

# Westcott Village

Magazine

October 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.

Copy deadline for

**November** issue:

**8th October 2023**

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## FROM THE EDITOR



Autumn is finally upon us, with heavy rain, blustery wind, thunderstorms and bright sunshine, all in the last 12 hours as I write this!

Don't forget that the clocks go back on the last Sunday of the month, which is 29th October this year, following a tradition that first began in 1916. Someone always forgets, don't be that person this year!

This month we have St John Ambulance *Restart a Heart* emergency first aid courses on 21st October in St John's Chapel, please see page 25 for details on booking as places are limited. Also worth noting is that Surrey Hills All Saints' Primary School has an Open Day on 1st November, so get it in your diary if you have new school aged children (See page 33 for more details).

Looking up things to do with October, I found this and it made me smile so I'll leave it with you and hopefully it might do the same for you:

*If ducks do slide at Hallowtide, at Christmas they will swim. If ducks do swim at Hallowtide, at Christmas they will slide.*

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

### October



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month as well as Black History Month, and has several important celebration days, including Coffee Day on 1st and World Smile Day on 5th, both of which I think we should

all make full use of! World Mental Health Day is on October 10th with this year's theme, set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, being *Mental health is a universal human right*. International Repair Day is on 21st October this year. Since 2017 it has been on the third



Saturday in October and is a day to promote the value and importance of repairing generally or at community events such as repair cafes or restart parties.

### October Birthdays

People born in October include Captain James Cook, John Lennon, Margaret Thatcher, Kate Winslet, Sir Christopher Wren and Marcus Rashford (You never know when that might help in a pub quiz!)

# ...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT



## WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT DEATH

Back in the summer I attended the 'Jazz in the Garden' event which took place up on Pointers Hill in the village. It was an afternoon of excellent music in a wonderful setting and all the money raised went to the Brigitte Trust. This Surrey based charity supports people facing the challenges of life-limiting conditions including cancer, Motor Neurone Disease and Multiple sclerosis. One of the things they do is to encourage people – all people - to think and talk about death, through a 'Coffin Club' and a 'Death Café' – you can find out more on their website.



Helping people live  
well beyond diagnosis

As a crude generalisation, we don't tend to be particularly good at talking about death in Great Britain. It wasn't always thus. At

times it feels like the Victorians spoke about nothing else – even sending Christmas Cards bearing images of dead robins or wrens to one another. I'm not suggesting a return to this rather morbid practice (although I will now await a flurry of deceased bird based festive cards from you all when December arrives) but I do think we need to find ways to think and talk about death. You won't be surprised to hear that, as a Christian, I have come to the conclusion that death isn't the end of our stories as human beings (you can think me a fool or indeed ask me why in the queue at Nisa if you like). But whatever our beliefs, philosophies, or lack thereof, we do all need to find ways to confront death.

“...WHEN WE FIND  
OURSELVES CAUGHT UP IN  
THE STORM OF GRIEF, OR  
UNEXPECTEDLY FACING  
OUR OWN MORTALITY ON  
AN OTHERWISE ORDINARY  
DAY, WE NEED TO KNOW  
THAT WE ARE NOT ALONE  
IN OUR EXPERIENCE.”

Because death will impact on our lives at one point or another – however much we may like to hide it away out of sight and out of mind. And when we find ourselves caught up in the storm of grief, or unexpectedly facing our own mortality on an otherwise ordinary day, we need to know that we are not alone in our experience. That others walk with us. That we can grieve. That however we find ourselves feeling in the weeks, months, and years ahead – that it is okay to feel that way.

## ...FROM THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

---

At 6pm on the 29th October we will be holding a Service of Remembering at Holy Trinity Church. This is a space which anyone who has lost a loved one – in recent times or many years ago – can come to remember that person, and to name the impact that their death has had on their life. If you would find this a helpful space, you are so warmly invited. If this sounds like it would not help you at this moment, that is also fine. There is no wrong or right way to grieve and confront the reality of death. But if death is a painful reality in your life at the moment do talk to someone you trust, drop me a line or get in touch with the Brigitte Trust. You are not alone.



