

THE WILDBROOKS MAGAZINE



Serving the parishes of Amberley with North Stoke,
Parham, Wiggonholt and Greatham



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THE
GOOD
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GUIDE

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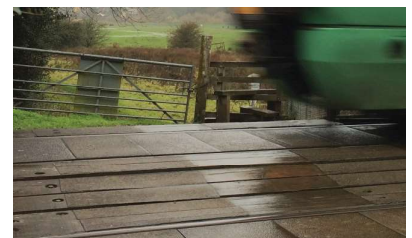
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This month's front cover

Dedicated to the late Elizabeth Butler who made the crib for North Stoke Church in 2010 in memory of the mother of Annabelle Hughes, a former chairman of the Friends of St Mary the Virgin, North Stoke. Picture: Hugh Gilbert





The New Vicarage, School Road, Amberley, BN18 9NA Tel: 01798 831 600

‘All I want for Christmas is...’

As this strange year draws to a close, so many of us are hoping for just a few days of something like normality over Christmas. Yes, need to be careful about distancing, wearing face masks and sanitising our hands, but I'm sure we all feel weary of the Covid regulations, and especially of the restrictions on meeting friends and family.

For Steve and myself, a chance to see our little granddaughter on her first Christmas would be a real treat, but as we juggle the precious few ‘Christmas bubble’ days we are permitted I hardly dare to hope it will happen.

The Christmas TV adverts this year pick up our prime concern for time with loved ones, whether it's Aldi's Kevin the carrot struggling to get home for Christmas dinner with the family, or Coca-Cola's ad which has Dad on a dramatic mission to get his daughter's letter to Santa, only to find it reads simply ‘Dear Santa, please bring Daddy home for Christmas.’ We hope and pray that the virus situation will improve and that time with those dear to us may be possible, without bringing a spike in infections afterwards.

In John Lewis's advert the song urges us to ‘Give a little love’, and that's where the heart of Christmas lies. It isn't all about presents, but our Christmas giving originates in the most amazing gift of love. That is God's gift to us, himself in the form of a tiny, vulnerable baby. The Christian faith is distinctive as it is not about striving to reach a distant God who might perhaps be there. Rather it is about God himself coming to share in our humanity, born into a humble family, growing up in a country suffering poverty, oppression and terrorism. It is about Emmanuel – God with us, identifying with our pain as well as our joys.

The year now ending may have been one with more pain than joy for many people, perhaps for you. Is there something brighter on the horizon? There are some hopeful signs, but we shall need courage and fortitude as we face the winter and 2021. The care of good neighbours and sharing in acts of kindness will I am sure help us through



The Revd Gerry Burgess

as it has done thus far. But the greatest strength and comfort lies in the Christmas message that God is with us, offering his peace and hope whatever lies ahead – for life, forever, not just for Christmas.

These words quoted by George VI in his Christmas message of 1939 are always worth reading at the turn of the year, but this year I especially value the hopefulness of the closing lines.

God Knows (Minnie Louise Haskins)

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”

And he replied

“Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”

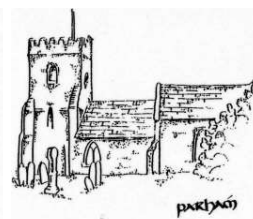
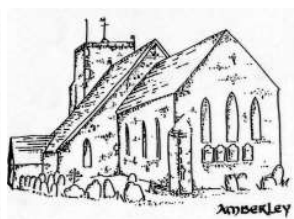
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Steve and I wish you God's blessing, comfort and joy this Christmas and in the New Year.

Gerry

**The Revd Gerry Burgess
Priest-in-Charge**





CALENDAR OF SERVICES – DECEMBER/JANUARY

Services and events

We hope to resume services in early December on the pattern below, if permitted, but **please look out for updates** and changes depending on the regulations. During these months our 'live' services are slightly reduced, but we also provide:

- **A weekly email with prayers and reflection**
 - **A livestreamed or recorded weekly service**, accessed via our Facebook page or a link in the email. Livestreamed services will also go onto the Wildbrooks Churches YouTube channel for watching later.
- Please get in touch with Gerry or a churchwarden if you have any questions about this or are unsure how to access things.

Find us online:

Achurchnearyou.com (pages for each parish),
www.amberleystmichael.org.uk
 Facebook page www.facebook.com/Wildbrookschurches

Everyone is welcome at our services, subject to Covid19 regulations. We ask that you wear a face covering and provide your details for contact tracing (or use the NHS QR code where provided). It is important to observe good distancing before and after the service as well as in church. Numbers are limited by the size of the church buildings, but there is normally no need to pre-book a space. In fine weather we may still hold some services in the churchyards, so please come warmly dressed.

MIDWEEK MORNING PRAYER: a short time of prayer and reflection. Wednesdays 9.30am at Amberley, except LAST Wednesday of the month at Wiggonholt.

Sunday, 6th December Advent 2 Purple Array
9.15am Holy Communion Parham
11.00am Holy Communion Amberley
4.00pm Compline (lay led, also online) Wiggonholt

Sunday, 13th December Advent 3 Purple Array
9.00am Holy Communion Greatham
10.00am Worship for all Toy Service Amberley

Saturday 19th December
4pm Crib Blessing (Outdoors) North Stoke

Sunday 20th December Advent 4 Purple Array
9.15am Holy Communion Wiggonholt
3.00pm and 4.30pm Carol Services* Amberley

Thursday 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

3.00pm Journey to the crib – with a difference! Amberley

6.00pm Christmas service (Outdoors) Wiggonholt

Friday, 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

White Array

9.00am Christmas Communion (In church) Parham

9.00am Christmas service (Outdoors) Greatham

10.30am Family Christmas Communion (In church) Amberley

Sunday, 27th December Christmas1 White Array

10.00am United Benefice Communion service Amberley

JANUARY 2021

Sunday, 3rd January Epiphany White Array
9.15am Holy Communion Parham

11.00am Holy Communion Amberley

4.00pm Compline (lay led, also online) Wiggonholt

Sunday 10th January Baptism of Christ

White Array

9.00am Holy Communion Greatham

10.00am Worship for all Amberley

Sunday 17th January Epiphany 2 White Array
9.15am Holy Communion Wiggonholt

11.00am Holy Communion Amberley

Sunday 24th January Epiphany 3 White Array
11.00am Sung Eucharist Amberley

Sunday 31st January Candlemas White Array
10.00am United Benefice Communion Amberley

4.00pm Candlemas Compline (lay led, also online) Parham

*** Note: Carol services need to be booked**



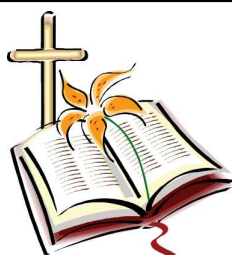
Bible Readings

Sunday, 6th December

Isaiah 40.1-11; Mark 1.1-8

Sunday, 13th December

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Luke 1:46b-55;
John 1:6-8, 19-28*



Readings for Christmas services to be confirmed

Sunday, 27th December

Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.15-21

3rd January (Epiphany)

Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, 10th January

Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, 17th January

1 Samuel 3:1-10; John 1:43-51

24th January

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20

31st January (Candlemas)

Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Help for local families in need

Family Support Work (FSW) is a long established charity supported by the Sussex Diocese of the Church of England.

It provides a 'one-stop shop' for family support, whether it is financial advice, parenting, housing or any other issues, involving other agencies as appropriate but always taking the lead and making sure families are not passed around from one agency to another. This is what they say about their work:

"Our families are finding the pressure of life ever harder. Sussex is an area that has such a mix of affluence and poverty it can be hard to recognise such deep need but it is all around us and not just in the urban areas. Challenges such as mental health, unemployment, relationship breakdown and bereavement can hit anyone and often when they are least prepared. For many of the families, low income and poverty are contributing factors, too.

"A FSW support practitioner will spend time with a family getting to know them and helping them to recognize the needs they have. Once the trust is established, a plan is drawn up between family and practitioner so solutions begin to form. All this is done in partnership so the family feels they have ownership of the solution. The work with a family may be over in months or it can take years but the final result is always a family that can cope and is stronger.

"We give practical support too. FSW runs its own food bank, filled by churches and schools collecting for us. Supplementing the families' food cupboards is important, especially during the holidays when there are no school lunches. We run a fuel support scheme and will help with electric and gas bills by topping up keys for key meters. Toy Services at Christmas give us a supply of presents for Christmas, birthdays and other times too, to prevent the social pressure encouraging parents into debt."

Demand from families is growing. Schools across Sussex and other family support agencies are calling for FSW help. FSW is working hard to increase the number of support practitioners to meet the need.

● If you would like to support the work of FSW by donating or volunteering please contact them on (01273) 832963 or e-mail admin@familysupportwork.org.uk

Comfort and Joy

How much we need both comfort and joy this Christmas! They will be the themes for our **Worship for All service on 13th December, 10am at Amberley.**

What brings you comfort – or joy? It might be something big or small. We'd love it if you would share your contributions in words or a photograph, or perhaps a poem or a drawing. Please get in touch with Gerry or Mel as we'd love to include things in the service and hope to incorporate some of them into our Christmas decorations in the church. Contributions from all ages are welcome.

Sharing Comfort and Joy

A practical way to share comfort and joy this Christmas is by giving gifts for families who may be struggling at Christmas. There will be a chance to bring your gifts to the Worship for All service on 13th December, or they may be left with Mel at Old Place or at the vicarage by that date.

As last year the gifts will be distributed by Family Support Work who work with families across Sussex. Please note gifts must be new and unwrapped and could include children's toys, books and also gifts suitable for teenagers including vouchers or toiletries.

Reflections on the Christmas story

We have less chance to socialise as Christmas approaches this year, but we can meet online to think about what's at the heart of Advent and Christmas. Our advent course consists of four group meetings by Zoom, at 4pm on Thursdays starting 26th November. We shall use art, music, the Bible and discussion to help our reflections on the Christmas story. Please get in touch with Gerry for the Zoom link if you are interested in joining.

A word or two of thanks from the Editor...

To all our readers and loyal advertisers for their support during this challenging year.

To Pam Keeble, who co-ordinates the distribution of the magazine, and the many volunteers who deliver it in all weathers on a monthly basis.

To all our contributors, without whose valuable input there would be no magazine.

To Mike Beck for his excellent photography and for his time and trouble covering various events for us.

To our eagle-eyed proof reader(s) who have saved me from much embarrassment.

To our excellent printer, Barkers Print of Dorking, for the outstanding quality of the print and superb service.

And last, but by no means least, my long-suffering wife who not only looks after the advertising but the revenue, too.

My heartfelt thanks to you all.

Mike Toynbee



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CHURCH NEWS



A suitably socially-distanced Remembrance Day service was held on Sunday, November 8 at Amberley's war memorial in the churchyard of St Michael's Church. And, in a first, because of pandemic lockdown restrictions, it was streamed live on Facebook, and watched by more than 100 people. It was subsequently available on Youtube where it was seen by a wider audience. The filming was by Elaine Corbett, who is training to be a lay preacher, and her husband, Colin. The Revd Gerry Burgess conducted the short service, David Lyon read the Act of Remembrance and the names of the fallen in both World Wars. The Last Post was sounded by bugler Ollie Clifford, and wreaths were laid by Air Vice Marshall Mike Adams, and Geoff Uren, chairman of Amberley Parish Council.

Roll of Honour

Men of the Wildbrooks parishes who lost their lives in the two World Wars

FIRST WORLD WAR 1914-1918

Amberley

Thomas Davis, Frederick Duke, Isaac Elcombe, Percy George Hamilton, William Charles Hammond, Reginald Henry Jackson, Ralph Jackson, Herbert William Launder, John Philby, Frederick Quinnell, James Searle, Arthur John Smith, Sydney Onslow Smith, Alfred Wakeham, Peter Wakeham.

North Stoke

Frederick George Scott, Alfred Dennis Knight, Charles Upperton

Parham

Frank Ernest Austin, Arthur Elliott, Percival Drewett Lucas, Reginald John Weller

Greatham

Charles Searle, John James Searle, George Dean

SECOND WORLD WAR 1939-1945

Amberley

Alan Gosden, John Cunningham Jackson, Richard John Latham, Andrew Wontner-Smith, George Johnson, Frederick Hamilton

Greatham

Michael Taperell

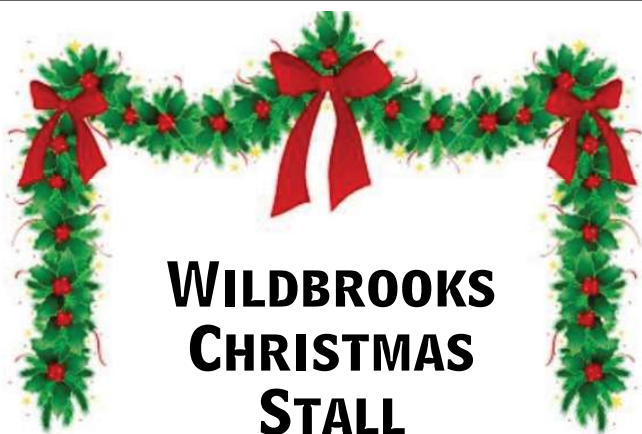
Celebrating Christmas

Advent (meaning 'coming') is the period of four weeks leading up to Christmas. For Christians it is a time of spiritual preparation, marked by prayer, reflection and lighting an Advent candle week by week. 'Coming' refers to Jesus' first coming as a baby, but it also looks forward to His triumphant 'second coming' to establish perfect justice and peace, 'on earth as in heaven'.

Originally Christians marked Advent as a time of restraint before Christmas Day reintroduced them to the joys of feasting. Christmas celebrations lasted for 12 days, with gifts exchanged as a climax at Epiphany (6th January). Today, however, Advent is more often a time of accelerating festivity, with the days following Christmas rather an anti-climax until decorations are removed on 'Twelfth night'. This year, do government regulations mean it will all be over by the 27th? Not for the church, where the season extends until Candlemas at the start of February.

Christmas Day is celebrated as the anniversary of Jesus' birth, although the actual date is not known. Most Christians celebrate it on 25th December. However, the ancient Orthodox Church follows a different calendar and celebrates on 7th January. In normal years, Christians make a point of taking Communion at Christmas. Often this means crowding into joyful services of Midnight Mass as the 25th arrives. This year celebrations must be restricted and our two Communion services at Parham and Amberley will both be on Christmas morning.

On 6th January the festival continues with a celebration of Epiphany, 'the appearing'. Christians remember the visit of wise men (magi) to Jesus, bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Christmas tradition of exchanging gifts originally honoured these men, the first non-Jews (Gentiles) to worship Jesus. It forms a reminder that in Jesus God was giving Himself for the entire world.



WILDBROOKS CHRISTMAS STALL

**SATURDAY, 5 DECEMBER,
THE SQUARE, AMBERLEY**

9.00AM - 1.00PM

(LOCKDOWN RULES PERMITTING!)

**GIFTS, CHRISTMAS CARDS, HOME
PRODUCE AND MORE**

IN AID OF THE WILDBROOKS CHURCHES

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT OUR CHURCHES

may look rather different this year!

This is what we HOPE to welcome you to...

