

# Westcott Village

Magazine      September 2023



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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.

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**8th September 2023**

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## FROM THE EDITOR

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Summer seems to have gone into hiding as I write this, but at least it's saving time and water on watering all the pots in the garden. Having

invested in an extra water butt for the summer it is a bit ironic that I have only had to use one lot of water from it since I had it, as it has rained ever since! Still, at least they're full if it does ever stop raining.

September always feels like the start of something new, probably more so than January for anyone with children at school - new teachers, new schools, new chapter, (and often the weather improves!) I hope everyone going on to new things this month enjoys them and settles in quickly.

In the village we have the Gardeners' Club Flower Show on the 9th so get your fruit and veg ready as well as your best flowers and get along there to win a prize! On the 17th the garden at Hill Farm on Logmore Lane is open for the National Open Garden Scheme to raise money for charity, with tea and cakes as well as stunning gardens to admire.

There are more

cakes available at the village coffee morning on the 6th, along with a jigsaw and book exchange, so if you've read everything you own over the summer, go and find some new ones and have a natter and a coffee at the same time.

Green Westcott are hosting a free creative art and writing workshop on the 23rd to create items that will feature in the *Passion for the Planet* theatre project (see page 59 for more details) so book your place now as space is limited. If you love singing rather than art and writing, all the local choral societies are beginning a new season this month, so go along to one and have a go. You might meet some new friends as well as pick up a new (or lapsed) hobby for the autumn months.

Good luck to everyone starting something new in the next few weeks, I hope it is all that you wish it to be.

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



# ...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



## BUT WHAT IS IT REALLY LIKE...?

I finally managed to take the children to Dorking leisure centre this summer. I enjoy swimming but find visiting a new pool for the first time a rather stressful experience. Which way do I enter the changing rooms? Are there separate men's and women's changing spaces or one area with individual cubicles? What change or tokens do I need to use the lockers? At what point am I meant to take off my shoes? Will I be able to navigate the inevitable maze from the changing area to the pool itself – a problem exacerbated by the fact I need to leave my glasses in the locker and cannot see a thing without them?



There are many good reasons people have for not wanting to go to church, but often I find when talking to people that they have never ventured to a service for the same reason I put off going to a new swimming pool – they have no idea what to expect and (more importantly) what the expectations of them might be.

**"I FIND WHEN TALKING TO PEOPLE THAT THEY HAVE NEVER VENTURED TO A SERVICE FOR THE SAME REASON I PUT OFF GOING TO A NEW SWIMMING POOL – THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO EXPECT..."**

I asked two people in Westcott who have been along to our church for the first time this year to share what they expected it to be like, and what coming along was actually like. Jon came along on a Sunday with his family for the first time last year:

*'Although I've always enjoyed the architecture and aesthetics of churches, I still expect a feeling of stuffiness, an older generation in their Sunday best, a feeling that I don't belong... This is of course, "contempt prior to investigation", and as usual, I was completely wrong!*

*The first thing that took me back when walking through the doors of Holy Trinity was that I knew almost everyone in there! So many friendly faces of all ages, my daughter who was 1 at the time felt at home with*

## ...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

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*the other children she'd met at Cookie Clubs. My wife and I chatted with some friends we hadn't seen for a while and we both felt entirely at ease, part of the community. Although my preconceptions of formality had been shown to be wrong, I was still worried about "all the singing and prayers", as a spiritual person I was happy to go with the flow and was made to feel part of the congregation despite, at times, not knowing what was going on! We've been back since, and most recently I went to the monthly evening worship and thoroughly enjoyed the calm and mindfulness that comes with connecting with the church.'*

Peter also started coming along to Holy Trinity last year:

**"ALTHOUGH I'VE ALWAYS ENJOYED THE ARCHITECTURE AND AESTHETICS OF CHURCHES, I STILL EXPECT A FEELING OF STUFFINESS [...] I WAS COMPLETELY WRONG!"**

*'The welcome was more than I expected, the friendship has grown over time, the place in the community has evolved and I have a feeling of finally belonging. The different services suit the mood; a more reflective early morning worship and the vibrant family-oriented mid-morning service. A growing realisation of just how much the Church is embedded in, and important to, the health and vibrancy of the village community, and the contribution it makes to village life. The work in the community (and in the wider world) that goes on quietly, without fanfare, trying and succeeding to make a difference wherever possible.'*

So, if you have never ventured to a Sunday service with us and are intrigued about spirituality, you are very warmly invited to pay us a visit.

Revd Tim Armstrong





# SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY



**8.30am** Book of Common Prayer Communion, A warm welcome in our beautiful, traditional service.

**10.15am** Friendly, relaxed service, using Common Worship and a range of music styles. This service is also livestreamed on Zoom.



**For 10:15am Zoom service connection**, please scan this QR code, or visit the Online Services page of [thechurchinwestcott.org.uk](http://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk) and follow the link.

*The church is open every day, 9am-4pm for private prayer & reflection*

DATE	THEME	8:30AM	10:15AM
3rd Sep	Spiritual Formation: An introduction	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship
10th Sep	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we read the Bible	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
17th Sep	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we pray	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
24th Sep	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we Sabbath	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion



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# MIDWEEK PRAYER & WORSHIP

Wednesdays	10am	Communion at St John's
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## WORSHIP NIGHTS 2023

REFLECTION & LITURGY

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP



Evenings of reflective worship, based upon traditional evening prayer, or contemporary worship music  
First Thursday of the Month, 7:30 - 8:30pm  
See our website or facebook page for details

## MEET YOUR VICAR

**September 13th, 20th, 27th, 8-9pm**  
**Prince of Wales Pub**

Rev Tim will be having a pint in the Prince of Wales from 8-9pm on three Wednesdays in September. If you have yet to have the chance to have a chat, or want to talk to him about weddings, funerals, football, the meaning of life, or just about anything else then drop in and say hello.



# THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



## Service of Remembering

Sunday 29th October, 6:00pm, Holy Trinity



*An opportunity to remember those you love but see no longer,  
whether the loss is recent or long ago.*

## Join a Life Group

*Small groups of people who meet online or in person  
every 2 weeks to chat and pray about life & faith.*

Life groups:

- explore ways we can bring God's love, justice and joy into our relationships with other people and creation, into our leisure and into our work
- give you an opportunity to explore the Bible and consider what it says
- use worship, simple contemplation and prayer to help us encounter God

Contact Tim Armstrong, Vicar, [vicar@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:vicar@holyltrinitywestcott.org.uk) for more information

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS SHARING LIFE





# THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

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The Church in Westcott is 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**.  
**Holy Trinity Pastoral Assistants:**

Mark Shakespeare 01306 888010     Ali Mabley 01306 889641

For help, or more information, please contact

Tim Armstrong, Vicar: vicar@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk

or visit [thechurchinwestcott.org.uk](http://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk)



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## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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### Death:

16th January 1976	William Keasley (82)
10th October 1989	Mary Williams (75)
5th January 1997	Hilda Williams (93)
16th December 1997	Bill Williams (89)




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## FLOODLIGHTING

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The church floodlighting for September has been sponsored by Laraine Jewell in loving memory of Michael Player and his grandson, James Watkinson.

If you'd like to sponsor the floodlighting too, please contact [admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk). The lights are powered by 100% renewable electricity. (Suggested donation of £75 to Westcott Church Funds.)



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As I write this summer seems to have disappeared but hopefully by the time you read this in September some warm sunny weather will have reappeared.

We had a small but meaningful win recently thanks to persevering with Surrey Highways, with the vehicle speed activated 30mph sign on A25 near the Church working again for the first time in many months if not years. Hopefully this will help slow vehicles as they come in to the village from the west. We are still looking for volunteers to help with Speedwatch and if you're



able to give up an hour every now and then we would love to hear from you.

We continue to do our best to stay abreast of the planning appeal for the proposed housing development at Sondes Place Farm and other planning applications made within the village itself. We're always happy to offer some friendly advice if you're considering submitting an application or want to bring a specific application to our attention.

Following the recent AGM we have been asked to also reinstate Zoom to future Open Meetings to enable people to take part virtually if they are

unable to come and join us in person. We are very happy to do this and will dust off our zoom account details and make sure this facility is available in the future.

Our congratulations to the Green Westcott Community Garden who recently celebrated their 6 month anniversary and have done great job creating a productive, fruitful garden at the same time as bringing the community together.



Community garden compost bins

As always, please do get in touch more generally with any issues or queries about village life and we will do our best to help or signpost you to those who can.

## **WVA Committee**

**Paul Goddard, Edwin Harland, James Leaver, Sally Hewetson, Jon Mears, Nick Lund and Jo Astor**  
**[contact@westcottvillage.com](mailto:contact@westcottvillage.com)**



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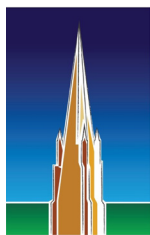
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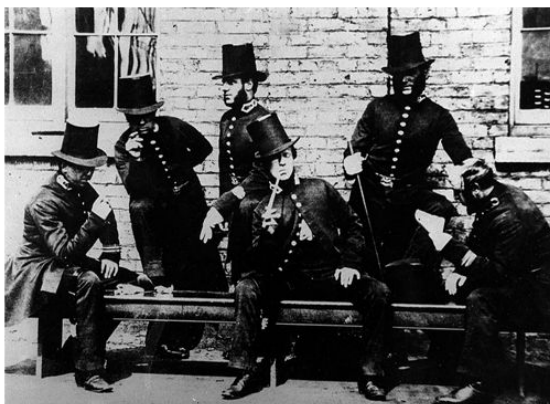


# DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

## Dorking Local History Group

The DLHG continues its popular programme of both live and Zoom talks on a fascinating range of topics. These are free to members, but non-members are welcome. Upcoming dates include:

- **“A Policeman’s Lot” – A “Theatrical Experience” by the Gilks:** An amusing look at policing throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Monday 4th September at Crossways Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking RH4 3HB, 7.15 for 7.30pm, £2 at the door for non-members.



- **Surrey and the 1833 Emancipation Act:** A Zoom talk by Sean Canty. The Slavery Abolition Act was a hugely important piece of legislation, despite its limitations and flaws. And it affected Surrey as well as the West Indies. Monday 18th September: <https://www.meet-up.com/Surrey-History-Meetup/>.

For further details of talks and other activities – or to join DLHG – go to <https://dlhg.org.uk>.



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Alongside the Dorking Local History Group, Cave Tours and Dorking Museum, with its legacy from being Dorking & District Preservation Society, the Dorking Society also supports the communities of our town and its surrounding villages, like Westcott, to be here for the generations to come.

