

THE WILDBROOKS MAGAZINE



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



Just ask

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Village Bus in need of your support - page18

This month's front cover

A ticket to ride: Amberley Museum reopens with its vintage buses back in operation.

Picture: Mike Beck





Amberley's Mini Gardens Open - pages 22-23



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

Our churches: where you are always assured a warm welcome

Have you made your staycation plans for this summer? Although we might welcome a change of scenery there's so much to do and see in this part of Sussex which we call home, with its rich variety of river and pasture, downland and woods.

When we live amid such natural beauty it's not a great hardship to holiday at home and visit the places which are our local treasures. I wonder, which are your favourites? Perhaps that spreading view across the river, the shady woods or a special picnic spot. Some are well known but others are quite hidden, waiting to be discovered as the seasons change.

It may seem hard to believe in the summer months with the footpaths busy and cyclists whizzing down the lanes, but many people don't even know Amberley village is tucked away here. They think that having been along the B road and past the station they have been to Amberley.

In the same way it's possible to live in our Wildbrooks area for some time and not discover our churches, all of which are tucked away, most of them without a village of any size.

It is good to report that all five churches are now open daily, welcoming visitors and those seeking a quiet place for private prayer and reflection. If you haven't found them yet, this summer is an ideal time to explore: all can be reached on foot or by parking nearby. If you happen to be there at service times you are welcome to come and join in, even in your walking boots, whether in church or in the churchyard.

The church at North Stoke is the only one not in



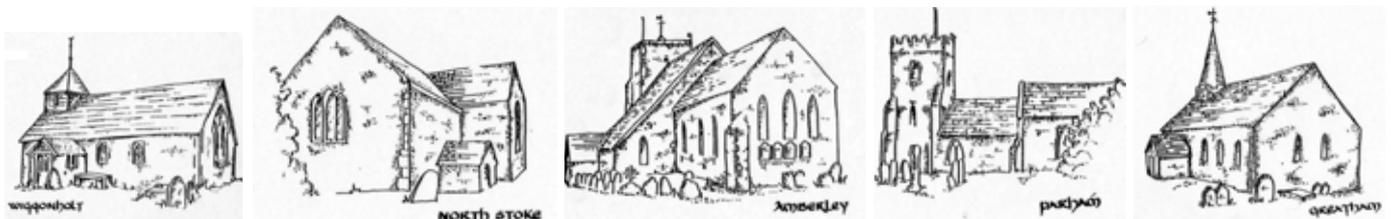
The Revd Gerry Burgess

regular use for services; instead it is cared for by the Friends of St Mary's and the Churches' Conservation Trust. As this church is dedicated to St Mary the Virgin we shall be celebrating its patronal festival on 15th August, the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On that day, as it's a Sunday, we shall be relocating our 11am service from Amberley to North Stoke, in the far south of the parish. All are welcome for this annual celebration: if you combine it with a walk, why not stay for a picnic in the churchyard?

It's good to retreat to a peaceful place, be it a church or a quiet outdoor spot, where we can breathe deeply and be still, reconnecting with ourselves and also with the still, small voice of God with us in the silence. This can give us renewed energy to go back to the everyday and the challenges we may face.

But church isn't just a place to go into: it is somewhere that we can be strengthened and resourced to go out from. It's not all about 'going to church' on a Sunday, but rather about living lives which reflect God's love wherever our week and its demands may take us. So you are welcome to our peaceful churches, welcome to services, and welcome to join us in sharing God's mission of love for our communities and the world.

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





JULY/AUGUST SERVICES & BIBLE READINGS

Many of our services continue to be held outdoors in fine weather. Face coverings and distancing continue to be required for services in church for the time being. Please come prepared for all options!

Over the summer the number of online services has been reduced: please get in touch for details week by week.

Please note the changed pattern on 11th and 25th July in order to accommodate the Tea and Thanks afternoon on 25th July with a short service on the Millennium Green.

Note also that the 11am service on 15th August is at North Stoke: there is NO service at Amberley that day.

SUNDAY, 4TH JULY TRINITY 5 GREEN ARRAY

9.15am Holy Communion Parham
 1.00am Holy Communion Amberley
 6.00pm Compline Wiggonholt

SUNDAY, 11TH JULY TRINITY 6 GREEN ARRAY

9.00am Matins Greatham
 11.00am Holy Communion Amberley

SUNDAY, 18TH JULY TRINITY 7 GREEN ARRAY

9.15am Holy Communion Wiggonholt
 11.00am Holy Communion Amberley
 6.00pm Evening Prayer Parham

SUNDAY, 25TH JULY TRINITY 8 GREEN ARRAY

9.00am Holy Communion Greatham
 4.00pm Worship for all
 Tea and Thanks on the Millennium Green

SUNDAY, 1ST AUGUST TRINITY 9 GREEN ARRAY

9.15am Holy Communion Parham
 11.00am Holy Communion Amberley
 6.00pm Evening Prayer Wiggonholt

SUNDAY, 8TH AUGUST TRINITY 10 GREEN ARRAY

9.00am Holy Communion Greatham
 10.00am Worship for all Amberley

SUNDAY, 15TH AUGUST BLESSED VIRGIN MARY WHITE ARRAY

9.15am Holy Communion Wiggonholt
 11.00am Patronal Festival North Stoke
 (Joint service with Amberley –
 no service at St Michael's)
 6.00pm Evening Prayer Parham

SUNDAY, 22ND AUGUST TRINITY 12 GREEN ARRAY

9.00am Matins Greatham
 11.00am Holy Communion Amberley

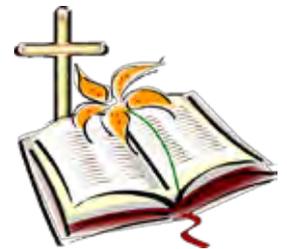
SUNDAY, 29TH AUGUST TRINITY 13 GREEN ARRAY

10am Holy Communion Parham
 United Benefice service

SUNDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER TRINITY 14 GREEN ARRAY

9.15am Holy Communion Parham
 11.00am Holy Communion Amberley
 6.00pm Compline Wiggonholt

BIBLE READINGS



Sunday, 4th July
 2 Samuel 5.1-5, 9-10; Mark 6.1-13;
 Psalm 48

Sunday, 11th July
 2 Samuel 6.1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24;
 Mark 6.14-29

Sunday, 18th July
 2 Samuel 7.1-17a; Mark 6.30-34, 53-end; Psalm 89.1-8

Sunday, 25th July
 Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

Sunday, 1st August
 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-12; John 6:24-35

Sunday, 8th August
 Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

Sunday, 15th August
 Isaiah 61.10-11; Psalm 98; Luke 1.46-55

Sunday, 22nd August
 1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; John 6:56-69

Sunday, 29th August
 James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sunday, 5th September
 Psalm 146; James 2:1-10, 14-17; Mark 7:24-37



CHURCH NEWS

Tea and thanks on the Millennium Green

By the end of July we really hope that the Covid restrictions will be behind us at last. It's a good time to look back together over this time of huge disruption to our lives and society. There have been losses of many kinds, but also good things to be thankful for.

Everyone is invited to a simple service and tea on the Millennium Green on Sunday, 25th July, at 4pm, when we can remember this shared experience and say 'Thank You' for those who have supported us here in Amberley and the wider Wildbrooks area in so many different ways.

We shall be giving awards to some of our stars of lockdown and adding all names to a roll of honour. For this we need your nominations! Please send names with a sentence about what you are nominating them for (plus your name as nominee). Names can be e-mailed to amberleystmichael@gmail.com or dropped in the postbox for Downlands Loft (Ros Simpson) by the entrance to Amberley Stores.

Wet weather plans for 25th July, if needed, will be announced nearer the day via Listserve, Amberley Stores and more.

Save the date and come and join in – everyone is welcome!

This village event is being arranged by St Michael's Church and the Parish Engagement Group (PEG).

WIGGONHOLT CHURCH

COFFEE MORNING

on

Saturday 21st August

10.30am-12.30

at

Winterfields Farm Wiggonholt

Everyone welcome to sit in the garden

for tea, coffee, cake & biscuits

WIGGONHOLT CHURCH

Thanking Janet

One of the casualties of the Covid lockdown was corrected after the service on Sunday, June 20, when the PCC and parishioners were finally able to thank Janet Aidin, who retired from churchwarden duties at the end of 2021.



She had coped with an extended spell of being our sole churchwarden and that of church treasurer. These were all in addition to her safeguarding and parish secretarial responsibilities.

During her time in office, she was very generous in allowing the church to undertake services, meetings and fundraising in her house and garden and her team at the Old Rectory also helped with bookkeeping and church and churchyard care.

Janet had made it clear that she did not want any public thanks, but Wiggonholt Church has a long tradition of making small presentations to acknowledge its gratitude.

