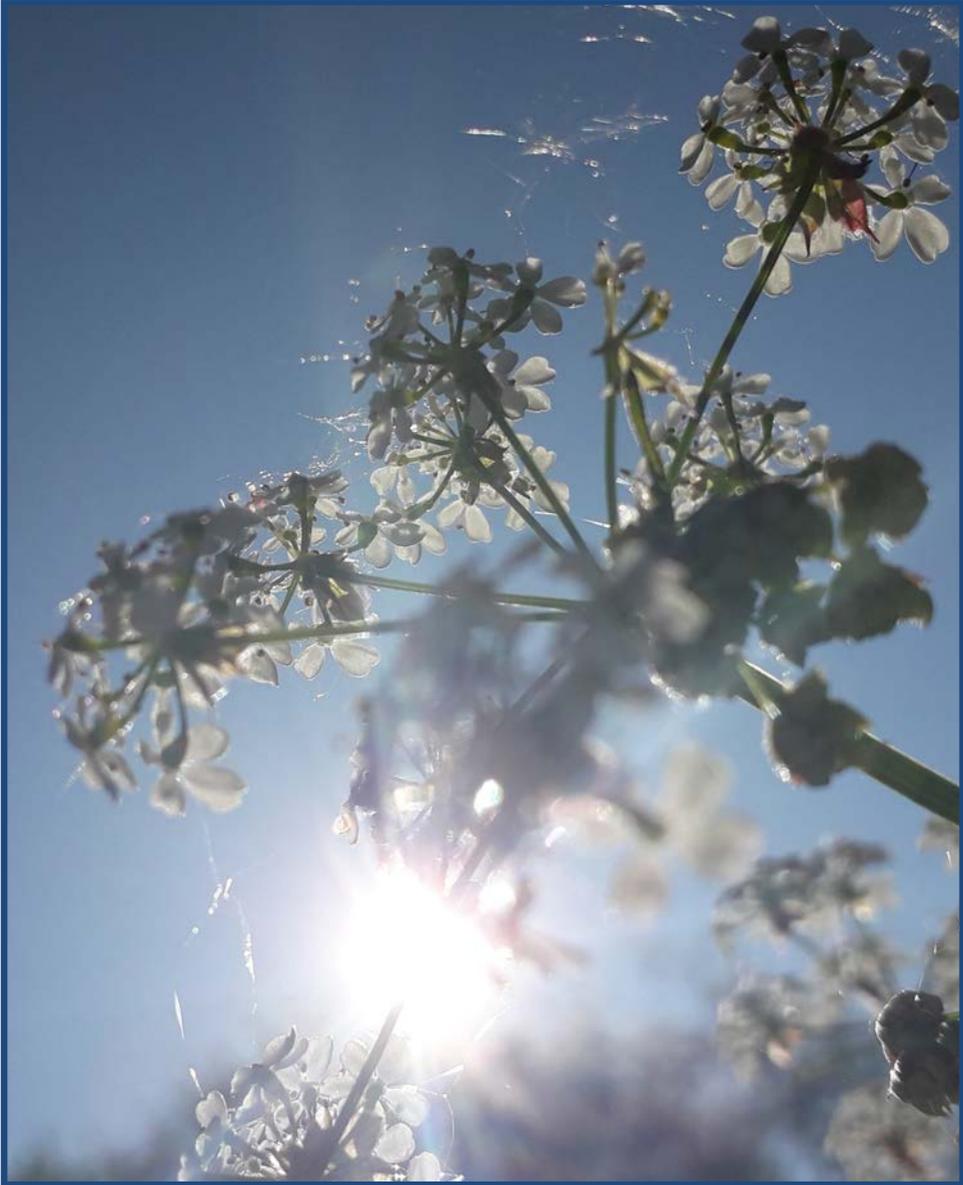


# Westcott Village

# Magazine

May 2021



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



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

[editor@westcottmag.com](mailto:editor@westcottmag.com)

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

Copy Deadline for

**June** issue:

**8th May 2021**

This magazine, published by the Church in Westcott, is printed on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) accredited paper from a sustainable source. The views expressed are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Church, Editor or Westcott residents.

## FROM THE EDITOR

---



Welcome to May - hopefully the start of consistent warmer weather and more normality.

I am writing this just after the sad news about Prince Phillip passing away, and I'm sure everyone can sympathise with the Queen who is now in the unenviable position of having to do a difficult job without the support of the one person who could treat her as a normal person.

We have a short but sweet magazine this month, as despite lockdown

easing, most clubs and societies are still not running, or are online, with less to report. But we do have an interesting article from the History Group, as well as information on the Arts Society and from Dorking Museum, hoping to open soon. We have information as ever from the Village Association and a reminder about Westfest in the summer.

There is also a recipe for wild garlic pesto, so see if you can find any in your garden, but please do only pick it from your own garden.

**Cath**  
**editor@westcottmag.com**

### BABY MEALS

For over 15 years, families of new babies in Westcott have been receiving 'Baby Meals', a gift of a hot meal for the whole family, delivered to their door for two weeks.

If you live in Westcott and are expecting a baby, or know someone who is, or if you think you could help out occasionally cooking meals for families with new babies, or other Westcott residents experiencing difficulties, especially during COVID, who might benefit from a few home cooked meals, then please get in touch.