*Revd Tim Armstrong*



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.*



# 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
1st Oct	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we gather	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship
8th Oct	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we seek solitude	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
15th Oct	Spiritual Formation: Weekend Away	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion at Wychcroft Retreat Centre
22nd Oct	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we do simplicity	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Communion
29th Oct	Spiritual Formation: Why and how we fast	Book of Common Prayer Communion	Morning Worship



## WORSHIP NIGHTS 2023

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

An evening of contemporary worship and prayer



Thursday, 2nd November (7:30pm - 8:30pm)

Holy Trinity Church, Westcott

# MIDWEEK PRAYER & WORSHIP

Wednesdays

10am

Communion at St John's



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SHARING  
LIFE



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All are welcome



## MARKING LIFE EVENTS

All who live in Westcott or have a connection here are very welcome to have christenings, funerals, weddings in Holy Trinity. Contact [vicar@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:vicar@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk) for more information.

# THE CHURCH IN WESTCOTT

Westcott's baby & toddler group

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fun

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grandparents  
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## 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@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk](mailto:vicar@holytrinitywestcott.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.

**Debt advice:** Paul Stacey (paulstacey88@gmail.com)

**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



## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

---

### Death:

5th December 2022

John Harold Derek Robson (98)

27th March 2023

Christopher John Jeater (79)




## FLOODLIGHTING

---

No one has yet sponsored the church floodlighting for October.

To become a sponsor of our floodlighting, which is powered by 100% renewable electricity, please contact admin@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk.

(Suggested donation of £75 to Westcott Church Funds.)




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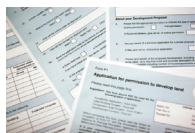
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It was nice to see a final glimpse of summer in September, just in time for the Westcott Gardener's Club Show which was a great success, our congratulations to all involved.

## Sondes Place Planning Application



We have continued to express our views in writing to MVDC and stay abreast of the planning application and pending appeal for the land at Sondes Place. We were disappointed at the decision to hear the appeal by Public Inquiry and were concerned that this meant our views may be diminished by the lack of professional representation at the Inquiry, as we obviously do not have the resources to instruct professionals who can match the expertise and access the extensive resources available to MVDC or the appellant.

We wrote directly to the Planning Inspectorate setting out this concern and reiterating our key objections to the planning application including copies of all our previous representations. We were pleased to receive confirmation from the Planning Inspectorate that it does not matter that we have no legal representation at the Inquiry and that all the WVA's written representations

have been placed on file and will be considered by the Inspector before a decision is made. A copy of all the correspondence is on the Westcott Village website. We will continue to review the situation and update you with further news as it arises.

## Neighbourhood Fund Applications

The WVA was pleased to support Westcott Village Hall trustees in their application for funds to cover essential repairs and maintenance from The Neighbourhood Fund (formerly known as the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy). This consists of money paid to MVDC by developers as a levy on whenever new homes or retail space is built in Mole Valley.







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Other Neighbourhood Fund applications are also being pursued to request funding for a new vehicle activated speed limit sign and also for repairs and refurbishment to the Westcott Dovecote and Thatched Bus Stop both of which are an important part of our heritage and an essential facility for bus passengers waiting at the village green. We will update on how these applications progress in due course.

## Abandoned Car Removal

After many months of badgering MVDC and Surrey County Council we were pleased to see the abandoned car occupying a time restricted parking space outside the recently reopened Westcott Stores has been removed. This will make it easier for drivers wishing to make use of the retail outlet or parents doing the school run.

## Voluntary Subscriptions/Donations

Our thanks to everyone who has recently renewed their voluntary

subscription to the WVA and especially to those who allow us to claim Gift Aid as Gift Aid alone has boosted our funds by just over £400. It's not too late to make a donation or let us know about Gift Aid. Please follow the links on the Westcott Village website, it's easy to sign up to a regular subscription or just make a one-off donation if you prefer.

## Jon Mears

We also want to take this opportunity pass on our special thanks to Jon Mears who has sadly decided to resign as a Trustee of the WVA and member of the committee. Thank you Jon for all your hard work and the valuable contribution you have made. You will be missed but we look forward to your continued support from outside the committee room.