Small working groups have been created with specific aims, including infrastructure development and improvement, conservation area management, and appropriate brownfield regeneration. You can join the Dorking Society and find out more about the work of the Community

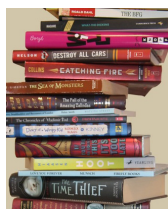
Team through [www.dorkingsociety.org.uk](http://www.dorkingsociety.org.uk)

If you are interested in contributing to one or more of the working groups then please email [ct@dorkingsociety.org.uk](mailto:ct@dorkingsociety.org.uk) – the team are also actively looking for help in social media to raise the profile of their work.

In the autumn, they will be out and about in the town to collect ideas from local residents as to which projects would best enhance the area. If you see them, please say hello!

**James Friend**

## WESTCOTT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING



*Wednesday 6th September  
at  
The Village Hall*

*10.30 - 12.00 midday*

*Jigsaw and Book exchange  
Sandra's delicious cakes*

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# Westcott Village Hall

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## BABY MEALS



In June the cooks were in action providing meals for Becky and Charlie Auton, when baby Eliya arrived. Becky sent us this lovely message of thanks:

“Thank you everyone for your delicious meals. It's given us some extra ideas for our meal rotations. The puddings were an added surprise! It's made the first couple of weeks in parenthood a lot easier not having to worry about cooking an evening meal. We are incredibly grateful for your time cooking and delivering to us. Thanks, Becky and Charlie (and baby Eliya)”

Charlie looking very chuffed with his new arrival!

If you know of anyone expecting a baby in Westcott please encourage them to get in touch - we are very proud of our long running “baby meals” service in Westcott and only too pleased to be asked to help!

**Anna Kemkers**  
**07710425487**



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## KESTREL PHOTOS

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These fledgling kestrels were pictured by Fiona Humphrey in Westcott. Let's hope they have an uneventful journey to adulthood.



### Brockham Choral



Our Autumn Season starts on September 5th September at St John's CofE Primary School, Dorking, RH4 2LR. Come and join us at Brockham Choral as we prepare Bach's *Magnificat* and Alec Roth's *A Time to Dance* for a concert at St. Martin's Church, Dorking on December 2nd with the British Sinfonietta, conducted by Cole Bendall.

You will be very warmly welcomed by this friendly choir with NO audition required, just a love of singing.

Please visit our website for more information [www.brockhamchoral.org](http://www.brockhamchoral.org)

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**MID SURREY**  
COMMUNITY FRIDGES

The Mid Surrey Community Fridge van now visits Westcott  
**every Tuesday opening at 2:45pm**

It stays in the village for up to half an hour from opening at  
**St John's Chapel in Chapel Lane**

Many come early to queue and chat –  
it's a good catch up!

Please come along and stop this food going to landfill

If you can make a small donation, it would be appreciated  
Mid Surrey Community Fridge  
relies upon these donations  
(£2.50 is suggested)

Bring your shopping bags,  
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## Red Kite

Many of us will have noticed large birds cruising the skies above that we don't recall seeing in the past. Conspicuous and slow-flying, the bird twists its forked tail and long, narrow wings continually as it makes the most of the air currents. The flexibility and tail shape distinguish the red kite from the buzzard, which has blunt wings and tail, the buzzard looking much squarer and somehow more solid in the sky. Both kites and buzzards are making a comeback in South East England after centuries of absence.



Kites were common until the 17th century and then declined until only a few remained in a couple of remote valleys in Wales. During the last century, conservation efforts in Wales succeeded so well that in 1989 red kites were reintroduced to several areas including the Chilterns. These bred from 1991 and have prospered and spread across the region. They are long-lived birds – one recently died of injuries in Oxfordshire, having been ringed 29 years earlier as part of the reintroduction study.

Red kites are known as scavengers, especially of carrion. In the Middle Ages they were the equivalent of street cleaners in London and other big cities. Nowadays, road kill forms a major part of their diet. However, they are also excellent predators. When hunting live prey, they strike from a high soaring position, making a rapid feet first plunge to take the prey by surprise. They catch and eat small mammals and sometimes birds by this method.

If you want to learn more about birds and wildlife locally, get in touch with Dorking and District RSPB local group via its website <https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/groups/dorkinganddistrict/> or by Facebook (RSPB Dorking).



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## Abinger D&G Choir French Connection Concert

The UK may no longer be part of the EU, but the citizens of Surrey were treated to a little bit of French *joie de vivre* on Saturday 24th June, when the Abinger D&G Choir performed *Fauré's Requiem* and a selection of other Gallic favourites to a packed audience in St James's church, Abinger Common. The choir was conducted by Musical Director, Martin Hall, and supported by professional soprano soloist, Elizabeth Fullylove, and pianist, Ian Ledingham, from the Royal Academy of Music.



Organist and D&G chorister, Karen Borrett, got the evening off to a rousing start with César Franck's *Chorale in A minor*, and the first half continued with Fauré and Debussy solos, a Chausson melody and *Op.56 1 Berceuse* from Fauré's *Dolly Suite*, which was immediately familiar to older audience members as the theme from the BBC Home Service's *Listen with Mother*. The first half concluded with a virtuoso rendition of Claude Debussy's *Clair de Lune*.

The second half was devoted to The D&G Choir performing Gabriel Fauré's perennially popular *Requiem*, which concluded the evening to enthusiastic applause from an appreciative audience. Elizabeth Fullylove and D&G Choir chairman, Martin Perry, sang the soprano and bass solos, respectively.