**Anna Kemkers**  
**07710 425487**  
**annakemkers@hotmail.co.uk**



# ...FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT



It is your commitment to your village Church that has meant that the Diocese are pleased to appoint another vicar. Your engagement is seen in several ways:

## WESTCOTT WILL GET A NEW VICAR ...

.....Thank God and thank you for all your commitment.

I am delighted to say that Guildford Diocese intend that I will be replaced as Vicar of Westcott, after I retire this year. This is due to your commitment - the people of our Church and Village. Thank you.

It was by no means obvious that there would be another full-time vicar appointed to the village. There are many challenges for the Church of England including a shortage of clergy and, in some parishes, financial difficulties. Across the country, many villages have lost their resident vicar. With a population of only c.2,200 Westcott is vulnerable to this happening here.

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER  
VICAR IN WESTCOTT,  
IN A LONG LINE GOING BACK  
TO WHEN HOLY TRINITY  
WAS FOUNDED IN 1851

- Healthy Church attendance.
- Large number of people involved in leading and supporting worship.
- Large 'Electoral roll' – membership of the Church.
- Church engagement with the village school, and in village life generally.
- Volunteer posts filled.
- Clear evidence of discipleship -

people growing in Christian faith - including ordinands.  
• Activities organised by church members.  
• Pastoral care offered through the

- Engagement with (inter) national issues e.g. through 'Eco Church'
- Engagement with the wider Church, including, for example the great support for Papua Partners.
- Meeting the costs of running the Church in Westcott.



## ...FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

---



It costs c. £130,000 a year to sustain a church with a full-time vicar. Virtually all of this has to be funded by people's giving. Remarkably you do this year on year.

All of this has meant that there will be another vicar in Westcott, in a long line going back to when Holy Trinity was founded in 1851.

Of course, you cannot be complacent. I will be working hard in the remaining time to my retirement at the end of September to ensure as good a handover as possible. There will then be a 'vacancy' for

at least several months until a new incumbent is appointed.

Our excellent churchwardens Simon and Ali Mabley and John and Libby Witt will be 'in charge'. They will need you to support and take on responsibilities. And, thereafter, the Church in Westcott needs you to go on engaging, being committed.

**Thank God and thank you for all your support and engagement with the Church in Westcott over the last years. May this vibrancy continue until the Kingdom comes!**

## ..FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

---



### SUPPORT IN THIS TIME OF COVID, MENTAL STRAIN

Please keep talking to, supporting one another, looking out for each other. If you would like to talk to someone from the Church you can ring Jenny or me (01306 644868), or any of our Pastoral Assistants below. Contact details are also given for support beyond Westcott.

**Alan Vicar**

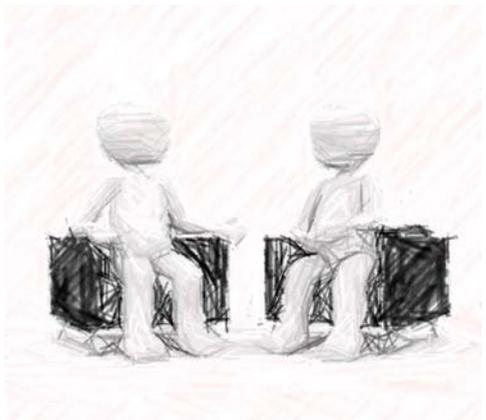
#### Holy Trinity Pastoral Assistants:

Glynis Cranefield 07950 248779 Margaret Packham 01306 885915  
Mark Shakespeare 01306 888010 Ali Mabley 01306 889641

**Samaritans** provide emotional support to anyone who is struggling to cope and needs someone to listen. Local branches can be visited during the day.  
Helpline: 116 123 Every day, 24 hours  
SMS:07725 909090 Email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

**Bereavement Care:** Cruse supports people after the death of someone close. Their trained volunteers offer confidential face-to-face, telephone, email and website support, with both national and local services. They also have services specifically for children and young people.

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Email: [helpline@cruse.org.uk](mailto:helpline@cruse.org.uk)



# ..FROM ALAN JONAS, VICAR OF WESTCOTT

---

## THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT IN A TIME OF CORONA

Much of the pre-Covid work of the Church in Westcott has been put on hold but we are still very much active and present in our village. Activities include:-

- 8.30 – 9.00 am every Sunday, Communion Service in Holy Trinity.
- Holy Trinity open to all for visits and prayer, 9.00 am – 4 pm Sundays and Wednesdays.
- 10.30 am Zoom service every Sunday – join us by telephone if you do not have internet access. See website for details or contact Alan, Vicar. Do join us, you are very welcome.
- 'Life Groups' are running on Zoom – small groups of people who meet to chat and pray about life, faith.
- Prayer together fortnightly on Wednesdays 7.30 – 8.30 pm.

We are a part of the **Westcott Good Neighbour Scheme** and we are always here for a chat, prayer, pastoral need. **Paul Stacey** paulstacey88@gmail.com, may be able to help with **debt advice**.

For help, more information, please contact **Alan, Vicar: 01306 644868** **alchasjonas@aol.com** or visit **thechurchinwestcott.org.uk**

## STAY IN TOUCH

We would love to stay in touch with you, sending you weekly updates about our services and activities.

Please return this form by e-mail to [admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk) or by post: Alan, Vicar of Westcott

The Vicarage Guildford Rd Westcott Dorking Surrey RH4 3QB

Name:

Address:

Telephone number:

For contact by e-mail, E-mail address:

Please add me to The Church in Westcott emailing list for information about church events and news.