There will also be online options

**Comfort
and Joy**



Saturday 19th December

4pm Crib Blessing, North Stoke (Outdoors)

Sunday 20th December, 3pm and 4.30pm

Carol Services, Amberley (BOOKING NEEDED)

Thursday 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

3pm Journey to the crib – with a difference! Amberley

6pm Christmas service, Wiggonholt (Outdoors)

Friday 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

9am Christmas Communion, Parham (In church)

9am Christmas service, Greatham (Outdoors)

**10.30am Family Christmas Communion, Amberley
(In church)**

*Please look out for details nearer the time
as much depends on Coronavirus regulations*

**Comfort
and Joy**



...at
**St Michael's
This Christmas**

Share comfort and joy this Christmas at our
Special Service

**Sunday 13th December, 10am
St Michael's Church, Amberley**

– bring a toy to give joy to children whose families are struggling New toys only please, not gift wrapped. Gifts for all ages needed, including teenagers – can be vouchers. Gifts will be distributed by Family Support Work – www.familysupportwork.org

– share what brings you comfort or joy, in words, a photograph, a poem, a drawing..big or small, contributions from all ages welcome. Please get in touch with Revd. Gerry as we'd love to include your contributions in the service and incorporate some of them into our Christmas decorations in the church for all to enjoy.

Gifts and 'Comfort and Joy' items can be delivered beforehand to:
Revd. Gerry Burgess, The Vicarage, School Road tel. 01798 831600

revgerryburgess@gmail.com

Mel Edge, Old Place, Church St, tel. 01798 831461
amberleystmichael@gmail.com

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INFORMATION

Fruit & vegetables will be available with your normal food orders as everyone will be having a downsized Christmas. So this year order as you normally do, but we would appreciate orders in early

Deliveries will be :

21st Groceries & Fruit & veg

22nd Groceries & Fruit & veg

23rd AVS Club only Groceries & Fruit & veg

24th Groceries only no Fresh produce

You can pre order everything using our order form. Enter the future date, or the 25th if its just for that week. The earlier the better to guarantee Cheese. Milk.

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PEOPLE & EVENTS

Welcome...

To **Jessica and Reuben**, who have moved into 11 Newland Gardens. And to **Oliver and Emma Marchant-Lane** and their two boys, the new owners of Brook Green, Hog Lane. We wish them all every happiness in their new homes.

Farewell...

To **Xenia Coventry**, who looked after her godmother, Sheila Jefferson, during the final years of her life. Sheila died in 2018, aged 99. "We've made some beautiful friends and I would like to thank them all for the help and support they've given me over the last couple of years. Also, thanks to everyone who helped me clear the cottage of furniture and paintings with the generous donations to St Michael's.

Congratulations...

To **Eric Blunden**, of 4 Wayside Cottages, Greatham Lane, who celebrated his 90th birthday on November 16. Eric and his late wife, Sheila, ran the weekly whist drive at Rackham Old School for many years, and has been an active member of the organising committee and a successful competitor at the annual Rackham Flower Show and Fete.



And to **Louise Blunden**, Eric's granddaughter, who raised just over £800 for Parkinson's UK, in memory of her grandmother, Sheila, who lived with the disease and died suddenly at the end of April this year. Ellie set herself the challenge of walking one million steps in 30 days. "A lot of people thought I was mad," says Ellie. "Luckily we had pretty good weather during the challenge but I did find it a lot harder when it rained or if I had a less active day at work. I am sure my Nanny would be very proud and I know she was with me every step of the way."

To **Don Gallagher**, our resident actor, who is playing Willie Whitelaw in the latest series of *The Crown*. Don, who moved back to Amberley from Houghton and now lives in The Alley, made his television debut in 1984 in *Shine On Harvey Moon* and has appeared in numerous stage productions for both the National Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Company. However, he has a professed penchant for musicals, performing on the West End stage as De Bris in *The Producers*, Javert in *Les Misérables* and, standing at six foot one, an imposing transsexual Bernadette in *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.

MP's key role on climate change

Arundel and South Downs MP Andrew Griffith has been appointed as the Prime Minister's UK net zero business champion.



He will be responsible for supporting the country's business community to make credible plans to net zero by 2050 or earlier and showcase the UK's place as a global leader in tackling climate change.

The role will be crucial in helping drive a green recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and in the run up to the UN's 26th Climate Change Conference (COP26) which is due to be held in Glasgow in November next year.

In his new role Mr Griffith will work closely with Business Secretary and COP26 President Alok Sharma to support as many UK businesses as possible to commit to net zero targets.

Over the next year, Mr Griffith will play a vital role in harnessing the potential of British firms as they launch new products, attract new investment and create new jobs.

Previously group chief operating officer at Sky, he became Boris Johnson's chief business adviser, based in 10 Downing Street in July.

STOP PRESS

We are in Tier 2

The whole of West Sussex, along with most of rural England, has been placed in the Tier 2 category once the latest national lockdown ends on December 2.

Differences between the new tiers include restrictions on where households can meet up:

- Tier one: the rule of six applies everywhere, indoors and out
- Tier two: the rule of six applies outdoors but there is no household mixing anywhere indoors
- Tier three: can only meet other households in outdoor public spaces like parks, where the rule of six applies

Gyms and close-contact beauty services like hairdressers will be able to open in all tiers. Guidance said people in all tiers who can work from home, should continue to do so. Pubs and restaurants in tier two can only open to serve "substantial meals", while those in tier three can only operate as a takeaway or delivery service.

- See pages 19-21, including what's allowed at Christmas

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The Bridge Inn

Houghton Bridge

*As we near the end of this challenging
year we would simply like to wish
everyone a safe and healthy Christmas
and a happy and prosperous New Year.*

Natasha, Dave and team.

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Elizabeth Butler, 1951-2020

Elizabeth Butler, who has died aged 68, maintained Amberley's long tradition as a base for artists. She followed in the footsteps of luminaries such as Edward Stott and Francis Derwent Wood, Harold Latham, Felicia Lievin-Bauwens and, more recently, Margaret Hepburn and Antonia Maas, and was herself an artist of international acclaim.

According to a former school friend, Elizabeth, who was born in London, was the star artist in their year at school, and went on to study at the Byam Shaw School of Painting and Drawing, and at the Royal College of Art.

She subsequently won a scholarship to continue post graduate training at Karlsruhe Art Academy in Germany, where she formed strong connections, completing a commission to paint a 60sq m fresco in the barracks at Bruchsal in 1991.

Her life was sadly dogged by illness, compounded by lead poisoning, caused by a mix-up between lead white and zinc white paint, which she inhaled while working in Germany. However she got through tough detoxification and settled here in West Sussex in 1974, initially living in a caravan at Houghton Bridge.

With this as her base, she continued to visit Germany and made several journeys to Australia, where she found the inspiration for much of her subsequent work, and where, in Perth, she had a joint exhibition with her friend, the woodworker artist Albert Könerman.

According to the art critic Michael Huebl she created sensitively mixed paintings that could be described as "colour soundscapes, delicately luminous areas interspersed with delicate dots, sometimes reminiscent of multi-layered shimmering cuts through precious stones, sometimes of floating cloud formations".

For many years she combined her studio painting with design work, mural painting for domestic interiors, including many locally, and some astonishing fabric painting for upholstery. Later, with her former school friend, she continued with scenic and mural painting for film and theatre work.

Locally, Elizabeth was closely involved with St Michael's Church, where she became both secretary to the Parochial



Church Council and was a keen bellringer, taking over as Captain. She became great friends with Janet Aidin, who she met shortly after her arrival at Houghton Bridge in 1974, and joined her as a member of the Friends of North Stoke Church, which had come into the care of the Churches Conservation Trust in 1992. The Friends care for the 12th century church on a day-to-day basis, and organise events, such as talks, concerts and religious drama. Elizabeth played an active role, and with Janet, was responsible for the design and creation of a new Christmas crib (featured on this month's front cover) in memory of the mother of Annabelle Hughes, another of the Friends. It was inaugurated on Christmas Eve, 2010, and there has been a subsequent crib blessing service every year since. This year it takes place on December 19.

Janet Aidin's words are a fitting tribute: "Artistically, Elizabeth had what only artists have, a sense of the genius of place, person and time and the ability to render that visible."

The funeral took place at Chichester Crematorium on November 9, at which her brother, Anthony, gave a moving panegyric.



Far left:
Elizabeth
in the bell
tower of St
Michael's
Church,
and outside
admiring the
view of the
Downs she
loved

Rail crossing hazard

The Amberley Society is calling on Network Rail to instigate a “thorough investigation” following an unsatisfactory response to an official safety complaint relating to the railway crossing on the path below Amberley Castle.

“For whatever reasons, the complaint [initially filed by Amberley Parish Council on behalf of the Amberley Society] was clearly not fully investigated and your response was unsatisfactory,” wrote Grahame Joseph, chair of the society, in a strongly worded letter to the rail infrastructure company. He said there had been three recent incidents involving pedestrians who had fallen over on the slippery wood pavement while crossing the line, adding that these accidents had occurred because of insufficient anti-slip surfaces.

“On your website you claim that crossings are one of your most critical risks. The Amberley Society requests you fully investigate our safety complaint with the scrutiny it deserves,” he continued.

The crossing was also used by agricultural and railway maintenance vehicles and anti-slip treatment had been applied where the wheel tracks would pass. “The section in the middle, where pedestrians are most likely to walk, is unprotected,” said Mr Joseph, adding that there was no delineation between vehicular and footpath crossings.

He drew attention to the fact that:

- It is a busy main line with frequent trains.
- The footpath connecting Amberley village with the river Arun and the South Downs was also well-used.
- The northbound and southbound tracks are at different levels, with a significant seven to nine-degree slope between the two.
- In looking out for trains as they cross, as signs instruct them to do, pedestrians are unlikely to notice, or expect, a sudden change of slope or there to be no anti-slip surface underfoot.
- In such a potentially dangerous environment as crossing a busy railway line, it is only natural that pedestrians would walk in the centre of the crossing.
- Pedestrians walking side-by-side are particularly at risk, as are those walking dogs.
- There are no warning signs about the surface being slippery when wet or about the unexpected slope.

“With present autumnal rains and frosts urgent action is



An accident waiting to happen: the dangerously slippery crossing surface

required before there is a serious accident,” concluded Mr Joseph.

- Network Rail has since responded: “Our team have agreed to add yellow anti slip paint to the surface which should solve the problem.” However, no timescale was given.

Changes to the rail timetable

Southern’s new timetable comes into effect on December 13 with a number of additional services but, disappointingly, losing the late afternoon northbound ‘museum special’ on weekdays.

There are three extra services from Amberley to London Victoria in the morning – at 05.54, 06.50 and 07.47 – with the single departure to London Bridge being retimed to operate 20 minutes earlier at 06.18.

From Victoria there are two additional departures during the morning peak – at 05.54 and 07.06 – and three during the late afternoon/evening – 16.05, 19.05 and 20.05. The existing 17.12 departure from London Bridge has been retimed to 18.02.

The Monday to Friday 16.50 departure from Amberley for home-going visitors to the museum will no longer operate but has – as promised – been retained on Saturdays.

- See timetable on page 54

Southern has given advance warning that there will be a nine-day shutdown on much of the Arun Valley line from August 14 to 22 next year to enable extensive engineering work. There will also be four weekend closures during July and October. Replacement buses will be provided.



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SCHOOL REPORT - AUTUMN TERM



Early Years has always been a strength at Amberley Primary but this term has been particularly special. Our children have loved the autumn and have asked me to convey their experiences to you all:

"Willow class have had a fantastic start to the year with our 'Into the Woods' topic.

We made good use of the warm, sunny weather while it lasted and worked outside as often as we could, exploring the school's woodland areas, getting to know the trees and watching the seasons change.

We used our knowledge of the woods to write some amazing autumn poetry and had a special treat when Mr Graham Bowring brought some hedgehogs to see us and we found out all about hibernation!

Our older pupils have helped to lead the learning, collecting leaves and seeds, which we have used for everything from learning about colour-mixing, to collage and counting.

We found out about the things that live and grow in the woods and planted some new woodland bulbs to improve our Forest School site. We can't wait to see what they will look like in the spring!

We enjoyed retelling the story of *Little Red Riding Hood* and created some *Walking in the Woods* music to make it more exciting! Some of us made a wolf-trap that was painted to look like a tree and we laid a trail of food to try and trick the big, bad wolf!

We read about Robin Hood and went on a search for our own ancient tree. We loved building hideouts, cooking bread over a fire and making bows and arrows in Forest school.

Willow Class have learnt to work as a team and have already shown that they have lots of imagination...this is going to be an exciting year!"

For more information about Amberley Primary and our latest news see <https://www.amberley.w-sussex.sch.uk> **Su Cork**

Supporting outdoor learning

Despite the fact they have been unable to run their usual fundraising events this term, the Friends of Amberley School are going ahead with their popular Christmas raffle.

"This has been a tough year for everybody and we are so grateful that our wonderful little village school has been fully open since June," says FASA, which is currently raising money to fund additional training, equipment, materials, experiences and activities for outdoor learning...in fact anything the teachers need to make the most of our facilities." These include the Willow Class outdoor play area, the Nature Space outdoor classroom and a dedicated Forest School area.

"We would like to thank our all our raffle donors and, in particular our generous sponsors – LMC Autos and Spinaker Wealth Management – two local businesses who have enabled us to fund some fantastic star prizes. These include luxury hampers, a Kindle, Lego and a Harry Potter invisibility cloak (which actually makes you disappear!).

Please do buy your tickets at £1 each in readiness for the draw on Wednesday, December 16. Ticket sales are virtual and can be ordered via friends.of.amberley.school@gmail.com, with payment made via our Just Giving site. Just e-mail us and we will send you more details.

We would be most grateful for any and all additional donations to our Just Giving page, no matter how small. Just search Amberley School at www.justgiving.co.uk

Merry Christmas and thank you!

Friends of Amberley School Association



Six-year-old Ivo Dalhuisen, grandson of Robert and Rose Englehart, lays a wreath of poppies on the altar in an empty Greatham Church on Remembrance Sunday

In Green Pastures

Ros Simpson's first novel has just been published. Here she talks to Alex Dunlop about the journey from journalist to author

"Two of my heroes are Archbishop TuTu and Nelson Mandela," Ros says as we sit, socially distanced, facing the start of the second lockdown the next day.

A long-time lover of books, former writer for the *West Sussex County Times*, committed Amberley resident and friend to horses, Ros said she's "fed up with novels about murder, crime and dystopia. I wanted to read more stories about reconciliation and recovery." So she set about writing her own. The result is *In Green Pastures*, which has just been published by Austin Macauley.

"My mother's family spent a year in Halstead, North Essex, and she often talked about it as the best year of her life. When she was ten, her own mother took all five children, including one-year-old twins, to escape the 1917 daytime bombings close to their East London home.

"I think I got my way with words from her. She and her mother had such an adventure then, it seemed the obvious thing to write about. It covers the time when Britain was only three weeks away from running out of food, and the Women's Land Army was formed to help feed the nation. There's so much that people don't really know about how the country dealt with the daily problems of life under war." Ros is steeped in her subject that ranges from historical facts to family history, and a heap of carefully-crafted fiction.

"I think the best thing I made up was my central character, Florence: 29 years old, feisty and unmarried"

The most personal research she did was to visit the village where her relatives spent the year 1917-1918. She spoke to Jim at the local historical society, looked around the inside of the church and even tracked down her mother's temporary home.