If you would like to help get involved in a specific project or join the committee please do get in touch as Winston Churchill once said *"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give"*



**WVA Committee**  
**[contact@westcottvillage.com](mailto:contact@westcottvillage.com)**



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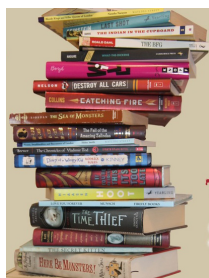


# WESTCOTT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

*Wednesday 4th October  
at*

*The Village Hall*

*10.30 - 12.00 midday*



*Jigsaw and Book exchange*

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## BABY MEALS



In August the "Baby Meals" cooks supported a local family after a sudden bereavement. Within a couple of hours of my email request to the volunteer cooks, the rota for 10 meals was full! It never fails to amaze me that so many people in our village are willing to buy, cook and deliver a hot meal to a local family in a time of difficulty, often at very short notice. Thank you again Cooks for your unwavering support for our "baby meals" service.

If you know of anyone expecting a baby or in need of help 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**



### Tuesday 10th October 2023 The Culture of Ukraine

The first of our new series of Lectures will be delivered by Rosamund Bartlett who will tell us about the Culture of Ukraine in her fully illustrated talk. The Lecture will take place in the Martineau Hall, Dorking Halls commencing 10:30am with coffee available from 9:30am.

We welcome visitors for a fee of £7.50 but as seating is limited you should contact Sue Bax on 01737 223932 or [sue.bax@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.bax@btinternet.com) to book.



Our Society meets on the second Tuesday of the month and we welcome new members. Please visit our website to find out more about us <http://www.theartsocietydorking.org.uk>.

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## Save The Date

Have you noticed people in high viz vests around the Westcott Village Hall and Hut sites? Several surveys have recently been carried out to support a proposed planning application, which will include a new community centre/hall, car parking and some housing.

The trustees are intending to hold a public consultation, it is likely to be held on 1st November at the Village Hall (the former Reading Room) between 3:30 pm and 9:00 pm which will also be attended by the architects and planners who have been retained by the trustees. Everyone is welcome.

It is now time for you to get involved, we need to hear your views. Please see the upcoming November issue of this magazine and keep an eye on the other village news channels for confirmation of time/date and for further information as more details become available.

**Westcott Village Hall Committee**



### 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 web-site [www.dorkingdhamma.com](http://www.dorkingdhamma.com)

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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,  
bring your friends,  
pick up for your neighbour



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## Weekend Walks & Events Autumn 2023

We are part of the RSPB charity. Do come and join us! Our group covers an area of mid-Surrey centred on Dorking and includes Leatherhead, Bookham, Epsom and Ewell. We aim to help anyone interested to enjoy nature and are a friendly and inclusive group of enthusiasts. New members are always welcome and a particular effort is made for those who are beginning to explore nature or bird watching.

**Saturday 7th October** RSPB Rainham Marshes New Tank Hill Road, Purfleet RM19 1SZ what3words:///metals.cages. lied RSPB members can get into the reserve for free, otherwise it is £6. There are toilets and a basic cafe. Autumn is the time for migrants and birds of prey. Wildfowl will be increasing in numbers.



Hide at Rainham Marshes

**Saturday 21st October** Rye Harbour Rye Harbour Discovery Centre, Rye Harbour, Rye TN31 7FW What3words :///eminent.sang.beauty This time of year there will be large flocks of seed-eating birds such as linnets. Plenty of little egrets but occasional great white egrets and spoonbills. It is a good month to see ringed ouzel & bearded tits.

**Saturday 11th November** Titchfield Haven Cliff Road, Fareham PO14 3JT OS Map 196 SU535023. What3Words:///callers.devalued.premiums Entrance fee for the reserve is £6.50. A good place and time of year for bearded tits. Lots of winter waders and wildfowl incredibly close to the well-sited hides

**Saturday 25th November** Elmley Nature Reserve Kingshill Farm, Isle of Sheppey, Kent ME12 3RW what3words:///thigh.confined.dads Facilities include toilets and a cafe. Great landscapes, waders and wildfowl and several species of owls are the autumn highlights

**Saturday 9th December** Farlington Marshes Solent Way, Farlington, Portsmouth PO6 1UN what3words:///square.speech.minds Walk timed to coincide with high tide which should push the waders towards us & into the lakes. Brent geese, white-fronted geese & short-eared owls are the stars

For more details on the events above please visit the website below or Facebook page, alternatively email us at [rspsbdorking@gmail.com](mailto:rspsbdorking@gmail.com).