I understand that:

\*the emailing list may be administered using MailChimp

\* I will be able to unsubscribe at any time by contacting [admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk)

\* any use of my personal data will be governed by Holy Trinity's PCC Privacy Notice which is available on The Church in Westcott website.

## SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY

---

DATE	THEME	8:30AM IN CHURCH	10.30AM ON ZOOM
2nd May	<b>John 15</b>	Book of Common Prayer Communion	1st Sunday Communion
9th May	<b>John 16</b>	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Parish Communion
16th May	<b>John 17</b>	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Songs of Praise with Communion
23rd May	<b>Pentecost</b>	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Pentecost Communion
30th May	<b>Trinity</b>	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Trinity Communion

**8.30am in Church** - Holy Communion Sunday service in Holy Trinity, focusing on the receiving of the sacrament, with no sermon or hymns, and finishing by 9am. There is no need to sign in – please just come along, but please be aware that we will need to manage numbers if we are beyond safe capacity and that masks are now compulsory.

Further details, including our Risk Assessment are available to view on our website [thechurchinwestcott.org.uk](http://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk).

**10.30am on Zoom until further notice** - Reflecting the people of the Church in Westcott, with a mixture of traditional and contemporary music. Visit our website to sign up to our emailing list for weekly invitations and updates.

You will also be very welcome to come to Holy Trinity, for prayer, reflection or just to be back in our Church on Sundays and/or Wednesdays 9am - 4pm.



Our new all-age service, especially for children, teenagers, parents and grandparents. This is currently held online.

For details of the next service, on 23rd May, contact Ellie, Children and Families' Worker, [e.lister.holytrinitywestcott@gmail.com](mailto:e.lister.holytrinitywestcott@gmail.com)

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

---

### Death:

22nd December Patricia (Pat) Kathleen Verrall (76)  
14th January Dr Joseph Edwin Mason (90)  
7th March Doreen (Dot) Bartlett (76)



## FLOODLIGHTING

---

The floodlighting for May has been sponsored by **Elizabeth & Geoffrey Crook** in celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary which is on the 20th May.

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting, please contact Sarah Massey at [sarah@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:sarah@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk). (Suggested donation of £75 to Westcott Church Funds.)



*Happy Anniversary!*

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# READING ROOM



Welcome back to the Reading Room in the hope of another long hot summer.

We reopened in mid-April with children's Aikido and can offer wedding receptions and wakes for up to 15 people suitably spaced and wearing masks. From 17th May hopefully more community activities can take place subject to a 30-person limit and the rule of 6 applying. After 21st June we are scheduled to be back to a full range of activities including dancing and removal of the current social contact rules to allow our capacity of 100 persons once more to enjoy the Hall and excellent facilities.

Regular users will be coming back to offer a fine variety of activities for your enjoyment.

The Reading Room would welcome both regular activity organisers and casual one-off event users. Children's parties are very popular with good availability for all day Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. Saturday evening also has space for that special celebration or fundraising dinner sorely missed over the past year. The kitchen will reopen and our recently installed mobile sound system has the benefit of a karaoke program for the enjoyment of all ages.

Do contact us for availability and rates with all the benefits of a large private car park on-site.

More information from the Reading Room website [www.westcottreadingroom.org.uk](http://www.westcottreadingroom.org.uk) or by phone on 07967 286636.

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Dear Resident,

By the time you read this article we will have had the chance to take a short UK holiday, met outdoors in groups of up to 6, and had our first social drink in a pub garden. Let's hope the weather in May and June is like last year and we can also enjoy the wonderful countryside in which we live.

The consultation on the future of the **status of Wolvens Lane as a bridleway open to all traffic (BOAT)** closed on 19th April and attracted a lot of comment and discussion. We will communicate the outcome when it is known but as of 8th April the majority of residents were in favour of a permanent closure of the BOAT to all motorised vehicles. A lot of you were particularly concerned about scrambler bikes using this route and causing a nuisance to walkers and horse riders particularly, but also generating levels of noise at all times of the day and night which are completely unacceptable. We will continue to find ways to tackle this problem.

On the subject of behaviour, over the

last few weeks I have had a number of emails from residents about noise and other neighbourly issues like bonfires, I think partly exacerbated by everyone's frustrations over lockdown. The message I try to give is that we all should be aware of neighbours and be considerate of the impact our behaviour has on them. Occasional lapses are just part of human nature, persistent lapses only serve to annoy the people we live closest to.

In the last few months, the WVA has, with our County and District Councillors, Hazel



Watson and James Friend, been organising work to **clear our footpaths and pavements through the village**. Some of this work is the responsibility of the respective councils but if you are the owner of land which borders footpaths or roads then it is actually your responsibility to trim hedges and vegetation so that it does not obstruct the path or force pedestrians close to or onto the road.

Some of the roads in the village have stretches which have no pavement, Furlong Road, Balchins Lane and Westcott Street to name but three, and tending to the other side of your hedge is as important as the side which you can see from your house!! If you haven't checked your hedges



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recently, then now is a good time to do it before the warmer weather kick-starts new growth.

We have kept in regular touch with the new owner of the **Village Store**, Sena Satheeswaran, who has been really pleased with the feedback he has been getting from his customers. He has confirmed that the Post Office counter service licence has been applied for and hopefully it will be approved in the next couple of months.