"I needed some factual help," she says, "The NFU was great on the economics of farming. I also asked a medic if there's a condition that I could give one of my characters that I planned to be wounded but recover to a degree. That's when I learned about hysterical blindness."

Ros returned to Sussex and, feeling a little "monastic" about her writing, didn't join a writing group as so many novices do. Instead, she sat by herself and wrote a timeline for the year she would cover before embarking on the process of writing an unfolding story. "My



A novel approach: Ros Simpson

mother's experience gave me the germ of an idea," she said, and of course, it grew, and grew and grew.

Through the initial process she told herself, 'I'm trying to write a novel.' When the end was in sight she started to say, "I am writing a novel and will do the best I can for it." She attended some Creative Writing courses at West Dean College – "they were really helpful," she says. "If you want to write, observe good writing," she says. "I was open to professional criticism and it really worked for me."

At the end of her first draft she had something like 170,000 words to deal with, and that's when the learning began. "Early readers were very encouraging, but told me that I needed to cut the adjectives and put in some dialogue."

Ros sought the help of a professional editor and, in the painstaking edits that followed, has ended up with a 90,000-word novel covering an eventful year in the life of Florence and Nell as they traverse friendship, challenges, pain and personal fulfilment. "The farmer, his wife and son become very important characters and the trauma suffered is crucial to the story," which, of course, features some recovery and redemption.

The writing was a challenge as she expected and the blocks to getting published came as no surprise. "I worked through the huge tome of The Writers & Artists Yearbook and it took the whole of August 2019 to prepare 15 pitches to possible agents and publishers. I would've self-published if I had to, but Austin Macauley came along and have been great. They have given me an author website, a guide to marketing and are always responsive. They brought professional production while allowing me a say over the final edit and the jacket design. I knew the image I wanted; it's owned by the Imperial War Museum and I love how the cover looks.



Ros' current step is marketing the book with help from Austin Macauley, which will be more challenging with many bookshops and book events closed as a result of Covid. Once the sales start, Ros has some ideas for another book. "I don't like long series with the same characters but I do like Florence and I'd like to carry her into another period book, possibly set in Sussex."

● Copies of *In Green Pastures* are available from www.austinmacauley.com/book/green-pastures and there will be signed copies in Amberley Village Stores. If you buy one and bump into Ros after lockdown, she may well personalise it for you.

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THESE DIFFICULT TIMES & HOPE THAT YOU & YOUR
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**At this point we do not know what tier we will be in & what the restrictions
we will have to abide by so please do give us a call for any further info!**

Our CHRISTMAS 2020 MENU is now available!

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CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 NEWS

Containing the spread of Covid locally

As we have previously written, a total of 23 people from 10 households in the Wildbrooks parishes have contracted COVID 19 since the start of the pandemic. The incidence in time has mirrored the national numbers.

Thus we had a wave of 21 cases initially, mainly in March, with two recent cases being an echo of the second wave. From the Wildbrooks parishes' survey, reported in the October edition of the magazine, the willingness of 106 out of 107 responding to disclose in confidence to the Hub that they have become infected reflects the community spirit which we all cherish.

It is particularly heartening that all the people who have been infected have isolated rigorously and there has been no onward transmission within the parishes. It is of course important to let people who you have spent time with in the 48 hours before you develop symptoms, know that you have become infected, since the virus spreads in the pre-symptomatic stage. Those people need to isolate for two weeks since they could potentially spread the virus further.

As this onward spread has not happened in the parishes we suspect that this 'personal tracing' has been happening on an informal basis. Now that the Test and Trace system is in place the trust you have placed in the Hub should be carried through with them, so that the encouraging containment of the virus within our community can continue.

If you think you have symptoms, call this number: 07484 157 156

A dedicated local phone line has been set up for people who have symptoms which they believe match infection by the Covid-19 coronavirus. The idea is that it provides support for those who are potentially infected.

They are asked to ring in once a day. As a fall-back if they do not call and cannot be contacted, someone will come to the house. This phone line is manned by three people in turn: Richard Robinson, Jeff Feakins and David Lyon.

If you believe you have become infected and wish to use this facility, the number to ring is 07484 157 156. It is available 24/7.

The information is obviously confidential although we intend to publicise the overall numbers of those infected.

Amberley Neighbourhood Helpline

www.amberleyhelpline.co.uk

'Tis the season to be jolly..... careful



Christmas bubble rules

What are the Govt rules over Christmas? There is an easing of the Covid restrictions over the Christmas period for Christmas bubbles.



During the period 23 – 27 December, you can form a Christmas bubble – this means that members of the Christmas bubble can visit each others' homes, stay overnight, go to a place of worship together and meet in public outdoor places. You cannot otherwise meet your Christmas bubble in any other setting unless allowed by the Tier rules for your area.

Specifics of Christmas bubble:

- No more than three different households
- You can only be in one Christmas bubble which cannot change
- Existing support bubbles count as one household
- If both households within a Childcare bubble are to be included in a Christmas bubble they count as two households
- Under 18s, whose parents do not live together, may be part of both parents' Christmas bubbles
- Members of a household bubble can choose to be in separate Christmas bubbles, but each can only be in one Christmas bubble
- If you are a student who has moved home for the university, you are considered to be part of that household's bubble for Christmas
- Specific rules apply to Care Homes – see govt guidance – visits out of care homes may only be considered for those of working age

People may continue to work in other people's homes where necessary, such as for nannies, cleaners or tradespeople. To reduce risk, they should observe social distancing wherever possible, and where it can be avoided should not go into homes that are hosting Christmas bubbles

Rules on self-isolation must be followed and apply if either you, someone you live with, someone in your childcare or support bubble, or someone you have been in contact with, has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus. This means you must not form a Christmas bubble if you have coronavirus symptoms or are self-isolating.



CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 NEWS

Govt Covid Rules differentiated by tier				
TIER 1 - MEDIUM ALERT				
MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY	Maximum of six indoors or outdoors, apart from with members of a single household or support bubble.	No mixing indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors	No mixing of households indoors, or most outdoor places, excl support bubbles. Maximum of six in some outdoor public spaces (e.g. parks, public gardens)	
	Venues must be table service only. They must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm	Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. No orders after 10pm and close by 11pm	Hospitality is closed, with the exception of sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery	
	Open	Open	Open	
	Open	Open	Open. No group activities and classes	
BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS	Permitted with household, support bubble, or up to 6 people	Permitted with household, support bubble	Advised against overnight stays other than with household or support bubble	
	15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals	15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals	15 guests for weddings/civil partnerships and wakes; 30 for funerals. Wedding receptions not permitted	
ENTERTAINMENT	Open	Open	Indoor venues closed	
	Open, but cannot interact with more than six people	Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubbles	As for tier 2	
PLACES OF WORSHIP	Walk or cycle if possible, plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid travelling into a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply	As for tier 1 and - Reduce the number of journeys you make	As for tier 2 and - Avoid travelling outside your area, other than where necessary such as for work or education.	
	Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but must follow the rule of six indoors. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue	As for tier 1 but classes and organised adult sports cannot take place indoors if interaction between different households	As for tier 2 and - Avoid higher-risk contact activity	
EXERCISE	Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 4000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)	Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)	Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted	
LARGE EVENTS				

NB There are other rules for schools and residential care which are the same for all tiers. For example, schools are all open and for residential care, outdoor/airtight visits only, subject to roll-out of rapid testing.

The Amberley Which? Guide to COVID vaccines

Richard Robinson provides an assessment of the three potential vaccines which have recently been announced

The results of big clinical trials of 3 different vaccines have just been announced within 2 weeks of each other. All gave 2 injections of their vaccine 1 month apart. Half the participants received the vaccine (the “vaccine arm”) and the other half received an injection of non protective saline (“the placebo arm”). All have shown high degrees of protection – including in the elderly. Unwanted effects occurred in 2-3% in all, were brief and mainly consisted of a mildly sore arm, headache and fatigue. Was there anything to choose between them? Yes, but a bit of background first.

The first two to announce, the Moderna vaccine and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine employed a method never used in before in vaccine production. They injected a small segment of the genetic code of the virus. This crucially codes for the spike protein on the virus. The spike protein is used by the virus to attach to and then infect the host cells.

The Moderna trial involved over 30,000 people. There were 5 cases in the vaccine arm vs, 90 cases in the placebo arm, equating to 95% protection. There were no cases with severe infection in the active arm vs 11 in the placebo arm.

The Pfizer-BioNTech trial involved 43,000 people. They found 8 cases in the vaccine arm vs 162 in the placebo group – again equating to 95% protection.

The Oxford-Astrazeneca trial involved 20,000 people. The method they used to prepare the vaccine was different but was one that they had already shown to be effective in other viruses such as MERS and Ebola. The bit of genetic code used to make the spike protein is introduced into an innocuous coronavirus which causes the common cold in chimpanzees known as the vector. The vector is injected and proceeds to make spike protein. The body’s immune system then reacts to this foreign protein and starts to make antibodies. These protect against naturally acquired infection. What did they find? There were 30 cases in the vaccine arm vs 101 cases in the placebo arm equating to 70% infection. None of the cases in the vaccine arm required hospitalisation.

It would seem therefore that all three vaccines are pretty good with the first two getting the Best Buy recommendation.

However the story does not quite end there. The Oxford study routinely tested all the volunteers and so included all

the asymptomatic numbers in their case numbers. The other two only tested those who self reported symptoms. We know that some 60% of those infected are asymptomatic so the numbers of cases with symptoms in the Oxford study would be much lower than the 101 reported – more in line with the other two vaccines.

“The Oxford study, perhaps in error, gave 3,000 people in the active arm, half the dose in the first jab. When they analysed the results in this sub group they found the vaccine conferred 90 per cent protection – and remember they were still counting asymptomatic cases. In the remainder getting two full doses there was 62 per cent protection. The reason for this interesting difference may be that following a full dose in the first jab, the body starts making antibodies to the innocuous

vector thereby muffling the effect of the second jab. With this tweak, therefore, it is likely that the Oxford-Astrazeneca vaccine is at least as effective as the other two.”

The Oxford-Astrazeneca vaccine has two other major advantages. It costs about £3 for the two jabs whereas the Pfizer-BioNTech costs £30 and the Moderna vaccine £38-45. This is a major

consideration not least for developing countries. Further, the Oxford vaccine is stable and can be kept indefinitely in a fridge. The Moderna vaccine is only stable for up to a month in a fridge and the Pfizer-BioNTech can only be kept in a fridge for a few days. Otherwise it has to be stored at -70C using dry ice. This would present a major logistical problem in many countries.

Astrazeneca say they can produce 3 billion doses next year, Pfizer 1.3 billion doses and Lonza the Moderna drugmaker 400,000. There are 7 billion people in the world -14 million shots if everybody got it.

It looks therefore that the Oxford- Astrazeneca vaccine may be as effective as the other two in terms of efficacy and is way ahead in terms of cost and delivery. It could become a global game changer. However many other vaccines are in trial all over the world which have yet to announce their results and the picture may change.

Who gets the vaccine first is a hot topic. In this country, care homes and the over 80s accounted for two thirds of deaths. They and front line NHS staff will be prioritised first, possibly starting before Christmas. Thereafter it is likely to be rolled out by descending age in the new year. It is most unlikely to be mandatory but obviously the more people getting the vaccine the greater the protection for the community as a whole. Globally, the WHO and the Oxford group are very keen that the poorest nations should not be last in the queue not least because “no one is safe until all are safe”.



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The B2139 Community Speedwatch Group

Volunteers monitor speeders

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative for active members of local communities to have the support of the police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Police, in our case Sussex police, give training to new groups and help them set up.

Group formation

Our group established in Houghton (Arun district) was re-named in March 2020 to welcome members from Amberley and Houghton Bridge (Horsham district) and to share use of a radar gun which was bought by Amberley Parish Council with the help of the Police Property Action Fund. We now have 13 volunteer operators spread across three settlements: six in Amberley, two in Houghton Bridge and five in Houghton.

After risk assessment by Sussex police, three initial sites were approved: at the west end of the Causeway, by Station Road in Houghton Bridge, and on Turnpike Road in Amberley. Approval was later given to a site in central Houghton, but our request for a site on Rackham Road was declined.

Procedures

Volunteers work in pairs and follow safety procedures laid down by the police and their insurers. These rules forbid taking photographs or returning the spontaneous gestures of passing motorists. Each roadside session must be scheduled in advance on the CSW website to allow resulting records to be checked against DVLA records, and then entered into the police database.

Across the UK a speeding offence is defined as travelling above the speed limit + 10% + 2 mph i.e. recorded at 36 mph through Houghton and Houghton Bridge or 47 mph in Amberley.

Since our first session on July 23 our group has resulted in police warning letters to 161 offenders and a home visit from the traffic police for one multiple offender. Several vehicles were found to have no insurance or MoT.

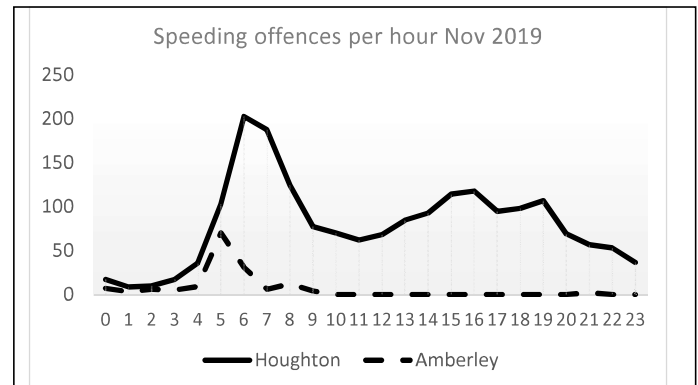
Emerging patterns

Last year the traffic counter near the South Downs Way crossing indicated that almost all speeding offences occur between 9pm and 9am in that 40mph zone. Unfortunately that counter has not recorded anything since March 17 this year so we cannot use that to estimate hourly flow rates or patterns of speeding.

The most recent data for Houghton Bridge are 12 years old but we do have more recent data from the centre

of Houghton in November last year which suggest that the number of speeding offences on weekdays ranges from 30 to 80 westbound and 30 to 140 eastbound (downhill).

When data for both directions (weekdays November 2019) are combined by hour there is clear variation in time and place which has been confirmed by our own observations. Although few offences were recorded by the automated counter at New Barn Road we will not know at what speed westbound traffic enters Amberley until we have reliable results from the new site approved on the south of the road.



Source: WSCC Traffic Monitoring Database <https://wstraffdata.cdmf.info>

Action now

Thanks to our county councillor Paul Marshall, Houghton and Amberley are in discussion with West Sussex County Council's Highways Department about on a number of issues on around the B2139, specifically, on improving safety by controlling the volume, weight and speed of traffic.

Any member of the public is encouraged to report anti-social or dangerous driving, including speeding, to Operation Crackdown online at www.operationcrackdown.org or phone (01243) 642222 giving the vehicle registration number, make and colour as well as time and location.

Vehicle details can be confirmed by DVLA at www.vehicleenquiry.service.gov.uk/. Comparisons of speedwatch and antisocial driving reports in other districts and parishes across Sussex can be found at www.dashboard.sussexsrp.org.uk/opcrackdown/charts/.