Janet was thanked boly all and presented with water colour paintings of Wiggonholt and Greatham Churches by Duncan Bruce, who many will remember when he lived at Greatham and was part of the Wiggonholt evensong congregation at times.

Mervyn Jeffery

From the Parish Registers

Weddings

Ross Egan and **Ellie Blunden**, at Parham (May 22)

Alexander Gibson and **Emma Corby**, at Wiggonholt (June 26)

Mark Potterton and **Alice Nutbourne**, at Amberley (June 26)

Burials

Milly Margetts, burial of ashes at Greatham (May 11)

Georgina Foggo, burial of ashes, at Amberley (June 13)

Vic Hearn, funeral and burial, at Amberley (July 2)



CHURCH NEWS

Fun in the sun at the Churchyard Weekend

The sun rarely shines as brightly or continuously as it did for St Michael's Churchyard Weekend on 12th and 13th June. Just the thing to make the enjoyment complete.

Over the last couple of years, the churchyard's wildflower display has burgeoned gloriously and in mid-June, it is a riot of colour and diversity. The perfect moment to find out just how many species have now made God's Acre in Amberley their home. The answer? An amazing 147 at the last count! So say our resident wildflower experts, Richard Robinson and Grahame and Michael Joseph, who have largely been behind the riot of natural beauty which St Michael's churchyard now is. And that astonishing total will now be added to a national database (the National Biodiversity Network) as part of the Churches Count on Nature initiative.

Surely something to celebrate at a time of habitat and species loss. And that's just what happened (celebration or species loss?).



On the Saturday, an activity day gave grown-ups and children alike the chance to listen to the wildflower experts detail the wonders of the churchyard's myriad plants and explain identification techniques. Did you know, for example, that the ivy-leaved toadflax always grows away from the light and therefore its creeping stems point north?



Family fun: relaxing in the sun among the churchyard's display of wildflowers

In addition, a team from the Sussex Wildlife Trust helped children find and identify a whole host of minibeasts who have made their homes amid the flowers. There were shield bugs, a baby stag beetle and a tiny cucumber spider described by picnicking children Thea, Henry and Matthias as 'radioactive' because of its luminous green abdomen.

There was a photography competition, flower pressing hosted by Mary Leonard, while Sue Haynes had produced brief guides to some of the graves and cremation plots, a small sample taken from her main churchyard guide to be found inside the church. It's a potent reminder that the churchyard is a rich repository of village history.

Local folk musicians Alan Wheeler and Anne Sartain – members of the Greatham-based folk group Cotillion – came and played beautiful lilted music as well as joining with Anna Macleod to read some flower and wildlife-themed poetry and stories. A poem called *The Cat That Came to Church*, written by Alan's father, Eric Wheeler, was especially

continued overleaf





CHURCH NEWS

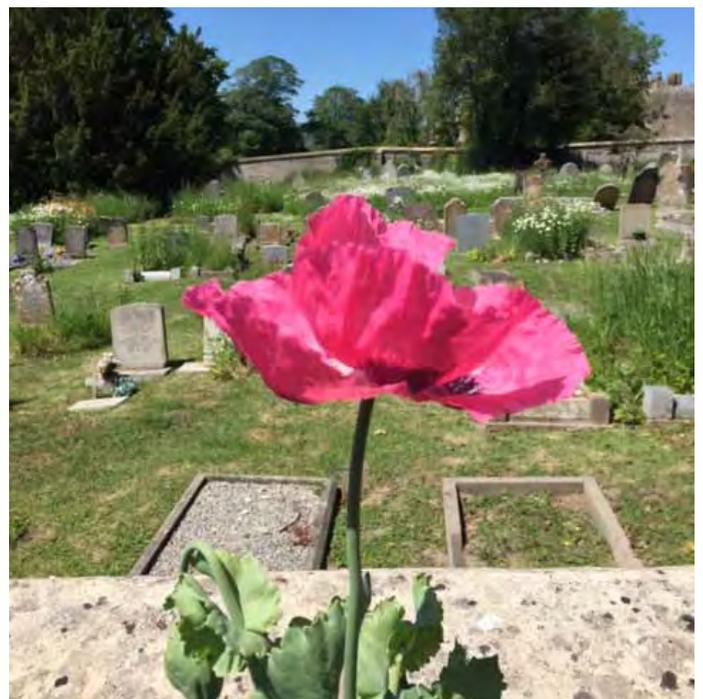


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enjoyed by Pat and Tim Ashby whose wonderful cat, Sampson, did exactly that a couple of weeks ago!

For many, the churchyard is, above all, a place of peace for reflection and prayer. A cherished corner of the village where swifts swoop and call and the oxeye daisies delight. Gerry's inspirational prayer trail was just right to experience the sights and sounds of the churchyard mindfully. With 12 stops along the way for contemplation, the trail brings home the sacredness of nature's beauty...

A feeling carried over into Sunday morning when parishioners gathered together for an informal service in the open air – another truly lovely occasion during which Shirley Linford was persuaded to read *Pied Beauty* by Gerard Manley Hopkins. Sue Adams masterminded coffee after the service while the Foggo family prayerfully interred Georgina's ashes, her little plot suitably decorated with a few churchyard flowers by her grandchildren.

And so the life of St Michael's churchyard continues in its principal purpose of laying to rest in tranquillity and the beauty of nature those who have lived in and loved Amberley.



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PEOPLE & EVENTS

Congratulations...

To **John Rezin**, of Field End, Amberley, who celebrates his 95th birthday on July 5. And to **Patricia Chapman**, of Hurst Cottages, who celebrates her 80th birthday on July 22. Also, belatedly, to **Grahame Joseph**, who notched up his three score and ten, along with twin brother **Michael**, on May 28.

Our condolences...

To **Jim Endacott** and family on the loss of **Sue**, who died peacefully at home on June 18 after a relatively short illness. The funeral is expected to be held at their church in Broadbridge Heath on July 9, with burial at St Michael's. An Appreciation will appear in the September issue.

Also to the daughters, **Marina and Debbie**, and family of **Vic Hearn**, whose funeral takes place at St Michael's on July 2 (see page 15).

And to the relatives and many friends of **Susan-Ann Dowle**, who died, aged 82, on June 25 in St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, following a stroke ten days earlier. An Appreciation will also appear in the September issue.

Rackham show cancelled

The Rackham Fete and Flower Show has been cancelled for a second year because of the pandemic. "The committee feels that the uncertainty of the restrictions which may be in place and the work which is involved has sadly made us come to this conclusion," says Sue Bulloch. The event had taken place on August Bank Holiday Monday every year since the Second World War until 2020.

Baptisms coming up!

It's lovely to have two families bringing their children for baptism (christening) this summer at St Michael's. Details will be in the next magazine.

If you would like your child to be baptised at one of our churches please get in touch with Revd Gerry to discuss it. There is no charge for this, which can take place either during a main Sunday service or separately.

New school appointments

The Arun Villages Federation (AVF) was born on July 9 2019 so when you read this we will have celebrated our second birthday – and what a two years it has been. Amberley Primary School and St James' Primary School, Coldwaltham, came together as a federation with the following key aims:

- To ensure that we provide the very best education to

each and every child in our care, in a safe and welcoming environment

- To share resources and make use of staff with particular skills to the benefit of both schools

- To continue raising standards for all pupils including those who are disadvantaged, and those with Special Educational Needs

- To secure long-term financial sustainability for both schools taking into account funding challenges and fluctuating pupil numbers.

- To work in partnership with all stakeholders and in particular the local communities and the Diocese

- To protect the identity of each school and to cement their position within the local community

We made a commitment that having a formal legal identity as a federation would not change the individual identity and character of the schools and aspects such as school uniform; school identity; parent organisations; and sports teams etc would remain the same. We were and very much still are determined to retain the identities of the two schools and to cement their key roles at the heart of the local communities.

Now that our federation is well-established and our schools are working together more closely, we have been able to appoint a central senior leadership team, all of whom will work across both schools.

We are delighted to confirm that Mrs Lizzie Martin will become Executive Headteacher for the Arun Villages Federation from September. Mrs Martin joined St James', Coldwaltham in April 2019 as a senior teacher and was promoted to Head of School in September 2020. Mrs Martin quickly demonstrated that she is a natural leader, and is well liked and highly respected by the children, staff and parents. Prior to joining St James', she had successful experience of leadership roles in another federation in East Sussex.