Facebook: RSPB Dorking and District

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**Activity:** FREE Emergency First Aid sessions

**Date:** Saturday 21st October

**Time:** 10.00-12.00 / 12.00-14.00 / 14.00-16.00

**Location:** St John's Chapel, Furlong Road

**To book:** Email [contact@westcottvillage.com](mailto:contact@westcottvillage.com)

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# WESTCOTT HISTORY GROUP

## Surrey Roads – From Turnpike to Motorway

At our meeting in April 2013 Gordon Knowles gave an interesting talk on the development of Surrey roads. The word "turnpike" originates from the name of the gate at the Toll House, generally a row of pikes on a swing gate. In the distant past the roads in Surrey have generally run East-West or North-South being routes to the coast or across the county. Roman roads were made wide enough for wheeled vehicles but later medieval roads were only wide enough for pack horses. Their condition varied from dust in summer to mud in winter.



On the A24 near the Stepping Stones

The Turnpike Acts in the 17th century were concerned with the obligation of parishes to repair roads within their parish, to maintain a width of 8ft and authority to charge rates or tolls. This prevailed from 1555 until about 1835 when the County Council had to take responsibility for main roads between

towns and villages. Although local signposts existed they were not officially installed until 1697.



The tollgate at Reigate Hill

In 1663 the first Turnpike leading from the south coast to London along the present A3 from Portsmouth was completed. Due to the importance of this route there was also a telegraph system between London and Portsmouth. By 1840 there were 2000 miles of Turnpike roads in the country comprising 22 Toll roads between the main towns. These were used by carts and travellers bringing farm produce, timber and coal from the Weald agricultural areas to London.

Gordon Knowles showed some interesting pictures of old Tollgates, for instance at Tadworth in 1870, and examples of the horses and carriages that were in use. There were Coach Houses where people could change horses along their journey and recover their own horses on the return journey. Later when permanent stagecoach routes were established,

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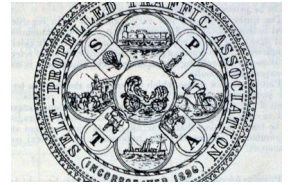
the Stage Coach Company had their teams of horses stationed along the routes. The early 19th century saw the construction of the first Surrey railway which then was able to carry most of the heavy goods to London.

With increasing traffic, albeit horse drawn, the narrow width of the turnpikes or main roads was becoming a problem. In 1782 Wilkes, aged 24, was appointed Surveyor responsible for planning and overseeing the widening of the roads. At that time the roads were made of crushed stone. Tarmacadam as we know it did not come into common use until 1905. Potholes were a serious problem and a man even drowned in one.



With the introduction of motorcars the speed of these vehicles caused a number of problems and they were required to have a man with a red flag walking in front of them. They were initially limited to 2 mph but several notable gentlemen owners – namely

Sir David  
Salomon  
and John  
Henry Knight  
– lobbied  
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this and



established in 1895 the Self Propelled Traffic Association. This became the RAC as the Prince of Wales was involved. In 1909 the speed limit was raised to 10 mph and there were some 5000 licensed drivers, far more than the number of cars on the road. The Automobile Association also began around this time to service the needs of motorists. It is notable that these national organisations began in Surrey!

In the 20th century, with the increase in the number of motor vehicles after 1950, many dual carriageway bypasses for the main towns were built – for instance the Purley Way, Kingston to Sutton, Mickleham and Farnham and our own Dorking bypass connecting up the A24. Intercity routes from 1960 have become motorways.

As always, the committee of the WLHG welcomes suggestions for Speakers and Talks that they think will appeal.

**Roger Christian**

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4th at 3.00, gramophone recital at Christian Centre

7th at 12.00, song recital at St Martin's church

7th at 3.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £19, 01306 881717

7th at 7.30, piano recital at Dorking Halls, £21, 01306 740619

14th at 9.45 till 5pm, LHM Come & Sing at Dorking Halls, £25, 01306 881717

17th at 7.30, Jonas Kaufmann screening at Dorking Halls, £19, 01306 881717

The new concert season gets underway this month and the Dorking Concertgoers begin with a piano recital given by the brilliant left-handed pianist Nicholas McCarthy. Nicholas is the only one-handed pianist ever to graduate from the Royal College of Music, and he is a fine musician as well as a virtuoso of the keyboard. His programme contains original pieces for the left hand as well as some arrangements, and it includes composers from Bach to Scriabin.