Please consider offering two to four hours a month to support our Speedwatch group. You can start by talking to me, Charles Shaw (cdshaw@btinternet.com) or one of our coordinators: Chris Hough (Houghton), Laura Rawnsley (Houghton Bridge) or Sandy Guthrie (Amberley).

Or you can go direct to www.communityspeedwatch.org/ to find out more before registering, basic training online and then joining for practical training.

Charles Shaw



161 offenders have been reported to date



PARISH PROFILE – ROGER TOWNSEND

Roger Townsend has been chair of the Amberley Parish Trust for 14 years and is standing down. We asked him to tell us a little about himself and the Trust

What were you doing before you moved to Amberley?

Before retiring in 2005 I worked in health service management, both NHS and overseas, and came to West Sussex with work. Jackie and I moved to Amberley just before Christmas 1993.

You've taken up cycling since your retirement, what is the attraction?

True, I am a keen cyclist – it is brilliant outdoor exercise and there is a great network of relatively quiet lanes and interesting cycling topography (basically hills) easily within reach from the village.

You're a volunteer with the National Park and one of our local tree wardens – what does that involve?

I joined what became the volunteer rangers of the South Downs National Park when I retired and found myself a tree warden at about the same time, both reflecting my enthusiasm for conservation, activity outdoors and the natural world (insofar as it is natural any more).

Your children went to the village school, and eventually university. What are the girls doing now?

Our daughters Nell and Rosie both attended the village school, a lovely experience for them, then went on, via Rydon and Steyning Grammar, to university. Nell to Oxford then Bristol for her PhD and Rosie to Manchester then Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Both now live up north where Nell is a managing specialist in chemical regulation and food safety for an international scientific consultancy and Rosie a radiographer at Salford Royal Infirmary, on the NHS front line. (You can tell we are immensely proud of them both!)

What is it you most like about living in Amberley?

We are privileged to live in a famously attractive village in a superb location with immediate access to lovely countryside and we are part of a notably friendly and caring community.

How was the Trust established and what changes have you seen?

It was a typical Amberley community initiative, well before my involvement, that led to the creation of a trust to save the shop



in 1998. It faced closure because the barn building was sold but, fortunately, the new owners, Ros and Tim Simpson, generously offered the village a 999-year lease of shop so it could keep going. A small group of residents formed the Trust and raised funds for the purchase. Local people made gifts and interest-free loans. Bill Smith's bequest of his property put the Trust in the happy position of sufficient financial security for the trustees to feel reasonably confident about meeting the Trust's objective - to retain a village shop for the foreseeable future.

Colin Woods was already the shop manager when I joined the Trust, and it is Colin who has the credit for developing the shop over these years into the huge asset for the

village that it has become. The Trust has played a supporting role, helping out with funding improvements, unforeseen expenses and the occasional initiative – for example, though commonplace now we were amongst the first to introduce reusable cotton fabric bags (initially provided free to every household) to reduce the use of plastics.

This year has probably seen the greatest challenge since you took over. How has the shop coped?

It is perhaps too easy in normal times to take the Village Stores for granted but I imagine everybody must be aware of how the shop has risen to the challenges presented by Covid and has continued to offer the services that many residents rely on. Colin and his team have had to adapt to a very different way of working, switching at first to delivery only and subsequently opening up to customers, with the necessary precautions. Sustaining the service has incurred extraordinary costs and the Trust has been able to help out with these, suspending rent and providing significant grant funding. The long term impact of these changes remains to be seen but the village can be reassured that the Trust is there to support the business, however things turn out.

The shop is seen as one of the village's greatest assets. How confident are you about its future and what do you see as its biggest potential threat? What part does the Post Office play in its viability?

Small retailers will continue to face relentless pressure as supermarkets and on-line traders compete aggressively on price and choice in ways they will find impossible to match. The long term sustainability of the village shop is ultimately in the hands of the community it serves. If we sufficiently value the things it

offers – everyday convenience and reliability and a safety-net in extraordinary times; its contribution to our social fabric and sense of community; the championing of local produce – then we must give the shop our custom. The post office too, valuable in adding footfall that can boost shop sales, is vulnerable as a “use it or lose it” service. I am optimistic however that our Village Stores is better placed than most, and the existence of the Parish Trust is behind that optimism.

Finally, what advice would you give your successor, who is taking over the chair of the trust?

David, with his extensive experience of the world of retail and his active involvement in the village, needs no advice from me. I was fortunate to have the support of excellent fellow trustees and secretary. David has their wholehearted support. The Trust will be in good hands.

...and the man who is taking over David Vokins

In 2006 Suzy and I were looking for somewhere to move to in this area. We chose Amberley, not just because of its beautiful location, but also because it had a village shop, which we felt was a vital community asset. You could say I am biased having been an independent retailer in Sussex for over 35 years.

There are sadly too many villages where these important assets have been allowed to close. One of the major reasons for the disappearance of so many shops, has been the failure of landlords to realise they have the same interest as the shopkeepers, and to actively support them.

Luckily through the Amberley Parish Trust we have the means to support Colin and his team to meet the challenges, and take the opportunities, that the future has in store.

Roger, through his careful stewardship of the Trust over the past 14 years, has not only supported the shop, but has also built up its financial strength. We all owe him a debt of thanks.

How to renew your magazine subscription

Assuming you would like to renew your annual subscription to the Wildbrooks Magazine – and why wouldn't you? – the cost remains unchanged at £10.

Payment should be sent to Pam Keeble, The Old Bakehouse, Church Street, Amberley BN18 9NE (01798 831 050), with cheques made out to **PCC of Amberley**.

Alternatively, if you would prefer to pay online, payments should be made to PCC of Amberley (Account no: 13834387, sort code 20-98-74) using your surname as reference. If paying by this method, it is essential you advise Pam by e-mailing pamwkebble@gmail.com saying that payment has been made.

Due to ever increasing postal charges, once again it has been necessary to increase the annual subscription for those who receive their copies by mail to £24.50, for which our apologies.

To continue receiving your copy, please ensure payment is made before the end of the year.



Bumper harvest for Nyetimber vineyards

Nyetimber this year hand-harvested – with new social distancing measures in place – grapes from 260 hectares (640 acres) of vineyards across West Sussex, Hampshire and Kent. It is expecting to produce one million bottles from this year's harvest and is aiming to sell double that number within a decade.

The English sparkling wine producer says that almost one-third of its estate is natural 'non-productive' hedgerows, windbreaks, woods, garden, pond and meadow. "We have actively encouraged a fauna-friendly estate [including 200 acres of the Wildbrooks at Amberley] with managed wildlife corridors." It has planted many trees on land it owns with an additional 5,000 being planted over the next two years.

Nyetimber, which supports three local charities – the Mary How Trust, the Friends of Sussex Hospices and Lodge Hill – has generously contributed to a number of local fundraising events, including Amberley School and the Macmillan Coffee Morning.





Amberley's Advent Calendar

When we planned our first Amberley Advent Calendar in, in 2015, I envisaged windows alight with candles and Christmas decorations, and doors opening to reveal surprises. Such was the enthusiasm of supporters that what happened that year was a wonderful range of memorable experiences; workshops, cosy chats, readings and music-making. From then, the Amberley Advent Calendar became ever more amazing year on year.

This year's circumstances mean that it's time to go back to our roots and celebrate our community while respecting social distancing, and raising money for our Calendar charities. Freedom from Torture is the only UK charity which takes care of the emotional and physical health of those who have been tortured. This year we are also donating to The Trussell Trust, which supports families in crisis.

This year, the calendar will appear in Amberley on November 30 when participating households display their numbers. Each day from December 1 until Christmas a numbered house will reveal a decorated door, window, wall, gate, tree or garden. Each decoration will conceal a hidden robin and many will depict a Christmas carol. Why not use your daily exercise to visit one each day and don't miss Tom and Laura in Houghton Bridge!

To make a donation to support our charities, you can either put money in an envelope and pop it through the door of any participating household or in the collecting box in the shop.

As we begin to prepare for Christmas and the ending of this year, walking our village streets and enjoying our Advent Calendar will be very simple pleasures which we can enjoy together and which perhaps express something very important about what we have learned in 2020; the value and joy of small things close to home.

Thank you so much to everyone who has signed up to take part. Please support our Advent Calendar in 2020.

● www.freedomfromtorture.org/real-voices/paying-it-forward-new-friends-and-new-futures

● www.trusselltrust.org/what-we-do/
Sue Belgrave



December	Name	Location
1	Graham and Jackie Hardy	Woodybanks, Rackham Road
2	Catherine Cunningham	Amberley Place, The Alley
3	Tim and Pat Ashby	Old Postings, The Square
4	Janet and Mike Wright	2 Farm Cottages, Crossgates
5	Vicky Ferris	Mellifont, Arun Close East Street
6	Josephine Stagg	3 Hurst Close
7	Sally Rollinson	5 Crossgates
7	Cyndy Kennett	High View, Crossgates
8	Gerry Burgess	The New Vicarage, School Rd
9	David + Lillis Lyon	Oak Tree House, Church Street
10	Sarah Wheeler	The Old Bakery, Church Street
11	Tom and Laura Rawnsley	Old School House, North Stoke Lane Houghton Bridge
12	Mary + Guy Leonard	Yeomans Cottage, Drewetts Farm, Church Street
13	Glenys Rowe	Southdown House, High Street
14	Wendy Carter	Brookside, Hog Lane
15	Jax Feakins	Brookside, Hog Lane
16	Sarah Weatherstone	Stream House High Street
17	Alex Garrity	Wildbrooks, East Street
18	Mark Brown	The Haven, Church Street
19	Sarah Weatherstone	Kennards, Hog Lane
20	Callie Lowe	8 Crossgates
21	Alex Dunlop	North Road Farmhouse, Hog Lane
22	Elisabeth Tooms	The Stowe East Street
23	Sue Belgrave	Leith House East Street



The lunches of Christmas past...

One of the big disappointments of the Covid lockdowns has been the cancellation of all but the first of this year's Amberley Village lunches. In December we would have normally be attending the popular Christmas gathering – always a sell-out with around 70 people sitting down for a traditional turkey meal with all the trimmings, followed by Christmas pudding and a visit from Father Christmas.

The lunches – normally four a year – have been a village institution for as long as most people can remember, overseen for many years by Pru Guthrie, followed by Cyndy Kennett. Apart from being a delicious home-cooked meal

by the many volunteers, it remains outstanding value for money, at £6 for two courses and a glass of wine or a soft drink thrown in for good measure.

Says Sandie Conlon, who has led the team of volunteers for the past ten years or so: "We couldn't maintain the price, given rising food costs, were it not for the special rates given by our excellent local butcher and Amberley Village Stores, significant seasonal and annual donations by anonymous supporters, combined with good, old fashioned home economics and cooking skills, and the commitment of our voluntary helpers."

The current team of volunteers includes Hazel Allinson, Jaxx Feakins, Linda Hartless, Rhona Hoy, Pam Keeble, Cyndy Kennett, Pat Morley and Janet Wright, with many other helpers, including Russell Coates, Geoff Conlon, Grahame Joseph and Mike Wright. As Father Christmas, Vic Hearn has helped raise hundreds of pounds at the Christmas lunch in aid of the Kent Sussex Surrey Air Ambulance.

It is a magnificent team effort, with a lunch executed with military precision, and is always a convivial gathering for Amberley residents. If you have not attended one, do put your name down when the list appears in Amberley Village Stores for the next one – hopefully in the not too distant future when life gets back to some normality.



WE LOVE PLANTS - GARDEN DESIGN BY NIC HOWARD

GARDEN DESIGN - PLANTING DESIGN - CONSULTANCY

WWW.WE-LOVE-PLANTS.CO.UK
01883 744 020





Christmas posting deadlines

UNITED KINGDOM

Friday, December 18
Second class

Monday, December 21
First class

Wednesday, December 23
Special Delivery (guaranteed)

OVERSEAS

Friday, December 4
Australia and New Zealand

Wednesday, December 9
Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central and South America,
Far and Middle East

Thursday, December 10
Canada, Cyprus, Malta

Friday, December 11
Greece, Eastern Europe (excluding Poland,
Czech Republic and Slovakia) and Turkey

Saturday, December 12
Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA

Wednesday, December 16
Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands,
Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and Switzerland

Wednesday, December 18
Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

Wildbrooks Christmas stall

In the absence of many of the usual seasonal events, the Wildbrooks Churches are planning a Christmas stall in Amberley Square during the morning of Saturday, December 5, from 9am until 1pm. Gifts, Christmas cards, home produce and more will be on sale.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas services, like many things, will be rather different this year.

Because of larger numbers attending, these services are particularly dependent on government regulations at the time, so **please look out for updates** in December, via posters, leaflets and Listserve, or phone Gerry or a churchwarden.

These are the planned services:

Carol services: There will be two identical carol services, both at **Amberley on Sunday 20th December at 3pm and 4.30pm. YOU NEED TO BOOK** for one of these services: please contact Mel Edge or Revd Gerry with details of who will be attending.

We're sorry it is not possible to hold a carol service at Parham this year.

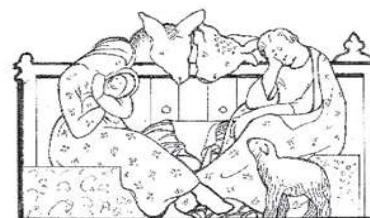
Christmas Eve: Wiggonholt plans a churchyard Christmas services for all ages at 6pm. Wrap up warmly and enjoy the familiar readings and carols as Christmas arrives.

NB there is NO Midnight Mass at Wiggonholt or Amberley this year.

Christmas Day: Traditional Christmas Communion at Parham (9am) – with overflow into the churchyard if necessary.

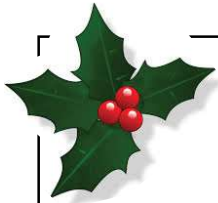
Christmas service at Greatham (not Communion) 9am – in the churchyard

Family Christmas Communion at Amberley 10.30am



Blessing of the Christmas Crib
ST MARY THE VIRGIN NORTH STOKE
Saturday 19 December 4 o'clock
IN THE CHURCHYARD
Bring a torch please and warm clothes

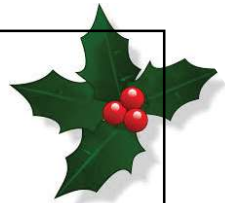
Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours



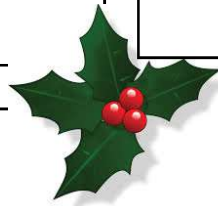
**Merry Christmas
Everyone!**

**We send our warmest good wishes
and high hopes for a healthy and
happy 2021.**

Jacqui and Bob Middleton

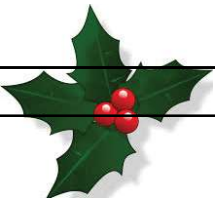


*Sarah and Mike
Send warmest wishes
to you and your family
during the
Christmas Season
and
All the very best for 2021*



Rob and Glenys Rowe
wish all their friends and neighbours
happiness and good health
for Christmas and 2021

Dear Amberley,
Happy Christmas and New Year.
With love from The Skinners
(Drewitts Farmhouse)



Lillis and David Lyon
Wish all those in the
Wildbrooks Parishes
A Merry Christmas
And a Healthy 2020

*Nick, Sarah & Bella, of Stream House/
Kennards, are so grateful to all our lovely
new neighbours/friends, for making us so
welcome in Amberley! We have found our
forever home!*

*Have a wonderful Christmas
and a Happy New Year! X*



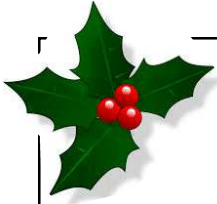
*Steve and Cyndy wish all their
friends in and around Amberley
as happy a Christmas as possible
and good health and happiness
in 2021*

*Janet and Mike's bubble
wish all their friends' and
neighbours' bubbles
a very healthy and
completely different
New Year*





Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours



Amberley Parish Council would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

Season's greetings to all, with special thanks to Crossgates neighbours for their very much appreciated help.