Mrs Martin will be supported by two Assistant Executive Headteachers: Mr Paul Armitage – Teaching and Learning, and Mrs Nicky Kirby – Operations. Those of you who are familiar with Amberley School will know Mr Armitage as our current Head of School and his depth of knowledge and work in helping to develop the curriculum has been well recognised. Mrs Kirby is the current Business Manager at St James', and has been tremendous in her current role, showing a willingness to go the extra mile to the benefit of both schools and the federation.

continued overleaf



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The new structure is bold, innovative, forward looking and reflects our ambition to ensure that we provide the very best safe and caring learning environment enabling every child to thrive and succeed

On a sadder note, Mrs Su Cork is moving on and will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. Mrs Cork has shown tremendous commitment to all the children at Amberley over many years, and has made an amazing contribution to the life of the school both within and beyond the classroom. She will be very much missed, and we wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

Mrs Rebecca Metcalf has been appointed as her successor and she will be our Willow Class teacher, supported by Mrs Sarah Philpott. Willow Class parents and children will have the opportunity to meet Mrs Metcalf later in the term. We very much look forward to welcoming her to the Amberley team and to working with her next year.

Since Mr Armitage will not have class responsibility next year, we have appointed Mrs Zuleika Phillips to the teaching team. Mrs Phillips is an experienced teacher who has been hiding her light under a bushel. She will bring both expertise and huge enthusiasm to her new role next year. She will be teaching Oak Class.

Mrs Rebecca Westwood will be remaining in Maple Class and I'm sure will continue to deliver her lively and inspirational teaching.

At the end of the summer term, Mrs Stephanie Gibson is stepping down from her role as Interim Executive Head-teacher but she will be staying with us in an advisory role for a significant period. I have worked closely with Stephanie over the past year and have been delighted to observe how she has calmly introduced a new and exciting curriculum, reorganised and updated our management of safeguarding, health & safety and compliance, without seem-



New team picture line-up (from left to right): Nicky Kirby, Lizzie Martin and Paul Armitage

ing to break sweat! Her leadership and management skills have transformed the teams at both schools and we move into the next academic year full of optimism and confidence.

Also leaving us at the end of this term is Glenys Rowe, who has been a governor for many years and has worked tirelessly in the interests of the children. Glenys has been the driving force behind the Nature Space outdoor learning facility which has made Amberley School the envy of many other schools. While Glenys is stepping down as a governor, I suspect (and hope!) that she will continue to help the school and our pupils.

We are delighted to welcome the Reverend Gerry Burgess to our governing board. As, I'm sure you will all know Gerry has worked so hard and contributed so much to the village since she became Priest-in-Charge for the Wildbrooks Benefice. The governing board will also be strengthened by Melanie Edge who has agreed to join us in September. They will both be real assets on our board. **Ray Jackson
Chair of Governors**

**Tea and Thanks on the
Millennium Green**
Sunday, 25th July, at 4pm
**A simple service of remembrance
and thanksgiving.**
All welcome

**Elizabeth Butler
Memorial Service and Exhibition**

Two events in early August will celebrate the life and work of Amberley resident and artist Elizabeth, who died last October.

The service will be held at St Michael's, Amberley, on Friday, 6th August, at 11.30am.

The exhibition, with works available for sale, will be at nearby Rackham Old School, from Thursday 5th to Saturday 7th August, with these opening times:

Thursday 5th, 2-6.30pm / Friday 6th, 2-6.30pm
Saturday 7th, 10-6.30pm

**All proceeds to go to Elizabeth's chosen charity,
Médecins Sans Frontières.**



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Victor James Hearn, 1939-2021

Vic Hearn, who has died aged 82, was born and bred in West Sussex. One of eight children – there were four brothers and three sisters – he was born at Coldharbour, in Greyfriars Lane, Storrington.

Of his childhood, one of his favourite memories was helping to bungee launch gliders from the Downs near Kithurst Hill. In the days before tug planes and winch launches, gliders would be dragged high up on the downs by teams of men and boys. A large elastic rope would be attached and tensioned before the glider was catapulted off the hillside. As it did so he remembers the several painful thwacks he received on his short-trousered legs from the elastic rope!



Vic met Celia when she was aged just 15, while she was working at the Abbingworth Hall Hotel, in Thakeham. They met in Storrington “going to the pictures” in the Village Hall. Vic had a hard seat but he paid sixpence for a cushion for Celia. After the film he pursued her all round Storrington for what was the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

After their marriage two years later in 1960, they lived initially at Picketty Cottages in Thakeham before moving to a farm at Rogate where Vic had been offered a job. He then moved to a farm at Wisborough Green before finishing up at Springhead Farm on the Parham Estate.

He was at home, whether it was dairy or arable, but during the latter part of his working life, when sheep were introduced to the estate, he was never hesitant in expressing his total dislike of sheep.

Following redundancy at Springhead, he became a heavy plant operator at Rock Common Sandpit until his retirement.

Vic and Celia moved to their bungalow in Hurst Cottages 28 years ago. The family had already established strong connections with Amberley, with Celia and daughters Marina and Debbie regularly playing stoolball for many years on the cricket field.

It was a devastating blow when Cis, suddenly and tragically died in a car accident in the village. Many worried how Vic was going to cope. But the supportive village rallied round and his friends were like a second family to him.

He threw himself into village life, making new friends and finding fun again. In return he really enjoyed helping out wherever he could. He cut grass, watered gardens when people went on holiday, did dog sitting and if a marquee was to be pitched for a village event, he would be the first to volunteer. He loved the Village Lunches, SAGE visits and the Amberley Society, rarely missing any of their events.

For holidays he took coach trips and enjoyed the compan-

ionship. With his sense of fun, laughter and banter he would always return with stories of older ladies chasing him.

He loved cricket and would be up all night watching matches being played on the other side of the world.

With Vic’s character and infectious chuckle he was perfect for playing Father Christmas. Initially, he was apprehensive and nervous but once behind the costume, really got into the role and loved it, assisted at times by his next door neighbour, Phil O’Beirne dressed as his Elf helper His venues included Amberley School, Amberley Village Lunches, plus the Wyevale garden centre at Stopham and Hillside Nursing Home at Pulborough.

There was one occasion when a little girl said to him “You’ve got a pillow up there” and with a genuine ho-ho-ho Vic replied, “Oh no I haven’t!” It started off as a bit of fun but he was astounded and should have been immensely proud of all the donations he collected for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance.

Vic leaves two daughters, four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

- The funeral takes place at St Michael’s Church on Friday, July 2.

There is still time to sign-up for Ride and Stride, back this year after its cancellation in 2020 because of the Covid pandemic. is back.

It takes place on Saturday, September 11. It provides walkers and cyclists with the opportunity to visit some of Sussex’s stunning places of worship and to raise money through sponsorship for a Wildbrooks church of their choice and the Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

There is no fixed route so participants have the fun of planning their own journey to clock up as many churches as possible.

So, if you would enjoy a day’s walk or bike ride visiting some of Sussex’s most beautiful churches and raising money for a Wildbrooks church of your choice and the Sussex Historic Churches Trust at the same time, please contact me for the name of your Parish Organiser or for any more information about the event (01798 831 181 or tolsonjab@btinternet.com).

James Tolson





Borrowing to build the Amberley car park

As residents we are all aware of the pressing problem of car parking in Amberley – the evidence is before our eyes nearly every day. This can only get more severe as the lockdown ends, visitors return, and hospitality reopens.

Building a car park was a key policy in our Neighbourhood Plan (NP), which was approved and adopted by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) in June 2017. Our NP was approved by over 90 per cent of voters (57 per cent of parishioners voted). A copy of the Amberley Neighbourhood Plan can be found at this link on the Parish Council website: www.amberley-pc.org.uk/Neighbourhood_Plan_Delivery_23127.aspx

In order to get on with making the car park happen, the Parish Council proposes to borrow £75,000 from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB: a Government body specifically set up to fund public works). The interest rates on loans from the PWLB are low, and remain low for the life of the loan, although there could be penalties for paying off early if interest rates rise in the interim.

We plan to borrow over a 30-year period, with the expectation that the community levy on approved and planned housing developments in the Parish (for example, at Strawberry Villas) will give us the option to pay back most of the loan within a few years. We are consulting with residents and local businesses, and asking for your support for the Parish Council to borrow the bulk of the money needed to build the car park.

The basic construction work for the car park will cost around £90,000, plus additional smaller amounts for landscaping, provision of low-power lighting and eventually electric vehicle charging points. We have £15,000 available to us from the levy on a previous housing development, but this still leaves a shortfall of £75,000. We have made extensive attempts to raise this money, via applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund, to the UK Rural Development Programme, and to SDNPA's Strategic Infrastructure Fund – in each case to be told that car parks are not a sufficiently high priority.

So, if we raise the loan, how will it be repaid? We are proposing to add the cost of the repayments to the Parish precept (the Parish part of your Council Tax). The average additional cost per Band D household will be less than £1 per month.