If you think you'd like to become a member of one of the Surrey Hills' finest community choirs, please get in touch with Martin Perry on 07778 675118. Any (or no) level of previous experience welcome. Martin would love to hear from you.

**Kevin Freeman**



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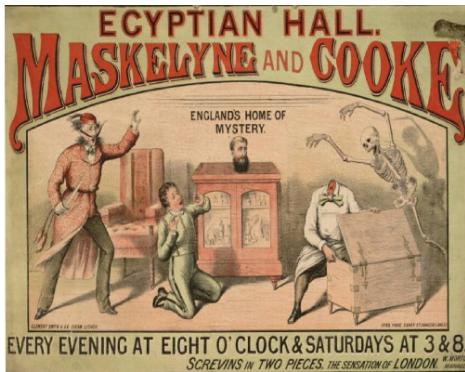


# WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP

## Magicians and the Music Hall

In February 2013 we had a highly entertaining talk on *Magicians & the Music Hall* from Robin Maddy, a member of the Magic Circle. Magic in England started as long ago as 1603 and it began with a trick which is still popular today. This was done with a length of white cord, which had the two ends tied together and then a member of the audience was asked to cut it in 4 places. Abracadabra, he displayed the cord complete.

With his slides of famous personalities and their tricks the story of magicians fairly skipped along. John Maskelyne started in 1873, set up in Egypt Hall, London, and continued successfully for 30 years entertaining the public.



He teamed up with Alfred Cooke who later retired, to be replaced by David Devant and his family. They invented the *Levitation of the Lady* and the *Magic Kettle* out of which poured

whatever you wanted – coffee, sherry, whisky, you name it – one after the other! Next came the *Egg Trick*, where an endless number of real eggs was produced from his top hat and handed to one of his children until they could hold no more; all dropped and broke on the floor. Audiences at that time thought this was hilarious. The *Indian Rope Trick* first appeared in 1890. A Hindu played his pipe and the rope ascended as if by itself; a small boy climbed the rope and disappeared!

Maskelyne died in 1914 and Jasper Devant joined the show. In 1921 the Devants invented *Sawing the Lady in Half*. This trick was taken up by other magicians and was very popular in America. Jasper Devant became a Major in WWII and specialized in camouflage techniques.

Next we heard about Chung Ling Soo whose first big trick was *Firing a Lady from a Cannon into a Box*. He then developed the *Bullet Catching*



*Trick* in which he asked people in the audience to mark three musket balls and load them into three old muskets. He stood across the stage holding a

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## WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP (cont.)



china plate against his chest – the muskets were fired; smoke, flame and noise – and he would spit the marked balls out onto the plate!

Unfortunately this trick did not work properly in 1932 at the Wood Green Empire and the poor chap was shot dead. It transpired that his real name was William Ellsworth Robinson; he just appeared as a Chinaman. In all, 13 magicians have died doing this trick.



Finally came Harry Houdini, real name Eric Weiss, who got his ideas on how

to make money doing tricks from a book by the Frenchman Robert Houdin. He was small, very fit and strong, and amazed everybody by escaping from the most elaborate padlocked chains and handcuffs even from inside a tank full of water. He performed in films and befriended Arthur Conan Doyle with whom he corresponded on magical matters.

After a show in Canada some students punched him very hard in the stomach as a test! A few days later he was appearing in Philadelphia, became very ill and died of peritonitis on 31 October 1926. His wife, Bess, who was with him and the doctors when he died was heard to say "Goodbye Harry and Goodnight".

The Magic Circle was founded by a group of amateurs in 1905 at Pinoli's Restaurant in Wardour St, London and now has a headquarters in Euston where members meet to exchange ideas and experiences. King Charles III qualified as a member in 1975 when he was Prince of Wales.

The WLHG Committee are always looking for a new story or another Speaker and encourage the dear readers to suggest one or another.

**Roger Christian**

# Westcott 100 Club

September brings us to our 32nd quarterly draw, where the members are in with a chance of winning the two prizes (estimated to be £127.50 and £63.75).

Since our first draw in December 2015, we have awarded over £7,000 in prizes and donated over £10,000 in grants to good causes in the village.

Our grant fund of around £5,000 stands ready and waiting for the next round of applications. It's open to any Westcott club, society or individual – just give us a shout and we'll be happy to have a discussion with you.

For more information on joining the scheme or for the process for applying for funds from the scheme, please email us at [westcott.100.club@gmail.com](mailto:westcott.100.club@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

*Alda Andreotti (Chair),  
Edwin Harland (Treasurer),  
Richard Packer (Secretary)*

The Westcott 100 Club is a Small Society Lottery registered with Mole Valley DC no. 48965.



## MUSIC IN DORKING



7th at 7.30, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £19, 01306 881717

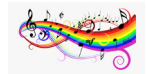
20th at 7.15, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £19, 01306 881717

There are no live concerts this month, however there are two opera screenings at the Dorking Halls. First is a performance from the Bregenz Festival in Austria of Puccini's *Madam Butterfly*. Presented on a stage on Lake Constance, this is the tragic story of a young and beautiful Japanese girl who marries and is then abandoned by an American naval officer. Then comes a live relay from the Royal Opera in London of Wagner's *Das Rheingold*, a story of gods, giants and power, centering on the theft of a hoard of gold from the Rhinemaidens.