Two events at St Martin's church form part of the Mole Valley Arts Alive Festival, and are held in support of the William Cole Trust which supports the young choristers and organ scholars at the church. Stephen Fort, a former scholar of the Trust and now pursuing a successful career as a singer, will present a gramophone recital playing popular music from the 1930s to 1950s - with tea and cake! He will also give a recital of English songs, including music by Vaughan Williams, together with pianist Edward Picton-Turbervill. Both events are free, with donations to the Trust.

The Leith Hill Music Festival is holding a Come-and-Sing day. Led by the Festival conductor, Jonathan Willcocks, singers will rehearse the Brahms Requiem (sung in German). The day will finish with an informal performance of the complete piece, supported by two professional soloists. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know this great and inspiring work.

There is a screening at the Dorking Halls of Donizetti's opera *The Elixir of Love* from the Royal Opera House, and also an evening with Jonas Kaufmann, the world-famous tenor, from the magical setting of the Verona Arena.

**Ian Codd**

## 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)

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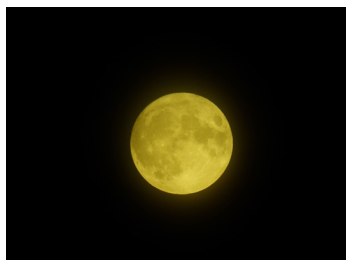


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## PHOTOS FROM WESTCOTT



Tom Boshier has sent in these great photos of a sparrow, a blue tit and the blue supermoon over Westcott

James Friend has taken these landscapes that show how blessed we are with our surroundings, and the bird on a telephone wire, just watching (for lunch?)





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## DORKING MUSEUM



After nearly a year of closure, following a fire in an adjacent building,

building repair, cleaning and restoration should have allowed re-opening before the end of September. So, it should be business as usual in October and the team will be pleased to welcome visitors back through its doors and resume activities in the main exhibition space. Regular opening: Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm, free entry.

### Grand Re-opening and family activity:

To celebrate the re-opening, there will be a grand event on the anniversary of the fire that forced its closure, Thursday 26th October, between 2pm and 6pm. At 4pm, there will be the formal part when a special 'celebrity' guest will cut the ribbon, with fizz and juice available. During the day, there will be a fire safety-related simple family activity with lots of fire service goodies to give away to kids.



**Hedgerow Heritage Exhibition:** The Museum is hosting an exhibition in conjunction with the Surrey Wildlife



Trust's Hedgerow Heritage Project, an ambitious 4-year project aiming to restore and protect hedgerows across the North Downs. There has been a serious decline in the number and condition of these essential habitats with their cultural, environmental and historic value. The exhibition explores the history and heritage of the area's hedgerows, their importance to the environment and community, and how they might be restored and renewed for the future.



### Family Activities at Dorking Library:

The Museum is continuing free monthly family activities in Dorking Library. On Saturday 21st October, 10am-noon, as part of Surrey's learning festival, come to the library and learn more about Dorking Museum, handle some of the Museum's artefacts and try to guess what they might have been used for. You will then be able to pop into the Museum in West Street to see more.

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## DORKING MUSEUM (cont.)

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 scheduled guided walks. A last chance this year as the season finishes at the end of October. On the edge of town, take a Betchworth Castle tour with exclusive access to the castle enclosure on Sunday 15th October, 2pm (entrance opposite Hillier Garden Centre) or a walk on the Deepdene Trail with exclusive access to the Grade 2\* listed Hope family Mausoleum on Sunday, 22nd October, 2pm (from Dorking Golf Club).

In the town centre, leaving from the Museum, see Dorking as you have never seen it before on a walk of Hidden Historic Dorking (Sunday 15th October, 11am). Or come face to face with some of Dorking's spectral historical inhabitants on a guided walk through the town's streets.



Spooky encounters are guaranteed with the orphaned, the bankrupt, the imprisoned and the murdered characters of Dorking's past whose spirits will come alive for one night only on the Spooky Halloween Ghost Walk (Tuesday, 31st October, 6pm).