We are consulting with residents and business owners in the Parish to assess the support for the PWLB loan. We are delivering flyers to all households and businesses in the



Top: parking problems in East Street; above: the site on the corner of School Road and Turnpike Road for the proposed car park

parish, with a response form on the back. Response forms may be left in the collection box at the Village Shop, or if you prefer to submit a response online, you can do so via the survey link on the Parish Council website (www.amberley-pc.org.uk).

We hope you will support this initiative, as the Parish Council considers this the best way to deliver the project, and help alleviate parking problems in the Parish. I will be happy to answer any of your questions, you can email me at geofuren@amberley-pc.org.uk, with the subject CAR PARK CONSULTATION in the subject line.

The closing date for responses is July 15, 2021. Please submit only one response per household or business. Thank you,

Geoff Uren

Chairman, Amberley Parish Council

Prepare for rail disruption

Rail services to and from Amberley will be disrupted during July and August while Network Rail carries out major engineering works on the Arun line.

The dates affected are Sunday, July 11 and the weekends of July 17-18 and July 31-August 1. There will be a complete nine-day shutdown between August 14-22, including weekdays. There will be further closures on the weekend of September 4-5 and Sunday, October 3.

On all dates, services from Southampton, Portsmouth & Southsea and Bognor Regis will still run, but will have longer journey times as they are diverted via Hove.

Furthermore, as a result of work to upgrade the lines into Victoria, most trains will be diverted to London Bridge on Sundays, June 6 and 27.

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Supporting your Village Bus

For more than 30 years, the Amberley and Slindon Village Bus has provided a lifeline to many in our community. For some, it's the only means of getting to larger shops and services in nearby centres. For others, it's a convenient way of getting out without having to drive or worry about parking. For almost everyone, it creates the opportunity to meet friends and neighbours, have a chat or, when it's allowed, a coffee or lunch, and try to work out who will win the latest series of *Strictly* or *Bake Off*. As more and more commercial bus services have been withdrawn in recent years, the need for a reliable, locally run, bus service has never been more important.

Although the Village Bus works on a not for profit basis, and is managed entirely by volunteers, it operates in exactly the same way as a commercial service, with scheduled routes and a published timetable (see page 35). Seating 14 passengers, it serves four local destinations every week – Storrington/Pulborough on a Monday morning, Bognor Regis on a Monday afternoon, Littlehampton/Rustington on a Wednesday and Chichester on a Thursday. A service to Worthing also operates on the first Tuesday of each month. Users have between 1½ and 3 hours at each location. And, whilst the service primarily supports local residents, it can be used by members of the general public who can pick up the bus at any of the scheduled stops. Those passengers eligible for a Freedom Pass travel free; for younger users, a flat rate fare of £3 per return journey represents excellent value for money.

Like many services involving people from different households meeting in a confined “indoor” space, the Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the Village Bus. As the pandemic took hold last spring, government guidance to stop non-essential contact with others and avoid unnecessary travel, meant that the service had to be suspended for six months. Since it restarted last September, passenger numbers have not returned to pre-Covid levels, falling by more than 60 per cent for the three months leading up to Christmas 2020, and declining even further following the introduction of the third national lockdown this January, when schools and non-essential shops were required to close again.

There are many reasons for this decline. Some regular passengers have become too frail to travel, or continue to

shield. Others, though still using the bus occasionally, don't travel as frequently as they did before. Many people may simply have lost the confidence to mix with others and are not yet ready to return to “normal” life. What is noticeable, however, is that fewer “new” passengers are making use of the service. With this in mind, the next time you need to go to Chichester (or Bognor or Littlehampton) or have to pop out to Storrington or Pulborough, why not consider using the Village Bus. Or, even if you just fancy a trip out, or a change of scene, or a chance of a chat with a fresh face.

Every precaution is taken to ensure that the service is safe to use. Hand sanitiser is available; seats and handrails are



Driving force: pictured with the Village Bus co-ordinator, Phil Greenwood (centre) are (from the left) volunteer drivers Barbara Brimblecombe (Slindon), Elisabeth Toom, Malcolm Pheasey and Russell Coates, who is standing down. Alex Dunlop, the other volunteer, is not pictured

cleansed after every journey; and passengers are encouraged to use only window seats to maintain social distance. Hopefully, as the vaccination programme continues to roll out and lockdown restrictions ease, passenger numbers will start to climb. But, as with any service, the time may arise when it becomes a question of, “use it or lose it”.

Whatever the future holds, the Village Bus service can only operate if we have sufficient volunteer drivers. Over the years we've managed to attract new drivers to replace those who have retired. But we are now down to 5 regular drivers, which is about the minimum required to operate effectively. So, if you have any spare time, or some flexibility in your working day, I hope you might think about becoming a volunteer driver. You wouldn't be committed to work a set number of times, or on particular days of the week – any contribution would be an enormous help.

If you would like more information about the Village Bus service, or would like to discuss becoming a volunteer driver, please don't hesitate to get in touch. **Phil Greenwood**

(01798) 831 803 or e-mail philadad@btinternet.com



Vicarage concerts to raise funds for musicians

Amberley is to be the venue for the West Sussex performances in an exciting series of concerts taking place across all counties of England.

J S Bach wrote 48 preludes and fugues for keyboard, and pianist Libby Burgess will be playing all 48 in each of the 48 counties over the year. We are privileged to host the West Sussex concerts here.

There will be six short concerts of about 45 minutes on Thursday, July 29 and Friday, July 30 at 11am, 2pm and 5pm each day, to be given in the New Vicarage in School Road.

Libby, a freelance professional musician, is the daughter of Steve and Gerry Burgess. She was born and bred in West Sussex before going on to become the first female organ scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. She then studied piano at the Royal Academy of Music and has a wide-ranging career as performer, writer, speaker and coach; she was formerly Head of Keyboard at Eton College. Libby is artistic director of New Paths Music and co-artistic director of the Beverley Chamber Music Festival.

Once the pandemic struck in 2020 Libby was one of many freelance players with virtually no work nor financial support, but this gave her time to plan a unique project, performing Bach's 48 Preludes and Fugues in each of the 48 counties of England. There have been online tasters since the start of 2021 and live concerts began in May.

Each of 'The 48' lasts only a few minutes, but between them they explore a wealth of characters, styles, and moods, representing not only the diversity of musical language available to the composer at the time, but also exploring the whole gamut of human emotional experience.

Bach wrote this magnificent collection "for the benefit and use of the musical youth eager to learn, as well as for the special pastime of those already skilful in this study."

This project will be fundraising for musical charities which provide much-needed help to those same categories of people today – musicians young and old. The nominated Project 48 charities are Help Musicians, Live Music Now, Future Talent and Youth Music. Between them they help hundreds of thousands of musicians every year, offering financial sup-



Musical marathon: Libby Burgess is playing Bach's 48 preludes and fugues in 48 counties

port, creating opportunities, addressing inequalities, and altogether safeguarding the future of the music world.

Booking will be needed for these concerts and we'd like to give priority initially to local residents. You are welcome to any or all of the short performances. Seating will be indoors with extra outside if weather permits. We hope (subject to final lifting of Covid restrictions) to seat up to 30 people reasonably distanced between two rooms. Either call or e-mail Steve or Gerry Burgess on (01798) 831 600 or at stevegerryburgess@gmail.com), stating which day and time(s) you are booking for – you can come to any or all performances – and give contact details in case any arrangements have to change.

The concerts will be free but we request your donations to cover a modest performance fee and to give generous support to the four named charities.

The nominated Project 48 charities

HELP MUSICIANS provided over 19,000 musicians with Financial Hardship Funding in 2020, following the pandemic. They offer a range of creative development funding, supporting professional growth and training, and run a free mental health service for everyone working in the UK music industry – Music Minds Matter.

YOUTH MUSIC works to break down barriers so that all children and young people are able to have musical lives, working particularly with those in challenging circumstances. They give grants to other organisations – small charities, arts venues, music businesses, youth clubs, music education hubs, housing associations, nurseries and more – to run music-making projects for children and young people aged 0-25.

FUTURE TALENT operates two programmes supporting gifted young musicians from low-income backgrounds across the UK. They provide workshops, one-to-one mentoring sessions with experts, and performance opportunities, as well as financial support and guidance. The charity is creating a permanent presence in the North of England, enabling them to better reach and support young musicians in the North and beyond.

continued overleaf



continued from previous page

LIVE MUSIC NOW, founded by Yehudi Menuhin, facilitates thousands of interactive music programmes every year in care homes, hospitals, special schools, and other community and healthcare settings. LMN selects young, professional musicians, trains them, and sends them out into the community to perform. As Menuhin said: "Music, amongst all the great arts, is the language which penetrates most deeply into the human spirit, reaching people through every barrier, disability, language and circumstance. This is why it has been my dream to bring music back into the lives of those people whose lives are especially prone to stress and suffering... so that it might comfort, heal and bring delight."