We hope you all have **WESTfest in your diaries**

**for Sunday 18th July.** The WVA will be there with our usual Bottle Tombola stall and Sandra Ede's home-made cakes. Please start putting aside bottles from your wine cellars to donate to our stall which in previous years has been an important source of income for the WVA – and is a fun way of raising money.

Can I also remind you that in May and June we focus on generating **donations to the WVA as our major source of revenue.** £10 per household is what we ask for, but you can and do, in some cases, give more. This money is used entirely to fund projects and activities which benefit the community of Westcott and we encourage as many people as possible to donate.

Setting up a standing order is the quickest and simplest way to do this: Our bank details are as follows:  
Account Name: Westcott Village Association  
Sort Code: 82-11-07  
Account Number: 20072790

In the next magazine article, we will be listing the things your donations have been spent on in the last year in order help you decide whether £10 a year is good value for money!!

In addition to this article in the magazine we do send out regular updates, so, if you are not on the WVA mailing list and you would like to receive these updates, please send your email address to [contact@westcottvillage.com](mailto:contact@westcottvillage.com)

Please also make sure you have the **AGM date in your diaries for 24th June at 7.45pm.** This will be the first time in a long time we will be able to meet in person and we hope you will take the opportunity to come along and raise issues with us.

Until then, you are invited to write to me to share opinions and ask questions of the WVA and we will respond to your enquiry.

With my best regards,

**Tim Way**  
**Chairman, Westcott Village Association**  
[timway.westcott@gmail.com](mailto:timway.westcott@gmail.com)  
[contact@westcottvillage.com](mailto:contact@westcottvillage.com)

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# WESTCOTT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING



To all our loyal volunteers and supporters.



Hopefully by now you all have had at least your first vaccine,  
giving us hope for a better summer.

However due to the ongoing uncertainty we are still not certain  
when the coffee mornings will restart.

Please check the Magazine for updates.  
Stay safe, Jean

*Sad to say the St John's Chapel Cafe is not up  
and running yet, but we will keep you posted  
as soon as we hear otherwise.*





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Dear All,

It is with a great deal of anticipation that I write this and get the opportunity to introduce myself as the Headteacher and successor to Mrs Ratcliff at Surrey Hills All Saints Primary school. It is a time of change and renewal, of spring time and longer days...we seem to be suddenly hurtling headlong towards summer, which is very welcome.

I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to work with the children, staff and wider community as a whole and I know that together, we can build on everything achieved so far through the hard work and efforts of the school family. We can leave the strangest of times behind us, the uniqueness of which we will not forget, but know it will fade.

I am excited at the enthusiasm and the passion of the school community and the parish as a whole and thrilled to read about and see the highlights contained within this newsletter. I have also seen first-hand, the wonderful learning opportunities that the children are engaged in- there is a Bear in the Woods at Abinger!

I look forward establishing myself in the parish community in the coming months and wish you all a peaceful, spiritual and

restorative Easter.

## Year 3 and 4 Titanic Wow Day

The children in years 3 and 4 had a super day celebrating their learning theme in style. They started the day by dressing as a passenger or a member of crew from the RMS Titanic. The children received replica tickets, so had the opportunity to research the person named on their ticket to see if they survived or perished. Our shoe box cabins were a great success, and it was truly amazing to see the effort that had been put into these small works of art.

During the day the children created electronic circuits and using buzzers attempted Morse code, learning the pattern for the distress signal SOS and their own name. The day was crowned at the very end with a first-class tea including cucumber sandwiches on white bread, (crusts off of course) scones with jam and cream and delicious cake. Most of the children went home on a sugar high! But it isn't every day we do this, and it was certainly a lovely way to celebrate our first week back together.



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## SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS (cont.)

### Red Nose Day

On Friday 19th March, we supported Comic Relief by participating in Red Nose Day. The theme this year was 'Share a Smile'. The children brought a joke to school to tell their class. The joke with the most laughs was put forward to the final, where the children voted for their favourite. The class with the favourite joke was awarded house points. As a school we raised a fantastic £70. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the parents/carers for their support.

of the pond in the nature garden to do some pond dipping. The children had great fun looking for life in the water, whilst getting wet and laughing. Unfortunately we were a little too early, so didn't have much luck, but we will try again soon.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Here you can see daily life at Surrey Hills All Saints and can share in the amazing learning opportunities the children experience each day. We wish our local community well and hope everyone is staying safe.

### Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about life cycles in science and took advantage

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**Mr Coles**  
Headteacher



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*Things I love  
about spring - the  
start of longer  
evenings, warmer  
weather, colour in  
the garden, dawn  
and dusk chorus.*

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## LOCKED UP IN LOCKDOWN - A POEM

---

A letter from the gov, said my friend must isolate,  
So then we turned to zoom, and thus communicate.

Her lovely little house became her little cell,  
And each corner of her garden she got to know so well.

The little birds that sing, became her faithful guard,  
And the garden that she loves, became her prison yard.

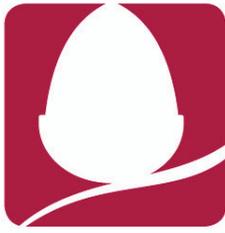
Then to-day she got her letter, to say she's free to go,  
But the world is all in lockdown, so it's really just for show!

We've had our vaccination, but we still can't hug and kiss,  
It's quite a revelation to think of all we've missed!