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:** Remaining scheduled tours for this season (to end of October) are sold out but private group bookings may still be made: e-mail [caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk) to arrange.

**Get involved:** We are looking for additional volunteers for the front desk and other interesting opportunities in organisational and planning activities for those with the necessary skills who can commit a few hours in the Museum, in the community and/or working from home. Training is provided. More details at [dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities](http://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities).

Dorking Museum, 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. [www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk). 01306 876591.

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At the end of the Summer Term in true Abinger Common Nursery tradition we held our sports day and graduation. The Red, Blue, Green and Yellow Teams went head

to head in running, jumping and packing up suitcases! We practiced ahead of the day to make sure we could show off our skills to the best of our abilities and we did just that! Our parents even got the chance to join in with the 'hold the water on your head race' – so competitive!

Our school leavers graduated in style and we wish them luck in their next big adventure – we will miss you all! We have had many new starters to welcome into our nursery family and have enjoyed learning new names and getting to know new faces.

We got stuck into our first few weeks back as if we had never been away – with one thing on the agenda – to have as much fun as possible! Our cookery skills are still going strong as we took to making perfect pizza faces to take home for tea. We loved squishing and shaping the dough and then picking out yummy healthy toppings to create our eyes, noses and smiles!



With the weather so hot we took a beautifully shady woodland walk to keep us cool. There are always so many fascinating things to see as we ramble together and the natural materials we find are so often handy to use for crafting. On this occasion we created brilliant bubble wands from the sticks we collected.

We really look forward to telling you all about what we get up to this school year and if you have a child looking to start Nursery 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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# SCOTT BROOKS CRICKET MATCH



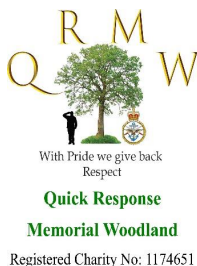
On Saturday 9th September 22 chaps and a couple of extras prepared for the annual Scott Brooks Cricket Match at the village cricket ground. The weather was rather warm but the stoic players, some now nearing 50, played mostly very well! This was the 29th occasion when the Scott Brooks All Stars, made up of friends of Scott and his two brothers, Adam and Toby, faced the Westcott Cricket Club team. The game is played in memory of Scott who had been a star of the Club before being tragically killed in a car accident in 1995.

The result of the match was fairly close but Westcott CC were the winners. The trophy was duly presented by 2 year old Florence Brooks and then everyone enjoyed an evening BBQ.

**Madeleine Brooks**







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Website: [www.qrmw.org](http://www.qrmw.org)

Email: [qrmwcharity@gmail.com](mailto:qrmwcharity@gmail.com)



I have to mention a hugely successful event hosted by Wendy and Marco at the Crown and Anchor in Old Woking on Sunday 27th August. A charity beer and music Festival which was organised by Stewart Hornblow with some excellent bands and singers who came to perform free of charge. We also had the amazing added bonus of a guest appearance by Bobby Davro! Bobby is a great supporter of Veterans' charities and gave us three hours of his time to entertain and mingle with the crowd. The event was attended by approximately 500 people and £2639.38 was raised. The Trustees and I are very grateful to everyone who was involved in this fabulous day which WILL take place again next year on Sunday 25th August 2024.

In November we will be holding our Remembrance Service at the

Woodland on Saturday 11th and I would like to invite everyone to attend. We gather around the Monument at the memorial woodland at 10.40. Do please join us if you can. This is always a special service attended by local school children, Veterans and all who wish to join us.

Then we will be holding our usual *Christmas at the Woodland* for adults and children. Father Christmas will visit and hand out a small gift for those children who are registered and there is a Treasure Hunt around the woodland for the children who will receive a goody bag when they complete it. The charge is £8 per child to register, there is no charge for parents and guardians but do bring some cash (credit card machines don't work at the woodland!) as there will be a Christmas raffle, children's lucky dip and other stalls plus hot drinks and hot dogs for sale. Do register the children early as places are limited and we must let Father Christmas know how many children he has to ask his elves to make presents for!

I look forward to seeing you at the woodland anytime, it is always open even if I am not there but if I am then the kettle will be on and the museum open for you to view.