Janet Bates



Jim and Alison

Wish all their friends

A happy and healthy

Christmas

John and Stella wish all our Friends and Neighbours

in Amberley

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Farewell now to 2020

Full of Covid cares aplenty.

Happy 2021

And Merry Christmas everyone!

Marj and James Tolson, and Tilly

Tim and Ros

Wish all in our community a very Happy Christmas, and the best of good fortune in 2021.

Looking forward to better times ahead



Sally and Peter Rollinson wish to thank all our friends and neighbours for their love, support and comfort through this difficult year and wish them joy, peace and health this Christmas and hope for the future

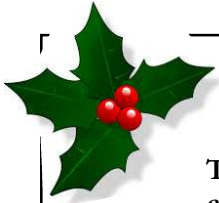
Jerry and Kate Losty
Wish everyone in Amberley

A Happy Christmas
and peaceful and healthy

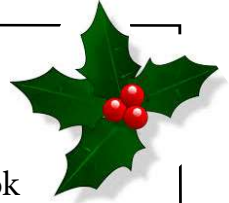
New Year



Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours



Sue and Jim thank the Shop,
The Sportsman, Village Tearoom and
all the wonderful volunteers who have
provided for us throughout this year
of confinement. We wish one and all
a very merry Christmas and health
and happiness in 2021.



We are sorry not to have seen
more of our friends in 2020
but hope that together we can look
forward to a better New Year after a
very special and happy Christmas.

Carolyn and Charles Shaw



Very best wishes to you all for
Christmas and 2021.

Catherine and Peter Cunningham
Amberley Place

Guy & Mary thank everyone for their
love & friendship over the last year and
are particularly appreciative of all the village
services during these past difficult months.

Have a Happy Christmas & a
Hopeful New Year



Malcolm and Sue Pheasey
wish you a very
Happy Christmas and good wishes
for 2021

*Best wishes for Christmas and the New
Year to all our friends locally and many
thanks to all those who have supported
Amberley Primary School and the Society
of Amberley Garden Enthusiasts in 2020.*

Ray and Rosemary Jackson



*Wishing everyone a Happy
Christmas and a healthy New
Year and sending a huge thank
you to everyone who has helped
to keep us safe and well during
the pandemic.*

*With love from
Sue and Jos Belgrave*



*Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Healthy New Year
Hazel, Poppy + Bluebellxx*





Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours



Wishing everyone in Amberley
and the other parishes a
happy Christmas and New Year
Margot, Grace and Hebe



*Very warmest Christmas greetings to
all our lovely friends in Amberley. We
miss you lots.
Do come and visit us at Hummingbird,
Priors Acre, Boxgrove any time.
Lots of love
Jo and Len*



Poppy wishes all her readers the
compliments of the season

Sally and Bob Hutchinson wish their
friends in Amberley every happiness and
all good health for Christmas and in the
coming year



To all our friends and
neighbours, wishing you a very
happy Christmas, and a healthy
and active New Year.

Adrienne and Phil



Simon and Rhona
wish all their friends
a lovely, peaceful Christmas
and a happier and healthier New Year



Happy Christmas to all our friends
and hearty thanks for all the support
in Amberley during this difficult year
from so many old and new friends

Tim and Pat Ashby



Nick, Jodie and Holly
would like to wish all our lovely
friends in Amberley a very safe
and healthy Christmas and we
hope the new year is a very
happy one xxx



*Anne and John Rezin send
Greetings of the Season
and hope to be able to meet
in person soon*

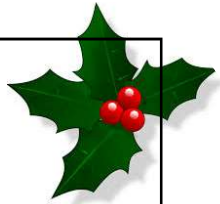


Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours



We shall miss our friends and neighbours this Christmas but we look forward with optimism and wish all in our wonderful community the best of health and happiness for the coming year.

Valerie and Ian



Happy Christmas and thanks for all your support this year! Stay safe and fingers crossed for a better 2021.

Love from Frankie & Terry,
Riverside Tearoom, Boats & Bikes xx



Happy Christmas!

Ke1 sene wa entom bi khayr

Zalfa, Neil, Thomas
and Julian

Nothing ever seems too bad, too hard or too sad when you have a Christmas tree in the living room.

With our love and good wishes to our dear friends and neighbours.

Fraser, Sarah, Francesca and William Wheeler

PS And singing very loudly round the tree also helps!



Very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all of our friends and neighbours in Amberley

Coralie, Robert, Amélie, Inigo,
Aubrey



Suzie and Russell

wish everyone a Happy
Christmas

and a healthy and peaceful
New Year.



JANET AIDIN WISHES EVERYONE IN
THE WILDBROOKS COMMUNITIES
AND THEIR CHURCHES A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR FULL
OF HOPE

The Old Rectory, Wiggonholt



...and finally, seasons greetings from Mike and Jenny Toynbee to this amazing community, thanking everyone for their support of the *Wildbrooks Magazine* during a challenging year. Here's hoping for a return to some sort of normality in 2021.



little

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Planning for the Future

Amberley Parish Council has responded to The Planning for the Future white paper published in August 2020, setting out the Government's proposals for "once in a generation" reform of England's planning system, has proved controversial. This is its response.

Amberley Parish sits within the South Downs National Park. We have read and wholly support the response to the White Paper made by the South Downs National Park Authority and we hereby adopt their answers to the specific questions posed.

In particular, we wish to highlight the following issues.

1. Clarification on the status of National Parks

A number of examples are given of areas that are to be protected such as green belt and conservation areas, but national parks are not included in this list. We ask that national parks are explicitly added to the list of protected areas. We welcome the analysis of national parks in the White Paper and agree that the whole purpose of national parks would be undermined by multiple large-scale housing developments.

Amberley Parish Council welcomes many aspects of the policies designed to simplify the planning system, particularly the increased importance of local design codes. However, we are concerned by the potential loss of some locally specific policies in the South Downs Local Plan such as policies on tranquility and dark night skies.



Amberley planned for the future with the opening of the Newland Gardens affordable housing project in 2010, a tangible result of its Long-Term Plan

Amberley Parish Council welcomes the proposal in the White Paper to strengthen the role of enforcement in the planning system.

2. Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP)

Amberley Parish Council has a "made" Neighbourhood Development Plan that designates those sites within the parish that our suitable for development to meet all local housing needs. Indeed, we have proactively supported a somewhat higher level of development than that originally proposed in the NDP as we have built up considerable expertise in planning for our neighbourhood.

However, the consultation is unclear on the future role of NDPs. We think that NDPs should be allowed to allocate land for development and indeed zone within the parameters set by the South Downs National Park Local Plan, rather than simply becoming a design code.

3. Infrastructure Levy

In regard to the new Infrastructure Levy, we have a number of concerns. Our main concern is that payment would be moved from commencement to occupation. Although this will aid developer cash flow, it will prevent infrastructure being in place on occupation or shortly afterwards. Secondly, the White Paper states that the Infrastructure Levy could be used to improve services or reduce council tax. This of course runs the risk that it would be spent on general Council budgets rather than providing infrastructure to support growth. Given the huge gains conferred on the value of land when planning permission is granted any

Infrastructure Levy should aim to capture more value than the current system. Capturing increased value for public benefit should also help increase the acceptability of development in areas.

4. Affordable Housing

We have concerns about affordable housing. Providing on site affordable housing is crucial to ensure we do not create new areas segregated by wealth. The proposal to raise the threshold that triggers affordable housing contributions from 10 to 40 or 50 dwellings for a limited time period will drastically reduce the supply of rural affordable homes. This is because in many rural communities, such as ours, residential developments tend to be much smaller than 40 dwellings. Many small villages, therefore, will see no affordable homes being provided at all. Furthermore, it is unclear how details of affordable housing such as tenure, type of affordable housing and

local priority would be secured the with the new system.

5. Fiscal Considerations: Achieving the Government's Objectives

A major driver for Government policy is the desire to reduce the gap between incomes and house prices. An underlying assumption in the White Paper appears to be that if more houses are built in an area, house prices will fall. Whilst no doubt well intentioned this seems a far too simplistic application of the supply and demand model.

Houses may be built where they are not needed or simply to meet the desire for second homes, a major issue in attractive villages like Amberley. It seems to us that the Government's objectives will not be met unless there are concomitant fiscal measures such as penalties for land-banking or taxing unoccupied second homes.

Geoffrey Uren
Chairman, Amberley Parish Council

**PARHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

What your councillors discussed



Highlights of the meeting held on November 10 via Zoom

Present: Tim Hayward (chair), Heather Cartwright, Catherine Dugdale, Claudia Fisher and Nigel Dean. Also in attendance: Paul Marshall (leader of West Sussex County Council) and Diana van der Klugt, Brian Donnelly and Paul Clarke (Horsham District councillors); and Vicky Spiers (parish clerk)

An update on county Covid-19 figures, the grim state of affairs regarding Horsham District Council's finances, concerns about the Government's White Paper on Planning and good news about faster broadband were among the topics discussed.

West Sussex county councillor Paul Marshall reported that Covid-19 figures for the county were currently 101 per 100,000 of population which was lower than the national average, although there had been a few local sporadic outbreaks. It was hoped that WSCC would become part of the Local Tracing Partnership which would see the county and possibly borough/district councils becoming involved if Public Health England was unable to trace people within 48 hours of someone tested positive. There were, however, a few details to resolve before this could be launched.

Brian Donnelly advised councillors that HDC's financial position was worrying as a result of much reduced income from car parks, leisure centres and so on and that the council had been forced to make redundancies as 60 per cent of its costs were for employees. It was looking at a four-year recovery period.

He went on to say that it was widely acknowledged that the methodology of the Government's White Paper on Planning, which expected Horsham District to build 1,700 new homes a year, against the current target of 950, was disproportionate compared with other counties. If the figure stood it would be difficult to challenge developers. It was an issue which had been taken up by Arundel and South Downs MP Andrew Griffith.

Diana van der Klugt advised councillors that the SDNPA and HDC responses to the consultation on the White Paper on Planning could be found on their respective websites.

She also reported progress on a plan she initiated to improve broadband coverage for Greatham, having written to 40 households in the surrounding area, with 17 to date signing up for the Government's Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme. She was working in conjunction with

Janet Aiden, who is undertaking the same initiative in Wiggonholt where 10 households had signed up to be involved. Eligible rural premises can claim up to £4,000 each towards the installation cost of gigabit-capable broadband.

Paul Clarke said there were Government-funded business grants available from HDC for businesses that had to shut due to lockdown regulations. The council was currently awaiting guidance regarding the distribution of the funds.

Mr Donnelly mentioned that Pulborough Parish Council was considering installing a chicane along Lower Street which could have the impact of diverting traffic along Greatham Lane to the A283. Councillors instructed the clerk to write to Pulborough PC for further information.

Tim Hayward thanked the county and district councillors for their efforts to support the residents of Parham parish through these difficult times.

The clerk told councillors she had been contacted by the owner of Skinners Barn in Rackham Road regarding flooding outside the property, this had been reported to WSCC. Claudia Fisher also mentioned the sink hole in Greatham Lane, which had already been reported to the county council as was due for repaired by the end of November. There was also further discussion about the excessive camber along Rackham Street (between the turning for Rackham Road and the Old School), which had been reported to WSCC in November 2019. Despite having been advised that a repair was planned, nothing had happened and the issue had worsened. The clerk was instructed to report it again to WSCC.

The clerk confirmed that the council had been successful in securing funding for improving the footpath from Sparrite Farm in Rackham Street to Washington at Greatham and that work was underway.

Three pending planning applications – Fairfield Barn and two relating to 6 Rackham Street – had all been approved by HDC.

Date of the next meeting: January 12, 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

School open day

The first of Slindon College's open days next year is scheduled for Saturday, March 6. Visitors to the independent day and boarding school for boys aged 8 to 18 are welcome between 9.30am and noon.

Arts Society's Zoom meeting

'Picturing the Nativity' will be the subject of a Zoom talk to members of the Arts Society of West Sussex at 11am on Thursday, December 10. As Covid-19 restrictions remain in place it has rescheduled its 2020 programme of talks and visits to 2021. www.theartsocietywestsussex.org/



Work on the new pavement along Turnpike Road from Newland Gardens to the football field is nearing completion. As a result, the existing 40mph speed limit will now be extended to just beyond the field.

Museum to reopen

Amberley Museum is reopening on Saturday, December 5 and will be open Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays until December 20. Timed tickets are available from www.amberleymuseum.co.uk

Says director Valerie Mills: "On the first three weekends of December join us for an Amberley Homemade Christmas!" There's lots to do for all the family at the open-air, COVID-secure site, all included in the regular ticket price:

- Get into the spirit of 'make do and mend' with the museum's festive, craft-themed trail.
- Send Father Christmas a telegram in the Connected Earth building.
- Pick up a yuletide message from the Print Shop.
- Find handmade wooden toys and reindeer down in the Greenwood Village.
- Make Christmas papercrafts and origami in Humphrey's Barn.

The popular narrow-gauge railway and vintage buses will be running each day, with seasonal hot food and drink to take away from the Limeburners' Café.

Crackdown on anti-social bikers

The Bill being promoted by Arundel and South Downs MP Andrew Griffith aimed at a minority of anti-social motorcyclists and motorists is to get a second reading in parliament sometime next year.

The Vehicle Registration Offences (Penalty Points) Bill seeks to amend the punishment for keeping and using a vehicle with either an obstructed number plate, or no number plate at all. Under current legislation, the punishment for these offences is a usually a mere £100 fixed penalty notice.

Dementia support

Vulnerable and older people living with dementia face real challenges this winter as the coronavirus pandemic continues. In response, local charity Dementia Support is now offering its services three different ways – by phone, online and, when possible, face to face at its dementia hub, Sage House in Tangmere near Chichester. To find out more about dementia services, phone Dementia Support at Sage House on 01243 888691 or e-mail info@dementia-support.org.uk.

Gift ideas from the Castle

Gift vouchers for Champagne afternoon teas and dinners, hampers and hotel stays are being promoted by Amberley Castle for any of the properties in the Brownsword Group of which it is a member. There is a choice of 13 hotels around the country including the award-winning Gidleigh Park in Devon, The Bath Priory and five Cotswold properties – The Slaughters Manor House and Country Inn, Buckland Manor, Minster Mill and the Old Swan – plus the stylish London pied-à-terre, Sydney House Chelsea.

Car break-ins

Motorists are warned that there has been another spate of car break-ins. Two vehicles parked at the junction of High Titten and Mill Lane had windows smashed on November 11, and on the same day another car in Rackham Street was broken into. On November 21, in North Stoke Road by the railway arch, another car break-in was reported. Items were stolen and the police are appealing for information.

New Test and Trace service

A new service has just gone live to support the national NHS Test and Trace system.

