake and everyone had a wonderful time.

July saw our annual trip to the seaside! Eastbourne The perfectly located Cumberland hotel looked after us for the day and once again Practical Care Hire provided our minibus. We all had a lovely time and could not resist a Mr Whippy before we left.

In August we had our meeting garden party, the weather was glorious! On the evening before the Biggin Hill Air Cadets arrived in their minibus with two marquees, which the squadron supplied free of charge to ensure our members were not roasted in the sun. Members were welcomed with a glass of refreshing Pimms and then enjoyed the delicious barbecue and sumptuous meringues. We all had cream tea before heading home.

We would also like to thank Dawn Gilliam for donating a wheelchair, this will really help our members on our day trips.

Our club is so lucky to be supported by local groups and businesses we all feel truly blessed to be part of such a caring community.

Our next meeting is on 10th September at 1 pm in the WI hall.

Don't forget if you know anyone who may like to join us or would like to come along yourself to try out our friendly club please give me a call.

Keep safe

**Sue Dowse**



Join our first ever charity challenge at Bewl Water as we would love you to be involved!

The Challenge: Stride or Ride 12.5 miles, 5k or 10k

What: Walk, Trek, Run or Cycle

When: Saturday 21st September 2024

Where: Bewl Water Reservoir, Lamberhurst

Be a Champion and a Change Maker!

Every ride or stride you take will help to transform the lives of cancer and leukaemia patients in our community!

All entrants will receive a medal to celebrate their achievement!

Register today! £20 per entrant or sign up and fundraise for us for free!

Creating your fundraising page is quick and easy. Aim to raise a minimum of £50 per person.

Fundraisers that raise more than £500 will be invited as our special guest to dine with us at the House of Commons in December!

With your help we can provide the best cancer care for our patients.

**Call Michelle on 01959 570322 or email [mcalthorpe@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk](mailto:mcalthorpe@chartwellcancertrust.co.uk)**



## TATSFIELD 100 YEARS AGO

**How things have changed – or perhaps not:** In September 1924 Tatsfield appeared in the South Gloucestershire Gazette in a feature about the development of air travel! A flight from the UK to Spain could then take nine hours. Tatsfield helped ensure the journey could be made safely. On the top of the Downs at Beddlestead Lane was a vital navigational aid - the '*Tatsfield Air Lighthouse*'. Who would have thought in 1924 that 100 years later so many people would be doing the trip in a third of that time!

**Call for a sewage cart:** A further glimpse of how things were then was the call at the September parish council meeting for a sewage cart. Parish-wide main drainage was years away then but even the cost of a sewage cart would have been a strain on finances. It would need a special rate which could be sanctioned only by a parish meeting.

**But some things don't seem to have changed:** Who would have thought then that other issues in the news in 1924 would still be rather familiar to Tatsfielders now. In September 1924 the state of Old Lane after recent heavy rain was a pre-occupation of the parish council. Half the road surface had apparently been washed away, despite the fact that the district council had promised six months earlier to '*properly drain Old Lane*'. The council reckoned it was '*not fair to the householders who did their best to maintain the road to have all their work undone by water from the Green and the roads converging on Old Lane.*'

Another recurring problem for the parish council was the pond. Water was seeping into neighbouring properties. There was a call to fill it in. A counter-argument was that if that happened more properties would be flooded in heavy rain by water from adjoining roads draining into the pond. Another view was that if it were properly cleaned out and looked after, the pond would be an ornament and not an eye-sore. The next year the district council was once more asked in vain for the pond to be filled in. The issue was raised again decade after decade but the pond survived long enough for the most recent successful refurbishment.

There are scores of items in the archives chronicling the history of our pond. They will be available at the next **History Weekend** at the Aileen McHugo Building on **November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>**. As I mentioned in the July magazine, the main theme of the weekend will be the **history of your house**. Extracts from the *Inland Revenue 1910 Rate Assessment Books* stored at the National Archives in Kew will be available for you to see how your property was assessed in the years before the First World War.

**Ian Mitchell, Tatsfield History Project - [Tatsfield.history@talk21.com](mailto:Tatsfield.history@talk21.com) Tel: 577376**  
**Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/tatsfieldhistoryproject/>**

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