There are many exciting concerts to look forward to in the coming season, including a visit in May from Isata and Sheku Kanneh-Mason, two members of the amazing musical family, playing several fine pieces for cello and piano. An unusual concert will be given in October by the brilliant left-handed pianist Nicholas McCarthy, who is the only one-handed pianist ever to graduate from the Royal College of Music. There is a surprising amount of piano music written for the left hand, much of it (of necessity) highly virtuosic. Nicholas is a pianist of quite astonishing ability and this is certainly a concert not to miss. Booking is open now!

### Dorking Choral Society

**Wednesday 6th September, 7.30pm Crossways, Junction Rd, Dorking, RH4 3HB**



Our November concert includes the well-loved Durufle's *Requiem* and works by Rheinberger and Imogen Holst. An ideal way for new members to come back to singing. In the new year, the Leith Hill Festival beckons with performances of Bach's *St Mathew Passion*, and Mozart's *Requiem*. New members welcome - call Lyn 07587 695254 or get in touch through our website.

### Holmbury Choral Society

**Thursday 7th September 8pm Abinger Hammer Village Hall, RH5 6QX**

Enjoy singing and socialising? Come and join us for a new season. The winter term concludes with our Christmas concert with exciting new works by local composers and well-known carols. In the new year will include singing Puccini's *Missa di Gloria* at the Leith Hill Music Festival. New members – you will be most welcome to turn up and come for a 'taster'. No audition but just a love of music and singing. For more information visit our site [www.holmburychoral.org](http://www.holmburychoral.org)



# The Dorking Group of Artists October Exhibition 2023



**Denbies Wine Estate**  
**London Road, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6AA is open:**  
**Friday 13th October, Saturday 14th October 10.00 – 17.00;**  
**Sunday October 15th 10.00 – 16.00**

The Dorking Group of Artists, one of the largest art groups in Surrey, is delighted to welcome you to our next exhibition which will be at Denbies Wine Estate in October in the Denbies Gallery and Suite. Exhibiting members, many professionals among them, will be displaying over 200 pieces of exciting new and original art, all for sale at affordable prices. The paintings should appeal to every taste, featuring different subjects and styles and covering a wide variety of media. There will be large selection of unframed paintings for sale too. Come and buy your early Christmas presents - original art makes a unique and thoughtful gift. Entrance to the exhibition is free and Denbies has a good café and restaurant, runs tours of the vineyard and has an excellent shop. So come and make a day of it! There is plenty of free parking.



The Dorking Group of Artists meets on Tuesday mornings at Beare Green Village Hall from September through to Easter, with outdoor sketching and painting organised throughout the summer. Membership is open to artists of all abilities, from beginner to professional. Annual membership costs just £30 for non-exhibiting members and £35 for exhibiting members.

The activities programme is varied and includes workshops and demonstrations.



Website: [www.dga.org.uk](http://www.dga.org.uk)  
Contact Angela Hall (Chair) Email: [committeedga@gmail.com](mailto:committeedga@gmail.com)  
Membership: [j.andersonwood@gmail.com](mailto:j.andersonwood@gmail.com)

# JOIN US AT

**Westcott Flower Show  
Autumn Exhibition  
Saturday 9th September  
Reading Room, Westcott**



**Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables, Handicrafts, Flower arranging, Home produce, Children's classes**

## **Timetable of Show:**

**8.30am - 11.00am** Receipt and staging of exhibits

**11.15am - 1.30pm** Judging

**2.30pm** Doors open to public

**4.00pm** Prize Giving and Raffle

**Entry Forms must be returned by 1pm on the Thursday before the show and placed in the box at Nisalocal, Guildford Road, Westcott.**

**No late entries will be accepted.**

**Entry Fees**

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I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for the positivity and support you have provided this academic year. Your input and energies have proven to be fundamental to your children's progress and development. This sentiment extends to your children themselves and all the staff in our really great school. As we say goodbye to a few pupils and to Mrs Kong I want to thank everybody who is moving on to next steps. The very best of our thoughts and prayers are with them as they embark on another phase in life.

Mrs Kong has proved to be a tour de force at Surrey Hills for over 20 years in differing capacities and her influence, depth of knowledge and abilities have all contributed to the lives of many hundreds of pupils. Thank you Nicki for all you have given, you are a star.

I am extraordinarily proud of our year 6 children who have achieved so much this year - from fantastic SATs results, to amazing end of year performances, sports competitions and a hundred other activities and events that showcased all the very best aspects of their amazing characters. They have made lifelong friendships that I'm sure will endure beyond their time here at Surrey Hills All Saints.

I would also like to say a huge well

done to all of our fantastic children across our school for all the effort and energy and enthusiasm they have shown, it is a genuine privilege to know every single one of them. I am incredibly proud of their attitude - coming to school full of life and enthusiasm, ready to embrace the day every time they walk through the gate.

I would like to finally say a huge thank you to F@SH for all their tremendous support. We are incredibly lucky to have you.

## Bees Class



Bees were busy making porridge for the 3 bears' breakfast.

I wonder which bowl is the tastiest?

## Butterflies Class

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## SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS SCHOOL (cont.)

dinosaurs and fossils and we were very lucky to have a visit from Freya's dad and his collection of fossils. We impressed him with our level of knowledge, and it was so interesting to see actual fossils, especially the giant tooth from a woolly mammoth! Thank you Mr Banyard for coming in and inspiring us all to go fossil hunting!