● For more information about the charities and the project, see the project website: www.bachproject48.co.uk.

A garden like no other

Las Pozas, a surrealistic group of structures created by Edward James, an eccentric modern artist/gardener, in a subtropical rainforest in the mountains of Mexico will be the sub-

ject of the talk by James Russell on July 6 for members of the Arts Society of West Sussex.

It will once again be via Zoom video-conferencing although it is hoped that talks will resume in Fittleworth Village Hall in September. A link will be sent to all members prior to the talks.

Interested non-members are welcome, for a fee of £5, and should contact Jackie Buckler on (01903) 411086 or e-mail westsussex@theartssociety.org

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Sunday: 12.00 - 3.45pm

These times maybe subject to change without notice.

**FOR ALL INFO DO CHECK OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM
OR JUST GIVE US A CALL - WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**



Amberley Museum opens restored and re-imagined nature trails

Amberley Museum’s re-imagined nature trails were opened on June 5 at a celebration for World Environment Day that was attended by local community organisations with a common aim to make West Sussex a more environmentally friendly place.

These included Sussex Green Living, Horsham Repair Café, UK Harvest, Chichester Conservation Volunteers, South Downs National Park Authority, Worthing Climate Action Network, Action in Rural Sussex, Wild Sussex, West Sussex County Council Bikeability and Horsham District Cycling Forum.

Tim Burr, deputy chair of the Policy and Resources Committee of the South Downs National Park Authority officially opened the nature trails, which have been restored thanks to funding from the SDNPA’s COVID Recovery Fund. There are two trails at the museum: the Hillside Trail had been closed for some time due to fences falling into disrepair and many ash trees along the path suffering from ash dieback and needing to be felled. Thanks to the funding, the Hillside Trail is open once



ties introduced by Bella the Bat, who was drawn by a pupil from Amberley School.

Brighton Energy Cooperative, which installed solar panels on the museum’s Connected Earth building 15 months ago, also had a stand and presented a certificate to Richard Vernon, chairman of the museum’s trustees to mark the reduced carbon emissions in 2020 as a result of the panels, equivalent to the planting of 1,591 trees.



SDNPA’s Tim Burr and museum director Valerie Mills

again and visitors can climb to the top of the White Pit and see spectacular views of the Arun Valley.

The Lower Nature trail is a more leisurely stroll that now includes a new outdoor meeting space for groups, such as guides and scouts, and where adult classes can take place. Both trails have new information boards with children’s activi

The museum has put in place COVID-19 measures to ensure the safety of visitors, volunteers and staff and has received the ‘We’re Good to Go’ Industry Standard to confirm that it is following Government and industry guidelines and processes to maintain cleanliness and social distancing. Visit their website for more information: www.amberleymuseum.co.uk/visit/visit-during-covid-19/

Anyone wishing to have a memorable day out at Amberley must currently book in advance on the museum’s website for the day that they wish to visit. Amberley Museum is open 10am-4.30pm, Wednesday to Sunday, and Bank Holiday Mondays.

There is a café at the Museum which serves hot food and refreshments, with seating both inside and outside on the café terrace and you may also bring picnics. The site is wheelchair accessible, and dogs are welcome on a lead.



Helping to make West Sussex a more environmentally-friendly place: Horsham Repair Cafe, UK Harvest and Brighton Energy Co-op



Amberley Mini Gardens Open raises close on £2,000

A huge 'thank you' to all the residents, friends and family of the Wildbrooks Parishes for your wonderful support of the Mini Gardens Open Weekend in aid of Action Medical Research.

The event, the first we've held with COVID-19 restrictions, raised a total, £1955.20p.

Owners worked hard to have the gardens looking perfect and we were rewarded by a wonderful variety of planting and inspired gardening. Quite a feat, bearing in mind the cold spring, followed by a wet and windy May.

There were many comments mentioning how good it was to be out and about again, meeting people and enjoying the gardens at leisure. It will give us so much pleasure to send to the charity such a large sum on behalf of you all.

Suzie Coates and Jacqui Feakins

● Action Medical Research began in 1952 as a fund for research into the disease, set up by an Amberley father of a young girl with polio. People like you donated money and the first UK polio vaccines were developed. Millions of children have been kept safe ever since.

Pictures by Mike Beck



Jan Wright and Pat Morley



Dave and Sarah Cole



Peter and Catherine Cunningham



Sue Woods (centre) with Angela and Chris Hough



Jackie Townsend and Don Gallagher



Malcolm and Sue Pheasey



Mike and Sue Adams



Guy Leonard



Russell and Suzie Coates



Clare Attard with son Jamie



Phil and Adrienne Greenwood



Charles and Carolyn Shaw and Ros and Tim Simpson visiting the Coates' garden



Steve and Gerry Burgess



Marj and James Tolson with Sandie Conlon



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AMBERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

What your councillors discussed



Highlights of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 6th May 6, 2021, via Zoom video- conferencing.

Present: Geoff Uren (chairman), Jason Charman, Peter Cozens, Hazel Allinson, Elisabeth Tooms, Tim Simpson, Leigh Cresswell, Laura Rawnsley and Alex Beveridge. Also in attendance: Horsham District councillor Brian Donnelly, Vicky Spiers (parish clerk) and two members of the public.

Geoff Uren was re-elected as chairman of Amberley Parish for a sixth consecutive year at the annual meeting and Jason Charman was also re-elected at vice-chairman.

Parking problems, the possibility of a pedestrian route linking Monarch's Way with Amberley station and the need for more volunteers to the Community Speedwatch initiative were among the topics discussed at the meeting.

There had been a number of complaints from residents about inconsiderate and/or illegal parking in various parts of the parish. Vehicles parked on both sides of East Street were causing obstructions and interfering with the free flow of traffic; in The Square, the bus shelter had been blocked by large vans, thus preventing passengers from using it as well as making the defibrillator difficult to access; and at the junction of Stoke Road and the B2139 at Houghton Bridge a badly parked car had been reported to the police via Operation Crackdown.

An earlier campaign of putting notices on cars parked inconsiderately had not worked. Yellow lines would not be policed and would simply move the cars to other areas of the village. The proposed village car park was considered to be the solution by members but, as reported later, funding was still proving to be something of a challenge. It was agreed to ask PCSO Michael Gamble to the next PC meeting to discuss whether there were any other options in the interim.

The proposed village car park, located on the corner of School Road and the B2139, was considered to be the solution by council members.

A resident of Church Street, unhappy about Network Rail using the end of the road for parking (on May 8 there were no fewer than 14 vehicles) while repairs are being made to the railway, had complained and sought the support of the council. Peter Cozens said that Network Rail had re-

cently updated its access point near the sewage plant off New Barn Road and that only properties backing on to the railway line were notified of scheduled repair works. Councillors agreed that the clerk should write to Network Rail to ask if it could also notify the parish council so the information could be passed on to other affected residents.

Councillors were informed of a possible grant application, initiated by Dr Charles Shaw, of the Houghton Parish Meeting, and Laura Rawnsley, on behalf of APC, for a pedestrian route linking the Monarch's Way with Amberley station. There had already been preliminary discussions with Steve Douglas, West Sussex County Council Highways' area manager. It was proposed that funding be requested for two parallel elements:

- An interim solution, which would help to redirect walkers from the busy stretch of road with no pavement (namely the causeway and up Blacksmiths Hill) and provide them safe access from Houghton Lane up to the Monarch's Way
- A feasibility study for a larger infrastructure project that would provide a direct, linear route - this would remove most risk to walkers and benefit residents and businesses.

Laura Rawnsley sought the parish council's endorsement for the initiative, a request to which members agreed.

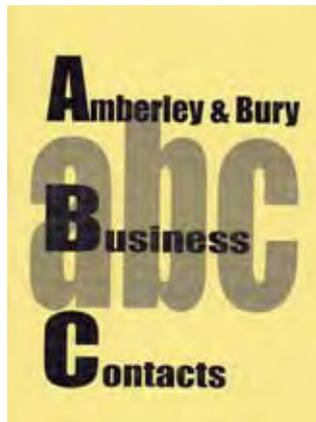
There was a call for more volunteers to help monitor vehicles as part of the Community Speedwatch initiative, and someone was needed to lead the Amberley team. Following complaints about the speed of vehicles in Rackham Road, it was agreed to install speed recording strips in order to gain evidence and numbers of violators. This would be actioned once building work at Mile House had been completed.