Working from West Sussex County Council's COVID-19 Community Hub, the service will take on responsibility for contacting individuals across East and West Sussex who have received a positive COVID-19 test result, but were unable to be contacted by the national NHS Test and Trace team within 48 hours.

Contact will be made to these individuals via text, phone or e-mail. The service operate between 8am-8pm.



AMBERLEY CLIMATE NETWORK

The carbon cost of clothing

A study made by McKinsey & Company in partnership with Global Fashion Agenda showed that in 2000 the number of times a garment is worn before it ceases to be used was 200. By 2015 this had dropped to 160 times. Today this figure is probably less.

Every piece of clothing we buy has a cost to the environment so our aim should be to use our clothing more times before we discard them.

The study calculates the total emissions from the manufacture, distribution and use of clothing were 2.106m tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2018. The study shows the percentage of greenhouse gas emissions in clothing and footwear lifespan which is given as a table below:

	%
Material production	38
Wet processes	15
Yarn preparation	8
Fabric preparation	6
Cut, make and trim	4
Transport costs	3
Retail	3
Product use	20
End of use	3



Many clothing manufacturers would like to make their clothing more environmental but find this difficult to achieve. Some opt out saying that their customers don't ask for environmental details. Others use wording that makes their products look acceptable such as special finishes but are unchanged. Retailers such as Zalando in Germany, and Selfridges here are beginning to respond by earmarking products that meet certain environmental criteria – and stop carrying those that don't. There must be others, too: and if this happens then the manufacturers must follow.

A part of the challenge is that 'sustainability' means 10 different things to 10 different people – microplastics, air quality, recyclability, biodiversity and so on, many of which compete. So it can be confusing to know what to do.

Carbon can't be the be-all end-all means for measuring a product's environmental impact, in the same way that calories don't fully capture a food's nutritional benefits. But it can help one to make better choices. **Steve Kennett**

Reusable Christmas crackers

Last year we opened our Advent Calendar door and had a very merry afternoon workshop making reusable Christmas crackers. Mine are looking just as good this year after being carefully stored. Here is the "recipe" for them. I still have quite a lot of the snaps I could let you have and alternatively would be happy to make some to order until supplies run out for a donation to Freedom from Torture.



You will need 3 tubes (eg loo roll, kitchen roll middles), fabric, ribbon, decoration, snaps and gifts

1) Make 2 templates, one for the middle of the cracker 17cms x 15cms and one for the end pieces 18.5 cms square. Select your fabric and cut out 1 middle piece and 2 end pieces using the templates.

2) Use 3 tubes. 2 the same diameter for the ends and 1 slightly larger for the middle

(If this is a problem the end pieces can be cut along their length and fixed with masking tape to make them smaller.)

3) Brush glue round the edges of the wrong side of the piece of fabric for the middle then place the larger roll on the fabric and, keeping the fabric tight, roll them up together to stick the fabric to the tube.

4) Clip the ends of fabric and tuck into the tube making sure it is firmly stuck down.

5) Make 2 ends the same, one at a time. Cut the end roll in half across the middle. Brush glue round the edges of the wrong side of the piece of fabric for the end. Place the two pieces of roll end to end with a gap between them of about 1 inch. Roll the fabric and tube pieces up together to stick the fabric to the tube. Keep the fabric tight.

6) Clip the ends and tuck them into the tube making sure it is firmly stuck.

7) Tie a ribbon tightly round the middle.

Fill your cracker middle with a cracker snap, gift, hat and joke if you have all those in the middle section and slip in the ends.

After Christmas store your crackers safely for next year.

(01798 831 010)

Cyndy Kennett

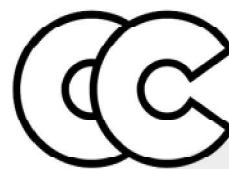
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A family gathering like no other at Christmas

"Who are these people?" You've hardly seen them all year yet here you are, paper hat askew, squashed between them on the sofa at Christmas. On a branch out in the cold darkness of the garden, also sandwiched between aunts, brothers, cousins and daughters, a tiny bird is asking a similar question.

They manically bicker on the bird feeder and swing acrobatically upside-down on the fat balls, all the while trilling, rattling and screaming 'eee-heee-heee' like a troupe of Michael Jackson impersonators. What you're witnessing is a group of roving relatives, roaming the neighbourhood to pillage your peanuts. This posse of outlaws consists of in-laws, brothers, sons and daughters. With their gorgeous pink, black and white plumage and those ridiculously long tails, these flying lollipops must qualify for Britain's cutest bird. Then, suddenly they're gone and the pulse rate of the garden returns to normal.

By late winter the extended family will drift apart to find new partners, ready to start new families. In March, the foundations are laid for an epic construction. Moss building bricks are lashed together with ropes of sticky spider's webs. The walls rise, a camouflage cladding of lichen is added to the roof and a cosy filling of a thousand feathers lines the interior. The end result looks a crocheted stomach and soon there will be plenty of rumbling from inside as eight hungry chicks demand to be fed.

But raising a large family can take its toll. The constant hunt for insects can exhaust a parent almost to breaking point. And that's when something unusual and wonderful happens. Their family arrives to save them. Aunties and uncles who have not been successful raising their own family that year will selflessly help the parents and feed their nephews and nieces.

Once the children have flown the nest the whole gang remains together and joins with other siblings to form your chaotic neighbourhood feeding flock. But the biggest challenge of the year still awaits: winter. Freezing night-time temperatures exact a heavy toll on our garden birds.

And that's why at Christmas, hidden deep in a hedge, you'll find the extended family of long-tailed tits huddled together on a frosty branch, sharing their warmth and surviving. Like them, we can all extend a warm wing to surround and support our family and friends this Christmas, whether near or far. Because none of us can get through this on our own.

Michael Blencowe Sussex Wildlife Trust

● Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, it has worked with local people for over half a century



Picture: Alan Price, Gatehouse Studio, SWT

A flying lollipop: is the long-tailed tit Britain's cutest bird?

ry to make Sussex richer in wildlife. It relies on the support of its members to help protect our rich natural heritage. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on his regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, *Wildlife* magazine and its Sussex guide book, *Discovering Wildlife*. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

RECIPE

Aunt Alice's mince pie pastry

I've read that the one cooking skill that causes most folk the biggest problem is pastry-making. It seems it often doesn't work the first few times, so we give up! Perhaps readers have had that experience.

It is claimed that pastry-making needs to be taught, and then requires patience and practice. On the other hand, St Delia says there are, "infuriating people who still turn out perfect pastry while breaking or ignoring all the rules!"

When I was little, my mother had a baking day once a week. She would produce piles of jam tarts, Bakewell tarts as well as rice, coconut, butterfly and fairy cakes – all, of course, to keep the family supplied until the next bake-in.

As part of that weekly bake, she had to make ample amounts of pastry. I would watch her, and afterwards I'd collect the pastry scraps and messily roll some out, then produce rather grubby looking flat tarts, each decorated with currants, cherries and angelica. These, in turn, were proudly presented to my father to take to work the next day for his elevenses! He always said how tasty they had been (!), which kept me happy!

Despite, and probably because of, my early "apprenticeship" I am not a keen pastry maker so I avoid using it or resort to ready-made packs.

Our Christmas mince pies are the exception, and 'Aunt Alice's' recipe is one I really enjoy using. Believe it or not, I've

continued overleaf



continued from previous page

now used it for well over 35 years, so, for us, it's a winner!

It is not difficult to make but before you try I would like to flag up how it differs from most shortcrusts. It has a high butter-to-flour ratio. This of, course, gives it such a good flavour, but means it's quite soft and pliable in its 'raw' state and so needs to be handled gently. But it's worth it. Here's the recipe – do try it. Makes about 18 individual mince pies

You need (for pastry only; the filling I leave to you)

4 ounces caster sugar
8 ounces block butter (ideally unsalted and at room temperature)
12 ounces plain flour, well sifted
1 egg

Method

- Mix butter and sugar together
- Add egg to the mix and beat until light
- Gradually mix in flour
- Form resulting dough into a flat ball (it will be very soft, so handle carefully)
- Wrap in clingfilm and put on a plate in the fridge to "set"



Prepare a lightly floured surface, cutters, cases and fillings. Turn on the oven to 170° (fan).

- Take pastry from fridge and remove cling-film. Carefully place the dough on the floured surface.
- Roll the dough out flat
- Use appropriate sized cutters for the pie circles – I find it helps to use a palette knife to lift them up to place each of them gently in the baking tray cups.
- Fill with delicious things as desired and available.
- Put the smaller circles on top and place in the oven.

Do check them regularly and carefully because they usually bake quite quickly in about 10 to 15 minutes.

SJ Conlon

Rainfall – October

With only four dry days in October, it comes as little surprise there was 197.5mm (7¾in) of rain for the month, with almost 49.4mm (almost 2in) falling on the 2nd of the month. It was a similarly damp October last year with 129.8mm (just over 5in).

Total rainfall for the year so far is 828mm (32½in), almost exactly the same as 2019 at this stage.

Figures compiled by Peter Daughtrey

AMBERLEY PARISH TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT for 2019/20

1. The Trust exists to enable the provision of a village shop and post office. We do this through the vehicle of Amberley Shop Properties Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Trust, which has a 999-year lease of the shop premises. These are in turn leased to Mr Colin Woods, who runs the shop and Post Office as an independent business.

2. Trust income comprises rental from the shop and returns from an investment fund, the latter established through the generosity of local donors and a significant bequest from the late Bill Smith, a life-long resident. In the year ending 31st March 2020 the company made overall profit before tax of £3,758 (£8,412 in 2018/19). The fall in profit was in part an expected consequence of having reduced rent to subsidise the post office service, as reported last year.

3. On the 31st March 2020 shareholders' funds (ie funds owned by the Trust) amounted to £415,268 compared to £456,881 the previous year, the reduction mainly due to falls in the value of the investment portfolio. This figure includes cash and investments (at then current valuation) totalling £313,594 (£356,518 in 2018/19).

4. We are very fortunate to have this substantial reserve to support our task, especially so in the extraordinary circumstances forced upon the shop by the COVID19 pandemic. The financial impact of these is not the subject of this report; this will ultimately show in the report for 2020/21 and possibly beyond. However, the trustees accepted at the outset a duty to support the shop in funding the reasonable excess costs of operating a changed service during the lockdown and its aftermath and we have suspended rent and provided grant funds for this purpose.

5. The Trust has long been concerned to urge on our neighbours regular use of the shop and post office. It is vital for its long term future that the shop is commercially viable however it serves the village. The normal challenges of a changing retail environment have been hugely exacerbated by the pandemic and it is all the more important that shop sales and usage of the post office are maintained, preferably increased during this time. Once again we wish to record our thanks to Colin Woods and his team for their efforts in providing such excellent service.

6. The Trust wishes to record appreciation for her contribution as a trustee over many years of the late Val Figg, who died in January 2020. At 31st March 2020, the trustees were Mr T Ashby, Mrs A Garrity, Mr P Greenwood, Mr S Hoy, Mrs M Tolson and Mr R Townsend. Mrs S Conlon was secretary to both the company and the Trust. All are unpaid volunteers.

Roger Townsend

**Chairman of Trustees
October 2020**



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Paws for thought

Dear Grace: I must be getting old. We all put a lot of effort into our days and sometimes a little snooze is called for.



Timing, however, is everything.

How was I to know that a programme with my master taking part was on television? Apparently, I snored loudly throughout, although I would deny this categorically, as everyone knows I never snore. I was just resting my eyes, so I could better consider the finer points of the programme's content.

Was I believed? Was I heck!

Despite this gross injustice, I have now forgiven my master and mistress and am now looking forward to Christmas, whatever that will be like in these strange times. I hope that you all have a wonderful time with your family.

My birthday is on Boxing Day and I had better get two sets of presents this year or there will be real trouble in this household.

Poppy

Dear Poppy: I have had yet another visit to the vet (to whom your kind master and mistress took me). I have to say it was all very odd because we had to wait outside and then go in, one by one. And everyone was wearing masks



Now that's what I call a tasty cover...

Pam Keeble's lovely pictured on the cover of last month's *Wildbrooks Magazine* proved too much of a temptation for Izzie, Di Hamilton and Grahame Joseph's labrador. Now looking somewhat dog-eared, the issue was replaced with a nice, shiny new copy.

as though they were about to rob the place. My problem this time round was an ear infection, which I had, inevitably, scratched and made worse. It had to be cleaned with something called a Hebescrub. You can imagine how my housemate, Hebe, the terrier, felt about that. After all she is named after a Greek goddess and, furthermore, there is a pretty shrub called hebe in the garden. But this makes her sound like an old scrubber!

I saw a picture of one of my Shipley family in last month's magazine when members of SAGE paid them a visit. It was Isla, the jack russell, and she is showing lots of them around her garden – we will never hear the end of this, believe me!

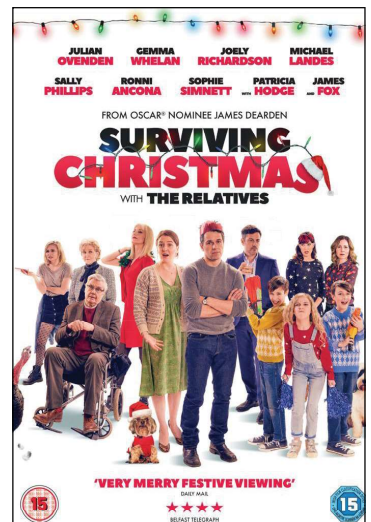
Meanwhile, my poor mistress has been having a dreadful time with squirrel Nutkin and her four youngsters, who are completely out of control. They are causing havoc in the garden, taking the bird feeders and leaving them all over the place. I wouldn't allow my puppies to behave so badly – Nutkin really has to start making them behave. We don't get any trouble from Tiggy, our resident hedgehog who comes every evening for supper. Mind you Hebe and I give her a pretty wide berth because she is a prickly customer! Licks to your folks and to yourself. **Grace**

New kid on the block is a movie star



Bella, the new occupant of Stream House, Amberley, had a starring role in *Surviving Christmas with the Relatives*, released in 2018 and now available on DVD and digital platforms. The Yorkie, owned by Sarah Weatherstone and Nick Hamson, played 'Bobo' in the film, is about two sisters and their families coming together to spend Christmas in their late parents' crumbling country house with chaotic consequences. It is based on a true story of director/script writer James Dearden's Christmas with siblings and other relatives. In the film, Bobo is owned by his aunt, played by Patricia Hodge.

Says Sarah: "We really enjoyed this and wanted something to watch with all the family over Christmas that was a bit different to the typical Xmas movie. It's a reminder that however perfect you want Christmas to be, there's always a possibility that something goes wrong, especially with alcohol and different personalities in the mix! It still manages to leave you with the spirit of the season intact in the end though."



This month's walk

Circular walk, approximately six miles, compiled by Dave Cole

The full walk takes in:

- Downs Farm and Dew Pond, The Burgh, North Stoke, Houghton Bridge, River Arun

Break at the Riverside Cafe or The Bridge Inn at Houghton Bridge

Route

Start: Mill Lane to Dew Pond (about 1½ miles)

- Follow Mill Lane to junction with High Titten, then follow South Downs Way up to the foot of Amberley Mount
- Bear right (ie do not go up Amberley mount (unless you want to!) – keep Downs Farm on your right hand side
- Short distance further on there is a grass track (Restricted byway; take this and continue down (Nyetimber have some vines on the left) and through a gate and on to the dew pond.