### Hedgehogs Class

The children in Hedgehogs enjoyed their Geography topic on Volcanoes. They gained new knowledge and understanding about how they are formed, the layers of the earth and about tectonic plates. As well as this, they've been enjoying the art topic on pre-historical drawings and paintings. The children also wrote some beautiful poems about colour, describing it in different ways.



### Squirrels Class



Squirrels had a busy end to the year! The children challenged themselves by creating their own weather forecast in

French using their great acting skills and some interesting, handmade props.

Year 4 Squirrels have also been busy cooking. First, they had a very important job of trying various shop bought biscuits to inspire their ideas. They had to test out a basic biscuit recipe and then decide as a group what ingredients they wanted to add into the recipe within a set budget. A great amount of detail went into designing their group logo, their biscuit name and their packaging. Squirrels were very excited to have Mr Coles come and judge the final bake off. The Year 5's even had the fun job of judging the taste of each biscuit to decide the winner!

### Year 4,5 & 6 Ranmore Walk

Year 4, 5 and 6 walked from school to the top of Ranmore looking at



the land use in the surrounding area. We had a picnic at the top as well as some welcome ice pops provided by FASH! The verges along the carriage road were in full bloom with broad-leaved sweet peas stealing the show as well as Bee Orchids and a rich diversity of downland plants.

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# SURREY HILLS ALL SAINTS SCHOOL (cont.)

## Pixham Athletics

What an evening! Mrs Phillips and Mrs Kong were so proud of the 24 children from years 5 and 6 who took part in Pixham Athletics on 10th July (Dorking schools' track and field competition). Team spirit was high and the children cheered loudly whatever the outcome. Each and every competitor competed to their very best and we were extremely proud of them all.



Amazingly, three trophies were won: We retained the 'Throwing Shield', well done to Evie P, Dexter, Aidan P and Amelia-Rose. We again won the Small Schools' Shield (incredible result for all involved) and we were joint winners, with St Pauls, of the Girls' Track Events. A highlight of the evening was the exceptional girls' year 6 relay squad who, with flawless baton changes, incredible speed and determination, finished first.

We also finished 3rd overall – an amazing result with several much larger schools. With many successes enjoyed, and resilience and perseverance shown, Surrey Hills

were awesome! Thank you to all the parents who came along to support. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

We look forward to welcoming you all into school in the Autumn Term, working together to support your children to fulfil their potential next year.



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We will have an Open Day on 1st November and we look forward to welcoming all prospective parents who have children that are looking for a school placement in Reception and Yr3 in 2024 to please come and see first hand all the fantastic opportunities your child would experience as a pupil at Surrey Hills All Saints.

May you walk in faith and light.

**Simon Coles  
Headteacher**

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## DORKING MUSEUM

After a lengthy and frustrating period of closure, the necessary repair work to the roof of the Museum building should be completed and the interior display area will be being restored ready for re-opening. At the time of writing, it is planned that the Museum will open its doors again during October.

**Blue plaques:** Dorking Museum and the Dorking Society have a blue plaque programme marking places of historic significance in the town and surrounding area. In August, one was unveiled in Tutts Close to mark the site of the workshop of the groundbreaking Rob Walker Racing team, which competed in Formula One from 1953 to 1970.

On September 17th, at the Waitrose site, another will commemorate the celebrated aeronautical engineer



Beatrice Shilling, whose technical innovation improved the performance and safety of our fighting aircraft and made a significant contribution to success in the Second World War.

**Talk:** Tuesday, 5th September, 5pm-6.30pm. Charles Taylor will be visiting Dorking from the US. He has been researching his ancestry and traced it back to Dorking, from where his ancestor, Samuel Taylor, crossed to the colony in the late 17th century, a generation after William Mullins. He will talk about his family history in Dorking and how Samuel and his descendants fared on the opposite side of the Atlantic. The talk will take place at Dorking Library (see website for details and booking).

**Heritage Open Days:** As a special free event for Heritage Open Days, the Museum team will open the Grade 2\* listed Hope family Mausoleum at the heart of the Deepdene Trail between noon and 4pm on Sunday 10th September, with a brief talk on its history and the Hope family on the hour. There will also be free guided walks of Betchworth Castle (Sunday 10th September, 2.30pm) and Dorking Historic Pubs (Saturday 16th September, 6pm). See the HOD website for details and booking ([heritageopendays.org.uk](http://heritageopendays.org.uk)).

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## DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

**Family Activities:** The Walking in Dorking team offer another Family Treasure Hunt for young history detectives – with a prize for all children: start at 2pm from the Museum on Sunday 24th September (only £4 per family).

The Museum continues free monthly family activities at Dorking Library on Saturday 2nd September, 10am-noon. With the Heritage Open Days 2023 theme of Creatively Unwrapped, we will look at local musician Ralph Vaughan Williams and have a go at making our own musical instruments. Aimed at 4–11-year-olds, materials are provided, and children must be accompanied.

**Walking in Dorking:** Take a fresh look at the area's rich heritage with our guided walks. In the town centre, a

scheduled walk of Hidden Historic Dorking (Sunday 24th September, 11am) leaving from the Museum. On the edge of town, a walk on the Deepdene Trail with exclusive access to the Hope family Mausoleum (Sunday, 17th September, 2pm) leaving from the Dorking Golf Club.

Walks last around an hour and a half and should be booked in advance: details and booking at [dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/](http://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/). Walks may also be arranged for private groups: see website for details, enquiries and group booking.

**South Street Caves tours:** One of Dorking's most popular attractions, the 17th century South Street Caves lie beneath Dorking's busy streets. Remaining scheduled tours for this season are sold out but private group booking may still be made – see [dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/](http://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/).