We hope it won't be long till the world's in better shape,  
then to all the places that we love, we'll finally escape!



Jacki Moss



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# GARDENERS' CLUB

You will have noticed at the end of March, during the hot spell, that the Magnolias began to bloom. There are three popular varieties found in most gardens and these are listed below. Soulangeana is the most common but it has the unfortunate reputation of guaranteeing a frost when it blooms!

## **Magnolia × soulangeana** **saucer magnolia**

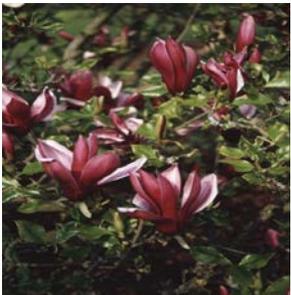


M. × soulangeana is a spreading deciduous tree or large shrub to 6m tall, with obovate leaves to

20cm long, and white, pink or purple, goblet-shaped flowers up to 25cm across in spring

## **Magnolia liliiflora 'Nigra'** **black lily magnolia**

'Nigra' is a spreading medium-sized deciduous shrub with glossy elliptic leaves to 20cm in length. Flowers erect,



narrowly tulip-shaped, with oblong, deep reddish-purple petals 12cm in length, paler within

## **Magnolia stellata 'Water Lily'** **star magnolia 'Water Lily'**



A slow-growing, rounded, medium-sized deciduous shrub with narrowly obovate

leaves. Fully open flowers are pure white with around 20 spreading petals.

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# THE ARTS SOCIETY



In East Surrey, we have fifteen Arts Societies, strung between Horsley in the west and Limpsfield in the east. Locally to Westcott, Horsley, Cobham, Dorking, Betchworth, Bookham, Leatherhead and Reigate all have individual societies.

During the last few months, with a tough lockdown and confining winter weather, we decided we'd get together and share our talks, which were now all on zoom. Most societies have at least one event a month, and some do more, so we advertised all the talks to all our members and suggested they 'go on a visit'!

So from January we've had a treasure trove of fascinating talks on all sorts of different subjects. And not only that, we've virtually visited Venice, Lisbon, York, Birmingham and the London Royal Parks among other places.

We've had talks on 'A Load of Old

Balls in Sport' which was an absolute hoot. If you ever wondered "why are marbles glass? Why did the discovery of gutta percha transform golf?" or "Why did some billiard balls explode, and why are rugby balls such an odd shape?", you would have found out in March.

Did you know that The Old Vic Company was the organisation that started not only Sadlers Wells and the Royal Ballet, but also The Royal Opera. Sarah Lenton, our speaker was talking about Lilian Bayliss and the Old Vic in a talk called "All Done on Ginger Beer". The reason for the title? All the original scenery and sets were built out of ginger beer crates. Who knew?

In February Timothy Walker, past director of Oxford University Botanic Garden talked about The Art in Gardens, how botanical gardens are often described as living museums, and they are thought of as a place where science and art meet on equal terms. The Dorking Arts Society put on a really interesting talk on the History of Wine, which had us reaching for the bottle, and in July, the East Surrey Area will be doing a virtual wine tasting alongside a similar talk, and you can all join in. Just check the website <https://theartssocietyeastsurreyarea.org.uk>.



And we've discovered virtual visits.



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## THE ARTS SOCIETY



We've had blue badge guides as our speakers, putting onto slides and videos the tours they normally do with their groups. But we also went to Venice in real time with Luisella Romeo on a live tour of the Dorsoduro. We saw the Salute Church, the great Gesuati dome, among other famous sights, and we passed by the oldest gondola yard on our way to the Accademia Bridge for a final view of the Grand Canal. It was amazing, and we were blessed with sunshine in Venice when it was raining outside as we watched.

If you haven't thought The Arts Society is for you, you may be surprised. Look up your local society and see what's on in the coming months.

Just google The Arts Society and you'll be directed to your nearest society.

**Andrea Gabb**



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To celebrate Easter, we've been creating beautiful egg pictures using a variety of loose parts that we were able to arrange and rearrange as much as we liked! We also all thoroughly enjoyed hunting for eggs in the woods and the nursery garden. We hope you all had a lovely Easter too!

What fun we've had on our cooking days making triple chocolate cookies, Welsh rarebit muffins and genius jellyfish pasta! The jellyfish pasta inspired us to continue with an oceanic theme, so we listened to 'Commotion in the Ocean' and created some super sea creatures out of clay.



World book day gave us an opportunity to dress in all our finery as our favourite characters. We put on a show for each other to explain who we were and what we did within our favourite stories. Another performance took place later in the month when we sung a number of songs to celebrate Mother's Day. This was accompanied by the crafting of some very special cards to show how much we appreciate and love them.



Another theme we have been exploring is being healthy. We made paper plate collages out of healthy and unhealthy food and have talked all about the foods we like the most. We've also been keeping fit with our weekly sporty session with 'Kids at Sport' and have recently enjoyed practicing balancing quoits on our heads. Quite a tricky skill!



If you have a child looking to start Nursery in the Summer Term or in September please don't hesitate to get in touch. Please call 07842 978823 or email [abingercommonnursery@gmail.com](mailto:abingercommonnursery@gmail.com) We can't wait to show you around!