**Paul Cooling**  
**Chairman, QRMW**  
**Registered Charity No 1174651**

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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:

- **Members' Night** with a number of short presentations from DLHG members on Family War contributions and memories: Monday 2nd October at Crossways Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking RH4 3HB, 7.15 for 7.30pm, £2 at the door for non-members.

- **Edwin Lutyens –**

**Architect:** A Zoom talk by Charles O'Brien on Edwin Lutyens, one of Britain's best loved architects. Monday 16th October:

<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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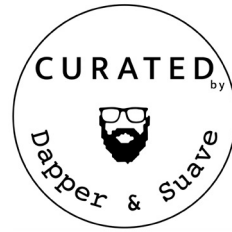
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## GREEN WESTCOTT

### Gatwick is Big Enough

Gatwick Airport Ltd (GAL) submitted a planning application (called a Development Consent Order - DCO) for a second runway to the government in July and this has now been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate.



This proposed airport expansion would see Gatwick's current standby runway being brought into full, regular use and would increase Gatwick's capacity to that of Heathrow, with huge increase in carbon emissions, noise, air pollution and traffic impacts. All ten host local authorities (including Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council), all ten MP's in constituencies around the airport and local campaign groups, Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign (GACC) and Campaign Against Gatwick Noise Emissions (CAGNE) made robust objections to the adequacy of the consultations prior to the DCO application.

The current government's continued support for airport expansion, in the

name of economic growth, flies in the face of advice from the Climate Change Committee (CCC), an independent public body which advises the government on tackling and preparing for climate change. The CCC advised in June that, to meet Net Zero by 2050, 'no airport expansions should proceed' until aviation is sufficiently decarbonised. Current plans would see aviation capacity expand by more than 70 per cent.

The air travel industry has no short-term solution to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and the achievability of medium to long-term reductions are uncertain due to unproven technology. Airport expansion at Gatwick would mean an extra 100,000 flights per year, equating to 1,000,000 tonnes of extra carbon emissions. The United Nations warned again in September that governments are failing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on the scale required to meet Paris Agreement targets and to avoid climate catastrophe.

Although Gatwick CEO Stuart Wingate insists that airport expansion will boost the economy, a recent report, 'Losing Altitude', from the New Economics Foundation (NEF) found no evidence that airport expansion increases productivity or GDP growth in the UK. Increases in aviation would be detrimental for the vast

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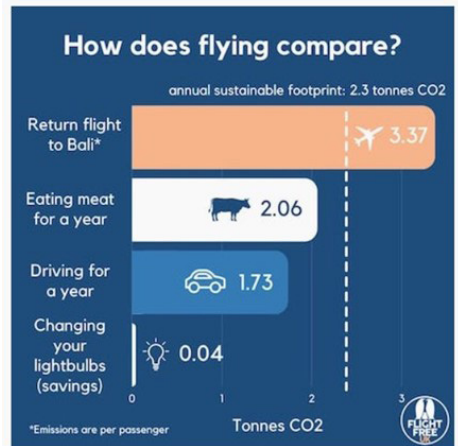


majority. "Growth in air traffic implies a significant transfer of welfare from the majority, who suffer the ill effects of greenhouse gas emissions, noise, and reduced air quality, to a wealthy minority of frequent flyers." writes Dr Alex Chapman, a senior researcher with the NEF, with the beneficiaries being "the highly paid executives, the private shareholders and the wealthy minority of frequent flyers." Each year half of the UK population do not fly at all, with two out of five flights are taken by the wealthiest 10%. Earlier this year local residents, campaigners and community groups came together at a rally to express opposition to the Gatwick proposals for a second runway.



People and organisations are now able to register to have their say on the application. This process runs from 5th September to the 29th October. Comments must be about what you consider to be the main issues and impacts and anything that may affect your day-to-day life. Gatwick Airport, Gatwick Area

Conservation Campaign (GACC) and the Campaign Against Gatwick Noise Emissions (CAGNE) have more information on their websites about the Gatwick expansion proposal and links to the consultation portal.



Possible are a climate action group campaigning for a frequent flyer tax as a way to reduce the number of flights taken and an effective way to reduce emissions. Just 15% of people who fly take 70% of UK flights. Additionally, the extra tax raised could help to create climate-friendly jobs. Find out more at [www.wearepossible.org](http://www.wearepossible.org) Flight Free UK's website has information on holidaying without flying and other useful resources to help inspire climate action.

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