The dew pond is in a 'bowl' and is a lovely tranquil spot. (A nice place to just stand for a few moments – then return to Amberley or carry on the walk)

Dew Pond to Houghton Bridge

- The path continues to the left of the dew pond and then steeply upwards (up 'son' of Amberley Mount) to the Burgh. (The Burgh is sort of a square of paths – straight on goes to Burpham)
- Turn right and this chalk path leads on to a slightly more paved route, gently going downhill to North Stoke (approx. 2 miles)
- If you do not want to go into North Stoke, there is a blue sign on the right for a bridleway which takes you down on to the road by a camping and caravanning site
- This road is the one from North Stoke to Houghton Bridge
- Just opposite a house (about 20 yards after the caravanning site) is a narrowish path (the footpath sign has fallen down); follow this until you reach the river Arun and then turn right to walk along the bank until you get to Houghton Bridge – take care walking along the causeway (turn right for refreshments at The Bridge Inn or left to the Riverside Cafe, or to continue the walk)



Houghton Bridge to Amberley

- You can walk back to Amberley along the B2139 or:
- Walk on either side of the river Arun
 - o After refreshments -> Right bank there's a path just before the railway bridge
 - o Left bank there's a path at the end of the causeway
- The left bank path arrives at a bridge over the river and crossing here meets the right bank path
- Continue on this path following the river until just opposite Bury Church (around 1½ miles)

Go right here (at right angles to the river) across a couple of often flooded fields and the path arrives at the level crossing

Clamber over the high stiles, then the path continues beneath the walls of Amberley Castle and on into Church Street by St Michael's Church.

Calling all men...

I've had good news this month. The oncologist has signed me off. It started back in January when I went to the GP on an unrelated matter and in checking me out the doctor noted my PSA reading had gone up from 5 to 8, which didn't sound much as the figure can be in the hundreds. What's the problem I thought?

However, it triggered the whole mechanism for treating prostate cancer. Within days I had tests at St Richard's and an appointment with a consultant urologist. And yes, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer, one of 47,500 men a year with a similar diagnosis. The annual death rate is 11,500 men – one every 45 minutes.

I was prescribed a series of quarterly injections – painless at it turned out – and a course of radiotherapy. This was delayed by a couple of months because of the Covid-19 emergency, but I then had four weeks of it on a daily basis at the Queen Alexandra Hospital at Cosham. A 60-mile round-trip, admittedly, but I had no problem in driving myself there and back and it is not an unpleasant experience. I had no side effects to speak of.

Six weeks later, and a telephone interview with the consultant, and I was given the all clear, although I will need to maintain the quarterly injections for another 18 months to be on the safe side.

The moral of this story is if you think you might have symptoms, don't put off the evil moment and go to see your doctor at the earliest opportunity. The earlier they catch it, the more likely you are to survive. I was lucky. You may not be so if you ignore it.

Mike Toynbee



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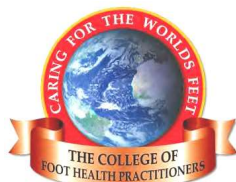
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EDITORIAL

A whole new vocabulary

Who would have thought at the beginning of this year words like unprecedented, lockdown, circuit-breaker, support bubbles, keyworkers, furlough, quarantine and social-distancing would become part of our everyday vocabulary. Yet as we approach the end of what has been strangest, most challenging and for many, the most distressing year any of us can remember, we have had to adjust to a changing world.

Apart from the tragic loss of more the 50,000 lives here in the UK, and well over 1.3 million worldwide, it has been the disruption to our daily lives that has had most impact locally. Changes in working practices, the way we shop and socialise. Not to mention all the events that never took place. Locally, that includes things like Amberley Gardens Open, the Parham Garden Weekend, all the special events at Amberley Museum, the Macmillan Coffee Morning (although they did manage to raise an amazing £1,800 without actually holding the event!), the Rackham Fete and Flower Show (the first time it failed to take place in more than 70 years) to name but a few.

Yet against the background of all this doom and gloom, our community has risen to the challenge magnificently. The establishment from the outset of the Amberley Covid-19 Help Hub, it organised teams of volunteers and coordinated operations to ensure people were kept safe and that their wellbeing was maintained.

Volunteers delivering supplies to households from Amberley Village Stores, which completely re-engineered its operations to meet the change in circumstances, to collecting prescriptions from chemists, the Sportsman providing more than 3,500 meals, and residents helping neighbours wherever possible, with numerous acts of kindness. Advice and financial help for those that needed it has also been provided. And the Amberley Helpline website, updated on a daily basis, has proved to be an invaluable source of information.

All in all, it has been a heart-warming community effort, demonstrating once again that the Wildbrooks parishes are resourceful and focused when the chips are down.

We should all be grateful to those who have responded to the challenge, freely giving their expertise and time for the benefit of us all.

Let's hope 2021 is a year we can all look forward to.

**Deadline for the February issue is
Thursday, January 14, 2021**

**Contributions should be sent to the
Editor, Brooklands, East Street, Amberley,
BN18 9NN**

E-mail: mike@brooklandsamberley.com

A Covid lockdown poem

I won't arise and go now, and go to Innisfree

I'll sanitise the doorknob and make a cup of tea.

I won't go down to the sea again; I won't go out at all,

I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall.

There's a green-eyed yellow monster to the north of
Kathmandu

But I shan't be seeing him just yet and nor, I think, will you.

While the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to
Mandalay

I'll make my bit of supper and eat it off a tray.

I shall not speed my bonnie boat across the sea to Skye,

Or take the rolling English road from Birmingham to Rye.

About the woodland just right now, I am not free to go

To see the Keep Out posters or the cherry hung with snow.

And no I won't be travelling much within the realms of gold,

Or get me to Milford Haven. All that's been put on hold.

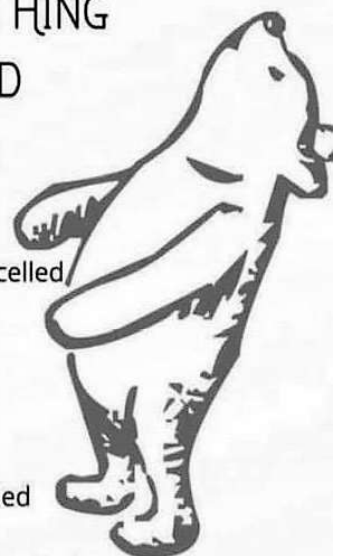
Give me your hands, I shan't request, albeit we are
friends,

Nor come within a mile of you until this virus ends.

Author Unknown

NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled
spring is not cancelled
love is not cancelled
relationships are not cancelled
reading is not cancelled
naps are not cancelled
devotion is not cancelled
music is not cancelled
dancing is not cancelled
imagination is not cancelled
kindness is not cancelled
conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled



#keeplookingup
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DECEMBER/JANUARY DIVERSIONS

1. By what name was the Allied operation against Iraq in the Gulf war of 1991 known?
2. What is the name of the channel that links the Kattegat with the North Sea?
3. Who wrote the poem *If*?
4. How many pints of beer make up a firkin?
5. What is S in the phonetic alphabet?
6. Who wrote *Brave New World*?
7. How many squares does a chess board have?
8. Who wrote the poem, *The Lady of Shalott*?
9. What number does the letter D represent in Roman numerals?
10. What is the musical connection between the town of Titipu in Japan, the Tower of London and Venice?
11. What is the more common name for the medical condition of periorbital hematoma?
12. What is the furthest planet from the sun?
13. Which fruit contains the most calories?
14. Why are there 13 stripes on the American flag?
15. What name is given to a matador on horseback?
16. In money slang, how much is a 'Pavarotti'?
17. If a dish is cooked Florentine, what is it cooked with?
18. Which word can mean a parasitic worm, the hook of an anchor or a lucky chance?
19. How many loaves and how many fish did Jesus use to feed the 5,000?
20. Who created Peanuts, the comic strip?
21. What colour is the bullseye on a standard dartboard?
22. Where is Parkhurst Prison located?
23. Cashmere wool is a product of which type of animal?
24. Which word, meaning moderate or sparing in consumption, contains all five vowels in alphabetical order?
25. In 1956, who became the first actor to be nominated for an Oscar posthumously?
26. What alcoholic drink is made from molasses?
27. Locally, what do the initials SWT stand for?
28. How many time zones does India have?

Answers on page 56

QUICK CROSSWORD

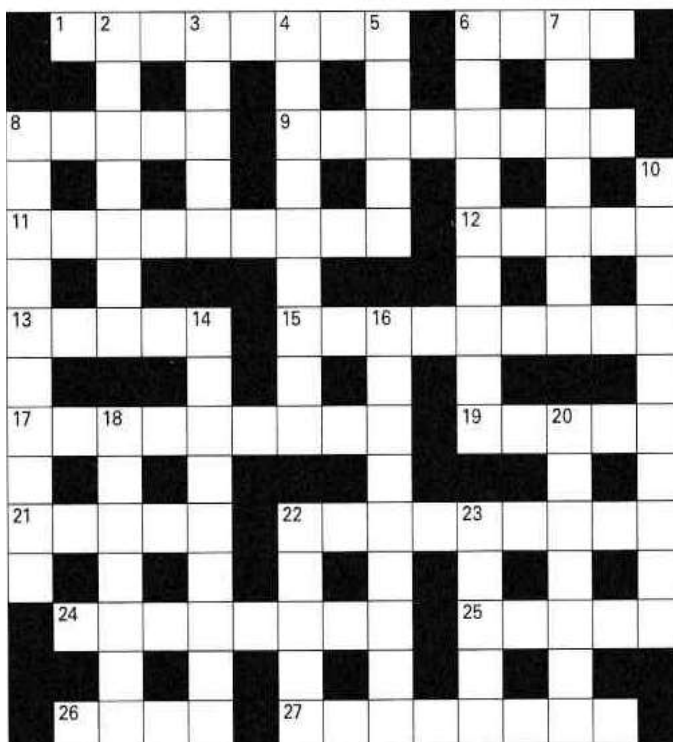
Across

1. Female variety club dancer (8)
6. Atop (4)
8. Undo skirt or trousers (5)
9. Member of a lawless mob (8)
11. American hoedown (4,5)
12. Sunday joint (5)
13. Lighting fires illegally (5)
15. Female rower (9)
17. Assessment of worth (9)
19. Jeans material (5)
21. Become void (5)
22. Debates (9)
24. Person seeking due rights (8)
25. Wake up to ____, popular BBC Radio 2 presenter, died 2016 (5)
26. Pull along forcibly (4)
27. Hard-wearing (8)

Down

2. Obstacles causing danger (7)
3. Rubbed a cloth over (5)
4. Clever at inventing (9)
5. Thrust forward (5)
6. Opened (a jar) (9)
7. Style of throwing (7)
8. Better than everyone (10)
10. Marble memorial maker (10)
14. Putting in order (9)
16. Demoted (9)
20. Shape with nine sides (7)
22. Stun (5)
23. Grass cutter (5)

Solution – page 56





DIVERSIONS EXTRA

Festive Wordsearch

I C R E F L D P H T A E R W D E C
 C A R O L S L H Y X L L Z I S F B
 A Q P T I S Z T V H Z L F Q B B A
 Q R K N U U H Z T M I N C E P I E
 G N R A T R E E D N I E R L L L B
 Z S Y T S V K D P B T A N G E L S
 B Y R I B T O E Y H V O M D V Q R
 S L M V X P O U Y G E F U Q S J U
 E L S I P E G C H B P R I W T V I
 L O N T U G N E K R P P D N A K Q
 D H O Y G H J T E I S T H S R F O
 N T W M Z E Z S N X N E E A L T G
 A W A K O Y E P Z I E G X S E V Y
 C P G G S N H Y O O E P O N O L L
 C A B V T V T X W S R T T R M O C
 F Y B S Z E H C Z J T J K L W B G
 E F E G F M I S T L E T O E Y V W

Tree Stocking Reindeer Santa Claus
 Mistletoe Snow Angels Shepherds Nativity
 Wreath Carols Goose Candles Presents
 Poinsettia Holly Star Turkey Stollen Mince Pie

SUDOKU

	1	6	9			4	3	
	9			3			7	
3	2				8		9	6
				7	5	8		9
1								4
2		9	4	6				
8	3		1				4	5
	7			2			8	
	6	5			3	7	2	

Brain Teaser... Find a word to fit the first clue, then add one letter to give a word to fit the second clue. What are the two words? 1. GREENISH BLUE 2. GAIN ILLEGALLY

Codeword

6	10	5	20	20	15	21	24		14		12		16	
	8		8		20			21	15	20	8	7	15	14
25	21	2	9	10	15	6	6		12		17		6	
	16		7		16		7	1	5	21	2	6	7	6
3	15	16	15	21	8	17	15		21			8		4
15			21		7	22	18	15	24		26	20	5	
26	2	8	9	10	15	15		2		1	16	8		2
21		14		5		7		6		17		21		17
2		11	1	3		10		6	13	8	7	2	9	17
15	12	5		15	10	18	1		9		21			20
9		6			21		25	21	15	6	15	21	16	15
14	15	7	1	9	8	7	15		15		20		2	
	23		1		9		9	15	10	13	20	8	10	15
26	2	19	19	2	9	17			8		2		8	
7		15			24		7	8	25	15	6	7	21	24

Reference Box

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T	A	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	V	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

			1							
			2			3				
		4		5						
	6		7					8		
9						10	11			
			12	13						
		14								
			15							

Across

2. Pursue marriage
5. Grecian vessel
6. Eerie
9. Useless plant
10. Large water jug
12. Type of heron
14. Armed conflict
15. Fixed rule

Down

1. Belonging to you
3. Command
4. Scots word for 'tiny'
6. Soaked
7. Perfect
8. Modern aircraft
11. Marry
13. Metric unit of weight

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an affordable annual subscription membership his company MyMingo will offer support, both remotely and in the home. It is for unlimited devices and call outs. He explains: 'I already get asked to do this for many family and friends who find themselves just a little nervous or lost about what to try. I've seen people miss out on technology that would really improve their quality of life simply because of lack of confidence'. Don't miss out, contact us today.

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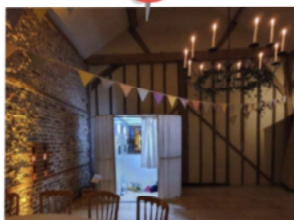
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LOCAL INFORMATION

Refuse & Recycling Calendar

Household refuse collections (Amberley/Crossgates/Rackham, Mill Lane, High Titten, New Barn Road and Houghton Bridge) for mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) *and* garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Tuesdays, December 1 and 15; Thursday, December 31** (blue only); **Wednesday, January 13**; and **Tuesday, January 26**. Collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Tuesdays, December 8 and 22**.

For Church Street and Hog Lane, non-recyclable waste will be collected on **Wednesdays, December 2 and 16; Saturday, January 2, Thursday, January 14**; and **Wednesday, January 27**. Collections for dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) will be on **Wednesdays, December 9 and 23; Friday, January 8 and Wednesday, January 20**. Garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Monday, December 14, Tuesday, January 12 and Monday, January 25**.

Monday Village Bus service to Storrington and Pulborough

Following the discontinuation of the Compass Bus service, the Village Bus has resumed its Monday morning service to Storrington and Pulborough.