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# WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP

## The Old Westcott Forge

The old Westcott Forge probably started business as a blacksmith in 1763 on the north side of the A25 Guildford Road opposite where Holy Trinity Church was to be built in 1852. It is thought to have begun with Thomas Ryde who was the blacksmith in Westcott at that time. It continued in the Ryde family until the business and premises were sold in 1965 to the Shell Petrol Company.



Ryde's Forge

Five generations of the Ryde family lived at the Westcott Forge during this time. Thomas and Sarah Ryde, the first blacksmith, got married in Mickleham in 1787 and their son, Henry Ryde, was born in Mickleham in 1787 so they may originate from a family living in Mickleham at that time. Thomas Ryde rented the premises of the forge from the Rookery Estate, which covered all the western half of Westcott village, and was owned by Daniel Malthus who subsequently sold it to Richard Fuller's family in 1768.

After Thomas died in about 1825 his son Henry (1793-1868) developed the premises with two forges into a thriving business, as Westcott was the hub of local agricultural activity and there were many horses to be serviced. He married Maria Brockwell at Shere in 1820 and they had 7 children between 1820 and 1836.

Edwin (1836-1902), the youngest, joined the business in 1864 and married Emma Fairbrother from Holmwood in 1858. They had 14 children over 25 years between 1859 and 1884, 9 girls and 5 boys. The premises were still being rented from the Rookery Estate but this was dismantled and sold in lots in 1894 – an event which caused many changes in Westcott.

Edwin bought the forge premises with a mortgage. At this point all but 5 children had been educated and apprenticed or trained in jobs, Arthur (1870), the 7th, had joined the forge. He was trained by his older brother John (1960) who had worked as a blacksmith on the Evelyn Estate



Ryde's Forge & Garage with Fire Brigade float



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at Wotton. The youngest brother Philip (1864) also worked at the forge but was later apprenticed in the bicycle trade. Edwin's wife Emma, was recorded in the 1871 census as a laundress and the large well equipped wash house at the forge may have enabled her to supplement their income at times beside washing 14 children's clothes.



Ryde's Garage

In about 1893 Emma Mabel Missing came to the village as a teacher in the school and lodged with Miss Russell at The Barracks in Westcott Street. Her father was a prosperous yeoman farmer in Egerton in Kent. Emma Missing was a good teacher and became well respected in the village. Arthur Ryde asked her to marry him, much to her father's dismay. They eventually moved into the cottage behind Hill Farm House known as the Orchard, which is now called Hill Farm in Logmore Lane.

Emma was very industrious and taught her daughters needlework and dress making, and later on the piano with

the help of Miss Ludlow who was the daughter of the coachman at Westcott House, occupied at that time by the Wills family. At age 14 her daughter used to accompany her father, Arthur, a good baritone, at the piano at village concerts. She later became the organist at Holy Trinity Church.

When Edwin died in 1902 Grandma Emma continued to live at the Forge and ran the business employing Arthur and Philip but later moved to Homefield in Wotton. When Arthur took over the Forge in 1906 he had to borrow to finance the stock-in-trade and implements and was not free of debt until 1928. He made a lot of alterations to update the Forge as a home. Water was collected in two water butts from the roof or fetched from the village pump on the Green. Mains drainage was installed in 1914 but they continued to use oil lamps until electricity came to the village in 1923. Arthur Ryde and Emma Missing had 6 children who were very bright and won scholarships to Reigate Grammar School – they walked the 2 miles to Dorking Station daily to get the train to Reigate.

When WW1 started, Philip enlisted in the army in 1915 but Arthur continued to run the business and his wife learned how to service bicycles and do other work around the forge. Local demand for shoeing horses

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## WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP (cont.)



declined but there were sidelines in making iron work and supplying lamp oil and contracts for horse shoes for the army. The business acquired a Model T Ford which was used as a taxi, although Arthur did not drive. When Philip returned from the army in 1919 the transfer from forge to garage began as Philip had ridden and serviced motor bikes in the army and worked as a motor mechanic in the business.



Ryde's Garage

In 1920 there were alterations to accommodate a garage for 3 cars on the premises. In those days there were no restrictions on altering the purpose of the buildings. Fred Davey, the ex coachman for the Evelyns came to work as a mechanic and they started car maintenance and could undertake welding jobs.

Trade in the forge and blacksmith declined and in 1929 they were demolished and a front garage with two pumps was installed. Brother

Philip died in 1932 aged 48 having suffered malaria in the army. In 1936 Grandpa Missing died in Egerton, Kent, leaving Emma his daughter a large legacy. This was put to building a new house called Egerton in The Hildens. Arthur was 67 and they continued to live at the forge for a few more years while renting out the new house during the war years until they moved in 1946.



Shell Garage

Arthur died in 1951 and Emma, his wife, survived until 1959. Their son Arthur John sold the business and premises to the Shell Petrol Company in 1965 and it was replaced with a modern motor service station. Arthur John and wife Nellie had a new house built at 13 Heath Rise near the Cricketers Inn. The Shell Petrol Station closed in 1995 and a new house was built on the site and called "Rydes".

**Roger Christian**

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# DORKING MUSEUM



May is a month for celebrating the coming of summer, warmer

weather, blossoming flowers and trees – and, at the time of writing, the country cautiously emerging blinking into the sunlight as lockdown restrictions ease. If all goes to plan, the month should see the opening of our museums and Dorking Museum is excited at the prospect of once again being able to play its role in the vital cultural life of our local community and our visitors.