On the subject of the proposed car park, Tim Simpson said the estimated cost was around £100,000, £15,000 of which would be generated from Section 106 funds, £50,000 from

Community Infrastructure (CIL) funding from the planned Strawberry Villa development and £35,000 from a South Downs National Park Authority grant or a variety of other means. He pointed out that the planning permission for the car park would expire in August 2022. Building work for Strawberry Villas had been delayed four times but all the legal issues had now been resolved, with just the documentation awaiting formalisation. Work was expected to start at the end of May but this had not been formally agreed. He added that the planning permission for this development was due to expire in April 2023.

In response to a question from Peter Cozens why the parish council had not considered obtaining a loan from the

continued overleaf



A parish council initiative to help support local businesses post-Covid



continued from previous page

Public Works Loan Board as this would enable work on the car park to start earlier, Mr Simpson said he would calculate the cost of borrowing the funds required and circulate his findings to the Amberley Neighbourhood Plan committee. It was agreed that a committee meeting would be required to discuss this option in more detail. Leigh Cresswell said he would investigate whether grants would be available to fund the proposed electric charging points in the car park.

Mr Cozens reported that the pre-planning application for Pickwick, in Turnpike Road, had been submitted to the SD-NPA, which was currently looking at the plans for seven houses on the site. He also said that work on the revised Parish of Amberley Design Statement was progressing well, the committee had met and walked around the conservation area, Hurst Cottages and up to the Rackham border to review housing styles/materials etc. They would shortly be doing a similar walk around Houghton Bridge and North Stoke.

Hazel Allinson reported that she had collated a draft directory as part of the council's effort to support local businesses post-Covid and that she would contact Bury PC to see if it wished to be involved in its production.

Passenger numbers for the Village Bus were down, according to Elizabeth Tooms, who is also a volunteer driver, but it was hoped carryings would pick up once more businesses started to re-open following the lifting of Covid restrictions. Following a discussion it was agreed that awareness of the service needed raising, possibly with a village-wide leaflet drop.

In response to a resident's question why there was no annual Parish meeting this year, the chairman said it was due to Covid-19 restrictions, and that the clerk would issue a communication summarising the council's achievements over the last year.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church Hall, where Covid-19 regulations at that time will apply.

- To read the full minutes of the meeting, visit the parish council website: www.amberley-pc.org.uk

Amenity tip visits increased

Following the introduction of a trial booking scheme at selected Household Waste Recycling Sites, West Sussex County Council has confirmed that the number of visits available per household has been increased to five a month.

The main reason for the trial was to reduce queuing at peak times which had caused problems for local residents and businesses and led to congestion on some major roads.

According to WSCC, the trial "fully met this objective and has also proved popular with most users who have reported the

system is easy to use and appreciated not having to queue for long to get on site".



However, the restriction of one visit per week has been a drawback for some users. Now that social distancing measures are able to be eased at sites the trial has moved into a second phase, which changed the previous limit of one visit per household per week, to allow for five bookings to be made within any calendar month. This will increase the number of permitted visits per household from 52 to 60 across the year.

"One of the biggest factors that people have spoken to us about is the occasional need to visit a site several times in quick succession, and not needing to return for several weeks or even months," says Deborah Urquhart, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change.

Users are recommended to book at least a day or two in advance as there are still only a limited number of slots available each day.

All aspects of the trial will be reviewed in the autumn, after it has run for the initial planned six months.

Recycling batteries

Horsham District Council is now collecting batteries for recycling. Simply place your batteries in a small, clear plastic bag (such as a sandwich bag) and place the bag on top of your green-top refuse bin or your blue-top recycling bin on collection day.

To ensure minimal use of plastic bags, ensure you store batteries until you have enough to fill a bag and have it securely closed. Do not place one or two batteries out for collection as there is a risk the bag could blow away.



Batteries that can

be collected are: AA,

AAA, D, C, 6v, 9v, button, mobile phone batteries and laptop batteries with the terminals taped.

Batteries that cannot be collected: replaceable batteries left inside an electrical appliance. These should be removed and placed out for collection in a separate bag on top of your rubbish or recycling bin. Batteries with trailing wires, children's ride-on toy batteries, corroded batteries, motorcycle batteries, industrial batteries, sealed lactic acid/gel batteries, and 12v leisure batteries.

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The sad decline of hedgehogs

I received some lovely handwritten letters from two pupils of Lower Beeding School. Nyah, age 9, told me that her classmates had really learnt to appreciate wildlife during the pandemic. Charlie, age 10, informed me that, "biodiversity means a lot to our school because we really do need to pay attention to our wildlife and look after it," and they invited me to come and talk to their class.

As part of our Wilder Horsham District project, I visited the school, where the children were keen to show me their plans to create a wildlife-friendly garden. They'd planned a pond, hedge, log pile and wildflower area, and the Sussex Wildlife Trust team agreed to help them out. We decided that, first, we would investigate what wildlife was already using the school grounds.

We set up a trail camera (a night-vision camera which is triggered by movement) and, a week later, we came back and the children viewed the results. The camera footage



In the 1950s it was estimated there were 30 million hedgehogs. Today, it could be as little as one million such has been their decline

Picture: Tom Marshall, SWT

showed and crow, a cat, a fox and then anybody living within a 20-mile radius of Lower Beeding would have heard the children let out a very excited cheer as something very prickly snuffled in front of the camera...

I can't help but smile when I see a hedgehog. Maybe I'm recalling my own childhood hedgehog encounters in my garden. Or maybe I still have fond memories of cheese and pineapple hedgehogs at parties. Either way, they are amazing little animals. Sadly, I just don't see many hedgehogs around anymore. The children's teacher, Jackie Jameson, said: "I haven't seen a live hedgehog since I was a child, so I was thrilled to see one, too!" You can view the video on our Wilder Horsham District Facebook page.

There were an estimated 30 million hedgehogs snuffling about in the 1950s. By the 1990s a survey estimated that only two million were left. A more recent study suggests that we can now halve this number again.

There are many reasons for this prickly Armageddon. Pesticide use has left them with less slugs, snails, beetles and other bugs to eat, and changes in farming practice means that there are simply less hedges to hog. Our own urges to tidy up and fence off our gardens don't help our

spiky friends either. But we can all do our bit by leaving a small corner of our gardens to grow a bit wilder to provide hedgehogs with food and a home.

The children of Lower Beeding are showing us the way. They are making their school grounds wilder and ensuring there are gaps in the fence to let the hedgehogs roam. They've also had a full woodworking day making nesting boxes, bug hotels and a hedgehog home. Like young Charlie said, "we really do need to pay attention to our wildlife and look after it".

Beetroot broth for hot days

The Village Shop has excellent beetroot so seize the chance to make this light ruby-coloured vegetable broth served chilled with a swirl of soured cream and chopped chives. If the weather turns cold, the broth is also good served hot.

You Need

- 4 Medium-sized beetroot
- 3 Carrots
- 3 Celery sticks
- 1 Medium-sized onion
- Chopped tomatoes (1 x 400gm tin)
- Garlic (1-2 cloves)
- 1 Bay leaf
- 6 Cloves and 10 peppercorns
- Salt, 1 tsp sugar
- Lemon juice to taste
- Soured single cream
- Chopped chives



Method

Peel the beetroot and skin the onion and garlic. Roughly chop all the vegetables, put them in a saucepan with 2 pints of cold water, tomatoes, cloves, peppercorns, sugar and salt and the bay leaf. Bring to the boil, turn down the heat and then simmer gently for about 45 minutes until the vegetables are mushy. Strain the liquid into a jug or bowl using a large strainer or sieve so that you can squeeze out as much fluid as possible (try using a big, finely-meshed strainer and a potato masher). Discard the pulp. Adjust the seasoning and add lemon juice to sharpen. Chill. Sour the cream with some more lemon juice. To serve, pour the broth into soup bowls and add a swirl of soured cream and chopped chives to each.

A Chef's Tip: To get as much juice as possible from citrus fruit, warm the fruit slightly before you squeeze. **Jane Mason**



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Amberley Cricket Club July/August Fixtures

July 4th Gully (home) 2pm
July 11th 12th Men (home) 2pm
July 18th Bury & West Burton (home) 2pm
August 1st Parham Park (away) 2pm
August 8th West Chiltington & Thakeham (away) 2pm
August 15th Ebernoe (away) 2.30pm
August 22nd Arundel Grasshoppers (home) 2pm
August 29th Madehurst (away) 2pm

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Spots and speckles

Last month was all about nests, eggs and hatchlings, but now our young birds have fledged and can be seen in our gardens, and at the RSPB's nature reserve, learning the ropes under the watchful eyes of their parents.

The plumage of young birds can be different from that of their adult counterparts and this can provide a bit of an identification challenge. Here are a few to look out for.

One of my favourite visitors to the bird feeders are the great-spotted woodpeckers – 'Dad' has now started bringing a youngster to show him how it's done. The male, female and juvenile all share the black, white and red colouration but by looking at their head you can tell who is who. The female has no red on her head, the male a red patch on the nape of his neck and the youngster sports a bright red cap.