Amberley Square (depart)	10.15
Hurst Cottages	10.18
The Sportsman	10.20
Rackham Street	10.23
Storrington (arrive)	10.35
Pulborough (arrive)	11.00
Pulborough Sainsbury's (depart)	12.03
Pulborough Tesco	12.05
Storrington bus station	12.25
Rackham Street	12.35
The Sportsman	12.38
Hurst Cottages	12.40
Amberley Square (arrive)	12.41

Village Bus



On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday every week (plus the first Tuesday each month), the Amberley and Slindon Community Bus can take you to various destinations thanks to our team of volunteer drivers. We routinely stop at a range of places in Amberley, but as this is a 'hail-and-ride' service the driver will pick up and set down at your door on request (especially useful when you are returning home with shopping), or anywhere else en route. The fare is a flat-rate £3 per return journey, and Sussex County Card Holders and children under 14 travel free. Wheelchair users are welcome, but always ring ahead. To arrange a pick-up from your home, or to discuss becoming a volunteer driver, please call Philip Greenwood on (01798) 831 803. The full bus timetable can be found on the Amberley Parish Council website: www.amberley-pc.org.uk/

DAY	DESTINATION	DEPARTS AMBERLEY	TIME FOR SHOPPING / APPOINTMENTS	ARRIVES BACK IN AMBERLEY
Mon	Bognor For details of the Storrington & Pulborough service, see panel above	Rackham St 12.35pm Hurst Cott 12.40pm Square 12.41pm Bridge Inn 12.44pm	1.25pm to 3.30pm	4.12pm approx
First Tues only	Worthing via Storrington (with around three-and-a-half hours before the return journey)	Bridge Inn 9.37am Square 9.40am Hurst Cott 9.43am Sportsman 9.45am Rackham St 9.48am	10.15am to 1.05pm	1.40pm approx
Wed	Littlehampton & Rustington	Rackham St 9.32am Hurst Cott 9.35am Square 9.37am Bridge Inn 9.39am	10.05am to 12.31pm (Arundel) 10.15am to 12.20pm (Littlehampton) 10.25am to 12.10pm (Rustington)	1pm approx
Thurs	Chichester	Rackham St 9.32am Hurst Cott 9.36am Square 9.37am Bridge Inn	10.25am (Market) 10.30am (South Street/ West Street) to 1.30pm (Cathedral)	2.16pm approx



LOCAL INFORMATION



Southern Trains Timetable

(from December 13, 2020)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

From Amberley to London (Victoria except where shown): 05.54, 06.18*, 06.44, 07.14, 07.47, 08.17, 08.50, 09.17 and then at 17 minutes past the hour until 21.17 then 23.03 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 27mins

* London Bridge

From Pulborough to London (Victoria except where shown): 06.01, 06.24*, 06.50, 07.21, 07.26*, 07.54, 08.23, 08.56, 09.24, 09.55 and then 24 and 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55 then 23.09 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time 1hr 19 mins

* London Bridge

From London Victoria to Amberley: 05.54, 06.36, 07.06 and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 15.35, 16.05, 16.35, 17.35, 18.35, and then 05 and 35 minutes past each hour until then 21.05, 21.35 P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C. Additional train from London Bridge at 18.02.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 22mins

From London Victoria to Pulborough: 05.54, 06.36, 07.06, 07.36, 08.35 and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 16.35, 17.35 and then 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 21.05, then 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C. Additional trains from London Bridge at 17.02 and 18.02.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 15mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.40SC, 07.15SC, 07.55, 08.23, 08.57, 09.27, 09.57 and then 57 minutes past the hour until 16.57, then 17.27, 17.57, 18.57, 19.21, then 57 and 27 minutes past the hour until 22.27 then 22.51P&S, 23.21C, 23.52C. P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; C – Chichester; SC – Southampton Central.

SATURDAY

From Amberley to London: 06.26, 07.17 and then at 17 minutes past the hour until 21.17 then 23.03 (change at Gatwick Airport). Additional train at 16.50.

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 27mins

From Pulborough to London: 06.32, 06.55 and then 24 and 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55 then 23.09 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time 1hr 19 mins

From London Victoria to Amberley: 06.35, and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 20.35 then 21.05, 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 22mins

From London Victoria to Pulborough: 06.05, 06.35, and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 20.35 then 21.05, 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 15mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.41SC, 07.57 and then 57 minutes past the hour (to Bognor) until 21.57, then 22.21, 22.51P&S, 23.21C, 23.53C.

P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; C – Chichester; SC – Southampton Central.

SUNDAY

From Amberley to London Victoria: 07.53, 08.58 and then at 58 minutes past the hour until 21.58. From Pulborough: 6 minutes later

Typical journey time to London Victoria 1hr 21mins

From London Victoria to Amberley and Pulborough: 07.32, 08.32, 09.35 and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 22.35.

Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 20mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis and Portsmouth Harbour (divides at Barnham) except as shown): 09.01B, 09.58PH, 10.58PH, 11.55 and then 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55, then 22.56B and 23.55B. B – Bognor Regis; PH – Portsmouth Harbour.

Compiled by Malcolm Pheasey

Local Farmers' Markets

Storrington Country Market

Village Hall, West Street

Fridays (10am-11.15am)

Chichester

East and North Streets

First and third Fridays (9am-2pm)

Ford

Ford Airfield

First Saturday (7.30am-2pm)

Steyning

High Street Car Park

First Saturday (9am-1pm)

Arundel

Town Centre

Third Saturday (9am-1pm)

Pulborough

Village Hall

Fourth or last Saturday (9am-12 noon)

Petworth

Leconfield Hall and Square

Fourth Saturday (9am-1pm)



MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

3rd Thursday

Advent Group meeting (via Zoom), 4pm

5th Saturday

Wildbrooks Churches Christmas Stall,

The Square, Amberley, 9am-1pm

Amberley Museum reopens, 10am*

9th Wednesday

Festive fun, Amberley Museum, 10am*

10th Thursday

Advent Group meeting (via Zoom), 4pm

12th Saturday

Festive fun, Amberley Museum, 10am*

13th Sunday

Comfort & Joy Service, St Michael's

Church, Amberley, 10am

Festive fun, Amberley Museum,
10am*

16th Wednesday

Christmas draw, Friends of Amberley
School

Festive fun, Amberley Museum, 10am*

17th Thursday

Advent Group meeting (via Zoom), 4pm

19th Saturday

Festive Fun, Amberley Museum, 10am*

Crib Blessing, North Stoke Church
(outdoors), 4pm

20th Sunday

Festive Fun, Amberley Museum, 10am*

Carol Services, St Michael's Church,
Amberley, 3pm* and 4.30pm*

JANUARY

2nd Saturday

Farmers' Market: Steyning, 9am-1pm

12th Tuesday

Parham Parish Council meeting, (via
Zoom), 6.30pm

14th Thursday

Amberley Parish Council meeting
(via Zoom), 7pm

*Advance booking required

Littlehampton Tide Timetable – December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 st Low 05.23 High 11.32 Low 17.41 High 23.54	2 nd Low 05.56 High 12.03 Low 18.14	3 rd High 00.27 Low 06.29 High 12.36 Low 18.47	4 th High 01.02 Low 07.03 High 13.12 Low 19.22	5 th High 01.40 Low 07.41 High 13.52 Low 20.03
6 th High 02.24 Low 08.28 High 14.40 Low 20.54	7 th High 03.18 Low 09.25 High 15.38 Low 21.56	8 th High 04.28 Low 10.37 High 16.57 Low 23.11	9 th High 05.50 Low 11.55 High 18.21	10 th Low 00.27 High 07.01 Low 13.05 High 19.29	11 th Low 01.33 High 08.02 Low 14.05 High 20.28	12 th Low 02.30 High 08.55 Low 14.58 High 21.20
13 th Low 03.22 High 09.44 Low 15.47 High 22.11	14 th Low 04.11 High 10.33 Low 16.36 High 23.02	15 th Low 04.58 High 11.21 Low 17.23 High 23.52	16 th Low 05.46 High 12.08 Low 18.11	17 th High 00.39 Low 06.33 High 12.55 Low 18.58	18 th High 01.26 Low 07.19 High 13.40 Low 19.44	19 th High 02.12 Low 08.04 High 14.26 Low 20.30
20 th High 02.59 Low 08.52 High 15.15 Low 21.17	21 st High 03.49 Low 09.43 High 16.08 Low 22.08	22 nd High 04.43 Low 10.40 High 17.06 Low 23.08	23 rd High 05.39 Low 11.49 High 18.06	24 th Low 00.16 High 06.38 Low 13.01 High 19.07	25 th Low 01.23 High 07.37 Low 13.58 High 20.08	26 th Low 02.18 High 08.32 Low 14.47 High 20.59
27 th Low 03.05 High 09.16 Low 15.29 High 21.40	28 th Low 03.47 High 09.55 Low 16.09 High 22.20	29 th Low 04.26 High 10.32 Low 16.46 High 22.59	30 th Low 05.03 High 11.10 Low 17.23 High 23.37	31 st Low 05.39 High 11.47 Low 18.00		

TIDAL DIFFERENCES ON THE RIVER ARE +90 MINUTES AT HOUGHTON BRIDGE

Compiled by Hazel Allinson

Littlehampton Tide Timetable – January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 st High 00.15 Low 06.16 High 12.24 Low 18.36	2 nd High 00.53 Low 06.52 High 13.04 Low 19.15
3 rd High 01.32 Low 07.33 High 13.45 Low 19.55	4 th High 02.16 Low 08.18 High 14.31 Low 20.42	5 th High 03.05 Low 09.09 High 15.22 Low 21.35	6 th High 04.01 Low 10.09 High 16.22 Low 22.36	7 th High 05.05 Low 11.18 High 17.33 Low 23.48	8 th High 06.15 Low 12.30 High 18.48	9 th Low 01.01 High 07.27 Low 13.37 High 20.01
10 th Low 02.07 High 08.32 Low 14.39 High 21.04	11 th Low 03.06 High 09.30 Low 15.34 High 22.01	12 th Low 03.59 High 10.22 Low 16.26 High 22.55	13 th Low 04.48 High 11.13 Low 17.13 High 23.45	14 th Low 05.35 High 12.00 Low 17.59	15 th High 00.31 Low 06.20 High 12.44 Low 18.43	16 th High 01.14 Low 07.03 High 13.26 Low 19.26
17 th High 01.55 Low 07.43 High 14.06 Low 20.04	18 th High 02.34 Low 08.23 High 14.45 Low 20.43	19 st High 03.13 Low 09.02 High 15.25 Low 21.22	20 th High 03.53 Low 09.45 High 16.10 Low 22.07	21 st High 04.39 Low 10.35 High 17.04 Low 23.00	22 nd High 05.35 Low 11.34 High 18.07	23 rd Low 00.02 High 06.37 Low 12.45
24 th Low 01.17 High 07.39 Low 14.04 High 20.13	25 th Low 02.30 High 08.37 Low 15.02 High 21.08	26 th Low 03.23 High 09.27 Low 15.47 High 21.56	27 th Low 04.05 High 10.10 Low 16.27 High 22.39	28 th Low 04.44 High 10.52 Low 17.05 High 23.21	29 th Low 05.23 High 11.33 Low 17.44	30 th High 00.01 Low 06.01 High 12.13 Low 18.22
31 st High 00.41 Low 06.40 High 12.52 Low 19.03						

TIDAL DIFFERENCES ON THE RIVER ARE +90 MINUTES AT HOUGHTON BRIDGE

Compiled by Hazel Allinson



Property Watch

Homes for sale locally

List compiled from Rightmove

Amberley

Church Street 4-bedroom Grade 2-listed cottage
(Fowlers, Storrington) **£900,000**

Adjacent to Amberley Castle Grade 2-listed, 6-bedroom barn conversion
(Jackson-Stops, Chichester) **£2,400,000**

Houghton Bridge

3-bedroom detached house (formerly The Boathouse)
(Sims Williams, Arundel) **£780,000**

Rackham

Agricultural land with stabling
(Sims Williams, Arundel) **£250,000**

Wiggonholt

Church Lane, 2-bedroom terrace bungalow
(Comyn & James, Pulborough) **£379,995**

TO RENT

Amberley

High Street 2-bedroom terraced house
(Southernbrook, Chichester) **£1,100pcm**

Parham Estate

3-bedroom semi-detached cottage
(GL&Co, Storrington) **£1,475pcm**

Diversions Answers/Solutions (see pages 49/50)

1. Desert Storm 2. The Skagerrak 3. Rudyard Kipling 4. 72
5. Sierra 6. Aldous Huxley 7. 64 8. Alfred, Lord Tennyson 9. 500
10. They are all settings for Gilbert and Sullivan operas
11. A black eye 12. Pluto 13. Avocado 14. America only had 13 states when it was founded 15. Picador 16. £10 (a tenner/tenor)
17. Spinach 18. Fluke 19. 2 fish and 5 loaves 20. Charles M. Schulz
21. Red 22. On the Isle of Wight 23. Goat 24. Abstemious
25. James Dean 26. Rum 27. Sussex Wildlife Trust 28. One

Crossword solution

Across

1. Showgirl 6. Upon 8. Unzip 9. Gangster 11. Barndance
12. Roast 13. Arson 15. Oarswoman 17. Appraisal 19. Denim
21. Lapse 22. Arguments 24. Claimant 25. Wogan 26. Drag
27. Enduring

Down

2. Hazards 3. Wiped 4. Ingenious 5. Lunge 6. Unscrewed
7. Overarm 8. Unbeatable 10. Stonemason 14. Neatening
16. Relegated 18. Popular 20. Nonagon 22. Amaze
23. Mower

Tiny Diamond

Across

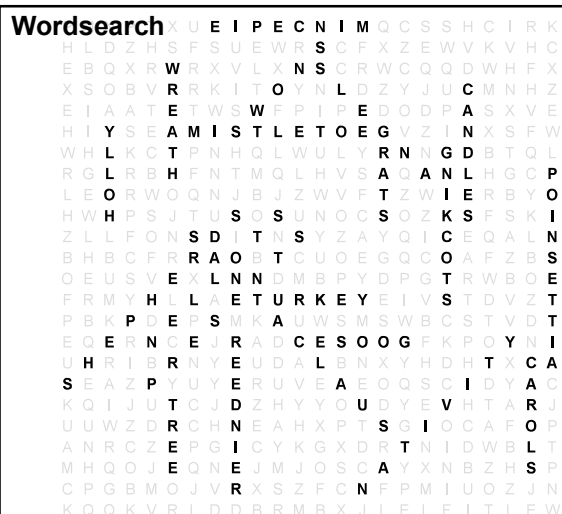
2. Woo 5. Urn 6. Weird 9. Weed 10. Ewer 12. Egret 14. War 15. Law

Down

1. Your 3. Order 4. Wee 6. Wet 7. Ideal 8. Jet 11. Wed 13. Gram

Brain teaser

Teal and steal



Codeword





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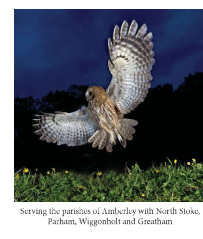
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The Wildbrooks Magazine

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Now Winter nights enlarge the number of their hours
And clouds their storms discharge upon the airy towers
 from *Winter Nights* by Thomas Campion (1567-1620)



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