Appropriately, May is the annual Local and Community History Month, which aims to increase awareness of local history, promote history in general to the local community and encourage all members of the community to participate.

**Planned Re-opening, May 20th:** After an extensive covid-19 assessment and implementation of special measures, the Museum plans to re-open its main exhibition gallery on May 20th, subject to review of the ongoing restrictions. Great care has been taken to ensure that it can open safely whilst continuing to offer an appropriate visitor experience. This does mean that normal covid procedures should be observed, the number of visitors admitted at any one time will be

restricted and there will be no access to interactive elements of some of the displays. The normal adult admission charges will apply, but children will be admitted free.

**Forster@50:** The first special exhibition on re-opening will be 'Forster@50', planned for last summer but delayed by lockdown. Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of the novelist E M Forster, it is mounted in collaboration with two academics from Nottingham Trent University.

Novelist, critic and essayist Forster is best remembered for his novels, including *Howard's End*, *A Room with a View* and *A Passage to India*. During his lifetime, his work was highly regarded, and he was repeatedly nominated for the Nobel Prize. His work remains popular and all six of his novels have been adapted for film or television.

Forster knew the Dorking area from a young age, when he regularly visited his aunt in Abinger Hammer. Observation of her Surrey neighbours provided material for his novels and nearby Holmbury St Mary the setting for *A Room with a View*. After his



EM Forster at West Hackhurst as a boy (image courtesy of Kings College, Cambridge)



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## DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)



Forster, Vaughan Williams and band master during preparations for a pageant

aunt's death, Forster inherited her home, West Hackhurst, and lived there with his mother from 1924 to 1946.

Forster played an active part in village life,

and his local friends influenced his political and environmental activism. These included the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, with whom he wrote two 'pageants' in response to threats to his community, combining music, drama and spectacle with a large cast. The two came together again in 1938 to set up the Dorking and District Refugee Committee in response to the suffering experienced by those fleeing the Nazi regime in Germany. Their lead is still followed today by the Dorking Refugee Support Group.

Visit the Museum's website <https://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/forster50/> to see a short film put together by the Museum team to accompany the exhibition, or to buy the innovative and creative short book, 'Forster in 50', by one of the exhibition's co-curators, Heather Green, imaginatively illustrated by JC Green (The Cockerel Press, £4).

**Walking in Dorking:** The Museum's popular programme of guided

walks will also recommence in May, starting with The Deepdene Trail, including unique access to the Hope Mausoleum, Saturday 22nd May, 2pm. Under present conditions, numbers are limited, masks must be worn and social distancing observed. Please see the website for details and booking, for dates of other scheduled walks and for group bookings ([dorkingmuseum.org/guided-walks-around-dorking/](http://dorkingmuseum.org/guided-walks-around-dorking/)).

### The Mayflower – what happened next?

Last year, the Museum collaborated with the



national Mayflower 400 project to make a short film about William Mullins, 17th century Dorking and the Mayflower voyage: see the 'Virtual Voyages' section of the website [www.mayflower400uk.org](http://www.mayflower400uk.org) With William Mullins dying soon after arrival, the story of his young daughter, Priscilla, and her life in the New World is now told in a short film by the Alden Kindred of America, 'John and Priscilla Alden, an American Story': see the Alden House website ([www.alden.org](http://www.alden.org)).

The Museum is at 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. After re-opening, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am-4pm. Visit [www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk). Enquiries to [admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk) or phone 01306 876591.

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# THE GREAT BACK GARDEN OF WESTCOTT

Spring is here and how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful location. Situated in the Surrey Hills there are lots of places to walk and many wonderful things to see in our shared 'back garden'. For those who like to learn about certain things that are growing out on and near our pathways the latest things to pop up and search for are purple dog violets and wild garlic:



## Wild Garlic (*Allium ursinum*)

Wild Garlic is native to Britain and is also known as Ramsons, bear's garlic, buckrams, wild garlic, broad-leaved garlic, wood garlic, bear leek, gipsy onion, hog's garlic, ramsomes and is closely related to herbs like onion (*Allium cepa*), garlic (*Allium sativum*) leek (*Allium ampeloprasum*), and chive (*Allium schoenoprasum*). Its botanical name, *Allium ursinum*, is derived from the Latin *ursus*, meaning bear. It was named bear's garlic



because it is a true spring treat for bears that have just woken up from their winter slumber. The plant is native to damp shaded woods in Europe and northern Asia. It can grow to heights of between 45 and 50 cm and is easily identified thanks to its long and pointed oval and smooth leaves. Leaves appear in March and the flowers tend to emerge from April to June. Wild garlic plants typically have 2 or 3 leaves, but older, well-established plants may have more.

Both flowers and leaves are edible, can be eaten raw or cooked and can add a potent garlic punch to pasta, tarts, salads, sandwiches or soups.

## Recipe for Wild Garlic Pesto

(courtesy of [countryfile.com](http://countryfile.com))

### INGREDIENTS

Wild garlic leaves: 150/200g, washed  
Parmesan: 50g or a good handful, grated  
Garlic clove: 1, diced or finely chopped  
Lemon juice: 1  
Pine nuts or walnuts: 50g, toasted and finely chopped  
Extra virgin olive oil: 100ml  
Coarse sea salt: pinch  
Pepper: pinch

### METHOD

Wash the wild garlic leaves carefully to remove any soil or dirt. Dry and roughly chop or tear the leaves. Using a food

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# THE GREAT BACK GARDEN OF WESTCOTT

processor, blitz the wild garlic, garlic clove, cheese and pine nuts while slowly adding the olive oil and lemon juice until it become a smooth paste. Taste and add the salt and pepper to season. You may wish to add a little more lemon or olive oil.