Inside the Hope Mausoleum

Dorking Museum, 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. [www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk).

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In case you weren't aware we thought we'd let you know that EVERYONE has their own superpower. We're going to let you in on the superheroes that happen to work at our nursery.

There's Hayley the whole hearted, whose capacity for fun knows no bounds. She is always thinking of new ways for us to explore the world around us and have a great time doing it. She involves our community as much as possible and has a plethora of ingenious ideas.



Hospitable Henry (and helper Jenny) is undoubtedly the most awe inspiring cook who takes us on a journey from field to fork. She's always covered in some kind of ingredient with a twinkle in her eye! And the culinary customs continue outside onto her Rocket Stove – marshmallows galore!

Marvellous Martina teaches us a drop of Italian here and a drop of Italian there. She loves to get involved in our dressing up and has a great big smile for everyone. She is also queen of our

cupboard – packing up our toys with super skill!

Creative Candis conjures up all the cool crafts and is somewhat of a toddler whisperer - with the best hugs in town. She can whip you up an Optimus Prime out of a mere cardboard box and a glowing planet from a ping pong ball.



Excellent Eve is ever ready to sit and get lost in a story with you or help you find your feet (and your wellies!). Her patience and calm nature are her powers.

Dazzling Dena is a master storyteller and tales fall out of her with ease readily capturing and sparking our imaginations.

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Hope you all have had an enjoyable Summer. For QRMW it has been a busy one with some very exciting and positive things going on.



We had three people taking on the incredible Monster Marathon Challenge which they completed

after swimming, cycling and running all the way from Loch Ness to Richmond in 7 days. It tested them to the limit as they battled through torrential rain for several days. I went to greet them at the finish line at Richmond Rugby Club and tell them how grateful we were. At the last count they have raised an amazing £2315 for QRMW.

Our secretary's son Stewart, one of the triathlon team and a musician, also organised a Charity Beer and Music Festival when a number of bands including Stewart's own band Gone Country performed free of charge plus a guest appearance by Bobby Davro at The Crown and Anchor in Old Woking High St, with a percentage of the monies raised in drinks and food being donated to QRMW by the pub.

QRMW are also delighted to welcome aboard an additional Patron: Lt Colonel Michael Rowney who had

a long and extremely varied army career having come up through the ranks serving in The Queen's Regiment and holding a number of other senior positions in various parts of the world. In retirement he supports a number of charitable organisations and we are certain his experience and advice will be of great help to our team. Michael has already given us much appreciated support by purchasing a new very smart Show Tent which we look forward to taking to military and other events.

As for our beloved woodland, it has been a colourful summer, the salvias at the entrance to the woodland have been a beautiful show of colour for many weeks as have the many other summer plants that one of our volunteers, Sharon spent a lot of time in May planting.

We would always welcome anyone that might like to spend a few hours helping us out at the woodland. Do contact our secretary [Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk). All help is very welcome and much appreciated. Remember the woodland is open 24/7 and we have numerous picnic tables where you can come and rest and enjoy the tranquillity of this beautiful part of the Surrey Hills. If I am there the kettle is always on!

**Paul Cooling**  
Chairman, QRMW



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or email [Davina@kidsforkids.org.uk](mailto:Davina@kidsforkids.org.uk) for more information.

Please do share with friends and family - we would love to hear from you!

## Dorking Dhamma: Meditation and Buddhism in Dorking Mondays 7.30 to 9.00 pm



Monday evening drop in classes available and open to anyone interested in practicing meditation and learning a bit more about the Buddhist perspective on this. The drop in classes are open to any experience levels, from complete beginner to someone who has been practising for years. The group meets at a location in Dorking from 7.30 to 9.00 pm each Monday.

For more details call Paul on 07821158271 or visit the group website [www.dorkingdhamma.com](http://www.dorkingdhamma.com)

# VILLAGE HALL UPDATE



The Village Hall Trust is currently working with an architect, as well as other professionals, to start the work on The Hut and The Reading Room sites which will culminate in submitting a planning application to MVDC for a new village hall and necessary housing to raise funds for its construction. As part of this exercise the architect, MAA, would like old photographs of either The Hut or the former Reading Room, inside or outside the buildings, with people or not. The purpose is for them to start to understand the role of these buildings in the life of the villagers, their personality and history and importance in village life.

If you have photographs or a story you would like to share can you please scan them and/or send via the email below? If that is not possible give us a message and we can come and pick them up, scan and return them intact. There will be village involvement later on in the process and a village consultation is planned in the autumn of this year, which will seek initial feedback from the residents to the architect's concept proposals. A further consultation, will then seek further village feedback on more concrete proposals.

Please send scanned photos to [info@westcottvillagehall.com](mailto:info@westcottvillagehall.com)

**Westcott Village Hall Committee**



## **Cradhurst Close Reminder**

I have had a request from a Cradhurst Close resident to remind people that Cradhurst Close is not the car park for the recreation ground, so please do not leave your car there when visiting the park. Also for the minority of dog owners who walk their dogs in the park and do not already do so, to please pick up after them especially if it is in the garden of the Close.

**Thank You!**

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## GREEN WESTCOTT

### **Water, Water Everywhere, Nor Any Drop To Drink!**

If we stop for a moment to consider the above Coleridge quote, from *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* – as if we were the mariner on that boat – and all about was water that we could not use or drink, how might we feel about our future? Here in the UK, we live in a place with infrastructure which supplies us with good, clean, fresh water. We turn on the tap and it pours out. We probably don't even give it a second thought.