Look and listen out for a 'charm' of goldfinch – you may see some among the flock that don't look quite right – the distinctive yellow, black and white feathers of the wings are there but they lack the bright red facial markings of the adults.

Blue tits are still recognisably blue tits, just a little more yellow on the cheeks and a little less strongly marked on the head.

Gangs of young starlings may now be roaming the countryside puzzling watchers with their grey-brown plumage before they moult and regrow the dark, iridescent and spotty plumage of the adults. This can happen gradually and you'll find some who look halfway between.

Whilst male and female robins look identical with their red chest, the youngsters don't develop this colouration for a while



A young great-spotted woodpecker

but are warm brown and speckled.

Eventually the juvenile birds moult and replace their feathers with adult ones but there are a number of reasons why they might look a little different to begin with. In some cases the colouration and patterns may provide better camouflage for the youngster, both whilst it is in the nest and whilst it is learning where to feed, where to shelter and how to avoid danger.

Another explanation is that plumage is an indication of social status

amongst birds, having different plumage may reduce any aggression towards youngsters from adults who are not their parents. Given how quarrelsome and territorial the robins are in my garden I'm not surprised that the young robin wants to avoid confrontation!

Anna Allum

Spring weather

April was not only one of the driest on record, it was also the coldest since 1922, with severe overnight frosts. The only rainfall here was on April 6 and although there were six damp days, the total for the entire month was a mere 0.1mm, compared with 59.4mm (2 $\frac{3}{8}$ in) in April last year.

There were also traditional March winds in April, and April showers in May, when there were 24 wet or damp days, with a total rainfall of 62.9mm (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in), compared with a mere 6.5mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in) during the corresponding month in 2020. Total rainfall for the first five months of 2021 was 247.9mm (9 $\frac{3}{4}$ in), almost one-third (127mm/5in) less than the 382.4mm (15in) by this time last year. *Figures compiled by Peter Daughtrey*



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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): non-recyclable waste will be collected on **Tuesdays, July 6 and 20, and August 3 and 17**; collections for mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) and garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be on **Tuesdays, July 13 and 27 and August 10 and 24**.

For Church Street and Hog Lane, collections for dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) will be on **Wednesdays, July 7 and 21; and August 4 and 18**; garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Mondays, July 12 and 26; and August 9 and 23**; non-recyclable waste will be collected on **Wednesdays, July 14 and 28, and August 11 and 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 Puborough.

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 Bridae Inn	10.25am (Market) 10.30am (South Street/ West Street) to 1.30pm (Cathedral)	2.16pm approx



LOCAL INFORMATION



Southern Trains Timetable (from February 22, 2021)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

From Amberley to London (Victoria except here shown): 05.54, 06.18*, 06.44, 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, 07.26, 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, 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C.

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 train from London Bridge at 17.02.

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, then 27 and 57 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)



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SUMMER DIVERSIONS

1. What three words are abbreviated to form the title of the organisation Ofsted?
2. The name of which female pop singer is an anagram of Presbyterians?
3. What is the Welsh dish of laverbread made from?
4. Which is the famous example of a Bascule bridge in London?
5. Jack McCall was executed in 1877 for the murder of which Old West figure?
6. In which two counties is Exmoor located?
7. Which edible green plant has a globe variety?
8. Name the circular walkway inside the base of the dome in St Paul's Cathedral?
9. How many balls are there on a snooker table at the beginning of a game?
10. First New Town in the UK following the New Towns Act in 1946?
11. Who was the captain of the *Pequod* in *Moby Dick*?
12. Location of a French sports car race since 1923?
13. First English martyr, executed in Verulamium?
14. Early 1970's glam-rock band led by Marc Bolan?
15. The Pilgrim's Way footpath runs from Winchester to where?
16. Which combat sport takes place on a piste?
17. Who is the hero of John Buchan's novel *The Thirty-Nine Steps*?
18. Prior to decimalisation, how many farthings were there in a pound?
19. The Statue of Liberty holds a torch in her right hand. What is in her left hand?
20. Which Central American country became independent from Spain in 1821?
21. Who was the first woman to appear on the back of a Bank of England bank note?
22. For what does IPA stand when referring to a type of beer?
23. Which Bond film had a title song performed by a-ha?
24. Which is the only vowel not used as the first letter of a US state?
25. What did the Romans call Scotland?
26. What is the fruit to be found at the top of the men's Wimbledon tennis trophy?
27. For what do the letters stand for in the acronym RADAR?
28. What colour are aircraft black boxes?
29. If an Italian meal is described as al forno, how is it cooked?
30. How many squares are there on a standard Scrabble board?

Compiled by Tony Baldwin

Answers on page 41

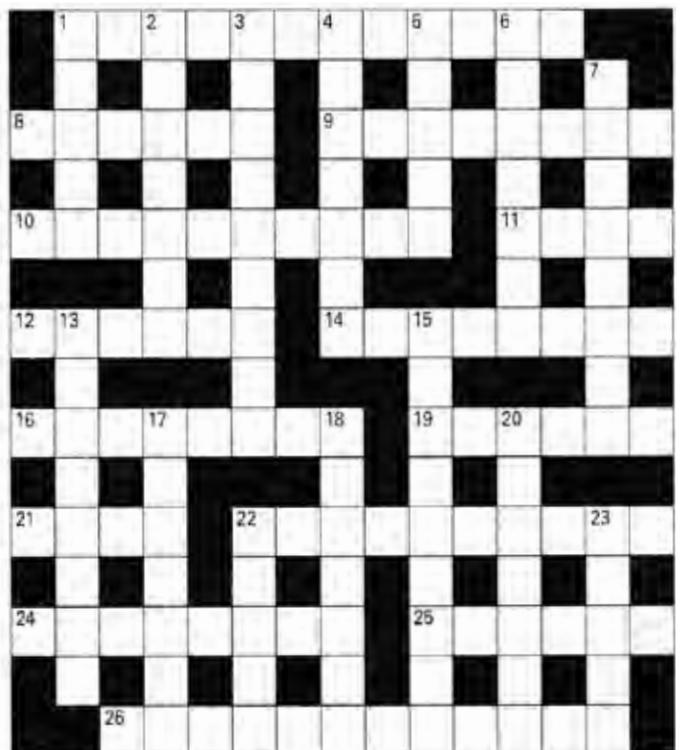
QUICK CROSSWORD

Across

1. Mild expression of annoyance (12)
8. Striped sweet (6)
9. Lack of response (8)
10. Saucy stage show (10)
11. Scalp covering (4)
12. Large bracelet (6)
14. Aggressive speech made in public (8)
16. Apparitions (8)
19. Follow-up film (6)
21. German 'Mrs' (4)
22. Antirrhinum (10)
24. Impartial (8)
25. Scandinavian country (6)
26. Rock 'n' Roll king (5,7)

Down

1. Water spring (5)
2. Conferring knighthood (7)
3. Measure of distance in astronomy (5-4)
4. Green veg, rich in iron (7)
5. Reflection (5)
6. Chef's workplace (7)
7. Isolation (8)
13. Obvious (8)
15. Dwelling-place (9)
17. Of vital importance (7)
18. Fail to keep a romantic appointment (5,2)
20. Argument (7)
22. Japanese raw fish dish (5)
23. Egg-producing organ (5)



Solution on page 41



CALENDAR OF EVENTS/TIDE TIMETABLES

JULY

THURSDAY, 8th

Goodwood Festival of Speed (daily until Sunday)

Amberley Parish Council meeting,
St Michael's Church Hall, 7.30pm

TUESDAY, July 13th

CAMEO, Tea and More, Millennium Green,
2pm-3.30pm

Parham Parish Council meeting,
Rackham Old School, 7.30pm

TUESDAY, JULY 27th

Glorious Goodwood (Qatar Festival)
(daily until Saturday)

THURSDAY, 29th

Concerts (Bach 48 Project), New Vicarage,
Amberley, 11am, 2pm, 5pm

FRIDAY, 30th

Concerts (Bach 48 Project), New Vicarage,
Amberley, 11am, 2pm, 5pm

AUGUST

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5th

Exhibition: Elizabeth Butler art, Rackham
Old School, 2pm-6.30pm (also Friday),
and Sunday, 10am-6.30pm)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6th

Memorial Service: Elizabeth Butler,
St Michael's Church, 11.30am

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

Amberley Revival and Classic Car Tour
(start Sportsman 9am, finish cricket field)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10th

CAMEO, Tea and More, Millennium
Green, 2pm-3pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21st

Wiggonholt Church Coffee Morning,
Wintersfield Farm, Wiggonholt, 10.30am-
12.30pm

SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th

Macmillan Coffee Morning, St Michael's
Church Hall

● For Amberley CC fixtures see p30

Littlehampton Tide Timetables – July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 st High 04.53 Low 10.56 High 17.24 Low 23.25	2 nd High 05.45 Low 11.48 High 18.15	3 rd Low 00.24 High 06.39 Low 12.46 High 19.08
4 th Low 01.29 High 07.37 Low 13.51 High 20.06	5 th Low 02.31 High 08.39 Low 14.52 High 21.06	6 th Low 03.25 High 09.38 Low 15.45 High 21.59	7 th Low 04.13 High 10.28 Low 16.30 High 22.42	8 th Low 04.54 High 11.10 Low 17.13 High 23.22	9 th Low 05.34 High 11.50 Low 17.51	10 th High 00.01 Low 06.11 High 12.29 Low 18.29
11 th High 00.38 Low 06.49 High 13.06 Low 19.06	12 th High 01.15 Low 07.26 High 13.43 Low 19.43	13 th High 01.51 Low 08.01 High 14.21 Low 20.20	14 th High 02.30 Low 08.39 High 15.00 Low 20.59	15 th High 03.12 Low 09.20 High 15.43 Low 21.44	16 th High 03.57 Low 10.05 High 16.31 Low 22.35	17 th High 04.50 Low 10.58 High 17.26 Low 23.34
18 th High 05.50 Low 12.01 High 18.30	19 th Low 00.44 High 06.59 Low 13.13 High 19.39	20 th Low 01.56 High 08.16 Low 14.26 High 20.52	21 st Low 03.04 High 09.28 Low 15.33 High 21.58	22 nd Low 04.05 High 10.32 Low 16.32 High 22.56	23 rd Low 05.00 High 11.30 Low 17.25 High 23.51	24 th Low 05.50 High 12.24 Low 18.14
25 th High 00.42 Low 06.39 High 13.14 Low 19.02	26 th High 01.29 Low 07.26 High 14.00 Low 19.48	27 th High 02.15 Low 08.12 High 14.44 Low 20.32	28 th High 02.57 Low 08.53 High 15.24 Low 21.13	29 th High 03.37 Low 09.33 High 16.03 Low 21.53	30 th High 04.16 Low 10.11 High 16.41 Low 22.33	31 st High 04.58 Low 10.51 High 17.23 Low 23.17

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

Compiled by Hazel Allinson

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 st High 05.46 Low 11.38 High 18.13	2 nd Low 00.10 High 06.42 Low 12.36 High 19.11	3 rd Low 01.17 High 07.46 Low 13.49 High 20.15	4 th Low 02.44 High 08.53 Low 15.13 High 21.18	5 th Low 03.47 High 09.55 Low 16.09 High 22.13	6 th Low 04.33 High 10.45 Low 16.53 High 22.58	7 th Low 05.14 High 11.28 Low 17.33 High 23.39
8 th Low 05.52 High 12.09 Low 18.10	9 th High 00.19 Low 06.29 High 12.48 Low 18.47	10 th High 00.58 Low 07.06 High 13.26 Low 19.24	11 th High 01.36 Low 07.43 High 14.03 Low 20.03	12 th High 02.14 Low 08.21 High 14.42 Low 20.41	13 th High 02.54 Low 09.00 High 15.22 Low 21.23	14 th High 03.37 Low 09.43 High 16.06 Low 22.09
15 th High 04.24 Low 10.32 High 16.56 Low 23.04	16 th High 05.19 Low 11.30 High 17.57	17 th Low 00.13 High 06.32 Low 12.48 High 19.13	18 th Low 01.37 High 08.01 Low 14.14 High 20.41	19 th Low 02.56 High 09.27 Low 15.28 High 21.56	20 th Low 04.01 High 10.32 Low 16.28 High 22.54	21 st Low 04.54 High 11.27 Low 17.18 High 23.46
22 nd Low 05.41 High 12.16 Low 18.02	23 rd High 00.33 Low 06.24 High 13.00 Low 18.45	24 th High 01.16 Low 07.06 High 13.41 Low 19.26	25 th High 01.56 Low 07.45 High 14.18 Low 20.05	26 th High 02.31 Low 08.21 High 14.53 Low 20.39	27 th High 03.03 Low 08.54 High 15.24 Low 21.11	28 th High 03.33 Low 09.28 High 15.51 Low 21.46
29 th High 04.04 Low 10.03 High 16.20 Low 22.25	30 th High 04.40 Low 10.45 High 17.00 Low 23.13	31 st High 05.38 Low 11.40 High 18.10				

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Dorset House, independent day and boarding school for boys and girls, 4-13 01798 831456

Slindon College, independent day and boarding school for boys aged 8-18 01243 814320

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Robert Sadler, registered osteopath 01798 874736

For advertising enquiries contact

Jenny Toynbee on 01798 831 114

or e-mail

jenny@brooklandsamberley.com

Diversions answers (see page 39)

1. Office, Standards and Education
2. Seaweed
3. Britney Spears
4. Tower Bridge
5. Wild Bill Hickok
6. Devon and Somerset
7. Artichoke
8. The Whispering Gallery
9. 22
10. Stevenage
11. Ahab
12. Le Mans
13. Saint Alban
14. T Rex
15. Canterbury
16. Fencing
17. Richard Hannay
18. 960
19. A book
20. El Salvador
21. Florence Nightingale (on the £10 note introduced in 1975)
22. India Pale Ale
23. The Living Daylights
4. E
25. Caledonia
26. Pineapple
27. Radio detection and ranging
28. Bright orange
29. Baked
30. 225

Crossword solution

Across: 1. Fiddlesticks 8. Humbug
9. Inaction 10. Striptease 11. Hair
12. Bangle 14. Harangue 16. Spectres
19. Sequel 21. Frau 22. Snapdragon
24. Unbiased 25. Norway 26. Elvis Presley

Down: 1. Fount 2. Dubbing 3. Light-years
4. Spinach 5. Image 6. CKitchen
7. Solitude 13. Apparent 15. Residence
17. Crucial 18. Standup 20. Quarrel
22. Sushi 23. Ovary



PARISH DIRECTORY

Priest-in-Charge		The Revd Gerry Burgess (revgerryburgess@gmail.com) 01798 831600
Churchwardens:	Amberley	Melanie Edge (mel.edge@me.com).....07973 163369
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	Wiggonholt	Robert Englehart.....01798 872502
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Amberley CE Primary School		Paul Armitage.....01798 831612
Amberley Church Hall Bookings		Adrienne Greenwood (ad.greenwood@btinternet.com)..07746 488615
Amberley Good Neighbours Emergency Service (AGNES)		Hazel Allinson.....01798 831159
Amberley Oil Syndicate		Jenny Toynbee.....01798 831114
Amberley Parish Council Clerk		Mike Clenshaw (amberleyenergysyndicate@gmail.com)....01798 872371
Amberley Parish Pond & Tree Wardens		Vicky Spiers (clerk@amberley-pc.org.uk).....01903 208943
		Roger Townsend.....01798 831088
		Pam Keeble.....01798 831050
Amberley Parish Trust		David Vokins.....01798 839 086
Amberley Society		Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com).....01798 831340
Amberley Village Stores and Post Office		Colin Woods.....01798 831171
Amberley Welfare Trust (Village Surgery)		Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com).....01798 831340
Bell Ringers (Amberley) Tower Captain		Valerie Myers (vmyers69@btinternet.com).....01903 742340
Cricket Club		Keith Dalmon.....01798 831887
Member of Parliament		Andrew Griffith (Andrew@GriffithMP.com).....0207 219 4557
Millennium Green Trust		Jim Endacott.....01798 839186
Neighbourhood Watch		Malcolm Pheasey.....01798 839046
Parham Parish Council Clerk		Vicky Spiers (clerk@parhamparishcouncil.org).....01903 208943
Police		Non-emergency number.....101 ext 530214
Rackham Old School Association		Sue Bulloch.....01798 872038
Rackham School Hall Reservations		Jennifer Hooper.....01903 742695
Society of Amberley Gardening Enthusiasts (SAGE)		Rosemary Jackson (rosemaryinsussex@gmail.com) 01903 741644
South Downs Way Warden		James Tolson (tolsonjab@btinternet.com).....01798 831181
Stoolball Club		Sandra Turner.....01243 821255
Village Bus		Philip Greenwood.....01798 831803
Village Lunch Team Leader		Sandie Conlon (sandie.conlon@btinternet.com).....01798 839320
Wiggonholt Association		Janet Aidin (janet@aidin.co.uk).....01798 872531



**The meadow lark's trill and the brown thrush's whistle
From morning to evening fill all the sweet air**

from Summer Song, by Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1850-1919)



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