The pesto can be used straightaway



or stored in a sealed glass jar or plastic box and kept in the fridge for up to two weeks.

Another handy way to store wild garlic pesto is to freeze in an ice cube tray and each cube can be added to dishes.

## Health Benefits

(according to [Healthbenefitstimes.com](http://Healthbenefitstimes.com))  
Medicinally speaking, there are several remarkable uses for wild garlic, including in the treatment of high blood pressure/cholesterol, stomach upsets, and chronic disease such as heart disease or arthritis. This particular garlic can be used internally or topically as an herbal supplement or added to poultices and other home remedies. It has long been understood that wild garlic protects from colds and flu and helps in the treatment of bronchitis and asthma, because it clears the airways, relieves breathing and decreases

coughing. For anyone who suffers from problematic skin it is also know to help the inflammatory processes on the skin, skin irritation, eczema and dermatitis and is additionally proficient for purifying the body from poisons, e.g. cleaning the liver, kidneys, etc.

## Other Interesting Facts

- Ramsons leaves are also used as fodder. Cows that have fed on ramsons give milk that tastes slightly of garlic, and butter made from this milk used to be very popular in 19th century Switzerland.
- Juice of the plant is used as a moth repellent.
- Whole plant is said to repel insects and moles.
- Juice of the plant has been used as a general household disinfectant.

## Precautions

- There have been cases of poisoning caused by the consumption in very large quantities and by some mammals. Dogs seem to be particularly susceptible.
- Avoid use during pregnancy and breast feeding.
- Wild Garlic leaves can be confused with *Convallaria majalis*, *Arum maculatum* and *Crocus autumnalis* all poisonous plants, with potential deadly consequences.

**Jo Smewing  
Westcott Gardening Club**



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## **Celebrating 6 new villages for our Birthday Year!**

Kids for Kids is celebrating the incredible news that we are adopting 6 new villages in North Darfur, Sudan in our 20th Year.

Gawhir, Hillat Anass, Hillat Hashab, Maagila, Tartoura Birket Jaro and Taitel will be part of the Kids for Kids family in which our sustainable projects will change the lives of over 1100 families and 3700 children – giving hope for the future in these most desperate of times.

Whilst we aim to adopt new villages every year, the uncertainty due to Covid-19 as well as crippling inflation in Sudan which is now over 350%, the prospect of offering support and then falling short meant that we were facing this year being the first in our 20-year history of not providing help to villages in need.

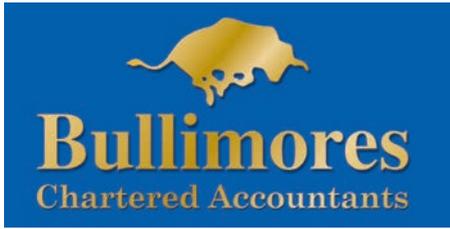
Amongst the villages chosen, the circumstances vary with 3 of the villages' nearest water supplies being 12km away, meaning a daily 24 km round trip for children and women to collect enough water for family and livestock alike, a trek that will take many hours in the blistering heat of the Sudanese sun. Whilst some villages may have access to water none has access to any healthcare

for humans or their animals. Few have any education at all for younger children, and older children frequently walk 10 miles to reach a rudimentary schools. These are struggles the people of Darfur go through that we take for granted every day!



However, this is about to change with Kids for Kids working with the six new communities themselves to implement our range of sustainable projects of which the goat loans are key. A family chosen by their village will receive 5 nanny goats that will provide nutritious milk to feed hungry children and turn their health around.

Excess milk can also be sold to earn an income – giving a family hope for the future. Other projects include installation of water pumps and water carts, training midwives to deliver healthy and happy babies, the training of first aid workers and paravets



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## KIDS FOR KIDS (cont.)



but also building kindergartens to give children an education – a direct route out of a life of poverty.

Kids for Kids' Founder and CEO Patricia Parker says "The most heart-breaking issue is that all the villages chosen have suffered the death of at least one child in the past year, mainly due to Malaria – this is totally unacceptable in this day and age and providing blankets and mosquito nets to families is one of the first things we do when supporting a village, protecting children from insect-borne diseases."



"The number of requests from villages asking for our help has never been greater and whilst we are aware that we are unable to help everyone it doesn't make the decision any easier – behind each village application are struggling families and hungry children, but for these new villages, we will turn this around and provide opportunities which could only be

achieved because of the generosity of Kids for Kids supporters!"

Over the 20 years of the Charity, Kids for Kids has supported 106 villages and helped over 550,000 people – but there are still hundreds more villages, thousands more children who are in need.



This year Kids for Kids are asking people to take on a Challenge20 to raise funds and have fun!

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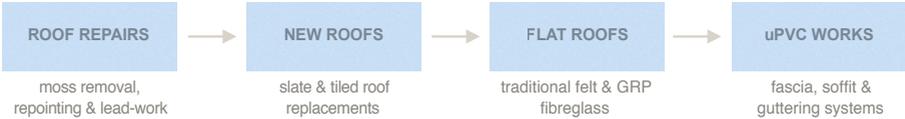


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