Everything we do in life is reliant on water, for drinking, washing, food growth and production, construction and manufacturing. With the population due to hit 10 billion by 2050 the pressures on all our resources, are set to get worse. With population growth, comes pollution growth and the waste we produce can have detrimental impacts on the water available to us. Sewage pollution and agricultural run-off (soil laden with

biocides and fertilizers) end up in rivers and waterways negatively impacting both biodiversity and human health. Access to water could become one of the biggest and most pressing problems associated with climate change.

A Christian Aid report states that London could run out of water within 25 years and British rivers could lose more than half their water by 2050 as cities around the world face growing risks from drought driven by the climate crisis. As water levels drop, the remaining water can become more saline making it unsuitable for drinking. Both freshwater supplies and underground aquifers are being affected.

Friederike Otto, a senior lecturer in climate science at the Grantham Institute, Imperial College London, said “greenhouse gas emissions have caused rainfall patterns to change and temperatures to increase, making drought more common and more severe in parts of the world”.

As with many of the impacts of climate change, the poor and marginalised are most adversely affected. Jonathan Farr, senior policy analyst at WaterAid, says: “Competing demands for water means that those who are poorer or marginalised find it more difficult to get water than the rich and powerful. Many governments and privatised

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## GREEN WESTCOTT (cont.)

water companies concentrate their provision on wealthy districts, and prioritise agriculture and industry over poorer people, while turning a blind eye to polluters and those who over-extract water from underground sources." Professor Benjamin Sovacool, of Aarhus University Denmark, puts it even more starkly when he said, "There will be no water by 2040 if we keep doing what we're doing today".

### So, what is it exactly that we're doing?



#### Food

Agriculture is responsible for about 90 percent of the world's water footprint. One third of all croplands is now being used to produce crops for animal feed. The vast majority of the water consumed by the livestock sector is related to feed production, whereas only about 2% of it is water for drinking and servicing of the animals themselves. Intensive farming practices exacerbate this issue.

#### Fashion

The fashion industry is responsible for the consumption of 79 trillion litres of

water annually, contributing to about 20% of industrial wastewater.

#### Electricity

People don't often think of water usage associated with lighting, electronics, and appliances. However, energy production is the second largest consumer of freshwater resources in the world. Huge quantities of water are needed to cool the power producing equipment used to power our energy hungry lives.

#### Manufacturing



Every product that you buy, requires water during the manufacturing process. Approximately 39,000 gallons of water are required to produce a new car including tires, while it takes about 2,100 gallons of water to produce just one pair of leather shoes. So, we can see from these examples that just our everyday lives are creating huge impacts on overall water usage. What might we do to reduce our water footprint (yes indeed you do have one!).





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## GREEN WESTCOTT (cont.)

### Water Footprint

Just like your carbon footprint – you also have a water footprint, and you can think about it in terms of looking at your general lifestyle choices. Thinking about repairing clothes and goods rather than just clicking the button on another Amazon purchase will go some way to helping reduce your water footprint. Of course, shorter showers, turning taps off when brushing teeth etc are all good but maybe we all need to think a little beyond these measures to really make a difference.

Where your food comes from geographically and what food you are eating, will have major impacts on your overall water footprint. Meat and dairy products are high consumers of water with electricity, fast fashion and manufacturing bringing up the rear.

By making conscious choices about our food and even energy suppliers can reduce our personal water footprint in the same way as our carbon footprint. Change is hard, so planning on doing one small thing will ease us into making permanent and green choices for a better greener more sustainable future.



If you would like to join us at the community garden in Westcott please feel free to come along. We are there every Saturday between 12-3 pm please find us on Instagram or on our webpage for green activities throughout the year.

**Nancy Lund**

(For a full version of this article with links to referenced articles, please visit [www.greenwestcott.org](http://www.greenwestcott.org))



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## GREEN WESTCOTT (cont.)

### Passion For The Planet

#### PASSION FOR THE PLANET MOLE VALLEY



New family theatre show Passion for the Planet comes to Mole Valley – and you could be involved!

Passion for the Planet is an inspiring, moving yet laughter-filled theatre project for all ages – focused around care for the planet, creativity, and legacy in the wonderful setting of the Friends Meeting House in Dorking. The project, specially created by local writer Tony Earnshaw, is a promenade performance containing drama, storytelling, music, clowning, installations, and lots of interactive silliness and fun!

From its starting point of the creation stories, this cross-generational, multi-faith performance challenges us to consider what our responsibilities are for our planet, what we are able to create, and what legacy we ourselves will leave to the world.

What is particularly unique about this amazing project is that it will feature

the art and creations of over 600 local Mole Valley residents. Local schools, colleges and community groups along with members of the public, have all been invited to take part in free creative art and writing workshops – the results of which all take a central part in the show itself!



Excitingly Green Westcott will be hosting one such workshop for adults and children of all ages – on Saturday 23rd September between 2pm and 4pm at St Johns Community Hall. The workshop is free but numbers are limited, so please do confirm your place with Jakki Phillips ([jakki@greenwestcott.org](mailto:jakki@greenwestcott.org) or 07592 911974)

For more info and tickets for the show, which runs October 21 to October 28 2023, please visit: [www.damncheek.co.uk](http://www.damncheek.co.uk)

**Jakki Phillips**

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